

Crumbling Climate

By Keira Kujawa

Crushed
A blackness suffocating the sky
Choking me
Never letting
Go
A place once called home
Now a barren landscape
A drop of water
Now nothing but a crack in the ground

When you try so hard
Get so close
But so close to the wrong thing
Too close to fading
Near destruction
Previously a thriving forest of life
Now a factory in the distance

Why can't we try
Try to feel the suffering
The struggles of the workers
Who have to pick through the trash
Through the despair

The Clark Fork River once running high
Running no more
Native species fighting for life
A bull trout
A grizzly bear
Once knowing how to survive
Tossed into the darkness
The bull trout with no oxygen
The bear with no food
A food web so intertwined
Unraveling like our very existence

Seeley Lake

Now

Sealed off

A world without beauty

A world without life

A place once so euphoric

Now forlorn and gloomy

A drop of water

Seeping into the ground

Giving a chance for life

Knowing it can make a difference

Make a change

A seedling blooming

Hope returning

Like the bitterroot flower

Pushing through the grime

Reaching toward light

For the future

For the climate

For us