**Julie Danho**

**I WANT TO EAT BUGS WITH YOU UNDERGROUND**

The scientist on the radio said that humans   
will survive, and, at first, I was buoyed,  
but she meant only some of us, the ones  
living in tunnels, eating crickets to survive  
when the rest had died from mass starvation  
after droughts lasted longer and seas rose faster  
and wars killed bigger because everyone  
wanted what little was left. I’d be fine  
with being one of the billions dead unless  
you were still alive. Under a down comforter  
or by a trash fire, I want to be where  
you are. You know how poorly I dig holes,  
how angry I get when I’m cold, how twice  
I’ve accidentally maced myself, and still  
you’d take me with you down into the earth,  
give me more than my fair share of caterpillar.  
Few believe we’re in the middle of the end   
because ruin can happen as slowly as plaque   
blocking arteries, and only later feels as true  
as your hand resting on my hip, both of us   
quiet as roses waiting for the bees to arrive.

 Danho, Julie. “I Want to Eat Bugs with You Underground.” Bennington Review. Issue 5, 2017, accessed 22 June 2020. http://www.benningtonreview.org/julie-danho-i-want-to-eat-bugs-with-you-underground.