**Exiles**

Yoni Hammer-Kossoy

Under the apricot tree

its shade sweet as stone

is an ocean of unsayable words

swimming past in schools.

I'll count my failures

until piebald light seeps under your skin

and glitters there like a hummingbird

until the air slides down our backs

like drops on a bottle.

Once we were banished from here

but now roots sprout from our feet.