

B”H

A Small Cup of Wine

And other songs by

Rabbi Wagner

Yeshivas Kayitz – Star Lake

5783

Shnas Hakhel

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Foreword

Those who knew Rabbi Wagner, know that aside for his genius *Shiurim* and his tremendous ability to *Farbrenge*, he was also a prolific writer. Although typing was not his greatest skill, he spent hours every day typing up his shiurim and renown email-farbrenge. His effort bore fruit and over 10,000(!) pages of his writings are in the midst of being collected, organized and published by his family & Talmidim.

He was lesser known however, for his artistic poetry. Writing since his youth he showed an amazing ability of conveying the deepest feelings on paper.

His family fondly remembers the grammans he would compose for every family event (birthdays, l'chaims weddings etc.), and the personal poem that would accompany the Mishloach Manos every purim, sprinkled with comedy and full of *toichen*.

The most famous of his songs is definitely "A small cup of wine", becoming so popular that the niggun to which it was put became known by that name, thus the name of this book.

The current collection that you hold in your hands was gathered by his talmidim from various journals and notes over the years.

Additionally, after his passing, many songs were discovered amongst his handwritten notes. However, taking into account how particular he was when it came to publishing his works, and how he almost never agreed to have something printed until it was perfected, we have categorized these songs as "Drafts", and printed them as a supplement to this booklet.

We have also added titles, culled from the content of the songs.

Unfortunately, for many of the songs we have not yet found their proper tune, therefore we turn to you with a request that if you are aware of the tune for any of these songs, or of any song that is not included in this booklet, to please contact us as soon as possible.

This booklet is being printed in honor of the *Siyum* of Rabbi Wagner's yeshivas kayitz – Star Lake.

Hatalmidim Hashluchim

Yeshivas kayitz star lake

ט"ו מנ"א ה'תשפ"ג¹ - שנת הקהל

¹ יומיים לפני צדי"ק יום מההסתלקות – ראה אג"ק ח"ג ריש ע' רפט.

1. A Small Cup of Wine

A small cup of wine, he holds in his hand,
Young Mendel'e, at a farbrenge does stand,
Thousands of men, standing in awe,
Their attention, to the Rebbe is drawn.

Though Mendel stood there, his mind was
elsewhere,
To hear the farbrenge, he did not care,
He just could not wait, until it was done,
So he could go home and have fun.

As he walked down the street, his friends he
would meet,
They'd teach him to lie, and they'd teach him to
cheat,
He would look to all sides, make sure no one saw,
Then Mendel would break every law.

It occurred to him, at a farbrenge one week,
After all it's to me that the Rebbe does speak,
His words to my heart I must take,
What a difference to me, it would make.

How can I stand every week, and ignore,
The words being said, by the Nossi Hador,
He decides, with tears in his eyes
Enough of my cheating and lies!

As he walked down the street, he met his best
friend,
He told him my bad ways, have come to an end,
I've come to regret, all the things that I did,
From now on, I'll be a Chossid.

It occurred to him...

2. A Reliable Guide

The young boy stood watching
As the day neared its end,
The sun in the horizon
Had begun to descend.
The big ball of fire
That he did see,
Seemed so plain and colorless
He could detect no beauty.

* * *

yeshiva is over
to your home you depart,
your summer vacation
you are ready to start.
But you are not alone
by yourself you won't be,
a steady companion is with you
to help and accompany.

Your Yeshiva experiences
are constantly at your side,
they can encourage you
they're a reliable guide.
Memories that flood your mind
your heart and your soul,
that you can lean on for assistance
in achieving your every goal.

All the Torah that you learned
and lived every day,
you must put to use
when you go away.
Dealing with strangers
or playing on the field
it's beauty and splendor
will then be revealed.

While studying in Yeshiva
you often could not feel,
how the relevance of your learning
is so genuine and real.
Upon applying these teachings
after you leave,
you'll appreciate the great value
of the treasure you did receive.

You will feel its great impact
on everything you do,
how it did mould you
to form a better Jew.
All that you never did notice
while in Yeshiva all year,
will then be so obvious
so vivid and clear.

