

Dreamscapes

Source Sheet by Sarra Alpert

Pesachim 50a:6

And Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi said: These are people who are considered important [yekarim] in this world and unimportant [kefuyim] in the World-to-Come. This is like the incident involving **Rav Yosef, son of Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi, who became ill and was about to expire. When he returned to good health, his father said to him: What did you see when you were about to die? He said to him: I saw an inverted world. Those above, i.e., those who are considered important in this world, were below, insignificant, while those below, i.e., those who are insignificant in this world, were above. He said to him: My son, you have seen a clear world.** The world you have seen is the true world, as in that world people's standings befit them. Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi asked: **And where are we, the Torah scholars, there?** Rav Yosef responded: **Just as we are regarded here, so are we regarded there.**

פסחים נ"א:ו'

ור' יהושע בן לוי אמר אלו בני
אדם שיקרין הן בעולם הזה
וקפויין הן לעוה"ב כי הא דרב
יוסף בריה דר' יהושע בן לוי חלש
ואיתנגיד כי הדר אמר ליה אבוה
מאי חזית אמר ליה עולם הפוך
ראיתי עליונים למטה ותחתונים
למעלה אמר לו בני עולם ברור
ראית ואנן היכי התם כי היכי
דאיתו אנן הכא הכי איתינן התם

Merger Poem, by Judy Chicago

And then all that has divided us will merge
And then compassion will be wedded to power
And then softness will come to a world that is harsh and unkind
And then both men and women will be gentle
And then both women and men will be strong
And then no person will be subject to another's will
And then all will be rich and free and varied
And then the greed of some will give way to the needs of many
And then all will share equally in the Earth's abundance
And then all will care for the sick and the weak and the old
And then all will nourish the young
And then all will cherish life's creatures
And then everywhere will be called Eden once again

From the "I Have a Dream" speech, Martin Luther King Jr.:

I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal."

I have a dream that one day on the red hills of Georgia, the sons of former slaves and the sons of former slave owners will be able to sit down together at the table of brotherhood.

I have a dream that one day even the state of Mississippi, a state sweltering with the heat of injustice, sweltering with the heat of oppression, will be transformed into an oasis of freedom and justice.

I have a dream that my four little children will one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of their skin but by the content of their character...

... I have a dream that one day every valley shall be exalted, and every hill and mountain shall be made low, the rough places will be made plain, and the crooked places will be made straight; "and the glory of the Lord shall be revealed and all flesh shall see it together."