

THE HEBREW UNIVERSITY OF JERUSALEM

anthology
of Yiddish
Folksongs

SINAI LEICHTER

VOLUME SIX

THE MARK WARSHAVSKY VOLUME



CONTENTS

Alphabetical Index of the Songs	xiv
<i>Sinai Leichter/</i> Mark Warshavsky — Introduction	xvii
<i>Itzik Manger/</i> Mark Warshavsky — A Memoir	xxv
<i>Zeev Jabotinsky/</i> Oyfn Pripetshik — Der Aleph Beys	xxvi
The Editorial Board	xxviii
1. Dem Milners Trenn	The Miller's Tears
2. Di Mekhutonim Geyen	The In-laws are Coming
3. Der Bekher	The Wine Cup
4. Der Zeyde Mit Der Bobe (Akhtsik Er Un Zibetsik Zi)	Grandpapa and Grandmama
5. Di Mizinke Oysgegebn	My Youngest Daughter to Wed
6. Oyfn Pripetshik (Der Alef Beys)	On the Little Hearth
7. Kalenyu,Veyn Zhe, Veyn!	You Please the Groom
8. Dos Lid Fun Dem Broyt	The Song of Bread
9. Der Vinter	Winter
10. Dos Freylekhe Shnayderl	The Happy Little Tailor
11. Leshana Habaa Birusholayim	Next Year in Jerusalem
12. Tsiyon	Zion
13. Simkhas Toyre	Children, It is Simchat Torah
14. Got Iz A Foter	G-d is a Father
15. A Yidish Lid Fun Rumenie	A Yiddish Song from Rumania
16. Dos Troyerlid	Song of Sadness

17.	Der Emes	The Truth	68
18-20. Der Yid In Veg, <i>Trilogy</i> :			
18.	Der Kholem	The Dream	71
19.	Shtey Oyf!	Stand Up!	77
20.	Di Tekhter Tsiyon's Zingen	Zion's Daughters are Singing	80
21.	Shvartse Volkns Ze Ikh	Black Clouds I See	85
22.	Di Nakht	Night	88
23.	Nokh Ir	After Her	91
24.	Di Velt	The World	95
25.	Do Oyf Der Prizbe	Here on the Porch	100
26.	Der Shteyn	The Stone	106
27.	Oyf Dem Altn Beys-Oylom	In the Old Graveyard	110
28.	Khad-Gadyo	Chad Gadya	117
29.	Mit Eyn Blik	With a Glance	125
30	Di Bobe	Grannie's Worries	127
31	Di Bobe Geyt A Tants	Gramma's Dance	131
32	Dem Odlers Klog	The Eagle's Lament	138
33.	Oyf Kidush Hashem	Sanctification of the Name	141
34.	Neben Klayzl	Beside the Shul	147
35.	Pesakh	Pesach	152
36.	Tankhun Der Trubatsh	Tanchum the Trumpeter	156
37.	Di Shif	The Ship	164
38.	A Brif Fun Amerike	A Letter from America	169
39.	Der Mames Entfer	Mother's Reply	173
40.	Vi Halt Ikh Dos Oys?	How Do I Bear it?	177

41.	Es Zingt Zikh Nit	Just Can't Sing	181
42.	Di Zun	The Sun	183
43.	Sore Un Rivke	Sarah and Rivka	186
44.	Trern	Tears	191
45.	Oyf Ir Keyver	At her Grave	193
46.	Vos Mer S'blutikt Mayn Harts	The More my Heart Bleeds	195
47.	Der Fodem	The Thread	197
48.	Der Shadkhn Moyshe-Aron	The Shadkhn Moyshe-Aron	204

APPENDIX – Bund Songs

<i>Sinai Leichter</i> / The Bund (Hebrew)	211	
<i>Sinai Leichter</i> / The Bund (English)	214	
Arbeter Ring Himen	217	
Shir Hakhayitim	Tailor's Guild	219
Di Shvue	The Oath	221
Vakht Oyf	Awake	223
In Kamf	In Battle	225
Lomir Zikh Iberbetn	Reconciliation	227

Introduction and Essays in Hebrew and Yiddish	5-11
---	------



INTRODUCTION

MARK WARSHAVSKY

1848 - 1907

by Sinai Leichter

The second half of the 19th century saw a veritable "explosion" of Yiddish culture in Poland and the surrounding countries - Rumania, Lithuania, Ukraine, which were then under Russian or Austrian occupation. The numerous Jewish communities under the Czar's regime, and even more so, under the Austro-Hungarian Kaiser, were free to exercise their religion, their Yiddish culture and their language. Although the majority of Jews were impoverished craftsmen, they were generally happy and free to multiply and to emigrate, mostly to North and South America, carrying their customs and their culture with them.

This cultural "explosion" included a remarkable rise of Yiddish literature, both poetry and prose, of Yiddish music, theatre and historical research. The establishment of YIVO in 1925 brought a modern scholarly dimension to the study of Yiddish language, folklore, history and ethnography.

Within a short span of some 40 years, the most important protagonists of that culture were born.

