

For The Visitors Of The Sick

Rabbi Eleazar Ben Yitzchak in the eleventh century
Offered a book of healing called *The Ways of Life*
Counsel to the visitors of the sick:

“Visit the sick and lighten their suffering
Pray for them and leave
Do not stay long for you may inflict upon them additional discomfort
And when you visit the patient enter the room with cheer.

“I bring you prayerful greetings from my family and your friends
We have so much to say to each other, you have so much to tell us
If I part from you soon it is for your sake
You need rest and quiet to that tomorrow
We may walk and talk and remember together.

“I leave you joyful at the signs of your recovery
Full of hope for the renewal of your energies
Tomorrow we shall speak
Tomorrow we shall laugh and sing.”

