

Timothy Otte

## When acting as a particle

*There is a giant curled in the belly of the earth, and another giant curled around the first. And in the heart of the inner giant are a man, a woman, and a small bird. The bird is in the hands of the woman. The woman holds her hands out to the man. The woman asks if the bird in her hands is alive or dead. The man doesn't know. The giants know and cannot say. The giants hope the man stays silent. But the man says, The bird is alive. The woman, saddened, breaks the bird's neck. The giants roll over in pain.*