



AND THE BUSH וְהַסֵּנֶה
WAS NOT אֵינֶנּוּ
CONSUMED אָכַל

November 23, 1993

THE JEWISH
THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY
OF AMERICA

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Dear Peg,

My phone call crossed with your packet of goodies. I was, of course, delighted to read two such positive reviews from senior scholars in the field of Jewish literature (whose "voices" I may well recognize). I especially appreciated the concrete suggestions for revision by Reader A (the one who corrected my Hebrew). So here is my response:

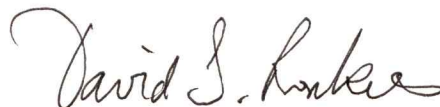
1. I agree to drastically shorten the introductory chapter, eliminating all but the opening description of the "orthodox" wedding. In lieu of the omitted sections, I shall try to incorporate a highly condensed version of the material on invented folksong from chapter six.
2. I shall then eliminate chapter six entirely.
3. I shall revise the remaining chapters with an eye towards a leaner exposition, one that focuses on a few "strategic" texts.
4. I shall eliminate I. J. Trunk from the last chapter, leaving two writers instead of three, and shall try to come up with a more satisfying conclusion. One idea I'm considering is to use the illustrative materials as a way of tying it all together, just as I did with *Against the Apocalypse*. We shall see.
5. My aim is to cut the manuscript by a third, give or take a percentage point.
6. I leave matters of diction (those places where the style is too "zippy") to you, my editor, or to the copy-editor.
7. Finally, I shall try to avoid overusing the term "creative betrayal."

I'm flying off to Moscow next week for a one-month stint and won't be able to work on revisions until mid-January. What I need to have from you is a realistic deadline if the book is to appear in December '94 or January '95. Also, if you could return a **consecutively paginated** copy of the manuscript, I'd

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have an easier time finding the corrections! (I promise a final draft in proper form.) When all is said and done, and we have a terrific book to add to the Harvard list, we'll all be able to bask in the glory.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "David G. Roskies". The signature is fluid and elegant, with a large initial 'D' and 'R'.

David G. Roskies