

BAR / BAT MITZVAH

A PARENT'S PERSPECTIVE

You are not today as you were yesterday
Nor are we.
Something has occurred.

We sit with the congregation
You stand alone on the Bimah
You lead the congregation
We follow.
You sing, pray, speak
We listen.

You are not an echo of our sounds
You have found your own voice
The still, small voice of conscience
Stronger in you now than ever before
A blessed distance between us
You are ours yet also your own.

When called to the Torah
Your name and our names are interwoven
You are not us
We are not you
But we are inseparable.