

Pain and the Food Chain

we all need to eat,
more to the point, carnivores
—if no food, no life

larger predators
eat the smaller ones alive,
frantic to escape

even bugs feel pain,
as do all along the chain
from slug to apex

pain is Nature's tool
to ensure species' success,
we're pawns in life's game

it's a cruel world
—antinatalists ask if
pleasure's worth the pain



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