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One Extra Chromosome

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Our Dilemma

BETH T. AYERS

I refuse.
 I have no intention
 Of rendering an opinion.
 I am neutral and so will I remain.
 The rest of you may debate
 Till the cows come home,
 But I will not take part.
 I haven't the heart
 For debate,
 For negotiation,
 For counting pros and cons.
 I am a follower,
 Not a leader,
 Not when it comes to this.
 One suggestion
 Knocked out by another.
 That possibility
 Destroyed by a third,
 Only then to be eliminated,
 Forcing your return
 Back to square one and
 My patience is wearing thin.
 I don't want to jump in
 But I see no end...
 "Enough! I'm going to ...
 Chili's. You can come or stay home.
 Peanut butter's in the pantry."

One Extra Chromosome

NATE MATHERS

I can feel them, the judgmental eyes.
 Creeping up on my aching shoulders
 Just like the crimson fire ants
 Swarm a helpless shred of food.

He didn't have a choice to be different from the rest of us,
 God didn't give him the say in how he must be created.
 The great ones in the sky flipped a coin,
 And sometimes we become a wonder of the world.

Through the radiance of such a blessing,
 the iron fist of the world can learn to be compassionate.
 Love, happiness, embracing the joys of life,
 the world could be a much simpler place.

He is no different than you and me.
 Open up your heart, not all people are the same,
 yet you will always find surprises around the corner.
 So what if he has one more chromosome than you and I?