

# *Bent Shofar*

*H*aving witnessed the sounding of the shofar  
The man asked his rabbi,  
“Why is the mouthpiece of the shofar placed on its narrow side?”

The rabbi drew him closer:  
“My son, hearing begins with your narrow inner self  
But the hearing will not stop with you alone  
The staccato sounds telegraph urgency  
The sighs, the moans, the shrieks of innocent people trapped behind the mute and deaf walls of Jericho  
Through you, your family, your community, your faith  
The outcry will resonate in the world  
But you must begin with yourself.”

