

IN QUEENSLAND

Will we probably
won't. Do you think
it will. Do they
I think they
do. When. Oh
a while ago.
The man came here
as an old man
with his
wife can I come
in. I wasn't
there. I planted
an Australian
willow in San Diego
It grew. But
the new owner
cut it down.
I said do
what you
have to
do. Does that
mean I mean
just destroy
the planet

I mean if you
gotta do
it. So they
cut my

little tree
down. On my planet
there's a whole
lot of bureaucracy
around cutting
down one
tiny tree. Trees
are protected
people put poles
in their yards
so the koala
can escape
the dog. The planet
being this
ball striped
with tar
and the guts of de
feated animals

are the trim
along the
tar. Dogs & cats &
antelope &
deer & koala &
raccoon and
children and
old men and entire
baseball teams
and everyone in
a single zip
code who
heard the bell

of the virus
coming out of the
jungle cause
you hit
their trees
one by one

it is so hard
on my planet
to kill
a tree everyone
does a work
around. Builders
throw their
hands up

instead it sells
papers.
Murdoch
knew about
climate change
since 2006

but it sells
papers

are newspapers
still made
of trees

and all the hills
are being

mined of rare
minerals
around here

so we can beat
China

and there's
a cellphone

in everyone's
hand

what if beating
China
was like putting
a fire out

I got it!
a few little cinders
thank god
for that

and the runoff
from mining
poisons the aquifer

the underworld
connected for
miles we have
no idea

the little koala
crossing the street

with first contact
we brought
millions of

viruses and now
they are
coming to us

uptick in
in take out
in takeaway

you don't have
to go where
viruses
live

they are coming our
way

so otherwise
I would
be in Queensland

instead
of Texas
which was
stolen
from

Mexico
which was
stolen by
Spain
from the in
digenous
people
originally coming
from Siberia

thousands of
years running
from the ice

running towards
the ice

take out
takeaway

the ice is
coming
no the virus

th- the ice
it is going
away

Murdoch
flew over
the north
pole

it looks
fine down
there

and throws his
body into
wildfire
as big as Korea

it sells
papers

why don't
they say
it's as big as
Minnesota

cause
it's not
America
yeah

Lower Manhattan
was flooded
by Sandy
so now they are
uprooting
one thousand
trees that run along
FDR a freeway
built by Robert Moses
in 1939

that gives asthma
to children of the
lower east side
and has one of the
highest covid rates
in Manhattan
because covid
likes asthma
it gets in

but all those trees
all those London
Planes all those
linden trees
are those oaks
make it less

and when they
tear down the trees
and destroy habitat
for the squirrels
they are turning up
dead and Monarch
butterflies heading
south and hundreds
of kinds of birds so
many birds
and the squirrels are running
around with
out their homes
and the activists are buying them
houses which the

construction workers
will laugh at & pull them
down and the construction
workers are black and
brown and the job
pays well but the
man in charge
is an Arborist
named Joseph Kocal
call Joe 212 860 1845
(first dial +1 on a cell
or 00 11-1 on a landline
I still have a landline
from 9-11 it was the
only way you
cld call

but now
the landlines
are digital
it's a lie
there is
no "land"

Kocal is a registered
arborist
making six figures¹

¹ and a forest is a thousand figures
and a hectare is approx
imately one thousand
trees

to oversee all tree
work permits in NYC
to kill a tree
imagine the level of
your success as an
arborist
that you arrived
in such a position of
power that you
can kill and kill
and Joe is wrapped
like the planet
is wrapped in tar
and animal guts
but he is wrapped
by bureaucracy
and wood chips
and eradicated biodiversity

there was an
amphitheater in New York²
where we protested & gathered
& 12-step meetings
met there during
the pandemic
which is still not over
the new variant
which may be the one
to wipe the planet

² The east river park amphitheater built in 1939, home to Shakespeare in the park and reconstructed in 2012 in honor of the kids who lost their parents in 9-11

out is more communicable
and more virulent
the amphitheater is gone
it was built on the
site just up the
hill from the
place where 120
men women and
children were
killed in their sleep
by order of Willem
Kieft the Dutch
governor in 1643
because he wanted
to move goods
in and out in
the small cove
where the Lenape
kept their
canoes

he needed that
landing

when the natives
saw the ships

landing they could
not see them

because they did
not know

what the tall
ships were

when you look
at the
earth do
you see a party
do you see
a treasure chest
do you see
a rich department
store
a mall
an amazon
warehouse
a playing field
a wildlife sanctuary
a sea ripe for the
picking
a toxic ocean
whitening reef
a flaming planet
a message from god
or a ripe
speaking sphere
juicily turning

leaking truth
what would
truth be

don't kill me

I suppose

or you probably
will

I'd be
in Queensland
but the viruses
wouldn't
let me
come

I'll have to come
here and
feel each
footfall

I'm 7500
miles away
it would take
me four months
if I could
walk over
oceans
I'm slow &
my dog, Honey
is slower
or both
we're fast & slow
just like
the planet
we place each

paw and foot
fall slow
in the poor damaged
dying human planet
we massage it
now with
our steps
we are living today
Queensland
we are coming
to you.