

SONG

for Shira and Matthew

You were born to song
You bear it not only in your name, "Shira"
But in the chords of your family

I have heard your father
Walking alone in the corridors of the synagogue
Singing without audience
Chanting sometimes soft,
sometimes cheerful,
sometimes contemplative

I have heard the intensity,
The crescendo in your mother's melody
And I have heard their echo in you

Our sages declared each person is born
With a song yet unsung
With a melody yet unhummed,
With a prayer yet unchanted

Now you come to join another voice
Two voices who, together,
Can wash away the dust of prosaic living

In the Talmud our sages said,
*If the groom is taller than the bride
Let him bend down to hear her whisper
And if the bride is shorter than the groom,
Let her look up and read his lips*

To sing well is not only to hear your voice
But the voice of another
And to discover the oneness in diversity

Shiru lanu shir hadash – sing for us a new song
A chord deeper, a range wider, an octave higher.

In prayer we find a song of renewal
Every day, God creates his world anew
Matt and Shira... bring us a new day,
A saner world, a happier future.
Blending tones in embracing harmony
With our love
A life of goodness!

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