## The Deronda Review

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## **Locked Gates**

Still, chill air in the street, empty early morning bare, high walls, closed gates flash and unlock so key-holders may enter

into the palaces. door-keepers guardians keys passwords, open and permit ascent upwards inwards through doors within doors to the palace within palaces

that eye rejoices which alone can read the key to place in the lock the word, the pass code to open locked gates

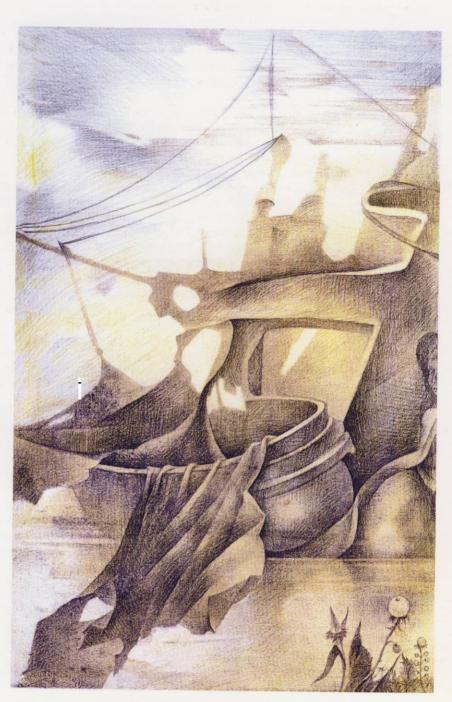
in the palaces' heart the throne room flashes fiery rivers and crystal.

He is there and not there and not just there for ever now.

- Michael E. Stone done in Rome, October 2007



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Lighthouse, by Irene Frenkel. Drawing (16" X 12", pencil and coffee stain), circa 2000.

## SIGNING

the pen shoots forth the word chars the page with power the word brands the page blackens its own shape's edges characters sign significance signal the soul's ascending the letters create the world combine in God's name

r.

- Michael E. Stone