



OLK SONGS
OF RUSSIA
IN CHORAL SETTINGS
BY KURT SCHINDLER

TWO
TRADITIONAL
YIDDISH MELODIES

Transcribed for
Chorus of Mixed Voices
a cappella

No. 6690

EÏLI, EÏLI
Incantation

(With Mezzo-Soprano Solo)
after the notation of Shalitt

Price, 12 cents net

No. 6689

AVRAHM, AVRAHM!
The Prayer of the Patriarchs
after the notation of J. Engel

Price, 12 cents net

NEW YORK · G. SCHIRMER · BOSTON

AVRAHM, AVRAHM! The Prayer to the Patriarchs.

Yiddish Folksong

(From the notation of J. Engel of Moscow)

Avrahm, Avrahm, Batjka nash!
Tshevo nje chodish, tshevo nje prossish,
Tshevo nje molish Boga za nas!
Tchtob on nas vuivodil,
Tchtob on nas vuivolil.
„Wohin?“
L'artzéinu!

Yitzchok, Yitzchok, Moléetyel
Tshevo nje chodish, tshevo nje prossish,
Tshevo nje molish Boga za nas!
Tchtob on nas vuivodil,—vuivolil.
„Wohin?“
L'artzéinu!

Yakov, Yakov, Pastuch nash!
Tshevo nje chodish, tshevo nje prossish,
Oy, tshevo nje molish Boga za nas!
Tchtob on nas vuivodil,—vuivolil.
„Wohin?“
L'artzéinu, le'éretz avosséinu!

Literal Translation

Verse 1.

Abraham, Abraham, our Father!

Verse 2.

Isaac, our spokesman, our intercessor!

Verse 3.

Jacob, Jacob, our shepherd!
Why dost thou not go, why dost thou
not implore,
Why dost thou not pray to God for us!
That he may lead us away,
That he may call us away—
“Whereto?”
To the land of our fathers!

For several reasons this song stands unique among all the Jewish folk-melodies of Russia (and there are thousands). Most of them are sung in the Yiddish language, a jargon mixed from elements of mediæval German, Hebrew, Polish, Lithuanian and a little Russian. But “Avrahm” contains almost entirely Russian words, only the last two words of each verse being German and Hebrew, respectively. Furthermore, the musical structure is greatly influenced by Russian folk-melody.

Jewish experts have offered many explanations for this phenomenon, which is evidenced by a comparatively small group of similar songs. Some assert that the Lithuanian Jews used the Russian language instead of their jargon during the eighteenth century, and that the above-mentioned songs date back to this period. But the historical explanation, as given in Ginsburg's and Marek's preface to their edition of “Hebrew Folksongs in Russia” (Petrograd, 1901), seems to have more semblance of truth. Under the reign of Tsar Nikolai I obligatory military of 25 years' duration was introduced in Russia (1825–1855). The young Jewish boys, who were thus separated from their families, and who had to live far from the “pale” among only Russian people, soon began to learn the Russian language and kept only a dim remembrance of Hebrew and Yiddish words. It is to these so-called “Nikoláyevski Soldati” or “Póimanniki” that, in all probability, the preceding song has to be attributed.

Needless to say, “Avrahm” is included among these choral settings not for its historical curiosity, but for its singular pathos and human appeal.

K. S.

Avrahm, Avrahm!

The Prayer to the Patriarchs

Yiddish Folksong

Traditional Poem
from White Russia

Free Setting for mixed chorus
from the notation of J. Engel (Moscow) by
Kurt Schindler

1277100 G. Schirmer 1.50

Moderato, solenne

Soprano

Alto

Tenor

Bass

Piano (only for rehearsal)

Fa-ther A - bram! Fa-ther A - bram! Help thy chil - dren!
A - vrahm, A - vrahm, A - vrahm, A - vrahm, A - vrahm, A - vrahm,

A - - - bram, A - - - bram, A - - - bram!
A - - - vrahm, A - - - vrahm, A - - - vrahm,

Fa-ther A - bram! Fa-ther A - bram! Fa-ther A - bram!
A - vrahm, A - vrahm, A - vrahm, A - vrahm, A - vrahm, A - vrahm,

Moderato, solenne

Hear our cry!— O take our pray - ers, our sup - pli - ca - tions, to
Bat - jka nash! Tshe - vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, tshe -

Hear our cry!— O take our pray - ers to
Bat - jka nash! Tshe - vo nje pros - sish, tshe -

Hear our cry!— O take our pray - ers, our sup - pli - ca - tions, to
Bat - jka nash! Tshe - vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, tshe -

Un poco più mosso

p

That He may set us free,
Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil,

Him who thrones in Heav-en a - bove! That He may set us free,
vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas! Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil,

Him who thrones in Heav-en a - bove! That He may set us free, That
vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas! Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil, Tshtob
Him who thrones in Heav-en a - bove! That He may set us free, -
vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas! Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil, -

Him who thrones in Heav-en a - bove! That He may set us free, That
vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas! Tshtob on nas vui-vo-dil, Tshtob

Un poco più mosso

più f *rit.* *a tempo*

and lead us hence! Where - to? _____
nas vui-svo-lil. Wo - hin? _____ *a tempo*

That He may lead us hence! Where - to? _____ To
Tshtob on nas vui-svo-lil. Wo - hin? _____ Lar -
a tempo

He may lead us hence! Where - to? Where - to? _____
on nas vui-svo-lil. Wo - hin? Wo - hin? _____ *a tempo*

That He may lead us hence! Where - to? Where - to? _____ To
Tshtob on nas vui-svo-lil. Wo - hin? Wo - hin? _____ Lar -

