הַגְדָה שֶׁל פָּסַח

An American Haggadah for Passover

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On Friday night begin here

יוֹם הַשִּׁשִׁי. וַיכֵלוּ הַשָּׁמִיִם וְהָאָרֶץ וְכָל צבָאָם. וַיכַל אֱלֹהִים בַּיוֹם הַשׁבִיעִי מְלַאכתוֹ אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה. וַיבָרֵך אֱלֹהִים אֶת יוֹם הַשׁבִיעִי וַיקָדֵשׁ אוֹתוֹ, כִּי בוֹ שָׁבַת מִכָּל מְלַאכתוֹ אֲשֶׁר בָּרָא אֱלֹהִים לַעֲשׁוֹת.

(Genesis, ch. 2)

The Sixth Day. And the heavens and the Earth were finished, and all their hosts. And on the seventh day God finished the work which He had made. And He rested on the seventh day from all the work which He had made. And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because on it He rested from all His work, which God in His creation had made.

בָּרוּך אַתָה ה׳, אֱלהֵינוּ מֶלֶך הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פּרִי הַגְפֶּן.

בָּרוּך אַתָה ה', אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶך הָעוֹלָם, אֲשֶׁר בָּחַר בָּנוּ מִכָּל עָם וְרוֹמְמָנוּ מִכָּל לָשׁוֹן, וְקִדשָׁנוּ בְּמִצווֹתָיו. וַתִּתֶן לָנוּ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ בְּאַהֲנִוּ בְּמִצווֹתִיו. וַתִּתֶן לָנוּ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ בְאַהֲבָה (שַׁבְּתוֹת לִמנוּחָה וּ) מוֹצַדִים לְשִׁמֹחָה, חַגִּים וּזמַנִים לְשָׁשׁוֹן, אֶת (יוֹם הַשַּׁבָּת הַזֶּה וְאֶת יוֹם) חַג הַמַצוֹת הַזֶּה, זמַן חֵרוּתֵנוּ (בְּאַהְבָה) מִקרָא קֹרֵשׁ, זֵכֶר לִיצִיאַת מִצרַיִם.

כִי בָנוּ בָּחַרתָ וְאוֹתָנוּ קִדַשׁתָ מִכָּל הָעַמִים, (וְשַׁבָּת) וּמוֹעֲדֵי קָדשְׁהְ (בְּאַהְבָ*ה וּבְרָצוֹן,*) בְּשִׂמחָה וּבְשָּׁשוֹן הִנחַלתָנוּ. בַּרוּך אַתַה ה׳, מִקַדֵשׁ (הַשַּׁבַּת וִ) יִשׂרָאֵל וְהַזֹמַנִים.

Blessed art Thou, LORD our God, ruler of the universe, creator of the fruit of the vine.

Blessed art Thou, Lord our God, ruler of the universe who has chosen us from among all nations, and exalted us among all tongues, and sanctified us with His commandments.

With love hast Thou given us, O LORD our God, [Sabbaths for Rest] holidays for gladness, festivals and seasons for rejoicing, this [Sabbath day and this] day of the Festival of Matzoth, the season of our redemption, [with love], a holy convocation in remembrance of the departure from Egypt.

For Thou hast chosen us, and sanctified us, from among all nations. And [<u>Sabbath and</u>] Your holy festivals [<u>with love and favor</u>], with gladness and joy, You made our heritage. Blessed art Thou, LORD, who sanctifies [<u>the Sabbath</u>] Israel and the seasons.

(Sabbath is mentioned ahead of any holiday; as important as Passover is, Sabbath takes precedence, it alone is mentioned in the ten commandments.)

ורחַץ

Wash hands without any blessing

בַרפַס

Dip parsley, celery or other green vegetable into salt water, then distribute to everybody and recite the blessing

בָּרוּך אַתָה ה׳, אֱלהֵינוּ מֶלֶך הָעוֹלָם, בּוֹרֵא פּּרִי הָאֲדָמָה

Blessed art Thou, LORD our God, ruler of the universe who creates the fruit of the earth.

יַחַץ

The master of the house breaks the middle matzah in the plate, leaving half of it there, and puts aside the other half to serve as "afikoman" after the dinner.

