

הגדה של פסח

The Family Participation Haggadah

A DIFFERENT NIGHT

By Noam Zion and David Dishon

The complete Passover text with educational innovations to involve everyone at the Seder – adult and child alike.

with illustrations by Tanya Zion, Ben Shahn, Otto Geismar and many others



מכון
שלום
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The David and Rae Finegood Institute for Diaspora Education
The Charles and Valerie Diker Family Resource Center for Jewish Continuity

“The real question is not why do we keep Passover but how do we continue to keep Passover year after year and keep it from becoming stultified!

How can we be privileged to plan it so that, as Rabbi Abraham Isaac Kook said, *The old may become new and the new may become holy.*”

IRA STEINGROOT

“One must make changes on this night, so the children will notice and ask: *Why is this night different?*”

MAIMONIDES

“Only the lesson which is enjoyed can be learned well.”

JUDAH HANASI

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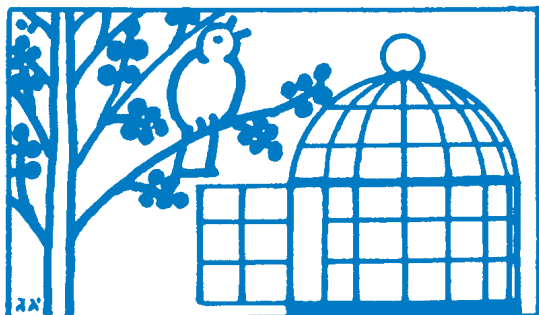
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Otto Geismar, 1927

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Shortcuts Through the Haggadah

This Haggadah offers resources for many years of Pesach Seders. Pick and choose the readings and activities that are most appropriate for the Seder at hand. If you are pressed for time, follow our non-traditional **"Bare Bones Basic Seder"** which hits all the highlights and still leaves time to try some new ideas.

Bare Bones Basic Seder: pp. 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, 22, (35-36), 46, 48, 52-54, 57-60, 62-63, (65), 68, 85.

But don't miss the extras: The Art of the Four Children (pp. 24-33) and the songs (pp. 75-84).



Can you find how many cartoon illustrations of the afikoman/matza are dispersed throughout the Haggadah?

Candle Lighting



הַדְּלָקַת נֵרוֹת

1. Lighting the candles marks the beginning of Pesach as well as the end of the frantic work of preparation. It contributes to the transition to sanctity.

2. Before sunset, it is traditional to light at least two candles placed on or near the table. Some families light one candle for each family member. Others prepare two candles for each woman over the age of bat mitzvah. Ideally, the

candles should be longer lasting than usual, so they will provide light for the length of the Seder.

3. Usually on Pesach one first recites the blessing and then lights the candles without covering one's eyes. However, when Seder night occurs on Friday night, then one lights the candles first, covers one's eyes and then recites the blessing.



Candle Lighting
Blessing the Children



BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who sanctified us by commanding us to light the [Shabbat and] holiday candles.

Many say the following when lighting the candles, while others recite it together with Kiddush (There is no need to recite this blessing twice).

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who has kept us alive and brought us to this happy moment in our lives.

*Ba-ruch ata Adonai,
Elo-hei-nu me-lech ha-olam,
asher kee-d'sha-nu b'meez-vo-tav
v'tzee-va-nu l'had-leek ner shel
[Shabbat v'shel] Yom Tov.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ
הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ לְהַדְלִיק נֵר
שֶׁל (שַׁבָּת וְשֶׁל) יוֹם טוֹב.

*Ba-ruch ata Adonai,
Elo-hei-nu me-lech ha-olam
she-he-chee-ya-nu v'kee-ma-nu
v'hee-gee-anu laz-man ha-ze.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי,
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שֶׁהַחַיֵּנוּ וְקִיַּמְנוּ
וְהִגִּיעָנוּ לְזֶמַן הַזֶּה.

A Traditional Woman's Prayer at Candle Lighting

May it be Your will, God of our ancestors, that You grant my family and all Israel a good and long life. Remember us with blessings and kindness, fill our home with your Divine Presence. Give me the

opportunity to raise my children and grandchildren to be truly wise, lovers of God, people of truth, who illuminate the world with Torah, good deeds and the work of the Creator. Please hear my prayer at

this time. Regard me as a worthy descendant of Sarah, Rebecca, Rachel and Leah, our mothers, and let my candles burn and never be extinguished. Let the light of your face shine upon us. Amen.

Blessing the Children

בְּרַכַּת יְלָדִים

The custom of blessing one's offspring originates with Jacob and his grandchildren. On the eve of Yom Kippur, on Shabbat

and holidays many parents lay their hands on the head of each child, blessing them with the priests' benediction.

A Private Moment of Intimacy with our Children

Rabbi Jacob Emden of Prague (19th c.) recommends that one place both hands on the child's head, just as Moshe blessed Joshua his successor with two hands – without reservation, without jealousy. The priests also bless the people with two open-faced hands as an expression of love. "Everyone can also take this opportunity to add their own personal blessing to each child according to one's gift of eloquence" (Siddur Bet El). There are only two lasting bequests we can hope to give our children. One of these is **roots**; the other, **wings**.

For male children:

MAY GOD make you like Ephraim and Menashe. **יְשִׁמְךָ אֱלֹהִים כְּאַפְרַיִם וְכַמְנַשֶּׁה.**
(Genesis 48:20 from Jacob's blessing for his grandchildren)

For female children:

MAY GOD make you like Sarah and Rebecca, Rachel and Leah. **יְשִׁמְךָ אֱלֹהִים כְּשָׂרָה רִבְקָה רָחֵל וְלֵאָה.**
(See Ruth 4:11, the women's blessing for Ruth the convert)

For all:

MAY GOD bless you and keep you.
May God's face shine upon you and favor you.
May God's face turn to you
and grant you shalom.
(Numbers 6:24-26, the priestly benediction)

יְשִׁמְךָ אֱלֹהִים כְּשָׂרָה רִבְקָה רָחֵל וְלֵאָה.

**יְבָרְכֶךָ יי וַיְשַׁמְרֶךָ
יְאָר יי פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ וַיַּחַנֶּךָ
יִשָּׂא יי פָּנָיו אֵלֶיךָ
וַיִּשֶׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם.**

WHO IS GOD? WELL IT IS AN INVISIBLE PERSON AND HE LIVES UP IN HEAVEN*
i GLESS UP IN OUTER SPACE*HE MADE THE EARTH AND THE HEAVEN & THE STARS AND THE SUN AND THE PEOPLE*HE MADE LIGHT HE MADE DAY HE MADE NIGHT*HE HAS SUCH POWER. FEEL EYES HE DOESN'T HAVE MILLIONS AND THOUSANDS AND BILLIONS AND HE CAN STILL SEE US WHEN WE'RE BAD* HE STARTED ALL THE PLANTS GROWING*TO ME i THINK OF HIM WHO MAKES FLOWERS & GREEN GRASS & THE BLUE SKY & THE YELLOW SUN*GOD IS EVERYWHERE & i DONT KNOW HOW HE COULD DO IT



Who Knows God?

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Signposts for the Seder

סימני הסדר

1. The official opening of the Seder should begin by welcoming all the guests. Make sure to introduce all the participants, so that everyone will be made to feel part of the Jewish family – especially on a night when we recall what it felt like to be strangers in the land of Egypt. You may ask all the participants to say their Hebrew names as well.

2. We review briefly the order of the Seder by singing the medieval poem by Rabbenu Shmuel of Falaise (France) that summarizes the Signposts of the Seder (“Kadesh Urchatz”).

3. You may wish to give credit to all who have helped prepare this Seder – its foods, its readings and its activities.

THE 15 STEPS OF THE SEDER

	<i>All sing:</i>	Kadesh	First cup and Kiddush
		UrChatz	First handwashing (without a blessing)
		Karpas	First dipping: vegetable and salt water
		Yachatz	Breaking the middle matza
		Maggid	Storytelling
		Rachtza	Second handwashing (with a blessing)
		Motzi	First blessing over the matza
		Matza	Second blessing over the matza
		Maror	Second dipping: maror in charoset.
		Korech	Hillel sandwich
	Shulchan Orech		Festive meal
		Tzafun	Afikoman (dessert)
		Barech	Birkat hamazon (the blessing after eating)
		Hallel	Psalms of praise
		Nirtza	Concluding prayer and folk songs

קִדְּשׁ וּרְחַץ
 כַּרְפָּס יַחַץ
 מַגִּיד רְחֻצָּה
 מוֹצִיא מַצָּה
 מָרוֹר כּוֹרֵךְ
 שֵׁלַחַן עוֹרֵךְ
 צִפּוֹן בָּרֵךְ
 הַלֵּל נִרְצָה

Candle
Lighting
Blessing
the
Children
Sign
Posts

The Agenda
of the Seder

Kadesh: Sanctifying Time

Kiddush



קִדּוּשׁ

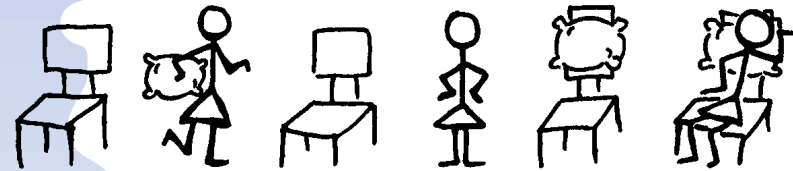
1. The Kiddush sanctifies not the wine, but the holiday. Pesach is dedicated to – “Remember the **Day of your Exodus** from Egypt” (Ex.13:3). (On Shabbat we add the texts in shaded boxes and in parentheses in the body of the Kiddush to commemorate the Creation of the World).

2. Offer to pour the wine or grape juice into someone else’s cup. In turn each one is served by another as befits royalty. Having attained the high status of freedom we celebrate it in style, preferably with red wine, because the rabbis considered it more elegant.

3. Stand to recite the Kiddush, then **recline** to the left to drink the wine, as befits Greco-Roman nobles who also reclined to the left at symposia (intellectual drinking banquets). If there are no pillows on the chairs, ask the children to bring as many as possible.

הַנִּי מוֹכֵן וּמְזַמֵּן לְקַיֵּם מִצְוֹת כּוֹס רֵאשׁוֹן
שֶׁל אַרְבַּע כּוֹסוֹת.

HERE I AM, ready to perform the mitzvah of the first cup of wine and to dedicate this whole evening “to telling the story of wonders performed for our ancestors on the night of the 15th of Nisan,” 3,200 years ago. (Maimonides, Chametz 7:1).



“Don’t Cry over Spilt Wine”

A PUBLIC MESSAGE from the Hosts to All Their Guests: “Don’t Cry over Spilt Wine.”

Rabbi Akiba Eiger (Germany, 18th C.) used to be very strict about the mitzvah of hospitality especially on Pesach. Once when he was leading a large Seder, one of the guests happened to spill a cup of wine. The clean white tablecloth was stained. Seeing the guest’s enormous embarrassment, Rabbi Eiger himself bumped the table spilling his own glass of wine. He exclaimed: “**Oh, this table must be off-balance.**”



On Shabbat rise and recite from Genesis 2:1-3:

[There was evening and there was morning, and the sixth day was over. The sky and the earth and all their contents were completed. On the seventh day God completed all the work. God ceased (*shabbat*) from all activity. God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because on that day God ceased from all the work of creation.]

(וַיְהִי עֶרֶב וַיְהִי בֹקֶר)
יוֹם הַשְּׁשִׁי, וַיְכַלּוּ הַשָּׁמַיִם וְהָאָרֶץ וְכָל צְבָאָם. וַיְכַל אֱלֹהִים בַּיּוֹם
הַשְּׁבִיעִי, מְלַאכְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה, וַיִּשְׁבֹּת בַּיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי, מְכַל
מְלַאכְתּוֹ אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה. וַיְבָרֶךְ אֱלֹהִים אֶת יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי, וַיְקַדֵּשׁ אֹתוֹ,
כִּי בּו שְׁבֹת מְכַל מְלַאכְתּוֹ, אֲשֶׁר בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים לַעֲשׂוֹת.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai
our God, Ruler of the Universe,
who creates the fruit of the vine.

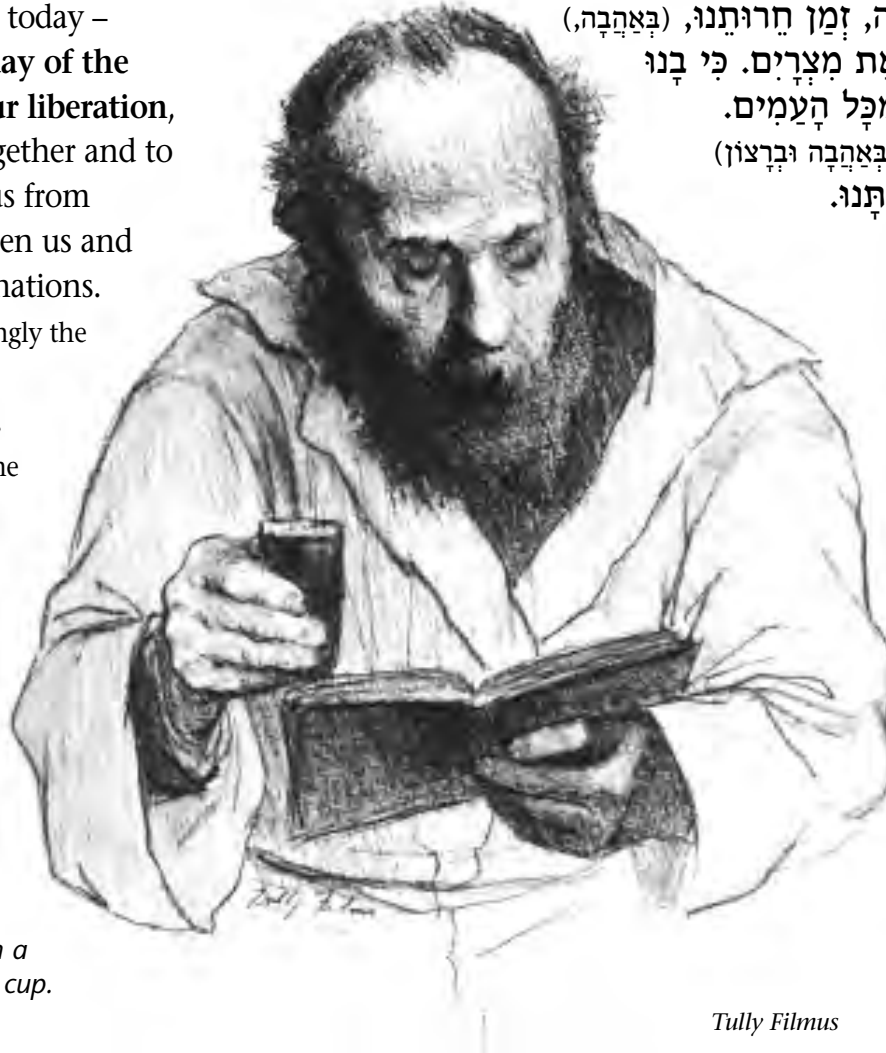
*Ba-ruch ata Adonai,
Elo-hei-nu me-lech ha-olam,
bo-rei pree ha-gafen.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי,
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
בוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגָּפֶן.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the
Universe, who has chosen us from among the nations
and the languages, sanctifying us by your mitzvot.
Lovingly, You have given us [Shabbat for rest and] **festivals
for happiness**, including today –
[the Shabbat and] the **Holiday of the
Matzot**, the **season of our liberation**,
a sacred day to gather together and to
commemorate the Exodus from
Egypt. For You have chosen us and
sanctified us among the nations.
You have granted us [lovingly the
Shabbat and] joyfully the
holidays. Blessed are You,
Adonai, who sanctifies [the
Shabbat and] the people of
Israel and the festivals.

BLESSED ARE YOU,
Adonai our God, Ruler
of the Universe, who
has kept us alive and
brought us to this happy
moment in our lives.

*Now be seated, recline com-
fortably leaning to the left on a
pillow, and drink most of the cup.*



Tully Filmus

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר בָּנוּ
מִכָּל עַם, וְרוֹמְמָנוּ מִכָּל לְשׁוֹן, וְקִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו,
וַתִּתֵּן לָנוּ יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ בְּאַהֲבָה (שְׁבֻתוֹת לְמִנוּחָה וּמוֹעֲדִים
לְשִׂמְחָה, חֳגִים וְזִמְנִים לְשִׂשׁוֹן אֶת יוֹם הַשְּׁבֻת הַזֶּה
וְאֵת יוֹם) חַג הַמִּצּוֹת הַזֶּה, זְמַן חֲרוּתֵנוּ, (בְּאַהֲבָה),
מִקְרָא קֹדֶשׁ, זִכָּר לִיְצִיאַת מִצְרָיִם. כִּי בָנוּ
בְּחֻרָת וְאוֹתָנוּ קִדְּשָׁתָּ מִכָּל הָעַמִּים.
(וְשֻׁבָת) וּמוֹעֲדֵי קֹדֶשׁךָ (בְּאַהֲבָה וּבְרַצוֹן)
בְּשִׂמְחָה וּבְשִׂשׁוֹן הַנְּחֻלָּתָנוּ.
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, מְקַדֵּשׁ
(הַשְּׁבֻת וְ) יִשְׂרָאֵל
וְהַזְּמַנִּים.

*On Saturday night
only, insert Havdalah
here (page 9) before
Shehecheyanu.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי,
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
שְׁהַחֲיָנוּ וְקִיְּמָנוּ
וְהַגִּיעָנוּ לְזִמְן הַזֶּה.



Kadesh

First Cup

On Saturday night:

Havdalah is the blessing over the distinction between Shabbat and the weekdays. The light of the fire is blessed using the festival candles already lit. (No special Havdalah candle or spice box are necessary):

[Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who creates the lights of fire.

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who **differentiates** between the holy and the secular, between light and darkness, between Israel and the other nations, between the seventh day and the six days of creation, between the sanctity of Shabbat and the sanctity of Yom Tov (the festivals). You sanctified the people of Israel with Your holiness.

Blessed are You, Adonai, who **differentiates** between the holiness of Shabbat and the holiness of Yom Tov.]

Havdalah הבדלה

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא מְאוּרֵי הָאֵשׁ.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמְבַדֵּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְחַל בֵּין
אוֹר לְחֹשֶׁךְ, בֵּין יִשְׂרָאֵל לְעַמִּים, בֵּין יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי לְשֵׁשֶׁת יְמֵי
הַמַּעֲשֵׂה. בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ שַׁבָּת לְקֹדֶשׁת יוֹם טוֹב הַבְּדִלָּה.

וְאַתָּה יוֹם הַשְּׁבִיעִי מִשֵּׁשֶׁת יְמֵי הַמַּעֲשֵׂה קֹדֶשֶׁת.

הַבְּדִלָּה וְקֹדֶשֶׁת אֶת עַמֶּךָ יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּקֹדֶשֶׁתְךָ.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, הַמְבַדֵּיל בֵּין קֹדֶשׁ לְקֹדֶשׁ.

From Rags to Riches: A Folktale

IRAQI JEWS tell the tale that in one country the king was always chosen in a special way. When the old king died, a bird called the “bird of good fortune” would be released. On whomsoever's head it landed, the people would place the crown making him their next ruler.

Once the bird of good fortune landed on the head of a slave. That slave had been a simple musician who entertained at the master's parties. His costume consisted of a feathered cap and a belt made of the hooves of sheep.

When the slave became king, he moved into the palace and wore royal robes. However, he ordered that a shack (a kind of sukkah) be constructed next to

the palace and that his old hat, belt and drum be stored there along with a giant mirror.

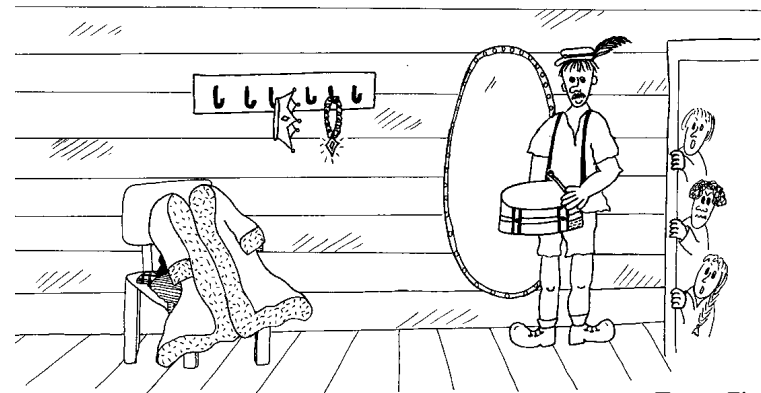
The new king was known for his kindness and love for all his people – rich and poor, free and slave. Often he would disappear into his little shack. Once he left its door open and the cabinet ministers saw him don his feathered hat, put on his old belt and dance and drum before the mirror. They found this very strange and asked the king:

“After all, you are a king! You must maintain your dignity!”

The king replied:

“Once I was a slave and now I’ve become a king. From time to time I want to remind myself that I was once a slave lest I grow arrogant and treat with disdain my people and you, my ministers.”

(The English term, “auspicious day” or “inauguration day” preserves an echo of the Roman custom of consulting the flight of birds as an “augur” for the future).



Tanya Zion

Urchatz

The First Handwashing



וּרְחַץ

1. The ritual handwashing prepares us for eating finger foods, Karpas, the hors d'oeuvres of the Pesach banquet. It sanctifies the act of eating.

2. Ask for two volunteers: one to carry a pitcher of water and to pour water over each guest's hands, and one to carry a basin and a towel. No blessing is said for this handwashing.

Karpas

The First Dipping — Spring Greens

כַּרְפָּס

1. Distribute Karpas (a vegetable) and dip it in salt water, while reciting the appropriate blessing. Some Jews dip in charoset.

2. While some medieval rabbis strictly forbid eating more than an olive's size of parsley for Karpas, you may wish to

revive the ancient custom of eating **extensive appetizers** – each with its own dip. You may continue dipping and tasting various fresh vegetables and other appetizers during the Seder until sufficiently full to persevere during the extensive storytelling (Maggid), but not so full as to ruin one's appetite for the matza eaten later.

For vegetables (like celery, parsley, or potatoes):

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who creates the fruit of the earth.

Ba-ruch ata Adonai,
Elo-hei-nu me-lech ha-olam,
bo-rei pree ha-ada-ma.

בְּרַחֵם אֶתָּהּ יי,
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
בוֹרֵא פְרֵי הָאָדָמָה.

Yachatz

Breaking the Matza

יַחַץ

1. Breaking the Matza is one of many ritual acts that turn the food of the Seder into a symbol of meaning.

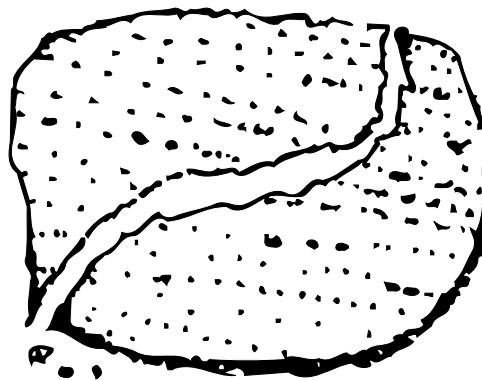
2. Count off the matzot from top to bottom: 1, 2, 3, naming them, if you wish, "Cohen," "Levi" and "Yisrael" (the three ritual classes of the Jewish people).

The top matza is for the usual blessing over bread (motzi). Tonight that blessing is recited over matza.

The bottom matza is for the Hillel sandwich (korech) made with matza, maror, and charoset.

3. Break the middle matza in two and explain that this is for a dual purpose: the bigger portion is to be

hidden for the "afikoman" and eaten when retrieved from the children for dessert. It will be the last taste of food at the Seder. The smaller portion will be eaten with the top matza when we say the special blessing over matza at the beginning of the meal.



Kadesh

Urchatz

Karpas

Yachatz

Washing Hands,
Dipping Greens,
and
Breaking Matza

The Story of the Compulsive Saver

IN THE JERUSALEM neighborhood of Talpiot lived an eccentric old man in a large villa. He visited the synagogue religiously whenever a kiddush was served with cakes and kugel. At shul everyone filled themselves with sweets but this elderly man took twice as much, filling his pockets and his mouth. His fellow Jews smiled at his anxious hoarding and wondered how a man living in a large house could be so desperate for a little cake.

Once a curious Jew asked him to explain. The old man replied heavily: "In the concentration camps in Poland there was never enough bread. I have never liberated myself from my fear that tomorrow there may not be any more food."

A Personal Thanksgiving

The Pesach family gathering is in fact a thanksgiving banquet during which we retell our national salvation. It is also appropriate to weave into the Seder, memories of personal deliverance from danger. Invite the family and guests to recall their own family stories of redemption from illness, from danger, or from persecution. Perhaps they can discuss the lessons they drew from these crucial events in their lives.

Pesach: The Spring Holiday.
Shraga Weil, Song of Songs © 1968



Why Karpas?

The word "Karpas" derives from the Greek "Karpos" meaning fruit of the soil. The historical origins of dipping Karpas at the Seder reflect the accepted cuisine of the Greco-Roman symposium.

Metaphorically, Karpas, the spring vegetable, represents both the historic birth of Israel out of the womb of Egypt and the rebirth of nature renewed each spring. According to Philo and to Rabbi Joshua the original birthday of nature – the Creation – occurred at Pesach-time, not Rosh Hashana. Similarly, the Italian name for spring *prima-vera* and the French *printemps* preserve the sense of the return to the original "first time" of the world.

Spring (old English) is originally applied to the place of origin from which a stream arises. Later it was applied to the season, the "spring of the year."

Maggid: Ha Lachma Anya



מגיד הָא לַחְמָא עֲנִיָּא

Telling the Story: ‘This is the Bread of Poverty and Persecution’

1. The heart of the Seder is “Maggid” from the term “Haggadah” meaning storytelling. In words but also in drama we retell the Exodus, beginning with an Aramaic explanation of the origin of matza.

2. Remove the cloth covering the matzot so that they are in plain view during the telling of the story, the Maggid. **Raise** the three matzot and point out the broken middle matza. Now the afikoman, the second half of the middle matza, is hidden until dessert.

3. Some Rabbis require the Seder plate as well as the matzot to be lifted up, as if they were about to be removed from the table even before the meal has begun. This was originally designed to arouse the children to ask questions.

4. Many Jews from African-Asian countries open the Maggid with a **Passover skit**. Experiment with the script (provided on p. 13). **Moroccan Jews** pass the matzot over everyone's head while reciting Ha Lachma Anya. Some people open the door at this point, as if to offer hospitality to anyone without a Seder.



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid

Ha
Lachma
Anya

HA LACHMA ANYA

THIS IS THE BREAD of poverty and persecution that our ancestors ate in the land of Egypt. As it says in the Torah “seven days shall you eat . . . matzot – the bread of poverty and persecution” (Deut. 16:3) so that you may “remember that you were a slave in Egypt . . .”

(Deut. 16:12).

LET ALL who are hungry, come and eat
LET ALL who are in need, come and share
the Pesach meal.

THIS YEAR we are still here –
Next year, in the land of Israel.

THIS YEAR we are still slaves –
Next year, free people.

Ha la-ch-ma an-ya

Dee-acha-lu av-ha-ta-na

B'ar-ah d'meez-ra-yeem.

Kol deech-feen, yei-tei v' yei-chol,

Kol dee-tzreech, yei-tei v' yee-fsach.

Ha-sha-ta ha-cha,

L'sha-na ha-ba-ah

be-ar-ah d'yis-rael

Ha-sha-ta av-dei,

L'sha-na ha-ba-ah

B'nei cho-reen.

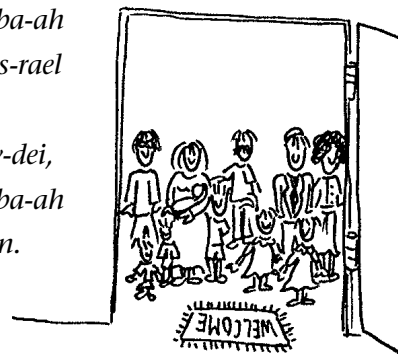
הָא לַחְמָא עֲנִיָּא

דִּי אֶכְלוּ אַבְהֵתְנָא
בְּאַרְעָא דְּמִצְרַיִם.

כָּל דְּכִפִּין יִיתִי וַיְכוּל,
כָּל דְּצָרִיד יִיתִי וַיִּפְסַח.

הַשְּׁתָּא הַכָּא,
לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה
בְּאַרְעָא דִּישְׂרָאֵל.

הַשְּׁתָּא עַבְדִּי,
לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה
בְּנֵי חוֹרֵינְךָ.



A Passover Skit

In Egypt the Jews ate quickly and anxiously because they were nervous about the plague of the first born and they were expecting their imminent departure into freedom. Today Jews of Africa and Asia customarily act out the Exodus itself dressing their children (or a dramatically inclined adult) in baggy clothes, a scarf or hat, hiking boots, a walking stick, a belt with a canteen and, most important, the afikoman wrapped in one's clothes on the shoulder (or perhaps in a back pack).

Try sending the youngest children out of the room (or the house) with a bag of props and the help of an adult to prepare this dialogue. Here is a semi-traditional script that may be used by the "actors" at the Seder.

An Open Door Policy

BEFORE COMMENCING any meal, Rav Huna of Babylonia used to **open** the door and announce: "Let all who are in need come and eat"

(B.T. Taanit 20b).

Concern for the needy is characteristic of every Jewish celebration. The Torah emphasizes: "You shall rejoice in your festival – with your son and daughter, your male and female servant, the Levi, the stranger, the orphan and the widow in your communities" (Deut. 16:14).

Knock on the door

Adults - Who's there?

Children - Moshe, Aaron, and Miriam.

Adults - Come in. Tell us about your journey!

Children - We have just arrived from Egypt where we were slaves to Pharaoh. He made us do such hard work. *[Improvise about how bad it was.]*

Adults - How did you escape?

Children - God sent Moshe and Aaron to tell Pharaoh: "Let my people go." When he refused, God sent 10 plagues. *[Improvise describing some of the plagues.]* Finally God brought the most awful plague on the first born of Egypt. Then Pharaoh was really scared, so he kicked us out.

Adults - Why are you dressed like that? What is on your shoulder?

Children - We escaped in the middle of the night and had no time to let the dough for our bread rise. The dough that we wrapped in our cloaks and slung over our shoulders turned to matza in the heat of the sun.

Adults - Tell us about your adventures.

Children - Pharaoh changed his mind after releasing us and chased us to the edge of the Red Sea. We would have been caught for sure, but then God split the sea. *[Describe how it felt.]*

Adults - Where are you going now?

Children - To Jerusalem.

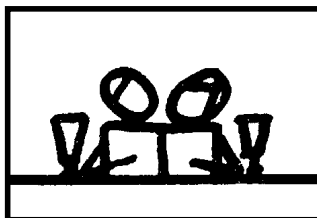
All - **La-shana ha-ba-ah Bee'Yerushalayem!**



Prague, 1526

Four Questions

1. **Pour** the second cup for everyone and let the younger children sing “Ma Nishtana.”



מַה נִּשְׁתַּנָּה

2. Some people distribute nuts and candies to reward the children’s curiosity.

MA NISHTANA

HOW IS THIS NIGHT different from all other nights?

ON ALL other nights, we eat either leavened bread or matza, but on this night we eat only **matza**.

ON ALL other nights, we eat other kinds of vegetables, but on this night we eat **maror** (bitter herbs).

ON ALL other nights, we need not dip our vegetables even once, but on this night we **dip** twice.

ON ALL other nights, we eat either sitting upright or reclining, but on this night we all **recline**.

*Ma nish-ta-na ha-lai-la ha-zeh,
mee-kol ha-lei-lot?*

*She-b’chol ha-lei-lot,
anu och-leen,
cha-metz u-matza
Ha-lai-la ha-zeh, ku-lo matza.*

*She-b’chol ha-lei-lot
anu och-leen sh’ar y’ra-kot,
Ha-lai-la ha-zeh maror.*

*She-b’chol ha-lei-lot
ein anu mat-bee-leen,
afee-lu pa-am achat
Ha-lai-la ha-zeh, shtei-p’ameem.*

*She-b’chol ha-lei-lot
anu och-leen,
bein yo-shveen
u-vein m’su-been
Ha-lai-la ha-zeh,
ku-la-nu m’su-been.*

מַה נִּשְׁתַּנָּה

הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה
מִכָּל הַלַּיְלוֹת?

שֶׁבִּכְל הַלַּיְלוֹת
אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין
חֵמֶץ וּמַצָּה,
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה כָּלוּ מַצָּה.

שֶׁבִּכְל הַלַּיְלוֹת
אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין שְׂאֵר יִרְקוֹת
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה מְרוֹר.

שֶׁבִּכְל הַלַּיְלוֹת
אֵין אָנוּ מְטַבֵּילִין
אֶפְּיֵלוּ פַּעַם אַחַת,
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה שְׁתֵּי פְּעָמִים.

שֶׁבִּכְל הַלַּיְלוֹת
אָנוּ אוֹכְלִין
בֵּין יוֹשְׁבֵינִי
וּבֵין מְסֻבֵּין,
הַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה
כָּלָנוּ מְסֻבֵּין.