- ◆ **Mendele Moykher Sforim** (Shalom Yaakov Abramovitz), lovingly named the "Grandfather" of Yiddish literature, was born in 1836 in Vilna, Lithuania.
- ◆ Four years later, in 1840, **Abraham Goldfaden**, the first modern Jewish playwright, actor and producer, was born.
- ◆ He was followed by **Mark Warshavsky**, born in Odessa in 1848, the poet-composer of most famous Yiddish folksongs.

**DEM MILNERS TRERN
THE MILLER'S TEARS**

דעם מילנער'ס טרען
הטוחן הזקן

טעקסט און מוזיק: מ. ווֹאַרְשָׁאוּסְקי
Text and Music: M. Warshavsky

Moderato $\text{J}=92$

Oy, vifl yorn
Zaynen farforn,
Zint ikh bin milner ot'o do?
Di reder dreyen zikh,
Di yorn geyen zikh –
Ikh bin shoyn alt, un grayz un gro...

אוַי, ווִיפֵּל יָאָרֶן
זַיְינָעַן פָּאָרְפָּאָרֶן,
זִינְט אֵיך בֵּין מִילְנָעַר אַטְ-אָ דָא?
די רַעֲדָעָר דְּרַעְיָעָן זִין,
די יָאָרֶן גַּעַיְעָן זִין –
אֵיך בֵּין שָׂוִין אַלְטָן, אָוָן גַּרְיָיז אָוָן גַּרְאָ...

S'iz teg faranen,
Kh'vil mikh dermanen,
Tsi kh'hob gehat a shtikl glik?
Di reder dreyen zikh,
Di yorn geyen zikh –
Keyn entfer iz nito tsurik...

סְאַיְץ טָגָג פָּאָרְאָנָעָן,
כְּיוֹלִיָּה מִיךְ דְּרַמְאָנָעָן,
צִי כְּהָאָב גַּעַהָאָט אָ שְׁטִיקָל גַּלְיָיק?
די רַעֲדָעָר דְּרַעְיָעָן זִין,
די יָאָרֶן גַּעַיְעָן זִין –
קַיְין עַנְטָפָעָר אֵיך נִיטָא צְוָרִיק...

**DER ZEYDE MIT DER BOBE
(AKHTSIK UR UN ZIBETSIK ZI)
GRANDPAPA AND GRANDMAMA**

דער זיידע מיט דער באבע
(אכציך ער און זיבעツיך זי)
סְבָא וּסְבָּתָא

טעקסט און מוזיק: מ. ווארשאוסקי
Text and Music: M. Warshavsky

Andante $\text{♩} = 68$

S'iz haynt a- ku- rat ge- vo- rn fuf - tsik yor, az zey;
le- bn zikh in ey- nem dos al- te por: zey ho- bn zikh ge- el- tert;
kukt aykh tsi, akh- tsik er un zi- be- tsik zi.

ס'יאז הײַנט אַקוּדָאַט גָּעוֹאוֹרָן פֿוֹפֿצִיךְ יָאָר,
אוֹ זַיְּ לְעֵבֶן זַיְּ אַיְּנָעָם, דָּאָס אַלְטָעָ פָּאָר;
זַיְּ הָאָבָּן זַיְּ גַּעֲלַטְעָרָט — קָוְקָט אַיְּצִי!
אַכְצִיךְ ער, אַוְן זַיְּבָּעַצִּיךְ זַיְּ.

כָּאַטְשׁ דָּעַר זַיְּדָע מִיט דָּעַר בָּאָבָּן זַיְּנָעַן קָוְרָץ אַוְן קָלִיְּין,
נָאָר דָּעַר זַיְּדָע מִיט דָּעַר בָּאָבָּן זַיְּנָעַן מְלָא חָנוֹן:
עָרְמִיטָן שְׁפִיצְעַכְיָין בְּעַרְדָּעַלָּע, מִיטָן גּוֹיְדָעָרָל זַיְּ —
אַכְצִיךְ ער, אַוְן זַיְּבָּעַצִּיךְ זַיְּ.

גָּאָטְהָאָט זַיְּ מִיט עַוְשָׂר אַוְן מִיט כְּבָוד בְּאַגְּלִיקָט,
אַיְּנָעָבָן הָאָבָּן זַיְּ זַיְּ קִיְּן מָאָל נִיט גַּעֲרִיגָט:
נָאָר "נָאָטָעָלָע", נָאָר "בָּאָבָּעָלָע" רָוְפָן זַיְּ זַיְּ —
אַכְצִיךְ ער, אַוְן זַיְּבָּעַצִּיךְ זַיְּ.

זַיְּ זַיְּנָעַן הַיַּינָּט גַּעֲגָנָגָעָן בִּיְדָע אַיְּנָעַן שִׁיל
אוֹן הָאָבָּן דָּאָרְטָן טָאָקָע גַּעֲדָאוֹונָט פְּילָן:
גָּאָטְהָאָט זַיְּ גַּעֲהָאָלָפָן — בְּרוֹךְ הוּא —
אַכְצִיךְ ער, אַוְן זַיְּבָּעַצִּיךְ זַיְּ.