



Creative Work

Through the green door: Poems of place

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Through the green door: Poems of place is a collection of ecopoems by Tom Mansfield. The collection is published in *Language & Ecology* 2021, and is available from www.ecoling.net. The following is a brief introduction to the series from the author, followed by his biography.

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Introduction

I have loved literature and poetry from a young age, writing poems and rapping from my early teens, always delighting in the creativity of wordplay. Beyond the sheer fun of phonemes and riddles of rhyme, poetry has always been an active way of developing understanding and meaning for me. I hold my poems as a living repository of ideas and inspirations.

I discovered ecolinguistics and *The Stories We Live By* course recently and it has been fascinating and immensely useful to apply this lens and finer scrutiny to the language we use and how it shapes our thinking. I am keen to learn more in the field and collaborate in practices for developing ecological awareness. So, I am as open as this book to connect with others in this essential field. For now, I bring my poetry to the work or play of reconceptualising our relationships with the life sustaining systems in which we are embedded and rediscovering the richness of the more-than-human world around us. I hope for this collection of poems to offer inspirations in the Language and Ecology community.

Biography

My vision is a healed planet generating abundant living for all. My main areas of focus are Climate, Technology and Cultural Innovation, all of which are wrapped in the frame of 'Planetary Health'.

My consultancy [Pale Blue](#) undertakes engagements across the Arts, Tech and Humanities as a facilitator, communicator and programme developer and designer. I am

currently developing climate restoration programmes in both the public and private sector internationally and working to facilitate positive climate futures with young climate leaders. Previously, I have worked with cultural institutions in London, UK and liminal spaces such as festivals on cultural programmes for thematically diverse public engagements. I am looking towards working on frameworks for regenerative practice in business and organisational design where I will be carrying the question ‘How do we create net positive participation in life sustaining systems?’

