

## **Cockburn Bruce**

### **"If A Tree Falls 543"**

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rain forest  
mist and mystery  
teeming green  
green brain facing lobotomy  
climate control centre for the world  
ancient cord of coexistence  
hacked by parasitic greedhead scam --  
from Sarawak to Amazonas  
Costa Rica to mangy B.C. hills --  
cortege rhythm of falling timber.

What kind of currency grows in these new deserts,  
these brand new flood plains?

If a tree falls in the forest does anybody hear?  
If a tree falls in the forest does anybody hear?  
Anybody hear the forest fall?

Cut and move on  
Cut and move on  
take out trees  
take out wildlife at a rate of a species every single day  
take out people who've lived with this for 100,000 years  
--  
inject a billion burgers worth of beef --  
grain eaters -- methane dispensers --

through thinning ozone,  
waves fall on wrinkled earth --  
gravity, light, ancient refuse of stars,  
speak of a drowning --  
but this, this is something other.  
busy monster eats dark holes in the spirit world  
where wild things have to go  
to disappear  
forever

If a tree falls in the forest, does anybody hear?  
If a tree falls in the forest, does anybody hear?  
Anybody hear the forest fall? (Toronto, April 7, 1988)

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