

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.