Yet it remains up to you
this privilege is in your hands,
don't forget your yeshiva life
and what it demands.
These memories should remain with you
these teachings with you must stay,
from this trusty companion
don't allow yourself to stray.

be sure to reward yourself
the fruits of your labour to taste,
see that your Yeshiva experiences
should never י"ח go to waste.
Allow yourself to witness
its limitless beauty,
in every shade of your life
providing pride and certainty.

* * *

As the sun neared the ocean
and prepared to hide,
Its rays shined so brightly
in every single side,
and as the small boy watched in awe
every color he knew,
began to appear
in the rays as they grew.

Slowly sinking lower
the sun, as it bade farewell,
revealed such majestic beauty
that had been previously concealed so well.
Then together with its array of colors
below the ocean it went,
to illuminate the next place
to where it would be sent...

3. End of zman

(California – 5748)

In the big city of L.A.
between the mountains and the sun,
where the vast entertainment
is an attraction to everyone.
On this small and quiet street
the Yeshiva's building stands,
that drew us all together
from many far cities and lands.

Like so many different snowflakes
each one unique and alone,
were all of our personalities
and the backgrounds in which we had grown
The many emotions and feelings
and thoughts that flowed through our mind
engulfed us like a great ocean
where the island is hard to find.

The common aims that we shared
united us all here,
working all together
throughout the past half year.
Whether we learn or play
to go in the Rebbe's way,
this was our goal and motive
driving us every day.

Slowly through coming in contact
the barriers began to melt,
understanding one another
each other's feelings we felt.
the single road on which we traveled together the
Rebbe Shlita's slaves,
formed a bridge of unity
over the oceans deep waves.

The six months flew by fast
the term end is near,
once again we all will go
to our homes and families so dear.
Now we can look back
at our failures and success,
the times we did what we had to
the times we did much less.

But at this time of reckoning
realize and do not forget,
the hardships you did undergo
and the ones facing you yet.
They are not your personal problems
to share them with you we are here,
hand in hand through thick and thin
to make it a successful year.

Mistakes were made a lot
you know that as well as we,
the flaws and the shortcomings
are often clear to see.
Yet we do reassure you now
as this term approaches its' end,
regardless of what happens
in us you have a loyal friend.

Whether you need help or encouragement
to discuss something don't be shy,
to overcome our many obstacles
together we must work and try.
But whether or not we're successful
regardless of what we can do,
we don't have words to express
how much we care about you.

How to solve the many problems
to us is often not known,
we are faced with similar problems
and dilemmas of our own.
But to achieve and accomplish
is not why we're alive,
we are here to do
to try and to strive.

So when you sit on the plane
and to your' home you will yearn,
remind yourself and concentrate
on the lessons you did learn.
VEHACHAI YITEN EL LIBOY
the message do take to heart,
thus you won't be marking an end
but rather a brand new start.

4. Devotion & Love²

(Hamilton - 5757)

T.T.T.O. ניגון התעוררות רחמים רבים

- R' Michel Zlotchover's Niggun

Night and Day, a young Bochor sits and learns.
to do well, in his studies how he yearns.
to excel, is his only drive.

As he grows, in his depth and understanding.
he comes to know, there's more that I should be
demanding.
oh is this why, I'm alive.

My learning, can not be real.
if it does not, lead me to feel.
a pure direction, a strong connection,
to the one above.

To go in, the Rebbe's ways.
to this I'll, devote my days.
his holy will to fulfill,
With, devotion and love.

Ay ay ay...

My learning, can not be real.
if it does not, lead me to feel.
a pure direction, a strong connection,
to the one above.

By placing my self aside.
I'll follow the Rebbe,
at every stride, I will live, with him inside.

² The bochorim in Yeshivas kayitz were making a play, and they tried composing a song to fit to the toichen, after many unsuccessful attempts they turned to Rabbi Wagner who wrote these words for them.

