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Remaining Roots

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Remaining Roots

My backyard was once a jungle.
Birds traveled far, all gathered there like Times Square.
Amidst the city, I found refuge in the sea of feathered friends, performing their
rehearsed dance to one lonely judge.

Running the show like a mad orchestral conductor, stood one towering tree,
alone and free.
Branches like open palms offering autonomy to each hummingbird, sparrow,
and finch.

This crowded harmony ended abruptly as tall lumbermen stole the heart of their
jungle.

Now all that lies are dusty pencil shavings laden in solace, sprinkled upon the
conductor's grave. Mourning his death, I wait outside for the citizens to return,
but they don't linger on his absence,
absence,
absence.
Though,
he remains underneath.

- Carlene English