

1. ***Arbolita—Grandmother Tree***

2. ***Little Feet***

3. ***For Suzy M.***



[The following are transcribed from three pages of Virginia’s 3-hole lined notebook paper stapled together. The front page is headed “**Arbolita: I AM OF THE GRANDMOTHER LAND,**” titled &/or beginning: “**Arbolita Tree-Grandmother/ Great Grandmother Tree.**” Largely descriptive it takes on a bit more story quality on page 2.

Last of the stapled three, “**For Suzy M.**” seems to be clearly inspired by (i.e., in response to) Suzy Middleton’s photographs, at least some ‘scribbly-scrabbly’ crabs brilliantly festooned. Maybe the dipping sippers/ sipping dippers, too, though the image could also come from remembering a particular time together—as could “how things sit next to each other.”

The pages themselves are un=numbered & un-dated.]

## Arbolita

### Arbolita      Tree-Grandmother

Great Grandmother Tree

bark

into air                  rocks to cloud    up

side down side turned

as earth turns

rooted

in          sky

new leaves          old roots    in

& out                  wrens          chase

their liquid

songs

[river under rock under river]

one more day!

tree children

stretch their limbs

catch

the leafy light

lick their

twiggy fingers

short tail fuzzy head

noisy little magpie:

“please please

can i have a worm?”

after breakfast

one chickadee at the kitchen door

“chicka-dee-dee-dee!

\*

scuffling feet                      gusty winds  
“heer chiki chickie!

who will help me clean  
our dusty homes?”

“we will, mummy, we will  
help you clean!”

& they did

& she burst into blooms!

\*

for Suzy M.

out at the edge—what are you doing,  
little crab            pink & delicate all  
                         scribbly-scrabbly  
                         ?

                         2 birds perched  
on the edge                            of a glass  
dip-&-sip                                dip-&-sip...  
                         !splash!

                         the way things sit beside each other  
the way things sit beside each other

                         one  
                         drop  
                         -\ ! /

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