

## Dugong Die

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international / poetry / post

the dugongs are dying  
off the coast of Mary B  
the river that once fed the sea grasses  
now covers their green with grey and brown  
slime,  
how easy to break the sequential chain  
of life

an emaciated sea cow and her calf nudge the slimy mud  
with their noses and eat the remnants of flowing tidal grasses  
laden with a slow toxic death

white pointers are attracted by dying white  
sea mammals once thought to be  
mermaids as their mammaries  
align like those of women --  
who is able to save these creatures,  
surely not the humans that poisoned  
the river for profit?

the sharks feed while they can not realising  
they would eventually fall victim on the tree  
of extinction which branches extend  
to one day reach the source of all nature's ills

far into the unknown future  
what will grow and bloom  
like the long human hair  
of women swimming under water,  
pulsing and suspended  
by rhythmic wave currents  
with net bags tied to their sides full of  
empty sea shells that spiral like the galaxy  
in free floating pregnant space

<https://inversetimes.hopto.org/news/story-808.html>

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