

5 - Ne'ilah

כָּל הָעוֹלָם כְּלוֹ
גֶּשֶׁר צָר מְאֹד
וְהַעֲקָר לֹא לְפָחוּד כָּלֵל:

(We will sing this song on the next
page.)

READER:

Kol ha-olam kulo gesher tzar me'od.
The whole world is a very narrow bridge.

Since *Rosh Hashanah*,
Since we raised our voices together
Pledging to return in repentance
To remember creation,
To build a better self –
A better world

ALL:

Since then, we have been poised
Between what we have been
and what we yearn to be.

READER:

On *Kol Nidre* we reconvened
On the eve of the tenth day
Wrapped in the authority of community
We freed ourselves from promises unfulfilled.

ALL:

We created a place of safety
A holy place set apart for us to come together
With all our imperfections
To put our yearnings into words
To awaken yearnings in each other: to pray.

READER:

On the eve of the tenth day, we reconvened
To begin One Long Day
One Long Holy Day -- *Yom Kippur*
Contemplating the journey of our lives
Letting go
Moving on.

ALL:

Yizkor. We remembered,
Contemplated the journey taken by other lives.
"It is not up to us to complete the task,
Neither may we desist from it."

When a person has a yearning for something and he brings it out into words, a soul is created. This soul flies in the air and reaches another person thereby awakening in him, too, a yearning.

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SOURCE OF QUOTE:

Pirke Avot (Sayings of the Fathers) 2:21,
R.Tarfon

READER:

Now, at *Ne'ilah*

Our One Long Holy Day is closing

Seize this moment --

Repent. Mean it.

Commit. Mean it.

Give our hearts to the joy of *teshuvah*. Really.

ALL:

The gates of repentance are always open. Really.

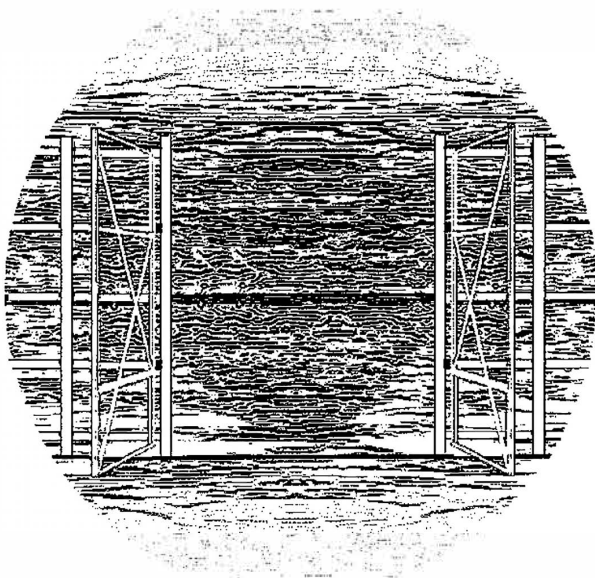
-- GbE, ET, PM

ALL *sing*:

כָּל הָעוֹלָם כְּלוֹ
גֶּשֶׁר צָר מְאֹד
וְהַעֲקָר לֹא לִפְחָד כָּלֵל:

*Kol ha'olam kulo
Geshher tzar me'od
Veha'ikar
Lo lefahed klal*

This entire world is a very narrow bridge
But the main thing we can do
is to know our fears and walk on through.



SOURCE:

This saying is attributed to Rav Nahman of Bratslav. The text is translated variously as:

✿ The entire world is a very narrow bridge,
The essential thing is to have no fear at all.

✿ Know! A person walks in life on a very narrow bridge. The most important thing is not to be afraid.

✿ And know! A person has to pass a very very narrow bridge, the main thing is to have no fear at all.

✿ All that is, the whole of it is a very narrow bridge and the principle is: do not fear at all.

✿ The whole world is a very narrow bridge And the main thing to recall is not to be afraid.