

Poem

Each of us has a name

Each of us has a name given by God and
 given by our parents
 Each of us has a name given by our stature
 and our smile and given by what we wear
 Each of us has a name given by the
 mountains and given by our walls
 Each of us has a name given by the stars
 and given by our neighbors
 Each of us has a name given by our sins
 and given by our longing
 Each of us has a name given by our
 enemies and given by our love
 Each of us has a name given by our
 celebrations and given by our work
 Each of us has a name given by the
 seasons and given by our blindness
 Each of us has a name given by the sea
 and given by our death.

לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם

מילים: Zelda Mishkowsky

לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם שֶׁנָּתַן לוֹ אֱלֹהִים וְנָתַן לוֹ אָבִיו וְאִמּוֹ,
 לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם שֶׁנָּתַן לוֹ קוֹמָתוֹ וְאָפֶן חַיּוּכּוֹ וְנָתַן לוֹ
 הָאָרֶג,
 לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם שֶׁנָּתַן לוֹ הַהָרִים וְנָתַן לוֹ כְּתָלָיו,
 לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם שֶׁנָּתַן לוֹ הַמְּצֹלֹת וְנָתַן לוֹ שְׂכָנָיו,
 לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם שֶׁנָּתַן לוֹ חֲטָאִיו וְנָתַן לוֹ כְּמִיָּהָתוֹ,
 לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם שֶׁנָּתַן לוֹ שׁוֹנְאָיו וְנָתַן לוֹ אֶהְבָּתוֹ,
 לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם שֶׁנָּתַן לוֹ חֲגָיו וְנָתַן לוֹ מְלֹאכְתּוֹ,
 לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם שֶׁנָּתַן לוֹ תְּקוּפּוֹת הַשָּׁנָה וְנָתַן לוֹ
 עֲרוּנוֹ,
 לְכָל אִישׁ יֵשׁ שֵׁם שֶׁנָּתַן לוֹ הַיָּם וְנָתַן לוֹ מוֹתוֹ.

Zelda Mishkowsky (1916–1984), a descendant of the Chabad Lubavitcher rabbinic dynasty, was born in Ukraine and immigrated to Palestine in 1928 at the age of 12.



Popularly known by her first name, she was a pious woman who lived most of her life in Jerusalem's very religious neighborhoods. She remains one of the few poets able to traverse Israel's religious-secular divide.

Discussion Questions:

1. This poem was written 50 years ago and is typically read on Holocaust memorial day. How does it apply to October 7th?
2. The [list of names](#) of Israelis killed on October 7th is overwhelming. Choose just one name from this list and learn the story of their life and death. How does knowing their name and story impact you?