

Poem

Beeri

בארי

מילים: Adi Blechman

Soon winter will come
 Crying clouds will water the ground
 and grow carpets of red
 first the anemone will flower
 and noone will come to see its beauty
 After the buttercup will flower
 and there will be no festival.
 Finally the poppy will flower, and quiet,
 there is nobody.
 The protected flowers were already picked
 in the autumn.

עוד מעט יגיע החורף,
 עננים בוכים ישקו את האדמה
 ויצמיחו מרבדים אדומים.
 תחילה תפרח הכלנית
 ואף אחד לא יבוא לצפות ביופיה.
 אחריה תפרח הנורית
 ולא יתקיים פסטיבל.
 ולבסוף יפרח הפרג, ושקט, אין איש.
 הפרחים המוגנים,
 קטפו כבר בסתיו.

Adi Blechman Sofer is a contemporary Israeli poet from Petach Tikva.



Discussion Questions:

1. The poem refers to the winter festival that attracts thousands of visitors to Southern Israel to view the beautiful wildflowers near Kibbutz Beeri. This year, after much debate in Israel, the festival was cancelled. Debate if you think the festival should or should not have been cancelled this year?
2. Who are the "protected flowers" that the poet refers to in the last line?