Kadesh

Urchatz

Karpas

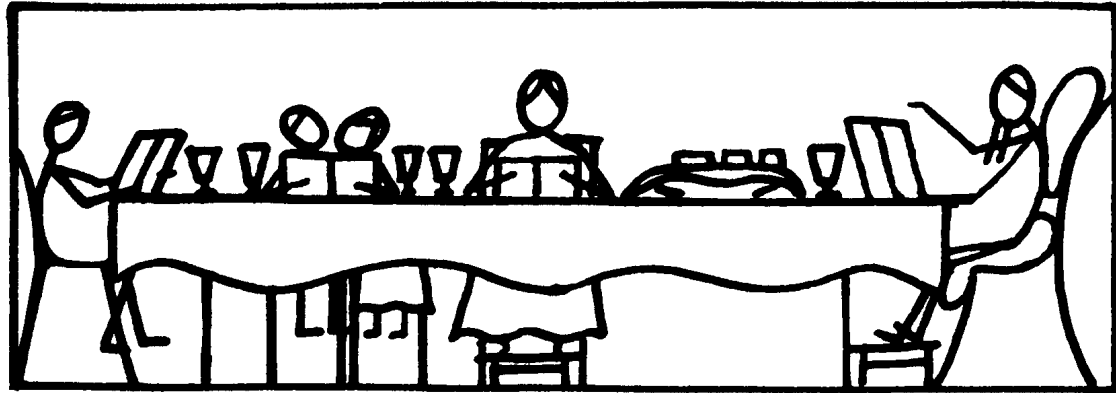
Yachatz

Maggid

Four
Questions

In Search of the Four Answers

As often happens after the youngest child recites the four questions, the family and guests applaud but do not bother to answer the questions. Since a young child's questions should not go unanswered, we shall present one answer to each, but there are many more answers.



ON ONE HAND, the matza and the maror belong to the menu of the slaves and the oppressed:

1. Why eat plain matza which is hard to digest?

Poor laborers and slaves are fed matza not only because it is cheap but because it is filling and requires a long digestion period. The diet was designed by the oppressor to exploit the people efficiently.

2. Why eat raw, bitter vegetables?

Maror is eaten plain only by the most oppressed workers who are given little time to prepare their meals. With more time they would have made these herbs into a tasty salad.

ON THE OTHER HAND, dipping and reclining typify the manners of the leisure class in Roman times:

3. Why dip twice before eating?

On Seder night we are obligated to dip twice – karpas in salt water and maror in charoset – before the meal begins. Even today, finger foods dipped in tangy sauces are typical hors d'œuvres with cocktails (the first cup of wine) at banquets.

4. Why recline on pillows while drinking wine?

The body language of the free reflects their ease and comfort. Reclining on sofas or pillows, everyone – big and small alike – experiences the freedom of the upper classes. On Seder night these foods and these table manners are props and stage directions in the script acted out by all. *(based on Don Isaac Abrabanel, Zevach Pesach, Spain, 15th C.)*

"Izzy, Did You Ask a Good Question Today?"

Isidor I. Rabi, the Nobel laureate in physics was once asked, "Why did you become a scientist, rather than a doctor or lawyer or businessman, like the other immigrant kids in your neighborhood?"

"My mother made me a scientist without ever intending it. Every other Jewish mother in Brooklyn would ask her child after school: 'Nu? Did you learn anything today?' But not my mother. She always asked me a different question. 'Izzy,' she would say, 'Did you ask a good question today?' That difference – asking good questions – made me become a scientist." *(Donald Sheff, New York Times, Jan. 19, 1988)*

It is an old saying: Ask a Jew a question, and the Jew answers with a question. Every answer given arouses new questions. The progress of knowledge is matched by an increase in the hidden and mysterious.

(Rabbi Leo Baeck, Judaism and Science, Germany, 1949)

A wise person's question is half the answer.

(Shlomo Ibn Gabirol, Spain, 1050)

The Rabbis as Storytellers

Shmuel's Story: "We were slaves"

Storytelling Options

The Haggadah recommends that parents now go beyond the text of the Haggadah and improvise dramatically in retelling the story of the Exodus. **The traditional Haggadah does not include a script for the storyteller.** For ideas, turn to pages 86-91.

When, in time to come, your children ask you: "What is the meaning of the decrees, laws, and rules that Adonai our God has enjoined upon you?" You shall say to your children: "We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt and Adonai freed us from Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm. Adonai produced before our eyes great and awful signs and wonders in Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household; and God freed us from there, so that God could take us and give us the land that had been promised on oath to our ancestors" (Deut. 6:20-23).

עֲבָדִים הָיִינוּ

“עֲבָדִים הָיִינוּ לְפָרְעָה בְּמִצְרַיִם.
וַיֹּצִיאֵנוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ מִשָּׁם,
בְּיָד חֲזָקָה וּבְזְרוּעַ נְטוּיָה.”



Optional Song:

עֲבָדִים הָיִינוּ, הָיִינוּ
עֲתָה בְּנֵי־חֹרֵין, בְּנֵי־חֹרֵין.

Avadeem hayeenu, hayeenu,
Ata bnei choreen, bnei choreen



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid

We Were
Slaves

What if

IF GOD hadn't taken our ancestors out of Egypt, then we would still be enslaved to Pharaoh in Egypt, along with our children, and our children's children.

EVEN IF all of us were wise, all of us discerning, all of us veteran scholars, and all of us knowledgeable in Torah, it would still be a mitzvah for us to retell the story of the Exodus from Egypt.

THE MORE and the longer one expands and embellishes the story, the more commendable.

וְאֵלֹוּ לֹא הוֹצִיא הַקָּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא אֶת אֲבוֹתֵינוּ
מִמִּצְרַיִם, הָרִי אָנוּ וּבְנֵינוּ וּבְנֵי בְנֵינוּ,
מִשְׁעֲבָדִים הָיִינוּ לְפָרְעָה בְּמִצְרַיִם.

וְאִפְּלוּ כָּלְנוּ חֲכָמִים,
כָּלְנוּ נְבוֹנִים, כָּלְנוּ זְקֵנִים,
כָּלְנוּ יוֹדְעִים אֶת הַתּוֹרָה,
מִצְוָה עָלֵינוּ לְסַפֵּר בִּיצִיאַת מִצְרַיִם.

וְכָל הַמְרַבֵּה לְסַפֵּר בִּיצִיאַת מִצְרַיִם,
הָרִי זֶה מְשֻׁבַּח.

(Now adults are invited to retell the Exodus story in their own words, or to read aloud one story about Moshe, p. 87-90.)

The Longest Seder: The Five Rabbis of Bnai B'rak

בְּנֵי בְרַק

A TALE OF Rabbi Eliezer, Rabbi Yehoshua, Rabbi Elazar son of Azarya, Rabbi Akiva and Rabbi Tarfon: they were reclining at the Seder in Bnai B'rak, and they spent the whole night long telling the story of the going out of Egypt, until their pupils came and said to them: "Our masters, it is time to recite the morning Sh'ma!"

מַעֲשֵׂה בְּרַבֵּי אֱלִיעֶזֶר, וְרַבֵּי יְהוֹשֻׁעַ, וְרַבֵּי אֶלְעָזָר בֶּן עֲזַרְיָה, וְרַבֵּי עֲקִיבָא, וְרַבֵּי טַרְפוֹן, שֶׁהָיוּ מְסֻבִּין בְּבְנֵי בְרַק, וְהָיוּ מְסַפְּרִים בִּיְצִיאַת מִצְרַיִם, כָּל אוֹתוֹ הַלַּיְלָה, עַד שֶׁבָּאוּ תַלְמִידֵיהֶם וְאָמְרוּ לָהֶם: רְבוֹתֵינוּ, הִגִּיעַ זְמַן קְרִיאַת שְׁמַע, שֶׁל שַׁחֲרִית.

Recalling the Exodus Every Night

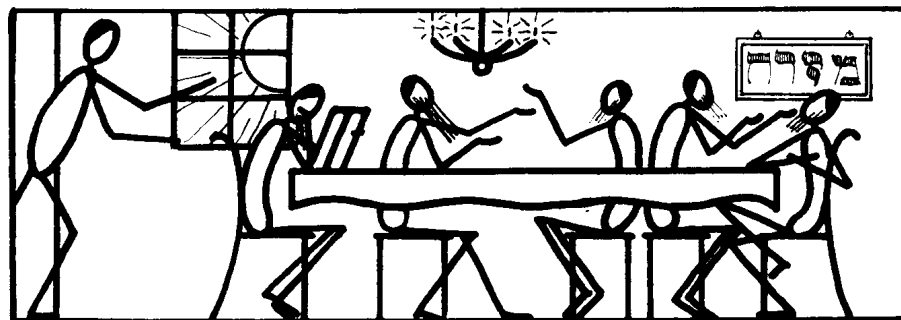
RABBI ELAZAR son of Azarya said: "Even though I am like a man of seventy, I had never understood why the going out from Egypt should be mentioned at night-time, until **ben Zoma** explained it to me from the verse, *'That you may remember the day when you came out of Egypt all the days of your life'* (Deuteronomy 16:3).

'The days of your life' means just the days! BUT *'All the days of your life'* means the nights as well!"

However the **Rabbis** explain:

"The days of your life' means this life!

BUT *'All the days of your life'* means the days of the Messiah as well!"



Otto Geismar, 1927

אָמַר רַבִּי אֶלְעָזָר בֶּן עֲזַרְיָה. הֲרִי אֲנִי כְּבֹן שְׁבַעִים שָׁנָה, וְלֹא זָכִיתִי, שֶׁתֵּאמַר יְצִיאַת מִצְרַיִם בַּלַּיְלוֹת. עַד שֶׁדָּרְשָׁה בֶן זוֹמָא. שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר: "לְמַעַן תִּזְכֹּר, אֶת יוֹם יְצִיאַתְךָ מֵאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם, כָּל יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ."
"יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ" – הַיָּמִים. "כָּל יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ" – הַלַּיְלוֹת. וְחֻכְמַיִם אוֹמְרִים: "יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ" – הָעוֹלָם הַזֶּה. "כָּל יְמֵי חַיֶּיךָ" – לְהַבְיֵא לַיְמֹת הַמְּשִׁיחַ.

Personal Recollections: "My Most Unusual Seder"

The Seder is as much a family renewal ceremony as a remembrance of ancient Egypt. Sharing family memories with the younger members as well as involving the guests, who may feel homesick, will contribute to the bonding of all participants.

1. Ask the participants, especially the guests, to share a special Seder memory from home or from their most unusual Seder. (See *The Leader's Guide*, pp. 47-54 for great Seders in Jewish history).

2. Ask the participants, especially the oldest ones, to recall their best or their worst moment at the old family Seder. (For example, the Seder when I had stage fright in the middle of the four questions).

The Four Children

כַּנְגֵד אַרְבַּעַה בְּנִים

1. The Haggadah offers us educational advice about intergenerational storytelling. The midrash of the Four Children invites us to distinguish different character types and to suggest different approaches to our offspring.

Consider the artistic interpretations of the Four Children, and compare and contrast them.

2. The Rabbis turn the commandment of “v’heegadta” (you shall tell) into a mitzvah of **dialogue** – with give and take on both sides. Successful dialogue means that each side, and especially the side anxious to “pass on the message,” be keenly attentive to what the other is saying and feeling – to the particular personality and his or her needs.



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid

Four Children

BLESSED be God

Blessed be He

Blessed be the Giver of the Torah to the people Israel

Blessed be He.

THE TORAH alludes to Four Children:

One Wise, One Wicked, One Simple,
One Who Does Not Know How to Ask.

בְּרוּךְ הַמָּקוֹם.

בְּרוּךְ הוּא.

בְּרוּךְ שֶׁנָּתַן תּוֹרָה לְעַמּוֹ יִשְׂרָאֵל.

בְּרוּךְ הוּא.

כַּנְגֵד אַרְבַּעַה בְּנִים דְּבָרָה תּוֹרָה.

אֶחָד חָכָם, וְאֶחָד רָשָׁע, וְאֶחָד פֶּתִי,

וְאֶחָד שְׂאִינוּ יוֹדֵעַ לְשַׁאֵל.



Istavan Zador, Four Children (Budapest, 1924)

Education Through Dialogue

A Reminder for Parents

Thus far the Haggadah has given guidelines to the parent who is full of earnest enthusiasm to pass on an historical and cultural “message” to the younger generation. If ever there was an event which appeals to the parent’s desire to bring their youth-culture-centered children to appreciate the old values of cultural and ethnic pride and identification, the Pesach Seder is it!

Here lies a dangerous pitfall for the parent-educator. The leader of the Seder is likely to concentrate on the text of the Haggadah without sufficiently taking into consideration the audience – the younger generation – and their level of interest. Absorbed with the sales-pitch, the salesperson often forgets the customer!

“The Four Parents:” Children Label Their Parents

IN THE DAYS of the patriarchal regime, we allowed ourselves to categorize our children harshly, accepting only one as positive – the wise one.

The simple, the wicked and the one who knows not how to ask questions had to swallow hard and hide their sense of being insulted . . .

Now in our days no child is identified as “the offspring of the parent” and often



Prague, 1526

the parent is identified as “the parent of that child.” We have arrived at an era not of patriarchy or matriarchy but the rule of children. In our age it is then miraculous that our dear, delightful children don’t divide us up and categorize us. At the best, we would be rated “naive or simple minded parents” or “parents who don’t know how to respond to a question.” (*Israel Eldad, “The Victory of the Wise Son”*)

The Pitfalls of Labelling

I INSTINCTIVELY recoil from static stereotypes that label persons simplistically. Therefore, I choose to interpret the midrash of the four children as a diverse set of strategies for addressing four different facets of each and every child.

Each personality combines these facets in different ways. For example, **the wise**

and **the rebellious facets** can be combined for evil. Then the cunning mind is used to inflict pain on one’s parents. Alternatively, the combination can produce a revolutionary chalutz (pioneer) seeking not just to undermine the traditional order but to create new frameworks of meaning. This requires an intelligence which is not conservative like the traditional “wise child” but which looks beyond the horizon, beyond the existing laws and their pat rationale.

(*Yaariv Ben Aharon, Kibbutz author*)

Questioning Our Wisdom

The truly wise question the wisdom of others because they question their own wisdom as well, the foolish, because it is different from their own.

(*Rabbi Leopold Stein, Journey into the Self (Germany, d. 1882)*)

The Four Children as a Screenplay

חֶכֶם וְרָשָׁע

1. A simple reading of the Haggadah's midrash of the four children can obscure the fact that it provides the script for a dialogue. Let each character in the dialogue be played by a different Seder participant.

- The cast** is as follows:
 - Narrator
 - Each of the four children
 - Four parents who answer.
- The reading** goes as follows:

Narrator: **What does the wise child say?**
Wise Child: "What are the testimonies, the statutes, and the laws which Adonai our God has commanded you?" (*Deut. 6:20*).
Narrator: You must tell some of the laws of Pesach (from the Mishna, for example):
1st Parent: "We do not proceed to any *afikoman* (dessert or after dinner celebrations) after eating the Pesach lamb" (*Mishna Pesachim chapter 10*).
Narrator: **What does the wicked child say?**
Wicked Child: "Whatever does this service mean to *you*?" (*Exodus 12:26*).
Narrator: This child emphasizes "*to you*" and not to himself or herself! Since the child excludes himself or herself from the community and rejects a major principle of faith, you should "set that child's teeth on edge" and say:
2nd Parent: "It is because of this, that Adonai did for *me* when I went free from Egypt" (*Exodus 13:8*).
"Me" and not **that one!** Had *that one* been there, he or she would not have been redeemed.

חֶכֶם מַה הוּא אוֹמֵר?

"מָה הָעֵדוּת וְהַחֻקִּים וְהַמִּשְׁפָּטִים, אֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֲתָכֶם?" (דברים ו, כ)
 וְאִם אַתָּה אָמַר לוֹ כְּהַלְכוֹת הַפֶּסַח:
 "אֵין מִפְּטִירִין אַחַר הַפֶּסַח אַפִּיקוֹמָן."
 (משנה, פסחים פרק י')

רָשָׁע מַה הוּא אוֹמֵר?

"מָה הָעֲבֹדָה הַזֹּאת לָכֶם?" (שמות יב, כו)
 "לָכֶם" וְלֹא "לוֹ!"
 וְלִפִּי שֶׁהוֹצִיא אֶת עַצְמוֹ מִן הַכֶּלֶל, כִּפְר בְּעַקְר. וְאִם אַתָּה הִקְהֵה אֶת שִׁנָּיו, וְאָמַר לוֹ: "בְּעֵבוֹר זֶה, עָשָׂה יי לִי, בְּצִאתִי מִמִּצְרַיִם" (שמות יג, ח). "לִי" וְלֹא "לוֹ".
 אֱלוֹ הִיא שָׁם, לֹא הִיא נִגְאָל.

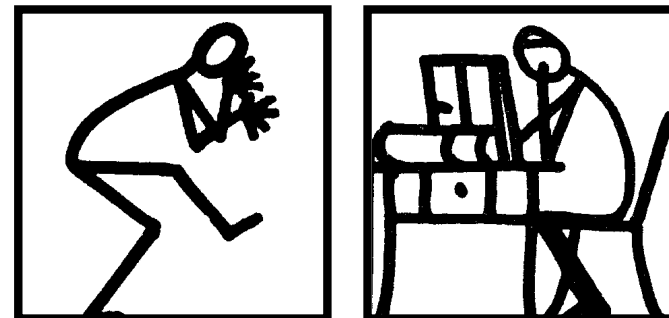


Kadesh
 Urchatz
 Karpas
 Yachatz
Maggid

Four Children

Embarassing your Parents

This difficult child is determined to embarrass us, the parents (in the midst of the Seder before all the guests). He implies that the wine and lambchops are only for our culinary pleasure when he says pointedly, "This service is for you" (not for God). (*Don Isaac Abrabanel, Spain, 15th C.*)



Otto Geismar, *the Wise Child and the Wicked Child*, 1927



Siegmund Forst, 1958

Beating the Bounds: Producing Wicked Children

THE PASSOVER CELEBRATION is aimed at the child in all of us, allowing us to open our imaginations, to rediscover the lost elements of wonder, pleasure, and hilarity that are captured in this event. Having children at the Seder can help make this happen.

If we make our children unhappy, they will remember Passover, but not fondly. In the British Isles, there is a custom of taking sons out every year to “beat the bounds.” Today they use the stick as the boundary markers, but they used to beat the boys at the site of those markers to ensure that they would remember the limits of ancestral property. Beating our ancient heritage into our children’s psyches may make them remember, but it is probably the reason so many people remember ritual and ceremony as intrinsically unpleasant.

(Ira Steingroot, *Keeping Passover*)

“Who is truly Wise?”

The wise child of the Haggadah is portrayed as a knowledgeable, believing and obedient child. This child formulates long complex questions, distinguishes multiple categories of laws, and accepts the God who commanded “us.” But let’s beware of this stereotyped, academic brainchild. Is this child truly wise?

• **Don Isaac Abrabanel, “The Smart Alec”:** “This ‘wise-guy’ child is arrogant in his ‘wisdom.’ He shows off the distinctions he can make between types of mitzvot. ‘But you teach him the subtleties down to the last detail in the Mishna.’ Let the ‘smart-alec’ who appears wise in his own eyes see that there is still much for him to learn.

There is twice as much wisdom in these laws as in the question. Let the

wise grow in wisdom and in humility.”

• **Israel Eldad, “To Know When to Ask”:** “No! The wise child does not derive his title from the pretense to know-it-all. One who thinks he possesses wisdom already, does not ask at all. ‘One who does not even know how to ask’ has a negative trait, typical of the know-it-all. The truly wise child asks genuine questions, not cynically and mockingly like the rebellious child and not superficially like the simple child. He seeks the essence of things, ‘What is the true nature of the laws, testimonies and statutes that God has commanded us?’”

• **The Chassidic Seer of Lublin:** “In my judgment, it is better to be a wicked person who knows he is wicked, than a righteous one who knows that he is righteous. Worst of all is to be a wicked person who thinks he is righteous.”

(Menachem HaCohen, *Haggadah of HaAm*)

The “Wicked Child” – An Unfair Description?

The “wicked” child expresses a sense of alienation from our Jewish heritage. In this age of liberalism and democracy, of pluralistic tolerance for many cultural expressions, should a person who expresses such a feeling be condemned as “wicked” or “evil”?

• **Hold a brief discussion on the topic. Would a different characterization be more appropriate to our contemporary sensibilities - such as “the rebellious one,” “the skeptic,” “the arrogant – chutzpadik?”**

Is “setting his teeth on edge” the best strategy to deal with such a person?

• **Role-Playing:** try to “get inside” the personality of the so called “wicked” children and their parents. Describe the feelings of each one in this tense confrontation described in the Haggadah.

Suggestion: Have the younger participants at the Seder describe the feelings of the parent, and have those who are already parents describe the feelings of the child.

The Four Children Continued

Narrator: What does the simple child ask?

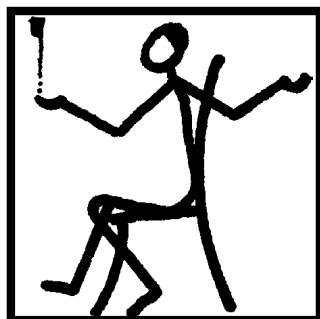
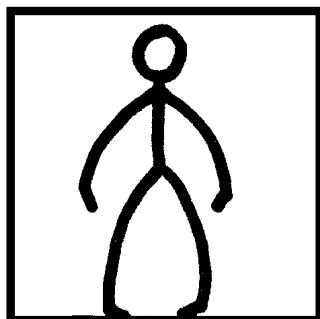
Simple Child: "What is this?" (Exodus 13:14).

Narrator: And you shall say to that child:

3rd Parent: "By a mighty hand Adonai brought us out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage."

Narrator: **As for the child who does not know how to ask**, you should prompt him, as it is said: "You shall tell your child on that day, saying:"

4th Parent: "It is because of this, that Adonai did for me when I went free from Egypt" (Exodus 13:8).



Otto Geismar, 1927

תָּם וְשֵׁאִינוּ יוֹדְעֵי לְשׂאֹל

תָּם מַה הוּא אוֹמֵר?
"מַה זֹאת?" (שמות יג, יד)

וְאוֹמֵרֵת אֵלָיו:
"בְּחֶזֶק יָד הוֹצִיאָנוּ יְיָ מִמִּצְרַיִם מִבֵּית עֲבָדִים."

וְשֵׁאִינוּ יוֹדְעֵי לְשׂאֹל?
אֵת פֶּתַח לוֹ.

שֵׁנְאֵמֵר: "וְהִגַּדְתָּ לְבִנְךָ, בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא לֵאמֹר:
'בְּעִבּוֹר זֶה עָשָׂה יְיָ לִי, בְּצֵאתִי מִמִּצְרַיִם.'" (שמות יג, ח)

The Parent of the Silent Child

The child does not ask because he is afraid of making a mistake. He does not know how to phrase his question and lacks confidence. Therefore, the parent should try to lead him into a conversation, to encourage him, to strengthen him, to strengthen his confidence. (Marc Angel, Sephardic Haggadah, p. 30)

"You shall tell your child" (Exodus 13:8)

The Rabbis wondered about: "You shall tell your child on that day: 'It is because of this, that Adonai did for me when I went free from Egypt.'"

Could this verse mean that you should begin to tell the story at the beginning of the month (in which the Exodus occurred)?

No, for the verse explicitly states "on that day" (of the Exodus).

Could that mean that we start when it is still daytime?

No, for the verse explicitly states: "because of this." "**This**" refers to matza and marror laid before you (only on Seder night). (Mekhilta)

"**This**" implies that the parents must point at the matza and marror, using them as visual aids to tell the story. (Rabbi Simcha of Vitri)

וְהִגַּדְתָּ לְבִנְךָ

וְהִגַּדְתָּ לְבִנְךָ. יְכוּל מְרֵאשׁ חֲדָשׁ?
תְּלַמּוּד לֹמֵר: "בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא" (שמות י"ג ח).
אִי בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא, יְכוּל מְבַעֵד יוֹם?
תְּלַמּוּד לֹמֵר: "בְּעִבּוֹר זֶה."
"בְּעִבּוֹר זֶה", לֹא אִמְרַתִּי, אֶלֶּא בְשַׁעֲה שְׁיֵשׁ
מִצָּה וּמְרוֹר מְנַחִים לְפָנֶיךָ.



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid

Four Children

The Contemporary "Four Children"

Which famous person today would be the best representative of the "wise child," of the "wicked child," and so on? Suggest candidates and discuss their suitability. Or suggest animals to symbolize the Four Children. (See p. 29.)

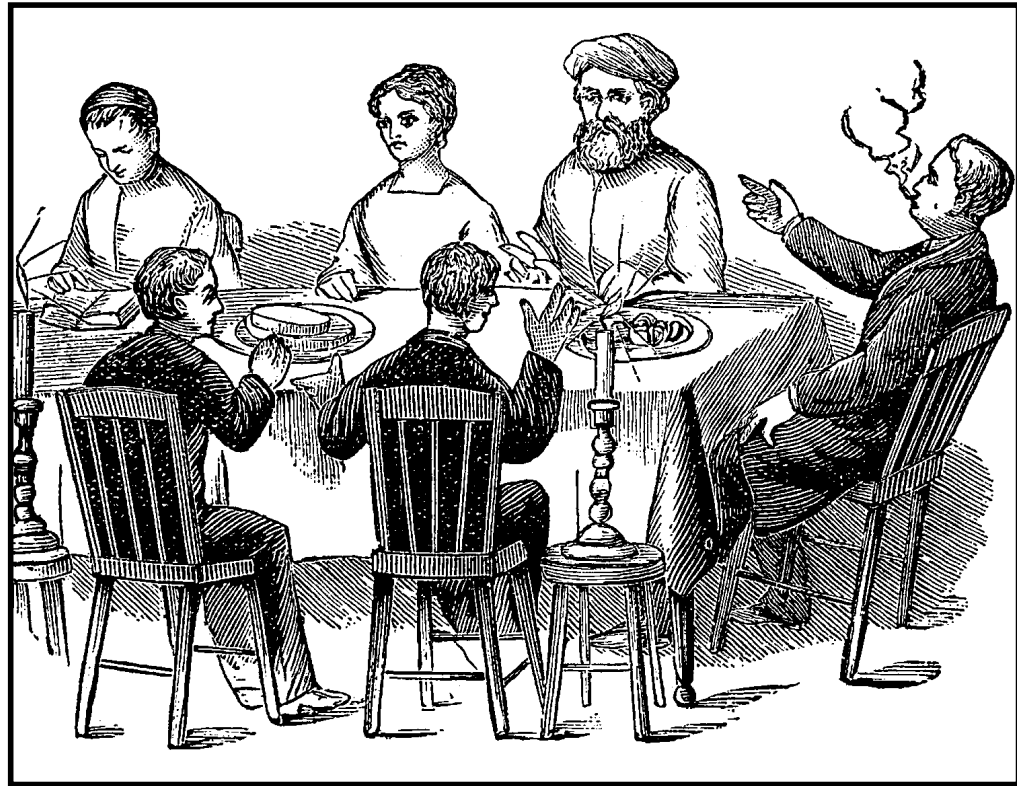
A Child's Perspective

Ask the younger children to describe the behavior of "a bad child" at the Seder.

- What might be causing such behavior?
- Do they approve of the parent's response in the Haggadah?
- How would they handle the situation?
- Why do they think the "silent child" asks no questions?
- How might that child be coaxed into greater involvement?

Beyond Labels

I DO NOT VIEW labels as static pigeon-holes. I believe in the power of the educational act to release locked up potentials. For example, **one who does not know how to ask** may be silenced by the rules of society. The silence may hide an exceptional, sensitive child whose questions are choked. A parent can "open the child up," remove the obstructions, enable personal growth and break stereotypes (Yaariv Ben Aharon, Kibbutz author).



The Immigrant Family

Chicago Haggadah, 1879

Bridging the Generation Gap

The inter-generational dialogues in the Torah explicitly refer to parents who participated in the Exodus addressing their children who have grown up in freedom in the Land of Israel. The parents have undergone an experience of slavery and redemption which is totally foreign to the reality of their offspring.

Discussion #1: What are the generation gaps among us, the

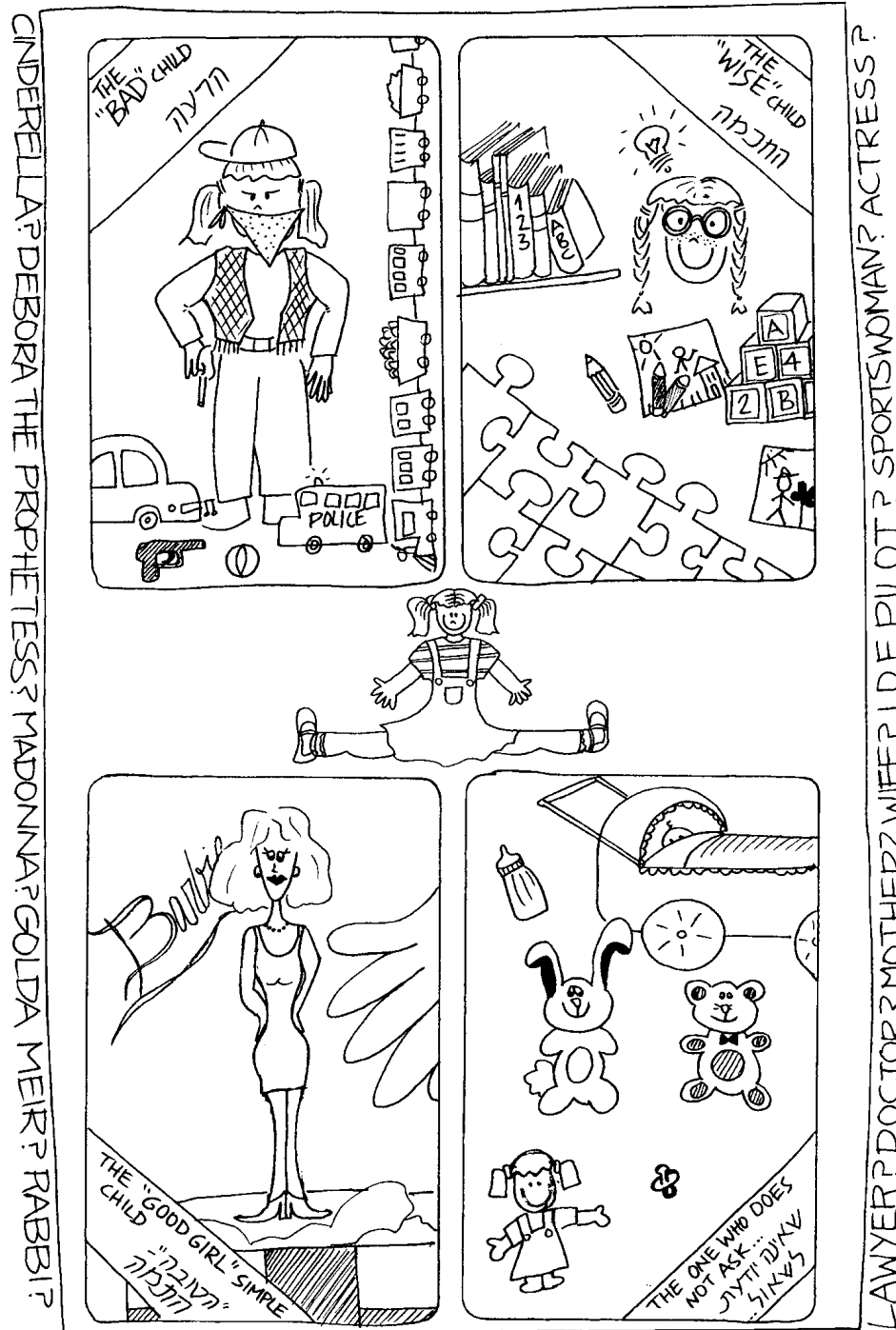
participants of tonight's Seder? Go around the table and have people relate a formative experience which might be difficult for their parents or children to comprehend.

Discussion #2: In the illustration above, who do the characters represent? How do their clothing and body language express the generation gap? Who is the dominant figure at the table?

The Art of the Four Children

1. **Compare and contrast** the artists' interpretations of each of the Four Children (p. 18-33).
2. **Which portrayal** is most surprising? most disturbing? most appropriate?
3. **What conceptions** of Jewish values and society are implicit in the various depictions? (See the unabridged version of *A Different Night*, p. 174-176, for a commentary on each illustration.)

The Ideal Jewish Girl?
Tanya Zion, Israel, 1996



- Kadesh
- Urchatz
- Karpas
- Yachatz
- Maggid**

Four Children in Art



Eastern European Types

*Arthur Syzk,
Poland, 1939*



The Blessing of Diversity

The artist and calligrapher David Moss explains his depiction of the Four Children: EVERY CHILD is unique and the Torah embraces them all. The iconography that I've chosen here is based on playing cards. As in a game of chance, we have no control over the children dealt us. It is our task as parents, as educators, to play our hand based on the attributes of the children we are given. It is the child, not the parent, who must direct the process. This, I believe, is the intent of the midrash of the four children.

