

Why We Had To Leave Pharaoh

The locusts begin,
brought by an east wind (Ex. 10:13)
carried away by a west wind (10:19).
East wind, the silent heart of wisdom
unreflective, the seamless embrace
before language
-- chochmah, aha
the heart's deep wisdom.

West wind
self conscious, inquisitive, conceptualization, language,
-- binah.
West wind: conscious, linear, rational.
East wind: intuitive, lateral, mystical.

Chochmah and binah, the right and left sides
both winds blow through our camp.
East-West, we are both
western branches eastern roots
a tree of life.

Tonight it is union, sheleimut, shalom
the integrating dream,
every blessing a prayer of cosmic union.
Set against this is Par'oh -- to rend, to split,
the separator, the dis-integrator.

Every blessing is union, integration, wholeness,
we separate from the Other Side
the side of separation,
and that is why
we had to leave Pharaoh,
to become one with ourselves.

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