

Eil Nora Alilah

Our Creator, God of awe,
God sublime, whose deeds are true,
have compassion, grant us pardon,
as we enter *N'ilah*.

“Small in Number,” we are called—
we who lift our eyes to seek You,
and with trembling hearts, beseech You,
in this hour of *N'ilah*.

For You our very life pours forth:
free us of falsehood, rid us of sin;
Fount of forgiveness, show us Your mercy,
as we enter *N'ilah*.

Be our true and faithful shelter;
embrace us in grief, console us in pain;
seal us for honor, contentment, and joy,
in this hour of *N'ilah*.

With grace and compassion
oppose the oppressors, bring judgment to foes;
oust the ones who war against us,
as we enter *N'ilah*.

Recall our mothers, remember our fathers;
renew their righteousness in our days.
Be near to us as You were to them,
in this hour of *N'ilah*.

Proclaim for us a year of favor;
restore the unity to Your flock.
Return this remnant to its glory,
as we enter *N'ilah*.

Daughters and sons, be worthy of your years
may they be many, and filled with joy!
Bless us, *Avinu*, bless us with gladness,
in this hour of *N'ilah*.

אל נורא עלילה, אל נורא עלילה,
המציא לנו מחילה, בשעת הנעילה.

*Eil nora alilah, Eil nora alilah,
Hamtzei lanu m'chilah, bish-at han'ilah.*

מתי מספר קרואים, לך עין נושאים,
ומסלדים בחילה, בשעת הנעילה.

*M'tei mispar k'ruim, l'cha ayin nos'im,
Umsal'dim b'chilah, bish-at han'ilah.*

שופכים לך נפשם, מחה פשעם וכחשם,
והמציאם מחילה, בשעת הנעילה.

*Shof'chim l'cha nafsham, m'chei fish-am
v'chachasham,
Hamtzi-eim m'chilah, bishat han'ilah*

היה להם לסתרה, והצילם ממארה,
וחתמם להוד ולגילה, בשעת הנעילה.

*Heyeih lahem l'sitrah, v'hal'tzeim mim'eirah,
V'chotmeim l'hod ulgilah, bish-at han'ilah.*

חון אותם ורחם, וכל לוחץ ולוחם,
עשה בהם פלילה, בשעת הנעילה.

*Chon otam v'racheim, v'chol locheitz v'locheim,
Aseih vahem f'lilah, bish-at han'ilah.*

זכר צדקת אביהם, וחדש את ימיהם,
כקדם ותחלה, בשעת הנעילה.

*Z'chor tzidkat avihem, v'chadeish et y'meihim,
K'kedem ut-chilah, bish-at han'ilah.*

קרא נא שנת רצון, והשב שאר הצאן,
לאהליבה ואהלה, בשעת הנעילה.

*K'ra na sh'nat ratzon, v'hasheiv sh'ar hatzon,
L'Oholivah v'Oholah, bish-at han'ilah.*

תזכו לשנים רבות, הבנים והאבות,
בדיצה ובצקה, בשעת הנעילה.

*Tizku l'shanim rabot, habanim v'habanot,
B'ditzah uvtzoholah, bish-at han'ilah.*

Leich B'Simchah

*Leich b'simchah, echol lachmecha,
Ushateich v'lev-tov yeinecha!*

*Elohim hadar bam'romecha:
Sh'ma enkat emunecha:
Uvaseir et amecha:
"Salachti et-z'donecha."*

*Leich b'simchah, echol lachmecha,
Ushateich v'lev-tov yeinecha!*

*Ha-eit n'ilat sh'arim,
V'eit hashemesh lavo;
V'yazeh mei kippurim al
Am bachar l'chab'vo.*

*Leich b'simchah, echol lachmecha,
Ushateich v'lev-tov yeinecha!*

לֵךְ בְּשִׂמְחָה, אֲכַל לַחֲמֵךְ,
וּשְׂתֵה בְּלֵב־טוֹב יִיבֶךְ.

אֱלֹהִים הַדָּר בַּמְרוֹמֵךְ,
שְׁמַע אֲנִקְתָּ אִמּוֹנֵיךְ,
וּבִשֵׁר אֶת־עַמֶּךָ:
סְלַחֲתִי אֶת־זְדוֹנוֹתֶיךָ.

