



## Kaddish: Before the Holocaust and After

**Jane Yolen**

Holy Cow! Press (Oct 12, 2021)

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Though her name evokes fabulism and dream-weaving, Jane Yolen is a literary renaissance woman. In this intimate, history-based poetry collection, she tackles the complicated subject of antisemitic persecution across the ages, and does so in a searing, haunting way. Notably, the collection also touches on the Israel-Palestine conflict, as well as the roles of women in Judaism, beginning with the first woman to be too easily cast aside: indomitable Lilith.

Slouching Towards Bethlehem

"Israel Convicts a Palestinian Poet:

for a poem they say incites violence and supports terror."

-Unknown Headline

*Yeats is crouched in his grave,  
preparing to turn over like meat on a spit.  
One more round and he is done.*

*Jerusalem, where King David wrote poems  
about politics and self-doubt has been cancelled.  
The Garden is closed for the millennium.*

*Lions no longer lie down with lambs,  
for all the psalmists are in prisons  
on one side of the Golan Heights or another.*

*I am waiting for the summons on my door,  
that invitation to prison, that long slouch  
to the old city, Bethlehem or D.C.*

MICHELLE ANNE SCHINGLER (July / August 2021)

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