

THANKSGIVING

A JEWBELONG THANKSGIVING HAGGADAH, ESPECIALLY FOR PANDEMIC 2020



Saying thank you - kind of like burning a goat but in a modern, non-violent sort of way.

Welcome to what might be your most meaningful Thanksgiving **ever**. Sounds like a bit of a plot twist, right? Well, 2020 has been a helluva year. Many of us aren't at our traditional family gatherings and feeling grateful is a bit of a challenge. It's with that in mind that JewBelong took extra pains in putting together our first Thanksgiving Haggadah. Think of it as a guide to help deepen the experience of meaning, connection, and joy at your "table," like the Haggadah at a Passover Seder. So whether you are together or on Zoom, everyone can participate. The booklet is a collection of readings, blessings, songs and activities (yes, Zoom games are fantastic!) that are mostly focused on the theme of gratitude. Some of the content is Jewish-themed, and all of it is human-themed.

Since all of us are new at conducting a Zoom Thanksgiving, here are a few tips that you might find helpful:

- Ask everyone to either print the Thanksgiving Haggadah in advance or to have it available on a separate screen. (You can also print copies and send them to the participants yourself. We made the booklet black and white to keep printing inexpensive.)
- It's more fun if everyone stays involved! Anytime you see this bullet • it is a good time for the next reader to take over. You can either go around the table/Zoom screen or assign readings in advance.

Love,

team jewbelong

TABLE OF CONTENTS

01

- What a Wonderful World
- Thanksgiving Prayer
- Visions of Peace

03

- Activity: Zoom Scavenger Hunt

05

- Activity: Most Likely To!

07

- Shehecheyanu
- Activity: Share Thanks
- Today, When I Could Do Nothing

09

- Thanksgiving Prayer
- A JewBelong Promise

11

- Reverie of Gratitude

02

- Prayer for our Country
- Another Prayer for our Country

04

- Blessing for Anyone Who Isn't Jewish
- Thanks for the Memories

06

- The Final Analysis
- Star-Spangled Banner

08

- Small Kindnesses
- Bounty
- What We Have to Be Grateful For

10

- When It Came to Listening
- A House Called Tomorrow

12

- Planting the Seeds of Eternity
- This Land is Your Land

I see trees of green, red roses too
 I see them bloom, for me and you
 And I think to myself
 What a wonderful world
 I see skies of blue, and clouds of white
 The bright blessed day, dark sacred night
 And I think to myself
 What a wonderful world
 The colors of the rainbow, so pretty in the sky
 Are also on the faces, of people going by
 I see friends shaking hands, sayin', "How do you do?"
 They're really sayin', "I love you."
 I hear babies cryin', I watch them grow
 They'll learn much more, than I'll ever know
 And I think to myself
 What a wonderful world
 Yes, I think to myself
 What a wonderful world

- For the laughter of the children,
 For my own life breath,
 For the abundance of food on this table,
 For the ones who prepared this sumptuous feast,
 For the roof over our heads,
 The clothes on our backs,
 For our health,
 And our wealth of blessings,
- For this opportunity to celebrate with family and friends,
 For the freedom to pray these words
 Without fear,
 In any language,
 In any faith,
 In this great country,
 Whose landscape is as vast and beautiful as her inhabitants.

- Don't stop after beating the swords into ploughshares, don't stop!
 Go on beating and make musical instruments out of them.
 Whoever wants to make war again will have to turn them into
 ploughshares first.

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD



ROBERT THIELE
 GEORGE DAVID WEISS

DON'T WORRY IF YOU CAN'T CARRY A
 TUNE, JUST SING!

