

Denise Provost

Life on Earth

“If you like volcanoes, Earth isn’t a bad place to live....”
ZME Science blog

Do you like volcanoes? I sure do. It’s not just a matter of exciting little tremors from time to time. Lava rocks lying around almost everywhere make great souvenirs - just as fine as those in tourist shops. Plus, their proud cones are probably the handsomest mountains that exist, if you can be objective in the realms of splendor.

What I enjoy most about them, though, is their gift for generating suspense. One day, ashes and boulders; next thing you know some guy in a jeep arrives with an evacuation order. Stay, or depart? Leave instantly, or pack some possessions?

Mount St. Helens, right? 250 houses, 47 bridges, miles of highway, uncountable forests. Every herd of mountain goat, wiped out. Unpredictability! I like that, in a planet.

Denise Provost has published in such journals as *Ibbetson Street*, *Muddy River Poetry Review*, *qarrtsiluni*, *Quadrille*, *Poetry Porch’s Sonnet Scroll*, *Sanctuary* and *Light Quarterly*. She received the Best Love Sonnet award from the Maria C. Faust Sonnet Competition in 2012. Her chapbook *Curious Peach* was published by Ibbetson Street Press in 2019, and her collection *City of Stories* by Cervena Barva Press in 2021.