

RETURN AGAIN
OR SHALOM
High Holiday Liturgy Supplement
5782



Hannah Dresner

UNKNOWNABLE

Heather Paul

God is unknowable
but here's what I know:
God yearns to be known

God is sitting alone in the
schoolyard wearing black
and listening to death metal
God's not sure why
it sounds like a prayer

God is writing a poem
about us and isn't sure
what's missing
God is writing a letter
but can't find an ending

God is refreshing God's
Twitter feed
God is liking posts on Instagram
God has 6 million unread emails
God's connection is unstable

God is stuck in traffic
God is in the hospital waiting room
God is singing at a campfire
God is pulling an all-nighter
in the university library
God is sighing, buying fruit
in the grocery store –
even organic doesn't taste
like the Garden

God is grieving
God's own inability
to heal all who need healing
God is trying to remember
that when someone is suffering
God's Presence is enough
No one wants to be alone in the
end not even God
God is asking for our forgiveness
on Yom Kippur

God's not sure if God believes in
us but can't stop searching for
us anyhow It's the world's
longest game of Marco Polo

"Can you hear Me now?" God
asks "Did you call My name?
Or was it only the echo of My
own voice?"

Maybe we are God's echoes
Maybe God is inside each of us
Maybe we are inside of God

Maybe God is unknowable
but there's one thing I know:
God yearns to be known

WE ARE LOVED BY AN UNENDING LOVE

**We are loved, loved, loved by unending love, an unending love.
We are loved, loved, loved by unending love, an unending love.**

We are embraced by arms that find us,
even when we are hidden from ourselves.
We are touched by fingers that soothe us,
even when we're too proud for soothing.
We are counseled by voices that guide us,
even when we're too embittered to hear.

**We are loved, loved, loved by unending love, an unending love.
We are loved, loved, loved by unending love, an unending love.**

We are supported by hands that uplift us,
even in the midst of a fall.
We are urged on by eyes that meet us,
even when we're too weak for meeting.

**We are loved, loved, loved by unending love, an unending love.
We are loved, loved, loved by unending love, an unending love.**

Embraced, touched, soothed, and counseled...
ours are the arms, the fingers, the voices.
Ours are the hands, the eyes, the smiles;
we are loved by an unending love.

**We are loved, loved, loved by unending love, an unending love.
We are loved, loved, loved by unending love, an unending love.
We are loved, loved, loved by unending love, an unending love.**

AVINU / IMEYNU
OUR FATHER / OUR MOTHER

Avinu, Imeynu, we want to accept what we must accept.

Our Guide Deep Within, we want to change what we must change.

Avinu, Imeynu, we have strayed from Your path.

Our Guide Deep Within, we have done wrong in your presence.

Avinu, Imeynu, help us to have no false idols.

Our Guide Deep Within, help us to know You are the Oneness of all.

Avinu, Imeynu, help us to know You are the voice deep within us.

Our Guide Deep Within, make Yourself known to us and through us.

Avinu, Imeynu, forgive us from the suffering we have caused.

Our Guide Deep Within, release us from our anguish.

Avinu, Imeynu, let our darkness be filled with light.

Our Guide Deep Within, help us to return to You in all of life.

Avinu, Imeynu, help us to struggle with oppression and evil.

Our Guide Deep Within, help us to struggle with disease, famine and war.

Avinu, Imeynu, help us to create a year of abundance and blessing for all people.

Our Guide Deep Within, help us work for justice and peace.

Avinu, Imeynu, send us the healing we all need.

Our Guide Deep Within, help us heal our world.

Avinu, Imeynu, help us open up the well of compassion within us.

Our Guide Deep Within, write our names in the Book of Life.

Avinu, Imeynu, write our names in the book of transformation and healing.

Our Guide Deep Within, write our names in the book of sustenance and livelihood.

Avinu, Imeynu, write our names in the book of forgiveness and at-one-ment.

We Rise

Batya Levine

And we rise, humbly hearted
 Rise
 Won't be divided
 Rise
 With spirit to guide us

**In hope, in prayer
 we find ourselves here
 In hope, in prayer
 we're right here
 X2**

And we rise, all of the children
 Rise
 Elders with wisdom
 Rise
 And sisters surround us
 Rise!

**In hope, in prayer
 we find ourselves here
 In hope, in prayer
 we're right here
 X2**

And we rise, up from the wreckage
 Rise
 With tears and with courage
 Rise
 Fighting for life, we
 Rise!

**In hope, in prayer
 we find ourselves here
 In hope, in prayer
 we're right here
 X2**

And we rise, humbly hearted
 Rise
 Won't be divided
 Rise
 With spirit to guide us

RISE!

V'YE-E-TAYUN

LEADER

V'ye-e-tayun chol l'ovdecha

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

LEADER

Vi-varchu shem kevodecha

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

LEADER

V'yagidu ba-iiyim tzidkatca

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

ALL

Ya la la la lai lai, ya l' la la lai lai la...

LEADER

V'yakiru koach malchutecha

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

LEADER

Va-yilm'du to-im bina

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

LEADER

Vi-malellu et g'vuratecha

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

ALL

Ya la la la lai lai, ya l' la la lai lai la...

