

## Abba Hillel Silver Collection Digitization Project

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MS-4787: Abba Hillel Silver Papers, 1902-1989.

Series V: Writings, 1909-1963, undated.

Reel	Box	Folder
171	62	14

Verily, God is in this place, 1915.

Western Reserve Historical Society 10825 East Boulevard, Cleveland, Ohio 44106 (216) 721-5722 wrhs.org American Jewish Archives 3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio 45220 (513) 487-3000 AmericanJewishArchives.org

R.T. the wike man 5 the East One g the most thought - pursking bits q signebolion from the pen of that other with man firm the bast R. T. is that poen which sells s the would he ascence who piet out to per find god. Theme laws) The faderer - at andward the pind god that The poet is a few bold startles paints one of The saddes their links tuman life It is sad enough to stumple onen the hurning sands 7 a deaent following the some glistening minage. &t is sad enough to pursue in despice and will-o-The-inisp 9 hope. But here infine and human life is fill 9 mets. filite questo and heart boasting pressints. But how infinity radder it is to behold men forsathing garden lands for the suite y destand menages, sweet sweething flowers for chusing will orthe-wispo. and get hav many are the men and the normer who waste the flocions phorheaithes which life has Rind at their dear decurse their eyes are power scanning the distant horizon. How many are the men and the nomen who fail to head the soft soil- satisfying music of avery-day life because their ears are attined to the weld Kan shing song of some unseen Pau which calle meriotily to them buckens sterios calls then irenshilly to some these far 1 sun - trised fields y delight which prove to be but how line wildernesses and marshas 7 defendency. How many men and women are who like the ascette , the Joen, are seek for while, in truth they are parathing him That other quant aughic , the age maeterlinch has also embodied this wis pulsers and picthos of life in his play - The Blue Birch The element quest on happinges in the great Beyond - How tragic that is! and yet the me und all found childrens, seeking the blue - bird in far and destand lands in wood's other than in avery day one. and how few are these who returns from the great to the lain that the blue third is to be present in more over home in our own lettle world.

The human race is not in went in motive force it the propelling implifies particing and there there is the But it is after Theirs heyond their then! They left if their eyes to the recruitains their that there is the abode the he and happines. They save the valley which bleeding feet the barren mountain - heights and when the tip is reached - they find wither help us keppinen caund even stren to the valley! In from the top of the monthum the selley and it homes and its popule book so appear so small and similars and as heliputions to them. I so that they are lost in the perpension of the starp are lost in in containplatics of formal the days are pleased in containplatics of formal the days are been I know a man. when there end him a ruscess. Which he was a trementeres bacquers mescers! But a jigante annan failure! He too had succipied all por the treat Segond i for the ketimule goal! In the final peut blocers! from about you and see those the many lives which have been suched the many souls that here here crushed by this same fatal observins a delusion - this thought that happines is lound up with the altimate theringthat it is to be found in the goal only and not on the Koud, that I's there and not here, then and not now. How many are the men who have filled then his, driven all hearty all proceedings, all all expansive contentment from I because , their hard, desperate priores drive after some distant

nevers which to them was synonymous with 3 pappiners. How many where have tank position and sach flumered and and recting our gods andy ferm horne. We are all a most intensely human prager is that prayers the Balancest - ysto p' in stor Teals is to make our days"! To much our days! ! out them is one would count a string s ud all blending into a perfect harring To much our days! To live each day fully, intensely, richly has to saving it for another day but to live of to fill I with day ind the plender gachievement. The song which should forener he upon one lifes is 25 -! I. DOM/ 2/12 5 210 25 "I've is the day which the End bath made - let us put our of and happiness in it."\_\_\_\_ and rich in specifical intrinations is that believe equals y heat fleery firm his kome in all post "Verily fit is in this place had I did ud kuns " probs descendands also eccercit a princibles revelations Read) Read)

Verily, God is 15-1 in this place

One of the most thought-provoking bits of symbolism from that of other wise man from the East, R.T., is that poem which tells of the would-be ascetic who set out to find God: (Read poem) "The gardener-at midnight"

The poet, in a few bold strokes, here paints one of the saddest phases of human life. It is sad enough to stumble over the burning sands of a desert following some glistening mirage. It is sad enough to pursue in despair some will-o-the-wisp of hope. And human life is full of such futile quests and heart-breaking pursuits. But how infinitely sadder it is to behold men forsaking garden lands for the sake of distant mirages, heat-giving, light-yielding fires for XIXNXIXX elusive will-o-the-wisps. And yet how many are the men and the women who waste the glorious opportunities which life has laid at their door because their eyes are forever scanning the distant horizon. How many are the men and the women who fail to hear the soft, soul-satisfying music of everyday life because their ears are attuned to the wild ravishing song of some unseen Pan which calls them irresistably to those far-off sun-kissed fields of delight which prove to be but howling wildernesses and marshes of despondency. How many are the men and women who like the ascetic of the poem, seek God while in truth they are forsaking Him!

The human race is not in want of the motive force, of the propelling impulses, of the driving ambitions. God blessed man with the gift of restive longing. Men do strive! But it is after things beyond their ken! They lift up their eyes to the mountains thinking that there is the abode of help and happiness. They leave the valley which is rich in promises and opportunities, and climb with bleeding feet the barren mountaing heights, and when the top is reached, they find neither help not happiness, but wide stretches of emptiness. They cannot even return to the valley! For from the top of the mountain the valley and its homes and its people leek appear so small XXXXMEM and aimless and insignificant to them, So that they are lost in the grey sadness of life, and their days are spent in sorrow and contemplation of the things that might have been.

I knew such a man. Men called him a success. Which he was - a tremendous business success! But a gigantic human failure! He, too, had sacrificed all for the great beyond! For the ultimate goal! For the final Great Success! (Book)

Look about you and see the many lives that have been wrecked, the many souls that have been crushed by this same fatal obsession or delusion - this thought that happiness is bound up with the ultimate things, that it is to be found in the goal only and not on the road, that it is there and not here, then and not now. How many are the men who have spoiled thier lives, driven all KNXXX beauty, all sweetness, all nobility, all expansive contentment from it because of their hard, furious drive after some distant success which to them was synonymous with happiness. How many women have brought bitterness, envy, hat@red, unhappiness into their lives by forsaking the infinite opportunities for real contentment which their life, their home, their surroundings afforded them and setting out in desperate pursuit of social recognition, social position, and

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such flummery. And the young people who find their homes too humble. We are all seeking our gods away drom home. We are all sacrificing the present for the future.

An intensely human prayer is that prayer of the Talmudist -(*Hubran see p 3 of mss*) "Teach us to number our days". To number our

days! To count them as one would count a string of pearls! One by one! Each one sufficient unto itself and all blending into a perfect unity. To number our days! To live each day fully, intensely, richly! Not to sacrifice it for another day but to live it! To fill it with glory and the splendor of achievement. The song which should Forever be upon our lips is , "This is the day which the

Lord hath made - let us find our joy and happiness in it".

And rich in spiritual intimations is that Biblical legend of Jacob fleeing from his home. (Read) of Jacob: "Verily, God is in this place and I did not know it". Jacob's descendants also received a similar revelation. (Read)

(mss. ends here)

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