Uncover the matzah and lift the plate for all to see. Open the door. The recital of the Haggadah begins with the following words:

הָא לַחמָא עַנִיָּא דִי אֲכֵלוּ אַבהָתַנָּא בְאַרעָא דְמִצרָיִם. כָּל דְכפִין יֵיתֵי וְיֵכֵל, כָּל דִצרִיך יֵיתֵי וְיִפּסַח. הַשְּׁתָא הָכָא, לְשְׁנָה הַבָּאָה בְאַרעָה דְיִשֹׁרָאֵל. הַשְּׁתָה עַבדֵי, לְשָׁנָה הַבָּאָה בנֵי חוֹרִין.

This is the bread of affliction

which our forefathers ate in the land of Egypt.

All who are hungry--come and eat. All who are needy--come, share our Passover. Now we are here--next year, in the Land of Israel. Now we are slaves--next year, liberated

Close the door

(The "four questions" asked next in the Haggadah have evolved over the centuries. They used to be quite different. At first they only numbered three, and were asked later in the service, after the second cup--a more logical time, because only then would a child notice that "this night we dip two times," in salt water and in charoseth, rather than once in salt water, as vegetables used to be eaten. Here is how the Mishnah prescribed it (Pesachim):

They then pour him the second cup. And here the son asks his father (and if the son is not understanding, his father instructs him): "Why is this night different from other nights? For on other nights we eat seasoned foods once, but on this night twice; on other nights we eat leavened and unleavened bread, but this night all is unleavened; on other nights we eat meat roasted, stewed or cooked, but this night all is roasted?" And according to the understanding of the son his father instructs him.

It is necessary to make a change on this night so that the sons will notice it and will ask, as follows: "Why is this night different from all other nights?" If he has no son, his wife asks him; if he has no wife, the guests ask one another "Wherefore is this night different from all other nights?" ... if he is alone, he asks himself, "Wherefore is this night different from all other nights?"

This Haggadah provides two versions--traditional and new. Pick your choice.

מה נשתנה הלילה הזה מכל הלילות?

- שַׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכלִין חָמֵץ וּמַצְה
 שַׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכלִין חָמֵץ וּמַצְה
 - 2. שַׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכלִין שְׁאָר יְרָקוֹת --הַלֵילֵה הַוָה מָרוֹר.
- 3. שַּׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אֵין אָנוּ מֵטבּלִין אֲפִילוּ פַּעַם אֶחָת. --הַלֵילָה הַוֵה שָׁתֵי פִּעָמִים.
 - 4. שַּׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכלִין בֵּין יוֹשׁבִין וּבֵין מְּסֵבִּין. --הַלֵּילָה הַזֶה כַּלְנוּ מְסָבִּין.

Why is this night different from all other nights?

On all other nights, we may eat bread and matzah, this night, only matzah.

On all other nights, we eat different vegetables, this night, bitter herbs.

On all other nights, do not dip (herbs) even once, this night, we dip twice.

On all other nights, we may sit straight or recline, this night, we are all reclining.

(More modern version; the third question may be modified to fit circumstances)

מה נשתנה הלילה הזה מכל הלילות?

- 1. שַּׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכלִים חָמֵץ וּמַצָּה --הַלֵילָה הַזֶה כֵּלוֹ מַצְה.
 - 2. שַּׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ אוֹכלִים שְׁאָר יְנְקוֹת --הַלֵּילֵה הַוָה מַרוֹר.
- 3. שַׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת כֻּלְנוּ מְרוּחֲקִים --הַלֵּילָה הַזֶה כִּלְנוּ יַחדָיוּ.
 - 4. שַּׁבְּכָל הַלֵּילוֹת אָנוּ יוֹשׁבִים וְאוֹכלִים --הַלֵילָה הַזֶּה חוֹגגִים וְשַׁרִים.

Why is this night different from all other nights?

On all other nights, we may eat bread and matzah, this night, only matzah.

On all other nights, we eat different vegetables, this night, bitter herbs.

On all other nights, we are far apart, this night, we are all together.

On all other nights, we sit down and eat, this night, we sing and celebrate.

עֲבֶרִים הַיִּנוּ לְפַרעֹה בְּמִצרָיִם, וַיוֹצִיאֵנוּ ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מִשְׁם בְּיָד חַזָּקָה וּבִזרוֹעַ נטוּיָה.

