

FOR THE PASSOVERS THAT WOULD COME

Chana Shoshana Lieberman-Alfasi

Despite the fact that Passover celebrates our freedom from slavery (still a “hot” issue all over the world), a frequent response to the mention of Passover is “OY!” rather than joy. Ironically, the submission to a whole set of additional rules and regulations (cleaning, kashering, altered food shopping) is, however, an unexpectedly beautiful path to experience freedom once the preliminary challenges are met and the seder begins. Nonetheless, it often appears to be a pretty demanding path. And most of the time the transition back into our “*chametz*-world” seems to be quite a relief.

For my mother-in-law, Roszi, ז”ל, and her sister Ella, ז”ל, the days immediately surrounding Passover were particularly poignant reminders of the price of freedom. In 1944, in Rachov, Hungary (now: Rakhiv, Ukraine), Roszi and Ella spent the holiday with their aunt and uncle in the hope that Rachov was safer for Jews than Szighet, where their family lived at the time. They had even left behind their parents and two siblings who remained in Szighet.

In Rachov, the preparations for Passover, and the holiday itself, were quite an effort. The sisters and their cousin Lea were fully involved in all procedures. The kashering alone was almost a full day task. The cooking and baking involved many steps. And shopping, especially for Jews, was not easy at that time. But all went well. Passover was celebrated in style, and everybody hoped and prayed for a “*Lshana Ha’bah b’Yerushalayim*,” to spend the coming year in Jerusalem, the city of peace - or at least in Rachov and the surrounding world in peace.

Passover ended, and the next day, after the special Passover utensils were packed away, one of the first chores was to begin baking bread. The first step was to make the dough and then let it rise. Just as the ingredients for the dough were assembled and the first kneading was about to start, the family was startled by a large commotion. The SS had entered the town. The children were hurriedly sent to a neighbor via a door that was then concealed with a large closet. Within a short time, however, the whole family and all their Jewish neighbors were rounded up and confined in the school building.

Once again, in history, the Jews had no time to let the dough rise. This time Roszi’s exodus took more than a year. The stay at the school lasted one week, the train ride to Auschwitz-Birkenau took another 7 days. At that point, the girls were separated from their aunt, uncle and cousins, Lea’s parents and some of her other siblings. Then the girls were brought into the barracks after the usual harassing procedures. Roszi was 15 at the time.

After a few months at Auschwitz, Roszi and Ella were transferred into Germany to work at a weapons and ammunition factory. With great luck and many miracles, they survived there until the spring of 1945. Then, once again, they were put on a train. In a mad and incomprehensible maneuver, Germany used their last resources to transport their slaves across the country. Since days and nights had run together, Roszi did not even know on which day they were liberated from that train by the American army, but the emotions she felt at that moment remained with her throughout her life.

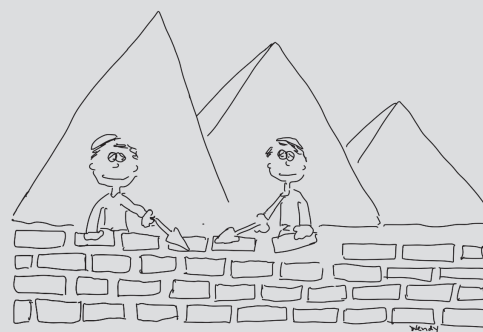
Shortly thereafter, Roszi, Ella and Lea were taken to a youth hostel that was converted into a children’s DP camp. After the war they were reunited with Viki, Lea’s brother, and Meir, Roszi and Ella’s father. All other relatives had perished.

For the rest of her life, Passover held a special place in Roszi’s heart. From year to year she would save a piece of the *afikoman* as a reminder of Passover that was, and in expectation of Passover that would come.

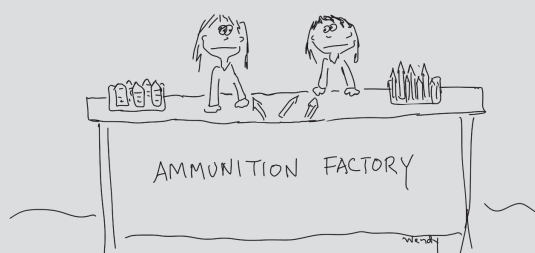
By now Roszi, Ella and Lea have all passed away, leaving behind children and grandchildren who will continue to tell the story and continue to hope for a world at peace.

Chag kasher v’samayach.

Chana Shoshana Lieberman-Alfasi is a former member of the Lincoln Square Synagogue Beginner’s minyan attendee, NYC bike messenger and architect. Today she is currently a property manager and painter living in Munich, Germany.



