

אֶלֶּה אֶזְכְּרָה וְנִפְשִׁי עָלַי אֲשַׁפֵּךְ
כִּי בִלְעוֹנוֹ יָדַיִם כָּעֵגֶה בְּלִי הַפּוֹכָה.

These I remember and pour out my soul
How the arrogant have devoured us, like an unfinished cake.

Joyce Fienberg

Richard Gottfried

Rose Mallinger

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Cecil Rosenthal

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Bernice Simon

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Mel Wax

Irv Younger

October 27, 2018

sitting in the lobby of my synagogue
there is an ancient Torah scroll, rescued
from the flames of the Shoah
displayed proudly for everyone
to see, it says:
we are here
we have always been here
and we always will be here
so try and take it.
50% of us may be old and geriatric
but we're still clinging to life like an aphid clings
to a plant crawling
with ladybugs.
so try and take it.
we were forced out, not just
one time, but
many
and by God we acted, we pretended, we lit our
candles in the dark of night and said the
blessings in our head, lied and scraped and
survived,
and still we sing tales of persecution and tell our children:
you are not safe, you will never be safe, and when
they come for you,
you will be prepared.
so try and take it.
when someone draws a swastika on the
school parking lot, and when I hear the words
filthy Jew,
when friends let Holocaust
jokes
roll off their tongues
and when my grandmother misses death by a
fraction
because she woke up late on a Saturday
and arrived to synagogue only to see police
cars outside,
I know that we will have to do one of
two things:
fight or
flee. and fleeing
won't cut it this time,

because dying is never an option, and we've run out of places
to go
where nobody will kill us.
I hear *when they go low, we go high*,
I think
when they go low, we survive.
So try
and take it,
we're ready, god damn it, and we haven't died out
yet, even after
the slavery
the inquisitions
the exiles
the diaspora
the pogroms
(even the 6 million, even *that*, even the genocide and the pain and the loss of
everything, everything, everything)
we're here,
and they are coming for us,
and we're prepared.
so try and take it.

Shira Haus

יִזְכּוֹר אֱלֹהִים נְשָׁמוֹת אֶחָד-עֶשְׂרֵה בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל שֶׁמָּסְרוּ אֶת-נַפְשָׁם עַל
קְדוּשַׁת הַשֵּׁם. הַנְּנִי נוֹדֵב/נוֹדֵבֶת צְדָקָה בְּעַד הַזְּכָרֹת נְשָׁמוֹתֵיהֶם. אֲנֵא
יִשְׁמַע בְּחַיֵּינוּ הַד גְּבוּרָתָם וּמִסִּירוֹתָם וַיִּרְאֶה בְּמַעֲשֵׂינוּ טָהָר לְבָם
וְתַהֲיִינָה נַפְשׁוֹתֵיהֶם צְרוּרוֹת בְּצָרוֹר הַחַיִּים וְתֵהִי מְנוּחָתָם כְּבוֹד, שְׁבַע
שְׁמָחוֹת אֶת-פְּגִידָה, נְעִימוֹת בִּימֵינָךְ נְצַח. אָמֵן.

May God remember the souls of our eleven precious martyrs of our people whose lives were taken in the sanctification of Your name. In their memory do I/we pledge *zedakah*. May their bravery, their dedication, and their purity be reflected in our lives. May their souls be bound up in the bond of life eternal. May they rest forever in dignity and peace. And let us say: Amen.

אֶל מַלְאֲכֵי רַחֲמִים שׁוֹכְנֵי בְּמִרוֹמֵי. הַמֵּצֵא מְנוּחָה נְכוֹנָה תַּחַת כְּנִפֵּי
 הַשְּׂכִינָה. בְּמַעְלוֹת קְדוּשִׁים וְטְהוּרִים כְּזֹהַר הַרְקִיעַ מְזֹהָרִים
 אֶת־נִשְׁמוֹת קְדוּשֵׁי פִיטְסְבוֹרֵג -
 אִידִית בְּלִצְיָא בֵּת אַבָּא מְנַחֵם
 יוֹסֵף בֶּן חַיִּים
 רִיזֵל בֵּת אַבְרָהָם
 יְהוּדָה בֶּן יַחְזְקָאֵל
 חַיִּים בֶּן אֶלְיעֶזֶר
 דָּוִד בֶּן אֶלְיעֶזֶר
 בִּילָא רַחֵל בֵּת מֹשֶׁה
 זְלָמֵן שְׁכָנָא בֶּן מְנַחֵם מְעַנְדֵּל
 דְּנִיָּאל אַבְרָהָם בֶּן בְּרוּךְ
 יְצַחֵק חַיִּים בֶּן מְנַחֵם
 מֹשֶׁה גְּדוֹל בֶּן יוֹסֵף

שְׁנֵהָרְגוּ עַל־קְדוּשַׁת הַשֵּׁם, בְּעָבוּר שְׁאָנוּ מִתְפַּלְלִים לְעֵלּוּי נִשְׁמוֹתֵיהֶם.
 וְזָכַר־לָנוּ עֲקֵדְתָם וְתַעֲמֹד־לָנוּ וּלְכָל־יִשְׂרָאֵל זְכוּתָם.
 אֶרֶץ אֶל־תִּכְסִי דָמָם וְאֶל־יְהִי מְקוֹם לְזַעֲקָתָם.
 אֲנָא בְּעַל הַרְחָמִים הַסְתִּירָם בְּסִתְרֵי כְּנַפְיָךְ לְעוֹלָמִים,
 וְצָרוּר בְּצָרוּר הַחַיִּים אֶת נִשְׁמוֹתֵיהֶם.
 ייִ הוּא נִחְלָתָם, בְּגוֹן עֵדוֹן תְּהֵא מְנוּחָתָם,
 וַיַּעֲמְדוּ לְגוֹרְלָם לְקֶץ הַיָּמִין. וְנֹאמַר אָמֵן:

God full of mercy, who dwells on high, establish proper rest upon the wings of the Divine Presence, on the levels of the holy and pure ones who shine like the splendor of the firmament, for the souls of the *Kedoshim* of Pittsburgh,

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murdered *al Kiddush Hashem*, because we pray for the elevation of their souls. And remember for us their sacrifice and let their merit stand for us and for all of Israel. Let the earth not cover their blood and let there not be a place sufficient for their cries. Master of mercy, cover them in the cover of Your wings forever and bind their souls with the binding of life. God is their inheritance. May their rest be in *Gan Eden* and let them rest in peace upon their places of repose, and let them stand for their fate in the end of days.

And let us say: *Amen*.