



LOVE MOTHER NATURE AND SHE LOVES YOU RIGHT BACK

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I am not a religious nature lover.

If you qualify being careful about the trash I throw and appreciating nature in pictures as being a nature lover, then I probably am one. However, I am not the type who'll go out on hiking and camping trips or on mountaineering club activities. I would rather look at nature's bounty courtesy of the photos that people take.

I also love piggybacking on the nature trips of other people. I watch TV documentaries and programs that have the hosts exploring nature. I know I'm being a lazy couch potato this way, but I simply do not have the physical constitution as well as the financial means to go nature trotting. I'd rather have other people do that, thank you very much.

Nature is always beautiful, no matter whether you get to appreciate it first hand or through the eyes of others. Nature was made that way and we humans are luckier because of that. We may not have had a hand in creating nature as it was made. However, we are all responsible for keeping nature as clean, lovely and untouched as it is.

Unfortunately, in keeping with how we have been created to be gods ourselves, many of us have played cruelly with nature. Illegal loggers abound. Companies forget their responsibility to keep the environment safe and pure. Children pick flowers everywhere, even when those flowers infinitely look better in their natural branches. We have allowed so many animals to become extinct by hunting them, using them for game and including them in our list of exotic foods to enjoy. We have abused nature, forgetting that it has merely been loaned to us by the generations that come after us.

The reason why nature has been given the title "mother" is simple: Mother Nature takes care of us and nurtures life on this planet as carefully as any mother would. Mother Nature gives all of herself to us so we may survive, grow strong and become all we have been meant to be. That's the ideal scenario, though. But reality has often become quite different. As said earlier, man has succeeded at virtually destroying Mother Nature so much so that the future generations have to wonder if there will ever be anything left for them. Many, many centuries ago, nature remained untouched. With progress and the passing of the ages, everything has changed. They paved paradise to put up a parking lot. Nay, dozens upon dozens of parking lots placed atop each other and even compressed to the limit.

We need to consider how much more Mother Nature will still be able to take. Fear the time when we can have our garbage and eat it, too! Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned. Mother Nature *is* female, right?

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION:

1. Are you a nature lover? Why or why not?
2. Why do we all have to do our part in keeping nature safe and beautiful?
3. When we think of nature, we automatically connect it to the environment. Why is this so?
4. What are the untouched bounties of nature that remain so in your country?
5. How is nature a great mother but a cruel punisher?