

## 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](http://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](http://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.