

# END OF LIFE/DEATH/DYING, FUNERAL AND MOURNING MUSIC

## DEATH AND DYING:

### 1. MAY THE ANGELS CARRY YOU

©Rabbi Geela Rayzel Raphael, November 2005

*On the occasion of Sabina Teubal's departure from this world*

**CHORUS: May the angels carry you; may the angels carry you. [2X]**

At this time of transition, going to the Light;  
At this time of transition, going home is right.  
Let go of the struggle; let go of the fear.  
All is forgiven; your slate to be cleared.

**CHORUS: May the angels carry you; may the angels carry you.**

Your work is done; it is time to rest.  
The fruit of your hands and your soul be blessed.  
Joining your ancestors, Winding a new way;  
Crossing the threshold, wrapped in God's embrace.

**CHORUS: May the angels carry you; may the angels carry you. [2x]**

Surrounded by love, angels take your hand;  
Guiding you on, it's part of the plan.  
*Shechinah\** welcomes you, opening her wings.  
Hearing the chorus, join the angels singing.

**CHORUS: May the angels carry you; may the angels carry you.**

***Mi-yemini Micha'ela, Mi-s'moli Gavri'ela, Mi-l'fanai Uriela, U'may-achorai R'fa'ela***

**CHORUS: May the angels carry you; may the angels carry you.**

\*The Feminine In-Dwelling Presence of God

### TRANSLATION

On your right is (the angel) Micha'ela, on your left is Gavri'ela. In front of you is Uriela, and behind you is R'fa'ela.

### 2. B'SHEM HASHEM / ANGEL SONG

Hebrew: Traditional; Music: © Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach, BMI. English Rayzel Raphael

***B'shem Ha-Shem, Elohay Yisrael: Mi-mini Micha'ayl, u'mi-s'moli Gavriel. Mi-l'fanai Uriel, u-m'achorai R'fael V'al roshi, v'al roshi Shechinat-El\****

In the name of God, the God of Israel:

There's Micha'el and Gabriel, Uriel and Raphael.

The four of them they gather round and dance around your soul, And then Shechinah Herself appears to make your spirit whole.

## **TRANSLATION**

*In the name of the Name, the God of Israel:*

*On my right is Micha'el, and on my left is Gabriel.*

*In front of me is Uriel and behind me is Raphael.*

*And above my head is Shechinah - Feminine In-Dwelling Presence of God.*

### **3. THE ANGELS' BLESSING** Debbie Friedman

May our right hand bring us closer to our Godliness.  
May our left hand give us strength to face each day.  
And before us may our visions light our paths ahead.  
And behind us may well-being heal our way.  
All around us is Shechinah [x4]  
May Michael be at my right hand, Gabriel at my left,  
Before me Uriel, behind me Raphael,  
And above my head the Divine Presence.  
All around us is Shechinah [x4]

### **4. Lech L'cha** Debbie Friedman's

Marna: I've used ",," changing the words "L'simchat chayim" to "L'chayei Olam."

L'chi lach, to a land that I will show you  
Leich l'cha, to a place you do not know  
L'chi lach, on your journey I will bless you  
And (you shall be a blessing)3x l'chi lach  
L'chi lach, and I shall make your name great  
Leich l'cha, and all shall praise your name  
L'chi lach, to the place that I will show you  
(L'sim-chat cha-yim)3x l'chi lach

### **5. MAY THE BLESSING OF GD REST UPON YOU** David Zeller z"l

May the blessing of Gd rest upon you,  
May Gd's peace abide in you,  
May Gd's presence illuminate your heart, now and forever more.

### **6. RETURN**

©Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach

**Return again, return again, return to the home of your soul**  
Return to who you are; return to what you are;  
Return to where you were born and reborn again.

