

“הכל נשתנה”

יעקב זלמן רובינסון

פסח תשפ"ד

It's now the Leil Haseder, to remind us that things are still in order,
 Even with threats from across the globe and at the Northern border.
 A night we can ask for anything at כאן הבן שואל,
 But we all have one tefilla on our lips, please bring us the גואל.

On Shemini Atzeres to Hashem and His Torah, we express our love,
 הפוך בה, lives turned over, but we know it was from above.
 ופרצו חומות מגדלי, a breach followed by unspeakable acts,
 Then a world that turned on us, denying all the facts.

קשה אלי פרידתכם, it was the day of great yichud,
 Then villains came from sky and land, violently intrude.
 Abducting our brothers and sisters to dark tunnels underground,
 World support for about a month, but then not even a sound.

Lives lost, parents mourning, so many soldiers risked their lives,
 Leaving behind precious children, and their fearful wives.
 Waves of hate, campuses burning, leaders with no backbone,
 But we continue to do what's right, even if we go at it alone.

We responded with faith and fortitude, it's not just Hashem who never slumbers,
 We may be weak in census but we have strength in numbers.
 Millions of dollars, billions of Tehillim and a trillion words of Torah,
 Tzitzis donning, Tefillin laying, so many souls returned to their mesorah.

Now it's 7 months later, in a world gone quite insane,
 מה נשתנה הלילה הזה, this night just cannot be the same.
 So let's harness its unique energy, and have a Seder like never before,
 So we can welcome who we've been waiting for, when we open up the door.

שפוך חמתך, send a modern day מכות, each one measure for measure,
ערוב for behavior like wild beasts, and שחין and כינים to cause pain for pleasure.
דם for all the blood they've spilled, and guided missiles like Egypt's hail,
חושך for the darkness they've cast, like Mitzrayim they will greatly fail.

The story that we read each year, is also now, not only then,
כאילו הוא יצא applies to all children, women and men.
דיינו, you have done so much, כי לעולם חסדו, there's more in store,
בשובי לירושלים, we will say אשר גאלנו once more.

רחצה, we will then wash away the tears from every face.
מוציא מצה we will eat to remember the fast pace,
ישועת ה' כהרף עין, a salvation within a blink.
So lean in on more zechusim, it can happen faster than you think.

מרור, we remember, the bitterness endured,
כורך, taking bad with good, is how real growth is ensured.
So, it is still appropriate to have שלחן עורך, a feast that is replete,
But we eat the egg to remind us that we still are incomplete.

צפון, Hashem's ways are hidden, but one day we will surely see.
So, we must say ברוך now and bless Hashem for now and eternity.
As we say הלל and we praise and thank, and proclaim Modeh Ani.
נרצה, our deeds will be pleasing and accepted to bring Eliyahu Hanavi.

אנא השם openly protect our people, no need to hide behind the Iron Dome.
Make a miraculous return of hostages, please just bring them home.
May the injured be fully healed, and may the broken hearts be whole,
May all Jews stay united, and may the flame stay lit in every soul.

חסל סדר פסח, we did as should be done.
We've climbed the 15 steps, אחריך נרצה, to You we swiftly run.
Shir Hashirim is said from closeness, but this time please never leave,
השתא בעגלא ובזמן קריב, Hamakom Yerachem,