

Hanerot Halalu Anachnu Madlikin (We Light These Lights)

Lyrics By: Lauren Katz | Music By: Evelio Sotolongo

ONE NIGHT,
ONE LIGHT,
ONE CANDLE BURNING BRIGHT.
WHAT WILL OUR PRESENT BE TONIGHT?
A DEFACED MENORAH IN BEVERLY HILLS.
TWO S'S SLASHED IN, LIKE AN ACT OF WAR.
A CHILL'S IN THE AIR THAT WASN'T THERE BEFORE.
THE CANDLELIGHT FIGHTS TO STAY ALIVE,
BUT IT WILL SURVIVE.

HANEROT HALALU ANACHNU MADLIKIN.
HANEROT HALALU ANACHNU MADLIKIN.

TWO NIGHTS,
TWO LIGHTS,
TWO CANDLES BURNING BRIGHT.
WHAT WILL OUR PRESENT BE TONIGHT?
A DEFACED BOY'S BATHROOM IN MINNECHAUG, MASS.
TWO SWASTIKAS SLICED INTO THE CHAMBER DOOR.
IT'S LIKE A GAS INVADES OUR PRAYER THAT WASN'T THERE BEFORE.
OUR CANDLELIGHT FIGHTS TO STAY ALIVE,
BUT IT WILL SURVIVE.
IT MUST SURVIVE.

HANEROT HALALU ANACHNU MADLIKIN.
HANEROT HALALU ANACHNU MADLIKIN.

THREE NIGHTS,
THREE LIGHTS,
THREE CANDLES BURNING BRIGHT.
WHAT WILL OUR PRESENT BE TONIGHT?
THE HIGHEST OF HATES HANGS OVER US 1.
TWO EIGHTS, A FOURTEEN, TOO EVIL TO IGNORE.
A SMOKING GUN STINGS THE AIR - IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THERE.
CAN'T YOU SEE THAT IT'S ALWAYS BEEN THERE?

FOUR LIGHTS,
DARKNESS BREEDS LIKE LOCUSTS.
FIVE LIGHTS,

HATE HAILS FROM THE SKY.
LAI-DAI-DAI.
IT CANNOT BE DROWNED.
SIX,
THE DARKNESS SHARPENS FOCUS.
SEVEN,
HATE BLEEDS DOWN OUR DOORS.
L'DOR VADOR,
SPINNING ROUND AND ROUND.
NES GADOL HAYAH SHAM:
'A GREAT MIRACLE HAPPENED THERE.'
BUT WHERE IS IT NOW?
WHERE IS IT NOW?

NOW TONIGHT'S
THE LAST LIGHT
WHEN ALL EIGHT CANDLES BURN BRIGHT.
AND I HAPPEN TO SEE A MIRACULOUS SIGHT.
A GIANT MENORAH STANDS TALL AND PROUD.
WITHOUT THINKING, I MOVE TOWARDS THE GATHERING CROWD.

BUT THEN THOUGHTS I'VE NEVER HAD BEFORE,
SLIP THROUGH THE CRACKS.
STOP ME DEAD IN MY TRACKS.
IS IT SAFE TO BE STANDING HERE?
IF I NEED TO, CAN I FLEE?
WHY MUST I LIVE IN FEAR OF WHAT MAKES ME "ME"?

WHAT WILL OUR PRESENT BE TONIGHT?
WHAT WILL MY PRESENT BE TONIGHT?

*(She hesitates, looking towards the menorah/crowd, then
away, and then towards once more. She joins in.)*

BARUCH ATAH ADONAI.