5. Working Together³

T.T.T.O. The Search - JEP

(on a faraway mountain-top)

Sitting by the table, under the trees
Bothered by spiders, mosquitoes and bees
The learning teacher standing there, trying to
teach
Searching for a way, his children to reach

I know how you want to learn, to do what is right
But you find it so difficult to put up the fight
So many distractions are constantly there
So hard to overcome, it's really not fair

But the things that come difficult, are so much
more dear
And to help you out in this fight, is why we are
here
Working together, hand in hand
True soldiers, awaiting the Rebbe's command

If only I knew, how to come across to you
How much we would accomplish, how much we
could do
I spend so much time with you on my mind
Your path to Hatzlachah I'm trying to find

If you'd only realize, we're not working on
opposite ends
Your counselors and your learning teachers are
your best friends
Our summers we're devoting, to help you excel
I only beg of you, to help us as well

Together, we both can reach the greatest heights
Together, we can't be stopped by the most
difficult fights
And we can be sure, that in a very short while
Together, we will succeed to make the Rebbe
smile

³ Rabbi Wagner composed this song when he was a learning teacher in Detroit. His friends recall him sitting in the laundromat contemplating the difficulties of having a hashpaah on the campers and composing this song.

6. Tetherball (comedy song)

(Gan yisroel Detroit - 5749)

T.T.T.O. The Little Bird; Ani Maamin -Pirchei I

The seriousness in the air
Could be felt by all
For a year all the campers
Would be leaving the tetherball
Oh tetherball how can I last
Without having you to punch
I play with you at every break
Breakfast, supper and lunch.

“Sides”, “ropes”, “Yarmulkes”
Every type of call
Everyone is a בקי
When it comes to tetherball
Every camper, from the best
To the biggest sinner
Memorized by heart the words
“I’m playing the next winner”.

Every time and place in camp
I clearly heard your sound
And when I lay in bed I dream
Of pushing you around
From morning until late at night
At every chance, with you I play
Tetherball, oh tetherball
How from you I go away.

פי ואף על פי, that I won't have my tetherball
עם כל זה, I hope to last through the fall
אחכה לו, until next year
I hope that it still will be there.

7. Gimmel Tammuz Didn't Change a Thing⁴

(Montreal – 5763)

⁴ For many years yeshivas kayitz resided in Gan Yisroel Montreal; Rabbi Wagner had heard the chorus to the song "Gimmel Tammuz didn't change a thing" and then wrote his own lyrics.

T.T.T.O. Yaakov didn't die – oh Rebbe 2

Standing at the ohel
A chossid starts to cry
How can we continue
[2]9 years have gone by
His heart is full of sadness
As he wipes away a tear
Picturing the Rebbe
It suddenly becomes clear, that

CHORUS

**Gimmel Tammuz didn't change a thing
The Rebbe is still our leader
Our master and our king
Although we may not see him
We know that he is here
With this in mind
We have nothing to fear**

He stood in 770
With a fire in his soul
To be next to the rebbe
This was his only goal
As thousands of chassidim
Thundered out yechi
He joined them with emotion
And he knew with certainty
That -CHORUS

In front of his chabad house
a Shliach stood forlorn
So many debts and obstacles
he felt that he was torn
His rebbes smile his bracha,
how badly he did need
But feeling new strength in him
he realized that indeed - CHORUS

It's true we are Chassidim
We're strong and we are tough
Our faith has never wavered
But we've had enough
We need to see the Rebbe
In all his majesty
Bring us the geulah
And the whole world will see, that
- CHORUS

DRAFTS

8. As Rosh Hashono Comes Closer

As Rosh Hashono comes closer
Our thoughts all do turn
to our upcoming trip
To where we always do yearn
Once again to travel
Home to 770
Once again to present ourselves
To our רבי

How I'm filled with sadness
When I contemplate
The contents of my past year
All that's written on my slate
Oh רבי how can I
To you myself show
In such a situation
How can I to you go

I am filled with such shame
How can I bear the thought
When I go stand before you
Of the pain that to you I brought
You gave me so much of everything
טייערע טאטעניו
How did I waste it so foolishly
Oh how can I face you

You know that we don't deserve
We have no right to ask
We have been unloyal subjects
Who did not fulfill their task
For us you have suffered
So many sorrows and sores
But כדלים וכרשים
We are knocking at your doors

We come as backward children
Who have no right to demand
But as children please tolerate us
Take us by the hand
Only because you're our dear father
אבינו מלכנו
Only for that alone
ריקם מלפניך אל תשיבנו