וְאָלוּ לֹא הוֹצִיא הַקְּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּך הוּא אֶת אֲבוֹתֵינוּ מִמְצרָיִם,
הֲרֵי לֹא הָיוּ בָּעוֹלָם לֹא עָם יִשֹׁרָאֵל וְלֹא אֶרֶץ יִשֹׂרָאֵל,
וְאוּלֵי הְיֵה הָעוֹלָם מְחוּלֵק גַם הֵיוֹם לְעֲבַדִים וְאַדוֹנִים.
וְאַפּילוּ כֻּלְנוּ חֲכָמִים, כֻּלָנוּ נְבוֹנִים, כֻּלְנוּ זְקֵנִים,
כֻּלְנוּ יוֹדֹעִים אֶת הַתוֹרָה, מִצוָה עָלֵינוּ לְסַפֵּר בִּיצִיאַת מִצרָיִם.
וְכָל הַמַרבֵּה לְסַפֵּר בִּיצִיאַת מִצרָיִם הְבֵי זֶה מְשֻׁבָח.

We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt and the LORD our God brough us out from there with a strong hand and an outstretched arm.

Now if the Holy One, blessed be He, had not brought our forefathers out of Egypt, there would be no people of Israel and no land of Israel, and perhaps the world would still be divided into slaves and masters.

Therefore, even if we are all wise, all learned, all old, and all familiar with the Torah, it is still our duty to recount the redemption from Egypt. And whoever tells more about the redemption from Egypt is to be praised.

מֵצְשֶׂה בְּרַבִּי אֱלִיעֶזֶר, וְרַבִּי יְהוֹשֻׁעַ, וְרַבִּי אֶלעַזֵר בֶּן עֲזַריָה, וְרַבִּי עֲקִיבָא וְרַבִּי טַרפּוֹן, שֶׁהָיוּ מֹסֻבִּין בִבנֵי ברק וְהָיוּ מְסַפּּרים ביצִיאַת מִצרָיִם כָּל אוֹתוֹ הַלַילָה, עַד שֶׁבָּאוּ תַלמִידֵיהֵם וְאָמרוּ לָהֶם: רַבּוֹתֵינוּ, הִגִּיעַ זמֵן קרִיאַת שׁמֵע שֵׁל שַׁחַרִית.

אָמַר רַבִּי אֶלעַזַר בֶּן עֲזַריָה: הַרֵי אֲנִי כְּבֶן שָׁבעִים וְלֹא זָכִיתִי שֶׁתַאָמֵר יְצִיאַת מִצְרָיִם בּל יְמֵי בַּלֵילוֹת, עַד שֶׁדרָשָׁה בֶּן זוֹמָא, שֶׁנֶאֲמֵר "לְמַעַן תִזכּר אֶת יוֹם צֵאתְּהְ מְאֶרֶץ מִצרְיִם כּל יְמֵי חַיֵיךְ". יְמֵי חַיֵיךְ--הַנְמִים, כֹּל יְמֵי חַיֵיךְ--הַלֵילוֹת. וַחֲכָמִים אוֹמִרִים: יְמֵי חַיֵיךְ--הָעוֹלָם הַזֶה, כֹּל יִמֵי חַיֵּיךְ--לְהַבִיא לִימוֹת הַמַשִּׁיחַ. A story is told about Rabbi Eliezer, Rabbi Joshua, Rabbi El'azar son of Azaryah, Rabbi Akiva and Rabbi Tarfon, who sat all night in B'nei Brak telling the story of the departure from Egypt, until their students arrived and told them: Our masters, the time has come for the morning "Shma" prayer.

Said Rabbi El'azar son of Azaryah: I am some seventy years old, and have never been privileged to tell about the departure from Egypt throughout the night. Until Ben Zoma explained the scripture: "That you may remember the day of your going out of Egypt all the days of your life. The days of your life, he explained, meant the days; all the days of your life, the nights as well. And the sages say: "The days of your life," this world; "all the days of your life, inluding the days of the Messiah."

?הגָדָה שֶׁל פֶּסַח״ עַל שׁוּם מָה?

על שׁוּם שֶׁצִותָה תוֹרָה לְהַגִּיד לְבַּנֵינוּ וּלְבנוֹתֵינוּ, בַּיוֹם הַזֶּה, עַל מַעֲשֶׂה יְצִיאַת מִצרַיִם, שֵׁנֵאֵמֵר: "וְהִגַּדְתָ לְבִנךְ בַּיוֹם הַהוּא לֵאמוֹר: בַּעֲבוּר זֶה עָשָׂה ה' לִי בְּצֵאתִי מִמְצרַיִם."

