

August 7, 1998

Ms. Donna M. Rosenthal
CLAL
440 Park Avenue South, 4th Floor
New York, NY 10016-8012

Dear Donna:

I am hard at work on the final revision of *Nightwords* and hope to have it finished by Rosh Hashanah. I have had numerous conversations with people, mostly arising from the reading of *Nightwords* at Temple Emanu-El in the presence of 400 people. I enclose just one letter that I recently received. Based on these conversations I have decided that the sources must appear at the bottom of each page, just as they now do in many siddurim. There will be no art work, no distractions from the text itself. The latter, I strongly believe, must be produced in the most professional manner possible. This means paying for a designer and a professional typesetter. The only person whom I trust to typeset Hebrew, Yiddish, music, and Torah cantillation is Rabbi Miles Cohen. In an earlier conversation, he quoted me a price of \$4,000, with an additional \$1250 to pay a designer. I say all this not to disparage the good will of your staff. An in-house job is simply not appropriate for a project of this complexity.

Which brings me to the matter of funding. Dr. Mark Weisstuch and I have just met for the first time. He is the person responsible for staging *Nightwords* at Emanu-El. He expressed a willingness to help raise the necessary capital among his congregants. What he needs is a letter from you laying out the budget, and he will take it from there. I know that you and Irwin had other funding sources in mind, but by drawing on outside money, you can reach for the top.

Under separate cover I will be sending David Elcott the latest revision.

Yours truly,

David G. Roskies

cc. Rabbi Irwin Kula