I promise to try harder

Much better to be
I want so much to make you proud
and to make you happy
Please give us one more chance
Help us once again
We want you to get נחת
We want to be good children

We come as backward children
Who have no right to demand
But as children please tolerate us
Take us by the hand
Only because you're our father
ווען אבינו מלכנו dear
Only for that alone מלפניך
ריקם אל תשיבנו

9. אוי רעבעניו⁵

ווי שלעכט עס ווערט מיר אויפן הארץ
עס כאפט זיך אן א פחד און א שרעק
ווען איך כאפ זיך ווי שלעכט און שווארץ
ס'איז געווען די יאר וואס גייט אוועק

ווען איך פאר צו דיר אוי רעביניו
טרייסיל איך זיך אינעווייניג
מיינע שלעכטע טוענגען
ווי אזוי איך בין נישט רייניג

ווי איך שעם זיך פאר דיר צושטיין
דו האסט מיר אזוי פיל געגעבען
פון מיין הארץ טיף איך וויין
ווי בין איך געבליבען מיט א פוסטענע לעבען

אוי רבי ווייז אונז
דיין גרויסע טייערעקייט
ווי שטארק דו האסט אונז האלט
אוי רבי לייז[ט] אונז
פון אונזער גרויעסער פארדארדענקייט
פיר אונז ווייטער מיט כח און שטאלץ
נעם אונז ביטע פון בלאטע ארויס

אוי רבי טאטע צו וועמען
אויב ניט צו דיר אליין

⁵ Yiddish version of the previous song.

צו וועמען זאלען מיר אומקערען
רבי נאר צו דיר אליין
נאר דו קאנסט פארשטיין

10. את אחי אנכי מבקש

בחוץ חשך וקר ושלג, ברד וגחלי אש
מה אתה עושה בחוץ בלילה, את אחי אנכי מבקש

חינוך של הורים הנהגות של רבים, האם אתה לא מתבייש
לעקרו מיחוסו ולטמטם את מוחו, את אחי אנכי מבקש

תינוק שנשבה בין הגוים לזכותו במצוה איך אתה מחדש
דרכים חדשים "לקרב רחוקים"? את אחי אנכי מבקש

ספרכם ללמד לאחרים מי בקש אתכם, לא ידעתי שיש
חוצפה לפרסם תורתכם ברבים, את אחי אנכי מבקש

לבקש משיח ועם ילדים להצליח אדוני הלאה גש
מבקש זאת ממך עצה ותושי', את אחי אנכי מבקש⁶

⁶ Biur **B'derech efshar**: This poem is a back-&-forth between a lubavitcher (shliach) and the various types of opposition he faces in drawing yidden back to Hashem.

1. A Veltishe Yid sees a bochur leaving yeshiva/a shliach leaving the frum community to go find yiddishe neshomos, and Ta'anehs: "בחוץ - the outside world, away from the safe haven of a frum community, חשך - There is a lack of clarity/guidance, קר - it's cold, there is an apathy to all things holy, שלג - this environment comes down and will engulf you, ברד - it isn't just apathetic, it's a hail of kfirah battering down at your defences, אש - a maelstrom of raging Taavos and foreign passions. מה אתה עושה בחוץ בלילה what on earth is a frum jew doing in such an environment at a time of such great darkness?!"

To this we answer: "את אחי אנכי מבקש" - "I am searching for **my brother**", and automatically all the questions just fade away. It's not an option, it's no longer a choice, I can't just stay sheltered in my fortress while **my** brother is lost in the wilderness! And because this is my mission there is not a chance I will be swept up in the חוץ, for at every moment I am focused on saving **my** brother.

2. An "anti-religious" Jew (hyl's) sees a shliach being mekarev a college student:

חינוך של הורים - His parents invested years of effort to make sure he would get the best "harvard education", הנהגות של - to act like a normal person, a true "man of the world", רבים - aren't you ashamed of yourself to teach him your backward ways?! לעקרו מיחוסו - His great-grandparents left that all behind in the old country and you want to reverse it all, - ולטמטם את מוחו - by stuffing his head with all sorts of nonsense and fairytales?!

