

everyone i know is dead

you are in a garden, alone
once, your siblings filled this space, full of noise and industry
but now you are alone
once, your mother sat, waiting for you to come home with the setting sun
but now you are alone
once, your life was filled with pollen, and the promise of continuance
but now you wait to be no more

find your garden, ideally empty but for yourself
close your eyes and imagine being surrounded by your loved ones
squeeze your eyes tight until they begin to ache slightly
burst them open, and see that you are alone
try, and fail, to picture your family where you imagined them

become aware: is there waste where there shouldn't be?
recover it, placing it in a bin
imagine the human who carelessly discarded it as it slips from your fingers
imagine the face who murdered your mother through apathy
let it go
you are alone

become aware: is there a flower in bloom?
smell it, breathing deep
imagine the flavours that roll from the aroma
imagine the delight of spreading it to other gardens
let it go
you are alone

become aware: is there a noise that shouldn't be?
listen closely, ignoring everything else
imagine the laughter of your siblings as they beat their wings
imagine that love being replaced by mechanical droning
let it go
you are alone

become aware: are members of a family, other bees, dancing in the garden?
if there are, recognise that you have imagined them, for you are alone
if there aren't, recognise that you must accept the truth, for you are alone
you are alone

lay upon the grass
close your eyes
rest, sleep, if you can
you are alone