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

RABBI NAOMI LEVY

VISIONS OF PEACE

YEHUDA AMICHAH

“ “It’s snowing still,” said Eeyore gloomily.
 “So it is.”
 “And freezing.”
 “Is it?”
 “Yes,” said Eeyore. “However,” he said, brightening up a little,
 “we haven’t had an earthquake lately.” ”

WINNIE THE POOH

PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

ROBERT F. KENNEDY

- Let no one be discouraged by the belief that there is nothing one person can do against the enormous array of the world’s ills, misery, ignorance and violence.
- Few will have the greatness to bend history, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events. And in the total of all those acts will be written the history of a generation. It is from numberless, diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped.
- Each time a person stands up for an ideal or acts to improve the lot of others or strikes out against injustice, he or she sends a tiny ripple of hope. Crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring, those ripples can build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.

ANOTHER PRAYER FOR OUR COUNTRY

(BECAUSE WE
NEED IT)

RABBI AYELET COHEN

- Our God and God of our ancestors, bless this country and all who dwell within it. Help us to experience the blessings of our lives and circumstances, to be vigilant, compassionate, and brave. Strengthen us when we are afraid, help us to channel our anger, so that it motivates us to action.
- Help us to feel our fear, so that we do not become numb. Help us to be generous with others, so that we raise each other up. Help us to be humble in our fear, knowing that as vulnerable as we feel, there are those at greater risk, and that it is our holy work to stand with them. Help us to taste the sweetness of liberty, to not take for granted the freedoms won in generations past or in recent days, to heal and nourish our democracy, that it may be like a tree planted by the water whose roots reach down to the stream; it need not fear drought when it comes.
- Source of all life, guide our leaders with righteousness, strengthen their hearts, but keep them from hardening. That they may use their influence and authority to speak truth and act for justice. May all who dwell in this country share in its bounty, enjoy its freedoms, and be protected by its laws. May this nation use its power and wealth to be a voice for justice, peace, and equality for all who dwell on earth.
- May we be strong and have courage to be bold in our action and deep in our compassion, to discern when we must listen and when we must act, to uproot bigotry, intolerance, and violence in all its forms, to celebrate the many faces of God reflected in the wondrous diversity of humanity, to welcome the stranger and the immigrant and to honor the gift of those who seek refuge and possibility here, as they have since before this nation was born. Let justice well up like waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream.

ACTIVITY: ZOOM SCAVENGER HUNT

No touch football? No problem! Here are some Zoom games that everyone can play! Just like with real life games, it's helpful if someone volunteers to be the organizer/leader in advance to help keep things moving!

TWO SCAVENGER HUNTS! ONE WILL HAVE YOU RUNNING AROUND YOUR HOUSE AND THE OTHER WILL HAVE YOU GOOGLING LIKE CRAZY!

IN REAL LIFE SCAVENGER HUNT:

Below is a list of items you might have in your house. You may be thinking, "Sure I have them, but who the heck knows where they are?" The winner of the scavenger hunt, that's who!

- If you are the leader, don't share the list until it's time to play.
- Tell everyone that they have 11 minutes to run and find the items and bring them back to the screen.
- Every item found means a point for that team. A team can also exist of one person.
- The winning team is the one with the most points!
- Feel free to make your own or add to the list of items below.
 1. A soup ladle
 2. A 2007 coin
 3. A two-dollar bill or a Susan B. Anthony silver dollar
 4. Two different kinds of hand sanitizer
 5. "I voted" sticker
 6. Shekels (Israeli money)
 7. A photo from anyone's Bar or Bat Mitzvah (if it's on your phone, that counts)
 8. A copy of a physical newspaper
 9. A Hanukkah menorah
 10. Three shabbat candles
 11. Rubber gloves (any kind)

VIRTUAL SCAVENGER HUNT:

- Each household is a team, or you can have multiple teams in a household. For this one, individuals might want to be their own team.
- Put all the groups on mute, otherwise they might hear other teams' answers.
- If you are the leader, don't share the list until it's time to play.
- Tell everyone that they have 11 minutes to find the answers to as many of the questions as they can. If they know the answer, great, if not, use Google!
- The team that has the most right answers at the end of the 11 minutes wins!
- The answer key is in the Thanksgiving section on JewBelong.
- If you want, make up your own questions!
 1. Where was Maimonides born?
 2. Who has more Instagram followers, Julia Louis Dreyfuss or Adam Sandler?
 3. Name three ingredients that are in gefilte fish.
 4. Which of these fashion designers is not Jewish? Ralph Lauren, Donna Karan, Marc Jacobs, Isaac Mizrahi, Kenneth Cole, Karl Lagerfeld, Michael Kors, Calvin Klein or Diane von Furstenberg?