“THE STORY OF PASSOVER REPEATS ITSELF”



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Fri March 23, 2018 - 7th of Nissan
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Candle Lighting 6:53 PM
 Mincha 6:55 PM

Sat March 24, 2018 - 8th of Nissan
SHABBAT HAGADOL Tzav
 Morning Services . . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot 5:55 PM
 Mincha 6:25 PM
 Shabbat HaGadol Drasha 6:50 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 7:55 PM
 Daily Mincha & Maariv 7:00 PM

Thu March 29, 2018 - 13th of Nissan
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:50 AM
 Bedikat Chametz after 7:49 PM

Fri March 30, 2018 - 14th of Nissan
EREV PESACH - Taanit Bechorot
 Morning Services with Siyum 6:30 & 7:30 AM
 Latest time to eat Chametz 10:54 AM
 Latest time to burn Chametz 11:57 AM
 Candle Lighting 7:01 PM
 Mincha/Maariv 7:05 PM
 Begin Seder after 7:50 PM

Sat March 31, 2018 - 15th of Nissan
1st DAY PESACH
 Morning Services 8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Mincha 6:55 PM
 Candle Lighting 8:01 PM
 Start Seder after 8:02 PM

Sun April 1, 2018 - 16th of Nissan
2nd DAY PESACH
 Morning Services 8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Mincha 7:10 PM
 Ma'ariv/Yom Tov ends 8:03 PM

Mon April 2, 2018 - 17th of Nissan
CHOL HAMOED PESACH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Turs April 3, 2018 - 18th of Nissan
CHOL HAMOED PESACH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Wed April 4, 2018 - 19th of Nissan
CHOL HAMOED PESACH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Thu April 5, 2018 - 20th of Nissan
CHOL HAMOED PESACH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM
 Candle Lighting 7:07 PM
 Mincha/Maariv 7:15 PM

Fri April 6, 2018 - 21st of Nissan
7th DAY PESACH
 Morning Services 8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Mincha/Maariv 7:08 PM
 Light Candles After 7:15 PM

Sat April 7, 2018 - 22nd of Nissan
8th DAY PESACH - Yizkor
 Morning Services 8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Mincha 7:00 PM
 Ma'ariv/Yom Tov ends 8:10 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:15 PM

Fri April 13, 2018 - 28th of Nissan
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting 6:11 PM
 Regular Candle Lighting 7:15 PM
 Mincha 7:20 PM

Sat April 14, 2018 - 29th of Nissan
Shmini
 Morning Services . . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 5:30 PM
 Talmud/Pirkei Avot Class 6:00 PM
 Bible Class 6:00 PM
 Mincha 7:00 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 8:17 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:25 PM

Sun April 15, 2018 - 30th of Nissan
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 8:30 AM

Mon April 16, 2018 - 1st of Iyar
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:40 AM

Thu April 19, 2018 - 4th of Iyar
YOM HA'ATZMA'UT
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:50 AM

Fri April 20, 2018 - 5th of Iyar
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting 6:17 PM
 Regular Candle Lighting 7:23 PM
 Mincha 6:45 & 7:25 PM

Sat April 21, 2018 - 6th of Iyar
Tazria-Metzora
 Morning Services . . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 5:40 PM
 Talmud/Pirkei Avot Class 6:10 PM
 Bible Class 6:10 PM
 Mincha 7:10 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 8:24 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:30 PM

Fri April 27, 2018 - 12th of Iyar
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting 6:22 PM
 Regular Candle Lighting 7:30 PM
 Mincha 6:45 & 7:35 PM

Sat April 28, 2018 - 13th of Iyar
Achrei Mot-Kedoshim
 Morning Services . . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 AM
 Beginners Mishnayot 5:45 PM
 Talmud/Pirkei Avot Class 6:15 PM
 Bible Class 6:15 PM
 Mincha 7:15 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 8:32 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:40 PM

Thu May 3, 2018 - 18th of Iyar
LAG B'OMER
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM

Fri May 4, 2018 - 19th of Iyar
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting 6:28 PM
 Regular Candle Lighting 7:37 PM
 Mincha 6:45 & 7:40 PM

Sat May 5, 2018 - 20th of Iyar Emor
 Morning Services . . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 PM
 Beginners Luncheon 12:30 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 5:55 PM
 Talmud/Pirkei Avot Class 6:25 PM
 Bible Class 6:25 PM
 Mincha 7:25 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 8:39 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:45 PM

Fri May 11, 2018 - 26th of Iyar
 Morning Services 7:10 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting 6:33 PM
 Regular Candle Lighting 7:45 PM
 Mincha 6:45 & 7:50 PM

Sat May 12, 2018 - 27th of Iyar
Behar-Bechukotai
 Morning Services . . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 6:00 PM
 Talmud/Pirkei Avot Class 6:30 PM
 Bible Class 6:30 PM
 Mincha 7:30 PM
 Ma'ariv/Shabbat ends 8:46 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 7:50 PM

Sun May 13, 2018 - 28th of Iyar
YOM YERUSHALAYIM
 Morning Services 7:00 & 8:30 AM

Tue May 15, 2018 - 1st of Sivan
ROSH CHODESH
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:50 AM

