

Helen Bar-Lev -- Two Poems

Storm on the Border

on the border
when there's a storm
you wonder
if it's thunder
or war planes
that cause
the heavens
to rumble

Eruptions

humans are like molten lava
flowing, changing shape and form
seeking niches in which to settle
and harden
and nothing can move them
except another eruption

Helen Bar-Lev was born in New York in 1942. She holds a B.A. in Anthropology. She has lived in Israel for 42 years, and has held over 90 exhibitions of her landscapes, 33 of which were one-person shows. Her poems and artwork have appeared in numerous online and print anthologies. www.helenbarlev.com *Cyclamens and Swords and other poems about the land of Israel*, and *The Muse in the Suitcase*, both with Johnmichael Simon, illustrated by Helen. *In Moonlight the Sky Will Slide* with Katherine L. Gordon. *Everything Today*, a non-what-you-expect book of poetry about colours with her colour illustrations, is her latest collection. Helen is Senior Editor of Cyclamens and Swords Publishing, www.cyclamensandswords.com Former editor-in-chief of Voices Israel Annual Anthology, current Secretary of Voices Israel Group of Poets in English. She was also the global correspondent and contributing editor for *Sketchbook, A Journal for Eastern and Western Short Forms* for many years until it disappeared into cyberspace without a trace.