

## Wilderness House Literary Review 11/2

*Marguerite Gager*

### **Heart of the Universe**

I drink my coffee eat my bread  
ponder the abundant heart,  
overflowing like a rushing  
river - giving, giving, giving.  
Heart of the Universe ignites  
the engines of the heavens,  
a thought complete in nanoseconds,  
music pulsing through creation.

I drink my coffee eat my bread,  
a flaming torch? A word? A bell?  
With my simple brain, can I know  
a grain of sand, design the roundness  
of a shell from the foaming, curling wave?  
The genius like a gentle dove  
skims the earth, hears our groans,  
waits with patience for rebirth.

I drink my coffee eat my bread  
consider time and space,  
a spirit traveling through the ether,  
lights the candles of the night,  
our ring-around-the-rosy-world  
sings: ashes, ashes, we all  
fall down. But the loving heart  
gives us hope, lifts us up again.

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I drink my coffee eat my bread,  
blood coursing through my veins.  
Like trees, we leaf in many colors.  
And who can decipher the fire  
that lights our giddy synapses?  
I smile to see my ten fingers -  
let me count the ways we fail  
to see our mirrored images.

I drink my coffee eat my bread.  
Buried seeds from darkness rise,  
but do we heed soil's rich gifts,  
trampled underfoot each day?  
Wasted foods from our tables  
could soothe the cries of the hungry.  
The humble heart kneads the dough  
for the bread that satisfies.