

# Reports of Ecological Disaster, Cause Unknown, Passover 5759

by Steven Sher (October 2017)



*Landscape in Red Light, Emile Nolde*

In this season of our freedom,  
we remember how the Nile

red with blood once flowed  
and how the strength of

Egypt ebbed until its host  
drowned in the Sea of Reeds.

Again the river is a floating grave:

bloated fish and hippos,

carcasses of crocs: another plague  
upon a house forever cursed.

The cry, *We are all dead men*,  
again rising through the land

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Brooklyn native **Steven Sher** is the author of 15 books including, most recently, [Uncharted Waters](#) (New Feral Press, 2016) and *The House of Washing Hands* (Pecan Grove Press, 2014). He has taught at many universities/workshops for more than 35 years. He moved to Jerusalem in 2012. Find out more at [stevensher.net](http://stevensher.net).

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