

Lesson 49

Your Turn 7

In Frank Herbert's Dune series, the author supposes an order of women who have mastered many powers of mind and body. One of their calming techniques involves the "Litany Against Fear" which, through much repetition, has the power to turn the litanist's mind from the distress she feels to the situation at hand. A useful trick, that.

Vocabulary

in

to exist

óoyahonetha

mind [óoya (heart) + on (head) + -tha (POSS_{BIRTH})] (literally: head's heart)

shunedi

litany [shun (ceremony; ritual) + di (speak)] {AB}

wetham

to turn [weth (way; path; road) + tham (circle)]

English Text

The Litany Against Fear

I must not fear.

Fear is the mind-killer.

Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration.

I will face my fear.

I will permit it to pass over me and through me.

And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to see its path.

Where the fear has gone there will be nothing.

Only I will remain.

Láadan Translation & Retranslation into English

The Litany Against Fear

L:

E:

I must not fear.

L:

E:

Fear is the mind-killer.

L:

E:

Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration.

L:

E:

I will face my fear.

L:

E:

I will permit it to pass over me and through me.

L:

E:

And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to see its path.

L:

E:

Where the fear has gone there will be nothing.

L:

E:

Only I will remain.

L:

E:

My Láadan Translation with Morphemic Analysis & Retranslation into English

The Litany Against Fear

Shunedi Héeya Rada

Shunedi

Héeya

Rada

RITUAL + SPEAK =
LITANY

BEAFRAID

NON + BENEFA =
AGAINST

Litany Against (Opposed-to-the-benefit-of) Fear

I must not fear.

Bíi dush héeya ra le wa.

Bíi

héeya

ra

le

wa.

DECL

BEAFRAID

NEG

I

MYPERC

dush

MUST

I must not fear.

Fear is the mind-killer.

Héeya dóshebashebá óoyahonethathum.

Héeya

dóshebashebá

óoyahonethathum.

BEAFRAID

(CAUSE_{TO} + DEATH
= KILL) + DOER =
KILLER

(HEART + HEAD +
POSSBIRTH = MIND)
+ PARTV + IDENT

Fear is the killer of mind.

Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration.

Héeya nin hishebashebehóo rahineháam.

Héeya	nin	hishebashebe-	rahineháam.
BEAFRAID	CAUSE	hóo	NON + EXIST +
		MINI + DEATH	EMBEDREL +
		+ FOCUS	IDENT

Fear is the mini-death that causes nonexistence.

I will face my fear.

Nime lohil le héeya lethoth.

Nime	lohil	le	héeya	lethoth.
BEWILLING	PAYATTNINT	I	BEAFRAID	I + POSS + OBJ

I will-to pay attention internally to my fear.

I will permit it to pass over me and through me.

Díloláad le leyóoth lhebeth shelenal.

Díloláad	le	leyóoth	lhebeth	shelenal.
ALLOW +	I	I + REFLX + OBJ	XDESP1 + OBJ	BERIGOROUS +
PERCEIVEINT				MANN

I allow myself to perceive-internally despised-it rigorously.

And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to see its path.

I úyahú nololáad le lhebeth, lohil le úthú náham.

I	nololáad	le	lohil	úthú
AND	FINISH +	I	PAYATTNINT	CONJOB
úyahú	PERCEIVEINT	lhebeth,	le	náham.
CONJTIME		XDESP1 + OBJ	I	CONT + BEPRESENT

And when I've finished perceiving despised-it, I shall pay attention internally to what remains.

Where the fear has gone there will be nothing.

Úshahú eril ham héeya, ril ham radial.

Úshahú	ham	ril	ham	radal.
CONJPLC	BEPRESENT	PRES	BEPRESENT	NON + THING =
eril	héeya,			NOTHING
PAST	BEAFRAID			

Where there was fear, now there is nothing.

Only I will remain.

Náham lehóo neda wa.

Náham	lehóo	neda	wa.
CONT + BEPRESENT	I + FOCUS	ONLY	MYPERC
= REMAIN			

Only I alone still am present.

Láadan Text

Shunedi Héeya Rada

Bíi dush héeya ra le wa.
Héeya dóshebasheba óoyahonethathum.
Héeya nin hishebashebehóo rahineháam.
Nime lohil le héeya lethoth.
Díloláad le leyóoth lhebeth shelenal.
I úyahú nololáad le lhebeth, lohil le úthú náham.
Úshahú eril ham héeya, ril ham radial.
Náham lehóo neda wa.

Comments

There was an older translation of this text that cleaved much more closely to the English poetic forms. The newer version is much more Láadan in flavor and focus. The main differences lie in the middle of the passage; the first few lines and the final line are identical. Regardless, here is the older translation:

The Litany Against Fear

Shunedi Héeya Rada

Litany Against (Opposed-to-the-benefit-of) Fear

I must not fear.

Bíi dush héeya ra le wa.

I must not fear.

Fear is the mind-killer.

Héeya dóshebasheba óoyahonethathum.

Fear is the killer of mind.

Fear is the little-death that brings total obliteration.

Héeya nin hishebashebehóo rahineháam.

Fear is the mini-death that causes nonexistence.

I will face my fear.

Aril lohil le héeya lethoth.

I shall pay attention internally to my fear.

I will permit it to pass over me and through me.

Dísháad le lhebeth lesa o i lesa obe.

I shall allow it (despised) to go around me and through me.

And when it has gone past I will turn the inner eye to see its path.

I úyahú thósháad lhebe, lohil le weth lhebethuth.

And then when it (despised) has just gone, I shall pay attention internally to its path.

Where the fear has gone there will be nothing.

Úshahú thósháad héeya, ham radikal.

Where fear has gone, there will be nothing.

Only I will remain.

Náham lehóo neda wa.

Only I alone still am present.