
Under the Mushroom Cloud

Elizabeth Barrette

Biography

Elizabeth Barrette lives in central Illinois with her partner, Doug. She serves as Managing Editor of *PanGaia* and Assistant Editor of *SageWoman*, and she selects the poetry for both of these magazines. Her previous poetry credits include “A Forest Rusting” in *The Terminal Journal*, “GRACE” in *Communities*, “Illumination” in *HMS Beagle*, “A Steed of Steel and Silver” in the *Mindsparks Science Fiction Poetry Anthology*. Recently she won the title of Poet Laureate 2003 in Sol Magazine (www.sol-magazine.org). She has also presented poetry workshops and written sundry articles and columns about poetry. Her primary fields of interest include alternative spirituality and speculative fiction.

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In the first days, in the very first days,
When no people lived and only
The animals walked on the Earth,
Raven stole the Sun and hung it
in the sky. Once the humans came,
they lived in peace for a while. Then
eventually they too stole the Sun – but
being foolish, they brought it back to Earth
where it blew up. So whose fault is that?
We all live in Raven’s shadow now.