

Two of Us

Words and Music by Mary Amato

THE SONG

A Asus4 Esus4
I will build a house to hold us.
A Asus4 Esus4
You will bring the sun inside.
A Asus4 Esus4
Stay and grow together
A Asus4 A
In the ever-changing tide.

A Asus4 Esus4
Crimson, rose and violet
A Asus4 Esus4
Gold and green and blue, we flame.
A Asus4 Esus4
You're the one who fills me up
A Asus4 A
Color in a blaze.

CHORUS

D Eadd11
We can find a way to give
F#m
Each other what we need
D Eadd11
The play of back and forth,
F#m
A flow of energy.
D Eadd11
Ooh.....Two of us
D Eadd11
Ooh.....Two of us
D Eadd11 A/ Asus4/Esus4
Ooh.....complete.

VERSE

A Asus4 Esus4
We're a part of something
A Asus4 Esus4
Bigger than the eye can see
A Asus4 Esus4
The fragile balance cries:
A Asus4 A
Tread here carefully.

THE SCIENCE

A coral polyp is a tiny soft-bodied animal that creates a "house" or exoskeleton. It depends upon a microscopic sea plant (zooxanthellae algae), which lives in its tissue. The algae produce food and oxygen through photosynthesis from the sunlight. In return, the coral polyp provides the algae with shelter, carbon dioxide, and more.

When we think of corals, we think of their vibrant and varied colors. Actually, coral polyps are translucent. It is the algae that give corals their famous color.

When two beings help each other to survive, it's called symbiosis. The term comes from the words "sym" (together) and "biosis" (life). The polyp and the algae are symbiotic.

Individual polyps join and form into whole colonies of coral. These colonies can grow over hundreds or even thousands of years. Eventually, they can become large enough to form reefs. The Great Barrier Reef of Australia is so large it can be seen from space. Some of our planet's coral reefs began growing millions of years ago.

Sadly, the health of coral reefs are threatened by pollution, climate change, acidification of the ocean, mining, destructive fishing practices, disease, and other factors.

A Asus4 Esus4
 What is touched above the surface
 A Asus4 Esus4
 ripples out and down below
 A Asus4 Esus4
 Lonely ghosts, they tell the story
 A Asus4 A
 No one wants to know.

REPEAT CHORUS end on A /Asus4/E7sus4

BRIDGE

F#m
 Change can heal or hurt.
 Asus4
 Let's hope we've seen the worst.
 D Asus4 Eadd11
 Move toward a deep and binding trust.
 D Eadd11
 Oh...
 D Eadd11
 Oooh.....Two of us
 D Eadd11
 Oooh.....Two of us
 D Eadd11
 Oooh.....

OUTRO

A Asus4 Esus4
 I will build a house to hold us
 A Asus4 Esus4
 You will bring the sun inside.
 A Asus4 Esus4
 Stay and grow together
 A Asus4 A
 In the ever-changing tide.

Some of our planet's corals are classified as endangered, and scientists estimate over 60% of reefs worldwide are at risk.

When corals are stressed (due to rising water temperatures, for example), they expel their algae. This causes the coral to turn ghostly white and is called bleaching. Entire coral colonies can be wiped out.

While change is always a part of life, there is overwhelming evidence that human-related factors are threatening the future of the world's coral reefs. Coral reefs are important to the planet's biodiversity. They provide shelter and protection for fish and mollusks. They help to balance the oceans carbon dioxide levels, and can help protect our coastlines from erosion and storm damage. Coral reefs are the tropical rainforests of the ocean, with the most diverse and abundant marine life on the planet.

We need these beautiful, symbiotic organisms.