5. Name five celebrities that were in JewBelong's 'Sins, Stars and Shofars!'
6. Name three traditional foods you eat during Hanukkah.
7. What is fracking?
8. Which president was famous for not liking broccoli?
9. Name two reality TV stars that were in 'Sins, Stars and Shofars!'
10. Which team won the 2011 Super Bowl?
11. When did the Macy's Thanksgiving Parade start?
12. Which US president did not want to make Thanksgiving a federal holiday?
13. What is a turkey trot?
14. What are the football games usually played on Thanksgiving?
15. What are the three largest full marathons run annually in Israel?
16. Since 1970 on the last Thursday in November, people gather near Plymouth Rock to commemorate a National Day of Mourning. Why?
17. Why do many people eat turkey on Thanksgiving?
18. Do turkeys (the bird) have anything to do with Turkey (the country)? If so, what?

BLESSING FOR ANYONE WHO ISN'T JEWISH

('CAUSE WE KNOW
THIS IS A LOT)

ADAPTED FROM
RABBI JANET MARDER

- At JewBelong, we love to honor the growing diversity of the Jewish people – those who were born Jewish, those who converted, those who are not Jewish, and those who are fluid about the subject. We deeply appreciate those who are not Jewish and are leading lives with Judaism as you make our community richer. This blessing, entitled, "For Those Who Are Not Jewish (because we know this a lot) is for you. So if you are not Jewish, then you don't have to read this out loud, but please do listen as we hope you feel appreciated.
- May everyone who shares in a Jewish life feel welcome and integrated. We lovingly acknowledge the diversity of our community and are deeply grateful for the love and support you provide by opening your heart to Judaism, no matter how big or small a part it is in your day. Your presence at this Jewish experience is valued. It is not taken for granted because not everyone in this broken world will sit at a Shabbat dinner or attend a Passover Seder. We are a very small people and history has made us smaller. As we once again see a rise in hatred and hear fear in the voices of our community, we are grateful for your presence. We pray with all our hearts that all you give to the Jewish people will come back to you and fill your life with joy. Amen.

ADD WHEN READING TO A FAMILY RAISING KIDS:

We offer special thanks to those who are raising their sons and daughters with Jewish identity. Our children mean hope, life and future. With all our hearts, we want to thank you for your love and willingness in giving the ultimate gift to the Jewish people. Amen.

THANKS FOR THE MEMORIES

MEREDITH GREY
(GREY'S ANATOMY)

- Maybe gratitude has nothing to do with joy. Maybe being grateful means recognizing what you have for what it is. Appreciating small victories. Admiring the struggle it takes simply to be human. Maybe we're thankful for the familiar things we know. And maybe we're thankful for the things we'll never know. At the end of the day, the fact that we have the courage to still be standing is reason enough to celebrate.

ACTIVITY: MOST LIKELY TO!

CAN ALSO BE PLAYED AS A
DRINKING GAME

Most Likely To! is a lighthearted group game that, when played properly, will promote discussion and laughter. By that, we mean to emphasize the lighthearted nature of the game. It's not the time to berate your sister for always forgetting your birthday.

The steps are:

- Choose a leader. The leader then reads out the first question.
- For the first question, everyone in the group chooses who would be most likely to forget a loved one's birthday. Everyone writes their answer down and keeps their answer to themselves.
- Then the leader says, "time!" and everyone shows their answer on the screen at the same time. Remember The Newlywed game? It's like that!
- Continue on to the next questions consecutively until you complete the game.
- Don't forget, you are supposed to choose someone from the assembled group when answering each question. But, if your group wants to add people to the mix, go right ahead.
- The scoring for this game has to do with the matches. If your answer matches with one other person, you get one point, if it matches with two other people, you get two points, and so on.
- Of course, if you want to make your own Most Likely To's, go ahead!

