

HATING ANIMALS

Translated from the Hebrew by Maayan Eitan & Oded Carmeli

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A dove is a winged rat
a cat is furred cockroach
and it's killing me
how chickens taste like chicken
dinosaurs tasted like chicken
it sickens me
that carnivores are not vegan
and omnivores not picky
it's eating me up
the way grasshoppers rape and pillage
and ducks don't pay taxes
and never vote
and all the microorganisms combined
have not contributed a single verse
to modern Hebrew poetry
how can they live like that
how can I live
after something like that

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Animals
what a bunch of primitives
the Archaea kingdom a monarchy

the Arthropod phylum a technocracy
the Maxillopoda class still waging
class warfare
the Lepidoptera order a cult
the Liliaceae family values
family values
the Ailuropoda genus all racists
and the species Homo Sapiens
a subspecies of subhumans
still discriminating against
women.

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In the worst storm
in twenty years
and there's one
just about every year
you see people
standing their ground
you see people
running around
you hear the sirens
wailing
which means people
are at work
are at war
and a tree falls
but the people

raise it back up
you see people rise up
you see people
up and running
never even thinking
of ever leaving earth
in the worst storm
in twenty years
and there's one
every year
you see people
standing
you see people
withstanding
you see people
what you don't see
what you never see
are hedgehogs
no hedgehogs
where are all the hedgehogs
where's the dove
where's the crow
one fly to feed upon our dead
there's not a dog
in sight.