

*MARION DEUTSCHE COHEN*

**Two Is Worse than One**

In the small room, on the floor towards the left, crawls a large roach. Then, in the sink, crawls another large roach.

That was a horror. Two is worse than one, more worse than you'd think, infinitely worse. In math it takes only two linearly independent vectors to generate, via linear combos, an infinity of them. So yeah, a whole plane of roaches. Whole floor, whole ceiling, or whole wall.

Three would be even worse.

— from the forthcoming poetry collection *Disturbing Shapes* by Marion Deutsche Cohen