

# New Poetry by Steve Gerson: “Our Prayers”



TEETH MUZZLE SPIT / *image by Amalie Flynn*

## **Our Prayers**

where are the shields  
/we need/  
to stop the blast  
of bullets Glock  
and AK  
assaults?  
that overwhelm the blue  
in our veins?

that enter our brains our  
schools the bodies  
of children with unicorn  
backpacks?  
that enter  
our workplaces inundated  
with anger our streets  
with late-night drivebys?  
church service blood spattered  
bibles shredded  
commandments torn  
as if by raptor teeth  
muzzle spit?  
while senators say  
our prayers are with you?