

A SONG FOR THE SOIL

We are the Humans, we sing for the soil:
Heart of bedrock, stardust, volcano,
ocean and river, the grinding of glacier, weather and fire, bone, leaf and shell.

We're Humans from Humus, Earthlings from Earth, and we sing for the soil, yes, we sing for the soil.

A city of beings lives under our feet:
earthworm and nematode, microbe and mole, amphibian, beetle, fungus and vole.

We're Humans from Humus, Earthlings from Earth, and we sing for the soil, yes, we sing for the soil.

We stand here as Humans--from Humus we've come:
water and mineral, microbe and air.
The soil is our mother, our sister, our teacher, she feeds us, she holds us, she carries us in.

We're Humans from Humus, Earthlings from Earth, and we sing for the soil, yes, we sing for the soil.

We are the Earthlings, we grow from the ground, this ground made of stardust, of water, of death.
May we keep our feet rooted and keep our hands deep in the Earth that gives our young planet her name.

We're Humans from Humus, Earthlings from Earth, and we sing for the soil, yes, we sing for the soil.

–Mary Pratt