To this we answer: "את אחי אנכי מבקש" - "I am searching for **my brother**", and automatically all the questions just fade away, just as I am a Jew so is he, and just as it is incumbent upon me to serve the aibershter so too for him, and because

11. Summer's End

Sitting together arm in arm
their emotions very strong
Farbrenging at the summer's end
singing song after song

Fresh memories
lifted them all to happiness and joy
The love that they had for one another
deeply affected every boy

A letter to the רבי each one did write
as many wiped away a tear
We promise to take the lessons we learned
and use them throughout the next year

And as each camper went his own separate way
back to his home and family
The letters from that special farbrengen
went together to 770

Yossi sat on his bed in his room
feeling dejected and sad
Problems at home and at school
things were going bad (חסר... ומסיימים בטוב)

he is **my** brother I am personally responsible to to whatever I can to bring him back to the life he was so cruelly denied.

3. A Misnaged seeing a bochur putting tefilin on a tattoo-covered taxi driver, exclaims: “תינוק שנשבה בין הגוים” this man was clearly lost to the Jewish nation long ago! He has cut off any vestige of his yiddishkeit (if he ever had any)! לזכותו How dare you introduce such holy conduct to a man so lowly and crass! דרכים חדשים “לקרב” רחוקים” Whomever heard of trying to “bring closer” those that Hashem has clearly pushed away?!”

To this we answer: “את אחי אנכי מבקש” – “I am searching for **my brother**”, and automatically all the questions just fade away...

4. again the “anti-religious”: “ספרכם ללמד לאחרים מי בקש אתכם” - Who even asked you to come here with your book?! לא ידעתי שיש חוצפה לפרסם תורתכם ברבים - You’ve got to have some nerve to come into the open with your old-fashioned ideas!”

To this we answer: “את אחי אנכי מבקש” – “I am searching for **my brother**”, and automatically all the questions just fade away...

5. The misnaged: “ועם ילדים - לבקש משיח” - To ask for moshiach? - להצליח - To focus so much on children (rallies, mesibos shabbos, 12 pesukim etc.), - Please just stop it already! מבקש זאת ממך עצה ותושי' Does it say such a thing in the torah??

To this we answer: “את אחי אנכי מבקש” – “I am searching for **my brother**”, and automatically all the questions just fade away...

Alternatively they can all be taanos of misnagdim, with 2 & 4 referring to the spreading of chassidus.

12. The Journey

My mind's filled with fear,
With awe is my heart,
At the thought of the journey upon which I'll
embark.
With the day now so near,
Me so far from a start,
A journey into the unknown into the dark.

Overcome with awe,
As I contemplate,
The difficult path upon which I must tread.
From where strength to draw,
Just to navigate,
The map leading to where I must be led.

Where can I turn,
From my deep despair,
For guidance and help I so desperately lack.
Oh how I do yearn,
To become aware,
of how to set myself on the right track.

With Hashem's boundless mercy,
an answer he did provide,
Within the very problem he placed the cure.
For this difficult journey,
Is its own guide,
Lending to a life holy and pure.

To you I can turn,
From my deep despair,
For guidance and help I so desperately lack.
I have no concern,
For you'll always be there,
Together we'll journey along yiddishkeit['s]
track.

13. Hashem Hu Elokim⁷

(Toronto – 5769)

Together they stood beneath the blue sky
On top of the mountain majestic and high
To watch how two opposite sides would compete
How holiness and evil would finally meet

The mizbeach of Hashem stood there on one side
All the Jews gazed at it with visible pride
Yet in their hearts reigned confusion and doubt,
The baal, their idol, they just can't do without

While the whole nation watched, in front of their
eyes

A miraculous fire came down from the skies
Hashem's mizbeach did triumph for all to see
The baal remained a ridicule for all eternity

⁷ Rabbi Wagner sent out this song in an email after the Rebbe's shlichim to Mumbai India (hy"d) were murdered by a group of terrorists.

He prefaced it with the following disclaimer:

“still in the very early stages and being worked on (needs a lot of work), but I decided to share it with you in the meantime nonetheless”

[- It should be noted that Rabbi Wagner was an extreme perfectionist, and his standard of “very early stages” & “needs a lot of work” was a lot higher than most people's finished work.]

