

For the Torah resembles a beautiful woman who is hidden in a secluded chamber of her palace and who has a secret lover. For love of her he keeps passing the gate of her house looking this way and that in search of her.

What does she do? She opens the door of her chamber ever so little and for a moment reveals her face to her lover, but hides it again forthwith. So it is with the words of the Torah which reveals herself only to those who love her. The Torah goes out in love of her lover and arouses love in him.

When he comes to her she begins from behind a curtain to speak words in keeping with his understanding until very slowly insight comes to him. Only when he has become familiar with her, does she reveal herself to him face to face and speak to him of all her hidden secrets and all her hidden ways which have been in her heart from the beginning.

Such an individual is then called Hatan Torah, a bridegroom of the Torah to whom she discloses all her secrets, concealing nothing.

Zohar 2:99 a - b