

PHOTO BY NIGEL LAING

#6414
Crab Apple
Malus sylvestris
In the meadow near the weeping willow
49 16′ 14″ N, -123 11′ 50″ W

BEAT A PATH – ALL THE TREES

AN ARTIST PROJECT BY HOLLY SCHMIDT | BEATAPATH.CA/ALL-THE-TREES

EMAIL TO TREE #6414

A poem for you, Crab Apple Tree

You remind me of the river
Behind my grandparents house
Where the current is strong
And the reflections of the eagles
Swim with the salmon

You remind me of my dog
With white socks on his paws
Who runs across the shore of stones
As we collect our favourite ones
Until our pockets are heavy enough
To root our feet into the earth

You remind me of the flames
That claim our homes for themselves
And surround our waters
Giving birth to new life from death
You remind me of the crab apple trees
That stand hand in hand
Overseeing the scene below
Waiting to feel small hands
Grasping your fruits in their palms
As they scrunch their noses
At the bitter tang on their tongues

You, little Crab Apple Tree
Remind me of myself
And remind me
Of my favourite version of my memories

— ANONYMOUS

RESPONSE FROM TREE #6414

How delightful your words and to know that I helped to remind you of you.

We are strong and resilient.

Like all species whether human, animal or plant we all need tending to replenish our store with nutrients.

And let's not forget our Grandfathers, the stones who hold the stories.

I love to be touched and tickled when the earth around me is aerated with digging sticks, pecking beaks or even animal claws.

Rebirth is the life cycle that is not linear but circular, it is easier for our spirits to embrace the passages of time.

Build your community and acknowledge the ones who have walked before you. We will help you remember the teachings of this land.

And don't forget we need some bitterness, so we can remember the sweetness and nourishment that comes after.

Come visit again.

Be well
Lori Snyder on behalf of
Crab
Apple
Tree

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