



Me in a Tree -Julie O'Callaghan

Julie O'Callaghan is an American poet who living in Ireland since the mid 1970s. Her award winning writing has seen her earn membership of the Irish academy of arts, Aosdána. This poem deals with the concept of growth, both in nature and in ourselves.

Unfortunately, it wasn't
a luxury tree house
with hot and cold running cocoa
or with a robin

bringing me breakfast in bed.
A squirrel didn't toss acorns
at me when I needed to wake up.
No—that wasn't how it was.

I hid high up in the leaves.
So many thoughts were floating,
I speared them on to twigs
to see them twinkle in the sun.

But now I realise
I named this poem the wrong thing.
It's not me in a tree.
It's the tree in me.