



## *Spirit Rising*

*They tell me there's no connections...  
But I hear them talk about the rape of the land  
and I feel like I've been violated.*

*All around the world women are rising,  
women are singing, and women are holding hands.*

*They tell me there's no connections...  
But a 'virgin' forest says something to me*

*I saw a man stand in awe in the ancient temperate rainforest  
"He's a big one".  
I heard the roar of the chainsaw  
and*

*I  
    heard  
        her  
            scream  
"She's coming down fast."  
When did that spruce become a woman?*

*I feel her anger and hear my own.*

*They tell me there's no connections...  
But I hear them talk of manufacturing in Mexico  
"No environmental laws, cheap labour and blow jobs are five bucks."*

*All around the world women's voices are calling,  
women are screaming and women are fighting back.*

*I saw a powerful waterfall surrounded by ancient forest become a trickle of water at the side of the  
road.  
I drank the water and tasted salt on my lips.*

*We see her crying.*

*They say there is no connections...  
Yet I've heard of a woman raped because she fought for clean water  
    the river polluted by pulp from her forests  
        destined for "feminine protection"  
            money in their pockets.*

*All around the world women are nurturing, women are caring  
and women are sharing their wisdom.*

*When they follow me home at night I feel fear and anger...  
When I follow the truck on the logging road, follow the smoke rising up into the sky, follow the soil  
as it washes away  
I feel the same fear and anger.*

*We hear her call.  
Growing inside her is the spirit rising.*

*Tzaporah Berman*