Requests

Esther Raab (transl. Cahterin Shaw and Moshe Dor)

*Deuteronomy 28:1-14*

I want beautiful trees—

and not wars!

and a coat of many colors

and not uniforms

for all my dear ones;

I want rain

and green furrows

and houses

full of babies;

a calendar of alliances

and a “brotherhood plaza”

and lightning and thunder—

in the sky;

and bountiful rains

on earth

and a pink crocus

in the ravines;

and pinecones

on a scented bed

of pine needles—

and bulbul birds rejoicing

among leafy orchards

and sails of peace

on the Mediterranean;

and white chrysanthemums

in the parks, their fall maneuvers;

and red balls rolling

along the paths

and the sleeves

of babies’ garments signaling tranquility

on clotheslines.