## 7. TECHINAH FOR THE DEATHBED © Rabbi Geela Rayzel and Reb Simcha Raphael

Oh, Great Guardian of the Gateway Between life and death,  
I come before you as witness  
To this sacred moment in time.  
In gratitude and with humility,  
I honor the mystery of holy transitions.  
Just as Jacob buried his beloved Rachel  
On the road to Bethlehem,  
And as loving family surrounded Jacob and Joseph  
As they were gathered to their ancestors,  
May I gracefully escort this soul  
With compassionate love.  
As the midwives, Shifra and Puah, brought forth new life,  
May I help birth this soul  
into the luminosity of the world beyond.  
Oh, Holy One of Blessing,  
May I be a comforting presence  
for all those gathered here.  
Grant me the wisdom to speak gentle words,  
To sing sacred songs  
And to be silent in the face of the unknown.  
Give me an open heart and presence of mind  
For this divine unfolding.  
Majesty of Time and Space,  
Send guardians and guides, ancestors and angels  
To accompany this soul on its homeward journey.  
Michael, Gabriel, Uriel, and Raphael:  
Please safeguard the passage  
Between the lower and upper worlds.  
As the breath wanes and the body's released,  
O Holy Shechinah, carry this soul on your shimmering wings  
Into the radiant light of *Gan Eden*.  
As the spirit of life is extinguished, we pray:

***Shema Yisrael Adonai Elohaynu Adonai Echad.*** [3x]

*\*The Garden of Eden, pronounced Gan Eyden in Hebrew.*

### **TRANSLATION**

*Hear O Israel, Adonai is our God, Adonai is ONE.*

**8. )GAM KI ELECH B'GAY TZALMAVET, lo ira ra** © Rabbi Shefa Gold

Though I walk through the Valley of Death, I will not fear,  
Though I walk through the Valley of Death, my God is near. (Psalm 23:4)

**9. BARUCH DAYAN EMET (BLESSED IS THE TRUE JUDGE)**

© Rabbi Geela Rayzel Raphael, March 2015

*On the occasion of Aryeh Stein-Azen's journey out of this world*

***Baruch Dayan Emet.***

***Baruch Dayan ha-Emet [2x] Adonai natan; vAdonai lakach. Y'hi shem, Adonai m'vorach.***

With compassion and justice, A view of the past lifetimes;  
End the suffering—free the soul; With a holy sense of time.

**CHORUS:**

Weighing many factors ,On the earth and above;  
Considering all the pain and loss Yet acting out of love.

**CHORUS:**

Time to go, or time to leave This chapter is done.  
With a kiss of Shechinah's bliss, The soul travels on...  
The soul travels on...

**TRANSLATION:**

*Blessed is the Judge of Truth. God gave; God has taken away. May the name of God be blessed.*

**10. B'YAD'CHA AFKID RUCHI, PADITA OTI, YAH AYL EMET** © Rabbi Shefa Gold

Into Your Hand I entrust my spirit; You redeem me Yah, God of Truth.

**TAHARA: PURIFICATION/TIME OF SPIRITUAL WASHING/PREPARING THE BODY**

**11. ELOHAI NESHAMA SH'NATATA BI** © Rabbi Shefa Gold's

Oh Pure Soul, in you I see endless possibility!

**12. KI ATAH M'CHAYAY HAMAYTIM, UMaymit Chayyim** © Rabbi Shefa Gold's

Standing in the presence of the mystery of Life and Death, I am both lifted up and humbled. I address myself to that Mystery, open my heart and stand between Life and Death. I honor the journey beyond this known world into the world-to-come, the Beyond that awaits us all.

**13. TEFILLAT HADERECH** © Debbie Friedman

May we be blessed as we go on our way; May we be guided in peace  
May we be blessed with health and joy; May this our blessing, amen.

May we be sheltered by the wings of peace; May we be kept in safety and in love  
May grace and compassion find their way to every soul  
May this be our blessing, amen.  
Amen, may this be our blessing, amen. –

**FUNERAL**

**14. TEACH US TO TREASURE EACH DAY** (Rabbi Yitz Husbands-Hankin)

**Lim-note ya-may-ay-nu (2x)**

**Lim-note ya-may-nu, kayn hodah v'na-vi l'vav choch-ma.**

Teach us to treasure each day (2x)

That we may open our hearts to Your wisdom;

Teach us to treasure each day.

