

KATHERINE

Transfiguration is an interesting idea.

Not the Christian idea of Jesus on the mountain and his face changing all of a sudden, and being filled with light and his robes turning white, and John and Peter and that other guy being surprised by it.

No. Not that transfiguration. As you can see, I'm not religious so...No.

But the IDEA of transfiguration. Transforming one thing into something better. Moving from the banal to the exalted.

What if Beethoven is transfiguring Diabelli's waltz?

If that is the case, the large set of variations is not an exercise in making something out of nothing as I had previously thought. But instead, a study in transforming the waltz into its better self. Or rather, transfiguring it into its better self.