

## **Chisuk Emuna Shavuot 2021/5781**

presented by Susan Leviton

### **1. DOS BISELE SHPAYZ** (A Bit of Spice) Moshe Harats

Some borscht with cabbage, a piece of herring with bread, a bowl of radishes with salt, a pan of kasha with fat. A bowl of chicken soup with noodles, and a little tsimis. This short menu, dear God, provide for us. Provide for us some sugar for tea, and latkes with an egg. And for this beautiful fish, provide us a table guest!

### **2. ROYZ, ROYZ** (Rose, Rose) Adapted from R. Itzik Taub

Rose, how far away you are, and forest – how great you are. If the forest were not so great, then the rose would not be so far away.

Holy Spirit (Shekhina) – how far away you are, and exile – how long you last. If exile were not so long, then Shekhina would not be so far away.

Exile – how vast you are, and Shekhina – how far away you are. If only our exile could be shortened, then Shekhina would draw closer.

### **3. KOTSK**

One doesn't have to ride to Kotsk. One walks to Kotsk, for Kotsk is a holy place. To Kotsk you have to make the pilgrimage on foot.

“*Regl*” means “*foot*.” To Kotsk you go on foot, singing and dancing. And when the Hassidim go to Kotsk, they go on foot.

“*Regl*” also means “*habit*.” One must get in the habit of going to Kotsk, singing and dancing. When the Hassidim go to Kotsk, they go with a dance.

“*Regl*” means also “*holiday*.” A happy holiday! And when the Hassidim go to Kotsk, it's a great holiday!

### **4. SZÓL A KAKAS MÁR** (attributed to Rabbi Yitzhak Taub)

The rooster crows. The sun is rising. In green forests and open fields, a little bird walks. What kind of bird is this? It has yellow feet and blue wings. It waits for me. Oh, bird! Wait a little bit! You must wait. If God gave me only to you, then I will be yours. But when will it happen? When the Temple stands again and Zion is rebuilt. Then it will happen. There we shall sing a new song, and with joyous singing ascend. It's time. Oh, may it be!

**5. LA YAVE DE ESPANYA** (The Key from Spain) Judeo-Spanish by Flory Jagoda

Where is the key that was in the drawer? My forefathers brought it with great pain  
from their house in Spain. Dreams of Spain...

Where is the key that was in the drawer? My forefathers brought it with great love.  
They told their sons this is the heart of our home in Spain. Dreams of Spain...

Where is the key that was in the drawer? My forefathers brought it with great love.  
They gave it to their grandsons for them to keep in the drawer. Our key from Spain.  
Dreams of Spain...

**6. DER EYBERSHTER IZ DER MEKHUTN** (The Almighty was the Bride's  
Father)

The Almighty was the bride's father, the Torah was the bride. Moses, our Teacher,  
was the matchmaker. Poor little Israel was the fine bridegroom. The betrothal was  
announced on holy Mt. Sinai.

(chorus) Jews are flying and singing little songs. Each one cried out one by one:  
From the bride's family and from the groom's family, "Mazl tov!"

The chaste bride is dear and beautiful, honorable and refined. She surpasses  
everything. Pearls drip from her mouth and she wears a golden chain around her  
neck. Lift up your veil, dear bride – reveal your face. We want to see you. Just look,  
people – all of you – and gaze upon her. The bride is our faith!

**7. IKH SHTEY UNTER A BOKSERBOYM** (Zhame Telesin, Chava Alberstein)

I stand beneath a carob tree. I got there, but not easily.

I sit beneath a fig tree, and all around, it's green and free.

I lie beneath an almond tree. It appeared in a dream to me.

A carob, a fig, and almond tree – I stop my tears, but not easily. (trans – Michael Wex)

**8. DOS NAYE LID** Avrom Reisen

No matter how far the time of love and peace, still it will come. Whether soon or late,  
that time is no dream. I hear the song of love and peace. and every note asserts: The  
sun has risen! The night has ended. The world awakens with hope and joy and  
striving. You hear in the air – a voice calls to happiness, to joy, to life!

**9. ESN EST ZIKH** (Eating and Drinking) Attributed to Lubovitcher Rebbe Tuvia Belkin  
Eating, drinking and sleeping come naturally, but praying takes great effort. Eating,  
drinking and sleeping come naturally, but studying Torah takes great effort.