

TSUM BARG (1918)
Reb Nahman's Mayse Miaveydas Bas-melekh

I. 1st person narrator siitng w/his grandmother; "So young and already wandwered his wandering..."

II. OLD MAN appears; announces that people are on their way to the Mt. & that youngster is worthy of being tested; oracle: the holy unknowing; mentions God

III. They leave together & meet the HUNTER. They remain facing one another. Arrive at a mt. in a forest with a ruined hut. Old Man asks the ZOKN to bentsh the young wanderer. Then the Zokn dies. *Bechtel: note intergenerational scheme*

IV. The blessing: the old order must pass before your sun can rise. But beware the hunter. Young wanderer sets out on his own.

V. 3 Meetings w/Hunter in the forest.

A. Riddles a riddle (47)

B. Creature comes out of the ground; sneezes constantly; picks his nose.

1. Blind Beggar feeds him false info.
2. Tells him a parable (51)
3. Young wanderer rebuts but then succumbs
4. creature attacks = hunter /dog in disguise

C. Next to a river; two storks emerge

1. tell him there is no mt.
2. tale of the widowed stork who cried out for a mate but hates the one who volunteers
3. sent him on a futile search to the mt.
4. Hunter kills the stork

VI. Wandering Continues. Meets Night Watchman who takes him to a cave where

VII. The Holy Community awaits him

1. Led by an Old Man
2. We came from all over
3. Where can we find a young man, & the confidence (btikhes)?
4. he replies (59): my answer = my life; credo of free choice, will, self-actualization; protected from doubt by an angel
5. recognized Old Man; emotional reunion
6. quest must continue [for the Cloud Man] but w/new obstacles

VIII. The 3 Animals

A. The FOX; embodies rational mind; fears protectors & helpers; tells him about the eagle

VIII. The 3 Animals

- A. The FOX; embodies rational mind; fears protectors & helpers; tells him about the eagle
- B. The EAGLE: tells him about the MOLE who sees the heavens of the depths
- C. The MOLE: sees a spring. Instructs him to seek 3 things & to always look down

IX. 3 Donors

- A. The Skeleton-Stargazer Tells his tale
 - 1. no sooner did he see his true star than he died
 - 2. warms him to beware error & to seek the EGG
- B. Cuckoo Tells her Tale
 - 1. gives him the egg of love
 - 2. birth is center of secrecy; wind will give birth
- C. He-goat Made of Stone
 - 1. leaves the egg in the nest
 - 2. receives a ksav in return

X. The Message

- A. The Holy Community awaits him & prays for his success
- B. Old Man says not to think too much, just rely on the road; listen: someone's calling

XI. Hears the Cloud-Man calling him...finds himself back in the hut w/grandmother who repeats her opening words