Treasure each day, teach us to treasure each day ( 2x)

**16. HA-MAKOM YENACHEM ETCHEM**

**[MAY GOD COMFORT YOU AMONG THE MOURNERS OF ZION]** ©Rabbi Geela Rayzel Raphael,  
January 2001

*For my father, Mitchell Lazarus Robinson, Michel Eliezer ben Avraham Yehudah v'Slovah z"l*

*This song is intended to be sung during the period of Shloshim (the first 30 days after burial).*

**CHORUS: Ha-Makom y'nachem etchem, Ha-Makom y'nachen etchen**  
**Ha-Makom y'nachem etchem**  
**B'toch sha'ar avlay Tzion V'Yerushalahyim.\***

The times when we are troubled By losses we must face;  
As the soul leaves  
And we grieve,  
Sorrow sets its own pace. **CHORUS:**

We'll miss smiles, their touch, and smell, The hands we once held,  
Yet the body's gone, And their love lives on.  
They are spirit behind a veil. **CHORUS:**

May you be comforted on your journey;  
May you feel what you need to feel.  
May seeds be planted of hope and consolation;  
May you find the time to heal.

## CHORUS:

### TRANSLATION:

*May God console you with all who mourn in Zion and Jerusalem is the traditional phrase used to greet mourners. "Etchem" is the Hebrew masculine plural form and "Etchen" is the Hebrew feminine plural form of "you."*

**17. B'YADO.** Translation from Hebrew and Music by Craig Taubman

**B'yado afkid ruchi. b'eit ishan ve'a'i'rah**  
**Ve'im ruchi geviati, Adonai li v'lo irah**  
My soul I give to you, My spirit in your care  
Draw me near, I shall not fear  
Safely in your hand

### **18. SHALOM ALEICHEM [PEACE BE UNTO YOU] / WELCOMING THE ANGELS**

Traditional Friday night liturgy Rabbi Israel Goldfarb,

***Shalom Alaychem, malachay ha-sharayt, malachay elyon,***  
***Mi-Melech Mal'chay ha-M'lachim,***  
***Ha-Kadosh Baruch Hu,\* ha-Kedushah Bruchah Hi.\*\****  
***Bo'achem l'shalom malachay ha-sharayt, malachay elyon,***  
***Mi-Melech Mal'chay ha-M'lachim,***  
***Ha-Kadosh Baruch Hu, ha-Kedushah Bruchah Hi.***  
***Barchuni l'shalom malachay ha-sharayt, malachay elyon,***  
***Mi-Melech Mal'chay ha-M'lachim,***  
***Ha-Kadosh Baruch Hu, ha-Kedushah Bruchah Hi.***  
***Tzaytchem l'shalom malachay ha-sharayt, malachay elyon,***  
***Mi-Melech Mal'chay ha-M'lachim,***  
***Ha-Kadosh Baruch Hu, ha-Kedushah Bruchah Hi.***

Shalom Aleichem is traditionally sung in the home on Friday nights to signify the arrival of Shabbat and welcome the angels.

### TRANSLATION:

*Peace unto you, angels on high, messengers of the most Holy One! Come in peace, angels on high, messengers of the most Holy One! Bless us with peace, angels on high, messengers of the most Holy One! Go in peace, angels on high, messengers of the most Holy One!*

*\*The Holy One, Blessed be He.*

*\*\*The Holy One, Blessed be She. (a feminized version of the traditional text)*

## SHIVA

**19. OZI V'ZIMRAT YAH VAYAH LI LISHUAH** © Rabbi Shefa Gold

My Strength (balanced) with the Song of God will be my salvation (Psalm 118:14,

Exodus 15:2)

**20. KADDISH** © Rabbi Geela Rayzel Raphael, May 2002

*Kaddish is a Jewish prayer recited by mourners at public services after the death of a close relative.*

*In memory of my father, Mitchell Lazarus Robinson, Michel Eliezer ben Avraham Yehudah v'Slovah z"l*

**CHORUS: Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'may rabba. [2X]**

I integrate your legacy; Treasure your memory;  
What I have learned from you; I'm left with your love.

**CHORUS: Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'may rabba. [2X]**

I come to You in grief, Walk in humility  
Grateful you have been with me, I'm lifted by your love.

**CHORUS: Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'may rabba. [2X]**

We rise to praise Your name All our waking days.  
Where you have guided us We walk in your love.

**CHORUS: Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'may rabba. [2x]**

Create a path for peace To live in harmony  
For us and all the world Bless us with love.

**CHORUS: Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'may rabba. [2x]**

**TRANSLATION:** *Exalted and hallowed be God's great name.*

**21. LULAY PSALM 27**

© music and English Rabbi Margot Stein

**Lulay he'emanti lirot b'tuv, B'tuv Yah b'erezt chaim  
Kavey el Yah hazak v' ametz, Hazak v' ametz libeych**

I have the faith that I will surely see; God's goodness throughout my life  
Hope in God and have courage; Dwell with her all day long  
Hope in god and be strong; Trust that your heart will be strong.

