

ידיד נפש

Yedid Nefesh

Trad., sung by R' Sucher Shelley

Ye did ne fesh ov ho racha mon me shoich av de cho

8 *rit.* yo rutz av de cho yo rutz av de cho
el re tzoi ne cho av de cho av de

13 ke moi a
cho 7 7 yol yish ta cha ve yish ta cha ve el mul ha do re cho ye-e rav

18 3 3 3 3
loi ye di doi se cho ye-e rav loi ye di doi se cho mi noi fes

22 tzuf ve chol to am mi noi fes tzuf ve chol to am ho dur

27 3
no e ziv hooi lom naf shi naf shi choilas ahavo se cho o no

32 3
keil no re fo no loh be har ois loh noi am zi ve cho be

36 har ois loh noi am zi ve cho oz tis cha zeik ve sis ra pei

40 3
oz tis chazeik ve sis ra pei ve hoi so loh sim chas oi lom ve

43 hoi so loh sim chas oi lom vo sik vo sik ye he mu no racha

48

me cho ye he mu no ra cha me cho ve chu so no ve chu so no

53

al bein a hu ve cho ki ze ka mo nich soif nich

58

saf ti lirois besi fe res u ze cho ei le chom do chom do li bi ve

63

chu so no ve al tis a lom ei le chom do

67

chom do li bi ve chu so no ve al tis a lom hi

71

go lei no hi go lei no u frois chavi vi o lai es su kas

75

shloi me cho to ir e re-etz to ir e retz mi k'voi de cho

80

to ir e re-etz to ir e retz mi k'voi de cho no gi lo ve

85

nis me cho boch no gi lo ve nis me cho boch ma heir e

88

hoiv ma heir e hoiv ki vo moi eid ve cho nei nu ve cho

91

nei nu ma heir e hoiv ki vo moi eid ve cho

93

nei nu ve cho nei nu ki mei oi lom.

For as long as R' Sucher (Yissochor) Shelley came to sholosh seudos at Adath Israel on 26th and Noriega in San Francisco this was the nigun for Yedid Nefesh. It is self-understood that the time signatures and barlines are more guidelines than strict rhythmic enforcers, for this kind of nigun does not know of the formal rhythms of European classical music, to which the notation system currently in popular use is best adapted, and, as such, can only really be properly transmitted b'al peh.

The two boys at shul who were just starting on their road to Yiddishkeit were especially affected by the nigun. They were, of course, myself and chasan d'nan, Reuven Levine. The true, beautiful, unadulterated dveikus that echoed Europe in every note grabbed both of our neshomos. May the nigun bring that same ruach that we both felt years ago in San Francisco to Reuven's bayis ne'emon beyisroel.

ידיד נפשך,

Dov Dukhovny.