

**The Animals** by Tina Biello

Their names in Latin or Anglo-Saxon:

Cetaceans,

Ursus americanus, Black Bear,

Wolf, Canis lupus.

Who are they when they speak their real names,  
softly to each other in the moss,  
in the green of their dreams.

How many two legged's hear their voices at night,  
in the morning,  
in the quiet of Earth,  
in a corner untouched by humans.

This is where you want to roam  
forget the lights, pavement, jets.

And fuel yourself on berries, salt, water.

Start with the dream time. It will take you to wolf's mouth,  
breathe salmon eggs through your blood  
re-kindle a time before you knew the word separate.