

NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM

Jeffrey M Cohen

Next year in Jerusalem,
Home to right and left;
Next year in Jerusalem,
Of peace,
Alas, bereft.

Next year in Jerusalem
Where old and new combine;
Next year in Jerusalem
Where too few views
Align.

Next year in Jerusalem,
In beauty
Without match;
Next year in Jerusalem
Where sages
Stake their patch.

Next year in Jerusalem,
City of books and souks;
Next year in Jerusalem,
City of tourist groups.

Next year in Jerusalem,
City of study and prayer;
Next year in Jerusalem,
City of stand and stare.
Next year in Jerusalem,
City of stone and gold;

Next year in Jerusalem
Where competing claims
Unfold.

Next year in Jerusalem
Where the Kotel's call survives;
Next year in Jerusalem,
Bearing secrets
Of men and wives.

Next year in Jerusalem
Whose future
Men debate;
Next year in Jerusalem
Which some praise,
Others berate!

Next year in Jerusalem
Where King David
Created songs;
Next year in Jerusalem,
Host to Eurovision's throngs.

Next year in Jerusalem
Where turmoil
Will be stilled;
Next year in Jerusalem,
Whose prayers
Will be fulfilled.