

December 27, 1992

Mr. H. Michael Neiditch  
Director of Programs  
B'nai B'rith  
1640 Rhode Island Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20036-3278

Dear Mr. Neiditch,

In advance of our meeting in New York, assuming we shall still meet, I am sending you a copy of Night Words, a liturgy for Yom Hashoah, which has gone out of print because of B'nai B'rith Hillel's financial straits. The National Hillel Office kept the brochure in print for twenty years and sold some 10,000 copies. This -- by word of mouth and thanks to a line or two in the Jewish Catalogue. This past March I received calls from all over the country asking for copies to buy.

I consider this early work of mine the best thing I've done and would not be hustling if some other liturgy had superseded it. So long as there is a felt need to commemorate the Holocaust, there will be many people out there who will want to use Night Words in whole or part.

I would like to see a new edition that would be both artful and affordable. Drawings by Israeli artist Samuel Bak (a Holocaust-survivor and personal friend) might greatly enhance its appearance. I would replace some of the translations with new and better ones produced over the years and would also write a preface to the new edition (the seventh!). Otherwise I'd leave it as is.

My sole concern is that Night Words remain in print into the next century and that it achieve the widest possible distribution. My number at work is 212-678-8914. I leave for Moscow on January 30.

Yours,

David G. Roskies