

Prayer #16

Diwan*

A meditation on the text of my life

*A diwan is a collection of stories and songs,
the creativity of a community that defines it

Master of all the worlds,
make me your diwan, through every one of my actions,
words, thoughts. I am stumbling through my story,
reading it backwards, squeezing it for its plain sense.

Let the surfaces release now and again,
opaque to translucent.
In the plain sense I see everything,
the shining of the inner worlds.

Let the surfaces conceal, let the surfaces reveal,
Master of all the worlds, be a little transparent,
let me be safe in my inwardliness,
quiet, delighting in the All,

Amen.

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Sources

Pardes - a mythical orchard of inquiry, and later: a medieval mnemonic
for four levels of interpretation: Pshat (plain sense), Remez (hint),
Derasha (explication), Sod (Kabbalah).

And Moses went inside the cloud and ascended the mountain. . . - Exodus
24:18

Wearing that garment, Moses went up the mountain, from inside he saw
what he saw, delighting in the All (HaKol/pleroma), up to that place.
-- Mishnat haZohar, trans., the Book of Splendor

Sefat Emet on Vayiggash -- on Joseph's transformation into Inwardliness,
p'nimiut. "And now: it was not you who sent me here, but God."
-- Genesis 45:8