Wildlife

By Peter Dixon

Why do we say wildlife
when wildfire isn't wild?
   It's mostly soft and gentle,
   it's mostly meek and mild.
We don't see lions bombing
and tigers driving tanks,
platoons of pink flamingos
or regiments of yaks.
We don't see wars of blue whales
or rabbits flying jets,
walruses with shotguns
or parachuting pets.
To me wildlife is gentle
it loves to hide away,
it's mostly shy and silent
it likes to run and play.
   It's really us that's wildlife
our lifestyle's really wild
bombs
and bangs
and burnings
father, mother, child.