

# Ebb and Flow

Charlotte Southworth

Waves wrestle as I think  
What would our Earth be like  
without an ocean, filled to the brink?  
Would there still be giggling infants and soaring kites?  
Or will a desolate ravine fill the space  
where the valiant ocean once had its might?

As competitive seagulls race overhead,  
I realize that our community relies  
on this hyperactive mass of no dread.  
The wind murmurs softly, but loud enough to hear  
over pivoting waves that grapple with no fear.  
We are dependent, but so is the ocean.  
And we must be in harmony, that much is clear.

Iridescent starfish guard the shore  
while gorgeous anemones glisten like precious stones.  
Such beauty is the coral that dances with mirth.  
This life deserves the best of all cares  
for the stunning variety of species here since birth.

Though the sea is quick to anger,  
and more powerful than any foe,  
we could all learn from the sea's loss of temper,  
and the forgiveness of its ebb and flow.