Fri May 18, 2018 - 4th of Sivan
 Morning Services 7:00 & 7:50 AM
 Earliest Candle Lighting 6:39 PM
 Regular Candle Lighting 7:51 PM
 Mincha 6:45 & 7:55 PM

Sat May 19, 2018 - 5th of Sivan
Bamidbar EREV SHAUVOT
 Morning Services . . 7:45, 9:00 & 9:45 AM
 Beginners Service 9:15 PM
 Beginners Mishnayot 6:10 PM
 Talmud/Pirkei Avot Class 6:40 PM
 Bible and Book of Ruth Class 6:40 PM
 Mincha 7:40 PM
 Candle Lighting 8:52 PM
 Ma'ariv 8:53 PM
 Beginners Shavuot Learn
 /-In. 12:00 AM

Sun May 20, 2018 - 6th of Sivan
1st DAY SHAUVOT
 Morning Services . . 5:09, 8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Book of Ruth 7:00 PM
 Mincha 8:00 PM
 Light Candles after 8:53 PM
 Maariv 8:54 PM

Mon May 21, 2018 - 7th of Sivan
2nd DAY SHAUVOT Yizkor
 Morning Services 8:00 & 9:00 AM
 Book of Ruth 7:00 PM
 Mincha 8:00 PM
 Ma'ariv/Yom Tov ends 8:55 PM
 Daily Mincha & Ma'ariv 8:00 PM

SAVE THE DATE

Beginners Shabbat Luncheons
 Sat, 12:30 PM - \$25
 May 5, June 2, Sept 9

Beginners Shmooze - Free
 Mon, May 7, 8:15 PM

All Night Shavuot Learn-a-thon
 Sat, May 19, 12:00 AM - 7:00 AM

CONGRATULATIONS AND MAZAL TOV

ENGAGEMENTS

Miriam Goldberg and Jeremy Klaben
 Mazal Tov to parents,
 Robin & Neil Goldberg
 Margalit Salig and Josh Mogilner
 Mazal Tov to parents, Michelle & Eli Salig



Beth and Evan Schechter, on the birth of a boy,
 Ariel Moshe
 Mazal Tov to great-grandfather, Captain Lou Stock
 Gail and Joshua Slepian, on the birth of a daughter,
 Jordan Eliza
 Chassisa and Yori Thau, on the birth of a son,
 Yehoshua Dov
 Mazal Tov to grandmother, Devorah Altman

MARRIAGES

Tzirel Zimmerman and Otniel Boussib
 Mazal Tov to parents, Yehudah Aryeh & Ilana Boussib
 Rina (Kristine) Sheperd and Yitzchak Matsafi
 Rachel Moranis and Gregory Rubin
 Mazal Tov to grandparents,
 Miriam and Dr. Marvin Belsky

BIRTHS

Shira and Jared Boschan, on the birth of a daughter,
 Aviva
 Mazal Tov to grandparents, Robin and Neil Goldberg
 Julia and Daniel Fleisch, on the birth of a son,
 Chanan Zecharia
 Mazal Tov to grandparents,
 Rina and Aviel (Andy) Fleisch
 Lana Kalickstein and Steven Friedman,
 on the birth of a son, Jacob Emanuel (Chayim Yisrael)
 Dr. Shanna and Adam Herbst, on the birth of a son,
 Matthew Levi

BAR/BAT MITZVAH

Mordechai Fishof
 Mazal Tov to parents, Karen & David Fishof
 Yaakov Kaweblum
 Mazal Tov to mother, Nina Kaweblum
 Yaacov Steinacher
 Mazal Tov to parents, Leah & Rabbi Heshy Steinacher

CONDOLENCES

Margo Cates, on the loss of her mother, Luba Cates
 Chaim Cohen, on the loss of his wife, Ellen Cohen
 Yra Harris, on the loss of his brother, Ralph Harris
 The family of Heidi Kahn
 Jeff Miller, on the loss of his mother, Trudy Miller
 Dr. Elizabeth Schultz on the loss of her mother,
 Helen Schultz
 Ellen Silber on the loss of her father, Solomon Silber
 Julia Vosler on the loss of her mother, Estelle Davidoff

SPEEDY RECOVERY/REFUAH SH'LAIMA

Roslyn Dickens, Raizl bat Basha
 Susan Seltzer, Rashka Ita bat Raizel
 Rabbi Dr. Mordechai Reich, Mordechai Menashe
 ben Henya Ruchama
 Louis Vynereb, Elazar HaCohen ben Malka

CONGRATULATIONS

Tracy and Sander Gerber, honored by the Manhattan
 Jewish Experience for their historic work on the
 Taylor Force Act
 Robin & Neil Goldberg, honored at the Annual NJOP
 Dinner.
 Reuven Kruger on publishing his new book,
*The Dandelion Anthology: Enduring Words from the
 Bible.*
 Megan Quattlebaum, honored at the Annual NJOP
 Dinner.
 Dr. Stephen Snyder on the publishing of his new book,
Love Worth Making
 Laurie & Richard Wolff, honored at the Annual NJOP
 Dinner.