

Brown Willy (pronounced 'Brown Gelly' locally)

My beast would be of Brown Willy as the head.
The tributaries would be the arms that enfolds its body of the moor.
The legs would be the rivers that flow into the sea.
The sea would be the final being before entering into the skies.
To the rainfall that keeps the life going.

My meeting would be my daily chore of walking the countryside.
One does not see the trail of nature from seed, acorn or whatever to the final
being, the flower, the tree.
So, you see, I meet the beast every day.



This piece of writing was inspired by a walk along a section of Colliford Lake on Bodmin Moor, preceded by a reading of the poem "Beast of Bodmin Moor" by Pascale Petit and read aloud by Melodie Manners, followed by Gareth Rees's creative writing workshop, as part of the BEAST Festival created by Cornwall AONB, 24th September 2021.

Brown Willy, possibly from Cornish Bronn Wennili meaning "hill of swallows" or from Cornish Bronn Ewhella meaning "highest hill". The summit, at 1,378 feet / 420 metres above sea level, is the highest point of Bodmin Moor and of Cornwall as a whole.

