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Jill Logan

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CHRISTMAS TREE

by *Jill Logan*

Boughs raised,
 rejoicing with the angels in Heaven;
 much higher than a terminating plaster
 ceiling.
 Top erected,
 proud and wise, keeping nature under
 a watchful eye;
 much more distinguished than a plastic
 stump.
 Tiny, yet powerful, needles,
 perfuming the air with the rich aroma
 of a score of censers;
 not even remotely comparable with the
 stench of aluminum and rubber.
 Roots of age and beauty,
 solidly wound into its pedestal of
 earth;
 hardly capable of being mocked by a flimsy
 vessel of metal.
 Conceived by the wind, the sun, and the
 precious assets
 held only by nature and its prodigy;
 unlike one born of machines, to a life in a
 cardboard grave.

A true Christmas tree is a miracle of nature.
 That is what gives it beauty.
 That is what gives it power.
 That is what gives it a possession that we shall
 never mimic.

So why do we even try?▲



illustration by *Tina Price*

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