

## A Passover Triptych

Rabban Gamliel said: whoever has not spoken of the following three matters on Passover has not fulfilled the obligation of the holiday: They are *Pesach* (the Paschal Lamb), *Matzah*, and *Maror* (the Passover Haggadah).

*My people! What wrong have I done you? What hardship have I caused you? Testify against Me. In fact, I brought you up from the land of Egypt, I redeemed you from the house of bondage, And I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.* (Micah 6:3-4)

<b>MIRIAM THE BITTER “MAROR”</b>	<b>MOSES THE LEADER “MATZAH”</b>	<b>AARON THE PRIEST “PESACH”</b>
<p>She stands apart. One of three. Separate, different, Sister to a priest. Midwife (they say) To the Leader.</p> <p>The waters broke. With song and delicacy She pulled HIM out And sweet water From hard rocks.</p> <p>As a child I knew Blood, fear Endless crying-- He was in my power.</p> <p>I gave my all.</p> <p>My reward: HE has turned God against me, Whiteness of skin, Shielded from sun and friends With no one to listen To my prophecy.</p>	<p>Ill tempered, Hitter of rocks, Breaker of tablets, part of Waves, wrecker of home-life. He Gets his Way—no diplomat he.</p> <p>Leprosy makes his point. Pitiless Provider of plagues.</p> <p>He casts his rod and parts the reed Sea.</p> <p>SHE stands by his side with her Timbrels and musical instruments.</p> <p>Duet: Sing a song of sea, oh! Moment of glory, togetherness.</p> <p>The waters broke. SHE saved him And brought him sweet water from Hard rocks.</p> <p>Home wrecker: jealousy—three Leaders—only one is chosen.</p> <p>Abandon ship: women first (wife, Sister), then the brother.</p> <p>From heavy tongue to eloquence: <i>eyl na, refa na lah</i> (Please god, Heal HER). SHE puts music to his Words. They wait.</p>	<p>Bowed down by sacrifice, Bleating of lambs, Mewing of cows, blood spewed.</p> <p>Wash, blood, wash, blood, Wash...the heady rhythm of drums In background—prayer forgotten, Sons neglected.</p> <p>Always a spokesman, never a Leader—except for one golden Moment. Sacrificial calf Transformed to idol. Heady stuff To be worshipped, chosen by People, never by God.</p> <p>HE was on the mountain Dialoguing with God; SHE was Busy with song and healing.</p> <p>The people needed someone, some Thing. He fashioned a golden Symbol; it was rejected—caused Chaos and death. His sons! Punishment for arrogance.</p> <p>Impatience is a family trait</p> <p>Pontifical remnants: Priests, Penitence, Prayer. Sacrifice is Always accepted.</p>