

Blue Arab eyes A poem on Ahed Tamimi

Posted by Joan Russow

Friday, 18 May 2018 09:38 - Last Updated Friday, 18 May 2018 13:28

By Larry Hannant



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In their line of work smiling is rare

Uzis and tear gas the more common fare.

But from ten years ago there's photos that show

Israeli goons smirking at the bravado

of a Palestinian girl, not even eight,

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thrusting her fist in the face of their mate.

Ahed Tamimi, three feet of temerity,

a stripling they dismissed with hilarity.

Today their laughter is stilled and unheard.

A teenaged Ahed their malice has stirred

for raising her hand and delivering a smack

to a gun-wielding soldier leading a pack

that invaded her village, as often they had,

and cruelly shooting her cousin Mohammed.

A slap which though quiet rang out far and wide.

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Now revenge is demanded to heal Zionist pride.

Rapacious settlers from before the Crusaders

have yearned to possess Palestine

but as others before them, these Zionist invaders

will shatter on those blue eyes sublime.

Her global esteem brings a torrent of lies

“What brand of Arab has blond hair and blue eyes?”

One Knesset demagogue calls it pure ruse –

the Tamimis are actors, just paid to confuse.

Arrest them all, specially her mother for filming it.

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We'll use Hollywood if propaganda's seen fit,

to broadcast the tale that terrorism's the frame

to distort the Palestinian people's just claim.

Then a second esteemed legislator did curse

that his boot would put Ahed in hospital or worse.

"No one could stop me. I would kick in her face."

His hatred for Arabs is so commonplace,

he voices what Zionists think but might shrink from,

howling that Palestinians are vile "dogs" and "scum."

Oren Hazan could be seen as just cracked,

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yet the Zionist state and its thugs have his back.

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will shatter on those blue eyes sublime.

In the face of a brave Palestinian teen

what the Zionists plot is grimly obscene.

Jail without trial for sure in the near term.

But soldiers dismayed by her blue eyes firm

know that their prisons won't break Ahed.

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So they'll fashion a plot to render her dead,

try to stifle the light and cast into the shade

those resolute eyes that remain unafraid.

Then will we look to our own precious girls

and not see their image in Ahed's blond curls?

For they are at heart like their sister Ahed

with one crucial difference, which must be said,

that they, if they live in a principled state,

can hope that justice will govern their fate,

while Ahed Tamimi courts jail and risks death

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when she smacks a thug from the IDF.

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