

The Rising Tide

Reanna Valentine



This poem was catalysed experiencing a sudden increase in hate speech aimed at me on stage and after performing in early 2025. This was in the context of the UK government's increasing discrimination against both the trans and disabled communities at home, and continued complicity in the genocide in Palestine. Poetry is what I can do in response, the skills I have to offer to the much wider struggle. The poem is aimed at recruiting quiet bystanders into supportive action. We all need to be unified against the rising tide of global fascism, otherwise we all lose in the end.

Reanna Valentine is a poet, printmaker and disabled trans activist. Their solo chapbook 'Mad Again' (Written Off Publishing) followed Saboteur Award-nominated 'Fragmented Light', co-authored with their grandmother Carolyn Reed. Reanna is part of improvised poetry and harp act ULTIMATE TIGERFROG, poetry jam Hyphae Collective and exhibits at Hastings Arts Forum.

Videographer: Immo Horn

Venue: Poetry Brothel Hastings (@poetrybrothelhastings)



You can watch the discussion by scanning this QR code or by following this link:
<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kbXB0oxx8YQuEuUtaT41Grqgb47co-l2/view?usp=drivesdk>