



FOOTPRINTS IN THE MOUNTAINS

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FROM THE EYES OF THE WILD”

*Every day animals lose their habitat
And I know that many people care
But so often we just look away
And pretend a problem is not there
They lose their habitat to destruction -
Buildings and homes go up left and right
People don't think about the animals
That run away with so much fright
They lose their habitat to pollution -
People throwing trash all over the place
Pouring chemicals into the waters -
Thinking of only the human race*

*I'm a wolf howling into the night
And I look down at a land I once knew
From the mountain I stare at city streets
Where once trees and wildflowers grew
I'm a Great Bald Eagle taking to the sky
Leaving behind a place I knew as home
This place, once my nest, is disappearing -
Leaving nowhere for me to roam*

*I'm a Horned Owl whom has lost her babies -
Two babies not yet capable of flight
The tree we lived in was destroyed
Two voices will never be heard in the night*

*I'm a 10-year-old raccoon who is deathly ill
Because of a poisoned fish I unfortunately consumed
The fish came from a polluted river -
Man's carelessness leaves me doomed*

*I'm a Sow Black Bear who was coldly shot
Luckily, the bullet just grazed my skin
I crossed land I once belonged to
Now, this land is no place for me*

*I'm a Mallard swimming in a pond
And something catches my eye
I then eat what I think is a floating fish
But it's a plastic bag and I will die*

*I am a lonely Fawn who has lost her mother
To a careless driver while running from one
Cornfield to another.*

*I look back, and there she lay
She is resting peacefully though I am saddened.*

*I am a Ruby Throated Hummingbird
Searching for food*

*I drank from what I thought was a puddle of sugar water
But it turned out to be anti-freeze, now I am ill.*

*I am a Cougar running along a ridge
Of a valley I once called home
Though most people rarely will see me
Because I search for food at night
My ribs are beginning to show*

I am starving and I fear I will die before the next light.

*All these things really do happen
Although we may not want to admit
We are disrespecting Mother Nature
And some of us just choose to forget
Organizations try to make things better
And help restore habitat that animals lost
But of course, they can't do it alone
These efforts do come with a cost
I know that we are far from perfect
We must do what we have to live
But if we must alter and take away
Shouldn't we also try to give?*

*The Earth is a beautiful place
It belongs to creature's great and small
But it's man's responsibility and duty
To keep it clean and safe for all*



*“Bear in Field of Flowers”
Acrylic Painting by: Scott Anna*