

**Pith and Heartwood**

**by Sawyer Lovett**

We don't all live  
to be elders.  
We don't all get  
To share hard won wisdom  
or the stories of people  
connected to you  
not by blood, but by glitter  
and lightning.

Chop me down  
& count the years like rings.  
Use my twigs to start fires  
My branches for your torches.  
Set the world on fire,  
in the name of all we have lost.