



**Darkness has fallen again in the back  
Underneath patches of stars**

**I wonder who's out there in the dead of night  
Peering at me from afar**



**Sometimes I hear a soft  
hoot from above  
And hope they are  
finding some respite**

**Some days I hear simply nothing at all  
When the air is cold, still, and desolate.**



**And even when things overwhelm me  
And with all the burdens I hold  
The place in the back understands me  
A piece of the universe, my home**

**So somewhere far, far away in the back**  
**Mr. Rabbit enjoys his late lunch**  
**Chewing on corn, the last shoots of fall,**  
**and scraps, mm *munch munch munch***

**A fox hops along, humming her song**  
**A squirrel stores up seeds and nuts**  
**The owl still sleeps, and only just peeks,**  
**When the moon shows her shine in the dusk**







**Humanity can be crushingly much  
The cars and the trains and the news  
It's chaos all inside and above and around me  
It's shortening my haphazard fuse**

**The one thing I know, one thing I can do  
Is care, respect and give love  
To tread very lightly, to feed and adore  
The land and all that it does**

**And even when things overwhelm me  
And with all the burdens I hold  
The place in the back understands me  
A piece of the universe; I am home**



**Thank you said the rugged raccoon,  
Sincere gratitude nods the wise owl,  
The buck bowed his head low in a kind of salute  
The coyotes joined chorus with howls**

**Us too said the thimble size toads  
And the bumble bees danced to agree  
For respecting your piece of the universe ...**

And choosing to share it with me

