

Sacred Signia

West Coast Sea Stars Die Off

Numerous starfish colonies—dying,
wasting away,
lose arms, turn to mush. Scientists trying—
what can they say
that causes sea stars to become white goo?
Not nature's way.
Bacteria, toxins, discharges do
deaths. Ocean acids, El Nino can too.
Meanwhile the sea stars are limply lying.
Just which explanation are we buying?

Sacred Signia Created by Viola Berg

1. 10 line stanzas.
2. Rhyme scheme: a-b-a-b-c-b-c-c-a-a
3. Metric: Iambic pentameter: Lines 1-3-5-7-8-9-10 Iambic dimeter Lines 2-4-6.
4. Converted to syllables: Lines 1-3-5-7-8-9-10=10 syllables. Lines 2-4-6=4 syllables.
5. Pattern with syllable count: 10a-4b-10a-4b-10c-4b-10c-10c-10a-10a.