

The Albatross Liberation

The Albatross has taken on an unfair burden

a burden in its gut,

misunderstood for its journey over the sea.

Now, has taken up the challenge to clean the oceans of plastic.

Feeding on the surface it finds the multiple colors

of floating plastic, looking like food

trusting it is food.

Always trusting the ocean to provide food,

the trusting Albatrosses skim and scoop

their sight attuned to swimming, floating, forms

resting on the table the ocean provides.

They don't understand the cruel,

dumping millions of pieces of toxic, multicolored

plastic into the ocean.

Somehow they know,

willing to die for our learning,

willing to atone for the burden their name implies,

mistakenly burdened with a human metaphor.

Bringing back plastic to the Island

their home and nest,

young ones waiting to swallow the plastic too,

to show they are willing to teach us, the story.

When dead on the beach or inland
they leave plastic pieces
on the ground where their stomach would be
the skin and bones withered,
the plastic still alive.

They are dying a noble death for their species,
eating from the ocean,
nothing from the ground, leaving the plastic for man.

They willingly trust the ocean and clean it of plastic,
they die to teach us to clean the oceans.

the rhyme of the Albatross now around our necks,
the human neck to be a weight, a dead weight,
for us to bear.

The swinging Albatross around our neck
is liberated by recognizing the sacrifice
the Albatrosses are making for our awareness.

They trust the ocean for food
they trust we will get the message
and release the burden around our neck.

The Albatrosses unwilling to be a burden anymore.
now flying free, liberated...

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