

## Shahin Najafi

### "The Year Of Blood"

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remember when it was? We were all awake till daylight  
Cigarette after cigarette because of too much  
stress  
Maybe our destiny is imprisoned in the vote box  
We were waiting for a miracle to come  
out  
What we believed in and demanded for wasn't on making a choice of the lesser evil  
The shout  
was like a tumor in our throats  
But no one heard our cries  
It was a bad year, but we weren't bad,  
It  
was a test, we didn't fail  
We've learn that response to fist isn't fist  
They tried to slime the green of  
your shirt  
They broke your body; they sealed your mouth  
They forced you to confess to what you  
haven't done, They threatened you to a death, like Neda's  
We've erased that line between men and  
women  
Even we wore scarves to show our love for Majid  
Our words were clear but they were  
deaf  
We were all trees sentenced to be felled  
The streets smelled blood  
Sohrab was breathing his  
last in front of Rostam's eyes.  
They cut off the writing hands  
There was a horrible massacre in the  
name of God.  
The year in which the Coca-bottle smelled Kahrizak  
Now, I just want to burst in to  
tears  
You shouted and I felt a twinge of envy  
Many times I died and tortured with you  
Many times I  
pounded my fist on the desk  
Many times I cursed on all history and fate  
All of my poems were  
bloody  
and I was like an insane falcon in the cage  
It was a bad year but we weren't bad  
They tried to  
break us but we stood  
Long live all those green cedars  
We're proud and this is our being's  
pulse  
Tomorrow is the day for sun to rise  
I'm sure these dark days will come to end  
The bad year, the  
wind's year, the year of tear and blood  
The year full of hate with excessive insanity  
The year of mine,  
the year of yours, the year of love and pride  
The year of a hand with a green vote under hatchet

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