

INFINITE WISDOM: CHANTS OF THE DIVINE FEMININE

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LYRICS

1. B'RUCHA AT

בְּרוּכָה אַתְּ שְׁכִינָה
שֶׁהַחַיִּתְנוּ
וְקִיַּמְתְּנוּ
וְהִגִּיתְנוּ
לְזֶמֶן הַזֶּה

b'rucha at SHECHINAH
she-heh-cheh-yat-nu
v'-kiy'-mat-nu
v'-hi-gi-yat-nu
lazman hazeh

[blessed are you, SHECHINAH
who gave us life
who sustained us
and who brought us to
this moment]

2. HINEI MA TOV

הִנֵּה מַה טוֹב
וּמַה נְעִים
שֶׁבֶת נָשִׁים גַּם יַחַד

hinei ma tov u'mah na-im
shevet nashim gam yachad
oh yes how good and pleasant it is
when women are together

3. ARBA IMAHOT (FOUR MOTHERS)

אֶרֶץ מַיִם רוּחַ אֵשׁ
אַרְבַּע אִמָּהוֹת

earth – water – air – fire
eretz - mayim - ruach - eytz
arba imahot

4. SHIVITI SONG

שְׁוִיתִי שְׁכִינָה לְנֶגְדִי תָמִיד

shiviti SHECHINAH l'negdi tamid

[I place THE DIVINE NAME before me
always, after Psalms 16:8]

5. V'ERASTICH LI

וְאֶרְשָׁתִּיךָ לִי לְעוֹלָם
וְאֶרְשָׁתִּיךָ לִי בְּחֶסֶד

v'erastich li l'olam
v'erastich li b'chesed
I will hold you forever
I will hold you in lovingkindness
[Hosea 2:21]

6. RISE

לְעוֹלָם וְעַד תִּעְמְדִינוּ
תִּעְמְדִינוּ לְעוֹלָם וְעַד

*l'olam va-ed ta'a'mi-deinu
ta'a'mi-deinu l'olam va-ed
keep us tall
keep us rising up
[after Psalm 148]*

7. MAYIM CHAYYIM

מַיִם חַיִּים

*mayim chayyim, living waters
mayim chayyim, water is life*

8. SHUV SHUVI

שׁוּב שׁוּבִי תִשׁוּבָה

*shuv, shuvi SHECHINAH
turn and return to who you are*

9. SHECHINAH SHINE ON

SHECHINAH shine on ya

10. ASHIRAH!

אֲשֶׁרָה לְאֲשֶׁרָה
עֵץ חַיִּים
אֲשֶׁרִי יוֹשְׁבֵי אֲשֶׁרָה

*ashirah l'ASHERAH, eytz Chayim
I sing to you ASHERAH
ashrei yoshvei ASHERAH
happy are those who dwell in your grove
she is the tree of life*

11. KUMI

קוּמִי צְאִי מִתּוֹךְ הַהֶפְכָּה

kumi, tze'ee mitoch ha-hafecha

[get up, get out of the upside-down-ness,
from "Lecha Dodi"]

12. HOD YAH

הוֹד יָהּ בְּאַהֲבָה

*hod YAH b'ahava, b'ahava
SHECHINAH shines in love*

13. YAH LI

בְּיַדֵּי יְהוָה אֶפְקִיד רוּחִי
בְּעֵת אִישׁוֹן וְאֶעֱרָה
וְעִם רוּחִי גְוִיָּתִי
יְהוָה לִי וְלֹא אִירָא

*biy'day YAH afkid ruchi,
b'eyt ishan v'a'irah
v'im ruchi g'viyati
YAH li v'lo ira*

[into YAH's hands I entrust my spirit
when I sleep and when I wake
and with my spirit, my body also
YAH is with me, I will not fear,
from "Adon Olam" and the bedtime prayer]

14. TEVARECHEICH (SHECHINAH'S BLESSING)

תְּבַרְכֵךְ שְׁכִינָה וְתִשְׁמְרֵךְ
תֵּאֵר אֵלַיִךְ
תִּשָּׂא אֵלַיִךְ
וְתִשֵּׂם לְךָ שְׁלוֹם

*tevarecheich SHECHINAH v'tishmereich
ta'er elayich
tisa elayich
v'taseim lach shalom*

[may SHECHINAH bless you and watch over you
may she light up to you
may she rise up to
you and may she bring you peace,
adapted from Numbers 6:24-26]