

## Call on the Wise

see the rockets, the bombs, the payback  
what might dead children  
of Israel and Gaza want now?

will rockets heal holes in the hearts  
of their mothers?

what might the dead of kibbutzim know now?  
will bombings bring back  
their elders and babies?

return hostages taken from bed?  
what do those killed in midlife want now?  
to hold back more spilling red?

will raining bombs  
erase the rage?

as heavy houses crash down?  
will it bring back someone's beloved?  
change smells of overwhelm?

in ancient lands, stone, iron and sand—  
there's nothing to want when eyes go dark

fear the rockets, the bombs, the payback  
what is lasting strength?

time to call on the wise  
the breath inside — ask  
what is lasting strength  
while wise ones are still left.

—Abby Lynn Bogomolny