

# Prayer for Ruby Elm

[John K. Samson](#)

Oh may the roots reach beneath the sleeping street  
The station and the riverbed register what we won't hear  
May the leaves bustle out the canopy  
Shake and photosynthesize everything we're sorry for  
Into one long breath of airMay the rings of tanglefoot and fiberglass  
Guard against the thunderstorm, canker worms and climate change  
May the bar rub away the power line  
Bandage over knots and burls  
Commemorate our injuries  
May the hydro worker's blade be swift and precise  
May the rope remember all the rhymes for knot  
To lift me up and lay me down  
Bear the swinging weight of love  
May the birds answer carabiner clicks  
Carry off the tiny seeds  
Better ways to be alive  
May it all seem plausible wherever we land  
May we grow  
Song Discussions is protected by U.S. Patent 9401941. Other patents pending.

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