לֵךְ בְּשִׂמְחָה, אֲכַל לַחֲמֵךְ,
וּשְׂתֵה בְּלֵב־טוֹב יִיבֶךְ.

הַעֵת נְעִילַת שַׁעֲרִים,
וְעַת הַשֶּׁמֶשׁ לְבוֹא...
וַיִּזֶה מִי כַפָּרִים עַל
עַם בָּחַר לְחַבְּבוֹ.

לֵךְ בְּשִׂמְחָה, אֲכַל לַחֲמֵךְ,
וּשְׂתֵה בְּלֵב־טוֹב יִיבֶךְ.

Go forth in gladness, your heart filled with joy: eat your bread and drink your wine!

God of glory high above, hear the cry of those who trust You; let Your people know: "Even the unkindest of your deeds I will forgive."

Go forth in gladness, your heart filled with joy: eat your bread and drink your wine!

Now, as the gates are closing; now, as the sun begins to fade — with waters of atonement bathe Your people — the ones You embrace in love.

Go forth in gladness, your heart filled with joy: eat your bread and drink your wine!

Hashiveini

*Hashiveini v'ashuvah,
chadeish yameinu k'kedem*

הַשִּׁיבֵנִי וְאַשׁוּבָה
חַדֵּשׁ יָמֵינוּ כְּקֶדֶם

"Cause me to return and I shall return, renew our days as of old!" (Adapted from Lamentations 5:21)

Bereshit Rabbah 12:13

And Cain went out from before God (Gen. 4:16). He went out happily, just as it is said, "He goes out to greet you [and when he sees you, he will rejoice in his heart]." (Ex. 4:14). Adam met him and said to him, "What happened to your case?" He said to him, "I did teshuvah and was pardoned." Adam began to slap his face, saying, "That's the power of teshuvah and I hadn't known!"

וַיֵּצֵא קַיִן מִלִּפְנֵי ה' (בראשית ד, טז) יֵצֵא שְׂמֵחַ,
הֵיךְ מָה דְאַתָּה אָמַר (שמות ד, יד): הֲנִיחָה הוּא יֵצֵא
לְקַרְאֲתְךָ וְגו'. פָּגַע בּוֹ אָדָם הָרִאשׁוֹן אָמַר לוֹ "מָה
נַעֲשֶׂה בְּדִינְךָ?" אָמַר לוֹ "עֲשִׂיתִי תְּשׁוּבָה
וְנִתְּפָשְׁרִיתִי." הִתְחִיל אָדָם הָרִאשׁוֹן מְטַפֵּחַ עַל
פָּנָיו, אָמַר, "כִּי הִיא כְּחָה שֶׁל תְּשׁוּבָה וְאֲנִי לֹא
הֵיטִי יוֹדְעִי!"

Pesikta Rabbati 44:9

[Consider the parable of] a prince who was far away from his father – a hundred days' journey away. Those who loved him said to him, "Return to your father!" He replied: "I lack the ability to do so." His father sent word to him saying: "Come back as far as your strength allows, and I will go the rest of the way to meet you." So the Holy One says to Israel: "Return to me, and I shall return to you" (Mal. 3:7).

...לבן מלך שהיה רחוק מאביו - מהלך מאה יום.
אמרו לו אוהביו "חזור אצל אביך!" אמר להם
"איני יכול." שלח אביו ואמר לו, "הלך מה
שאתה יכול לפי כחך, [ואני] בא אצלך [בשאר]
הדרך." כך אמר להם הקדוש ברוך הוא - שוב
אלי ואשובה אליכם (מלאכי ג' ז)

***Miracles* (From *Moral Grandeur and Spiritual Audacity* by Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel)**

The most unnoticed of all miracles is the miracle of repentance.

It is not the same as rebirth; it is transformation, creation.

In the dimension of time there is no going back.

But the power of repentance causes time to be created backward and allows re-creation of the past to take place.

Through the forgiving hand of God,
harm and blemish which we have committed against the world
and against ourselves
will be extinguished,
transformed
into salvation.