

The Art of Individuation Application #3

Seeking Duende

*Dark and dank
The cave beacons
Bats squeaking. Snakes Writhing. Spiders Spinning
Stones Falling*

Why are you always in the cave?

*I have gold to give you. Cross the Styx. You will return.
Embrace the bats. Usurp your night-time vision.
You will need it for your long journey
Descending Underground*

Why me? Where is my Orpheus?

You must go solo.

*Two Mastiffs guard the cave entrance. Soon they will be dead. Only
their jeweled collars remain attached still to their chains. Eons pass.
Bones disintegrate.*

Duende:

What do you look like? I cannot see you.

You are not meant to see with your eyes.

Feel me.

I am gentle breeze.

I am wild wind.

I am soft, silent dew.

I am the eerie sound of darkness.

Look Look. Always, I am in and around you.

Vision through touch. Purple. Murk.

Trust: The falcon will come.

Why would he come here? He is a being of far vision and high places.

He is of the sun. Not of the cave.

No No: He, too, must face his shadow. His callousness, his cruelty.

In the cave, softness. In the mud, the dew.

In trepidation, I venture in. No torch to light my way.

Fireflies dart and dance.

Fire beaconing....blazing, miles in. Miles in.

You will make it. The falcon will make it. The bat, too.

And of my guides?

No: Bat and Falcon are your guides here.

But...Yes: Artemis and Silkie. Others may succeed in making the journey. Maybe not. They also must go alone.

*Ancient Boddhisatva. Eons old.
Has a gift for you.*

Successful. Finally, I have made it. Almost too late.

*It is there or here
Your daimon discovered.
Embrace your Duende. Here with you now.
Turn away from the others.*

*Your mother may visit but not from this lifetime. From ancient Egypt.
And Zephyr and Krisna.
Here, by the roaring fire, You will be fulfilled. Fulfilled and Full, if not content.*

*Dance in the Dark
Shake
Receive the Spirit
Duende Come*

*Ancestors now nourish me fortifying with courage and grit
Through all the agonies of each challenging lifetime.
I anoint you. You live through me on and on and on.*

Duende...finally.