

Out Of The Depths

*W*hat strange wisdom from the Biblical book of Ecclesiastes:
“Better to go to a house of mourning than a house of feasting.”

It takes the sight of torn fringes of the tallit
To gather the four fringes of our life whole
Facing death, we know how to live better.

Facing death, we glimpse light in darkness
Promise in failure
Facing death, we find shards of strength in despair.

Out of grief, the psalmist was empowered
Not intimidated by threatening shadows
Not panicked by defeat
Uncovering nothing so whole as a broken heart.

*“Out of the depths I called to Adonai,
Who answered by setting me free.
Adonai is with me, I shall not fear.
What can mortals do to me”?
(Psalm 118)*

Facing death, chastened I am
But more resolute than ever
I shall not die but live.