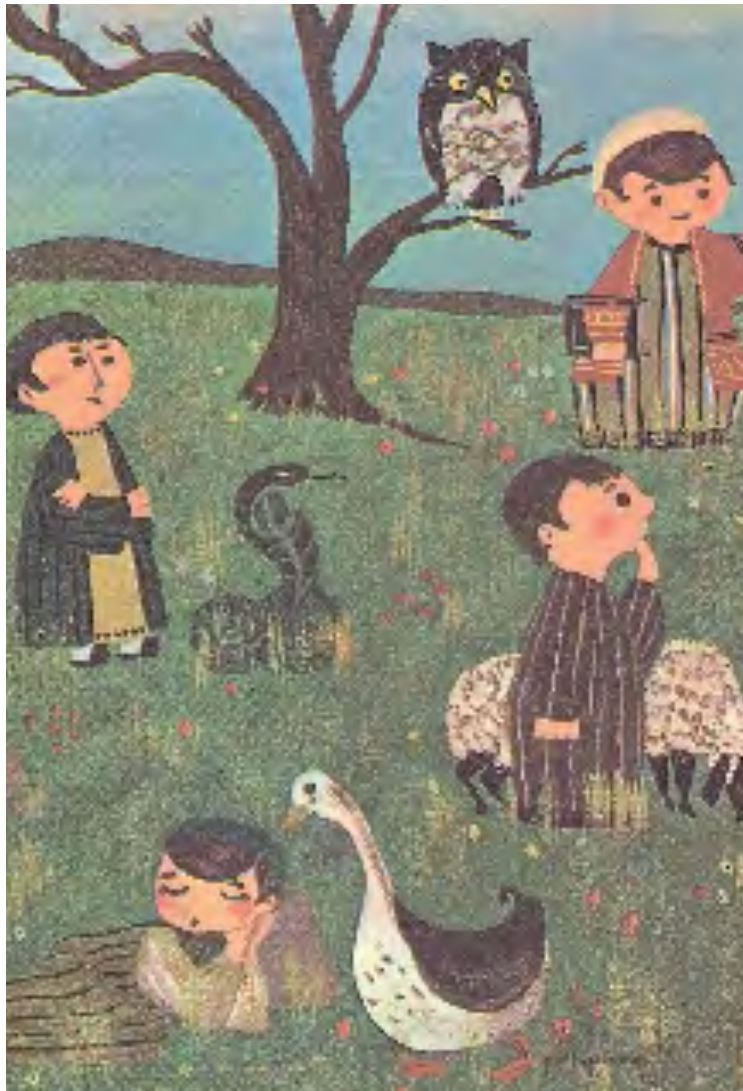
Each child's question appears on his card, and the Haggadah's answer appears below the card. The gold object in each picture denotes the suit of the card. The staves, swords, cups and coins used in Southern Europe developed parallel to the more familiar hearts, diamonds, clubs and spades of Northern Europe. The figures are likewise taken from archaic systems of playing cards which included king, knight, page, and joker or fool. The king image here represents the wise child wearing the crown of Torah. The knight represents the wicked child. In almost all old Haggadot the wicked child is shown as a soldier, sometimes mounted, sometimes on foot. The page is the simple child, and the joker or fool is the child who is not even capable of asking.



Four Attitudes to the Zionist Dream



Tzvi Livni, Israel, 1955 © Yavneh Publishers



Four Personalities

Paul Freeman, U.S.A., 1960



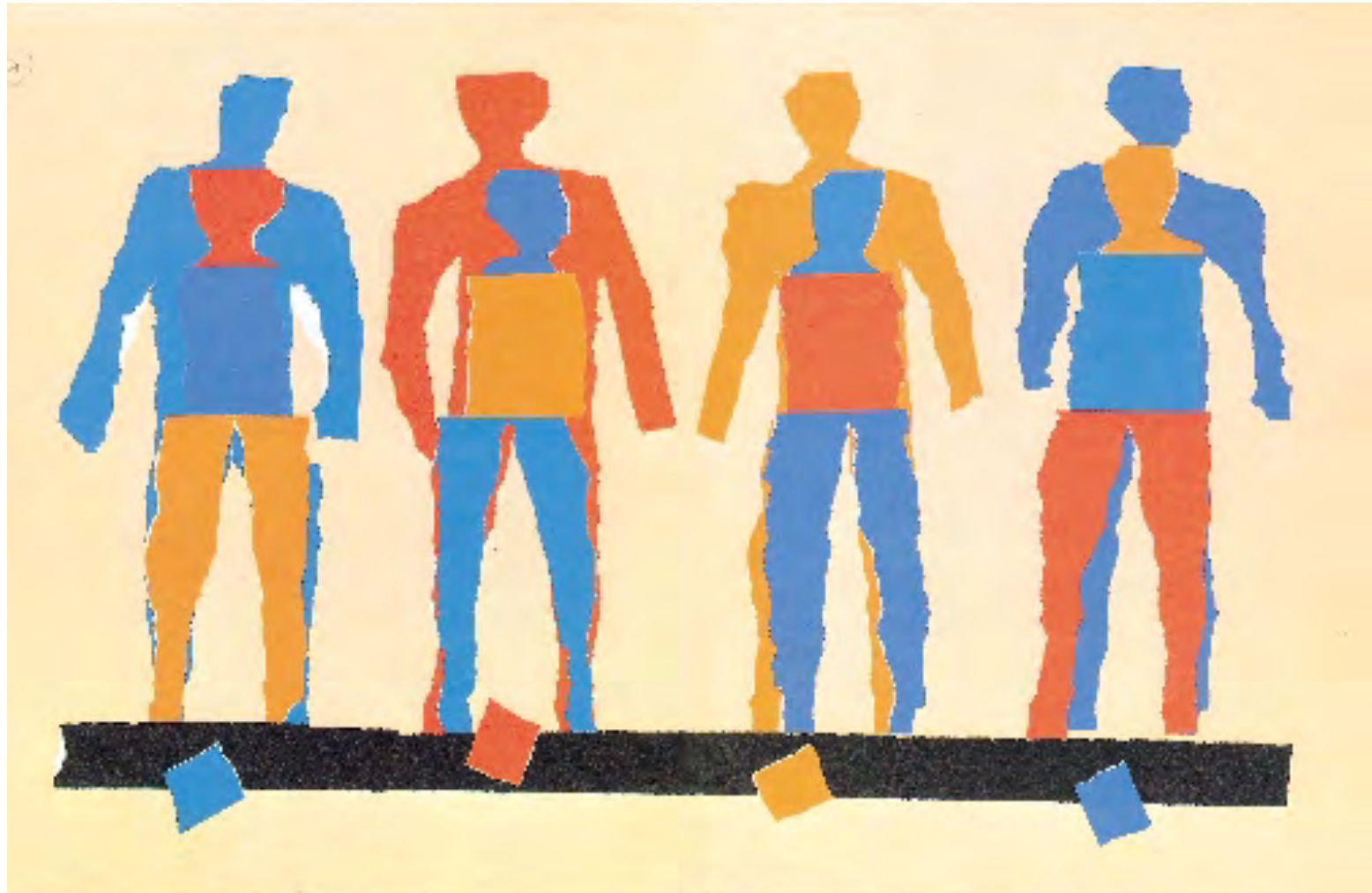
Clashing Cultures

Siegmund Forst, Europe and U.S.A., 1959



Four Children, Four Musicians

Shraga Weil, (CL 1963 Cat. S-3) © Safrai Gallery



Four Aspects in Each of Us

Dan Reisinger, © 1982, Rabbinical Assembly of America



The Four Children as Four Books

David Wander, The Haggadah in Memory of the Holocaust © 1988



Clay Children

Rony Oren, Animated Haggadah, Israel, © 1985 Jonathan Lubell, Scopus Films



Nota Koslowsky, U.S.A, 1944



Lola, U.S.A, 1920



Jakob Steinhardt, Germany, 1923



Dick Codor © 1981

Rav's Pesach Story

From Serving Idols to Spiritual Liberation

מתחלה עובדי עבודה זרה

1. The Haggadah offers two versions of the Exodus story. The Talmudic Rabbi, **Shmuel**, emphasized political enslavement (“We were slaves in Egypt”). Now we turn to his colleague, Rav, to hear about spiritual servitude.

2. **Rav's version** is drawn from Joshua's farewell speech to the nation of Israel. Joshua feared that the new generation in Israel might assimilate to the local pagan cultures. So he told them the story of Abraham's liberation from idolatry.



Kadesh

Urchatz

Karpas

Yachatz

Maggid

Spiritual
Slavery
and
Keeping
the
Promise

IN THE BEGINNING our ancestors were idol worshippers
But now God has brought us near to serve Adonai.

The leader:

JOSHUA said to all the people: “Thus said Adonai the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors including Terach, father of Abraham and Nachor, lived beyond the Euphrates and worshipped other gods. But I took your father Abraham from beyond the Euphrates and led him through the whole land of Canaan and multiplied his offspring. I gave him Isaac, and to Isaac I gave Jacob and Esau . . . Then Jacob and his children went down to Egypt.”

“Then I sent Moses and Aaron, and brought plagues on Egypt after which I freed you – I freed your ancestors – from Egypt. Now, therefore, serve Adonai with undivided loyalty. . . . Or, if you are loath to serve Adonai, choose this day other gods to serve. But I and my family will serve Adonai.”

All:

IN REPLY, the people declared, “Far be it from us to forsake Adonai and serve other gods! For it was Adonai our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, the house of bondage, and who performed those wondrous signs before our very eyes . . . Now we too will serve Adonai, for Adonai is our God” (*Joshua 24: 1-18*).

מתחלה עובדי עבודה זרה היו אבותינו.
ועכשו קרבנו המקום לעבודתו. שנאמר (יהושע כ"ד):

וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוֹשֻׁעַ אֶל כָּל הָעָם:

כֹּה אָמַר יי אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל,

בְּעֵבֶר הַנְּהָר יָשְׁבוּ אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם מֵעוֹלָם, תָּרַח אָבִי
אֲבִרָהָם וְאָבִי נַחֲוֹר, וַיַּעֲבֹדוּ אֱלֹהִים אֲחֵרִים.
וְאָקַח אֶת אֲבִיכֶם אֶת אֲבִרָהָם מֵעֵבֶר הַנְּהָר,
וְאוֹלַךְ אוֹתוֹ בְּכָל אֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן.

וְאָרְבָּה אֶת זְרַעוֹ, וְאָתַן לוֹ אֶת יִצְחָק.

וְאָתַן לְיִצְחָק אֶת יַעֲקֹב וְאֶת עֵשָׂו.

וְאָתַן לְעֵשָׂו אֶת הַר שְׁעִיר, לְרִשְׁתׁ אוֹתוֹ.

וַיַּעֲקֹב וּבְנָיו יָרְדוּ מִצְרָיִם.”

Jews-by-Choice

Abraham and Sarah were converts who as mature adults made daring spiritual choices. Today many of us are really Jews-by-choice (whether as converts or as born Jews). For we continuously reflect on our life choices and make decisions about how Jewishly to live. Ask several people to share their personal journey as Jews.

Keeping the Promise

בְּרוּךְ שׁוֹמֵר הַבְּטָחָתוֹ

After recalling Abraham’s spiritual journey to God (p. 34) and his **ascent** to Eretz Yisrael, the Haggadah will recount the **descent** of his great grandchildren to Egyptian slavery (“The

Wandering Aramean,” p. 36). But first the Haggadah reassures us, as God did to Abraham, that there is a Divine pledge to Jewish continuity whatever the ups and downs of history.

The leader:

BLESSED is the One who keeps the Promise to Israel. The Holy One Blessed be He calculated the end of our exile and acted just as promised to Abraham our Father at the Covenant between the Pieces (*Genesis 15: 7-17*):

“And God said to Abram: You must know that your seed will be strangers in a land not theirs; the people (of that land) will put them in servitude and afflict them for four hundred years. But as for the nation to which they are in servitude – I will bring judgment on them, and after that (your seed) will go out with great wealth” (*Genesis 15: 13-14*).

בְּרוּךְ שׁוֹמֵר הַבְּטָחָתוֹ לְיִשְׂרָאֵל, בְּרוּךְ הוּא. שְׁהַקְדוּשׁ
בְּרוּךְ הוּא חֲשֵׁב אֶת הַקֶּץ, לַעֲשׂוֹת כְּמָה שֶׁאָמַר לְאַבְרָהָם
אָבִינוּ בְּבְרִית בֵּין הַבְּתָרִים, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (בראשית טו, יג):
”וַיֹּאמֶר לְאַבְרָם יָדַע תֵּדַע, כִּי גֵר יִהְיֶה זְרַעְךָ,
בְּאֶרֶץ לֹא לָהֶם, וְעַבְדוּם וְעָנּוּ אֹתָם אַרְבַּע מֵאוֹת שָׁנָה.
וְגַם אֶת הַגּוֹי אֲשֶׁר יַעֲבֹדוּ דָן אֲנִכִּי.
וְאַחֲרָי כֵן יֵצְאוּ, בְּרִכְשׁ גָּדוֹל.”

E. M. Lilien



Standing Up For Us

וְהִיא שְׁעֵמְדָה

1. Cover the matza, raise your cup and sing together, acknowledging God’s commitment to our survival.

2. Afterwards, set the cup down and uncover the matza for the continuation of Maggid.

THIS PROMISE has stood for our parents and for us in good stead.

For not just one enemy has stood against us to wipe us out.

But in every generation there have been those who have stood against us to wipe us out, Yet the Holy One, Blessed be He, keeps on saving us from their hands.

V’hee she-am-da,
la-a-vo-tei-nu v’la-nu,
she-lo eh-chad beel-vad,
amad alei-nu l’cha-lo-tei-nu
eh-la she-b’chol dor va-dor
om-deem a-lei-nu l’cha-lo-tei-nu,
v’ha-ka-dosh ba-ruch hu
ma-tzee-lei-nu mee-ya-dam.

וְהִיא שְׁעֵמְדָה
לְאַבּוֹתֵינוּ וְלָנוּ.
שֶׁלֹא אֶחָד בְּלָבָד,
עָמַד עָלֵינוּ לְכַלּוֹתֵנוּ.
אֶלֶּא שֶׁבְּכָל דּוֹר וְדוֹר,
עוֹמְדִים עָלֵינוּ לְכַלּוֹתֵנוּ,
וְהַקְּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא
מְצִילֵנוּ מִיָּדָם.

“Arami Oved Avi”

The Wandering Jew

On Seder night we recall that we were once "Wandering Jews," characters in a story of rags to riches, slavery to freedom (Deuteronomy 26).

אַרְמִי אֹבֵד אָבִי

We are urged to discuss these themes in a mini-symposium at the table, as the five rabbis at Bnai Brak once did, even for a whole night long.

The Torah: A Tale of Persecution and Homecoming

Narrator:

When you enter the land that Adonai your God is giving you as an inheritance, and you possess it and settle on it, then you shall take some of every first fruit of the soil. Put it in a basket and go to the place where Adonai your God will choose to establish His Name. You will go before the *cohen* (priest) in charge at that time and say to him:

All:

Today I will tell Adonai our God how I have come to the land Adonai swore to our ancestors to give to us . . .

“MY ANCESTOR was a wandering Aramean. He descended to Egypt and resided there in small numbers. He became a nation – great, powerful and numerous. The Egyptians treated us badly. They persecuted us and put us under hard labor. We cried out to Adonai, the God of our ancestors. God heard our voice. God saw our persecution, our toil and our oppression. God took us out of Egypt with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, with awesome power, signs and wonders. God brought us to this place and gave us this land, a land of milk and honey. Now I have brought the first fruits of this soil, which you, God, gave me” (Deut. 26:1-10).



Prague, 1526

“אַרְמִי אֹבֵד אָבִי, וַיֵּרֵד מִצְרַיִם, וַיֵּגֶר שָׁם
בְּמִתֵּי מְעוֹט. וַיְהִי שָׁם לְגוֹי גָדוֹל, עַצּוֹם וְרַב.
וַיִּרְעוּ אֶתְנוּ הַמִּצְרִים וַיַּעֲנוּנוּ.
וַיִּתְּנוּ עָלֵינוּ עֲבָדָה קָשָׁה.
וַנִּצְעַק אֶל יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ,
וַיִּשְׁמַע יְיָ אֶת קוֹלנוּ, וַיִּרְא אֶת עַנְיֵנוּ,
וְאֶת עֲמַלְנוּ, וְאֶת לַחֲצֵנוּ.
וַיּוֹצֵאֵנוּ יְיָ מִמִּצְרַיִם, בְּיַד חֲזָקָה, וּבְזֵרַע
נְטוּיָה, וּבְמַרְא גָדוֹל וּבְאֹתוֹת וּבְמוֹפְתִים,
וַיְבָאֵנוּ אֶל הַמָּקוֹם הַזֶּה וַיִּתְּנֵלְנוּ אֶת הָאָרֶץ
הַזֹּאת אֶרֶץ זָבַת חֶלֶב וְדָבָשׁ.”



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid

Wandering
Jew

The Classic Rabbinic Midrash on the Exodus

“The Wandering Aramean”

Read and study:

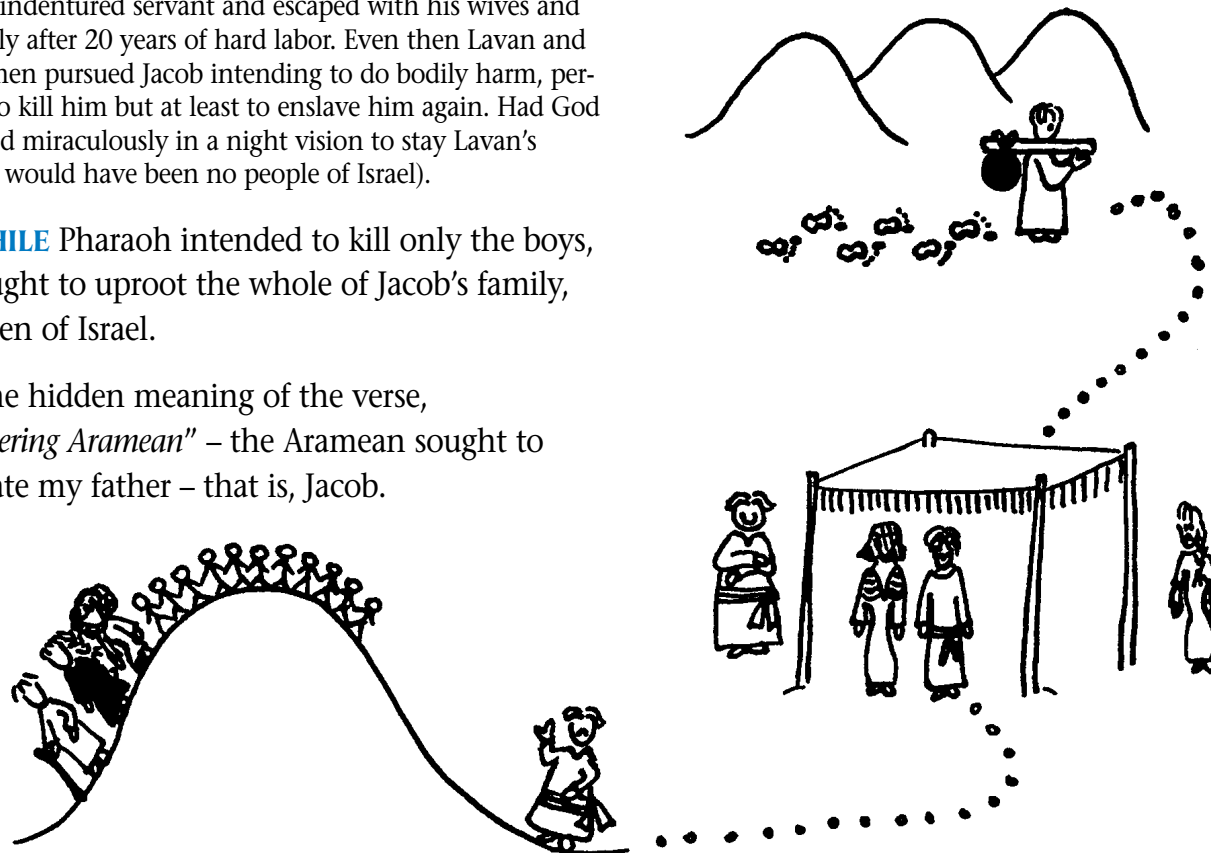
GO AND LEARN what (awful) plans Lavan the Aramean had for Jacob our Father:

(When Jacob migrated to Aram, he intended to stay with his uncle Lavan for only a few months. However, he fell in love with his cousin Rachel and was entrapped by his wily uncle Lavan the Aramean whose epithet also means “the cheat” – *ramai*. Jacob became his indentured servant and escaped with his wives and children only after 20 years of hard labor. Even then Lavan and his armed men pursued Jacob intending to do bodily harm, perhaps even to kill him but at least to enslave him again. Had God not appeared miraculously in a night vision to stay Lavan’s hand, there would have been no people of Israel).

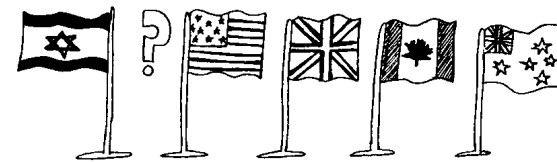
THUS WHILE Pharaoh intended to kill only the boys, Lavan sought to uproot the whole of Jacob’s family, the children of Israel.

THIS IS the hidden meaning of the verse, “the wandering Aramean” – the Aramean sought to exterminate my father – that is, Jacob.

צא וּלְמַד, מה בקש לבן האַרְמִי
לְעִשׂוֹת לִיעֶקֶב אָבִינוּ?
שְׁפָרְעָה לֹא גָזַר אֱלֹא עַל הַזְּכָרִים, וְלִבֵּן בִּקֵּשׁ לְעַקֹּד
אֶת הַכֹּל, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (דברים כז, ה):
”אֲרַמִּי אֲבִד אָבִי.”



Assimilation and Identity



“ISRAEL (JACOB) DESCENDED TO EGYPT, RESIDED THERE IN SMALL NUMBERS, AND BECAME THERE A NATION – GREAT, POWERFUL AND NUMEROUS” (Deut. 26:5).

“אַרְמֵי אֲבֹד אָבִי, וַיֵּרֶד מִצְרַיִם, וַיִּגַּר שָׁם בְּמֵתֵי מַעֲט. וַיְהִי שָׁם לְגוֹי גָּדוֹל, עֲצוּם וְרַב.”

“ISRAEL DESCENDED” compelled by the divine word, to fulfill the prophecy of God to Abraham that *“your descendants will be strangers in a land not their own, where they will be enslaved and persecuted”* (Gen. 14:13).

“וַיֵּרֶד מִצְרַיִם.” אָנוּס עַל פִּי הַדְּבָר.

“ISRAEL RESIDED THERE” (Deut. 26:5) temporarily. Jacob our Father never intended to settle permanently in Egypt. Jacob’s family made that clear from the onset. *“They said to the Pharaoh (who reigned in the days of Joseph): we have come (merely) to **reside** in this land, for there is no pasture for your servants’ sheep. For the famine in the land of Canaan is very heavy. Therefore, please permit your servants to stay in the land of Goshen (within Egypt where grazing is good)”* (Gen. 47:4).

“וַיִּגַּר שָׁם.” מִלְמַד שֶׁלֹּא יֵרֶד יַעֲקֹב אָבִינוּ לְהִשְׁתַּקֵּעַ בְּמִצְרַיִם, אֶלָּא לְגוֹר שָׁם, שְׁנֹאמַר (בראשית מ"ז, ד): **“וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֶל פַּרְעֹה: לְגוֹר בְּאֶרֶץ בְּאֵנוּ, כִּי אֵין מְרֻעָה לְצֹאן אֲשֶׁר לַעֲבָדֶיךָ, כִּי כִבֵּד הָרַעַב בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן. וְעַתָּה, יֵשְׁבוּ נָא עַבְדֶּיךָ בְּאֶרֶץ גֹּשֶׁן.”**

“IN SMALL NUMBERS” (Deut. 26:5) Jacob arrived in Egypt. Moshe reminds us that: *“with only seventy persons, your ancestors descended to Egypt. Yet now Adonai your God has made you as numerous as the stars of the sky”* (Deut.10:22).

“בְּמֵתֵי מַעֲט.” כְּמָה שְׁנֹאמַר (דברים י, כב): **“בְּשִׁבְעִים נֶפֶשׁ, יָרְדוּ אֲבוֹתֶיךָ מִצְרַיִם. וְעַתָּה, שְׂמֶךָ יְיָ אֱלֹהֶיךָ, כְּכֹכְבֵי הַשָּׁמַיִם לְרַב.”**

“THERE ISRAEL BECAME A NATION” (Deut.26:5) – recognizable, distinctive, standing out from the others.

“וַיְהִי שָׁם לְגוֹי.” מִלְמַד שֶׁהָיוּ יִשְׂרָאֵל מְצִינִים שָׁם.



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid

Symposium:
Assimilation,
Antisemitism

Antisemitism and Prejudice

“A NATION – GREAT AND POWERFUL” (Deut 26:5) emerged at an incredible pace. *“The children of Israel were fruitful and swarmed, they multiplied and became very, very powerful. The whole land was filled with them”* (Exodus 1:7).

“A NUMEROUS NATION” (Deut 26:5) also means “full-grown” (*rav*). The prophet captures God’s nurturing of Israel in Egypt with graphic imagery. *“I let you grow like the plants of the field. You continued to grow up until you attained womanhood, until your breasts became firm, and your hair flourished. Yet you were still naked (spiritually)”* (Ezekiel 16:7).

“THE EGYPTIANS TREATED US BADLY, THEY PERSECUTED US AND IMPOSED HARD LABOR ON US” (Deut 26:6).

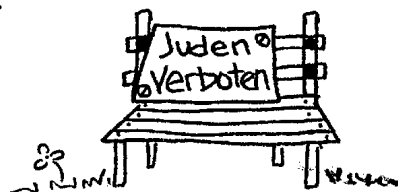
“THE EGYPTIANS TREATED US BADLY” (Deut 26:6), means they “bad-mouthed” our loyalty. Pharaoh set the ominous tone in speaking to his people: *“Let us outsmart them so that they may not increase. Otherwise, in the event of war, they will join our enemies, fight against us and expel us from the land”* (Exodus 1:10).

Prejudice and I

Recount a story in which you were involved in unjust discrimination whether as a victim, a witness or a perpetrator. How do these examples compare to Egyptian persecution of strangers?

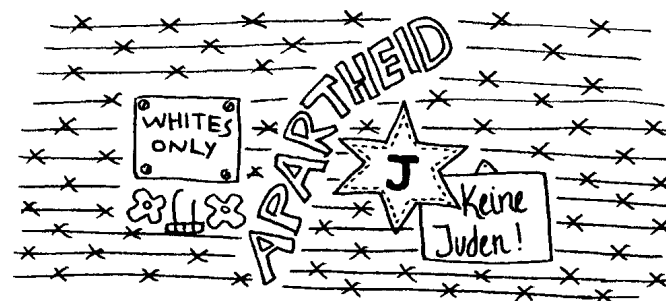
“גָּדוֹל עָצוּם.” כְּמָה שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (שמות א, ז): “וַיִּבְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, פָּרוּ וַיִּשְׂרְצוּ, וַיִּרְבוּ וַיַּעֲצְמוּ, בְּמֵאֵד מְאֹד, וַתִּמְלֵא הָאָרֶץ אֹתָם.”

“וְרַב.” כְּמָה שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (יחזקאל טז, ז): “רַבְּבָה כְּצֶמַח הַשָּׂדֶה נִתְתִּיקָה, וַתִּגְדְּלִי, וַתִּבְאֵי בְעֵדֵי עֲדָיִים. שָׁדִים נִכְנּוּ, וַשְּׁעָרַי צִמְחוּ, וְאֶת עֵרֹם וְעֶרְיָה.”



“וַיִּרְעוּ אֹתָנוּ הַמִּצְרַיִם וַיַּעֲנוּנוּ. וַיִּתְּנוּ עָלֵינוּ עֲבָדָה קָשָׁה.”

“וַיִּרְעוּ אֹתָנוּ הַמִּצְרַיִם.” כְּמָה שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (שמות א, י): “הִבֵּה נִתְחַכְמָה לוֹ, פֶּן יִרְבֶּה, וְהָיָה כִּי תִקְרָאנָה מִלְחָמָה, וְנוֹסֶף גַּם הוּא עַל שְׂנְאֵינוּ, וְנִלְחַם בָּנוּ וְעָלָה מִן הָאָרֶץ.”



Ancient Egyptian Oppression



“THEY PERSECUTED US” (Deut. 26:6). *“They put task masters over Israel to conscript their labor in order to persecute them with their burdens. They built for Pharaoh the garrison cities of Pitom (House of the god Atum) and Ra-meses (Domain of the Son of the Sun god)”* (Exodus 1:11).

“וַיַּעֲנוּנוּ.” כִּמְהָ שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (שמות א, יא): **“וַיִּשְׁיִמוּ עָלָיו שְׂרֵי מִסִּים, לְמַעַן עֲנֹתוֹ בְּסִבְלָתָם. וַיִּבְנוּ עָרֵי מִסְכְּנוֹת לַפְּרֵעָה, אֶת פְּתָם וְאֶת רַעַמְסֵס.”**

“THEY IMPOSED HARD LABOR ON US” (Deut. 26:6). *“The Egyptians worked the children of Israel harshly (be-farech)”* (Exodus 1:13), degrading us with back-breaking and spirit-crushing labor.

“וַיִּתְּנוּ עָלֵינוּ עֲבֹדָה קָשָׁה.” כִּמְהָ שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (שמות א, יג): **“וַיַּעֲבֹדוּ מִצְרַיִם אֶת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּפָרָה.”**



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid

Symposium:
Oppression,
Resistance

Midrash: Filling in the Gaps

WHILE THE BIBLE is short on concrete details, the Rabbinic midrash imaginatively reconstructs the daily pain and indignity of slavery from the hints in the text.

1. Why does the Torah use the rare term **“be-farech”** to describe the Egyptian harsh labor?

Rabbi Elazar explained: Don’t read *“be-farech”* – “with harshness” but *“be-fe-rach”* – “with soft speech,” with a silvery tongue. Pharaoh had already declared that the Egyptians must “out-smart” Israel. So he gathered all the children of Israel and gave them this “pitch:” “Please do me a favor today and give me a hand.” Pharaoh took up a rake and a basket and began to make

mud bricks. Everyone who saw him did likewise. Israel worked with him enthusiastically all day. When it grew dark, Pharaoh appointed task masters over them to count up their bricks. “That,” he announced, “will be your daily quota!” (Tanhuma Buber, BeHaalotcha).

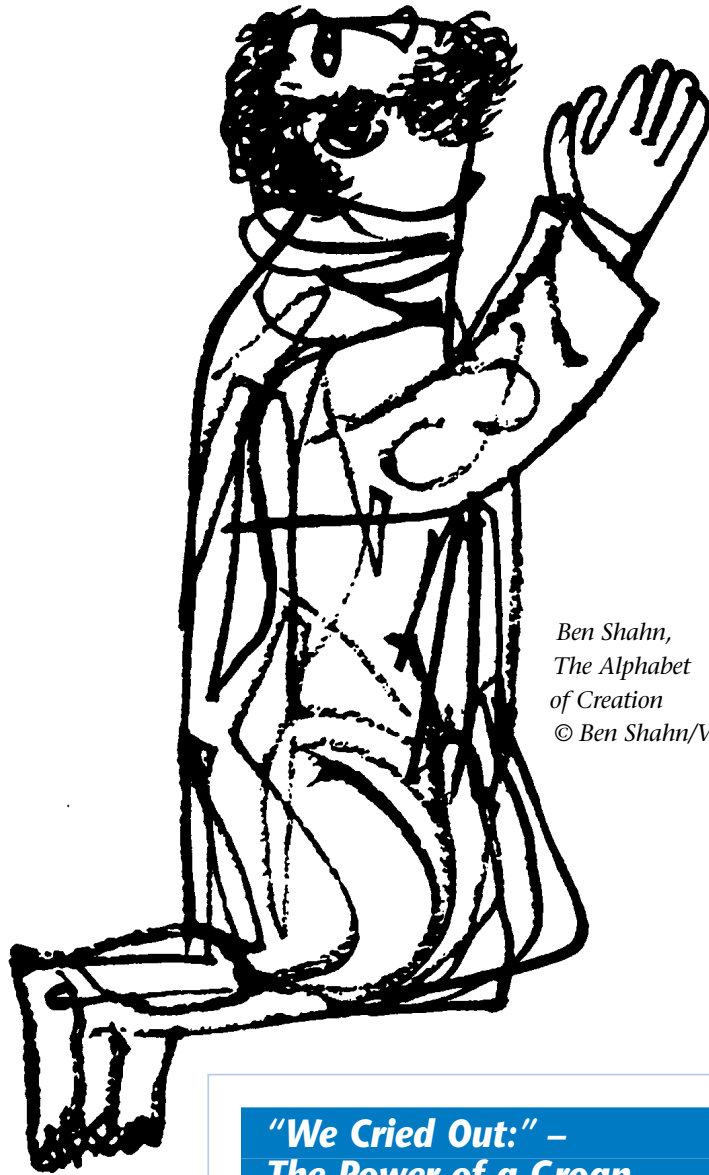
2. What does the Torah mean when it says, “Moshe went out to his kinsfolk and saw their burdens” (Ex. 2:11)?

Moshe saw a big burden on an old

person and a small one on a young healthy person, a woman’s task assigned to a man and a man’s task assigned to a woman. He began to cry and say, “Oy! I feel so bad for them. I would give my life for them.” So he would leave his royal retinue and go join his brothers and sisters. While pretending to be executing Pharaoh’s orders, he rearranged the burdens, helping each and every slave.



Egyptian slaves making mud bricks mixed with straw and water, dried in wooden frames. Tomb of Rekhmire, 18th Century. B.C.E.



