



# English visitor demonstrates appreciation for desert

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Bruce Dann is a visiting Englishman whose love for and kinship with our desert has inspired him to write two poems, one below and one to be published next week.

It is curious that often people coming from other countries have a deeper appreciation for the natural beauty of the lands they visit than do those who live thereon. We are touched by Dann's affection and respect for what he knows to be a truly Great Sonoran Desert.

The blazing sun, showering down its merciless heat below.

The desert sands reaching up, as if to dim the glow.

The cactus, so solitary in its magnificence,  
But so like a figure you would see in the distance.  
The barren and dusty land, in itself, has a magical charm,

Enough to hypnotize you with its peace and calm.

A panorama, that greets our eyes with honest insistence;

A Svengali of nature, with its persistence;

A terrain that every once in a while  
Blossoms with Palo Verde, with a greeting smile;  
The mountains and hills that surround  
Although lying inert, they speak but with no sound.

It has a telepathic quality that registers in your brain,  
Impressing on the wonder, the bewilderment, that will always remain.

So much beauty shed by Nature...  
So much to enhance and treasure...

A domain that should never allow cities to engulf them,

For when beauty is destroyed, what then?

We must have progress, progress of a kind,  
But not to the extent of us being blind.

What we see and take pleasure in...  
To destroy it would be the greatest sin.

Most people want to live in a haven of peace,  
So as to relax from the rigors of the world with gentle release.

So let the Desert lie in its idyllic state,  
So, no matter what passage of time, one can always relate

To a certain spot in a certain land,  
Unspoilt, with mountainous beauty and the mysteries of the desert sand.

Bruce Dann

## A reminder:

Please help us gather bottles and cans from the roadsides until this fall, when on a date to be announced, we will have a grand garbage gathering and build "towers of trash" in a public place in our community. This will demonstrate our need for the "Bottle Bill." The deadline to register to vote in the November election is Sept. 13.

