

נסיעה מן הים

- Written 1904 for a paper that closed
- completed in 1910 for Hayat after a summer of fires
- cf מ'יהלן VSR53/jk IV: 567

I (1-6) On native soil

1. Yehupetz: out-of bounds in the center of the Pale (opp of Glupsk)
invaded by a strange delegation of Jews - defamiliarization
a gayish town with Jews-on-its-mind
how the delegation must have looked to its inhabitants
umbrellas summer & winter - authorial depression
1st confrontation with police
2. Fishl Rouses the World
ornate report in High Cryptic Style → reduced to a phrase
* excursus on Jews [of K] in the press (125-26)
traditional supplications to Rothschild - no response
3. The Fire thru Reb Yuzifl's eyes
rescued from the blaze by Adam & Eve
goat spreads the fire throughout town → panic ensues
4. Reb Yuzifl challenges God
+ rescues the מ'יהלן from the shul
5. How Jews Tell the Fire out of existence
baroque of irrelevant stories interrupted by real tale of woe (140)
digression about the author's Muse < 140-41 >
send out letters
+ Reb Yuzifl's sermon - we must go forth & seek help
6. Delegation Sets Out
the heroism in undertaking a journey: nature of heroism?
K = classless society (150)!
3 days' ride from train station
their grotesque behavior at the train station = heroin pretensions shattered = flock of crows (153)
treated roughly like all Jews are
thrust into pigsty, nowhere to sit
they decide the train & modernity

II En Route (7-9)

7. Among the nations

drunken songs of the gogim

Reb Yuzifl in his own dream world

speak in Low Cryptic Style (159)

defend themselves verbally - refuse to be baited (163)

8. Among their own

theme of exile

* move into a Jewish coach = travelling ghetto (165)

oppressive intimacy

oblique Jewish speech patterns

feeling of at-homeness (170) = ironic Zionism

9. The Quintessential Jew

speech makes the man <171-72>

social animal - expert in all matters

puts them on to Brodsky

double standard of a Brodsky - he'd do anything ... for Gogim

III In Yehupetz (10-12)

10. Chaos

shunned by the nouveaux riches

Reb Yuzifl cfs their behavior w/ benefactors back home

11. Ring Brodsky's door

how to approach him - 2 schools of thought

a) supplication - right-wing

b) social protest - left wing

debate interrupted by the gendarme - back to beg of story

door opens but they're shunned → arrested

12. The Miracle

the seasoned traveler comes to their rescue

meanwhile, thrown into the clink

+ Reb Yuzifl comports himself bravely (201)

finally get their contribution from Brodsky

Reb Yuzifl returns home broken in spirit

K = study in communal dissolution / resilience