



## **Repetition and difference: a proof of sorts**

by Michael Melmed

In an homage to Spinoza's geometrical method the writer attempts to wed this form of writing/thinking with one of poetic vitality and, following one of the piece's themes, tries to break out of the constraints of a repetitive, obsessional style through, and into, an expressive, poetic associative flow. The writer draws on the ideas of Freud, Bion, and Sartre as well as seemingly mundane earthly phenomena to illustrate the processes and feeling the piece grapples with.

The self begins as a projection of bodily sensation (Freud).

Projection is a form of repetition, a replication and amplification, a spread and extension of the intensity of an impression created at a vertex.

Repetition is a condition of the ontology of fractalization.

Repetition can produce a subjective feeling of dread in being trapped.

Sartre writes of no exit.

Death is not an exit because you cannot be yourself and be dead (in the biological sense).

Being is, in part, a form of being trapped; so a form of trapped intensity.

A chick incubates in an egg.

Being is not pure repetition, it includes moments of difference.

Being is, in part, a form of breaking through; so a form of expressive intensity.

A chick hatches from an egg.

How repetition and difference hang together determines the quality of a given experience.

Personality is a kind of experience machine, which manages repetition and difference.

And, repetition and difference give birth to, and determine the personality.

That is, experience, its repetition and difference, is a kind of personality machine.

Repetition and difference occur on all scales large and small.

The earth rotates around the sun (repetition) but there are variables that change the planet's precession, axial tilt, and eccentricity as it journeys (difference).

Also, there are continuous alterations in 1) the earth's position to other galactic bodies, 2) the perception of the night sky, the shadows cast during the day, or the tides and weather felt by earthly sentience 3) etc.

No one thing is one thing.

Nothing is everything.

And also,

Everything is one.

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