Why is this book named "Haggadah" -- "the telling"?

Because the Torah commanded us to tell our children on this day the story of the redemption from Egypt, as it is written: "And thou shalt tell thy son on that day, saying: because of that did the LORD do for me when I was redeemed from Egypt.

בֶּרוּך הַמַקוֹם, בָּרוּך הוּא. בָּרוּך שֶׁנָתֵן תוֹרָה לְעֵמוֹ יִשֹׁרָאֵל, בָּרוּך הוּא. אַרבַּע פְּעַמִים צִותָה תוֹרָה לְסַפֵּר לִילַדִינוּ אֶת מַעֲשֶׂה יצִיאַת מִצרָיִם, כָּל פַּעַם בִּדבָרִים אַחֵּרִים. כּי כּנגד אַרבַּעַה בַנִּים דִבּרָה תוֹרָה--

--אֶחָד חָכָם, אֶחָד רָשָׁע, אֶחָד תָם וְאֶחָד שָׁאֵינוֹ יוֹדֵעַ לְשׁאוֹל.

Blessed be God, blessed be He. Blessed be the One who gave Torah to his people Israel, blessed be He. Four times did the Torah command us to tell our children about the redemption from Egypt, each time in different words. Because the Torah spoke of four different children--one wise, one wicked, one simple and one who does not know how to ask.

(This page is for reference only, giving the four related parts of the scriptures. Throughout the evening, parts of these quotations are cited and discussed, again and again.)

- (1) (דְבָּרִים וּ, 20) כִּי יִשׁאָלךּ בִּנךּ מָחָר לֵאמֹר: מָה הָצִדֹת וְהַחֻקִים וְהַמִּשׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר צִוָה הּ׳ אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֶתכֶם? וְאָמֵרתָ לְבִנךּ: עֲבַדִּים הָיִינוּ לפַרעה בְּמִצרַיִם וַיצִיאֵנוּ הּ׳ מִמִצרַיִם בְּיָד חֲזָקָה. וַיִּתֵן הּ׳ אוֹתֹת גְדוֹלִים וְרָעִים בְּמִצרַיִם בְּפַרעה וּבכָל בִּיתוֹ לְצֵינֵינוּ. וְאוֹתָנוּ הַאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר נִשׁבַּע לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ. וַיצֵוֵנוּ ה׳ הוֹצִיא מִשְׁם למַעֵן הָבִיא אוֹתָנוּ לָתֶת לָנוּ אֶת הְאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר נִשׁבַּע לַאֲבוֹתֵינוּ. וַיצֵוֵנוּ ה׳ לַעְשׁוֹת אֶת כָּל הָחֻקִים הָאֵלֶה לְיִראָה אֶת ה׳ אֱלֹהֵינוּ לְטוֹב לָנוּ כָּל הַיָּמִים לחַיתֵנוּ בְּהַיִּוֹם הַזֶּה.
- (1) (Deuteronomy 6, 20) When thy son asks thee in times to come, saying: "What mean the testimonies, and the laws, and the customs, which the LORD our God has commanded you?" Then thou shalt say unto thy son: "We were slaves to Pharaoh in Egypt, and the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. And the LORD showed signs and wonders, great and sore upon Egypt, upon Pharaoh, and upon all his house, before our eyes. And he brought us forth from there, to bring us in, to give us the land which He swore unto our fathers. And the LORD commanded us to do all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our good, always, that he might preserve our lives as it is this very day."
- (2) שַׁמוֹת י״ב, 26) וְהָיָה פִּי יֹאמרוּ אֲלֵיכֶם בְּנֵיכֶם: ״מָה הַעֲבוֹדָה הַזֹאֹת לָכֶם?״ וַאֲמַרתֶם: זַבַח פֵּסַח הוּא לה׳, אֵשֵׁר פָּסַח עַל בָּתֵי בנֵי יִשֹׂרָאֵל בְּנָגפּוֹ אֶת מִצרַיִם וְאֶת בְּתִינוּ הִצִיל.
- (2) (Exodus, 12, 26) And it shall come to pass, when your children will say unto you: "What mean ye by this service?" And you shall say: "It is the sacrifice of the LORD's Passover, for he passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians and saved our houses."
 - (3) (שֵׁמוֹת י"ג, 14) וְהָיָה כִּי יִשׁאָלֹך בִנךּ מְחָר לֵאמֹר: "מָה זאֹת?" וְאָמַרתָ אֶלָיו: בְּחֹזֶק יִד הוֹציאָנוּ ה' מַמַצרַיִם מַבֵּית עֲבַדִּים.
- (3) (Exodus, 13, 14) And it shall be when thy son asks thee I time to come, saying, "What is this?" That thou shalt say unto him: By strength of hand the LORD brought us out from Egypt, from the house of slavery.
- (4) (שֵׁמוֹת י״ג, 8) וָהָגַדתָ לבְנךּ בַּיוֹם הַהוֹא לֵאמֹר: בַּעֲבוּר זָה עָשָׂה ה' לִי בְּצֵאתִי מִמְצרֵיִם.
- (4) (Exodus, 13, 8) And thou shalt tell thy son on that day, saying: it is because of that which the LORD did for me when I came forth out of Egypt.

