

Or will the Dreamer Wake?

Out in the East the jungle listens
The tigress, plaintive, growls in pain,
The great trees hear her breathing, shaking
Inside her still, the new lives wait,
These cubs could be the last ones ever
To freely live and roam and mate.
Our grandchild knows the tiger never
Or will the dreamer wake?



Far in the North the white bear snuffles
Down in her lair the gleaming snow
She waits for all the life she's making
Outside the crashing glaciers grow.
These cubs could be the last cubs ever
To freely live and roam and mate.
Our grandchild knows the white bear never
Or will the dreamer wake?



There in the West the song thrush warbles
She weaves her nest to hold her clutch
A long wait now to find a partner

The eggs are laid, there are not much.
These chicks could be the last ones ever
The last to fly and sing and mate.
Our grandchild knows the song thrush never
Or will the dreamer wake?



Deep in Ocean South the whale swims
Her song of birthing fills the seas
Thousands of creatures wait the moment
The solemn birth that they will see.
This child could sing the final whale song
The last to make the oceans shake.
Our grandchild never hears its mystery
Or will the dreamer wake?



Here in the centre, four directions gather
The path ahead leads up or down
Is this our last bright new world birthing?
Is this our waving as we drown?
This could be our last true moment
Knowing the truth, our choices make.
Our grandchild asks “That was the moment!
And did the dreamer wake?”

by Medora Chevalier

About the author

Medora Chevalier is a 21st century poet. She is a well-known writer of present day. She writes about contemporary themes. In this poem - Or will the Dreamer Wake? she writes about how the animals would become extinct if they are not protected.

Glossary

plaintive (<i>adj</i>)	:	sad
snuffle (<i>v</i>)	:	to breathe noisily
gleaming (<i>adj</i>)	:	shining softly
glacier (<i>n</i>)	:	a large mass of ice which usually moves slowly down a mountain
warbles (<i>v</i>)	:	to sing with a high continuous but quickly changing sound
birth fills (<i>n</i>)	:	the process of giving birth to a baby
solemn (<i>adj</i>)	:	very serious and not happy

Comprehension

Answer the following questions.

1. Why does the poet say that these cubs could be the last ones ever to freely live and to roam and mate?
2. 'She waits for all the life she's making'. What does the poet convey through this line?
3. Why does the thrush weave her nest?

4. 'The child could sing the final whale song,' says the poet. Why does she say so?
5. The poet says 'This could be our last true moment' (last stanza). Is it true? In what way(s)?
6. What do you think the poem is about?
7. What does the grandchild in this poem symbolize?
8. Who is the dreamer here? Who is being referred to?
9. What according to you is the poem 'Or Will the Dreamer Wake' about? Justify your answer quoting lines from the poem.

Listening

Listen to the talk by an environmentalist on saving the trees and tick (✓) the correct options that will complete the statements.

1. The Himalayas are affected by _____.
a) environmental pollution b) melting of snow
2. Himalayas are protected _____.
a) by hugging trees b) by stopping deforestation
3. The name of the movement that started in 1970s and 1980s is _____.
a) the resistance to the destruction of forests
b) Chipko movement
4. The person who started the movement is _____.
a) Sunderlal Bahuguna b) Mahatma Gandhi
5. Chipko means _____.
a) to embrace b) putting the bodies in the way of the contractors' axes.

Read the following essay and fill the columns in the table given after it with the correct information.

Pollution in India

Pollution in India is very high and thus it is one of the most polluted countries in the world. The reasons for high pollution in India can be attributed to the fact that it is the largest emitter of carbon dioxide. Coal powered plants and increased number of vehicles on the roads are also increasing pollution. With the economy of India growing, pollution in India is also growing.

Air, water, environment, sound and soil can all be contaminated. Air contamination leads to air pollution. Similarly water pollution, environment pollution, sound pollution and soil pollution are caused due to the pollutants in them. Each of these pollutions will affect the people in their own ways.

Air pollution: If the level of pollutants in the air is in such quantities that are injurious to human, animal and plant life then we can say air pollution has taken place. Air pollution is caused due to a variety of reasons like increased number of vehicles, smoke from burning fuels and factories. Industrialization and modernization are to be blamed for the present situation of air pollution. Industries such as thermal power plants, cement, steel, refineries, petrochemicals and mines emit chemical pollutants into the air causing air pollution. The air pollution is causing reduction of ozone layer which is important to protect earth from ultra violet rays that come from the sun.



Water Pollution: Water is being contaminated by various foreign matters. Water is thus losing its quality. Water is polluted in various ways. It can be polluted by industrial waste, agricultural waste, and landfills. Nearly 80% of wastages from cities and towns in India is diverted to rivers. In this way rivers are getting polluted and water is becoming unfit for

usage by human beings. Aquatic animals are also dying due to this pollution. Sewerage water is also directed into the rivers which cause development of various bacteria in the water making them not even suitable for bathing.

Noise pollution: Noise pollution is mainly caused by transportation and construction system. Noise pollution not only causes damage to the environment but shows negative effect on human health. Human beings who are exposed to noise pollution will develop high BP, stress, hearing loss, sleep disturbances and aggression. Using noise barriers, driving the vehicles slowly, using special tyres etc can help lower sound pollution. The problem of noise pollution should be paid more attention. Though noise pollution is a major issue, no laws are existing in many cities of the world to control it.



Noise pollution in seas and oceans is also increasing due to ship traffic and oil drilling. This is affecting the hearing sense of animals.

Soil pollution: Soil is being polluted by pesticides, oil and fuel dumping, landfill wastes, industrial wastes etc. Chemical wastes from factories are being directly dumped on the soil and it is contaminating the soil. Increasing urbanization, decrease in agricultural lands, increase in domestic wastage, agricultural activities, industrial activities are all contributing to soil pollution in India. Plastic factories, chemical plants, oil refineries, animal farms, coal fired power plants, nuclear waste, disposal activities are the main sources of soil pollution. Effects of soil pollution are dangerous. They may cause acid rains which can kill trees and other plants. It disrupts the balance of nature. Soil pollution is also dangerous to wild life. Pesticides used more than required can damage the crops and poison birds, animals and fishes.



Sl.No	Type of pollution	Causes of pollution	Sources of pollution	Damages caused by pollution	Possible solutions or remedies