

## Psalm 27-- Dharmic Interpretive Translation, Rabbi Sheila Peltz Weinberg

לְדָוִד | יְהוָה | אֹרִי וְיִשְׁעֵי מִמִּי אֵינִי יְהוָה מְעֹז-חַיִּי מִמִּי אֶפְתָּד:

Awareness is sunlight in the mind. No one can take that from me. Awareness is my life's stronghold. It absorbs all fear.

בְּקֶרֶב עָלַי | מְרַעִים לְאֹכַל אֶת-בְּשָׂרִי צָרִי וְאֵיבֵי לִי הֵמָּה כְּשָׁלוֹ וְנִפְלוּ:

The hindrances and defilements are as close as my flesh and mind, but they dissolve in the light of being known.

אִם-תַּחֲנֶנֶה עָלַי | מַחֲנֶנֶה לֹא-יִרְאֵ לְבִי אִם-תִּקְוֹם עָלַי מִלְחָמָה בְּזֹאת אֲנִי בּוֹטָח:

Even though I feel assaulted by hostile forces, my heart remains confident, balanced and patient.

אֶחַת | שְׂאֵלְתִי מֵאֵת-יְהוָה אֹתָהּ אֲבַקֵּשׁ שִׁבְתִּי בְּבֵית-יְהוָה כָּל-יְמֵי חַיִּי לְחִזּוֹת בְּנַעַם-יְהוָה וְלִבְקֹר בְּהִיכָלוֹ:

I seek only one thing, one thing alone: to connect to this moment. Nowhere else. Only this. Nothing less. My palace in time.

כִּי יִצְפְּנֵנִי | בְּסֹכָה בְּיוֹם רָעָה יִסְתַּרְנִי בְּסֹתֵר אֶהְלֹו בְּצוּר יְרוּמָמַי:

When difficulties arise, I have a hiding place in my own heart— a secret tent where I can go and feel safe, a rock to rest my head upon.

וְעֵתָה יְרוּם רֹאשִׁי עַל אֵיבֵי סְבִיבוֹתַי וְאֶזְבְּחָהּ בְּאֶהְלֹו זִבְחֵי תְרוּעָה אֲשִׁירָה וְאֶזְמַרָה לִיְהוָה:

Greed, hatred, and delusion don't stop coming, but when they are met with a spacious heart, they don't stick around. Leaving me so grateful, I want to sing out loud:

שְׁמַע-יְהוָה קוֹלִי אֶקְרָא וְחַנּוּנִי וְעֲנֵנִי:

Listen, world! The power of love sets me free.

לָךְ | אֶמַר לְבִי בְקִשׁוּ פָנַי אֶת-פָּנֶיךָ יְהוָה אֲבַקֵּשׁ:

When I turn to face my heart—then everyone and everything is revealed.

אֵל-תִּסְתֵּר פָּנֶיךָ | מִמֶּנִּי אֵל-תֵּט-בְּאֶף עַבְדְּךָ עֲזַרְתִּי הֵיטֵ אֵל-תִּטְשֵׁנִי וְאֵל-תַּעֲזֹבֵנִי אֱלֹהֵי יִשְׁרָאֵל:

Let this truth not be hidden from me. If only I could remember always what seems so clear right now. Wisdom would guide my every moment.

כִּי-אָבִי וְאִמִּי עֲזָבוּנִי וַיְהוָה יֵאֱסָפֵנִי:

Awareness and compassion would be a father and a mother to me.

הוֹרְנִי יְהוָה דֶּרֶךְךָ וּנְחֵנִי בְּאֶרְחַ מִישׁוֹר לְמַעַן שׁוֹרְרֵי:

But I can follow the guidance of those who have walked this path before.

אֵל-תִּתְנֵנִי בְּנִפְשׁ צָרִי כִי קָמוּ-בִי עֵדִי-שֶׁקֶר וַיִּפַּח חֲמָס:

Trying to stay alert to the obstacles along the way because delusion and hatred aren't disappearing so fast.

לֹא אֶמְנָתִי לְרֵאוֹת בְּטוֹב-יְהוָה בְּאֶרְץ חַיִּים:

Still, I affirm my faith in the power of goodness.

קוּיָה אֵל-יְהוָה חֲזַק וַיִּאֲמָץ לְבָבְךָ וְקוּיָה אֵל-יְהוָה:

May we take courage; may we be strong; may our hearts be so filled with love there is no room for anything else! May we see the arising and passing of all conditioned things. May we open to the

Unconditioned: Y\*H\*V\*H