בְּבֶּבֶ מָה הוּא אוֹמֶר? מָה הָעֵדֹת וְהַחָקִים וְהַמִּשׁפָּטִים אֲשֶׁר צִוָה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ אֶתכֶם? וְאַף אַתָה אֱמוֹר לוֹ כְּהָלכוֹת כָּּסַח: אֵין מַפּטִירִין אַחַר הַכָּּסַח אֲפִיקוֹמָן.

What says the wise child? "What mean the testimonies, and the laws, and the customs, which the LORD our God has commanded you?" You too tell him the customs of Passover: One may not say "After the meal, let's have entertainment."

"Afikoman" comes from the Greek epikomios, meaning festival procession. Even the Talmud was not sure what the word meant, explaining it in different places as "dessert," "dinner music" and "a practice of going from one company to another." It probably refers to afterdinner revelry with which banquets in ancient times used to end.

רָעָבי שָהוֹצִיא אֶת לָכֶם?" לָכֶם וְלֹא לוֹ. וּלְפִי שָׁהוֹצִיא אֶת עַבוֹדָה הַזאֹת לָכֶם?" לָכֶם וְלֹא לוֹ. וּלְפִי שָׁהוֹצִיא אֶת עַצמוֹ מִן הַכּלָל, כָּפַר בַעָּקָר. וְאַף אַתָּה הַקּהֵה אֶת שִׁנָיו וְאֱמוֹר לוֹ: "בַּעֲבוּר זֶה עָשָּׁה ה" לִי בְצַאתִי מִמְצַרֵיִם," לִי וְלֹא לוֹ. אָלוּ הָיָה שָׁם לֹא הָיָה נִגְאָל.

What says the wicked child? "What is this service to you?"

To you, and not to him. Since he excludes himself from the group, he denies a basic principle. Thou too, blunt his teeth, and say to him: "It is because of that did the LORD do for me, when I was redeemed from Egypt." For me, not for him: had he been there, he would not have been redeemed.

The Jerusalem Talmud is said to have a version in which the wicked child says "What is all this trouble you make for us every year?"

ֶּבֶרִים מָבֵּית מָה זוּא אוֹמֶר? "מָה זאֹת?" וְאָמֵרתָ אֶלָיו: בְּחֹזֶק יָד הוֹצִיאָנוּ ה' מִמְצרֵיִם מְבֵּית צֵבָדִים.

What says the simple child? "What is this?" And thou shalt say to him: "By strength of hand the LORD brought us out from Egypt, from the house of slavery"

וְשָׁאֵלֵר: וְהָגַדתָ לֹבָנךְ בַּיוֹם הַהוּא פּתַח לוֹ. שֶׁנָאֱמֵר: וְהָגַדתָ לֹבָנךְ בַּיוֹם הַהוּא לֵאמֹר: בַּצְבוּר זָה עָשָׂה ה' לִי בִּצָאתִי מִמְצרַיִם

And the one who cannot ask. You shall speak for him.

As it is written: "And thou shalt tell thy son on that day, saying: it is because of that which the LORD did for me when I came forth out of Egypt."

