

# WORDS

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## How to perform WORDS:

Read the pages of the score.

Ask one or more other players or performers to join you. Say aloud any of the words on page 4. Or choose other words to say aloud.

Say one word, once, or say many words, many times.

Remember that less is more, but not always.

Invite the other performers to listen to the words you say. Don't try to control the words once they leave you—the goal of WORDS is for the words you speak to hold the potential to activate others.

Remember that activation can take any form.

Nothing may seem to happen when you perform WORDS, and that is OK.

The performance can last for any amount of time, and is probably infinite. Any number of people greater than one can participate.

As a variation, perform WORDS secretly, without telling anyone that you are doing so. Remain open to the possibility that the words you speak hold the potential to activate others.

Hebron, NY January 5, 2017

Dear Pauline,

I've been thinking, in these recent weeks, about the power of words. It began when Lone and Lisa asked for a sharing of dreams anyone had been having about you in the time of your passing and transition— Pauline, I feel bad for not having had any dreams about you since you died, and I'm sorry for that. But Lone and Lisa said 'share your dream of Pauline' and right away I started dreaming after a long silence. Now I am dreaming a great deal. Complicated, rich, big dreams. Noisy, frightening dreams, too. Full dreams. Wonderful dreams.

It got me thinking about your words and how they activate me.

When you say 'listen', I listen. Even when I am already listening, when I already find myself too full of listening to take in even one more tiny sound, you say it, and I realize there is more to hear, more to listen to. You say listen, and I listen.

When you say 'sound a beautiful sound', I think 'how could I? Where do I find that space of beauty inside, and how do I release it?'. But I do. You say it, and I hear myself sounding, and I am sounding a beautiful sound.

When you say 'yes' I have to disagree. What does that yes even mean? Where do I go? Where do I take that yes? I am truly not strong enough to carry that yes with me—I don't think I deserve that yes. But you say 'yes' and you mean it, and then I am that yes.

And now, looking over old (and not so old) emails from you, I'm reminded that you also say 'thank you'. Your mouth and eyes say 'thank you'. Your fingers type 'thank you' in email after blessed email. Your voice bursts, or laughs, or sighs 'thank you'! Your belly chuckles 'thank you'. You say 'thank you, thanks...thank you' again and again. And again and again I become the thank you too.

I say I miss you and I love you.

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