

One Human Tapestry / Moti Hammer

רקמה אנושית אחת מילים ולחן: מוטי המר

When I'll die, something from me
Will die within you.
When you'll die, something from you
within me will die along with you

כְּשָׂאֲמוֹת, מִשְׁהוּ מִמְּנִי,
יָמוֹת בְּךָ.
כְּשֶׁתָּמוֹת, מִשְׁהוּ מִמְּךָ בִּי,
יָמוֹת אֵתְךָ.

For we all are one live human tapestry
And if one of us, fades away
Something from us dies along
And something, stays within him

כִּי כָלֵנוּ רִקְמָה אֲנוּשִׁית אַחַת חַיָּה
וְאִם אֶחָד מֵאַתְּנוּ הוֹלֵךְ מֵעַמָּנוּ
מִשְׁהוּ מֵת בְּנוּ - וּמִשְׁהוּ, נִשְׁאָר אִתּוּ.

If we only knew, how to calm the hostility,
if only we knew how.
If we only knew how to silence our rage,
to say we are sorry, in spite of being hurt.
If we only knew, to start again.

אִם יָדַע, אֵיךְ לְהַרְגִיעַ אֶת הָאִיבָה,
אִם רַק יָדַע.
אִם יָדַע לְהִשְׁקִיט אֶת זַעַמָּנוּ עַל-אֶף
עֲלֻבּוֹנֵנוּ, לֹמֵר סְלִיחָה.
אִם יָדַע לְהִתְחִיל מֵהִתְחַלָּה.

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"A disciple asked Rabbi Shmelke: "We are commanded to love our neighbor as ourself. How can I do this, if my neighbor has wronged me?"

The rabbi answered: "You must understand these words aright. Love your neighbor like something which you yourself are. For all souls are one. Each is a spark from the original soul, and this soul is wholly inherent in all souls, just as yours soul is in all the members of your body. It may come to pass that your hand makes a mistake and strikes you. But would you then take a stick and chastise your hand, because it lacked understanding, and so increase your pain? It is the same if your neighbor, who is of one soul with you, wrongs you for lack of understanding. If you punish him, you only hurt yourself."

The disciple went on asking: "But if I see a man who is wicked before God, how can I love him?"

"Don't you know, "said Rabbi Shmelke, "that the original should came out of the essence of God, and that every human soul is part of God? And will you have no mercy on him, when you see that one of his holy sparks has been lost in a maze, and his almost stifled?"

Martin Buber, Tales of the Hasidim