יָכוֹל מרֹאשׁ חֹדֶשׁ, תַלמוּד לוֹמֵר "בֵּיוֹם הַהוּא", אִי בַּיוֹם הַהוּא. יָכוֹל מִבְּעוֹד יוֹם. תַלמוּד לוֹמֵר: "בַּעֲבוּר זֶה". בַּעֲבוּר זֶה לֹא אָמֵרתִי אֶלָא בְּשָׁעָה שֶׁיֶשׁ מַצָּה וּמָרוֹר מוּנָחִים לְפָנִיךּ.

You could have told him (your son) ahead of time, but the scripture says "on that day," and it continues "because of that"--meaning, when the matzah and bitter herbs are on the table in front of you.

מִתחִילָה עוֹבדֵי כוֹכָבים הָיוּ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ, ועַכשָׁיו קַרבָנוּ הַמָּקוֹם לְעֲבוֹדַתוֹ, שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר:
וַיֹאמֶר יהוֹשֻׁעַ אֶל ּכָּל הָעָם: כֹּה אָמֵר ה׳ אֶלֹהֵי יִשֹׁרָאֵל, בְּעֵבֶר הַנָּהָר יָשׁבוּ אֲבוֹתֵיכֶם
מְעוֹלָם, תֶרַח אֲבִי אַברָהָם וְאֲבִי נָחוֹר, וַיַעַבדוּ אֱלֹהִים אֲחַרִים. וָאֶקַח אֶת אֲבִיכֶם אֶת
אַברָהָם מֵעֵבֶר הַנָּהָר וָאוֹלֵך אוֹתוֹ בְּכָל אֶרֶץ כְּנָעֵן וָאַרבֶּה אֶת זַרעוֹ, וָאֶתֵן לוֹ אֶת יִצחָק.
וָאֶתֵן לְיִצחָק אֶת יַצְקֹב וְאֶת עִשָּׁוּ. וָאֶתֵן לְעֵשָּׁוֹ אֶת הַר שֵׁעִיר לָרֶשֶׁת אוֹתוֹ, וְיַעֲקֹב וּבָנִיוֹ
יָרדוּ מִצרַיִם.

Long, Long ago our forefather were worshippers of idols, but now God has brought us close to His service. As it was written:

"And Joshua said to all the people: Thus said the LORD, God of Israel. In days of old, your forefathers dwelled beyond the river, Terah the father of Abraham and the father of Nahor, and they worshipped other gods. And I took Abraham, your father, from beyond the river, and I led him through the land of Cana'an. Then I increased his family, and gave him Isaac, and gave to Isaac Jacob and Esau. And I gave Esau Mount Se'ir as a possession, but Jacob and his sons went down to Egypt."

(Esau is described as a "hairy " man (in Hebrew "sa'ir"), which is why Jacob could fool his father out of the firstborn's blessing, covering his arm with an animal's fur. Maybe the bible named Esau's inheritance Mt. Se'ir after him .)

בָּרוּך שׁוֹמֵר הַבטָחָתוֹ לְיִשֹּׁרָאֵל, בָּרוּך הוּא. שֶׁהַקְּדוֹשׁ בָּרוּך הוּא אָמֵר לְאַברָהָם אֲבִינוּ: לֵך לֹך מְאַרצְךְ וּמִמוֹלַדְתֹךּ וּמִבֵּית אָבִיךּ אֶל הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אַראֶדְ. וְאֶצֲשׁׂךּ לְגוֹי גָדוֹל וַאֲבָרֶכָך וַאֲגָדלָה שׁמֶךּ וָהֵיֵה בְּרָכָה. וַאֲבָרכָה מְבָרכֵיךּ וּמְקַלֶּלֹךְ אָאוֹר, וְנִברְכוּ בֹךּ כֹּל מִשֹׁפּחוֹת הָאֵדָמָה. Blessed be He who kept his promise to Israel, blessed be He. For God said to Abraham: "Go forth from thy country and from thy birthplace and the house of thy father, to the land I shall show thee. And I will make thee into a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great, and be thou a blessing. And I will bless them that bless thee, and him who curses thee I will curse. And in thee shall all the families of the earth be blessed.

