

The heart of the countryside

Michael James Leach

My countryside
home is where the heart is
at its gladdest and lightest,
like a hot air balloon
floating gently over
emerald green fields
and golden dirt tracks.

My rustic
home is where the heart is
far from health services,
far from those specialists –
like cardiologists –
who can stop diseases in
their concrete-covered tracks.

My bucolic
home is where the heart is
more likely to fail –
liable to stop beating
earlier than all those
hearts that thump out their
rhythms in the city.

My rural
home is where the heart is
woven into the patterned fabric
of a vibrant community,
whose median age
keeps rising and rising
as fond memories fade.

My countryside
home is where the heart is
destined to be
till its last beat.

Competing Interests

None declared

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