

FROM LATE TO EARLY



David Miller

otata's bookshelf

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Acknowledgments

Some of these pieces originally appeared in *Osiris* and *Stride*.

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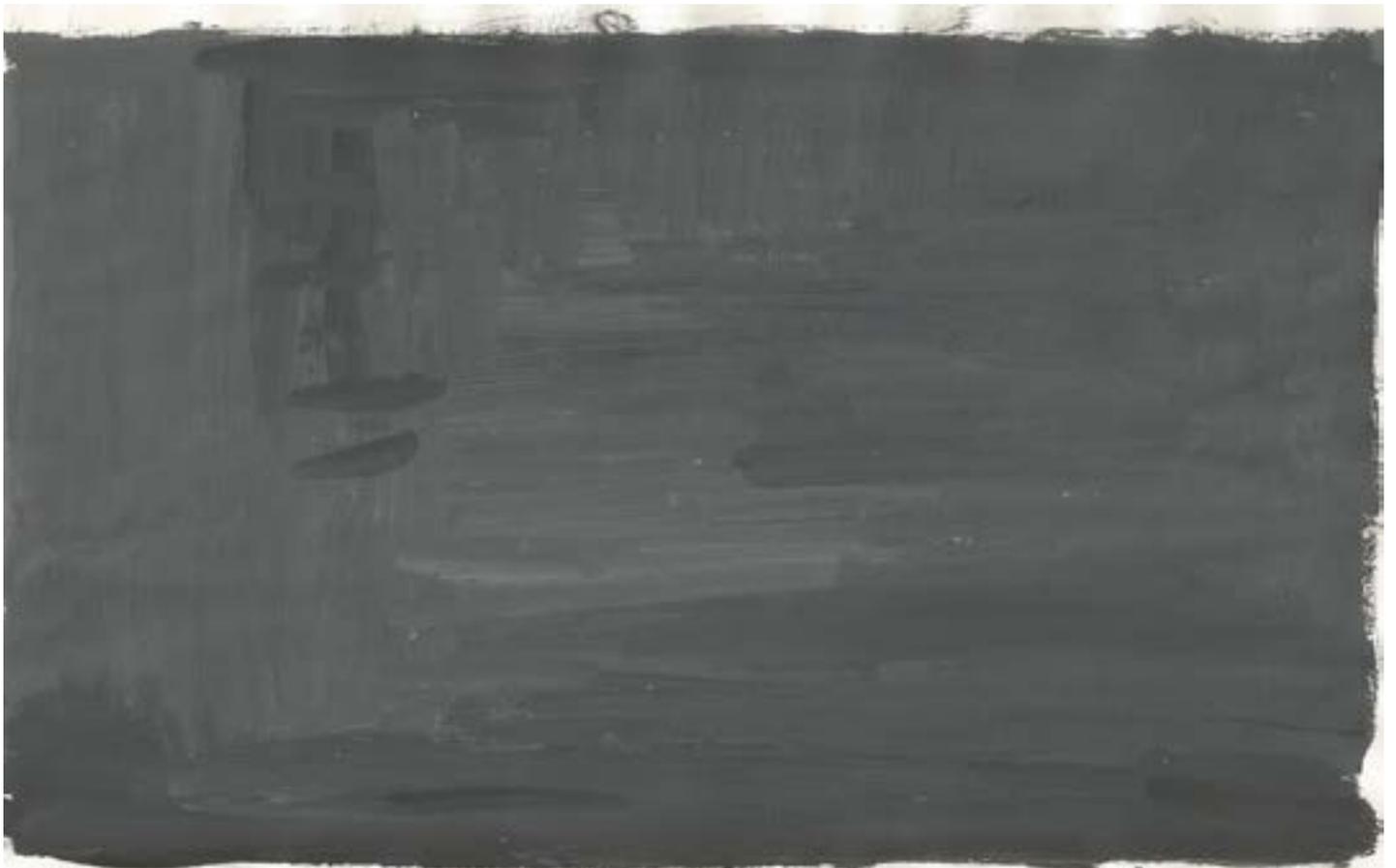
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The Shakinah, weeping in her exile.....

Portrait from a Dream

We hadn't seen each other for a long time, when he buttonholed me in the street, talking in a way aimed to embarrass; but what most disturbed me was how much illness had changed his appearance. He followed me back to the small, spartan room where I was staying – and suddenly became friendlier, kinder, even inviting me to spend Christmas and New Year with him.

Reversed. He arrived with two suitcases; but stayed only a few days.

'Ironists should die and be buried with their fake leather boots on.'

At the end he spoke somewhat sadly, disappointedly. Rather than fiercely.

On the grass: ice in small circular sheets from the bird baths, broken or entire.

in glass

glass

this page

following

water a

broken

pencil a

shattered

mirror

.....

here

there

translated

or the same

your body

to your body

you

to you

From a Sentence of D T Suzuki's

Alizarin yellow. Birds flying in swirls. Cries.

'This spoon *now* exists in Paradise', he exclaimed, holding up a spoon and waving it around.

Another said: *'I drink a glass of water; I die; I drink from a pool of water.'*

My hand, palm up: illuminated.

Encounter

We all sat on the floor; some had disrobed; some took turns playing music on exotic instruments, plucking, bowing, beating, blowing. None of it was moving or stirred me: I became bored, and I was about to get up and leave; but you said first, 'Let's go', pulling a coat around your naked body and buttoning it. When we came to the door and had opened it, we had to leap down. Mud. Silence.

was it you or an image
of you *your light*
a copied light?

you or a copy
of you your light
a copied light

Psychomachia.

“this constant *transference over there*
and *back here* in one act” “One
must remember that the movement
of the senses is toward their proper
objects of love” sky pale blue the buildings
a rag floating a rag gold-crimson a ring
one hand two hands slender and a face
the person begins to be defined
in the darkness of the house a rag
gold-crimson a ring gold-crimson

