

the ego is the experience of abruptness and of space, as an open attitude permits the challenging of deeply embedded assumptions. And mine have been challenged.

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In the dream

In the dream
a beam of light
cut my ribcage open.

I placed the fingers of both hands
between my breasts
and gently,
like the doors of an Oren Kodesh,¹
both sides swung open
exposing my heart—

and you stepped into
that holy place.

I welcomed you,
a Dybbuk,² full-powered,
to keep me restless.

Let no one come near me with fire!
Let no drop of water on me fall.³

¹An Oren Kodesh is the Ark of the Covenant where the Torahs are kept.

²A Dybbuk is a wandering spirit, a Cabbalistic idea.

³During the ritual performed to exorcise a Dybbuk, neither water nor fire may come within the sphere of the victim.

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Pnina Granirer, "Creation II," diptych, mixed media on canvas, 12" x 18", 1995. Collection of Judy Waltchuk.