MOST LIKELY TO!

1. Most likely to forget a loved one's birthday?
2. Most likely to forget their wallet?
3. Most likely to get stranded on vacation?
4. Most likely to stay up late arguing with internet trolls?
5. Most likely to stay up late playing video games?
6. Most likely to have a million followers on social media?
7. Most likely to have the most embarrassing tattoo?
8. Most likely to have the most hair colors in their lifetime?
9. Most likely to go bungee jumping?
10. Most likely to go on a hunger strike?
11. Most likely to go on a space mission?
12. Most likely to go to jail for doing something stupid?
13. Most likely to move to Israel?
14. Most likely to become Kosher?
15. Most likely to start wearing a Yarmulke?
16. Most likely to learn how to speak Hebrew?
17. Most likely to make gefilte fish?
18. Most likely to spend a day at a Jewish Museum?
19. Most likely to watch a Holocaust movie?
20. Most likely to hold back from sharing their opinions in a conversation?
21. Most likely to eat something off the ground?
22. Most likely to become addicted to coffee?
22. Most likely to give up their seat on the train for an elderly citizen?
23. Most likely to find a silver lining in every situation?

“ Never let a day pass without looking for the good, feeling the good within you, praising, appreciating, blessing, and being grateful. Make it your life commitment, and you will stand in utter awe of what happens in your life.

”

RHONDA BYRNE

THE FINAL ANALYSIS

KENT M. KEITH,
ADAPTED BY MOTHER THERESA

A NICE WAY TO READ THIS IS TO HAVE A DIFFERENT PERSON READ EACH BULLET, BUT THE ENTIRE GROUP READ THE ITALICS

- People are often unreasonable, illogical and self-centered.
Forgive them anyway.
- If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives.
Be kind anyway.
- If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies.
Succeed anyway.
- If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you.
Be honest and frank anyway.
- What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight.
Build anyway.
- If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous.
Be happy anyway.
- The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow.
Do good anyway.
- Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough.
Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God. It was never between you and them anyway.



STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

TAKE A KNEE OR DON'T -
IT'S UP TO YOU!

O say can you see,
by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hail'd
at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars
through the perilous fight
O'er the ramparts we watch'd
were so gallantly streaming?
And the rocket's red glare,
the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night
that our flag was still there,
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free
and the home of the brave?

◦ At JewBelong we think of the *Shehecheyanu* as a catch-all/generic prayer for gratitude which makes it perfect for Thanksgiving. The translation is that we thank God (or spirit or whatever you believe) for giving us life, sustaining us, and allowing us to arrive at this moment. After you recite the *Shehecheyanu*, it is a nice time to go around the table (or Zoom screen) and ask people to share what they are grateful for.

Baruch atah Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, shehecheyanu v'key'manu v'higiyanu lazman hazeh. Amen.

Praised are You, Spirit of the Universe, who keeps us alive, sustains us, and brings us to this moment. Amen.

It's time to focus on the *thanks* part of Thanksgiving! Take turns sharing two (or more) things that you're thankful for this year. Maybe something big like health, your new job, girlfriend or baby, spending down-time with family, or something smaller... like say, your sourdough starter or that new TV show *Tehran* (crazy good!) or that this inside time has given you time to clean your closets and that feels good.

Don't skimp on the details...what do you make with the sourdough starter? Also, have there been any good surprises that you have learned from the pandemic?

Don't be afraid to open your heart a little. If you do, others will too, and the connection and warmth will spread faster than the latest Tik Tok dance. Take turns by having the last person who speaks choose the next person to talk.

