

Slander

by David Solway (October 2016)



Deliver my soul, O Lord, from lying lips, and from a deceitful tongue

Psalm 120

Slander is like a missile
that smites from afar.
When it is spoken in Mecca
it kills in New York
and when it is uttered in Damascus
it strikes in Jerusalem.
And slander is like coals of juniper

that smoulder within
even when the fire subsides
and is no longer seen.
Slander is a rocket and a living ember.
It is not detected
until too late
and it never ceases to burn
once it is kindled.

And this is why
he who speaks slander
cannot be forgiven
and he who is versed
in the tongue of deceit
cannot be admitted to the house.

David Solway is a Canadian poet and essayist. His most recent volume of poetry, *Installations*, appeared in fall 2015 from Signal Editions. A partly autobiographical prose manifesto, *Reflections on Music, Poetry & Politics*, was released by Shomron Press in spring 2016. A CD of his original songs, *Blood Guitar and Other Tales*, appeared last summer. Solway's current projects include work on a second CD with his pianist wife Janice and writing for the major American political sites such as *PJ Media*, *FrontPage Magazine*, *American Thinker*

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