

## The Year of Kaddish

Loss steals language; you have nothing to say. A loving community butresses you, feeding you, telling you when to stand and sit, thrusting into your slack hand the prayer book containing the chanted words that, until now, only other people knew by heart.

—NESSA RAPOPORT

## On a Yahrzeit

To my astonishment, my father returns, sometimes daily, with a power that is revelatory. In the immediacy of grief, the idea that he would be “only a thought away” or “always with me” seemed a not-believable comfort. Now, four years later, my sisters and I are amazed by his presence. We use his expressions. We laugh at his voice in our heads, for we can hear exactly what he would say.

—NESSA RAPOPORT

## Mourner's Kaddish

*Mourners and those observing Yahrzeit:*

May God's great name be exalted and hallowed throughout the created world, as is God's wish. May God's sovereignty soon be established, in your lifetime and in your days, and in the days of all the house of Israel. And we say: *Amen*.

*Congregation and mourners:*

May God's great name be acknowledged forever and ever!

*Mourners:*

May the name of the Holy One be acknowledged and celebrated, lauded and worshipped, exalted and honored, extolled and acclaimed—though God, who is blessed, *b'rikh hu*, is truly [on Shabbat Shuvah we add: far] beyond all acknowledgment and praise, or any expressions of gratitude or consolation ever spoken in the world. And we say: *Amen*.

May heaven bestow on us, and on all Israel, life and abundant and lasting peace. And we say: *Amen*.

May the one who creates peace on high bring peace to us and to all Israel [and to all who dwell on earth]. And we say: *Amen*.

*Mourners and those observing Yahrzeit:*

Yitgadal v'yitkadash sh'meih raba, b'alma di v'ra, kiruteih, v'yamlikh malkhuteih b'hayekhoh u-v'yomeikhon u-v'hayei d'khol beit yisrael, ba-agala u-vizman kariv, v'imru amen.

*Congregation and mourners:*

Y'hei sh'meih raba m'varakh l'alam u-l'almei almay.

*Mourners:*

Yitbarakh v'yishtabah v'yitpa-ar v'yitromam v'yitnasei v'yit-hadar v'yitaleh v'yit-halal sh'meih d'kudsha, b'rikh hu, l'eila min kol [on Shabbat Shuvah we substitute: l'eila l'eila mikol] birkhata v'shirata tushb'hata v'nehamata da-amiran b'alma, v'imru amen.

Y'hei sh'lama raba min sh'maya v'hayim aleinu v'al kol yisrael, v'imru amen.

Oseh shalom bimromav hu ya-aseh shalom aleinu v'al kol yisrael [v'al kol yosh'vei teiv'eil], v'imru amen.

*Some congregations recite Anim Z'mirot here; see page 208.*

*Some congregations conclude with Adon Olam on page 211;*

*others conclude with other Shabbat songs (see pages 212 and 82–85).*

## קדיש יתום

*Mourners and those observing Yahrzeit:*

יתגדל ויתקדש שמה רבא,  
בעלמא די ברא, ברעותה,  
וימליך מלכותה בחייכון ובימיכון  
ובחיי דכל בית ישראל,  
בעגלא ובזמן קריב,  
ואמרו אמן.

*Congregation and mourners:*

יהא שמה רבא מברך לעלם ולעלמי עלמיא.

*Mourners:*

יתברך וישתבח ויתפאר ויתרומם ויתנשא  
ויתהדר ויתעלה ויתהלל שמה דקדשא, בריך הוא,  
לעלא מן כל- [לעלא לעלא מפל-  
[on Shabbat Shuvah we substitute:  
ברכתא ושירתא תשבחתא ונחמתא דאמירן בעלמא,  
ואמרו אמן.

יהא שלמא רבא מן שמיא וחיים  
עלינו ועל כל ישראל,  
ואמרו אמן.

עשה שלום בברומיו הוא יעשה שלום  
עלינו ועל כל ישראל [ועל כל יושבי תבל],  
ואמרו אמן.

*Some congregations recite Anim Z'mirot here; see page 208.*

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