

The USU Writing Center & Logan Library

present

# Helicon West

A Mother's Lament for  
Children Unable to Move

*Amy Blakely*

Father-Sun sinks behind Elder-Mountain. Dresses her copper  
dusted valleys in a clean halo. Makes her glow.

Along the riverbed, Summer's last pale children cling  
unbroken to Mother-Willow's gnarled fingers;  
resist the cutting wind who wishes to remove them with force.  
Drag them far from this parent material. Replant them.

Foreign lands follow new tributaries.  
A familiar riverbed, not all ground rich  
to raise the same strong limbs, strong base. Mother-Willow  
reaches barren fingers toward sky laced with fire.

Yellow burns orange bleeds red. At the edges smoky purple invades.

Night follows fast. Winter chasing those heels blows cold,  
calculated. Strangles the babes too stubborn to leap into new life.



Helicon West invites you to open mic nights, 7:00 PM at the Logan City Library Bridger Room, 255 N Main, every second and fourth Thursday during USU semesters. For more information, contact [star.coulbrooke@usu.edu](mailto:star.coulbrooke@usu.edu) or go to [writing.usu.edu](http://writing.usu.edu).

Artwork by Hannah Weaver. Broadside edited by Danielle Green.