

280 Phoebe

Ah, my beloved little chicken Ninja,
My fierce, unstoppable granddaughter.
Bright and shiny, strong and resilient.

What are we leaving behind for you?
A burning, drowning, tempest-torn planet,
Fires and smoke, storms and floods.
Food thrown away while millions starve.
Political unrest, autocracy rampant,
Democracy threatened and waning.
Viral pandemics inundate the world,
Surging in wave after contagious wave.
Women battered, bashed and bereft,
Losing freedom to choose for themselves.
Schools where guns of war rage,
Books are banned, history erased.

My little Ninja, tender and fierce,
My dearest warrior, my heart!
I leave you my hopes, my dreams of
Peace and justice, freedom and truth.
Generosity. Compassion. Love.

Alice Woodruff