LEADER

Vi-saldu v'chila panecha

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

LEADER

V'atrucha nayzer tifarrah

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

LEADER

V'yiftzhchu harim rinah

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

ALL

Ya la la la lai lai, ya l' la la lai lai la...

LEADER

V'yishm'u r'chokim v'yavou

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

LEADER

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

LEADER

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

COMMUNITY

V'yitnu l'cha keter melucha

ALL

Ya la la la lai lai, ya l' la la lai lai la...

Aleynu (It's Upon Us)

May we feel Your holy power,
 May we feel Your holy strength,
 May we feel Your holy presence,
 Surrounding us in this holy place.

May we feel the earth beneath our feet,
 As we bend and bow to You,
 May our bodies rise to greet You,
 As we feel Your presence flowing through.

It's upon us, it's upon us, to feel Your holy ground,
 It's upon us, it's upon us, to hear Your holy sound,
 It's upon us, it's upon us, to feel the love inside,
 It's upon us, it's upon us, to face You and not hide.

It's upon us, it's upon us, to think, to act, to do,
 It's upon us, it's upon us, to do what's right and true,
 It's upon us, it's upon us, to reach up to the sky,
 It's upon us, it's upon us, to take our wings and fly.

Aleynu l'shabeach ladon hakol!
Aleynu l'shabeach ladon hakol!
Aleynu l'shabeach ladon hakol!
Aleynu l'shabeach ladon hakol!

May we feel Your holy power,
 May we feel Your holy strength,
 May we feel Your holy presence,
 Surround us in the holy place...

ON YOUR WAY HOME

It's a river that rolls and flows,
It's a story that never grows old,
It's a light on the land.
You can reach out your hand,
It's a part of us all.

It's the full moon that shines on down,
It's the crackle of snow on the ground.
It's a sip when you're dry,
It's the tears that you cry –
You know it's always around.

CHORUS:

And we just drift with the tide,
Trying to find the light that's inside,
Sometimes it's hard to resign
Yourself to your life.
But you quiet your heart and your mind,
Not looking so hard is the best way to find
That certain light that will shine
On your way home.

It's the faraway look you get
When you think about someone you met.
It was a long time ago,
But in your heart you still know
They're a part of you yet.

It's the warmth of the sound you hear,
When you think about someone so dear.
It's been quite awhile
But they live in your smile
Growing stronger each year.

CHORUS:

OD YAVO SHALOM

Od yavo shalom aleynu
Od yavo shalom aleynu
Od yavo shalom aleynu, v'al kulam

Od yavo shalom aleynu
Od yavo shalom aleynu
Od yavo shalom aleynu, v'al kulam

Salaam, aleynu v'al kol ha-olam!
Salaam, salaam

Salaam, aleynu v'al kol ha-olam!
Salaam, salaam

May there be peace for us and for everyone.
Peace - for us and for the whole world!
Peace.

KI HINE KACHOMER

*Ki hine ka-chomer b'yad ha-yotzer
Birtzoto marchiv u-virtzoto mekatzer
Kein anachnu b'yadcha chesed notzer
Labrit habeit v'al tefen layetzer*

We are as clay in potter's hand
SHe does contract, SHe does expand
So, we are Yours to shape at will
We yield to You — Our passions still
We yield to You — Our passions still

*Ki hine cha-even b'yad ha-mesatet
Bitzoto ochez u-virttzoto mechatet
Kein anachnu b'yadcha m'chaye u-memotet
Labrit habeit v'al tefen layetzer*

Like mason shaping rough-hewn stone
We are Your stuff in flesh and bone
You deal with us in death, in life
We yield to You — please heal our strife
We yield to You — please heal our strife

*Ki hine ka-grazen b'yad ha-charsh
Bitzoto dibek la-or u-virttzoto peirash
Kein anachnu b'yadcha tomech ani va-rash
Labrit habeit v'al tefen layetzer*

The smith can shape a blade of steel
Shape the edge and bend the heel
So, through life's furnace you temper us
We yield to You — surrender us
We yield to You — surrender us

Vidui

Jill Hammer, adapted

Inevitably, all lives
rub up against other lives
and so has mine
for good and for harm.

For all the ways
my life has touched others
in love, in compassion,
in wisdom, in justice,
in joy, in wonder,
in healing, in grace,
in ordinary kindness,
knowing or unknowing,
I am grateful.

For all the ways
other lives have touched mine
in love, in compassion,
in wisdom, in justice,
in joy, in wonder,
in healing, in grace,
in ordinary kindness,
knowing or unknowing,
I am grateful.

For all the ways
my life has touched others
in anger, in cruelty,
in hurtfulness, in unfairness,
in ignorance, in numbness,
in narrowness, in selfishness,

in carelessness, in unmindfulness,
knowing or unknowing,
I ask forgiveness.

For all the ways
the lives of others have touched mine
in anger, in cruelty,
in hurtfulness, in unfairness
in ignorance, in numbness,
in narrowness, in selfishness,
in carelessness, in unmindfulness,
knowing or unknowing,
I offer forgiveness.

