Dívíne-Love-Play: Hasaybí הָסֵבִּי עֵינַיִּף מָנָּגְדִּי שֶׁהֶם הְרָהִיבֵנִי

Hasaybi aynayich minegdi, shehaym hirhivuni

Turn your eyes away, For they dazzle me. (Song of Songs 6:5)

When I try to enter these words in a serious mood, they don't make a lot of sense to me. But when I understand them as Divine play, then I am lifted up into an inspired, joyful reverie. The Song is filled with playfulness — in language and style as well as content.

In Hinduism there is a concept called *lila*. *Lila* is a way of describing all <u>reality</u>, as the outcome of creative play by the Divine Absolute. *Lila* is Divine play, a purpose-less purpose, a natural outflow, a spontaneous and generous selfmanifestation of God. The concept of *lila* calls forth the role of delight in Creation.

When I enter into the playfulness of the Song, I begin to see the world as the play of light and shadow, pain and joy, separation and union, while holding the wide perspective of unitive bliss which transcends and encompasses all duality.

In this playful repartee, the lover doesn't really want the beloved to "turn away...". He is just saying, "Wow! I am blown away."