

## Field of Life

### The Outfield

Overgrown, expansive, a fenced border  
that widely embraces the field and all who enter.

Left Field: Surprises abound:  
unexpected hops, challenges arise  
out of nowhere and everywhere  
with the most revered chosen  
to roam this land.

Center Field: The field general  
takes charge of the scene  
and backs up those  
who may not be able  
to reach their goals.

Right Field: Presumed to be weak  
but often more committed  
and underestimated:  
at the mercy of the prevailing  
winds and whims.

### The Infield

A combination of grit, dirt, vague boundaries,  
with errant clumps of grass, hinting at growth.

First base: Running full tilt  
toward a full life and release  
past the squashed beer can  
serving as the base and  
reminder of ones' place.

Second base: Stolen in time,  
Innocence, faith, humanity  
sliding, spikes high trying  
to avoid the tag, lots  
of labels and judgment.

Third base: Hard to reach such  
rarified sweet air, not too  
many make it this far without  
sacrificing the self  
to show others the way.

Home plate: Not always safe  
but the keeper of dreams and pride,  
culture, kin and spirits  
kindled with emotion;  
always eager to set foot on.