◦ Today, when I could do nothing,
I saved an ant.
It must have come in with the morning paper,
still being delivered
to those who shelter in place.
A morning paper is still an essential service.
I am not an essential service.
I have coffee and books,
time,
a garden,
silence enough to fill cisterns.
It must have first walked
the morning paper, as if loosened ink
taking the shape of an ant.

◦ Then across the laptop computer — warm —
then onto the back of a cushion.
Small black ant, alone,
crossing a navy cushion,
moving steadily because that is what it could do.
Set outside in the sun,
it could not have found again its nest.
What then did I save?

◦ It did not move as if it was frightened, even while walking my hand,
which moved it through swiftness and air.
Ant, alone, without companions,
whose ant-heart I could not fathom —
how is your life, I wanted to ask. I lifted it, took it outside.
This first day when I could do nothing, contribute nothing,
beyond staying distant from my own kind, I did this.

SHEHECHEYANU

GENERIC PRAYER OF THANKS

ACTIVITY: SHARE THANKS

TODAY, WHEN I COULD DO NOTHING

JANE HIRSHFIELD

SMALL KINDNESSES

DANUSHA LAMÉRIS

- I've been thinking about the way, when you walk down a crowded aisle, people pull in their legs to let you by. Or how strangers still say "bless you" when someone sneezes, a leftover from the Bubonic plague. "Don't die," we are saying.
- And sometimes, when you spill lemons from your grocery bag, someone else will help you pick them up. Mostly, we don't want to harm each other. We want to be handed our cup of coffee hot, and to say thank you to the person handing it. To smile at them and for them to smile back. For the waitress to call us honey when she sets down the bowl of clam chowder, and for the driver in the red pick-up truck to let us pass.
- We have so little of each other, now. So far from tribe and fire. Only these brief moments of exchange. What if they are the true dwelling of the holy, these fleeting temples we make together when we say, "Here, have my seat," "Go ahead—you first," "I like your hat."

BOUNTY

SUSAN WHELEHAN

- The tossed salad at our Soup Kitchen starts with lettuce from the Community Garden, planted by a Roma family waiting to hear their refugee status, tended by 70 year old David, who grew up on a kibbutz, harvested by the Sixth Grade class from down the street, washed by Mrs. Singh, recovering from a brain injury, dressed by Kaliyah, a Med student who comes when she's got a free hour, shared by a family of the working poor who swallowed their pride to come here for the first time. They offer thanks and ask about the garden. And so it grows.

WHAT WE HAVE TO BE GRATEFUL FOR

RICK MORANIS

- I HAVE two kids. Both are away at college. I have five television sets (I like to think of them as a set of five televisions). I have two DVR boxes, three DVD players, two VHS machines and four stereos. I have nineteen remote controls, mostly in one drawer. I have three computers, four printers and two non-working faxes. I have three phone lines, three cell phones and two answering machines.
- I have no messages. I have forty-six cookbooks. I have sixty-eight takeout menus from four restaurants. I have one hundred and sixteen soy sauce packets. I have three hundred and eighty-two dishes, bowls, cups, saucers, mugs and glasses. I eat over the sink. I try to keep a positive view.
- I have two refrigerators. It's very hard to count ice cubes.

I have forty-one 37-cent stamps.
 I have no 2-cent stamps.
 I read three dailies, four weeklies, five monthlies and no annual reports.
 I have five hundred and six CD, cassette, vinyl and eight-track recordings.
 I listen to the same radio station all day.

- I have one hundred and eighty-four thousand frequent flier miles on six airlines, three of which no longer exist.
 I have "101 Dalmatians" on tape.
 I have fourteen digital clocks flashing relatively similar times.
 I have nine armchairs from which I can be critical.
 I have a laundry list of thing that need cleaning.
 I have lost more than one thousand golf balls.
 I am missing thirty-seven umbrellas.
 I have over four hundred yards of dental floss.
 I have two kids coming home for Thanksgiving.

