

EYL ADON—A "Creation Hymn" for Shabbat

אֵל אֲדוֹן עַל כָּל־הַמַּעֲשִׂים
בְּרוּךְ וּמְבָרָךְ בְּפִי כָל־נִשְׁמָה:
גָּדְלוֹ וְטוֹבוֹ מְלֵא עוֹלָם
דָּעַת וְתְבוּנָה סְבִיבִים אֲחוּ:
הַמְתַּנָּאָה עַל חַיּוֹת הַקֹּדֶשׁ
וְנִהְדָּר בְּכַבּוֹד עַל־הַמְרַכְבֶּה:
זְכוּת וּמִישׁוֹר לְפָנַי כֶּסֶא
חֶסֶד וְרַחֲמִים לְפָנַי כְּבוֹדוֹ:
טוֹבִים מְאֹדוֹת שֶׁבָרָא אֱלֹהֵינוּ
יִצְרֵם בְּדַעַת בְּבִינָה וּבְהַשְׁכֵּל:
כָּח וּגְבוּרָה נָתַן בָּהֶם
לְהִיּוֹת מוֹשְׁלִים בְּקֶרֶב חַבְלֵ:
מְלֵאִים זֵיו וּמְפִיקִים נְגִה
נְאֻה זֵיוֹם בְּכָל־הָעוֹלָם:
שְׂמֵחִים בְּצֵאתָם וְשֵׁשִׁים בְּבוֹאָם
עֲשִׂים בְּאֵימָה רְצוֹן קוֹנֵם:
פֶּאֶר וְכְבוֹד נֹתְנִים לְשִׁמוֹ
צִהְלָה וְרִנָּה לְזִכָּר מְלִכּוֹתוֹ:
קָרָא לְשִׁמְשׁ וַיִּזְרַח אוֹר
רָאָה וְהִתְקִין צוּרַת הַלְבָנָה:
שִׁבַּח נֹתְנִים לוֹ כָּל־צְבָא מְרוֹם
תִּפְאָרַת וּגְדָלָה שְׂרָפִים וְאוֹפְנִים וְחַיּוֹת הַקֹּדֶשׁ:

*Eyl adon al kol ha-maasim, baruḥ u-m'vorah b'fi kol n'shamah.
Godlo v'tuvo maley olam, daat u-t'vunah so-v'vim oto.*

*Ha-mitga-eh al hayot ha-kodesh, v'neh-dar b'havod al ha-merkavah.
Z'hut u-mi-shor lifney hiso, hesed v'rahamim lifney h'vodo.*

*Tovim m'rot sheh-bara Eloheynu, y'tzaram b'daat b'vinah u-v'haskeyl.
Ko-ah u-g'vurah natan ba-hem, lih-yot mosh-lim b'kerev tey-veyl.*

EYL ADON: Lord of Creation, praised by all

(A Mystical Yotzer Hymn)

God is Lord of all creation,
And praised by every soul;
God's greatness and goodness fill the universe;
Knowledge and wisdom surround God's presence.

God is exalted over all celestial beings,
Adorned in glory above the heavenly chariot.
Equity and uprightness stand before God's throne;
Love and mercy glorify God's presence.

How goodly are the luminaries created by God,
Who fashioned them with knowledge, wisdom, and skill,
Endowing them with energy and power,
That they might have dominion over the world.

Full of splendor, they sparkle with brightness;
Beautiful is their radiance throughout the world.
They rejoice in their rising and exult in their setting,
Reverently fulfilling the will of their Creator.

Glory and honor they render to God's name;
In joyous song God's rule they acclaim;
God called to the sun and it sent forth light;
Skillfully God fashioned the form of the moon.

The heavenly hosts give praise to God,
Whose greatness the celestial beings proclaim.

A REFLECTION ON EYL ADON

Just as our ancestors sang their tributes to God's Creation
in words reflecting their world-view and the imagery of their age,
so should we identify and celebrate those aspects of life and of the universe
which reflect "the glory of God's majesty"—in the language of our day.

Adina N. Samuelson

*M'ley-im ziv u-m'fikim no-gah, na-eh zivam b'hol ha-olam.
S'mey-ḥim b'tzey-tam v'sasim b'vo-am, osim b'ey-mah r'tzon konam.
P'eyr v'ḥavod not-nim li-sh'mo, tza-holah v'rinah l'zey-her malḥuto.
Kara la-shemesh va-yizrah ohr, ra-ah v'hit-kin tzurat ha-l'vanah.
Shevah notnim lo kol tz'va marom,
Tiferet u-g'dulah s'rafim v'ofanim v'ḥa-yot ha-kodesh.*