Everything You Wanted To Learn From Levinas, But Were Afraid To Ask Clarice Lispector

*Ryan Mest, Ph.D.*

*Chatham University Counseling Services, Staff Psychologist*

*Adjunct Faculty, Community College of Allegheny County*

*Guard, United Steelworkers Local 1088*

*rmest@hotmail.com*

If not attending to Levinas’ arguments regarding time from which his concepts spring, might the philosophical literature of Clarice Lispector be a richer source for psychotherapists and qualitative researchers than Levinas’? In *The Passion According to G.H.*, she offers a superior articulation of themes found in Levinas’ writing from which the philosophically eloquent not interested in arguments about time might more rewardingly draw. A reading of *The Passion According to G.H.* with attention to its style and themes resonant with Levinas’ work will appear as a compelling argument for reading Lispector instead of Levinas. A review of the role these resonant concepts play in Levinas’ arguments regarding time will highlight unique instances when his work might be indispensable.

BIO:

*Dr. Mest is a staff psychologist at Chatham University Counseling Services in Pittsburgh, PA. He is also adjunct faculty at the Community College of Allegheny County and an officer (guard) for United Steelworkers Local 1088 for adjunct faculty at some institutions in the Pittsburgh area. He usually presents here on the connections between Levinas’ thought and Epicurian philosophy though he once presented a story of navigating a life out of the drug trade in Levinas’ language.*