

# The Planet Will Be Fine without Us

*by* Gary Hardaway

It circled the sun four plus billion times  
before we happened and will circle at least  
four more billion times after we destroy ourselves  
and a few thousand species of our closest relatives.

The planet will be fine without us as it was  
once Ordovician and Silurian events  
emptied the seas.

The planet will be fine without us as it was  
after the Devonian catastrophe ended  
three quarters of species, land and sea.

The planet will be fine without us as it was  
when the Permian extinction made the goo  
that made the Rockefellers wealthy.

The planet will be fine without us as it was  
after the Triassic and Jurassic made the death that made the coal  
that gave us the power of our own gradual death.

The planet will be fine without us as it was  
when the dinosaurs were snuffed out by shock and awe  
of that terrible asteroid and the dark sky after.

The planet will be fine without us after wealth,  
torn from under earth, burns and stokes the final fire  
that will extinguish all we know and all we knew

and the planet- fine without us—  
sprinkles sediment over our remains  
to entomb all we were for the brief, frantic, time we were.