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

RABBI NAOMI LEVY

- For the laughter of the children,
 For my own life breath,
 For the abundance of food on this table,
 For the ones who prepared this sumptuous feast,
 For the roof over our heads,
 The clothes on our backs,
 For our health,
 And our wealth of blessings,
- For this opportunity to celebrate with family and friends,
 For the freedom to pray these words
 Without fear,
 In any language,
 In any faith,
 In this great country,
 Whose landscape is as vast and beautiful as her inhabitants.
 Thank You, God, for giving us all these. Amen.

A JEWBELONG PROMISE TO WORK TOGETHER TO END ANTISEMITISM

- Antisemitism is on the rise and we must all do our parts to stop it. Jews and allies need to be courageous, to call it out and to never make excuses for it. Antisemitism isn't new, but there are new and insidious strains of it. There's the familiar white supremacy movement that pretty much hates everyone who doesn't look like them, the run-of-the-mill antisemites, the subtle I-don't-really-mean-it-when-I-talk-crap-about Jews kind, and a relatively new form of hate directed at Israel which crosses the line to antisemitism far too often.
- Antisemitism is hate. Jews, Christians, Muslims, Hindus, atheists... literally everyone is worse off for it. Are we going to end it completely? Probably not. But that doesn't give us permission to throw our hands up and accept it, make excuses, or discount it. It's exactly the opposite. We must talk about it, write about it, learn about it, and call it out. No matter how difficult or uncomfortable, we can't ignore, chuckle along, or accept it. We've already learned the bitter lesson that true hate is never little, it is never unimportant, and it should never, ever be ignored.

WHEN IT CAME TO LISTENING

RUPIKAUR

- When it came to listening
My mother taught me silence
If you are drowning their voice with yours
How will you hear them she asked
- When it came to speaking
She said do it with commitment
Every word you say
Is your own responsibility
- When it came to being
She said be tender and tough at once
You need to be vulnerable to live fully
But rough enough to survive it all
- When it came to choosing
She asked me to be thankful
For the choices I had that
She never had the privilege of making

A HOUSE CALLED TOMORROW

ALBERTO RÍOS

- You are not fifteen, or twelve, or seventeen — You are a hundred wild centuries
And fifteen, bringing with you in every breath and in every step
Everyone who has come before you, all the yous that you have been,
The mothers of your mother, the fathers of your father.
- If someone in your family tree was trouble, a hundred were not:
The bad do not win — not finally, no matter how loud they are.
We simply would not be here if that were so. You are made, fundamentally, from the
good. With this knowledge, you never march alone.
- You are the breaking news of the century. You are the good who has come forward
Through it all, even if so many days
Feel otherwise. But think: when you as a child learned to speak,
It's not that you didn't know words — It's that, from the centuries, you knew so many,
And it's hard to choose the words that will be your own.
- From those centuries we human beings bring with us the simple solutions and songs,
The river bridges and star charts and song harmonies all in service to a simple idea:
That we can make a house called tomorrow. What we bring, finally, into the new day,
every day, is ourselves. And that's all we need to start. That's everything we require to
keep going.
- Look back only for as long as you must, then go forward into the history you will make.
Be good, then better. Write books. Cure disease. Make us proud. Make yourself proud.
And those who came before you? When you hear thunder, hear it as their applause.