Ben Shahn,
The Alphabet
of Creation
© Ben Shahn/VAGA, NY

Resignation to Resistance

“וּנְצַעַק אֶל יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, וַיִּשְׁמַע יְיָ אֶת קִלְנוֹ,
וַיֵּרָא אֶת עֲנִינוֹ, וְאֶת עֲמַלְנוֹ, וְאֶת לַחֲצֵנוֹ.”

“וּנְצַעַק אֶל יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ.” כְּמָה שְׁנֹאמֵר (שמות ב, כג):
“וַיְהִי בִימֵי הָרַבִּים הָהֵם, וַיָּמַת מֶלֶךְ מִצְרַיִם,
וַיֹּאנְחוּ בְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל מִן הָעֲבָדָה וַיִּזְעֻקוּ.
וַתַּעַל שׁוֹעַתָם אֶל הָאֱלֹהִים מִן הָעֲבָדָה.”

“וַיִּשְׁמַע יְיָ אֶת קִלְנוֹ.” כְּמָה שְׁנֹאמֵר (שמות ב, כד):
“וַיִּשְׁמַע אֱלֹהִים אֶת נַאֲקָתָם, וַיִּזְכֹּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת בְּרִיתוֹ,
אֶת אַבְרָהָם, אֶת יִצְחָק, וְאֶת יַעֲקֹב.”

“WE CRIED OUT TO ADONAI, THE GOD OF OUR FATHERS, GOD HEARD OUR VOICE, HE SAW OUR PERSECUTION, OUR TOIL, AND OUR OPPRESSION”
(Deut. 26:7).

“WE CRIED OUT TO ADONAI” (Deut. 26:7). This was the turning point. “After many, many days, the king of Egypt died. The children of Israel groaned from under the labor and cried out in protest. Their cry for help rose up to God from their labor” (Ex. 2:23).

“GOD HEARD OUR VOICE” (Deut. 26:7).

Just as it says in Exodus : “God HEARD their moans and God remembered the Divine covenant with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob” (Exodus 2:24).

“We Cried Out:” – The Power of a Groan

THE HASSIDIC Rebbe of Gur says:
The sigh, the groan and the crying out of the children of Israel from the slavery was the beginning of redemption. As long as they did not cry out against their exile they were neither worthy nor ready for redemption (Menachem HaCohen).

Sexuality and Liberation

“GOD SAW OUR PERSECUTION” (Deut 26:7). The root *“oni”* (persecution) is similar to *“ona”* (marital intimacy), thus hinting at Pharaoh’s policy of enforced abstention from *“ona”* (sexual intercourse). Perhaps that is delicately intimated when it says (Ex. 2:25) that: *“God saw the children of Israel, and God knew”* (their marital suffering, for knowledge has sexual overtones as in *“Adam knew his wife Eve”* [Gen. 4:1]).

“OUR TOIL” (Deut. 26:7) refers to the sons – the lost fruits of our “labor” who were drowned in Egypt. Pharaoh proclaimed: *“Every son who is born shall be cast into the Nile, while every daughter shall live”*

(Ex. 1:22).

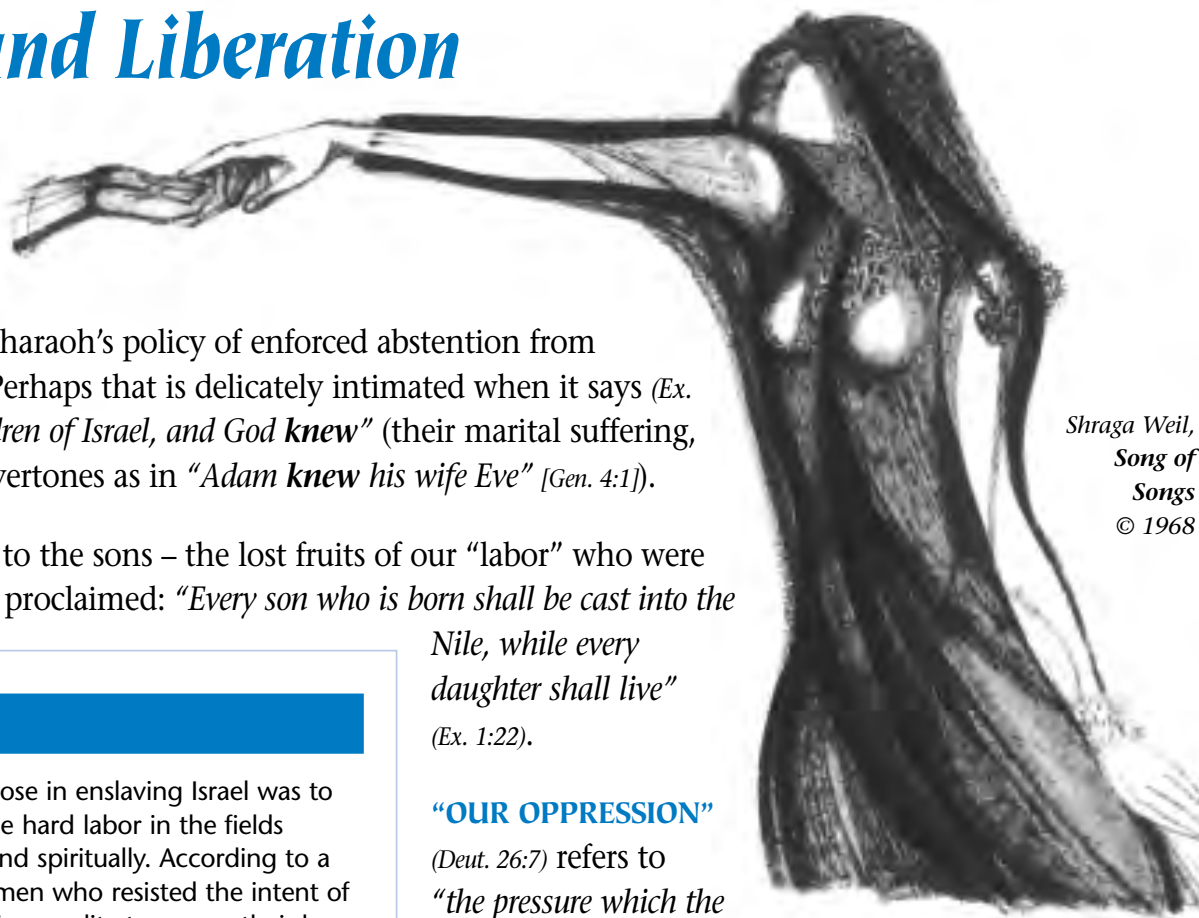
“OUR OPPRESSION”

(Deut. 26:7) refers to *“the pressure which the Egyptians applied to them”* (Ex. 3:9).

“וַיִּרְא אֶת עֲנִינּוֹ.” זוֹ פְּרִישׁוֹת דָּרְךְ אָרֶץ. כָּמָה שְׁנֵאָמֵר (שמות ב, כה): **“וַיִּרְא אֱלֹהִים אֶת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל. וַיַּדַּע אֱלֹהִים.”**

“וְאֵת עַמְלָנוֹ.” אֵלּוֹ הַבְּנִיִּים. כָּמָה שְׁנֵאָמֵר (שמות א, כב): **“כָּל הַבֶּן הַיְלֹוֹד הַיְאָרָה תִּשְׁלִיכֶהוּ, וְכָל הַבַּת תַּחְיֶינָה.”**

“וְאֵת לַחְצֵנוֹ.” זֶה הַדְּחָק. כָּמָה שְׁנֵאָמֵר (שמות ג, ט): **“וְגַם רְאִיתִי אֶת הַלַּחֲץ, אֲשֶׁר מִצְרַיִם לֹחֲצִים אֹתָם.”**



Shraga Weil,
Song of
Songs
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Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz

Maggid

Symposium:
Sexual
Liberation
Ten
Plagues

Women’s Resistance

THE EGYPTIANS’ expressed purpose in enslaving Israel was to drastically cut their birth rate. The hard labor in the fields exhausted the slaves physically and spiritually. According to a Rabbinic midrash, it was the women who resisted the intent of Pharaoh’s decree. They used their sexuality to arouse their husbands, and so re-ignite the fundamental will to life:

When Israel performed hard labor in Egypt, Pharaoh decreed that the men must not sleep in their homes, so that they would not engage in sexual relations. R. Shimon bar Halaftha said: What did the daughters of Israel do? They went down to draw water from the Nile and God would bring little fish into their jars. They cooked some of the fish and sold the rest, buying wine with the proceeds. Then they went out to the fields and fed their husbands. After eating and drinking, the women would take out bronze mirrors and look at them with their husbands. The wife would say “I’m prettier than you,” and the husband would reply, “I’m more beautiful than you.” Thus they would arouse themselves to desire and they would then “be fruitful and multiply.”

The Ten Plagues

God's Strong Hand, His Outstretched Arm, and His Little Finger

1. **The main ceremony** of removing ten drops of wine for the Ten Plagues is on page 46. (Some may wish to skip directly to that climax of the lengthy Rabbinic discussion of the Ten Plagues).

2. **The Rabbis** debated about the Ten Plagues:

On the one hand, they were a necessary instrument of liberation and a just punishment for Egyptian cruelty. Yet, on the other, they involved the suffering of fellow human beings. "We celebrate the Exodus from Egypt, not the downfall of the Egyptians." (Rabbi Simcha Cohen)

"GOD TOOK US OUT OF EGYPT WITH A STRONG HAND, AND AN OUTSTRETCHED ARM, WITH AWESOME POWER, SIGNS AND WONDERS" (Deut. 26:8).

"GOD TOOK US OUT" (Deut. 26:8) –

Not by the hands of an angel, . . .

Not by the hands of a messenger,

But the Holy One Blessed Be He Himself in His own Glory.

Just as it says, "I will pass through the land of Egypt, and I will strike down every first born in Egypt, both human and beast, I will execute judgment on all the gods of Egypt, I am God" (Ex. 12:12).

"WITH A STRONG HAND" refers to an epidemic of animal disease (*dever*) – the fifth plague. "The **hand** of Adonai will strike your livestock in the fields – the horses, the donkeys, the camels, the cattle, and the sheep – with a very severe disease" (Ex. 9:3).

"וַיֹּצֵאֵנוּ יְיָ מִמִּצְרַיִם, בְּיַד חֲזָקָה, וּבְזֵרַע נְטוּיָה, וּבְמַרְאֵ גָדוֹל וּבְאֵתוֹת וּבְמוֹפְתִים."

"וַיֹּצֵאֵנוּ יְיָ מִמִּצְרַיִם." לא על ידי מלאך, ולא על ידי שָׂרָף, ולא על ידי שְׁלִיחַ, אֲלֵא הַקָּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא בְּכַבּוּדוֹ וּבְעֶצְמוֹ. שְׁנֵאמַר (שמות יב, יב):
 "וְעִבְרָתִי בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם בְּלִילָה הַזֶּה, וְהִכִּיתִי כָל בְּכוֹר בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם, מֵאָדָם וְעַד בְּהֵמָה, וּבְכָל אֱלֹהֵי מִצְרַיִם אֶעֱשֶׂה שְׁפָטִים, אֲנִי יְיָ."

"וְעִבְרָתִי בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם בְּלִילָה הַזֶּה" – אֲנִי וְלֹא מְלָאךְ. "וְהִכִּיתִי כָל בְּכוֹר בְּאֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם" – אֲנִי וְלֹא שָׂרָף. "וּבְכָל אֱלֹהֵי מִצְרַיִם אֶעֱשֶׂה שְׁפָטִים" – אֲנִי וְלֹא הַשְּׁלִיחַ. "אֲנִי יְיָ" – אֲנִי הוּא וְלֹא אֲחֵר.

"בְּיַד חֲזָקָה." זוֹ הַדְּבָר. כִּמָּה שְׁנֵאמַר (שמות ט, ג):
 "הִנֵּה יַד יְיָ הוֹיָה, בְּמִקְנֶה אֲשֶׁר בַּשָּׂדֶה,
 בַּסּוּסִים בַּחֲמֹרִים בַּגְּמֵלִים, בַּבָּקָר וּבַצֹּאן,
 דָּבַר כָּבֵד מְאֹד."

An Outstretched Arm

According to an Afghani Jewish custom, the leader of the Seder raises the bone (**zeroa**) from the seder plate as a symbol of God's outstretched arm (**zeroa**).



וּבְזָרַע נְטוּיָה

“WITH AN OUTSTRETCHED ARM” (*zeroa*) – refers to God's sword (as a metaphor for the plague of the first born) just as it does elsewhere: *“David woke up and saw the angel of Adonai standing between heaven and earth, with a drawn sword in his hand, outstretched against Jerusalem”* (I Chronicles 21:16).

Abraham Lincoln

“If every drop of blood drawn by the lash must be paid by one drawn by the sword, still must it be said, ‘The judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.’”
(Psalm. 19; Second Inaugural Address, 1865).

“WITH AWESOME POWER” refers to the revelation of God's power to our very eyes. That is just what Moshe tells Israel: *“Did a God ever before attempt to come and extract one nation for himself from the midst of another nation by prodigious acts, by signs and wonders, by war, by a strong hand, an outstretched arm and awesome power, as Adonai your God did for you in Egypt before your very eyes?”* (Deut. 4:34).

“WITH SIGNS” refers to the staff, as God told Moshe: *“Take the staff in your hand to do signs with it”* (Ex. 4:17).

“וּבְזָרַע נְטוּיָה.” זו הַחֶרֶב. כְּמָה שְׁנֹאֲמֵר (שמות כא, טז):
“וַחֲרָבוּ שְׁלוֹפָה בַּיָּדוֹ, נְטוּיָה עַל יְרוּשָׁלַיִם.”



The Tenth Plague

by Leon Baxter

“וּבְמוֹרָא גְדוֹל.” זֶה גְלוּי שְׂכִינָה. כְּמָה שְׁנֹאֲמֵר
(דברים ז, יז): **“אוּ הַנִּסֵּה אֱלֹהִים, לְבוֹא לִקְחַת לוֹ גוֹי
מִקְרֵב גוֹי, בְּמַסַּת בְּאֵתוֹת וּבְמוֹפְתִים וּבְמִלְחָמָה,
וּבַיָּד חֲזָקָה וּבְזָרוּעַ נְטוּיָה, וּבְמוֹרָאִים גְּדוֹלִים.
כֹּל אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה לָכֶם יְיָ אֱלֹהֵיכֶם בְּמִצְרַיִם, לְעֵינֶיךָ.”**

“וּבְאֵתוֹת.” זֶה הַמַּטֵּה, כְּמָה שְׁנֹאֲמֵר (שמות ד, יז): **“וְאֵת
הַמַּטֵּה הַזֶּה תִּקַּח בְּיָדְךָ, אֲשֶׁר תַּעֲשֶׂה בוֹ אֵת הָאֵתוֹת.”**



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Yachatz
Maggid

Ten
Plagues

God's Finger and the Sixteen Drops

אֶצְבַּע אֱלֹהִים

It is a medieval custom to dip one's finger in the Seder's second cup of wine and to remove sixteen drops of wine. As each plague is recited we decrease our own joy, drop by drop, as we recall the enemy's pain. Besides the **ten plagues**, the

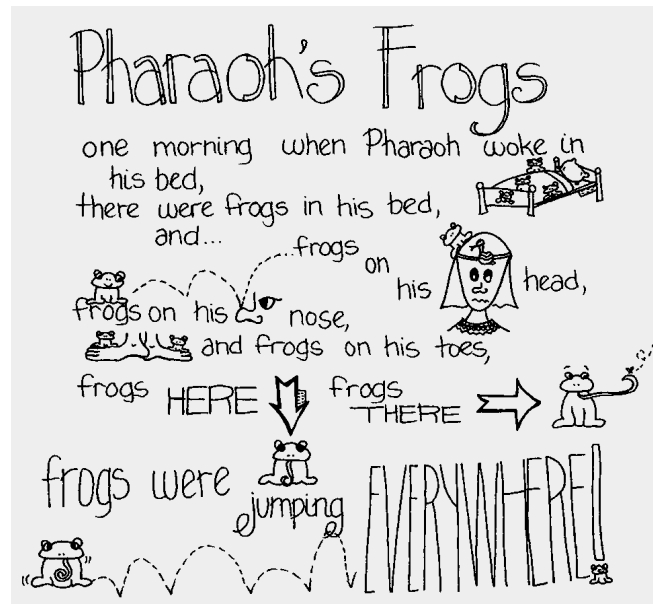
extra six drops correspond to the three prophetic plagues mentioned by the prophet Joel – **blood, fire and smoke** – and the three word abbreviation of the ten plagues invented by Rabbi Yehuda – **d'tzach, adash, b'achab**.

"WITH WONDERS" refers to the plagues of blood, fire and smoke that are recalled by the prophet Joel:

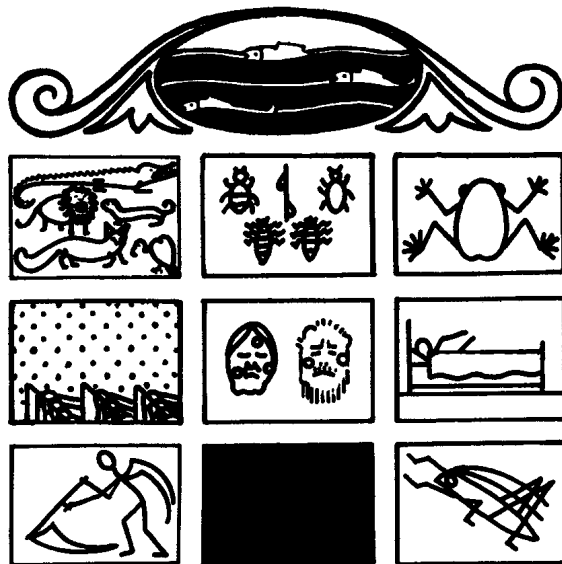
"Before the great and terrible day of Adonai comes, I will set wonders in the sky and on earth . . . **blood, fire, pillars of smoke!** *Da-am* (drop of wine) *va-eish* (drop) *v'teemrot ashan* (drop)! The sun shall turn to darkness and the moon into blood" (Joel 3:3).

"וּבְמוֹפְתֵימָּ." זֶה הַדָּם. כְּמָה שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (יואל ג, ג):
"וְנִתְּתִי מוֹפְתִים,
בְּשָׁמַיִם וּבָאָרֶץ:

דָּם.
וְאֵשׁ.
"וְתִמְרוֹת עֶשֶׂן."



דָּבָר אַחֵר.
"בְּיַד חֲזָקָה" שְׁתִּים.
"וּבְזֶרַע נְטוּיָה" שְׁתִּים.
"וּבְמִוְרָא גְדוֹל" שְׁתִּים.
"וּבְאֵתוֹת" שְׁתִּים.
"וּבְמוֹפְתֵימָּ" שְׁתִּים.



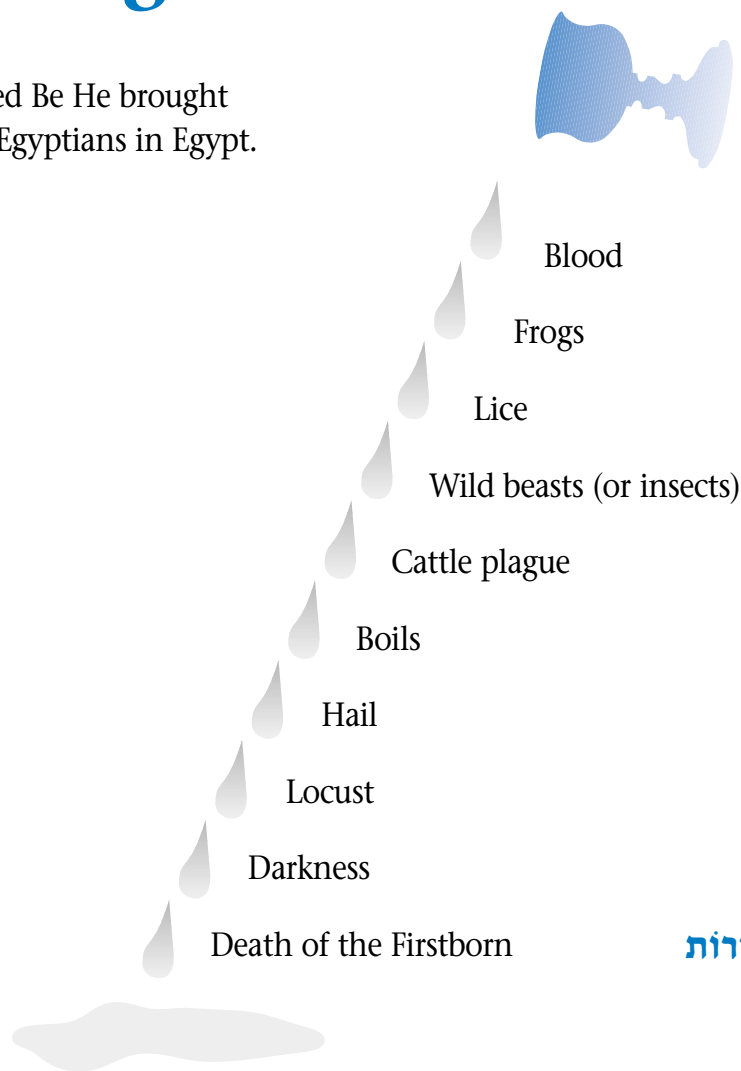
Otto Geismar, 1927

Recount the Plagues

Recount the plagues that have struck this year and for each remove a drop of wine from one's cup of joy. Some families recount ecological, economic or political plagues at this point.

The Ten Plagues

The Holy One Blessed Be He brought **ten plagues** on the Egyptians in Egypt. These are the ten:



עֶשֶׂר מַכּוֹת

אֱלֹהֵינוּ בְּרַחֲמָיו
הִקְדִּישׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא עַל
הַמַּצְרִים בְּמַצְרַיִם, וְאֵלֵינוּ הַיּוֹם:



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Ten
Plagues

Rabbi Yehuda used to abbreviate them as an acrostic :

D-Tza-Kh (*drop*)

(*Da-am/Tzefar-dei-ah/Kee-neem*)

A-Da-Sh (*drop*)

(*Ah-rov/Deh-ver/Sh'cheen*)

B'-A-Cha-B (*drop*)

(*Ba-rad/Ar-beh/Cho-shech/Makat B'chorot*)

רַבִּי יְהוּדָה הָיָה נוֹתֵן בָּהֶם סְמָנִים:

דְּצ"ךְ

עַד"שׁ

בְּאַח"ב.

250 מכות



רבי יוסי הגלילי אומר: מנין אתה אומר, שלקו המצרים במצרים עשר מכות, ועל הים, לקו חמשים מכות?

במצרים מה הוא אומר: "ויאמרו החרטום אל פרעה, אצבע אלהים הוא" (שמות ת, טז).

ועל הים מה הוא אומר? "וירא ישראל את היד הגדלה, אשר עשה יי במצרים, ויראו העם את יי. ויאמינו ביי, ובמשה עבדו" (שמות יד, לא). כמה לקו באצבע – עשר מכות. אמור מעתה, במצרים לקו עשר מכות, ועל הים, לקו חמשים מכות.

רבי אליעזר אומר: מנין שכל מכה ומכה, שהביא הקדוש ברוך הוא על המצרים במצרים, היתה של ארבע מכות?

שנאמר (תהלים עח, מט): "ישלח בם חרון אפו, עברה וזעם וצרה. משלחת מלאכי רעים." עברה אחת. וזעם שתיים. וצרה שלש. משלחת מלאכי רעים ארבע. אמור מעתה, במצרים לקו ארבעים מכות, ועל הים לקו מאתיים מכות.

רבי עקיבא אומר: מנין שכל מכה ומכה, שהביא הקדוש ברוך הוא על המצרים במצרים, היתה של חמש מכות?

שנאמר: "ישלח בם חרון אפו, עברה וזעם וצרה. משלחת מלאכי רעים." חרון אפו אחת. עברה שתיים. וזעם שלש. וצרה ארבע. משלחת מלאכי רעים חמש. אמור מעתה, במצרים לקו חמשים מכות, ועל הים לקו חמשים ומאתים מכות.

"Let My People Go" An African-American Spiritual

When Israel was in Egypt's land,
"Let My people go" (Ex. 5:1).
Oppressed so hard they could not stand,
"Let My people go."

Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
Tell old Pharaoh: "Let My people go."

Thus said the Lord, bold Moses said,
"Let My people go."
If not, I'll smite your first-born dead,
"Let My people go."

Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
Tell old Pharaoh: "Let My people go."

No more shall they in bondage toil,
"Let My people go."
Let them come out with Egypt's spoil,
"Let My people go."

Go down, Moses,
way down in Egypt's land,
Tell old Pharaoh: "Let My people go."

Dayeinu

“It Would Have Been Enough”

דיינו

Dayeinu commemorates a long list of miraculous things God did for us, any one of which would have been pretty amazing just by itself. For example, “Had God only taken us out of

Egypt but not punished the Egyptians – it would have been enough.” **Dayeinu**, translated liberally, means, “Thank you, God, for overdoing it.” (See the English on page 51).



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Dayeinu



Ee-lu ho-tzee-anu mee-Meetz-ra-yeem,
v'lo asa va-hem sh'fa-teem,

Da-yeinu

Ee-lu asa va-hem sh'fa-teem,
v'lo asa vei-lo-hei-hem,

Da-yeinu

Ee-lu asa vei-lo-hei-hem,
v'lo ha-rag et b'cho-rei-hem,

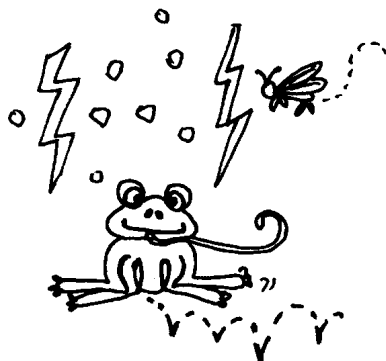
Da-yeinu

Ee-lu ha-rag et b'cho-rei-hem,
v'lo natan la-nu et ma-mo-nam,

Da-yeinu

Ee-lu natan la-nu et ma-mo-nam,
v'lo kara la-nu et ha-yam,

Da-yeinu



דיינו!

דיינו!

דיינו!

דיינו!

דיינו!

פְּמָה מַעֲלוֹת טוֹבוֹת לְמָקוֹם עֲלֵינוּ:

אֱלֹ- הוֹצִיאָנוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם,
וְלֹא עָשָׂה בָּהֶם שְׁפָטִים,

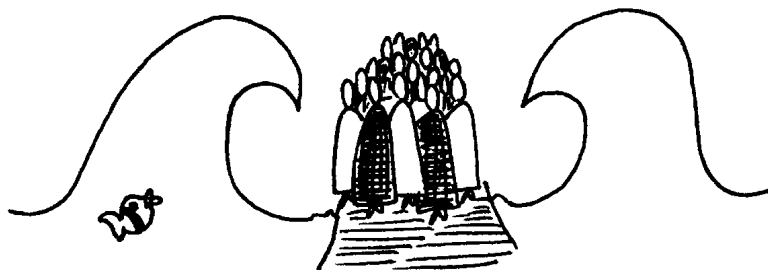
אֱלֹ- עָשָׂה בָּהֶם שְׁפָטִים,
וְלֹא עָשָׂה בְּאֱלֹהֵיהֶם,

אֱלֹ- עָשָׂה בְּאֱלֹהֵיהֶם,
וְלֹא הָרַג אֶת בְּכוֹרֵיהֶם,

אֱלֹ- הָרַג אֶת בְּכוֹרֵיהֶם,
וְלֹא נָתַן לָנוּ אֶת מַמּוֹנָם,

אֱלֹ- נָתַן לָנוּ אֶת מַמּוֹנָם,
וְלֹא קָרַע לָנוּ אֶת הַיָּם,





אלו קרע לנו את היים,
ולא העבירונו בתוכו בחרבה,
דינו!

אלו העבירונו בתוכו בחרבה,
ולא שקע צרינו בתוכו,
דינו!

אלו שקע צרינו בתוכו,
ולא ספק צרפנו במדבר ארבעים שנה,
דינו!

אלו ספק צרפנו במדבר ארבעים שנה,
ולא האכילנו את המן,
דינו!

אלו האכילנו את המן,
ולא נתן לנו את השבת,
דינו!



Ee-lu ka-ra la-nu et ha-yam,
v'lo he-eh-vee-ra-nu
v'to-cho beh-cha-ra-va,

Da-yeinu

Ee-lu he-eh-vee-ra-nu
b'to-cho beh-cha-ra-va,
v'lo shee-ka et tza-rei-nu b'to-cho,

Da-yeinu

Ee-lu shee-ka et tza-rei-nu b'to-cho,
v'lo see-peik tzor-kei-nu ba-meed-bar
ar-ba-eem shana,

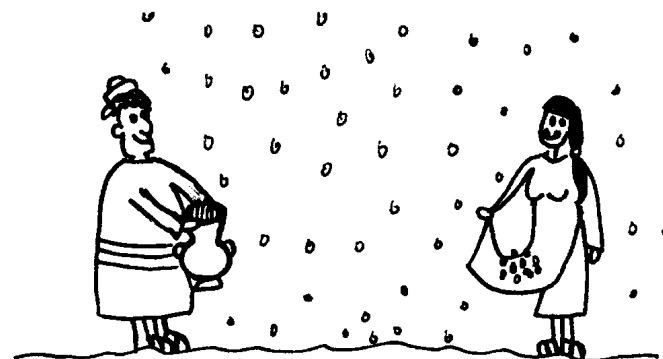
Da-yeinu

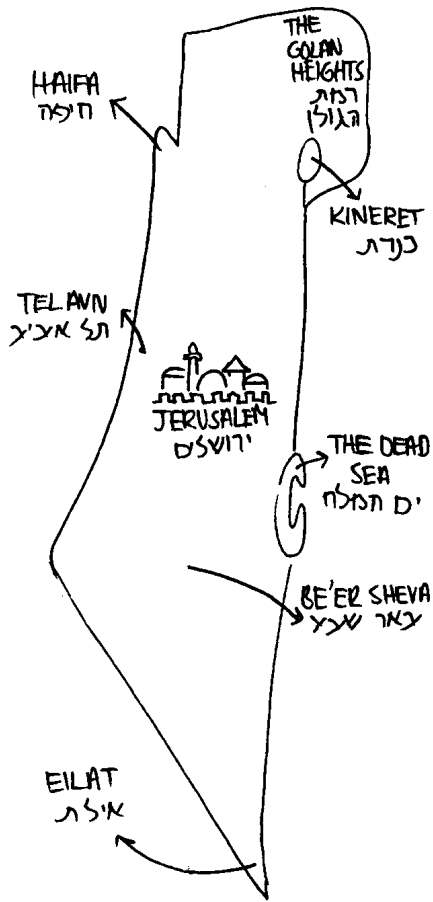
Ee-lu see-peik tzor-kei-nu ba-meed-bar
ar-ba-eem sha-na,
v'lo he-eh-chee-la-nu et ha-man,

Da-yeinu

Ee-lu he-eh-chee-la-nu et ha-man,
v'lo na-tan la-nu et ha-Shabbat

Da-yeinu





The Afghani Onion Free-for-All

If things at your Seder are slowing down and people seem drowsy, try the Afghani custom of distributing green onions.

Beginning with the ninth stanza, "Even if You had supplied our needs in the desert for 40 years, but not fed us manna from heaven," the participants hit each other (gently?) with the green onion stalks, everytime they sing the refrain "Da-yeinu." (See explanation of custom in unabridged A Different Night, p. 107.)



אלו נתן לנו את השבת,
דינו! ולא קרבנו לפני הר סיני,
אלו קרבנו לפני הר סיני,
דינו! ולא נתן לנו את התורה,
אלו נתן לנו את התורה,
דינו! ולא הכניסנו לארץ ישראל,
אלו הכניסנו לארץ ישראל,
דינו! ולא בנה לנו את בית הבחירה,



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Karpas
Yachtz
Maggid

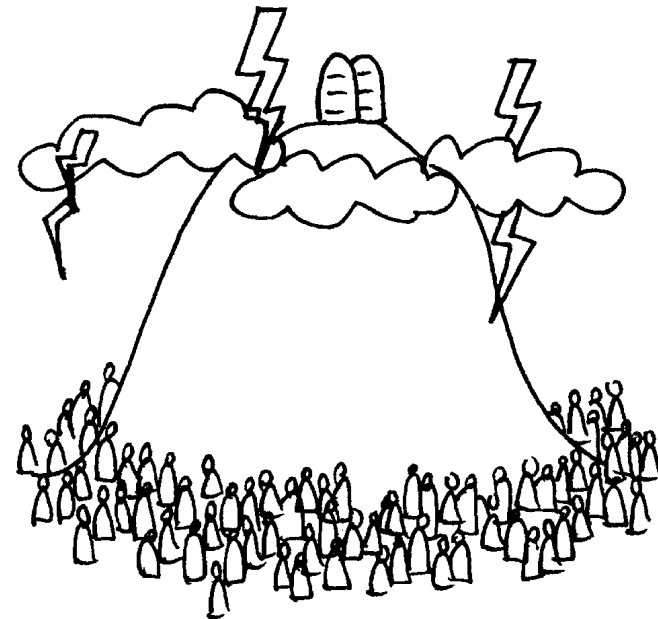
Dayeinu

Ee-lu na-tan la-nu et ha-Shabbat ,
v'lo ker-va-nu leef-nei har See-nai, **Da-yeinu**

Ee-lu ker-va-nu leef-nei har See-nai,
v'lo na-tan la-nu et ha-Torah, **Da-yeinu**

Ee-lu na-tan la-nu et ha-Torah,
v'lo heech-nee-sa-nu l'Eretz Yisrael, **Da-yeinu**

Ee-lu heech-nee-sa-nu l'Eretz Yisrael,
v'lo va-na la-nu et beit ha-b'chee-ra, **Da-yeinu**



Dayeinu Continued

עַל אַחַת כַּמָּה וְכַמָּה

EACH ONE of these good things would have been enough to earn our thanks. Dayeinu!

