

Photographs by LATOYA RUBY FRAZIER

Poetry by ALISON HAWTHORNE DEMING, RAÚL ZURITA, & DOUG ANDERSON

RAFIK SCHAMI translated by KRISTINA KALPAXIS

JOSEP PLA translated by PETER BUSH

Novel excerpt by MYRIAM J.A. CHANCY

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TSVETANKA ELENKOVA

The Train

Translated from Bulgarian by Jonathan Dunne

I'm afraid to mention things things I've been afraid of ever since time was they were named I never named them I'm afraid to mention things as if they'll be rubber-stamped as in the post office after I've seen them or not and handed them over I'm afraid they will not go and that's why I won't mention them closer to the narrative than I thought as if then I'll be able to touch them now I understand how the world was created through the Word Socrates or Christ or Khalil Gibran I'm almost afraid an express I wasn't expecting will stop at this station Not that it isn't this station or envelope but to stop there has to be a reason And even if I can touch it first or second class I don't want to know the reason because then it'll be more than a train My train and I may just find a coincidence to climb on board I may just climb on board