

## **A Tkhine for Every Day**

Excerpted from *Seyder Tkhines: The Forgotten Book of Common Prayer for Jewish Women* by Devra Kay

Lord of all the world,  
God, my God,  
And God of my forefathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.  
Great and strong and awesome God, And Lord over the whole world,  
Above and below,  
One Lord over everything on earth,  
Every creature, flesh and blood,  
And all that grows under the sun,  
And Lord of the angels in Heaven above,  
And of the sun, the moon, and the stars, everything is His making,  
And he governs alone.

They seek Your Name in fire  
But they do not find it,  
And they fear Your Name.  
They seek Your Name in the earth,  
But they do not find it,  
And they tremble at Your power.  
And they seek with fear  
Of being far from home.  
And in all dwellings,  
Above the earth  
And in the graves below it,  
They tremble in fear  
Before You.

And the blessed ones  
Who enter Paradise  
Will praise and respect Your Name  
With a loving heart,  
And the mountain will spring up high, once again,  
Like a young sheep  
To honor Your Holy Name.

So, I Your devoted maid and daughter,  
Was created from the earth,  
And must return to the earth.  
I am part ashes and part earth,  
Part blood and part flesh,  
And I will fade like a shadow on a wall  
That is soon gone,  
And like a blade of grass that bends  
And trembles in the wind,  
And soon withers.  
So I come before Your Holy Name  
With my body bowed in great submission  
To revere Your Holy Name,  
To beg before You  
Like a pauper at the door of a rich man.  
And give me my share in this world  
And in the next,

And give me Your blessing  
And Your mercy.  
God Almighty,  
Grant me good luck  
In all my endeavors.

I spread out the palms of my hands a  
And raise them to you  
And ask for mercy and eternal life,  
Open the gate to Your garden  
Forgive all sins and wrongdoings.  
And open to me  
The gate of wisdom and justice,  
And the gate of nourishment.  
Grant me power and strength  
And a good heart,  
And good thoughts,  
So I may be at peace with my sins,  
And repent entirely before You.  
May evil thoughts never provoke me  
Into evil actions.  
Reach out Your right hand to me  
And fill me with goodness.  
Let me be among those  
Who turn toward You  
With all their hearts,  
And direct me in all ways.  
Strengthen my bones,  
So I may stand before You  
In awe of Your Name,  
To worship You  
With all my heart  
And with the limbs of my body,  
That You alone created.