GOD took us out of Egypt, punished the oppressors, and humiliated their gods, exposing their futility.

GOD killed their first born (when the Egyptians refused to release Israel, God's first born) and gave us some of the Egyptians' wealth, just compensation for our labor.

GOD divided the Red Sea for us, bringing us across on dry land, while drowning our pursuers in the sea.

GOD supplied our needs for forty years in the desert – feeding us manna.

GOD granted us the Shabbat and brought us to Mount Sinai to receive the Torah.

GOD ushered us into Eretz Yisrael and later built us a Temple, the chosen place to atone for our crimes and misdemeanors.

Recounting Our Blessings: An Update

Dayeinu establishes a pattern of enumerating our blessings on Pesach. However it ends with the building of the Temple circa 1000 B.C.E.

Suggest another ten national or family events deserving thanks since 1000 B.C.E. Recall, – for example, the Six Day War (1967), or the airlift of Ethiopian Jews to Israel (1991), or the birth of a long-awaited child.

עַל אַחַת כַּמָּה וְכַמָּה טוֹבָה כְּפוּלָה
וּמְכַפֵּלַת לְמָקוֹם עָלֵינוּ:

שְׁהוּצִיאָנוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם,
וְעָשָׂה בְּהֵם שְׁפָטִים,
וְעָשָׂה בְּאֱלֹהֵיהֶם,

וְהָרַג אֶת בְּכוֹרֵיהֶם,
וְנָתַן לָנוּ אֶת מַמּוֹנָם,

וְקָרַע לָנוּ אֶת הַיָּם,
וְהַעֲבִירָנוּ בְּתוֹכוֹ בַּחֲרָבָה,
וְשָׁקַע צָרֵינוּ בְּתוֹכוֹ,

וְסָפַק צָרְכֵנוּ בַּמִּדְבָּר אַרְבָּעִים שָׁנָה,
וְהֶאֱכִילָנוּ אֶת הַמָּן,

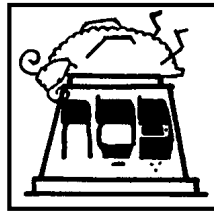
וְנָתַן לָנוּ אֶת הַשַּׁבָּת,
וְקָרְבָנוּ לְפָנֵי הַר סִינַי, וְנָתַן לָנוּ אֶת הַתּוֹרָה,

וְהִכְנִיסָנוּ לְאֶרֶץ יִשְׂרָאֵל,
וּבָנָה לָנוּ אֶת בֵּית הַבְּחִירָה,
לְכַפֵּר עַל כָּל עֲוֹנוֹתֵינוּ.



Otto Geismar 1927

Pesach, Matza and Maror



פֶּסַח, מַצָּה, וּמְרוֹר

1. The Maggid section (devoted to storytelling and explanations) is almost complete. Before eating the Seder's edible symbols, the Haggadah brings us **Rabban Gamliel's checklist** on the three essential foods, whose significance must be understood by all the participants in the Seder.

Why these three? The Pesach lamb, matza and maror constituted the original menu in the Egyptian Seder. "They shall eat the meat (of the lamb) . . . roasted over the fire, with matza and with maror" (Ex. 12:8).

2. As in a three act play Rabban Gamliel identifies these foods with three progressive historical moments in the Exodus: (1) **Maror** captures the bitterness of the enslavement; (2) The **Pesach lamb**, represented today by the roasted bone (zeroa), recalls the blood on the doorposts and the terror and anticipation of the night of the plague of the first born; (3) **Matza** stands for the following morning, when Israel was rushed out of Egypt with no time to let their dough rise.



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid

Rabban Gamliel

RABBAN GAMLIEL used to say: "All who have not explained the significance of three things during the Pesach Seder have not yet fulfilled their duty. The three are: the Pesach lamb, the matza and the maror."

WHY THE PESACH LAMB?

Leader points at (but does not raise) the roasted bone:

"Pesach Al Shum Ma?" – The Passover lamb (that our ancestors ate in the days of the Temple) – why did we used to eat it?

All:

TO REMIND ourselves that God **passed over** our ancestors' houses in Egypt (at this very hour on this very date). Moshe has already instructed us: "When your children ask you, 'What do you mean by this ceremony?' you shall say: 'It is the **Passover** offering to Adonai, because God **passed over** the houses of Israel in Egypt when God struck the Egyptians, but saved our houses . . .'" (Ex. 12:26-27).

רַבֵּן גַּמְלִיאֵל הָיָה אוֹמֵר: כָּל שֶׁלֹּא אָמַר שְׁלֹשֶׁה דְּבָרִים אֵלוֹ בְּפֶסַח, לֹא יֵצֵא יְדֵי חוּבָתוֹ, וְאֵלוֹ הֵן: פֶּסַח, מַצָּה, וּמְרוֹר.



Arye Allweil, 1949
(first Israeli army Haggadah)

פֶּסַח שְׁהִיוּ
אֲבוֹתֵינוּ אוֹכְלִים,
בְּזֶמַן שְׁבִית
הַמִּקְדָּשׁ הָיָה קָיָם,
עַל שׁוֹם מָה?

עַל שׁוֹם שֶׁפֶּסַח הַקְּדוֹשׁ
בְּרוּךְ הוּא, עַל בִּתְּי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ
בְּמִצְרַיִם, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (שְׁמוֹת יב, כז): "וְאָמַרְתֶּם זִבַּח פֶּסַח הוּא
לִי, אֲשֶׁר פֶּסַח עַל בִּתְּי בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּמִצְרַיִם בְּנִגְפוֹ אֶת
מִצְרַיִם, וְאֶת בִּתְּיֵנוּ הִצִּיל. וַיִּקַּד הָעָם וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּוּ."

Why This Matza?

Everyone holds up matza.

Leader:

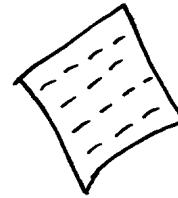
“Matza Al Shum Ma?” – This matza! Why do we eat it?

All:

TO REMIND ourselves that even before the dough of our ancestors in Egypt had time to rise and become leavened, the King of kings, the Holy One Blessed be He, revealed Himself and redeemed them.

The Torah says: *“They baked unleavened cakes of the dough that they had taken out of Egypt, for it was not leavened, since they had been driven out of Egypt and could not delay; nor had they prepared any provisions for themselves”* (Ex. 12:39).

מַצָּה עַל שׁוּם מָה?



מַצָּה זוֹ שְׂאֵנוּ אוֹכְלִים, עַל שׁוּם מָה?

עַל שׁוּם שֶׁלֹא הִסְפִּיק בְּצֵקָם שֶׁל אֲבוֹתֵינוּ לְהַחְמִיץ, עַד שֶׁנִּגְלָה עֲלֵיהֶם מֶלֶךְ מַלְכֵי הַמְּלָכִים, הַקָּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא, וּגְאָלָם, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (שְׁמוֹת יב, לט): *“וַיֹּאפֹו אֶת הַבֶּצֶק, אֲשֶׁר הוֹצִיאוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם, עִגְת מִצּוֹת, כִּי לֹא חָמֵץ. כִּי גֵרְשׁוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם, וְלֹא יָכְלוּ לְהִתְמַהֵמֶה, וְגַם צָדָה לֹא עָשׂוּ לָהֶם.”*

Why This Maror?



Everyone raises maror from the Seder plate.

Leader:

“Maror Al Shum Ma?” – This maror! Why do we eat it?

All:

TO REMIND ourselves that the Egyptians embittered our ancestors' lives: *“They embittered their lives with hard labor, with mortar and bricks (construction) and with all sorts of field labor (agriculture). Whatever the task, they worked them ruthlessly”* (Ex 1:14).

מָרֹר עַל שׁוּם מָה?

מָרֹר זֶה שְׂאֵנוּ אוֹכְלִים, עַל שׁוּם מָה?

עַל שׁוּם שֶׁמָּרְרוּ הַמִּצְרַיִם אֶת חַיֵּי אֲבוֹתֵינוּ בְּמִצְרַיִם, שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (שְׁמוֹת א, יד): *“וַיִּמְרְרוּ אֶת חַיֵּיהֶם בְּעִבְדָּה קָשָׁה, בַּחֲמֹר וּבַלְבָּנִים, וּבְכָל עֲבָדָה בְּשֹׂדֵה. אֶת כָּל עֲבַדְתָּם, אֲשֶׁר עָבְדוּ בָהֶם בְּפָרֹךְ.”*

In Every Generation

בְּכָל דּוֹר וָדוֹר

Identifying with the Exodus

"The Exodus from Egypt occurs in every human being, in every era, in every year and even on every day," said the

Hassidic Rabbi Nachman of Bratslav. At the Seder we must try to empathize with that original liberation and discover its relevance throughout the generations.

IN EVERY generation one is obligated to see oneself as one who personally went out from Egypt. Just as it says: "You shall tell your child on that very day: 'It's because of this that God did for me when I went out from Egypt'" (Ex. 13:8).

NOT ONLY were our ancestors redeemed by the Holy One Blessed Be He, but even *we* were redeemed with them. Just as it says: "God took us out from there in order to bring us and to give us the land God swore to our ancestors" (Deut. 6:23).

בְּכָל דּוֹר וָדוֹר חַיֵּב אָדָם לְרֹאוֹת אֶת עַצְמוֹ,
כְּאִלוּ הוּא יֵצֵא מִמִּצְרַיִם.

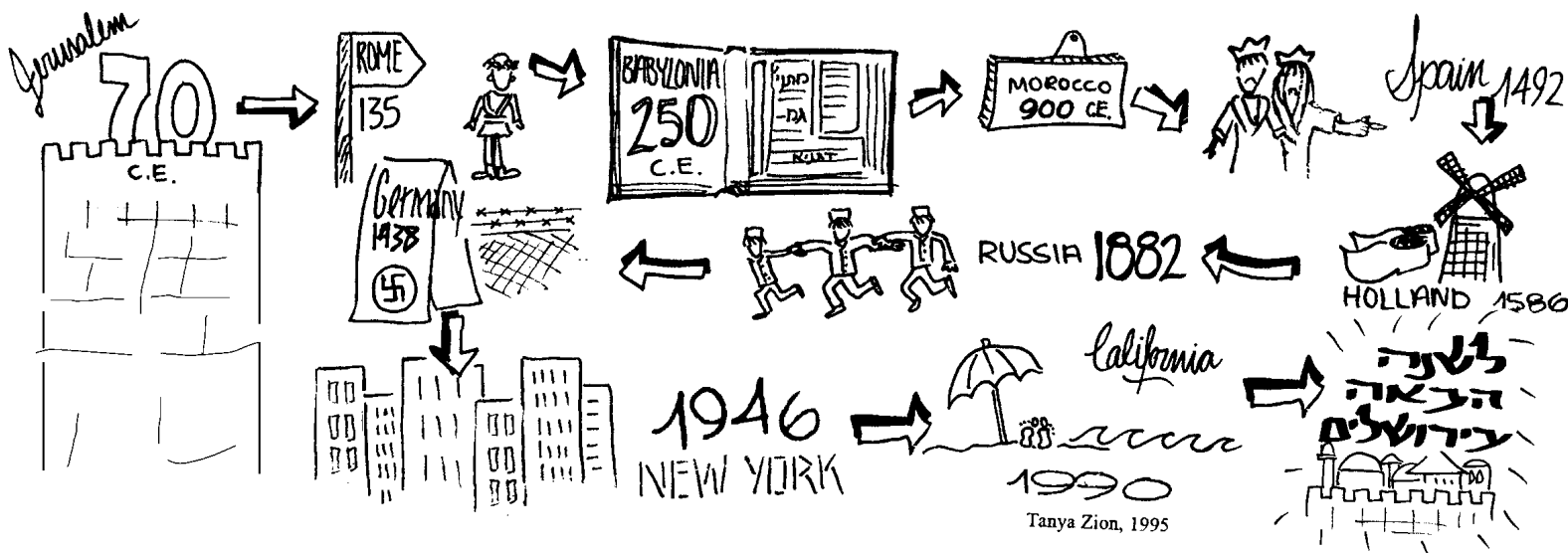
שְׁנַאֲמַר (שמות יב, ח): "וְהַגִּדְתָּ לְבִנְךָ בַּיּוֹם הַהוּא לֵאמֹר:
בְּעֵבוֹר זֶה עָשָׂה יי לִי, בְּצֵאתִי מִמִּצְרַיִם."

לֹא אֶת אֲבוֹתֵינוּ בְּלֶבֶד, גְּאֵל הַקְּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא,
אֲלֵא אִף אוֹתָנוּ גְּאֵל עַמָּהֶם, שְׁנַאֲמַר (דברים ו, כג):
"וְאוֹתָנוּ הוֹצִיא מִשָּׁם, לְמַעַן הָבִיא אֶתְנוּ, לְתֶת לָנוּ
אֶת הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר נִשְׁבַּע לְאֲבוֹתֵינוּ."



- Kadesh
- Urchatz
- Karpas
- Yachatz
- Maggid**

In Every
Generation
Hallel
Begins



A New Song – Hallel-u-jah

לְפִיכָךְ

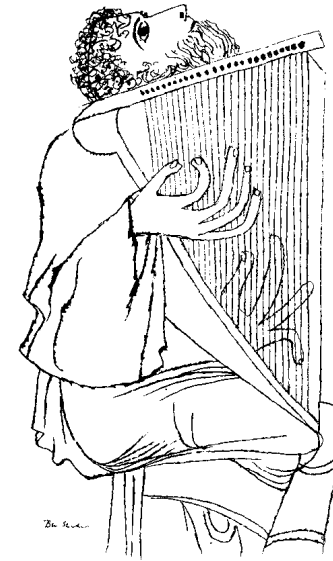
After covering all the matza at the table, everyone raises their second cup of wine in a toast to God and sings Hallel.

Leader: **WE HAVE** just completed the Maggid, the story that begins with slavery and ends with liberation. We have retold it as our own personal story. Now it is only fitting that we thank God by singing a new song.

THEREFORE we owe it to God: to thank, to sing, to praise and honor, to glorify and bless, to raise up and acclaim the One who has done all these wonders for our ancestors and for us.

God took us from slavery to freedom,
from sorrow to joy,
from mourning to festivity,
from thick darkness to a great light,
from enslavement to redemption!

Let us sing before God, a new song. **HALLELUJAH!**



Ben Shahn,
Hallelujah Suite,
© 1996 Ben Shahn/Vaga, NY

לְפִיכָךְ אֲנַחֲנוּ חַיִּיבִים לְהוֹדוֹת, לְהַלֵּל, לְשַׁבַּח,
לְפָאֵר, לְרוֹמֵם, לְהַדִּיר, לְבָרֵךְ, לְעֹלֶה וּלְקַלֵּס,
לְמִי שֶׁעָשָׂה לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ וְלָנוּ אֶת כָּל הַנִּסִּים הָאֵלֹהִים.

הוֹצִיאָנוּ מֵעֲבָדוֹת לְחֵרוֹת, מִיָּגוֹן לְשִׂמְחָה,
וּמֵאֲבֵל לְיוֹם טוֹב, וּמֵאֲפֵלָה לְאוֹר גְּדוֹל,
וּמִשְׁעָבוֹד לְגְאֻלָּה.
וְנֹאמַר לְפָנָיו שִׁירָה חֲדָשָׁה. הַלְלוּיָהּ.

My Narrow Prison

The Hebrew word for Egypt, "Meetzrayim," means a tight spot or a narrow strait where we feel "boxed in."

One day, a few days after the liberation, I walked through the country past flowering meadows, for miles and miles, toward the market town near the camp.

Larks rose to the sky and I could hear their joyous song. There was no one to be seen for miles around; there was nothing but the wide earth and sky and the larks' jubilation and the **freedom of space**. I stopped, looked around, and up to the sky – and then I went down on my knees. At that moment there was very little I knew of myself or of the world – I had but one sentence in mind – always

the same: "I called to Adonai from my narrow prison and God answered me in the freedom of space" (Psalm 118:5).

How long I knelt there and repeated this sentence, memory can no longer recall. But I know that on that day, in that hour, my new life started. Step for step I progressed, until I again became a human being.

(Viktor Frankl, *Man's Search for Meaning, lessons from a concentration camp*)



Hallel: Psalm 113

הלל

The first part of Hallel (Psalms 113-114) begins here before the meal and the rest is completed after eating. The verses which we have printed in bold stand out as particularly relevant to the Exodus when recited on Passover.

הללויה.

הללו עבדי יי. הללו את שם יי.
 יהי שם יי מברך מעתה ועד עולם.
 ממזרח שמש עד מבוא מהלל שם יי.
 רם על כל גוים יי, על השמים כבודו.
 מי כפי אלהינו, המגביהי לשבת.
 המשפילי לראות בשמים ובארץ.
 מקימי מעפר דל, מאשפת ירים אביון.
 להושיבי עם נדיבים, עם נדיבי עמו.
 מושיבי עקרת הבית, אם הבנים שמחה.
 הללויה.



Kadesh
 Urchatz
 Karpas
 Yachatz
Maggid

Hallel
 Begins

"When I Went Out"

Israeli Minister **NATAN SHARANSKY** (former Prisoner of Zion) writes:

"I, as practically all Soviet Jews, was absolutely assimilated. I knew nothing about our language, about our history, about our religion. But the pride of being a Jew, the pride for our State of Israel after the Six Day War, made me feel free. And, after I turned to Jewish identification, I felt myself really free from that big Soviet prison. I was free even before the very last day of my leaving the Soviet Union."

VLADIMIR SLEPAK described his first Israeli morning: "It is like being reborn. Until I die, I'll never forget this morning, when I woke up and looked out at the sun rising over the Judean Hills, and the Old City in front of me."

IDA NUDEL said upon arrival at Ben Gurion Airport: "A few hours ago I was almost a slave in Moscow. Now I'm a free woman in my own country. It is the most important moment of my life. I am at home at the soul of the Jewish people. I am a free person among my own people" (from the CLAL Soviet Jewry Haggadah).

HALLELUJAH.

Servants of Adonai, give praise;
 praise the name of Adonai.

Let the name of Adonai be blessed now and forever.
 From east to west the name of Adonai is praised.

Adonai is exalted above all nations;
 God's glory is above the heavens.

Who is like Adonai our God,
 who, enthroned on high,
 sees what is below, in heaven and on earth?

**God raises the poor from the dust,
 lifts up the needy from the refuse heap**

to place them with the great men of God's people.

God places the childless woman among her household
 as a happy mother of children.

HALLELUJAH.

Hallel: Psalm 114

בְּצֵאת יִשְׂרָאֵל

WHEN ISRAEL went forth from Egypt,
The house of Jacob from a people of strange
speech,

Judah became God's holy one,
Israel, God's dominion.

The sea saw them and fled,
The Jordan ran backward,

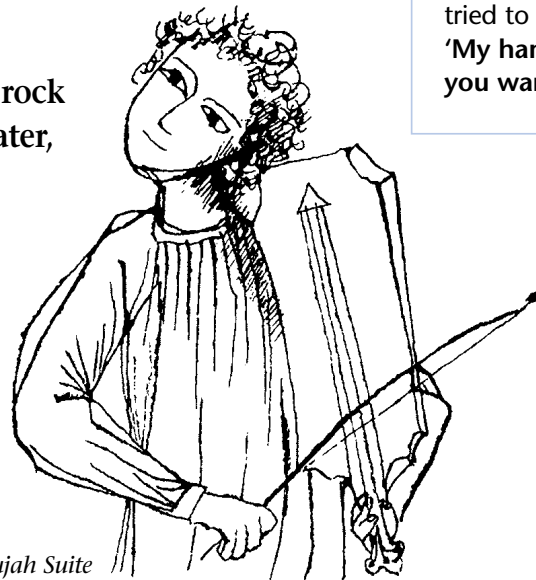
Mountains skipped like rams,
Hills like sheep.

What alarmed you, sea, that you fled,
Jordan, that you ran backward,

Mountains, that you skipped like rams,
Hills, like sheep?

Tremble, earth,
at the presence of Adonai,
at the presence of
the God of Jacob,

Who turned the rock
into a pool of water,
The flinty rock
into a fountain.



Ben Shahn, Hallelujah Suite

בֵּית יַעֲקֹב מֵעַם לְעִזּוֹ.	בְּצֵאת יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמִּצְרַיִם
יִשְׂרָאֵל מִמְּשֻׁלוֹתָיו.	הִיְתָה יְהוּדָה לְקֹדֶשׁוֹ
הַיַּרְדֵּן יָסֹב לְאַחֹר.	הַיָּם רָאָה וַיִּנָּס
גְּבְעוֹת כְּבָנֵי צֹאן.	הַהָרִים רָקְדוּ כְּאֵילִים
הַיַּרְדֵּן תִּסָּב לְאַחֹר.	מִה לָּהּ הַיָּם כִּי תִנוּס
גְּבְעוֹת כְּבָנֵי צֹאן.	הַהָרִים תִּרְקְדוּ כְּאֵילִים
מִלְפָּנֵי אֱלֹהֵי יַעֲקֹב.	מִלְפָּנֵי אֲדוֹן חוֹלֵי אֶרֶץ
חֲלָמִישׁ לְמַעֲיָנוּ מִיָּם.	הַהֶפְכִי הַצּוֹר אֲגָם מִיָּם

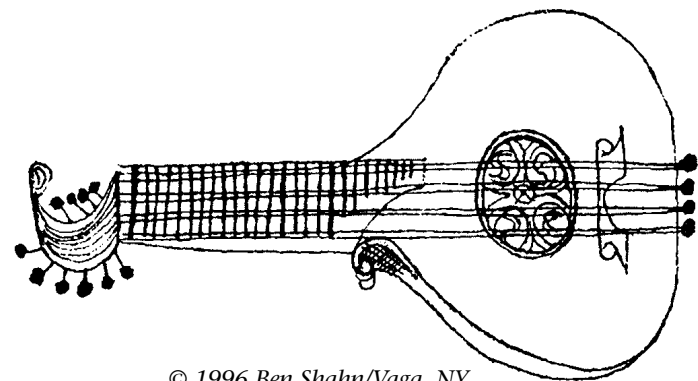
When NOT to Sing

1. "If your enemy falls, do not celebrate.

If he trips, let not your heart rejoice" (Proverbs 24:17).

2. Rabbi Yochanan

"God is not happy at the downfall of the wicked. . . . When the angels tried to sing songs of praise to God at the Red Sea, God silenced them: 'My handiwork, my human creatures, are drowning in the sea and you want to sing a song of praise?'" (T.B. Megillah 10b).



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The Cup of Redemption



כוס שני

1. We conclude the long Maggid section (storytelling) by drinking the second cup of wine, the Cup of Redemption.

2. Recline on a pillow to the left and drink at least half the second cup of wine.

HERE I AM, ready to perform the mitzvah of the second of the four cups, the cup of redemption.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who redeemed us and redeemed our ancestors from Egypt, and who brought us to this night to eat matza and maror. Adonai, our God and God of our ancestors, may You bring us in peace to future holidays. May we celebrate them in your rebuilt city, and may we be able to eat the Pesach lamb and the other sacrifices offered on the altar. We will thank you for our redemption.

BLESSED ARE YOU, the Redeemer of Israel.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, Creator of the Fruit of the Vine.

*Ba-ruch ata Adonai, Elo-hei-nu
me-lech ha-olam, bo-rei pree ha-gafen.*

הַנְּי מוֹכֵן וּמְזַמֵּן לְקַיִם מִצְוַת כּוֹס שְׁנִי
שֶׁל אֲרִבַּע כּוֹסוֹת.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר גָּאֲלָנוּ
וְגָאֵל אֶת אֲבוֹתֵינוּ מִמִּצְרַיִם, וְהַגִּיעָנוּ לַלַּיְלָה הַזֶּה,
לְאָכֹל בּוֹ מַצָּה וּמְרוֹר. כֵּן, יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאֱלֹהֵי
אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, יַגִּיעֵנוּ לְמוֹעֲדִים וְלְרִגְלִים אַחֲרִים,
הַבָּאִים לְקִרְאֵתְנוּ לְשָׁלוֹם, שְׂמֵחִים בְּבִנְיַן עִירָךְ,
וְשָׂשִׂים בְּעִבּוּדְתֶךָ. וְנֹאכֵל שָׂם מִן הַזִּבְחִים וּמִן
הַפְּסָחִים, אֲשֶׁר יַגִּיעַ דָּמָם, עַל קִיר מִזְבִּיחֶךָ לְרִצּוֹן,
וְנוֹדֶה לְךָ שִׁיר חֲדָשׁ עַל גְּאֻלָּתְנוּ, וְעַל פְּדוּת נַפְשֵׁנוּ.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, גָּאֵל יִשְׂרָאֵל.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ
הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

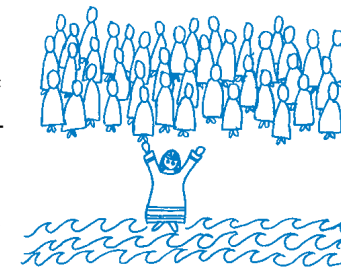


Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid
Rachtza
Motzi
Matza

Second Cup
Washing Hands and Eating Matza

Miriam's Cup

Many contemporary women pour water into a large decorative cup in honor of Miriam the heroine and poet/prophet, the singer and dancer, who not only saved baby Moshe from the Nile but led the celebration of redemption at the Red Sea. The water in her cup recalls the Rabbis' identification of Miriam with the legendary "wandering well" that nourished Israel in the desert with its waters of life but it also symbolizes the rebirth of freedom. Sometimes each guest is asked to pour a little water into the Cup of Miriam and to express their wishes for healing and rejuvenation.



Rachatza

Washing Before Eating Matza



רְחִיצָה
T : T

1. Finally we begin the Passover meal, the third section or “third cup” of the Seder. Storytelling leads into communal eating, because on Passover, “Jews eat history.”

2. On Passover the traditional handwashing is often done seated, while volunteers bring around a pitcher, a towel and a basin to each participant. After pouring water over each hand, say the blessing.

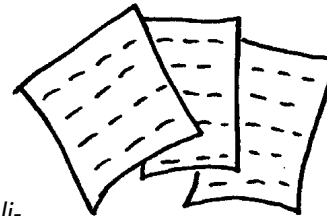
BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who sanctified us with Divine mitzvot and commanded us on the washing of the hands.

*Ba-ruch ata Adonai, Elo-hei-nu
me-lech ha-olam, asher kee-d’shanu
b’meeetz-vo-tav v’tzee-va-nu al
n’teelat ya-da-yeem.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ
הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ
בְּמִצְוֹתָיו, וְצִוָּנוּ
עַל נְטִילַת יָדַיִם.

Motzi/Matza

Eating the Matza



מוֹצִיא/מַצָּה
T

1. This is the one time during Pesach in which one is obligated to eat matza. (It must be plain matza without eggs or other ingredients that might enrich this bread of poverty).

Take the three matzot in hand. Make sure the middle one is broken and the others are still whole. Recite the usual blessing for all forms of bread – the “motzi” – and the special blessing for matza – “al acheelat matza.”

2. Take and eat from the top and middle matza, while reclining (left). Save the third matza for the Hillel sandwich.

You may dip the matza in salt or charoset.

Some rabbis require that one eat an amount equivalent to at least 1/2 - 2/3 of a standard machine-made matza.

HERE I AM, ready to perform the mitzvah of eating matza.

הֲנִי מוכן ומזמן לקיים מצות אכילת מרור.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who extracts bread from the earth.

*Ba-ruch ata Adonai,
Elo-hei-nu me-lech ha-olam,
ha-mo-tzee le-chem meen ha-aretz.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ
מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם, הַמוֹצִיא
לֶחֶם מִן הָאָרֶץ.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who sanctified us by commanding us to eat matza.

*Ba-ruch ata Adonai, Elo-hei-nu me-lech
ha-olam, asher keed’sha-nu b’meeetz-vo-tav
v’tzee-va-nu al ahee-lat matza.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ
הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו
וְצִוָּנוּ עַל אֲכִילַת מַצָּה.

Maror

מרור

1. Take an ounce of raw maror, preferably romaine lettuce, but almost equally good is horseradish (“chrein”) which was popular in wintry northern Europe when lettuce was unavailable. Maror embodies the taste of slavery.

2. Dip maror in charoset (but not so much that it eradicates the bitter taste). Recite the blessing, eat and savor the maror, but **do not recline!** Reclining is a custom of the free, while maror and charoset remind us of persecution.



HERE I AM, ready to perform the mitzvah of eating maror.

הִנְנִי מוכן ומזמן לקיים מצות אכילת מרור.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe who has sanctified us by commanding us to eat maror.

Ba-ruch ata Adonai, Elo-hei-nu me-lech Ha-olam, asher kee-d'sha-nu b'meeztz-votav v'tzee-va-nu al achee-lat maror.

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו וצונו על אכילת מרור.

- Kadesh
- Urchatz
- Karpas
- Yachatz
- Maggid
- Rachtza
- Motzi
- Matza
- Maror**

Eating Bitter Herbs

Union Soldiers

ONE OF THE MOST literal yet inventive representations of charoset was conceived during the American Civil War, when a group of Jewish Union soldiers made a Seder for themselves in the wilderness of West Virginia. They had none of the ingredients for traditional charoset handy, so they put a real brick in its place on the Seder tray (*Ira Steingroot*).

“Charoset Taste Test”

Though neither the Torah nor Rabban Gamliel lists charoset with the essential “big three” – Pesach, matza and maror, it is still a mitzvah to eat charoset with the maror. In fact the rabbis were very explicit about its ingredients and their rationales.

Taste and compare two traditional recipes for charoset. Identify as many ingredients as possible. (See *Leader’s Guide* p. 13)



Weeping Man

Ben Shahn ©
Ben Shahn/Vaga, NY



Sefer HaMinhagim, Amsterdam

The Blessing Over Chametz: Bergen-Belsen

BEFORE EATING CHAMETZ in the concentration camp Seder, Jews recited a special prayer:

“Our Father in Heaven! It is well-known to you that we desire to follow your will and celebrate Pesach with matza – strictly avoiding chametz. Yet our hearts are pained that the enslavement prevents us from doing so for our lives are in danger. We are here, ready to observe the positive commandment of ‘living by your laws’ (Lev. 18:5) – not dying by them. We must take care not to violate the negative commandment, ‘beware and guard yourself well,’ lest we endanger our lives. Therefore, our prayer to You is to preserve our lives and redeem us quickly, so that we may observe Your will and serve You wholeheartedly. Amen.”

Brocha on the MARROR (bitter herbs)



“Our Way” Passover brochure in sign language for the Jewish deaf (National Conference of Synagogue Youth of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America).

Korech

Hillel's Sandwich at the Temple

followed by **Shulchan Orech** The Pesach Family Meal



כּוֹרֵךְ

שֻׁלְחַן עוֹרֵךְ



Take the third, bottom matza, and prepare a sandwich of matza, maror and charoset. Eat it while reclining to the left. **Afterwards**, continue with the festive meal which concludes by eating the Afikoman as dessert.

Leader:

WE have just eaten matza and maror separately. However, in the days of the Temple, Hillel, the head of the Sanhedrin, used to bind into one sandwich: Pesach lamb, matza and maror. He ate them all together in order to observe the law: "You shall eat it (the Pesach sacrifice) on matzot and maror" (Numbers 9:11).

Eating the sandwich tonight reminds us of the way life combines moments of suffering (*maror*) and of relief (*matza*), enslavement and freedom.

All:

IN MEMORY of Pesach in the Temple as Hillel used to celebrate it.

זְכוֹר לְמִקְדָּשׁ כְּהִלֵּל.

כֵּן עָשָׂה הִלֵּל בְּזִמְנוֹ שְׁבִית הַמִּקְדָּשׁ הָיָה קַיָּם. הָיָה כּוֹרֵךְ פֶּסַח מִצָּה וּמְרוֹר וְאוֹכֵל בְּיַחַד. לְקַיָּם מָה שֶׁנֶּאֱמַר (במדבר ט, יא):
"עַל מִצּוֹת וּמְרוֹרִים יֹאכְלֶהוּ."

Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid
Rachtza
Motzi
Matza
Maror

Korech
Shulchan Orech
Tzafun

Hillel's Sandwich and the Family Meal
Afikoman

A Soviet Sandwich

We held the Seder in a hurry, as in the time of the Exodus from Egypt, since the camp authorities prohibited the holding of a Seder. Instead of *maror*, we ate slices of onion, and for *zeroa* (roasted bone symbolizing the Passover sacrifice), we used burnt soup cubes. We read from one Haggadah, the only copy we had, and when we reached *korech*, we had nothing to put between the matzot. Then Joseph Mendelevich said, "**We do not need a symbol of our suffering. We have real suffering and we shall put that between the matzot.**"

(Shimon Grillius, a prisoner in a Soviet labor camp, whose crime was his desire to make aliyah).