And to all the mysteries,
all that remains uncertain and
unknown,
I offer my surrender.

My intention is that the sum total of
my life
be for the good.
Yehi ratzon milifnei Shekhinah:
May all this, be acceptable.

In this time
and for all time:
Le'olam ul'almei almayah.
Amen.

RACHAMANA
Compassionate One

רחמנא ליבא בעי

Rachamana Liba Baei

The Compassionate One desires the heart.

Talmud Sanhedrin

*

רחמנא דעני לעניי ענינא!

רחמנא דעני לתבירי לבא ענינא

Rachamana d'anei l'ani-yei aneina!

Rachamana d'ani litbirei liba, aneina, aneina!

Merciful One who answers those in need, answer us!
 Merciful One who answers the broken-hearted, answer us)

Selichot Liturgy

My longing, my God, is for you
My desire and love are for you

My heart and my veins are yours
My soul and my breath are yours

Bring me back, and I will come back
Please accept my return

לְךָ אֵלִי תִשׁוּקָתִי	בְּךָ חֶשְׁקִי וְאַהֲבָתִי
לְךָ לִבִּי וְכִלְיוֹתַי	לְךָ רוּחִי וְנִשְׁמָתִי
הַשִּׁיבֵנִי וְאַשׁוּבָה	וְתִרְצֵה אֶת תְּשׁוּבָתִי

Lecha Eli teshukati / b'cha cheshki v'-ahavati

L'cha libi v'-chilyotai / l'cha ruhi v'-nishmati

Hashiveini v'-ashuva / v'-tirtzeh et t'shuvati

Bring me back, and I will come back

Accept me, compassionate ONE!

[illegible][illegible]

Overwhelming, one most humble,
life of all the worlds.
Power to save, in power proud,
the life of all the worlds.
Splendor bright and steady justice,
the life of all the worlds.
Quest and call, holy quintessence,
life of all the worlds.
Rejoicing song, subject revered,
the life of all the worlds.
Song of the world, subject of praise,
the life of all the worlds.

Acknowledging the Good

We've acted authentically
We've blessed
We've cultivated compassion
We've delighted
We've engaged empathically
We've favored fairness
We've galvanized
We've harmonized
We've inspired
We've joined
We've kindled kindness
We've laughed
We've matured

We've nurtured
We've offered optimism
We've persevered
We've questioned
We've released
We've sympathized
We've tried
We've uplifted
We've vivified
We've welcomed
We've x'd out excess
We've yearned
We've zoomed and zoomed in

For all these, Source of Life
inspire us, encourage us,
Sustain our hope.

Cantor Juval Porat, Rabbi Jillian Cameron

CUTTING LOOSE

William Stafford

Sometimes from sorrow, for no reason,
you sing. For no reason, you accept
the way of being lost, cutting loose
from all else and electing a world
where you go where you want to.

Arbitrary, a sound comes, a reminder
that a steady center is holding
all else. If you listen, that sound
will tell where it is, and you
can slide your way past trouble.

Certain twisted monsters
always bar the path – but that's when
you get going best, glad to be lost,
learning how real it is
here on the earth, again and again.

לשנה טובה

ראש השנה

Rosh HaShanna is the "Head of the Year"

A playful, midrashic word-study
by Rabbi David Zaslow

ראש	<i>roshe</i>	means "head"
ראשי	<i>rashee</i>	means "chief" (adj.)
ראשית	<i>raysheet</i>	means "beginning" (1st. Torah book is "B'raysheet")
ראשון	<i>reeshone</i>	means "first"
ראשות	<i>rashoot</i>	means "an authority"
שנה	<i>shanna</i>	means "year"
שנוי	<i>shinui</i>	means "change"
שונה	<i>shoneh</i>	means "different"
שנים	<i>sh'nayim</i>	means "two"
משנה	<i>Mishna</i>	a part of Talmud that is "repeatedly" studied
תנא	<i>Tanna</i>	the early sages who studied the Torah "repeatedly"

Combining the meanings of word roots to come up with entirely new translations is part of our interpretative tradition.
In that spirit here are just a few possible translations for ראש השנה *Rosh HaShannah*.

The season we are granted a second beginning
The time for authoritative change
The time for a change of authority
The beginning is getting repeated
The day we study our beginnings
The time when we are beginning to change
A day to change your head
The holiday when mindsets can be changed
The time to change old mindsets
A day to change your mind
The year to use your head for a change
The moment we make change in the first place
The day when every second is like a first
The day when every repetition feels like a new beginning
A time to realize that the change of year is only in your head
A time to realize that your head is only going to keep changing
The day the Chief Authority commands, "Change!"
The season we are headed for changes no matter what we think
The time to repeat our starts or The day the year begins differently
The year to change authority or The year of the First
The day of a different start or The day of second starts
A day to study your head or The year to go head first into change
Fresh start Day or Changed Beginning Day
or Chief Change Day Change of Authority Day
or Altered Head Day

May all our changes be good ones!