

An Ode to Our Oceans

i.

*Would we remember the child in us, who eagerly awaited the holidays to pay ode to the sea?
Would we be callous enough to watch you die, right before our very eyes?*

You resemble a mosaic.

Lustrous.

Ever-changing to the human eye.

And admirable in all your beauty.

The jewel of the Earth,

You are the *heart* of the planet.

Why do we take you for granted?

You're the giver.

Oxygen, food, medicine, leisure,

We use and use and use you,

Yet - you remain peaceful.

ii.

You provide vast scope for my imagination.

Your riches feed us all.

We deplete you of your resources.

We exhaust you of your abundance.

First, it's just one fish near the shore

But then

Another

And another.

And another.

But

We continue to venture deeper.

Mankind's greed urges us to continue

Blindly searching for more.

More food you provide for us in such abundance,

Or rare fish, that we so blindly hold up as trophies.

The alarming death rate of life you contain should be of everyone's concern,

As we will hunt to the very brink of extinction - not caring that your resources are finite.

Yet - you remain peaceful.

iii.

Plastic wrappers, bottle caps, styrofoam and containers.
We continually feed you, with items of debris you are not hungry for.
When we imagine our inhumane actions,
after all you do for us,
we become swept up in an ocean of grief,

slowly drowning, each escalating second.
As pollutants are destroying your beauty.
Your charm.
And your soul.

*Goodbye to the freedom of your blissful purity.
Goodbye to the sleek, serene body now choking on plastics.
Goodbye to our childhood memories,*

This isn't the part of us we want to leave behind.

iv.
Your destruction impacts all of us, as you are vital to our lives.
Vital to our being.
But are we vital to yours?

Or are we just a toxin?

That hunted your children to extinction
That polluted your shores
That destroyed your natural habitats.
The opposite of all you stand for.

We fear losing our homes,
But when it occurs every passing second to an unassuming creature,
Where is our concern?

You only experience our disregard,
Our neglect.

And yet - you remain peaceful.

v.
We are forever indebted to you,
As only when we

Destroy all your habitats

Kill all your organisms ,

Pollute all your waterways and

Melt all your glaciers,

Will we understand that it is too late?

Too late for our action -

Our concern.

Slowly,

You'll no longer act so peaceful,

As your salty water will become a depiction of our tears;

a broken part of us

which remains.