An English Sandwich

BRITISH NOBILITY gave us the word "*sandwich*" invented by John Montague, nicknamed "Jemmy Twitcher," an inveterate gambler in the court of George III. Famous for his round-the-clock sessions at the gaming tables, "Jemmy" used to order his servant to bring him pieces of meat between slices of bread, so that he could continue gambling without loss of time. Soon the bread-and-meat combination was called the *sandwich*. "Jemmy," you see, was more formally known as the fourth **Earl of Sandwich**. Sandwiches both during the Exodus in the 13th century B.C.E. and in 18th century England were "**fast foods.**" In the twentieth century the revivers of the Hebrew language sat down to invent a term for the sandwich. They first suggested it be called a "*Hilleleet*," named after Hillel, head of the Sanhedrin, just as the English "sandwich" was named after an illustrious personage. Later they settled for "*kareech*" from the verb that describes Hillel's original sandwich – "*Korech*." Today most Israelis call it a "*sandwich*," a term borrowed from the English.

Eating the Hidden Afikoman



צפון
T

1. The Afikoman, the other half of the middle matza which was hidden at the beginning of the Seder, must now be eaten. Its taste lingers as the last food eaten at the Seder.

2. At this point the leaders of the Seder “discover to their dismay” that the afikoman has been “stolen” by the children. Knowing that it must be eaten at the end of the meal, the leaders must bargain for its return.

3. It is recommended that Jewish prizes be offered (a book, a game) as well as the promise of some money. Some families ask the children to give 10% of their afikoman prize to a **Tzedaka** of their choice and to announce the beneficiary at this point. The adults may be solicited for matching gifts.

Meditation: Seeking Our Lost Other Half

Pesach is a holiday celebrating our reunion with the lost parts of ourselves. Often hiding and separating are essential stages in our life. On Seder night we hide and then seek the afikoman, reuniting the two parts separated at the beginning of the Seder. May we learn to discover the lost parts of ourselves, to become reconciled with relatives who have become distant and to find wholeness in a Jewish tradition from which we have become alienated. May the Divine Face, which is sometimes hidden, shine upon us.

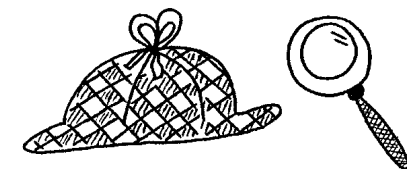


Find the hidden Pesach Fours: 4 matzot, 4 presents, 4"?", 4 cups!

Tanya Zion

הַנִּי מוֹכֵן וּמְזַמֵּן לְקִיּוֹם מִצֻּוֹת
אֲכִילַת אַפִּיקוֹמָן זְכוֹר לְקַרְבֵּן
פֶּסַח הַנֶּאֱכָל עַל הַשּׁוֹבֵעַ.

HERE I AM, ready to fulfill the mitzvah of eating the afikoman. This matza is a reminder of the Pesach sacrifice which was eaten on a full stomach in the days of the Temple!



Birkat Hamazon – Barech

The Blessing after the Meal

בִּרְכָה

1. After the meal we thank God not only for the food but for all the Divine gifts we have received. These blessings are recited over the third cup of wine which we pour now and drink at the end of Birkat Hamazon (p. 67).

2. Usually a guest is chosen to lead the blessing, so that one can thank the hosts and God simultaneously. For three or more adults (post bar-mitzvah) the **invitation** is said (p. 65). For ten or more, add to the invitation the word “Eloheinu,” our God, since God’s presence dwells in community.



HERE I AM, ready to perform the mitzvah of thanking God for the food we have eaten. Just as it says, “you shall eat and be satisfied and bless Adonai your God, for the good land God gave you” (Deut. 8:10).

A SONG OF ASCENTS

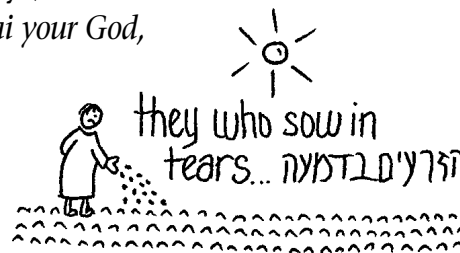
The Dream of the Return from Exile

WHEN ADONAI restores the fortunes of Zion – we see it as in a dream – our mouths shall be filled with laughter, our tongues, with songs of joy.

Then shall they say among the nations,
“Adonai has done great things for them!”
Adonai will do great things for us
and we shall rejoice.

Restore our fortunes, Adonai,
like watercourses in the Negev.

They who sow in tears
shall reap with songs of joy.
Though he goes along weeping,
carrying the seed-bag, he shall come back with
songs of joy, carrying his sheaves (Psalm 126).



Sheer ha–ma–alot.
B’shuv Adonai et sheev–at Tzion,
ha–yeenu k’chol-meem.
Az y’ma-lei s’chok pee-nu
u’l-sho–nei–nu reena,
Az yo–m’ru va–goyim
heeg–deel Adonai la–asot eem eleh.
Heeg–deel Adonai la–asot eemanu
ha–yee–nu s’mei-cheem.
Shuva Adonai, et sh’veen–tei–nu ka–afee–keem
ba–negev.
Ha–zor–eem b’deem–ah, b’reena yeek–tzo–ru.
Ha–loch yei–lech u–va–cho
no–sei me–shech hazara,
Bo yavo v’ree–na, no–sei alu–mo–tav.

הַנְּנִי מוֹכֵן וּמְזַמֵּן לְקַיִם מְצוֹת
עֲשֵׂה כְמוֹ שֶׁפְתוּב בַּתּוֹרָה:
“וְאָכַלְתָּ וְשָׂבַעְתָּ וּבֵרַכְתָּ.”

שִׁיר הַמַּעֲלוֹת

בְּשׁוּב יְיָ אֶת שִׁיבַת צִיּוֹן
הֵיינוּ כְּחֹלְמִים.
אֲזַ יִמְלֵא שְׂחֹק פִּינוּ
וּלְשׁוֹנֵנוּ רִנָּה
אֲזַ יֵאמְרוּ בְּגוֹיִם,
הֲגִדִיל יְיָ לַעֲשׂוֹת עִם אֱלֹהֵי.
הֲגִדִיל יְיָ לַעֲשׂוֹת עִמָּנוּ
הֵיינוּ שְׂמֵחִים.
שׁוּבָה יְיָ אֶת שְׁבִיתֵנוּ
כְּאִפְיָקִים בְּנֶגֶב.
הַזְרְעִים בְּדַמְעָה
בְּרִנָּה יִקְצְרוּ.
הַלֹּדֶף יִלָּךְ וּבִכָּה
נִשְׂא מִשֶּׁדֶף הַזֶּרַע
בָּא יָבֵא בְרִנָּה נִשְׂא אֶלְמִתְיוֹ.

Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid
Rachtza
Motzi
Matza
Maror
Korech
Shulchan
Orech
Tzafun
Barech

Blessing
after
Eating

בְּרַכַּת הַמְּזוֹן

THE INVITATION

Leader (raises the cup and begins): My friends, let us bless God for the meal.

All: "May Adonai's name be blessed from now and forever" (Psalm 113:2).

Leader (repeats): "May Adonai's name be blessed from now and forever."

Leader (adds words in parenthesis when there is a minyan): With your permission, let us bless (our God) from whose food we have eaten.

All: Blessed be (our God) from whose food we have eaten.

Leader (repeats): Blessed be (our God) from whose food we have eaten.

All: Blessed be God, Blessed be the Divine Name.

Cha-vei-rai n'va-rech.

Y'hee sheim Adonai m'vo-rach mei-ata v'ad olam.

Y'hee sheim Adonai m'vo-rach mei-ata v'ad olam.

Beer-shoot, n'va-rech (Eloheinu) she-achal-nu mee-shelo.

Ba-ruch (Eloheinu) she-achal-nu mee-shelo, uv'tu-vo cha-yeenu.

Ba-ruch (Eloheinu) she-achal-nu mee-shelo, uv'tu-vo cha-yeenu.

Ba-ruch hu u-varuch sh'mo.

חַבְרֵי נְבִרָה!

יְהִי שֵׁם יי מְבֹרָךְ מֵעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם.

יְהִי שֵׁם יי מְבֹרָךְ מֵעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם.

בְּרִשׁוֹת מְרֻנָּן וְרִבְנָן וְרִבּוּתֵי, נְבִרָה (אֱלֹהֵינוּ) שְׂאֲכָלְנוּ מִשְּׁלוֹ.

בְּרוּךְ (אֱלֹהֵינוּ) שְׂאֲכָלְנוּ מִשְּׁלוֹ וּבִטְוֹבוֹ חַיֵּינוּ.

בְּרוּךְ (אֱלֹהֵינוּ) שְׂאֲכָלְנוּ מִשְּׁלוֹ וּבִטְוֹבוֹ חַיֵּינוּ.

בְּרוּךְ הוּא וּבְרוּךְ שְׁמוֹ.

FIRST BLESSING: FOR THE FOOD

(traditionally attributed to Moshe)

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the universe, who nourishes the whole world. Your kindness endures forever. May we never be in want of food, for God provides for all the creatures which God has created. **Blessed are You, Adonai, who feeds all.**

... will reap with joy!
... ברִיעָה יִקְצֹרוּ!



Ba-ruch ata Adonai Elo-hei-nu me-lech ha-olam,

Ha-zan et ha-olam ku-lo b'tuvo, b'chen, b'chesed, u-v'ra-cha-meem Hu no-ten le-chem l'chol ba-sar, kee- l'olam chas-do,

Uv-tu-vo ha-gadol, ta-meed lo chasar lanu, v'al yech-sar lanu ma-zon, l'olam va-ed,

Ba-avur she-mo ha-gadol, kee-hu Eil zan um-far-neis la-kol

U-mei-teev la-kol, u-mei-cheen ma-zon l'chol bree-yo-tav asher ba-ra,

Baruch ata Adonai, ha-zan et ha-kol.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,

הַזֵּן אֶת הָעוֹלָם כֻּלּוֹ בְּטוֹבוֹ בְּחֵן בְּחֶסֶד וּבְרַחֲמִים הוּא נוֹתֵן לְחֵם לְכָל בָּשָׂר כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֶסֶד.

וּבִטְוֹבוֹ הַגָּדוֹל תִּמְדָּ לֹא חָסַר לָנוּ, וְאֵל יַחְסֵר לָנוּ מִזֶּזֶן לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

בְּעִבּוֹר שְׁמוֹ הַגָּדוֹל,

כִּי הוּא אֵל זֵן וּמְפַרְנֵס לְכָל וּמְטִיב לְכָל, וּמְכִין מִזֶּזֶן

לְכָל בְּרִיּוֹתָיו אֲשֶׁר בָּרָא.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, הַזֵּן אֶת הַכֹּל.

אֱלֹהֵינוּ ואלהי אבותינו, **יעלה ויבא ויגיע, ויראה, וירצה, וישמע,** ויפקד, ויזכר זכרוננו ופקדוננו, וזכרון אבותינו, וזכרון משיח בן דוד עבדך, וזכרון ירושלים עיר קדשך, וזכרון כל עמך בית ישראל לפניך, לפליטה לטובה לחן ולחסד ולרחמים, לחיים ולשלום ביום **חג המצות הזה**. זכרנו יי אלהינו בו לטובה. ופקדנו בו לברכה. והושיענו בו לחיים, ובדבר ישועה ורחמים, חוס וחנו, ורחם עלינו והושיענו, כי אליך עינינו, כי אל מלך חנון ורחום אתה.

ובנה ירושלים עיר הקדש במהרה בימינו. **ברוך אתה יי, בונה ברחמי ירושלים, אמן.**

FOURTH BLESSING: FOR DIVINE GOODNESS

(added after the defeat of the Bar Kochba Revolt 135 C.E.)

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו מלך העולם, האל אבינו, מלפנו, אדירנו בוראנו, גואלנו, יוצרנו, קדושונו קדוש יעקב, רוענו רועה ישראל. המלך הטוב, והמטיב לכל, שבכל יום ויום הוא הטוב, הוא מטיב, הוא ייטיב לנו. הוא גמלנו, הוא גומלנו, הוא יגמלנו לעד לחן ולחסד ולרחמים ולרוח הצלה והצלחה ברכה וישועה, נחמה, פרינסה וכלפלה, ורחמים, וחיים ושלום, וכל טוב, ומכל טוב לעולם אל יחסרנו.

הרחמן, הוא ימלוך עלינו לעולם ועד.

הרחמן, הוא יתברך בשמים ובארץ.

הרחמן, הוא ישתבח לדור דורים, ויתפאר בנו לעד ולנצח נצחים, ויתהדר בנו לעד ולעולמי עולמים.

הרחמן, הוא יפרנסנו בכבוד.

הרחמן, הוא ישבור עלנו מעל צוארנו והוא יוליכנו קוממיות לארצנו.

הרחמן, הוא ישלח לנו ברכה מרבה בבית הזה, ועל שלחן זה שאכלנו עליו.



SECOND BLESSING: FOR THE LAND AND THE FOOD

(attributed to Joshua)

נודה לך יי אלהינו על שהנחלת לאבותינו, ארץ חמדה טובה ורחבה, ועל שהוצאתנו יי אלהינו מארץ מצרים, ופדיתנו, מבית עבדים, ועל בריתך שחתמת בבשרנו, ועל תורתך שלמדתנו, ועל חקיקה שהודעתנו ועל חיים חן וחסד שחוננתנו, ועל אכילת מזון שאתה זן ומפריס אותנו תמיד, בכל יום ובכל עת ובכל שעה.

ועל הכל יי אלהינו אנחנו מודים לך, ומברכים אותך, ויתברך שמך בפני כל חי תמיד לעולם ועד.

פפתוב: "ואכלת ושבעת, וברכת את יי אלהיך על הארץ הטבה אשר נתן לך." **ברוך אתה יי, על הארץ ועל המזון.**

THIRD BLESSING: FOR JERUSALEM

(attributed to David)



רחם נא יי אלהינו, על ישראל עמך, ועל ירושלים עירך, ועל ציון משכן כבודך, ועל מלכות בית דוד משיחך, ועל הבית הגדול והקדוש שנקרא שמך עליו.

אלהינו, אבינו, רענו, זוננו, פרנסנו, וכלכלנו, והרויחנו, והרוח לנו יי אלהינו מהרה מפל צרותינו. ונא, אל תצריכנו יי אלהינו, לא לידי מתנת בשר ודם, ולא לידי הלואתם. כי אם לידי המלאה, הפתוחה, הקדושה והרחבה, שלא נבוש ולא נכלם לעולם ועד.

[On Shabbat add]:

רצה והחליצנו יי אלהינו במצותיך ובמצות יום השביעי השבת הגדול והקדוש הזה. כי יום זה גדול וקדוש הוא לפניך, לשבת בו ולנוח בו באהבה כמצות רצונך וברצונך הניח לנו יי אלהינו, שלא תהא צרה ויגון ואנחה ביום מנוחתנו. והראנו יי אלהינו בנחמת ציון עירך, ובבנין ירושלים עיר קדשך, כי אתה הוא בעל הישועות ובעל הנחמות.



- Kadesh
- Urchatz
- Karpas
- Yachatz
- Maggid
- Rachtza
- Motzi
- Matza
- Maror
- Korech
- Shulchan Orech
- Tzafun
- Barech**

Blessing after Eating and Third Cup

הַרְחָמֵנוּ, הוא יִשְׁלַח לָנוּ אֶת אֱלֹהֵינוּ הַנְּבִיא זְכוּר לְטוֹב,
וַיְבַשֵּׁר לָנוּ בְּשׂוֹרוֹת טוֹבוֹת יְשׁוּעוֹת וְנַחֲמוֹת.

הַרְחָמֵנוּ, הוא יְבַרֵךְ אֶת כָּל הַמְּסַבֵּין כָּאֵן אוֹתָנוּ וְאֶת כָּל אֲשֶׁר לָנוּ,
כְּמוֹ שֶׁנִּתְבָּרְכוּ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, אֲבָרָהֶם יִצְחָק וַיַּעֲקֹב. בְּכֹל, מְכֹל, כָּל.
כֵּן יְבַרֵךְ אוֹתָנוּ כְּלָנוּ יַחַד בְּבִרְכָה שְׁלֵמָה, וְנֹאמֵר אָמֵן.

בְּמָרוֹם יִלְמְדוּ עֲלֵיהֶם וְעֲלֵינוּ זְכוּת, שֶׁתְּהֵא לְמִשְׁמֶרֶת שְׁלוֹם,
וְנִשְׂא בְּרָכָה מֵאֵת יי וַיְדַקֵּה מֵאֱלֹהֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל,
וְנִמְצָא חֵן וְשִׂכָּל טוֹב בְּעֵינֵי אֱלֹהִים וְאָדָם.

[On Shabbat add]:

הַרְחָמֵנוּ, הוא יְנַחֵלְנוּ יוֹם שְׁכָלוֹ שַׁבַּת וּמְנוּחָה לַחַיֵּי הָעוֹלָמִים.

הַרְחָמֵנוּ, הוא יְנַחֵלְנוּ יוֹם שְׁכָלוֹ טוֹב.

הַרְחָמֵנוּ, הוא יְבַרֵךְ אֶת מְדִינַת יִשְׂרָאֵל.

הַרְחָמֵנוּ, הוא יִשְׁכֵּין שְׁלוֹם בֵּין בְּנֵי יַעֲקֹב וּבְנֵי יִשְׁמָעֵאל.

הַרְחָמֵנוּ, הוא יִזְכְּנוּ לִימֹת הַמְּשִׁיחַ וְלַחַיֵּי הָעוֹלָם הַבָּא.

"מְגִדוֹל יְשׁוּעוֹת מְלָכּוֹ, וְעֵשָׂה חֶסֶד לְמִשְׁיחוֹ לְדוֹד וּלְזָרְעוֹ עַד עוֹלָם."
עֵשָׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרוֹמָיו, הוא יַעֲשֶׂה שְׁלוֹם, עֲלֵינוּ וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל,
וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

"יִרְאוּ אֶת יי קְדוֹשׁוֹ, כִּי אֵין מְחִסּוֹר לִירְאָיו. כְּפִירִים רָשׁוּ וְרַעְבוּ,
וְדוֹרְשֵׁי יי לֹא יִחְסְרוּ כָּל טוֹב. הוֹדוּ לַיי כִּי טוֹב,
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֶסֶדּוֹ. פּוֹתַח אֶת יְדָהּ, וּמִשְׁבִּיעַ לְכָל חַי רְצוֹן.
בְּרוּךְ הַגִּבּוֹר אֲשֶׁר יְבַטַח בְּיי, וְהָיָה יי מְבַטַחוֹ."



"נַעַר הָיִיתִי גַם זְקֵנְתִי וְלֹא רָאִיתִי צְדִיק נֶעְזֵב,
וְזָרְעוֹ מְבַקֵּשׁ לָחֶם."
"יי עַז לְעַמּוֹ יִתֵּן, יי יְבַרֵךְ אֶת עַמּוֹ בְּשְׁלוֹם."

The Third Cup

We conclude the Blessing over the Meal by drinking the Third Cup, the Cup of Blessing, while reclining to the left.

HERE I AM, ready to perform
the mitzvah of the third cup of wine,
which concludes this Pesach meal.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai
our God, Ruler of the Universe,
who creates the fruit of the vine.

*Ba-ruch ata Adonai
Elo-heinu me-lech ha-olam
bo-rei pree ha-gafen.*

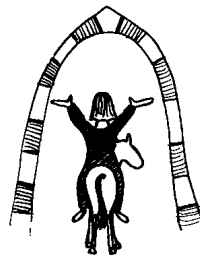
כּוֹס שְׁלִישִׁי

הַנְּבִי מוֹכֵן וּמְזַמֵּן לְקַיֵּם
מִצְוַת כּוֹס שְׁלִישִׁי שֶׁל
אַרְבַּע כּוֹסוֹת.

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי,
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
בוֹרֵא פְּרֵי הַגֶּפֶן.

Cup of Elijah

and Pour Out Your Wrath



כּוֹס אֵלֵיהוּ
שֶׁפָךְ חֲמַתְךָ

1. Pour a large cup of wine and open the door in honor of Elijah, who symbolizes future redemption. "He will reconcile the hearts of parents to their children and children to their parents." (Mal. 3:2-4)

2. Stand and read both the demand that our oppressors be brought to the bench of Divine justice, and the prayer for righteous Gentiles who rescued Jews.



"Your Wrath" – A Late Addition

IT WAS NOT until the bloody Crusades that Biblical verses of Divine anger were added to the Haggadah, for pogroms typically occurred on Easter/Passover.

"Your Love" – A Later Addition

THIS UNIQUE addition to a medieval Haggadah appears side by side with "Pour out your wrath" in a manuscript from Worms (1521) attributed to the descendants of Rashi. Scholars today debate its authenticity but its sentiment for righteous gentiles is genuine.

"POUR OUT your fury on the nations that do not know you, upon the kingdoms that do not invoke your name, for they have devoured Jacob and desolated his home" (Psalms 79:6,7).

"POUR OUT your wrath on them; may your blazing anger overtake them" (Psalms 69:25).

"PURSUE them in wrath and destroy them from under the heavens of Adonai!" (Lamentations 3:66).

Pour Out Your Love

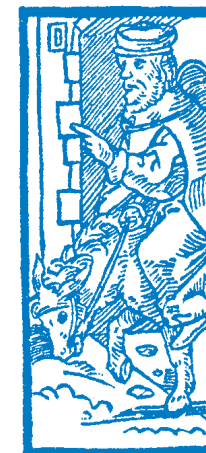
On Our Allies: Righteous Gentiles

"POUR OUT your love on the nations who have known you and on the kingdoms who call upon your name. For they show loving-kindness to the seed of Jacob and they defend your people Israel from those who would devour them alive. May they live to see the sukkah of peace spread over your chosen ones and to participate in the joy of your nations."

שֶׁפָךְ חֲמַתְךָ
אֶל הַגּוֹיִם, אֲשֶׁר לֹא יִדְעוּךָ
וְעַל מַמְלָכוֹת אֲשֶׁר
בְּשִׁמְךָ לֹא קָרְאוּ.
כִּי אָכַל אֶת יַעֲקֹב.
וְאֵת נוֹהוּ הַשָּׁמַיִם.

שֶׁפָךְ עֲלֵיהֶם זַעֲמָךְ,
וְחָרוֹן אַפֶּיךָ יִשְׁיגֵם.

תִּרְדֹּף בְּאֵף וְתִשְׁמַדֵּם,
מִתַּחַת שָׁמַיִם יי."



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid
Rachtza
Motzi
Matza
Maror
Korech
Shulchan
Orech
Tzafun
Barech

Elijah's
Cup

Anne Frank: I Still Believe

That's the difficulty in these times: ideals, dreams, and cherished hopes rise within us, only to meet the horrible truth and be shattered.

It's really a wonder that I haven't dropped all my ideals, because they seem so absurd and impossible to carry out. Yet I keep them, because in spite of everything I still believe that people are really good at heart. I simply can't build up my hopes on a foundation consisting of confusion, misery, and death. I see the world gradually being turned into a wilderness. I hear the ever-approaching thunder, which will destroy us, too. I can feel the suffering of millions – and yet, if I look up into the heavens, I think it will come out all right, that this cruelty too will end, and that peace and tranquillity will return again.

In the meantime, I must uphold my ideals, for perhaps the time will come when I shall be able to carry them out. (*Diary of Anne Frank, Amsterdam 1944*)



Opening the Door for Elijah

Moritz Oppenheim (19th C. Germany)

MESSIANIC SONGS OF HOPE

ELIJAH the prophet,
Elijah the Tishbee,
Elijah the Giladee.
May he soon come to us
Along with the Messiah, son of David.

I BELIEVE with a perfect faith
in the coming of the Messiah
and even though he delays
I will await
the day of his coming.

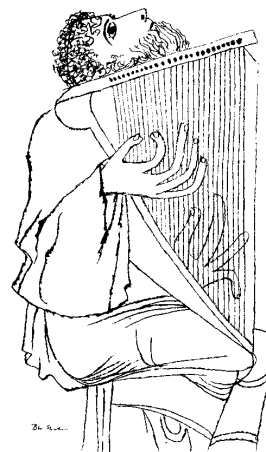
Eliyahu ha-navee
Eliyahu ha-Tish-bee
Eliyahu ha-Giladee
beem-hei-ra b'ya-mei-nu
yavo ei-leinu eem ma-shee-ach ben David

Anee ma-a-meen b'eh-eh-mu-na
shlei-ma b'vee-at ha-ma-shee-ach
v'af-al-pee she-yeet-ma-mei-ah
eem kol zeh acha-keh lo
b'chol yom she-yavo

אֱלֹהֵי הַנְּבִיא,
אֱלֹהֵי הַתִּשְׁבִּי,
אֱלֹהֵי הַגִּלְעָדִי.
בְּמַהֲרָה בְּיָמֵנו, יָבוֹא אֵלֵינוּ
עִם מְשִׁיחַ בֶּן דָּוִד.

אֲנִי מֵאֲמִין בְּאִמוּנָה
שְׁלֵמָה בְּבִיאַת הַמְּשִׁיחַ,
וְאֶף עַל פִּי שְׂתִתְּמַהֲמָה,
עִם כָּל זֶה אֶחְכֶּה לוֹ
בְּכָל יוֹם שֶׁיָּבוֹא.

The Fourth Cup and the Festival Hallel



כּוֹס רְבִיעִי וְהַלֵּל

Ben Shahn, Hallelujah Suite
© Ben Shahn/Vaga



1. The Pesach Seder is divided into two parts by the meal itself. In fact, Hallel (Psalms 113-118) itself is split. While the first half of the Seder and of the Hallel (Psalms 113-114) is dedicated to the **past**, to historical memory of the redemption from Egypt, the second half looks forward to the **future** and ends with the wish: "Next year in Jerusalem!" Messianic hope inspires the singing from now to the completion of the Seder.

2. Fill the fourth cup of wine and place it before you and conclude singing the Festival Hallel.

- Kadesh
- Urchatz
- Karpas
- Yachatz
- Maggid
- Rachtza
- Motzi
- Matza
- Maror
- Korech
- Shulchan Orech
- Tzafun
- Barech
- Hallel**

Festival Psalms
Great Hallel

מָה אָשִׁיב לַיְי, כֹּס יְשׁוּעוֹת אֲשָׂא, וּבִשְׁמֵי יְי אֶקְרָא, נְדָרֵי לַיְי אֲשַׁלֵּם, נִגְדָה נָא לְכֹל עַמּוֹ, יִקָּר בְּעֵינֵי יְי הַמּוֹתֶה לַחֲסִידָיו, אָנָּה יְי כִּי אֲנִי עַבְדְּךָ אֲנִי עַבְדְּךָ, בֶּן אֲמֶתֶךָ פִּתְחַת לְמוֹסְרֵי, לֶךָ אֲזַבַּח זֶבַח תּוֹדָה, וּבִשְׁמֵי יְי אֶקְרָא, נְדָרֵי לַיְי אֲשַׁלֵּם נִגְדָה נָא לְכֹל עַמּוֹ, בְּחִצְרוֹת בַּיִת יְי בְּתוֹכְכִי יְרוּשָׁלַיִם הַלְלוּיָהּ.

הַלְלוּ אֶת יְי, כֹּל גּוֹיִם, שִׁבְחוּהוּ כֹל הָאֲמִים, כִּי גִבֹר עָלֵינוּ חֲסִדוֹ, וְאִמַּת יְי לְעוֹלָם הַלְלוּיָהּ.

הוֹדוּ לַיְי כִּי טוֹב, כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסִדוֹ!
יֹאמְרוּ נָא יִשְׂרָאֵל, כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסִדוֹ!
יֹאמְרוּ נָא בֵּית אַהֲרֹן, כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסִדוֹ!
יֹאמְרוּ נָא יְרָאֵי יְי, כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסִדוֹ!

אֲהַבְתִּי כִּי יִשְׁמַע יְי, אֶת קוֹלֵי תַחֲנוּנָי. כִּי הִטָּה אָזְנוֹ לִי וּבִימֵי אֶקְרָא, אֶפְפוּנֵי חֲבִלֵי מוֹת, וּמִצְרֵי שְׂאוֹל מִצְאוּנֵי, צָרָה וּיְגוֹן אֲמַצָּא, וּבִשְׁמֵי יְי אֶקְרָא, אָנָּה יְי מַלְטָה נַפְשִׁי, חַנוּן יְי וְצַדִּיק, וְאֱלֹהֵינוּ מְרַחֵם, שֹׁמֵר פְּתָאִים יְי, דְלוֹתַי וְלִי יְהוֹשִׁיעַ, שׁוֹבֵי נַפְשֵׁי לְמַנוּחֵיכִי, כִּי יְי גָמַל עָלַיִכִי, כִּי חִלְצַתְּ נַפְשִׁי מִמּוֹת, אֶת עֵינַי מִן דְּמָעָה, אֶת רַגְלֵי מִדְּחֵי, אֶתְהַלֵּךְ לִפְנֵי יְי, בְּאַרְצוֹת הַחַיִּים, הָאֲמַנְתִּי כִּי אֲדַבֵּר, אֲנִי עֲנִיתִי מְאֹד, אֲנִי אֲמַרְתִּי בְּחַפְזִי, כֹּל הָאָדָם כֹּזֵב.

לֹא לָנוּ יְי לֹא לָנוּ, כִּי לְשִׁמְךָ יְי כְבוֹד, עַל חֲסִדְךָ עַל אֲמֶתֶךָ, לָמָּה יֹאמְרוּ הַגּוֹיִם, אֵיךְ נָא אֱלֹהֵיהֶם, וְאֱלֹהֵינוּ בְּשִׁמְיִם כֹּל אֲשֶׁר חָפֵץ עָשָׂה, עֲצִיבֵיהֶם כְּסָף וְזָהָב, מַעֲשֵׂה יְדֵי אָדָם, פֶּה לָהֶם וְלֹא יִדְבְּרוּ, עֵינַיִם לָהֶם וְלֹא יִרְאוּ, אֲזִנִּים לָהֶם וְלֹא יִשְׁמְעוּ, אֵף לָהֶם וְלֹא יִרְחוּן, יְדֵיהֶם וְלֹא יִמְשִׁיחוּ, רַגְלֵיהֶם וְלֹא יִהְלְכוּ, לֹא יִהְיוּ בְּגִרוֹנָם, כְּמוֹהֶם יִהְיוּ עֹשִׂיהֶם, כֹּל אֲשֶׁר בִּטַח בָּהֶם, יִשְׂרָאֵל בִּטַח בַּיְי, עֲזָרָם וּמְגֹנָם הוּא, בֵּית אַהֲרֹן בִּטְחוּ בַיְי, עֲזָרָם וּמְגֹנָם הוּא, יְרָאֵי יְי בִּטְחוּ בַיְי, עֲזָרָם וּמְגֹנָם הוּא.

יְי זְכַרְנוּ יְבָרְךָ, יְבָרְךָ אֶת בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל, יְבָרְךָ אֶת בֵּית אַהֲרֹן, יְבָרְךָ יְרָאֵי יְי, הַקְטַנִּים עִם הַגְּדֹלִים, יִסֹּף יְי עֲלֵיכֶם, עֲלֵיכֶם וְעַל בְּנֵיכֶם, בְּרוּכִים אַתֶּם לַיְי, עֹשֵׂה שְׁמִים וְאָרֶץ, הַשְּׁמַיִם שְׁמִים לַיְי, וְהָאָרֶץ נָתַן לְבִנֵי אָדָם, לֹא הִמְתִּים יְהַלְלוּ יְי, וְלֹא כֹל יְרֵדֵי דוֹמָה, וְאִנְחָנוּ נְבָרְךָ יְי, מֵעַתָּה וְעַד עוֹלָם, הַלְלוּיָהּ.

The Great Hallel הַלֵּל הַגָּדוֹל

1. In addition to the usual Festival Hallel, on Seder night we add the Great Hallel (Psalm 136). Both of them feature the famous refrain: **כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!**

2. Some rabbis require or at least permit that an extra cup be drunk with the Great Hallel. Some people dedicate this fifth cup to the reestablishment of the State of Israel.

כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!
כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ!