After the song he put a biur:

It says in seforim: When the story of Eliyahu b'har hakarmel took place, with its tremendous revelation of G-dliness, the soton came to the Eibishter with a complaint: “You've put me out of business. When people are allowed to witness such an open revelation of G-dliness, then it is hopeless for me to attempt to entice them to sin!”

The Eibishter responded: “you are right. And in order to keep things fair, to even the balance, there will be (G-d Willing) another, similar, contest, just before the coming of Moshiach. But then, the fire will descend to the mizbeach of the baal!”

[- The Mashpia R' Chaim Shaul Brook recounted this in the name of the Mezritcher Maggid.

(אוצר סיפורי חב"ד חי"ד ע' 284) – ed.]

In one voice they cried Hashem Hu Elokim
We seek nothing in life except to serve Him
No darkness or challenge can lead us astray
From following in the Torah's way

. . . .

In each office and home, before every screen
A nation as one, were watching the scene
Once again seeing the two sides compete
How holiness and evil did meet

The neshomos so pure stood on one side
In their holy mission they took such pride
When an evil force their house did penetrate
Fighting holiness and love with wickedness and
hate

While the whole nation watched, in front of their
eyes
While bullets and gunshots darkened the skies
The evil campaign was crowned with success
In vain did we hope to see G-dliness

But
In one voice we cried Hashem Hu Elokim
We seek nothing in life except to serve Him
No darkness or challenge can lead us astray
From following in the Torah's way

. . . .

Hashem please descend from Your Holy throne
It's been much too long, that we've been here
alone
We've passed all the tests, our faith did not yield
It's time for Your glory to be revealed

While the whole world watches, in front of their
eyes
Let all see that there is none on the earth or in
the skies
Venigleh kvod Hashem plain for all to see
The darkness will be destroyed for all eternity

In one voice we'll all cry Hashem Hu Elokim
We seek nothing in life except to serve Him
No darkness or challenge can lead us astray
From following in the Torah's way

14. *The King*

In the big forest amongst the many trees
where all the creatures live and play
Each one ruling in its own own domain
searching for its food and prey
Each Possess qualities of its own
with which it surpassed all the rest
Each one feeling so special and unique
thinking that he is the best

But when they are joined by the mighty lion
room for doubt there is no more
That he is the king there is no denying
he assures it with his awesome roar.

Many simple people throughout the world
for power and honour they do strive
Thinking that they each do deserve
to rule over everyone else alive
Fights and squabbles they're always starting
for glory they'll make any sacrifice
Telling people that they're so holy
saying that they are so wise

But when they hear the צדיק הדור
no longer do they doubt or dream
The מלך העולם, רבי שליט"א
throughout the world he reigns supreme

15. *Golus*

Through many difficult years
He walked with no end
Not a soul in the world
Could he call his friend
Devoid of any strength
Over his sorrows to mourn
From his numerous ailments
His body was torn

A darkness and a dread
Is spread through the night
The loneliness and pain
Are coupled with fright
As he stands in the street

The man old and poor
let out a heartrending cry
More I can not endure

The tortures of גלות on כלל ישראל
Have taken their toll
Contained in a broken and shattered body
Is our eternal soul
Old and alone is our body
Surrounded by oppression from every side
How can it provide ample living quarters
For the נשמה within it to reside

16. Your Source of Strength

The sefer is opened
in front of his eyes
He's supposed to be learning
the words of the wise
But the mind of the student
is occupied by
The end of his week when
to his home he will fly

Many weeks and months have passed
so much time has gone
During this past term
so much has been done
But now it is ending
and the young students mind
Is interested only
in thoughts of one kind

Of many successes and downfalls
he can relate
All that he experienced
can fill many a slate
But now he is waiting
for only one thing
When finally at last
he will be leaving

But dear student please take your time
to stop and look back
Though the times we spent together
there was much we did lack
But the many errors and mistakes
the times we acted foolishly
In the life that we're preparing for

our best teacher they will be

Don't let the failures that you recall
make your heart sad
Do not let yourself get depressed
over the things in which you did bad
The many ups and downs
that you went through
In your life that's ahead
will always guide you