He may lead us hence! Where - to? Where - to? _____
on nas vui-svo-lil. Wo - hin? Wo - hin? _____ *a tempo*

più f *rit.* *a tempo*

mf To Pal - es - tine! Fa - ther I - saac!
 L'ar-tzéï - nu! Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok,

Pal - es - tine! I - saac, oh
 tzéï - nu! Yitz - chok, oh

mf To Pal - es - tine! Fa - ther I - saac!
 L'ar-tzéï - nu! Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok,

Pal - es - tine!
 tzéï - nu!

mf To Pal - es - tine! Fa - ther I - saac!
 L'ar-tzéï - nu! Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok,

f Tempo I^o

Fa-ther I - saac! Be our spokes-man! Oh lend thine ear! And
 Yitz-chok, Yitz - chok, Yitz-chok, Yitz-chok, Mo - leet - yel nash, Tshe -

I - saac! Oh be our spokes-man! Oh lend thine ear! And
 Yitz - chok, oh Yitz-chok, Yitz-chok, Mo - leet - yel nash, Tshe -

Fa - ther I - saac! Be our spokes-man! lend thine ear! And
 Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok, Yitz-chok, oh Mo - leet - yel nash, Tshe -

Fa - ther I - saac! Be our spokes-man! lend thine ear! And take our
 Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok, Yitz - chok, of Mo - leet - yel nash, Tshe - vo, tshe -

f

take our pray - ers, our sup - pli - ca - tions to Him who thrones in
vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, tshe - vo nje mo - lish

take our pray - ers, our sup - pli - ca - tions, oh! to Him who thrones in
vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish

take our pray - ers, our sup - pli - ca - tions, oh! to Him who thrones in
vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish

pray - ers to Him, our sup - pli - ca - tions, oh! to Him in
vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, oy, nje mo - lish

Un poco più mosso

Heav - en a - bove! That He may set us free, That He may
Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas

Heav - en a - bove!
Bo - ga za nas?

Heav'n! To our Lord! That He may set us free and
Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, nas

Heav - en a - bove! To our Lord! That He may set us free and
Bo - ga za nas? ah! za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, nas

Heav'n, to our Lord! That He may set us free, That He may
Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas

Heav'n, to our Lord! That He may set us free!
Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil,

Un poco più mosso

Più calmo, piangendo

Ja - - - cob, shield - - - thy
 Ya - - - kov, Pa - - - -stuch

fp Fa - ther Ja - cob! Fa - ther Ja - cob! Is - rael's shep - herd!
 Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov,

fp Fa - ther Ja - cob! Fa - ther Ja - cob! Is - rael's shep - herd!
 Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov, Ya - kov,

Ja - - - cob, shield - - - thy
 Ya - - - kov, Pa - - - -stuch

Più calmo, piangendo

flock! - - - -
 nash! - - - -

Shield thy flock! - - - - Oh take our pray - ers, Oh heed our suff' - ring!
 Pa - stuch nash! - - - - Tshe - vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish,

Shield thy flock! - - - - Oh take our pray - ers, Oh heed our suff' - ring!
 Pa - stuch nash! - - - - Tshe - vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish,

Shield thy flock! - - - - Oh take our pray - ers, Oh heed our suff' - ring!
 Pa - stuch nash! - - - - Tshe - vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish,

flock! - - - - Oh take our pray - ers, Oh heed our suff' - ring and pain!
 nash! - - - - Tshe - vo nje cho - dish, tshe - vo nje pros - sish, tshe - vo

crese. molto

disperato

ff

Plead for us be - fore the Al - might - y a - bove! That
 Oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob

Plead for us be - fore the Al - might - y a - bove!
 Oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas?

Plead be - fore the Al - might - y a - bove! That
 Oy, nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas? Tshtob

the Al - might - y a - bove!
 mo - lish Bo - ga za nas?

ff

Plead for us be - fore the Al - might - - - y! That He may
 Oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish Bo - - - ga? Tshtob on nas

Plead for us be - fore the Al - might - y a - bove!
 Oy, tshe - vo nje mo - lish Bo - ga za nas?

ff

Plead be - fore the Al - might - - - y! That He may
 Oy, nje mo - lish Bo - - - ga? Tshtob on nas

disperato

Un poco più mosso

He may set us free, and
 on nas vui - vo - dil, nas

He may set us free, That He may
 on nas vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas

That He may set us free, That He may
 Tshtob on nas vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas

ff

set us free, That He may lead us all!
 vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas vui - svo - lil!

set us free, That He may lead us all!
 vui - vo - dil, Tshtob on nas vui - svo - lil!

Un poco più mosso

lead us all! Where - to? To L'ar - a tempo fff
vui - svo - lil! Wo - hin? To L'ar - a tempo fff

lead us all! Where - to? Where - to? a tempo fff
vui - svo - lil! Wo - hin? Wo - hin? a tempo fff

lead us all! Where - to? Where - to?
vui - svo - lil! Wo - hin? Wo - hin?

Pal - tzei - es - tine! - nu!
Pal - tzei - es - tine! - nu!

To Pal - es - tine, to the land of our fa - thers!
L'ar - tzei - - nu, le - retz a - vo - ssai - nu!

Pal - es - tine, to the land of our fa - thers!
tzei - - nu, le - retz a - vo - ssai - nu!

Pal - es - tine!
tzei - es - tine! - nu!



Folk-Songs of Russia in Choral Settings

By KURT SCHINDLER

Mixed Voices

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- | | | |
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- | | | |
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- | | | |
|------|---|----|
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- | | | |
|------|---|----|
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|------|---|----|

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