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### Blue Whale

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# **Blue Whale**

Benjamin Aleshire

*Ryan Chighizola Prize Winner*

A relic of an older world,  
they call me, but  
I have out-lived ice-ages  
& I will out-live you.  
Even when my body drifts  
to the ocean floor,  
I become a garden  
glowing in the darkness.  
I am so large  
that I have no concept  
of fear, of danger:  
I almost envy you  
your human folly, where  
everything you do is sweetened  
by risk.

*for Dierdre*