

I AM ALIVE!

I hear the guides say!
"Look at the Big Wall;
Listen to the water dripping."
I am Alive!

Think about the bats!
Myotis velifer
I nest them
I nurture them
I keep them safe
I am Alive!

I am more than a cave!
Listen to the birds
Serenading
Hunting for food
Mating!
I am Alive!

Drive into the campgrounds
At night!
Observe the sentinels
Tall and stately
Ears proudly erect
Observing you!
I am Alive!

See the small tanks!
Daring you to
Challenge!
The littlest running
On legs but a blur!
I am Alive!

Spy on the hillside!
Gray/brown ghosts
Browse over my head!
A tawny presentence
Creeping toward
A mid day meal!
I am Alive!

Hear the stealthy rattle!
Beware the coiled death
Wailing, waiting
Patiently watching
For a careless meal!
I am Alive!

I am Alive!
I am Kartchner Cavern!
Open your senses!
See, hear, know
But never neglect
The drip, drip, drip
That proves to all that
I am Alive!

I am Alive!
A poem in free verse
Inspired by
Kartchner Cavern State Park
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