**22. The Healer of the Broken Hearted Ps 147**

©Geela Rayzel Raphael August 2000

**Ha rofeh lishburay layv ( 2x)  
U-michabaysh l'atzvotam (2x)**

The healer of the broken hearted, the healer of the broken hearts  
winds and binds and winds and binds my sorrows- and carries them away:  
winds and binds and winds and binds  
my sorrows - and turns them to prayer.

### **23. THE BLESSING OF MEMORY – HAMAKOM Y'NACHEIM ETCHEM**

© Abby Gostein

Dedicated to the memory of my father, Frank Bernstein z"l

Adapted from a selection by Richard N. Levy from Gates of Prayer, © 1975 by the CCAR,

**It is hard to sing of oneness when our world is not complete,  
When the ones who brought us wholeness now are gone  
Yet the fullness of their life is part of what we have become  
And their spirit in our memory lives on**

**Chorus: *Hamakom y'nacheim etchem (3x) b'toch sh'ar aveiley Tzion Viyrushalayim*  
(May God comfort you amongst the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem)**

**It is hard to sing of oneness when our world is not complete,  
When we feel as though we walk the path alone  
Now, with memory to guide us, give us strength to find our way  
Grant us courage to remember and to grow**

### **23. HAMAKOM YINAHM ©2000 Hanna Tiferet Siegel**

*A prayer to comfort mourners*

***HaMakom yinahem etkhem***

***B'tokh sh'ar aveiley Tziyon viY'rushalayim***

May the One who dwells in every place

Comfort you and bring you peace among all those who mourn

### **24.) WE ARE OPENING UP IN SWEET SURRENDER**

**Author & Composer: Unknown: Additional Hebrew Vocals: MIRAJ: Rabbi Rayzel Raphael, Juliet I. Spitzer, Rabbi Margot Stein**

I am Opening up in Sweet Surrender To the luminous Love Light of the One.

We are Opening up in Sweet Surrender To the luminous Love Light of the One.

We are Opening. [4x]

***P'tach libi B'or nir'eh or.***

### **TRANSLATION**

Open my heart. In Light, we will see Light.



**YARTZEIT: THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH AND/OR AT THE UNVEILING/ 11 MONTHS AFTER DEATH**

25. **DI NESHOME ZOL HOBN AN ALIYE [MAY THE SOUL RISE]** ©Rabbi Geela Rayzel and Reb Simcha Raphael, December 2013  
*For Bubby Rose z”l and Zelda z”l on the occasion of their Yahrzeits.*

**CHORUS: *Di neshome zol hobn an aliye.* [2x]**

May your soul rise higher and higher Through the stages of illumination; May your soul rise to the highest rung In the holy realms of *Gan Aydn*.\*\*\*

**CHORUS: *Di neshome zol hobn an aliye.* [2x]**

Your memory is a blessing

To all of us you left behind.

You’ll be wrapped in a garment of light As your soul continues to climb.

May your journey be gentle

Through the seven realms up above. We’ll do good deeds in your name

We remember you with love.

**CHORUS: *Di neshome zol hobn an aliye.* [2x]**

With the golden crowns of Torah *Tz’ror ha-cha-yim*;

Praise with ministering angels

You are nourished by eternal springs. Now you’ll return to the Source of Life Study Torah with the *Tzaddikim*

May your legacy live on and beyond With Shechinah, *tants un zing!*

**CHORUS: *Di neshome zol hobn an aliye.* [2x] [Repeat ad lib.]**

*The time of the anniversary of a death, called in a Yortzayt [or Yahrzeit] is an auspicious times when special prayers are recited.*

**TRANSLATION**

May your soul ascend [higher]

*Gan Aydn* - The Heavenly Garden of Eden

*Tz’ror ha-cha-yim* - The Source of Life, said to be a gathering place for soul’s under the Throne of God *Tzaddikim* Righteous beings on high

*Shechinah* The Feminine In-Dwelling Presence of God

*tants un zing* Dance and sing (in Yiddish)

Compiled by Rabbi Rayzel Raphael