

Windows And Gravestones

בְּחַיֵּי הָרֵבָה חֲלוֹנוֹת
וְהָרֵבָה קְבָרִים.

In my life are many windows
and many graves.

לְפַעֲמִים הֵם מִתְחַלְּפִים
בְּתַפְקִידָהֶם :
אִז חֲלוֹן נִסְגָּר לְתָמִיד,
אִז דֶּרֶךְ הַמַּצְבָּה
אֲנִי יָכוֹל לִרְאוֹת
עַד רְחוֹק.

Sometimes they exchange
roles:
then a window is closed forever,
then by way of a gravestone
I can see
very far.

Yehuda Amichai, translated by Rabbi Steven Sager