

As the season has progressed, strange dreams have been bothering you.

The scenes within the dreams seem like fragments of a play, each replete with dramaturgical symbolism. They are vivid but not traumatic or disorientating – just strangely intense. In each dream, the unfolding play always seems to end in the same final act – the return of a figure from somewhere else, a man (or possibly a woman?) who wears a silver mask. This woman (or possibly man?) is surrounded by emblems of the Personae – the Doctor, the Captain and the Mountebank in particular, set as if in struggle with each other – and accompanied by a sinister chorus of whispering, malevolent shadows who wish her (or him?) ill – and the dream always ends before you discover its final outcome. Does the silver-masked figure make it to their destination? What becomes of them? You feel sure that the figure is going home, but as to where that home is, or what its nature is, you are uncertain.

This dream grows in intensity as the season progresses; by the nights shortly before the Summer Solstice, you are experiencing it almost every time you sleep. Your sleep is as restful (or not) as it would be normally.