Raise the cup of wine and say:

ּוְהִיא שֶׁעָמִדָה לַאָבוֹתֵינוּ וְלָנוּ. שֶׁלֹא אֶחַד בִּלבֶד עָמֵד עָלֵינוּ לְכַלוֹתֵינוּ. אֶלָא שֶׁבְּכָל דוֹר וְדוֹר עוֹמִדִים עָלֵינוּ לְכַלוֹתֵינוּ. וְדָּלָא שֶׁבְּכָל דוֹר וְדוֹר עוֹמִדִים עָלֵינוּ לְכַלוֹתֵינוּ. וְהַנָּא מַצִּילֵנוּ מִיָּדָם.

This promise made to our forefathers holds true for us, too. For more than once have they risen against us to destroy us. In every generation they rise against us and seek our destruction. But the Holy One, blessed be He, saves us from their hands.

ּבִּיצִיאַת מִצרַיִם, לֹא זוּ בִּלבַד שֶׁיָצאוּ אֲבוֹתֵינוּ מְעַבדוּת לְחֵרוּת, כִּי אָם גַם נִהִיוּ לְעַם. שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר:

> אֲרֵמִי אֹבֵד אָבִי, וַיֵּרֶד מִצרֵימָה וַיָּגְר שָׁם בִּמתֵי מְעַט. וַיְהִי שָׁם לְגוֹי גָדוֹל, עָצוּם וָרָב.

Not only were our forefathers redeemed from slavery in Egypt, but they became a nation. As it is written: "A wandering Aramean was my father, and he went down to Egypt and dwelled there, a handful, few in number. There he became a nation, great, mighty and numerous.

("Aramean" is a Syrian or Babylonian. The lines that follow--not translated--take apart the bold-faced phrases above and comment on each of their parts.)

וַנֶרֶד מִצרַיֹּמָה אָנוּס עַל פִּי הַדִּבּוּר.

ַרָּגֶּר שָׁם מְלַמֵד שֶׁלֹא יָרַד יַעֲקֹב אֲבִינוּ לְהִשׁתַקֵעַ בְּמִצרַיִם, אֶלָא לַגוּר שָׁם, שֶׁנָאֲמֵר: וַיֹאמרוּ אֶל פַּרעֹה. לַגוּר בָאָרֶץ בָּאנוּ כִּי אֵין מִרעָה לַצֹאן אֲשֶׁר לְעֲבָדֶיךּ, כִּי כַבֵּד הָרָעָב בְּאֶרֶץ כּנָעַן. וְעַתָּה, יֵשׁבוּ נָא עֲבָדֶיךּ בְּאֶרֶץ גֹשֶׁן.

בְּמֹתֵר מְעַנְים הְעַתָה שָׁנֶאֱמֵר: בְּשִׁבעִים נֶפֶשׁ יָרדוּ אָבוֹתֵיךּ מִצּרָיִמָּה, וְעַתָה שָׂמּךּ אַלֹהִיךּ כִּכֹכבֵי הַשַּׁמֵיִם לַרֹב.

וַיָּהָר שָׁם לָגוֹר מְלַמֵד שָׁהָיוּ מְצִיְנִים שָׁם.

גָּדוֹל, עָצוּם כְּמַה שֶׁנָאֶמַר: וּבנֵי יִשֹּׁרָאֵל פָּרוּ וַיִשׁרְצוּ, וַיִרבּוּ וַיַעַצמוּ, בִּמְאֹד מְאֹד, וַתִּמֵלֵא הָאָרֵץ אֹתָם.

ָּלָרֶב פְּמֵה שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר: רְבָבָה פְּצֶמֵח הַשָּׂדֶה נְתַתִיך, וַתִּרבִּי, וַתִּגדְלי, וַתָּבֹאִי בְּעֲדִי עֲדָיִים, שָּׁדַיִים נָכֹנוּ, וּשֹעֶרֵך צִמֵחַ, וְאַת עֵרֹם וְעֶריָה.

וָיָרֵעוּ אוֹתָנוּ הַמִּצרִים וַיעַנוּנוּ, וַיִּתנוּ עָלֵינוּ עָבֹדָה קְשָׁה.

And the Egyptians did evil unto us and tormented us. They set upon us hard work.

וְיָרֵעוּ אוֹתְנוּ הַמִּצִרִים כְּמַה שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר: הָבָה נִתחַכמָה לוֹ פֶּן יִרבֶּה, וְהָיָה כִּי תִקרֶנָה מִלחָמָה, וְנוֹסַף גַם הוּא עַל שוֹנאֵינוּ, וְנִלחַם בָּנוּ וְעָלָה מִן הָאָרֶץ.