הוֹדוּ לַיהוָה לֵב טוֹב,
הוֹדוּ לַאלֹהֵי הָאֱלֹהִים,
הוֹדוּ לַאֲדֹנָי הָאֲדֹנִים,
לַעֲשֵׂה נִפְלְאוֹת גְּדוֹלוֹת לְבָדוֹ,
לַעֲשֵׂה הַשְּׁמַיִם בְּתַבְנִינָה,
לְרוֹקַע הָאָרֶץ עַל הַמַּיִם,
לַעֲשֵׂה אוֹרִים גְּדֹלִים,
אֵת הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ לְמַמְשַׁלֵּת בַּיּוֹם,
אֵת הַיָּרֵחַ וְכּוֹכְבֵי לְמַמְשַׁלוֹת בַּלַּיְלָה,
לְמַפְה מִצְרַיִם בְּבִכּוּרֵיהֶם,
וַיּוֹצֵא יִשְׂרָאֵל מִתּוֹכָם,
בְּיַד חֲזָקָה וּבְזִרְעוֹ נְטוּיָה,
לְגַזֵּר יָם סוּף לְגַזְרִים,
וְהַעֲבִיר יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּתוֹכוֹ,
וְנָעַר פְּרַעֲהוּ וַחֲמִילוֹ בַיָּם סוּף,
לְמוֹלִיד עַמּוֹ בַּמִּדְבָּר,
לְמַפְה מְלָכִים גְּדֹלִים,
וַיַּהַרְג מְלָכִים אֲדִירִים,
לְסִיחוֹן מֶלֶךְ הָאֱמֹרִי,
וְלַעֲוֹג מֶלֶךְ הַבְּשָׁן,
וַנְתֵּן אֶרֶץ לְנַחְלָה,
נַחְלָה לְיִשְׂרָאֵל עֲבָדוֹ,
שֶׁבִשְׁפַלְנוּ זָכַר לָנוּ,
וַיַּפְרְקֵנוּ מִצְרַיִם,
נֹתֵן לָחֶם לְכֹל בָּשָׂר,
הוֹדוּ לַאלֹהֵי הַשְּׁמַיִם,



Ben Shahn, Hallelujah Suite
© Ben Shahn/Vaga

מִן הַמִּצֵּר קָרָאתִי יְהוָה,
עָנְנִי בְמִרְחֹב יָהּ.
יְיָ לִי לֹא אִירָא, מַה יַּעֲשֶׂה לִי אָדָם.
יְיָ לִי בַעֲזָרִי, וְאֲנִי אֲרֹאֶה בְשׁוֹנְאֵי.
טוֹב לַחֲסוֹת בַּיהוָה מִבְּטַח בְּאָדָם.
טוֹב לַחֲסוֹת בַּיהוָה מִבְּטַח בַּבְּדִיבִים.
כָּל גּוֹיִם סָבְבוּנִי
בְּשֵׁם יְיָ כִּי אֲמִילֶם.
סְבֻבוּנִי גַם סָבְבוּנִי
בְּשֵׁם יְיָ כִּי אֲמִילֶם.
סְבֻבוּנִי כְדַבְרֵימָה דַּעְכוּ כְּאֵשׁ קוֹצִים,
בְּשֵׁם יְיָ כִּי אֲמִילֶם.
דַּחַח דְּחִיתֵנִי לְנֶפֶל, וַיִּי עֲזָרֵנִי.
עֲזֵי וְזִמְרַת יְהוָה, וַיְהִי לִי לִישׁוּעָה.
קוֹל רִנָּה וִישׁוּעָה בְּאֵלֵי צְדִיקִים,
יָמִין יְיָ עָשָׂה חֵיל.
יָמִין יְיָ רֹמְמָה,
יָמִין יְיָ עָשָׂה חֵיל.
לֹא אֲמוֹת כִּי אַחִיָּה, וְאֶסְפֵּר מַעֲשֵׂי יְהוָה.
יִסֹר יִסְרֵנִי יְהוָה, וְלִמּוֹת לֹא נִתְּנִי.

פִּתְחוּ לִי שַׁעַר צְדָק, אָבֵא בָּם אוֹדָה יְהוָה.
זֶה הַשֶּׁעַר לַיהוָה, צְדִיקִים יָבֹאוּ בוֹ.
אוֹדֶה כִּי עֲנִיתָנִי, וַתְּהִי לִי לִישׁוּעָה. (2x)
אֲבֵן מַאֲסוֹ הַבּוֹנִים, הִיתָה לְרֹאשׁ פְּנֵה. (2x)
מֵאֵת יְיָ הִיתָה זֹאת, הִיא נִפְלְאוֹת בְּעֵינֵינוּ. (2x)
זֶה הַיּוֹם עָשָׂה יְיָ, נְגִילָה וְנִשְׂמַחָה בוֹ. (2x)

אֲנָא יְיָ הוֹשִׁיעָה נָא! אֲנָא יְיָ הוֹשִׁיעָה נָא!
אֲנָא יְיָ הַצְּלִיחָה נָא! אֲנָא יְיָ הַצְּלִיחָה נָא!
בְּרוּךְ הֵבֵא בְּשֵׁם יְיָ, בְּרִכּוֹנוֹכֶם מִבֵּית יְיָ. (2x)
אֵל יְיָ וַיֵּאָר לָנוּ, אֲסֵרוּ חֹג בְּעִבְתֵיכֶם, עַד קִרְנוֹת הַמִּזְבֵּחַ. (2x)
אֵלֵי אֲתָה וְאוֹדֶה אֱלֹהֵי אֲרוֹמְמָה. (2x)
הוֹדוּ לַיהוָה לֵב טוֹב, כִּי לְעוֹלָם חֲסֵדוֹ. (2x)

יְהַלְלוּהוּ יְיָ אֱלֹהֵינוּ כָּל מַעֲשֵׂיָהּ, וַחֲסִידֶיהָ צְדִיקִים עוֹשֵׂי רְצוֹנָהּ,
וְכָל עַמְּךָ בֵּית יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּרַנָּה יוֹדוּ וַיְבָרְכוּ וַיִּשְׂבְּחוּ וַיִּפְאֲרוּ וַיְרַמְּמוּ
וַיַּעֲרִיצוּ וַיְקַדְּשׁוּ וַיְמַלִּיכוּ אֶת שְׁמֶךָ מִלְּפָנֵינוּ, כִּי לָךְ טוֹב הַהוֹדוֹת
וְלִשְׁמֶךָ נֹאֶה לְזַמֵּר, כִּי מַעֲוֹלָם וְעַד עוֹלָם אֲתָה אֵל.

The Blessing After the Hallel

נְשִׁמַת כָּל-חַי



Splitting the Red Sea
Joseph Horna, Mexico, 1946

ובמקלות רבבות עמך בית ישראל, ברנה יתפאר שמה מלכנו, בכל דור ודור, שכן חובת כל היצורים, לפניך יי אלהינו, ואלהי אבותינו, להודות להלל לשבח לפאר לרומם להדר לברך לעלה ולקלס, על כל דברי שירות ותשבחות דוד בן ישי עבדך משיחך.

ישתבח שמה לעד מלכנו, האל המלך הגדול והקדוש בשמים ובארץ. כי לה נאה, יי אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו: שיר ושבחה, הלל וזמרה, עז וממשלה, נצח, גדלה וגבורה, תהלה ותפארת, קדשה ומלכות. ברכות והודאות מעתה ועד עולם.

ברוך אתה יי, אל מלך גדול בתשבחות, אל ההודאות, אדון הנפלאות, הבוחר בשירי זמרה, מלך, אל, חי העולמים.

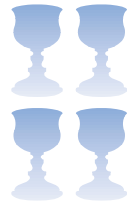
נְשִׁמַת כל חי, תברך את שמה יי אלהינו. ורוח כל בשר, תפאר ותרום זכרה מלכנו תמיד, מן העולם ועד העולם אתה אל. ומבלעדיך אין לנו מלך גואל ומושיע, פודה ומציל ומפרנס ומרחם, בכל עת צרה וצוקה. אין לנו מלך אלא אתה: אלהי הראשונים והאחרונים, אלוה כל בריות, אדון כל תולדות, המהלל ברב התשבחות, המנהג עולמו בחסד, ובריותיו ברחמים. ויי לא ינום ולא ישן, המעורר ישנים והמקיץ נרדמים, והמשיח אלמים, והמתיר אסורים, והסומך נופלים, והזוקק כפופים, לה לבדך אנחנו מודים. אלו פינו מלא שירה כים, ולשונו רנה כהמון גליו, ושפתותינו שבח כמרחבי רקיע, ועינינו מאירות כשמש וכירח, וידינו פרושות כנשרי שמים, ורגליו קלות כאילות, אין אנחנו מספיקים, להודות לה יי אלהינו ואלהי אבותינו, ולברך את שמה על אחת מאלף אלף אלפי אלפים ורבי רבבות פעמים, הטובות שעשית עם אבותינו ועמנו.

ממצרים גאלתנו יי אלהינו, ומבית עבדים פדיתנו, ברעב זנתנו, ובשבע כלכלתנו, מחרב הצלתנו, ומדבר מלטתנו, ומחלים רעים ונאמנים דליתנו.

עד הנה עזרונו רחמיה, ולא עזבונו חסדיך ואל תטשנו יי אלהינו לנצח. על פן אברים שפגת בנו, ורוח ונשמה שנפחת באפינו, ולשון אשר שמת בפינו, הן הם ידו ויברכו וישבחו ויפארו וירוממו ויעריצו ויקדישו וימליכו את שמה מלכנו, כי כל פה לה יודה, וכל לשון לה תשבע, וכל ברך לה תכרע, וכל קומה לפניך תשתחוה, וכל לבבות יראוה, וכל קרב וכליות יזמרו לשמה. כדבר שכתוב, כל עצמותי תאמרנה יי מי כמוך. מציל עני מחזק ממנו, ועני ואביון מגזלו: מי ידמה לה, ומי ישוה לה ומי יערה לה. האל הגדול הגבור והנורא, אל עליון קנה שמים וארץ. והללה ונשבחה ונפארה ונברך את-שם קדשה. כאמור, לדוד, ברכי נפשי את יי, וכל קרבי את שם קדשו.

האל בתעצמות עזה, הגדול בכבוד שמה. הגבור לנצח והנורא בנוראותיה. המלך היושב על כסא רם ונשא.

שוכן עד, מרום וקדוש שמו: וכתוב, רנו צדיקים ביי, לישרים נאוה תהלה. בפי ישרים תהלה. ובדברי צדיקים תתברך. ובלשון חסידים תתרום. ובקרב קדושים תתקדש.



- Kadesh
- Urchatz
- Karpas
- Yachatz
- Maggid
- Rachtza
- Motzi
- Matza
- Maror
- Korech
- Shulchan Orech
- Tzafun
- Barech
- Hallel**

Blessing After Hallel
Fourth Cup
Counting the Omer

The Fourth Cup



כּוֹס רְבִיעִי

Raise the fourth cup of wine, recite the blessing over it and recline to the left while drinking.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who created the fruit of the vine.

*Ba-ruch ata Adonai,
Elo-heinu me-lech ha-olam,
bo-rei pree ha-gafen.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי,
אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם,
בוֹרֵא פְרֵי הַגָּפֶן.

Blessing after Drinking Wine:

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai, for the vine and the fruit, for the beautiful and spacious land You gave us. Have mercy on us and bring us there to eat its fruits. Grant us happiness on this Feast of Matzot. Blessed are You, Adonai, for the land and for the fruit of the vine.

*Ba-ruch ata
Adonai
al ha-aretz v'al
pree ha-gafen.*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ הָעוֹלָם עַל הַגָּפֶן וְעַל פְּרֵי הַגָּפֶן וְעַל תְּנוּבַת הַשָּׂדֶה, וְעַל אֶרֶץ חֲמֵדָה טוֹבָה וְרַחֲבָה, שְׂרָצִיתָ וְהִנְחַלְתָּ לְאַבוֹתֵינוּ, לְאֹכֹל מִפְּרִיָהּ וְלִשְׂבֹּעַ מִטּוֹבָהּ. רַחֵם נָא יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ עַל יִשְׂרָאֵל עַמֶּךָ, וְעַל יְרוּשָׁלַיִם עִירֶךָ, וְעַל צִיּוֹן מִשְׁכַּן כְּבוֹדְךָ, וְעַל מִזְבְּחֶךָ וְעַל הַיְכָלְךָ. וּבְנֵה יְרוּשָׁלַיִם עִיר הַקֹּדֶשׁ בְּמַהְרָה בְּיָמֵינוּ, וְהַעֲלֵנוּ לְתוֹכָהּ, וְשִׂמְחֵנוּ בְּבִינָהּ וְנֹאכַל מִפְּרִיָהּ וְנִשְׂבַּע מִטּוֹבָהּ, וְנִבְרַכְךָ עֲלֶיךָ בְּקִדְשָׁהּ וּבְטַהְרָהּ (בִּשְׁבֹת וְרָצָה וְהַחֲלִיצֵנוּ בַיּוֹם הַשְּׁבִיט הַזֶּה) וְשִׂמְחֵנוּ בַּיּוֹם חַג הַמִּצּוֹת הַזֶּה. כִּי אַתָּה יי טוֹב וּמְטִיב לְכָל, וְנוֹדֵה לְךָ עַל הָאָרֶץ וְעַל פְּרֵי הַגָּפֶן. בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי, עַל הָאָרֶץ וְעַל פְּרֵי הַגָּפֶן.

On the second night of Pesach only:

Counting the Omer

On the second night of Pesach we begin counting the 50 days from the Exodus to Sinai, from Pesach, the harvest of barley, until Shavuot, the harvest of wheat. We arrive at the

סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר

giving of the Torah at Sinai and thus we move from freedom to responsibility.

Please rise and count off the first day of the Omer.

HERE I AM, ready to perform the mitzvah of counting the Omer.

הִנְנִי מוּכָן וּמְזֻמָּן לְקַיֵּם מִצְוֹת
עֲשֵׂה שֶׁל סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר.

BLESSED ARE YOU, Adonai our God, Ruler of the Universe, who has sanctified us with Divine laws and commanded us to count the Omer.

*Ba-ruch ata Adonai, Elo-heinu me-lech
ha-olam, asher keed'shanu b'meeetz-vo-
tav v'tzee-vanu al s'feerat ha-omer*

בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יי אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ
הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר קִדְּשָׁנוּ בְּמִצְוֹתָיו
וְצִוָּנוּ עַל סְפִירַת הָעֹמֶר.

TODAY is the first day of the Omer.

Ha-yom yom echad la-omer.

הַיּוֹם יוֹם אֶחָד לְעֹמֶר.

Kee Lo Naeh

It is Proper to Praise Him

כִּי לוֹ נֶאֱחָה

This table song, by Jacob, a German poet, is an alphabetical acrostic praising God's many attributes. Though it has no connection to Pesach at all, it entered the Ashkenazi Haggadah after the 12th C. as a popular religious song.

The first verse typifies the style: "Mighty in royalty, Beautiful in stature, God's angels exclaim: To God alone belongs the Kingdom, for all this is becoming and fitting to God."

Refrain:

L'cha u-l'cha, l'cha kee l'cha, l'cha af l'cha.

L'cha Adonai ha-mam-lacha.

Kee lo na-eh, kee lo ya-eh.



אֲדִיר בְּמְלוּכָה, בְּחֹזֶק כְּהִלְכָה, גְּדוּדָיו יֹאמְרוּ לוֹ:
 לֵה וְלֵה, לֵה כִּי לֵה, לֵה אֵף לֵה, לֵה יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה.
 לֵה יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה.
 כִּי לוֹ נֶאֱחָה, כִּי לוֹ יֶאֱחָה.

דְּגוּל בְּמְלוּכָה, הֶדוּר כְּהִלְכָה, וְתִיקֵו יֹאמְרוּ לוֹ:
 לֵה וְלֵה, לֵה כִּי לֵה, לֵה אֵף לֵה, לֵה יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה.
 כִּי לוֹ נֶאֱחָה, כִּי לוֹ יֶאֱחָה.

זַכְאֵי בְּמְלוּכָה, חֶסֶד כְּהִלְכָה, טַפְסָרָיו יֹאמְרוּ לוֹ:
 לֵה וְלֵה, לֵה כִּי לֵה, לֵה אֵף לֵה, לֵה יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה.
 כִּי לוֹ נֶאֱחָה, כִּי לוֹ יֶאֱחָה.

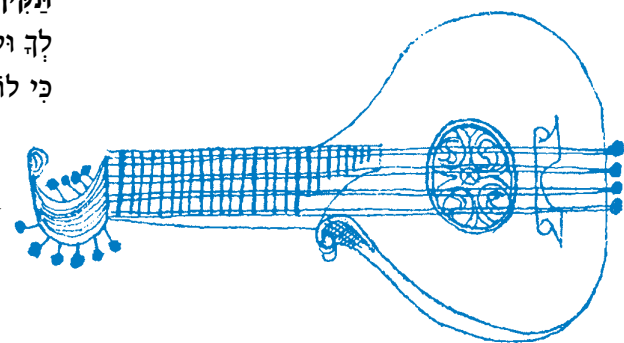
יַחֲדֵי בְּמְלוּכָה, כְּבִיר כְּהִלְכָה, לְמוֹדָיו יֹאמְרוּ לוֹ:
 לֵה וְלֵה, לֵה כִּי לֵה, לֵה אֵף לֵה, לֵה יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה.
 כִּי לוֹ נֶאֱחָה, כִּי לוֹ יֶאֱחָה.

מוֹשֵׁל בְּמְלוּכָה, נוֹרָא כְּהִלְכָה, סְבִיבָיו יֹאמְרוּ לוֹ:
 לֵה וְלֵה, לֵה כִּי לֵה, לֵה אֵף לֵה, לֵה יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה.
 כִּי לוֹ נֶאֱחָה, כִּי לוֹ יֶאֱחָה.

עֲנוּ בְּמְלוּכָה, פּוֹדֵה כְּהִלְכָה, צְדִיקָיו יֹאמְרוּ לוֹ:
 לֵה וְלֵה, לֵה כִּי לֵה, לֵה אֵף לֵה, לֵה יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה.
 כִּי לוֹ נֶאֱחָה, כִּי לוֹ יֶאֱחָה.

קְדוֹשׁ בְּמְלוּכָה, רַחוּם כְּהִלְכָה, שְׂנֵאָנָיו יֹאמְרוּ לוֹ:
 לֵה וְלֵה, לֵה כִּי לֵה, לֵה אֵף לֵה, לֵה יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה.
 כִּי לוֹ נֶאֱחָה, כִּי לוֹ יֶאֱחָה.

תִּיקֵו בְּמְלוּכָה, תּוֹמֵד כְּהִלְכָה, תְּמִימָיו יֹאמְרוּ לוֹ:
 לֵה וְלֵה, לֵה כִּי לֵה, לֵה אֵף לֵה, לֵה יְיָ הַמְּמַלְכָה.
 כִּי לוֹ נֶאֱחָה, כִּי לוֹ יֶאֱחָה.



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- Kadesh
- Urchatz
- Karpas
- Yachatz
- Maggid
- Rachtza
- Motzi
- Matza
- Maror
- Korech
- Shulchan Orech
- Tzafun
- Barech
- Hallel
- Nirtza**

Kee Lo Naeh
Adeer Hu

Adeer Hu

Mighty is God

The poet (15th C. Germany) recounts the Divine attributes in alphabetical order. and prays for the building of the third Temple.

Adeer hu, adeer hu

Refrain: *Yeev-neh veito b'ka-rov,
beem-hei-ra, beem-hei-ra,
B'ya-mei-nu b'ka-rov, Eil b'nei,
Eil b'nei, B'nei veit-cha b'ka-rov.*

Ba-chur hu, ga-dol hu, da-gul hu,
Yeev-neh vei-to b'ka-rov . . .

Ha-dur hu, va-teek hu, za-kai hu,
Yeev-neh vei-to b'ka-rov . . .

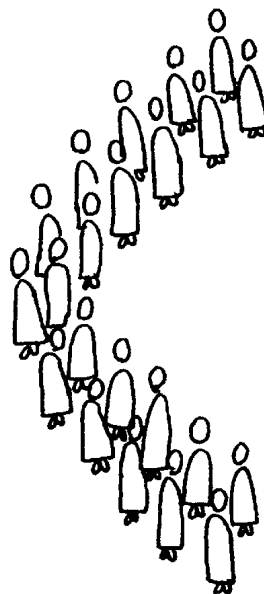
Cha-sid hu, ta-hor hu, ya-cheed hu,
Yeev-neh vei-to b'ka-rov . . .

Ka-beer hu, la-mud hu, me-lech hu,
Yeev-neh vei-to b'ka-rov . . .

No-ra hu, sa-geev hu, ee-zuz hu,
Yeev-neh vei-to b'ka-rov . . .

Po-deh hu, tza-deek hu, ka-dosh hu,
Yeev-neh vei-to b'ka-rov . . .

Ra-chum hu, sha-dai hu, ta-keef hu,
Yeev-neh vei-to b'ka-rov . . .



אֲדִיר הוּא

אֲדִיר הוּא, אֲדִיר הוּא,

יְבַנֶּה בֵּיתוֹ בְּקִרְוֹב,
בְּמַהֲרָה בְּמַהֲרָה, בְּיַמֵּינוּ בְּקִרְוֹב.
אֵל בְּנֵה, אֵל בְּנֵה, בְּנֵה בֵּיתְךָ בְּקִרְוֹב.

בַּחֹר הוּא, גָּדוֹל הוּא, דָּגוּל הוּא,
יְבַנֶּה בֵּיתוֹ בְּקִרְוֹב . . .

הַדּוֹר הוּא, וְנִתֵּק הוּא, זָכַאי הוּא,
יְבַנֶּה בֵּיתוֹ בְּקִרְוֹב . . .

חֲסִיד הוּא, טָהוֹר הוּא, יַחִיד הוּא,
יְבַנֶּה בֵּיתוֹ בְּקִרְוֹב . . .

כַּבִּיר הוּא, לְמוֹד הוּא, מְלֶכֶךְ הוּא,
יְבַנֶּה בֵּיתוֹ בְּקִרְוֹב . . .

נוֹרָא הוּא, סְגִיב הוּא, עֲזוּז הוּא,
יְבַנֶּה בֵּיתוֹ בְּקִרְוֹב . . .

פֹּדֵה הוּא, צְדִיק הוּא, קְדוֹשׁ הוּא,
יְבַנֶּה בֵּיתוֹ בְּקִרְוֹב . . .

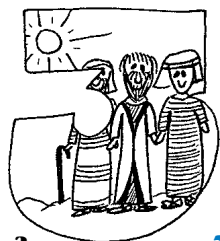
רַחוּם הוּא, שְׂדֵי הוּא, תְּקִיף הוּא,
יְבַנֶּה בֵּיתוֹ בְּקִרְוֹב . . .

Echad Mee Yodei-a

WHO KNOWS ONE?

אֶחָד מִי יוֹדֵעַ?

"Who knows one?" is modelled on a German non-Jewish folksong (15th or 16th C.). It consists of a numerical quiz written like a basic Jewish trivia game.



are the Fathers.

Shlo-sha mee yo-dei-a?

Shlo-sha anee yo-dei-a.
Shlo-sha avot,
Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.

שְׁלֹשָׁה מִי יוֹדֵעַ?

שְׁלֹשָׁה אָנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
שְׁנֵי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שֶׁבַשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.



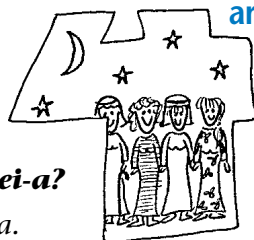
is our God,
who is in heaven
and on earth.

ECHAD MEE YO-DEI-A?

Echad anee yo-dei-a.
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.

אֶחָד מִי יוֹדֵעַ?

אֶחָד אָנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שֶׁבַשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.



are the Mothers.

Arba mee yo-dei-a?

Arba anee yo-dei-a.
Arba eema-hot,
Shlo-sha avot,
Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.

אַרְבַּע מִי יוֹדֵעַ?

אַרְבַּע אָנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
אַרְבַּע אֵמָהוֹת,
שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
שְׁנֵי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שֶׁבַשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.



are the tablets of the Covenant.

Shna-yeem mee yo-dei-a?

Shna-yeem anee yo-dei-a.
Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.

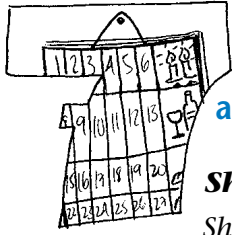
שְׁנַיִם מִי יוֹדֵעַ?

שְׁנַיִם אָנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
שְׁנֵי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שֶׁבַשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid
Rachtza
Motzi
Matza
Maror
Korech
Shulchan
Orech
Tzafun
Barech
Hallel
Nirtza

Who
Knows
One



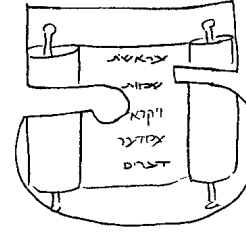
are the days of the Week.

שִׁבְעָה מִי יוֹדֵעַ? *Shee-va mee yo-dei-a?*

Shee-va anee yo-dei-a.

*Shee-va y'mei Shab-ta,
Shee-sha seedrei Mishna,
Cha-meeshah chum-shei Torah,
Arba eema-hot,
Shlo-sha avot,
Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.*

שִׁבְעָה אֲנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
שִׁבְעָה יָמֵי שַׁבָּתָא,
שְׁשֵׁה סְדְרֵי מִשְׁנָה,
חֲמִשָּׁה חוּמְשֵׁי תוֹרָה,
אַרְבַּע אֲמָהוֹת,
שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
שְׁנֵי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שִׁבְעָשָׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.



are the books of the Torah.

חֲמִשָּׁה מִי יוֹדֵעַ? *Cha-mee-sha mee yo-dei-a?*

Cha-mee-sha anee yo-dei-a.

*Cha-mee-sha chum-shei Torah,
Arba eema-hot,
Shlo-sha avot,
Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.*

חֲמִשָּׁה מִי יוֹדֵעַ!
חֲמִשָּׁה אֲנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
חֲמִשָּׁה חוּמְשֵׁי תוֹרָה,
אַרְבַּע אֲמָהוֹת,
שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
שְׁנֵי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שִׁבְעָשָׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.

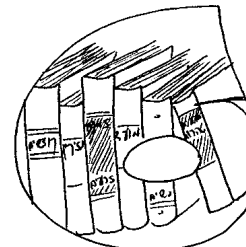


are the days before
Circumcision.

שְׁמוֹנָה מִי יוֹדֵעַ? *Shmona mee yo-dei-a?*

*Shmona anee yo-dei-a.
Shmona y'mei mee-la,
Shee-va y'mei Shab-ta,
Shee-sha seedrei Mishna,
Cha-meeshah chum-shei Torah,
Arba eema-hot,
Shlo-sha avot,
Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.*

שְׁמוֹנָה מִי יוֹדֵעַ?
שְׁמוֹנָה אֲנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
שְׁמוֹנָה יָמֵי מִילָה,
שִׁבְעָה יָמֵי שַׁבָּתָא,
שְׁשֵׁה סְדְרֵי מִשְׁנָה,
חֲמִשָּׁה חוּמְשֵׁי תוֹרָה,
אַרְבַּע אֲמָהוֹת,
שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
שְׁנֵי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שִׁבְעָשָׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.



are the Mishna sections.

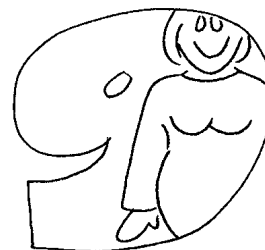
שְׁשֵׁה מִי יוֹדֵעַ? *Shee-sha mee yo-dei-a?*

*Shee-sha anee yo-dei-a.
Shee-sha seedrei Mishna,
Cha-meeshah chum-shei Torah,
Arba eema-hot,
Shlo-sha avot,
Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.*

שְׁשֵׁה מִי יוֹדֵעַ?
שְׁשֵׁה אֲנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
שְׁשֵׁה סְדְרֵי מִשְׁנָה,
חֲמִשָּׁה חוּמְשֵׁי תוֹרָה,
אַרְבַּע אֲמָהוֹת,
שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
שְׁנֵי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שִׁבְעָשָׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.

Shee-sha see-drei Mishna,
 Cha-mee-sha chum-shei Torah,
 Arba eema-hot,
 Shlo-sha avot,
 Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
 Echad Elo-hei-nu
 she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.

שְׁשָׁה סְדְרֵי מִשְׁנָה,
 חֲמִשָּׁה חוּמְשֵׁי תוֹרָה,
 אַרְבַּע אֲמָהוֹת,
 שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
 שְׁנַי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
 אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
 שֶׁבַּשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.



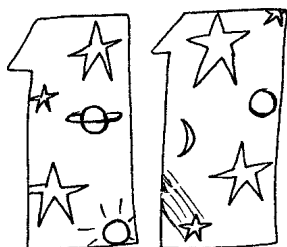
are the months of
 Pregnancy.

Tee-sha mee yo-dei-a?

Tee-sha anee yo-dei-a.
 Tee-sha yar-chei lei-da,
 Shmona y'mei mee-la,
 Shee-va y'mei Shab-ta,
 Shee-sha see-drei Mishna,
 Cha-mee-sha chum-shei Torah,
 Arba eema-hot,
 Shlo-sha avot,
 Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
 Echad Elo-hei-nu
 she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.

תְּשֻׁעָה מִיּוֹדֵעַ?

תְּשֻׁעָה אֲנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
 תְּשֻׁעָה יִרְחִי לְדָה,
 שְׁמוֹנָה יָמֵי מִלָּה,
 שִׁבְעָה יָמֵי שַׁבָּתָא,
 שְׁשָׁה סְדְרֵי מִשְׁנָה,
 חֲמִשָּׁה חוּמְשֵׁי תוֹרָה,
 אַרְבַּע אֲמָהוֹת,
 שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
 שְׁנַי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
 אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
 שֶׁבַּשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.

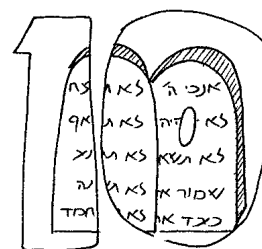


are the stars in
 Joseph's dream.

Echad-asar mee yo-dei-a?

Echad-asar anee yo-dei-a.
 Echad-asar koch-va-ya,
 A-sa-ra dee-bra-ya,
 Tee-sha yar-chei lei-da,
 Shmona y'mei mee-la,
 Shee-va y'mei Shab-ta,
 Shee-sha see-drei Mishna,
 Cha-mee-sha chum-shei Torah,
 Arba eema-hot,
 Shlo-sha avot,
 Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
 Echad Elo-hei-nu
 she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.

אֶחָד עָשָׂר מִיּוֹדֵעַ?
 אֶחָד עָשָׂר אֲנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
 אֶחָד עָשָׂר כּוֹכְבֵי־א,
 עֶשְׂרֵה דְבָרֵי־א,
 תְּשֻׁעָה יִרְחִי לְדָה,
 שְׁמוֹנָה יָמֵי מִלָּה,
 שִׁבְעָה יָמֵי שַׁבָּתָא,
 שְׁשָׁה סְדְרֵי מִשְׁנָה,
 חֲמִשָּׁה חוּמְשֵׁי תוֹרָה,
 אַרְבַּע אֲמָהוֹת,
 שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
 שְׁנַי לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
 אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
 שֶׁבַּשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.



are the Ten
 Commandments.

A-sa-ra mee yo-dei-a?

A-sa-ra anee yo-dei-a.
 A-sa-ra dee-bra-ya,
 Tee-sha yar-chei lei-da,
 Shmona y'mei mee-la,
 Shee-va y'mei Shab-ta,

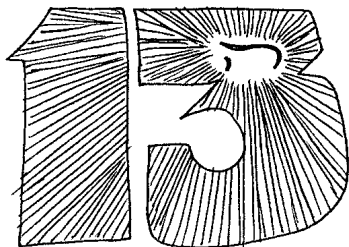
עֶשְׂרֵה מִיּוֹדֵעַ?

עֶשְׂרֵה אֲנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
 עֶשְׂרֵה דְבָרֵי־א,
 תְּשֻׁעָה יִרְחִי לְדָה,
 שְׁמוֹנָה יָמֵי מִלָּה,
 שִׁבְעָה יָמֵי שַׁבָּתָא,

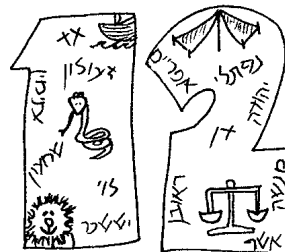


- Kadesh
- Urchatz
- Karpas
- Yachatz
- Maggid
- Rachtza
- Motzi
- Matza
- Maror
- Korech
- Shulchan
- Orech
- Tzafun
- Barech
- Hallel
- Nirtza**

Who
 Knows
 One



are God's
attributes
of mercy.



are the Tribes
of Israel.

Shlo-sha-asar mee yo-dei-a?

Shlo-sha-asar anee yo-dei-a.
Shlo-sha-asar mee-da-ya,
Shneim-asar sheev-ta-ya,
Echad-asar koch-va-ya,
A-sa-ra dee-bra-ya,
Tee-sha yar-chei lei-da,
Shmona y'mei mee-la,
Shee-va y'mei Shab-ta,
Shee-sha see-drei Mishna,
Cha-mee-sha chum-shei Torah,
Arba eema-hot,
Shlo-sha avot,
Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.

שְׁלֹשָׁה עָשָׂר מִי יוֹדֵעַ?

שְׁלֹשָׁה עָשָׂר אֲנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
שְׁלֹשָׁה עָשָׂר מְדַיָּא,
שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר שְׁבַטֵיָא,
אֶחָד עָשָׂר כּוֹכְבֵיָא,
עֶשְׂרֵה דְבְרֵיָא,
תְּשַׁעַה יְרַחֵי לְדָה,
שְׁמוֹנֶה יְמֵי מִילָה,
שֶׁבַעַה יְמֵי שַׁבָּתָא,
שֵׁשָׁה סְדְרֵי מִשְׁנָה,
חֲמִשָּׁה חוּמְשֵׁי תוֹרָה,
אַרְבַּע אֲמָהוֹת,
שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
שְׁנַיִ לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שֶׁבַשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.

Shneim-asar mee yo-dei-a?

Shneim-asar anee yo-dei-a.
Shneim-asar sheev-ta-ya,
Echad-asar koch-va-ya,
A-sa-ra dee-bra-ya,
Tee-sha yar-chei lei-da,
Shmona y'mei mee-la,
Shee-va y'mei Shab-ta,
Shee-sha see-drei Mishna,
Cha-mee-sha chum-shei Torah,
Arba eema-hot,
Shlo-sha avot,
Shnei lu-chot ha-breet,
Echad Elo-hei-nu
she-ba-sha-ma-yeem uva-aretz.

שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר מִי יוֹדֵעַ?

שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר אֲנִי יוֹדֵעַ!
שְׁנַיִם עָשָׂר שְׁבַטֵיָא,
אֶחָד עָשָׂר כּוֹכְבֵיָא,
עֶשְׂרֵה דְבְרֵיָא,
תְּשַׁעַה יְרַחֵי לְדָה,
שְׁמוֹנֶה יְמֵי מִילָה,
שֶׁבַעַה יְמֵי שַׁבָּתָא,
שֵׁשָׁה סְדְרֵי מִשְׁנָה,
חֲמִשָּׁה חוּמְשֵׁי תוֹרָה,
אַרְבַּע אֲמָהוֹת,
שְׁלֹשָׁה אָבוֹת,
שְׁנַיִ לְחוֹת הַבְּרִית,
אֶחָד אֱלֹהֵינוּ
שֶׁבַשְׁמַיִם וּבְאָרֶץ.

Singing Activity

Since the song is written in question and answer form, you may assign the answers to different participants. The whole "chorus" sings the question: "Who knows one (two, etc.?)" and the preassigned respondent sings the answer "I know one, One is our God . . ." every time that number comes up. No one dare fall asleep and miss a turn in the rotation.

An Advanced "Who Knows One?"

Who knows three? Name the three fathers of Israel. (Hint: A... , I..., J...)

Who knows the four mothers of the Torah? (Hint: S..., R..., R ..., L...)

Who knows the "fours" of the Seder?

Who knows the five books of the Torah in English and in Hebrew?

(Hint: G..., E..., L..., N..., D...; ...ד, ...ב, ...ו, ...ש, ...ג)

Who knows the ten commandments? (See Exodus 20)

Who knows the ten plagues?

Who knows Jacob's twelve sons?* Hint: Leah's sons: R..., Sh..., L..., J..., Y..., Z... Rachel's: J..., B... Zilpah's: G..., A... Bilhah's: D..., N...

Who knows 613?

Chad Gad-ya

Just One Kid



חַד גַּדְיָא

This is the Jewish “Old MacDonald Had a Farm.” Preassign a stanza to volunteers who must produce an appropriate sound or gesture for each subsequent aggressor. For example, the goat might say “maa,” the cat “meow,” and the dog “woof.” The stick could make a banging sound, the fire might “sizzle,” and the water, “glug-glug.” Think up appropriate sounds for the ox and the slaughterer. The angel of death

and God require the greatest creativity and delicacy. Everyone sings the verses, while the preassigned participant adds a sound and/or visual effect each time. For example, “ata shunra (meow) v’achla l’gad-ya (maa-maa) . . .” [The cat came (meow) and ate up the goat (maa-maa) that my Father bought for two coins].

The song, translated below, appears in Hebrew on p. 82.



Kadesh
Urchatz
Karpas
Yachatz
Maggid
Rachtza
Motzi
Matza
Maror
Korech
Shulchan
Orech
Tzafun
Barech
Hallel
Nirtza

Chad
Gadya

Chorus:

Just one kid, just one kid
That my Abba bought for two zuzeem.
CHAD GADYA, CHAD GADYA.

1 Along came the **cat** (“meow”)
and ate the **kid** (“maa”)
that my **Abba** bought for two zuzeem.
CHAD GADYA, CHAD GADYA.

2 Along came the **dog** (“woof”)
and bit the **cat** (“meow”)
that ate the **kid** (“maa”)
that my **Abba** bought for two zuzeem.
CHAD GADYA, CHAD GADYA.

3 Along came the **stick** (“bang”)
and hit the **dog** (“woof”) . . .

4 Along came the **fire** (“sizzle”)
and burned the **stick** (“bang”) . . .

5 Along came the **water** (“gurgle”)
and quenched the **fire** (“sizzle”) . . .

6 Along came the **ox** (“slurp”)
and drank the **water** (“gurgle”) . . .

Final Verse:

9 Then came **the Holy One**, blessed be He
and destroyed the **angel of death**
that slew the **slaughterer**
that killed the **ox** (“slurp”)
that drank the **water** (“gurgle”)
that quenched the **fire** (“sizzle, crackle”)
that burned the **stick** (“bang”)
that beat the **dog** (“woof”)
that bit the **cat** (“meow”)
that ate the **kid** (“maa”)
that my **Abba** bought for two zuzeem.
CHAD GADYA, CHAD GADYA.

Measure for Measure

WRITTEN IN ARAMAIC and modelled on German folksongs, this ballad – which has no overt connection to Pesach – entered the Ashkenazi Haggadah in the 15th-16th century. Hardpressed Jewish commentators have discovered a moral lesson between the lines: measure for measure, an oppressor will always be swallowed by a greater oppressor until God redeems the world from death.

Slipping in a Popular Tune

ALTHOUGH THERE ARE ancient Jewish melodies, many “Jewish” melodies are originally borrowed from the general musical world. The Hassidic movement made it a great virtue to borrow secular tunes and redirect their musical energies to the service of God. For example, French Habad (Lubavitch) Hassidim enjoy singing Shabbat songs to the music of the *Marseillaise* – the secularist anthem of the French Revolution. They believe that thereby they are redeeming the divine sparks of creativity that have been imprisoned in the encasing of a misguided militantly anti-religious movement.

You too may wish to set the words of the Pesach songs to well-known showtunes or folksongs (for example, “*There was an old lady who swallowed a fly*”).



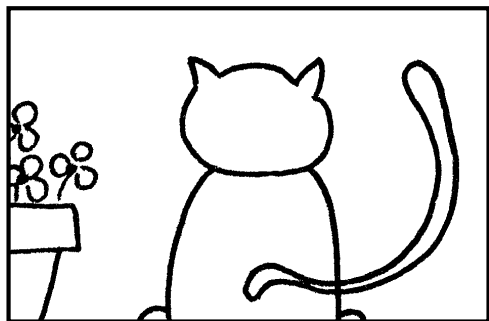
Ben Shahn, “Chad Gadya”

© Ben Shahn Estate / Licensed by Vaga, NY, NY 1996

CHAD GAD-YA, CHAD GAD-YA

D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei

Chad gad-ya (2x)

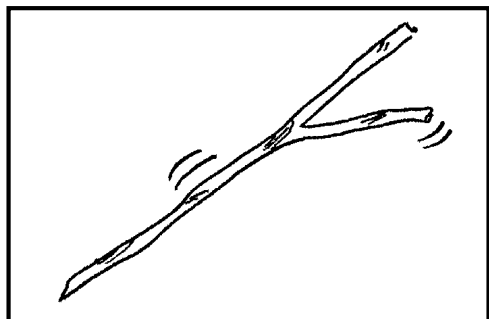


V'ata chal-ba v'na-scha-ch l'shun-ra

D'ach-la l'gad-ya

D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei

Chad gad-ya (2x)



V'ata nura v'saraf l'chu-tra

D'hee-ka l'chal-ba

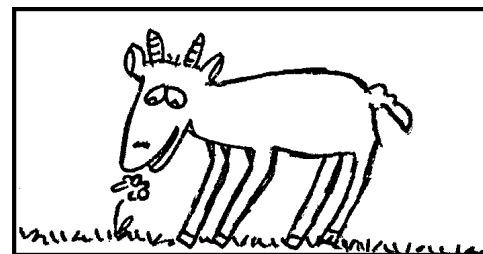
D'na-shach l'shun-ra

D'ach-la l'gad-ya

D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei

Chad gad-ya (2x)

חַד גַּדְיָא, חַד גַּדְיָא
דְּזַבִּין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זוּזִי,
חַד גַּדְיָא, חַד גַּדְיָא.



וְאַתָּא שׁוֹנְרָא, וְאַכְלָה לְגַדְיָא,
דְּזַבִּין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זוּזִי,
חַד גַּדְיָא, חַד גַּדְיָא.

V'ata shun-ra v'ach-la l'gad-ya

D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei

Chad gad-ya (2x)

וְאַתָּא כְּלָבָא, וְנִשֵּׁךְ לְשׁוֹנְרָא,
דְּאַכְלָה לְגַדְיָא,
דְּזַבִּין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זוּזִי,
חַד גַּדְיָא, חַד גַּדְיָא.



וְאַתָּא חוּטְרָא, וְהִפָּה לְכְּלָבָא,
דְּנִשֵּׁךְ לְשׁוֹנְרָא, דְּאַכְלָה לְגַדְיָא,
דְּזַבִּין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זוּזִי,
חַד גַּדְיָא, חַד גַּדְיָא.

V'ata chu-tra v'hee-ka l'chal-ba

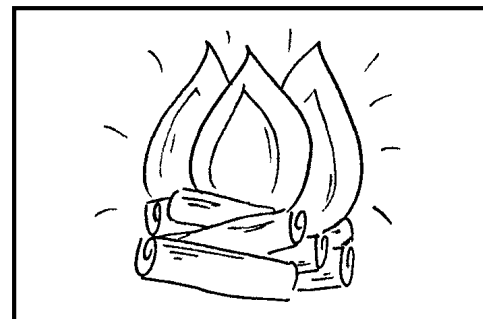
D'na-shach l'shun-ra

D'ach-la l'gad-ya

D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei

Chad gad-ya (2x)

וְאַתָּא נוּרָא, וְשַׂרְף לְחוּטְרָא,
דְּהִפָּה לְכְּלָבָא,
דְּנִשֵּׁךְ לְשׁוֹנְרָא,
דְּאַכְלָה לְגַדְיָא,
דְּזַבִּין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זוּזִי,
חַד גַּדְיָא, חַד גַּדְיָא.



Kadesh

Urchatz

Karpas

Yachatz

Maggid

Rachtza

Motzi

Matza

Maror

Korech

Shulchan

Orech

Tzafun

Barech

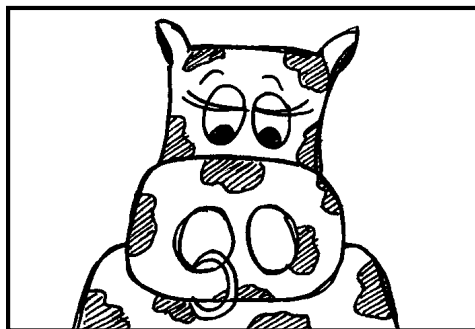
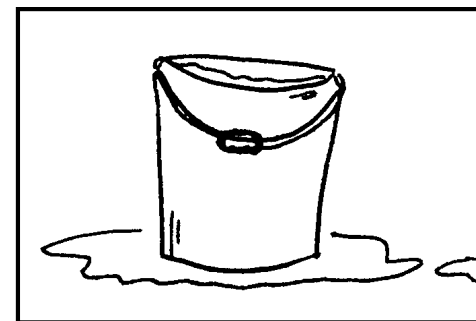
Hallel

Nirtza

Chad
Gadya

V'ata maya v'cha-va l'nura
D'saraf l'chu-tra
D'hee-ka l'chal-ba
D'na-shach l'shun-ra
D'ach-la l'gad-ya
D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei
Chad gad-ya (2x)

וְאַתָּא מַיָּא, וְכַבָּה לְנוּרָא,
דְּשַׂרְף לְחוּטְרָא,
דְּהִכָּה לְכַלְבָּא,
דְּנִשְׁךְ לְשׁוּנְרָא,
דְּאֶכְלָה לְגַדְיָא,
דְּזַבִּין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זִזְי,
חַד גַּדְיָא, חַד גַּדְיָא.



V'ata tora v'shata l'maya
D'chava l'nura
D'saraf l'chu-tra
D'hee-ka l'chal-ba
D'na-shach l'shun-ra
D'ach-la l'gad-ya
D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei
Chad gad-ya (2x)

וְאַתָּא תוּרָא, וְשַׁתָּא לְמַיָּא,
דְּכַבָּה לְנוּרָא,
דְּשַׂרְף לְחוּטְרָא,
דְּהִכָּה לְכַלְבָּא,
דְּנִשְׁךְ לְשׁוּנְרָא,
דְּאֶכְלָה לְגַדְיָא,
דְּזַבִּין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זִזְי,
חַד גַּדְיָא, חַד גַּדְיָא.

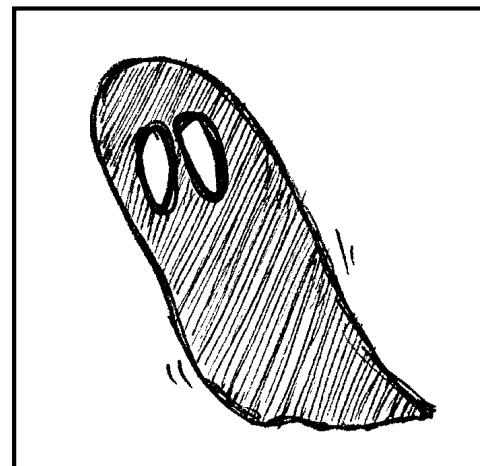
V'ata ha-sho-cheit v'sha-chat l'tora
D'shata l'maya
D'chava l'nura
D'saraf l'chu-tra
D'hee-ka l'chal-ba
D'na-shach l'shunra
D'ach-la l'gad-ya
D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei
Chad gad-ya (2x)

וְאַתָּא הַשׁוּחֵט, וְשַׁחַט לְתוּרָא,
דְּשַׁתָּא לְמַיָּא,
דְּכַבָּה לְנוּרָא,
דְּשַׂרְף לְחוּטְרָא,
דְּהִכָּה לְכַלְבָּא,
דְּנִשְׁךְ לְשׁוּנְרָא,
דְּאֶכְלָה לְגַדְיָא,
דְּזַבִּין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זִזְי,
חַד גַּדְיָא, חַד גַּדְיָא.



V'ata ma-lach ha-mavet
 v'sha-chat la-sho-cheit
 D'sha-chat l'tora
 D'shata l'maya
 D'chava l'nura
 D'saraf l'chu-tra
 D'hee-ka l'chal-ba
 D'na-shach l'shunra
 D'ach-la l'gad-ya
D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei
Chad gad-ya (2x)

וְאַתָּא מְלַאךְ הַמּוֹת, וְשַׁחַט לְשׁוֹחֵט,
 דְּשַׁחַט לְתוֹרָא,
 דְּשַׁתָּא לְמַיָּא,
 דְּכָבָה לְנוּרָא,
 דְּשָׂרָף לְחוּטְרָא,
 דְּהִפָּה לְכַלְבָּא,
 דְּנִשֵּׁךְ לְשׁוֹנְרָא,
 דְּאָכְלָה לְגַדְיָא,
דְּזָבִין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זַזְי,
חַד גְּדִיָּא, חַד גְּדִיָּא.



Kadesh
 Urchatz
 Karpas
 Yachatz
 Maggid
 Rachtza
 Motzi
 Matza
 Maror
 Korech
 Shulchan
 Orech
 Tzafun
 Barech
 Hallel
Nirtza



Arye Allweil
 (first Israeli Army Haggadah, 1949)

V'ata Ha-Ka-dosh Baruch Hu
 v'sha-chat l'ma-lach ha-mavet
 D'sha-chat la-sho-cheit
 D'sha-chat l'tora
 D'shata l'maya
 D'chava l'nura
 D'saraf l'chu-tra
 D'hee-ka l'chal-ba
 D'na-shach l'shunra
 D'ach-la l'gad-ya
D'za-been abba bee-trei zu-zei
Chad gad-ya (2x)

וְאַתָּא הַקָּדוֹשׁ בְּרוּךְ הוּא,
 וְשַׁחַט לְמְלַאךְ הַמּוֹת,
 דְּשַׁחַט לְשׁוֹחֵט,
 דְּשַׁחַט לְתוֹרָא,
 דְּשַׁתָּא לְמַיָּא,
 דְּכָבָה לְנוּרָא,
 דְּשָׂרָף לְחוּטְרָא,
 דְּהִפָּה לְכַלְבָּא,
 דְּנִשֵּׁךְ לְשׁוֹנְרָא,
 דְּאָכְלָה לְגַדְיָא,
דְּזָבִין אַבָּא בְּתַרְי זַזְי,
חַד גְּדִיָּא, חַד גְּדִיָּא.

Next
 Year
 in
 Jerusalem

Conclusion - Nirtza



1. The Pesach Seder ends with a prayer that all our efforts to perform the Seder properly may be pleasing and acceptable to God. The prayer was composed by Rabbi Yosef Tov-Elem, 11th C. France.

2. We also look forward to next year's Seder. Hopefully we will celebrate it in a more peaceful world and in a fully restored Jerusalem. We conclude with **Next Year in Jerusalem.**

Oseh Shalom

GOD makes peace in heaven, and so may God make peace over us, all Israel [and humanity]. Amen.

עֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם בְּמִרְוֹמָיו
הוּא יַעֲשֵׂה שְׁלוֹם עָלֵינוּ
וְעַל כָּל יִשְׂרָאֵל, וְאָמְרוּ אָמֵן.

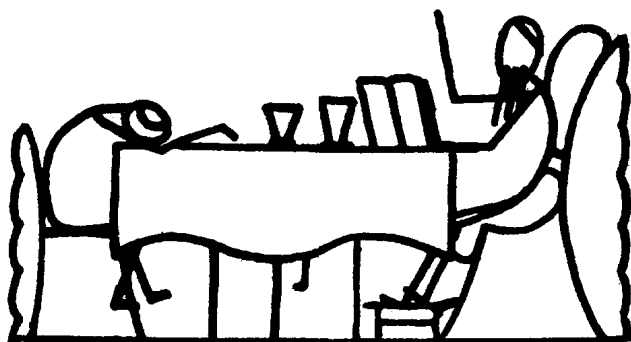
*Oseh shalom beem-romav
hu ya-aseh shalom aleinu
v'al kol Yisrael v'emru amen.*

The Concluding Poem: Looking Forward to Next Year's Seder

CONCLUDED is the Pesach Seder,
Finished down to the last detail
with all its laws and customs.
As we have been able to conduct this Seder,
So may we someday perform it in Jerusalem.
Pure One who dwells in the palace,
Support your congregation countless in number.
May you soon lead the offshoots of your stock,
Bringing the redeemed to Zion in joy.

חֲסֵל סְדוּר פֶּסַח כְּהִלְכָתוֹ,
כָּכֵל מִשְׁפָּטוֹ וְחֻקָּתוֹ.
כְּאֲשֶׁר זָכִינוּ לְסֵדֵר אוֹתוֹ,
כֵּן נִזְכֶּה לַעֲשׂוֹתוֹ.

זָךְ שׁוֹכֵן מְעוֹנָה,
קוֹמֵם קֹהֵל עֵדֶת מִי מְנָה.
בְּקִרְוֹב נִהַל נִטְעֵי כִנֶּה,
פְּדוּיִם לְצִיּוֹן בְּרִנָּה.



Otto Geismar, 1927

All sing:

לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה בִּירוּשָׁלַיִם!

La-Shana Ha-ba-a Bee-Yeru-sha-layeem!

NEXT YEAR IN JERUSALEM!

Storyteller's Appendix

כָּל הַמְרַבֵּה

“The more one expands and embellishes the story, the more commendable it is”

The Haggadah recommends that parents go beyond the text of the Haggadah and improvise dramatically in retelling the story of the Exodus. **The traditional Haggadah does not include a script for the storyteller** nor even bring the appropriate Biblical chapters.

Some parents like to tell the story in their own words.

Others ask the children to retell what they have learned in school under three major headings:

1. What was it like to be a slave?
2. What do you know about Moshe as a baby and as a young man?
3. How did the Jews finally become free?

(Before the Seder ask the children to prepare drawings to illustrate these themes and then to show and tell what they drew).

Many parents prefer to use a script. Try reading aloud one of the following selections (pages 86-90).

A Philosopher at Home: David Hartman

OUR FAMILY labors a long time at our Seder trying to grasp the first part of the Haggadah: “*We were slaves in the land of Egypt.*” I ask my children: **What do you think it feels like to be a slave?**

ONCE I TOLD my four-year-old a story about a boy who did not see his Daddy for a year: “The boy had a birthday and Daddy couldn’t come. Then Daddy called and said, ‘I’m going to come home.’ The boy invited all his friends to come and see his Daddy, because he loved him. He said, ‘**Abba is coming home.**’ He watched his Mommy cook kugel, his Daddy’s favorite. Just after his friends had come, Abba called to say, ‘The boss won’t let me come.’ The little boy said, ‘What do you mean, the boss won’t let you come? Tell him your son wants you home. Everybody wants you. We miss you!’”

SUDDENLY I could not help it, I started crying and my son started crying about the kid in the story. I created this dialogue of the Abba trying to explain to his little son: “I can’t make my own decisions. The boss decides my movements for me.” We felt the loneliness of the little boy who wanted so much to see his father but who knew that his love is not enough to bring him home. **That is what it means to be a slave. You can’t control your life.**

(That is the story I tell when my child is four. At twelve, I tell another story. At sixteen, still another. On Pesach night I am a multi-faceted storyteller because my autobiography encompasses so many dimensions).



Otto Geismar, 1927

"By Tomorrow Today Will Be a Story"

Isaac Bashevis Singer:

"When a day passes, it is no longer there. What remains of it? Nothing more than a story. If stories weren't told or books weren't written, humans would live like the beasts, only for the day."

Reb Zebulun said, "Today we live, but by tomorrow today will be a story. **The whole world, all human life, is one long story.**"

Children are as puzzled by passing time as grownups. What happens to a day once it is gone? Where are all our yesterdays with their joys and sorrows? Literature helps us remember the past with its many moods. **To the storyteller yesterday is still here** as are the years and the decades gone by.

In stories time does not vanish. Neither do people and animals. For the writer and his readers, all creatures go on living forever. What happened long ago is still present.

(I.B. Singer, Nobel prize laureate, Yiddish literature, from Zlateh the Goat)

Forgetfulness and Memory

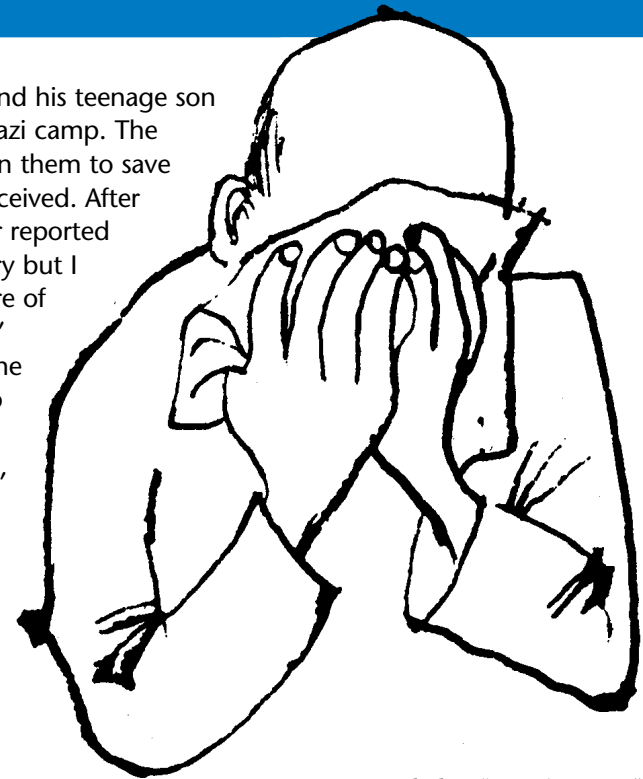
"Forgetfulness leads to exile, while memory is the secret of redemption," says the Baal Shem Tov (18th C. founder of Hassidism). Therefore, we celebrate Passover by teaching ourselves to become inventive storytellers and empathetic listeners.



Trieste Haggadah, 1864

Not By Bread Alone

In the spring of 1945 a father and his teenage son shared the harsh labor in the Nazi camp. The father suggested a pact between them to save part of what little bread they received. After several days of saving the father reported to his son sheepishly: "I am sorry but I have given away our whole store of bread to a new arrival." "Why?" asked the son in desperation. The father explained, "There are two reasons: First, he needed food even more than we and second, I exchanged the bread for a miniature Haggadah." Several days later using this Haggadah, the father was able to raise people's spirits by conducting a Seder for many inmates. Even though matza was unavailable, the Seder gave everyone a special kind of nourishment – hope.



*Ben Shahn, "Weeping Man"
(© 1996 Ben Shahn/Vaga, NY)*

Heroic Women and Baby Moses

retold by Diana Craig (*The Young Moses*)

In one small corner of Egypt, just where the great river Nile runs into the sea, there lived some people called Israelites. They had come from Israel to Egypt many years before to look for food.

God had promised to look after the Israelites in their new home, and at first everyone was very happy. There was plenty to eat, and they grew strong and had lots of children. Soon their families filled the land.

But then everything changed. The king of Egypt, who was called the Pharaoh, died, and a new Pharaoh became king. He hated the Jews.

"There are so many of them," he grumbled. "Just think what would happen if they turned against us. They might even take sides with our enemies. We must stop them!" So he thought of a plan. "We'll make them our slaves," he announced with an evil grin. "We'll work them so hard they won't even have time to think of fighting us . . . with a bit of luck they may even die of exhaustion!"

So the Jews slaved from sunrise to sunset, making bricks and moving huge stones to build Egyptian cities. When they were not building cities, they had to dig the fields and plant all the wheat and barley.

The Jews were exhausted, just as the Pharaoh had hoped. But they didn't die. In fact, they didn't even get ill. They stayed just as strong and healthy as ever. The Pharaoh's wicked plan wasn't working.

So he had another idea. He told the nurses that they must kill all Israelite baby boys as soon as they were born. But the nurses knew that God would not approve if they did such a terrible thing, so they made up an excuse.

"We're so sorry, Your Majesty," they lied, not daring to look the Pharaoh in the eye. "But the babies are born so quickly that



we never get there in time."

"All right then," replied the Pharaoh angrily. "They'll just have to be thrown in the river instead!"

All the Jewish mothers were terrified and tried to hide their babies. One mother hid her newborn boy in a corner of her house. If anyone heard him crying and wondered about the noise, she knew what to say.

"It's a sick sheep I'm looking after," she would tell them. "Funny, isn't it, how they sound just like babies when they're ill?" No one suspected anything.



Leon Baxter

But soon the baby grew too big to hide. "I know what I'll do," thought his mother. "I'll make a little ark of reeds and float the baby on the river, near where the Pharaoh's daughter comes to wash every morning, and she's sure to find him. She has no children of her own, and she's not nearly as cruel as that wicked king. Perhaps she'll feel sorry for my baby and save him."

So the mother took a big basket and painted the outside with black, sticky stuff called pitch, to stop the water from getting in. Then she laid the baby inside and put the basket among the reeds near the river bank. She told her daughter, Miriam, to stay and see what happened.

Sure enough, the princess came down to the water's edge and stopped the basket. She sent one of her servants to fetch it, and she was amazed to see a little baby tucked up snugly inside.

"Whatever are you doing here?" she exclaimed, picking him up and giving him a cuddle. And then she guessed the truth. "You must be one of the Jewish babies, and your mother has hidden you here for safety. Well, I don't care what my father says, I won't throw you in the river."

Returning Moses to the Haggadah

SOME HAVE ARGUED that Moses was deliberately excluded from the Haggadah to avoid deifying a human leader. Certainly the hero of the traditional Haggadah is and should be God. But it is likely that Moses was often mentioned in the rabbinic Seder when parents told their children the story of the Exodus. We have introduced Moses explicitly into our Haggadah as recommended by Moses Maimonides: *"It is a mitzvah to tell the children about the Exodus even if they did not ask . . . If the children are mature and wise, tell them all that happened to us in Egypt and all the miracles God did for us by means of Moses . . ."*

(Laws of Chametz and Matza 7:2).

Who Will Be Today's Midwives?

ONE SUNDAY morning in 1941 in Nazi-occupied Netherlands, a mysterious character rode up on his bicycle and entered the Calvinist Church. He ascended the podium and read aloud the story of the midwives who saved the Hebrew babies and defied Pharaoh's policy of genocide. "Who is today's Pharaoh?" he asked. "Hitler," the congregation replied. "Who are today's Hebrew babies?" "The Jews." "Who will be today's midwives?" He left the church, leaving his question hanging in the air.

During the war (1941-1945) seven families from this little church hid Jews and other resisters from the Nazis.

(See the full story in the Leader's Guide, p. 49)



Moses' Mother and Sister

Simon Solomon, England, 19th C.

The Shifra and Puah Award

AL AXELRAD, the Hillel rabbi at Brandeis University in the 1960's, established this annual award for non-violent resistance to tyranny. He named it after the midwives who resisted and outsmarted Pharaoh and saved the Hebrew infants from drowning. (In Tel Aviv the maternity hospital is located at the intersection of Shifra and Puah Street).

To whom would you give this award this year?

Moses Comes of Age

retold by Diana Craig (*The Flight from Egypt*)

When the little boy was old enough, his mother took him back to the princess. "From now on, I shall be his mother," the princess said, "and I'll call him Moses, because I took him from the water." So Moses was brought up like an Egyptian prince, and had everything he could wish for.

But as the years went by, one thing began to bother Moses more and more. Although he lived with the Egyptians, he knew he wasn't one of them. He knew he was really a Jew. He saw how cruel the Egyptians were to his people and it made him very angry. How could the Egyptians treat them so badly? They hadn't done anything wrong. It just wasn't fair.

One day, when Moses had grown up, he decided to visit one of the building sites and see for himself what was going on. He caught sight of one of the Egyptian slave drivers beating a Hebrew slave. Moses completely lost his temper. He picked up a



Leon Baxter

stone and smashed it on the slave driver's head. The man fell to the ground, dead. Moses was horrified at what he had done. Quickly, he buried the body in the sand.

"Don't breathe a word of what's happened, or the Pharaoh will have me killed!" he warned the slave. But the man just couldn't help telling his brother,

and his brother told his aunt, and his aunt told her friend . . . and soon everyone knew.

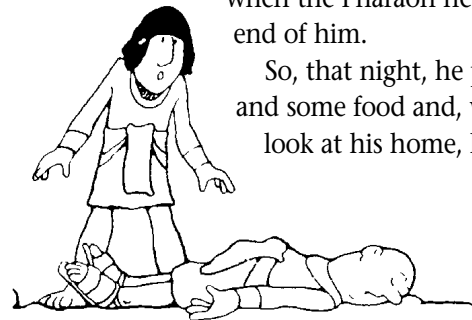
The next day, Moses visited another building site, and saw a big, strong slave bullying a small, weak slave.

"Stop that, you great bully!" shouted Moses.

"Just you try and make me!" the slave answered back cheekily. "You can't boss me about, or I'll tell the Pharaoh how you killed one of his men!"

Moses was terrified. His secret was out, and he knew that when the Pharaoh heard, that would be the end of him.

So, that night, he packed a few clothes and some food and, with a last, longing look at his home, he crept away.



Leon Baxter

Chronicles

**News
of the Past**

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Dr. Israel Eldad & Moshe Aumann, Editors

WE QUIT EGYPT TODAY

Pharaoh gives in to Moses as 10th plague wipes out Kingdom's First-born.

Rameses, 15 Aviv. - Moses' oft-repeated plea to Pharaoh Merneptah, to "let my people go", was finally heard today, just after midnight, when the king of Egypt, badly shaken by the death of his eldest son, not only agreed to Moses' request, but actually insisted that the Israelites leave the country immediately. Pharaoh had sent for the Israelite leaders as soon as word had reached him that all of Egypt's first-born – including Pharaoh's – had been "mysteriously" struck down at midnight.



Moses and Aaron had expected the call. They had left for Rameses several hours earlier, after Moses had told reporters : "The period of hag-

gling is over. This time we are going to tell Pharaoh briefly and precisely: Tonight we leave. And I think that this time Pharaoh will relent."

Pharaoh Capitulates

Merneptah surrounded by his Council of Magicians, addressed Moses and Aaron in these words:

"Rise up and get you forth from among my people – you and the Children of Israel – and go serve your Lord as you have said. Take your flocks and your herds and be gone!"

But then Merneptah began to mention terms and limitations.

To the consternation of those

present, Moses dared to interrupt Pharaoh, as he curtly rejected all conditions. This was unprecedented in the palace, and contrary to the sacred protocol, in which Moses is well-versed.

Moses declared emphatically that he had been willing to discuss terms before God smote the land of Egypt – but not any more. A smitten people, he added, does not dictate terms; it has to accept them.

Sons of Jacob: Tribes of Israel!

This month shall be unto you the beginning of months. This day shall be unto you the first day of all days till the end of time. For today you have been delivered from slavery unto freedom. Today you have become a nation.

Egypt, with its taskmasters and its heathen beliefs, is behind you. In front of you is the desert, vast and terrible. But this terrifying wilderness leads to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the land of your fathers. Be not dismayed.

For if you will remain faithful to the covenant and willingly undertake all the sacrifices the Lord may exact from you – then He will allow no harm to come to you, and your enemy shall not overpower you.

As you have emerged today from bondage unto freedom, so shall you be free tomorrow in the land of your fathers.

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one!

MOSES, The Son of Amram

Hebrews Spared

A summary check of Israelite homes in the Goshen province reveals that the Angel of Death, on his way to smite the sons of Egypt, passed over the families of the Hebrews and left them intact.

It seems the Children of Israel were under God's special protection tonight, for not only are all the first-born sons still alive – but no Israelite died in the course of the night, even of so-called natural causes.

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