

[When I Was A Child]

When I was a child I prayed the Shema-on-the-bed.

I remember the first line:

“The angel who redeems me from all ill.”

After that I prayed no more, not on the bed

and not in the hills, not in war, neither by day nor by night.

But the angel who redeems remained with me and became

the angel who loves and the angel who loves will be the angel of death

when the time comes, but will always be that angel

Who redeems me from all ill.

Yehuda Amichai from, Patuach, Sagur, Patuach

Translated by Rabbi Steven Sager

(Hebrew coming soon)