And the Egyptians did evil unto us, as it is said: "Come, let us deal craftily with them, lest they multiply, and if war happened, they would be added to our enemies, would fight against us and go up out of the land."

רַ**עַבוּנוּר** פְּמַה שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר: וַיָשִּׁימוּ עָלָיו שָׂרֵי מִסִים, לְמַעַן עַנֹתוֹ בְּסִבּלֹתָם. וַיִּבֶּן עַרֵי מְסִכִּנוֹת לְפַרעה, אֵת פִּתֹם וְאֶת רַעַמסֵס.

And tormented us, as it is said: So the Egyptians set taskmasters over them to torment them with their burdens; and they built Pithom and Ramses as store cities for Pharaoh.

וַיִתנוּ עַלֵּינוּ עֵבֹדָה קָשָׁה כּמָה שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר: וַיַעֲבִדוּ מִצרַיִם אֶת בְּנֵי יִשֹּׁרָאֵל בַּפָּרֶך.

And they set upon us hard work, as it is said: "And Egypt made the children of Israel labor rigorously.

וַנִצעַק אֶל ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ, וַיִּשׁמֵע ה' אֶת קוֹלֵנוּ, וַיַרא אֵת עָניֵנוּ, וְאֵת עֲמָלֵנוּ, וְאֶת לַחֲצֵנוּ.

So we cried to the LORD our God and the LORD heard our voice, and saw our affliction, and our burden, and our oppression.

וַנְצִעֵּק אֶל ה׳ אֱלֹהֵינוּ, כְּמַה שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר: וַיהִי בַּיָמִים הָרַבִּים הָהֵם, וַיָּמָת מֶלֶך מִצרַיִם, וַיִאָנחוּ בְּנֵי יִשֹּרָאֵל מִן הָעֲבֹדָה וַיִזעָקוּ. וַתַעַל שָׁועָתָם אֶל הָאֱלֹהִים מִן הָעֲבֹדָה וַיִּשׁמֵע ה׳ אֶת קוֹלֵנוּ, כְּמַה שָׁנֶאֱמֵר: וַיִשׁמֵע ה׳ אֶת נַאַקְתָם. וַיִזכּר אֱלֹהִים אֶת בּרִיתוֹ, אֵת אַברָהָם, אֵת יִצחָק וִאֵת יַעֲקֹב.

וַיַרא אֶלהִים אֶתּיבְּנֵבוּ, זוֹ פּּרִישׁוּת דֶרֶך אֶרֶץ, כְּמַה שֶׁנֶאֲמַר: וַיַרא אֱלֹהִים אֶתּיבְּנֵי יִשׂרָאֵל, וַיִּדַע אֱלֹהִים.

וְאֶת עֲמָלֵבוּ, אֵלוּ הַבָּנִים, כְּמַה שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר: כָּל הַבֵּן הַיְלוֹד הַיאֹרָה תַשׁלִיכוּהוּ, וכָל הבת תחיוּן.

רָאֶת לַ**תַבֶּנוּ,** זֶה הַדחַק, כְּמַה שֶׁנֶאֱמֵר: וגַם רָאִיתִי אֶת הַלַחַץ אֲשֶׁר מִצרֵיִם לחֲצִים אוֹתַם.

When Israel was in Egypt land

Let my people go!
Oppressed so hard they could not stand.
Let my people go!
Go down, Moses, way down, in Egypt land
Tell ol' Pharaoh:
Let my people go!

"Thus saith the LORD" bold Moses said,

Let my people go!
"Or else I smite your firstborn dead"
Let my people go!
Go down, Moses, way down, in Egypt land
Tell ol' Pharaoh:
Let my people go!

As Israel stood by the water side,

Let my people go!
By God's command they did divide
Let my people go!
Go down, Moses, way down, in Egypt land
Tell ol' Pharaoh:
Let my people go!

וַיוֹצִיאֵנוּ ה' מִמְצרַיִם, בְּיָד חֲזָקָה וּבִזרֹעַ נְטוּיָה, ובמרַא גַדוֹל וּבאתוֹת וּבִמוֹפּתִים

And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a strong hand and an outstretched arm, with great terror, signs and wonders.