

Shalom, Salaam

My sister awakes before sunrise
and puts on her hijab for protection.
Eyes turned toward Mecca,
she prays five times a day.

On Friday at sunset
I don a tallit
light the Shabbat candles
and pray for peace.

Shalom
Salaam
Our words strive for love
but only God knows
who will live and who will die.

We grieve for our dead
and mourn for the living:
women seized from their homes,
wounded children without food or family.

Will fear uproot us,
split the daughters of Abraham,
give power to those who would destroy us?

Laura Blatt 11/10/2023