

# Unique and Sensitive Poetic Voice

LIVE ME A RIVER — By Helen Lawson; Blue Spruce Press; \$4.50; 54 pp.

Reviewed by  
KITTY KURTI

Helen Lawson, a Connecticut poet, is a sensitive and original artist. It is no secret that poets, like all artists, are an endangered species. It will ultimately depend upon us, both as a society and as individuals, whether the arts will continue to live. This can be accomplished only if we give them the attention and the tender loving care they need and deserve.

Every fine writer develops a distinct style that is immediately recognizable to the reader. Thus the music lover will instantly distinguish between a Bach, Mozart or Chopin. The uniqueness of a good poet's style should be equally recognizable to the reader. And, indeed, Helen Lawson's style is unique.

The ancients counted four basic

life elements ruling our outer and inner worlds: water, fire, air and earth. Helen Lawson's elements of water and air are symbolic of the powers of the subconscious. They are the very same elements which the surrealists and impressionists used to express their art. And this is also the way Helen Lawson expresses her feelings and sensations. You cannot put your finger on the elusive meaning of her words. Solid meaning escapes, and only the subtleties of dream, image and metaphor remain — purely sensory impressions suffused with a subtle perfume of eroticism.

Helen Lawson taught English at the State University of Indiana. She is the author of a previous volume of poetry, "Women As I Knew Them." Her new volume, "Live Me a River," is highly recommended to all lovers of fine, sensitive writing.

*Kitty Kurti is a published writer who lives in West Hartford,*