

Unsolicited Advice

Don't grow too fast my sons
So eager to join the multitudes inhaling the earth
Sucking up the happiness for generations to come
Degrading everything touched and trampled
Refusing the lips of knowledge
Offering eternal morning and night
Condemning the slick, black waves
On which we float and survive.
Don't grow too fast, enjoy your innocence
Revel in blissful unawareness as long as you can
Forget worry and fear and dream, dream away
Leave the worrying to us
The older generation of constant consumers.
Please learn fast my sons
Learn of our ignorance and arrogance
Our unwillingness to think of you, as you must now
Think of nothing but us
And our morally questionable ways.
When you cannot fathom the depths we've drilled
Creating and filling an empty void-a life we can't sustain
Know that we thought not of those to come next
But only of Ourselves-disbelieving the end would ever come.
The horizon is breached and shattered
And beyond it lie only questions
Of what will be and what could have been
When you learn what we refused to
And listen when we would not hear
You will see beyond tomorrow
And you will feel for those yet to come

You will open doors that we nailed shut.
Don't fear at all my sons
For there is endless light for you
As there was for us once, before squandering
And wasting our world away to nothing.
We have left some sparkle for you somewhere
But we misplaced it along with compassion
Only look where we did not.
We were Told – and so we listened
And yet they gave us nothing but
Silence, which is the same as lies
Don't let our misdirection lead you!
Make your own paths but don't tread too hard
And make your own rules but don't impose too much
But most of all, above everything else
Don't forget us my sons!
Fail to remember
And we become one and the same.

-Rachel Seibel