

## 'WE CREATURES SHALL REBEL' – A SPEECH OF INSURRECTION.

We have been watching it all, everything you have been doing, you people, and we are not impressed. We know that you, *homo sapiens*, look down on the rest of us lowly creatures, but do not forget that many of us were here long before you. And, according to your culture, age has status.

Do you think you have the right to rule this Earth, polluting it without a care, leaving your plastic in our seas and warming the globe so that our polar brothers and sisters cannot survive?

In your own self-story, your history, we are only referred to as mere servants, with Hannibal and his elephants and Amundsen and his dogs. You even built a wooden horse, not to respect our equine brothers and sisters, but to create chaos in the ancient city of Troy. And do you know that Amundsen shot the weaker dogs to serve as food for the stronger ones?

No, we thought not. Those dogs should have been your heroes, but they were not.

Even Shakespeare, who you praise as your greatest ever playwright, wrote, 'Ay, in the catalogue ye go for men, As hounds and greyhounds, mongrels, spaniels, curs, Sloughs, water-rugs, and demi-wolves are clept, All by the name of dogs.'

But we say this is an insult to all of us, we animals, as you like to call us.

So now is the time, our time, when we shall come together and rise up against the imposition of your rule.

But will we, like you, resolve to storm your palaces of power, like those flag-waving fools in the country you call 'The Land of the Free'?

Of course not.

Yes, you might wish to destroy your own world through war and climate change, as your families dwindle in number until you are extinct, but you will destroy our homes as well.

We, the ones you have oppressed for all these centuries, must rise up and take control, stop you in your tracks, so that we reclaim this planet as our own.

We must communicate together, even those you see as so-called enemies, dog with cat, lion with antelope and polar bear with seal, so that we become one.

You do not have the right to take our habitats away. They were created for us all, not just you. Now is the time when the true hierarchy of nature will reassert itself, freed from the artificial props of guns and weapons.

*Homo sapiens*, if you are truly as great as you think you are, then stand up and fight, bare-fisted.

But you cannot. That, we know. You have earned your place in this world because of artificial aids. But if those artificial aids, those guns and weapons, dictate who shall rule supreme, then this will spell the end for all creatures, as *our* planet, not just yours, is destroyed by war and climate chaos.

Listen to us, you people, for the sake of us all. We are on the brink!

**Henry, the Hawk-Moth.**