

In Praise of Decay



So much is deadly in the shiny new,
Persistent plastic choking out our life,
The landfill of each ego's empty stuff,
Where poison and possession still accrue.
So praise Him in the old and mouldering,
In pale gold leaf-fall losing shape and edge,
In mottled compost rustling and rich,
From which the stuff of life is still unfolding.
Change and decay is what our plastic needs
To break the bleak persistence of our waste.
Pray that we learn the lost arts of our past,
The arts of letting go and sowing seeds,
That secrets of the lowly and the least
Might save us from the dreadful things that last.

Malcolm Guite, <https://tinyurl.com/2496w3re>

“The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it.”

(Psalm 24:1, NIV)

God took the Man and set him down in the Garden of Eden
to work the ground and keep it in order.

(Genesis 2:15, *The Message*)

God created all good things to work together. There is an order. The order of creation is marked by growth and decay. Humans are responsible to care for the rest of creation in ways that adhere to God’s order. Creation groans not because it decays. It groans because we have created dreadful things that last.

Listen to Steve Bell's
"In Praise of Decay"



- Why is it a good thing that nature decays?
- How do we get in the way of God's order of creation?
- What is our role when it comes to keeping creation in order?



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