REVERIE OF GRATITUDE

PATTY SEYBURN

- I would like to invite you over for butternut squash soup. I am excellent at making this soup, and I leave out the heavy whipping cream, but you won't even miss it. The recipe recommends using an immersion blender, but I'll tell you that my regular blender works just fine.
- You make batches. The color is burnt orange. It is pure autumn, the brand that Keats promotes, though whenever I read that poem, I think, it could end after the first stanza. That it doesn't: a giant bonus. I would like to invite you over for mashed potatoes.
 - I did not skimp on decadence this year, after Ken made his with low-sodium chicken broth. It would be nice if those were worth eating, but I fear they are not. I don't like to pretend. I am aware that Thanksgiving is a problem: the pilgrim narrative can't hold up much longer, what with Columbus's reputation gone south.
- My job ignores him, altogether. That's alright: I like my work. I even like cooking on a morning like this, when time is not a Harley driver with a doctored muffler in my blind spot. On the other hand: the noise makes me aware of their presence.
 - To all the Harley drivers: I would like to make you butternut squash soup. I think it would cause less lane-splitting for it is a patient soup: close to a puree and distant from a broth. A friend once said of a clam affair: more a bisque than a chowder, which represented his general state of disillusionment. I do not feel that way. Certain things have gone egregiously right to balance out the egregiously wrong. The word reminds me of Spanish for "y": *i griega*. Why oh why oh why oh.
- For the month approaching Thanksgiving, we receive emails from the local rescue mission, reminding us how little it costs to provide a family a meal. I give \$180. My husband gives \$250. I give another \$180. It is a quiet competition. There are worse contests. I cannot invite everyone over for butternut squash soup and mashed potatoes, though I have enough of the latter for 24. The recipe called for 10 pounds of spuds. This year, I am following recipes.
 - My son is now making a key lime pie. He will zest his knuckles within a moment or two, with 007 in the background, making love to a supermodel. He asks if I watched James Bond as a child. I said, they were too sexy for me. Twice today I drove inland and back to the coast. Both times the sky was whole driving east, and in tatters as we drove west. My approach to the fat content in my potatoes was ecumenical: one stick butter, one package cream cheese, once cup milk/heavy cream. Fair is fair.
 - Tomorrow, a feast. I would like to invite you. My mother would say: "Genug shoy'n." Enough, already. As I peeled the 10th pound of potatoes. Seriously. We have more than enough. Be here close to noon, as my sister-in-law makes an artichoke spinach dip that disappears quickly.

PLANTING THE SEEDS OF ETERNITY

A TALMUD STORY

- One day a sage was walking along a road, and he saw a man planting a carob tree. The sage asked the man, "How long does it take for this tree to bear fruit?" The man replied, "Seventy years." The sage responded, "Are you certain that you will live another seventy years?" The man replied: "I found grown carob trees in the world; as my forefathers planted those for me, I too plant these for my children."



THIS LAND IS YOUR LAND

WOODY GUTHRIE

WARNING: THE WORDS IN THE FIRST VERSE ARE THE ONES THAT MOST OF US KNOW, AND THEY FLOW REALLY WELL.

THE REST OF THE SONG IS A LITTLE HARDER TO FOLLOW BUT IT'S WORTH THE EFFORT.

This land is your land, This land is my land
From California to the New York island;
From the Redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters
This land was made for you and me.

As I was walking that ribbon of highway,
I saw above me that endless skyway:
I saw below me that golden valley:
This land was made for you and me.

I've roamed and rambled and I followed my footsteps
To the sparkling sands of her diamond deserts;
And all around me a voice was sounding:
This land was made for you and me.

When the sun came shining, and I was strolling,
And the wheat fields waving and the dust clouds rolling,
As the fog was lifting a voice was chanting:
This land was made for you and me.

As I went walking I saw a sign there
And on the sign it said "No Trespassing."
But on the other side it didn't say nothing,
That side was made for you and me.

In the shadow of the steeple I saw my people,
By the relief once I seen my people;
As they stood there hungry, I stood there asking
Is this land made for you and me?

Nobody living can ever stop me,
As I go walking that freedom highway;
Nobody living can ever make me turn back
This land was made for you and me.

This land is your land, This land is my land
From California to the New York island;
From the Redwood forest to the Gulf Stream waters

This land was made for you and me.

jewbelong.com

For when you feel you don't

JewBelong.com does more than Thanksgiving! (Well, we better, with a name like JewBelong.) Our free booklets add sweetness and meaning to the big four Jewish holidays and lifecycle events, plus some things you might not even think of as Jewish, like pets, work and heartbreak.