

**Cosmic Treetop Cartography**

*I have heard trees talking, long after the sun has gone down  
...Joy Harjo "Speaking Tree"*

So far, the James Webb Space Telescope has found no trees. Quasars, yes. Black holes. Long dead stars bathed in luminosities. Supernovas branched with rainbow gasses, drizzled in diamond dust. We track these futuristic excursions into time and space with awe. One finds forests of fury and flame advancing across raw ridges of cosmic landscapes as though dancing, or shape-shifting thickets filled with supernova orchards. Skies unfold in cloud chapparals. Shadowed spheres, moons, orbs surprise us. Nebula nurseries emerge. Earthlike planets spin. Each trove of images open before us like wisps of filtered light in a grove of birch, maple or a cottonwood bosque. How long before some rover's lens discovers root, bud, seedling, even spore? Imagine tree ring libraries from a billion light years past – seeding skies with hope that earthly forests here might last.