



Break the Silence:

The Central Ohio Faith Community
Responds to Family Violence

Jewish Prayers and Reflections

Shelter Me

Help me, dear God,
To lie down at night in peace
And awaken me to life renewed.

It is not the darkness outside in the night sky that I fear
But the waiting space
of silence
inside this place
in which I dwell.
My house is not a shelter of peace.

Shelter me
With your *sukkat shalom*
Please
Shelter me.

Help me, dear God,
To lie down this night in peace
And lift me up to life renewed.

The shadow of your wings, might they really replace
this valley of death where I've walked alone?
Oh, guard me as I journey
to an open place, a sacred place where I feel safe and whole – at home.

Shelter me
With your *sukkat shalom*
Please
Shelter me now
Shelter me
Please.

- Rabbi Cindy Enger

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Reflection

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 his 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 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 cherish life's creatures
And then all will live in harmony with each other and the earth
And then everywhere will be called Eden once again.

- Judy Chicago from Kol *Haneshama: Shabbat Vehagim*