



JUST AS THE SEAS OPENED unselfishly for Moses and the Israelites,
we too must open our hearts and our minds to those who are different.

*We are a people in whom the past endures,
in whom the present is inconceivable without moments gone by.*

The Exodus lasted but a moment ... a moment enduring forever.

What happened once upon a time ... happens all the time.

—Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel

מי כמכה

Mee Khamokha

Mitzrayim was not the Egyptians' but the escaping Hebrews' name for the land of Egypt; perhaps a slave-term, and probably not of Semitic origin, it has associations with the root TZ-R-R (צ-ר-ר), to be in distress, constricted in anguish, or in dire straits. Each time it is mentioned, *Mitzrayim*—Egypt—powerfully evokes the choking oppression of slavery.

—Rabbi Marcia Prager

Mee Khamokha is part of the Song of the Sea (Exodus 15:11, 15:18), a hymn of thanks and praise to God for the miracle at the Sea of Reeds and for our deliverance from slavery and Egypt. In Mishna Berakhot 5:1 we learn that *Mee Khamokha* was recited in the Second Temple.

מִי כַמְכָה בְּאַלִּים יִי?
מִי כַמְכָה נֶאֱדָר בְּקֶדֶשׁ,
נוֹרָא תְהִלָּת, עוֹשֶׂה פֶלְאָ?

Mee kha-mo-kha ba-ey-leem Adonai?

Mee ka-mo-kha, ne-dar ba-ko-desh,

No-ra t'hee-lot, o-seh feh-leh?

WHO IS LIKE YOU, O God, among the gods people worship?

Who is like You, majestic in holiness,



WHEN ISRAEL STOOD UPON THE SHORES and gazed across the sea,

The wonder of this miracle they soon came to believe.

Whoever thought the sea would part with an outstretched hand?

And we would pass to freedom and march to the Promised Land.

—Debbie Friedman

מִלְכוּתְךָ רָאוּ בְנֵיךָ, בּוֹקֵעַ יָם לִפְנֵי מֹשֶׁה וּמִרְיָם:
זֶה אֱלֹהֵינוּ וְאָמְרוּ: יְיָ יִמְלֹךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Mal-khoot-kha ra-u va-ne-kha, Bo-kay-a yam lif-ney Mo-sheh oo-Mir-yam:

"Zeh ey-lee!" A-nu v'ahm-ru: "Adonai yim-lokh l'o-lahm va-ed!"

וְנֹאמַר: כִּי פָדָה יְיָ אֶת יַעֲקֹב, וּגְאָלוֹ מִיַּד חֲזָק מִמֶּנּוּ.
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, גֹּאֲלֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.

V'ne-e-mar: "Kee fa-dah Adonai et Ya-a-kov, oo-g'a-lo mee-yad kha-zakk mee-meh-nu."

Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, ga-al Yisrael.

Your people acknowledged Your sovereign power; the sea broke open before Moses and Miriam.

"This is my God!" they sang. "ADONAI WILL REIGN FOREVER AND EVER!"

As You redeemed Israel and saved us from arms stronger than our own,

so may You redeem all the oppressed and persecuted.

Praised are You, Adonai, Redeemer of Israel.

MORNING

שִׁירָה חֲדָשָׁה שִׁבְחוּ גְאוּלִּים לְשִׁמְךָ עַל שְׁפַת הַיָּם.
יַחַד כָּלֶם הוֹדוּ וְהִמְלִיכוּ וְאָמְרוּ:
יְיָ יִמְלֹךְ לְעוֹלָם וָעֶד.

Shee-rah kha-da-shah shib-khu g'u-leem l'shim-kha al s'fat ha-yam.

Ya-khad ku-lam ho-du v'him-lee-khu v'ahm-ru:

"Adonai yim-lokh l'o-lahm va-ed."

צוּר יִשְׂרָאֵל, קוֹמָה בְּעֶזְרֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל,
וּפָדָה כְּנֻאמְךָ יְהוּדָה וַיִּשְׂרָאֵל.
גְּאֻלָּנוּ יְיָ צִבְאוֹת שָׁמוּ, קְדוֹשׁ יִשְׂרָאֵל.
בְּרוּךְ אַתָּה יְיָ, גֹּאֲלֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל.

Tzur Yisrael, ku-mah bez-raht Yisrael,

oof-dey khin-u-meh-kha Ye-hu-dah v'Yisrael.

Go-ah-ley-nu Adonai tz'va-ot sh'mo, k'dosh Yisrael.

Ba-rukh a-tah Adonai, ga-al Yisrael.

A NEW SONG the redeemed sang to Your name.

At the shore of the sea, saved from destruction, they proclaimed Your sovereign power:

"The Eternal will reign forever and ever."

O Rock of Israel, come to Israel's help. Fulfill Your promise of redemption for Judah and Israel!

Our Redeemer is the God of all Creation, the Holy One of Israel.

Blessed is Adonai, the Redeemer of Israel.