

PHEROMONE FRENZY

The forest is just like you and me,
needs lots of things to stay healthy.
Needs food, water, sun and space to grow,
makes homes for others in the food chain,
like birds and deer and insects small,
who call to their mates with a special scent.
They do a dance together, it's the pheromone frenzy,
yah, the pheromone frenzy.

After burrowing in to the bark of the tree,
they lay some eggs in a gallery.
At the larva stage they eat inner bark,
and that weakens the tree, so the tree fights back,
tries to pitch them out with its sticky sap.
Then a battle is on and a fungus blue is produced by the beetle,
gives the wood a blue hue.

Once trees are weakened by a bug attack,
the forest's health can get out of whack.
A sickly tree can become debris and that's fuel for a fire, scaring you and me.
But a fire can be good for a forest's health,
renewing the land and spreading the wealth of nutrients and creating new homes.
It's a cycle you see, same as you and me.
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Norah Ashmore

PHEROMONE FRENZY

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