When you look back
at the *דבר* that just passed
Remember all the lessons you learned
make sure that they last
But the feelings of remorse
that fill your heart
Should be made your source of strength
when you make a new start

We were sent here some time ago
you to assist
True on many instances
our goals we missed
But working together
with you we will succeed
To do what is demanded of us
it is all that we need

How I wish I could stretch out my hand
And lift you up high
To great and lofty spiritual heights
In a heavenly sky
But for serving Hashem
To be that easy
We would not have to find ourselves
Trapped in a body

17. A Hand From the Heavens

In the vast and empty desert
the sun has just gone down
Following that graceful bride, Was lost from us
the shining rays of her gown
The dark of night is upon us
increasing steadily
Of the beauty warmth and sunshine
there's but memory

The darkness that surrounds us
with the frights that it contains
Now openly mocks us and threatens
to lock us in his deadly chains
Our eyes that search with hope
are blinded by the night
While our ears are pained by its' taunting
"You will never again see light"

A quicksand sucks us from under
above us wild animals roam
The wind and rain all pushing
to chase us from our home
The more our hands and feet
pull desperately from our jail
So much do our vicious captors
continue to prevail

The weakness in our body
and terror in our heart
The endless helpless struggles
are tearing us apart
We look towards the heavens
but all we see is black
We look towards the morning
but a thicker dark looks back

We go deeper in the deadly mudiness
as the mocking darkness does increase
The hand from below grows stronger
defying our prayers for peace
We are up in the dirt to our nostrils much
longer we cannot endure
Why does the night become stronger so
with no sign of the morning cure

But just at the peak of our hopelessness
the hand from below and the night
Are challenged by a hand from the heavens
infinitely greater in size and might
"Come to me" it beckons to us
as it reaches down from above
I will lead you safely
I will guide you with wisdom and love

We take the hand with confidence
and our hearts burst with delight
As the Rebbe Shlit" a guides us

from the depths to the greatest heights
We have merely to follow his guidance
and do as he tells us to do
And the Rebbe Shlit" a will lead us to משיח
who will reveal a new light so true

18. A True Friend

The street was empty
Deserted and still
No sign of life could be seen
The dark had arrived
The world it did fill
With a quiet so frighteningly mean

To this street came a child
By himself he did walk
His destination to guess I could not
But when his face I could see
And when I heard him talk
I know he was not alone as I thought

With thoughts of dear friends
His mind was occupied
Feeling together with them in his heart
Although in his body away
From them he did ride
In truth from them he did not part

* * *

In the crowded joyous gathering
All kinds of people where there
The air filled with laughing and cries
I spotted a child in their midst
He just sat on his chair
And his face just brought tears to my eyes

I perceived how so alone
Amongst so many friends inside
This poor child remained in all
Although distance did not
Between him and them divide
His mind and heart were like a great wall

I observed and was overcome
With sympathy and concern
I wondered about the burden he did bear

Who knows what feelings and thoughts
What things he does yearn
To find someone with whom them he can share

I realized that being alone
Lonesome dejected and sad
Depends not on whose company one is in
For his own heart and soul
The experiences that he's had
Can form a barrier that lacks him within

Reach out and touch
Your hand do extend
To the innermost depths of his heart
Give that vital support
Companionship of a true friend
From when he never will part

I sat next to the child
My arms around him
(חסר...)

19. The Coronation

Much work did take place
For all this is clear to see
The workers of all shapes and types
For years around here did scurry
But the effort that was put in
With success at last it did meet
The palace that they were erecting
Was finally almost complete

The years of toil and labour
Building and modelling galore
The windows and porches and stairs
The beautiful ceiling and floor
Even the sewing of uniforms
For the palace guards had been done
Up to the point of polishing
And cleaning every button

The crowds began to arrive
In the air one could feel excitement
Oh how many years had been spent
Preparing for this great event
But with the building and the grounds
With the buttons that shone like new

The preparations still did not suffice
There still remained one thing to do

When the people were finally assembled
The masses did spread far and wide
And together as one they were gathered there
Standing all side by side
Then they let out a cry that shook the ground
As one they all did sing
Their proclamation from deep in their heart
Long live our king