

867 - 8888

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Rabbi Irving Greenberg  
Clal  
99 Park Avenue  
Suite C300  
New York, NY 10016

Dear Yitz:

Needless to say, I was overjoyed to hear that Clal is interested in reissuing *Night Words*. For over a year now I've been negotiating with B'nai B'rith Hillel In Washington, first with Dr. Michael Neiditch, then with Sandra Wiener, but Hillel has neither the will nor the wherewithal to do it. And there's really no time to waste, as next year marks the 25th anniversary since *Night Words* first appeared in Boston, in mimeographed form, and happens also to be the 50th anniversary of the liberation.

B'nai B'rith Hillel kept *Night Words* in print for twenty years and sold some 10,000 copies -- by word of mouth and thanks to a line or two in the *Jewish Catalogue*. I should like to enhance the anniversary edition in the following three ways:

- 1) With a preface to the new edition (the seventh!).
- 2) With drawings by Israeli artist Samuel Bak, a Holocaust-survivor and personal friend. I enclose samples of his art.
- 3) By replacing some translations with better ones produced over the years. Since I have the rights to these translations, it will not involve additional paperwork. Hillel will certainly release the copyright to you. Sandra Wiener is the person to contact, at 202-857-6580. Incidentally, I have kept a complete file of all the copyright-related correspondence, done by the late Alfred Jospe as a labor of great love.

The supporting documentation shows some of the ways *Night Words* has been used over the years. My sole concern is that this liturgical midrash remain in print into the next century and that it achieve the widest possible distribution. I am honored that Clal will provide that venue and am especially thrilled that you, who knows the work from its inception, will be its facilitator.

Yours,

David G. Roskies