TIME CHANGE

CAROL V. DAVIS

With the sky still dark, only the murmur
of house finches on the scrawny branches
of the white rose bush at my doorstep
and the wild parrots that usually streak from
one street to the next, noisy as congregants
before the start of prayers, nowhere to be seen,
out on my morning run, in what yesterday was
the pink spread of sunrise, today, little more
than shadows under streetlamps still illuminated
and I, after a recent fall, no longer trust my legs
to read the Braille of bumps and cracks where
sidewalks erupt from an explosion of roots,
my body knows the route by heart but the solace
of this solitary hour has vanished, each curb
a danger, give me back the wavering grey
of dawn, let the day begin again at 6.

Carol V. Davis is the author most recently of *Hovering, Below Zero* and *Because I Cannot Leave This Body.* An English/Russian collection was also published. Her poetry has been read on National Public Radio, the Library of Congress and Radio Russia. Twice a Fulbright scholar in Russia, she also taught in Siberia and teaches at Santa Monica College, California and Antioch Univ. Los Angeles. She was awarded a Fulbright Specialist grant for Siberia in 2020, postponed because of Covid and now cancelled. Donna Sternberg and Dancers is using Davis' poetry in the recent dance piece "Ancestors' Voices."

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