



Hints of Eternity

S

ome things are placed in the world long before we know we'll need them. *Pirkei Avos* describes 10 such things Hashem created *bein ha-shamashos*, “at the buzzer,” if you will — in those moments before He rested on the very first Shabbos.

The *Mishnah* details how these 10 supernatural objects were placed into the world to be used at very specific times, far in the distant future. Or, in other words, before that very first year, Hashem was already planning for all our Rosh Hashanos and years ahead. There

I began feeling like I was on a roller coaster every time I heard my name called by the nurse at my doctor's appointments.

was the special *shamir* worm to cut stone for when *Bnei Yisrael* needed to build the *Mishkan* without using metal tools. There was the rainbow to signal a covenant between Hashem and mankind after the *Mabul*. And there was even a miraculous first set of tongs with which to create any metal tongs after that.

Lately, I've begun to sense that the same concept of distant placement holds for *pesukim* in *Tanach* as well. Some *pesukim* seem to have been planted there since the beginning of time, lying dormant until suddenly they ignite, becoming the exact cry or comfort we need. Sometimes those place markers come alive on a communal level or provide insight into particular current events. And sometimes, they come alive for a single person.

For nearly 14 years, I've been saying the same *per-ek Tehillim* daily, part of a rotation for a friend's young son who was diagnosed with a degenerative disease that threatened to take his mobility (and possibly his life) within the decade. A group of friends split up all of *Tehillim* to recite in the little boy's *zechus*. Today, he is thriving and about to graduate high school. At first, I chose that *perek* because it contained a *passuk* that spoke to me back then, but 14 years later, a different *passuk* in that same *perek* speaks eerily to a far-more-challenging, present circumstance. I wonder, now, if the whole time, I was meant to be saying it for this very situation.

Then, there are the Divinely sent seemingly "random" events, like opening the *Chumash* or *Tehillim* to any page and having the soul-sight (the *neshamah's* version of eyesight) to see it really wasn't random at all.

A few years ago, I experienced a complex triplet-turned-twin pregnancy. After a series of medical tests, full of twists and turns, I began feeling like I was on a roller coaster every time I heard my name called by the nurse at my doctor's appointments. At the first appointment, I found out I was having triplets. At the next, I

BACK FOR OUR 5TH SUCCESSFUL YEAR BH!

Breindy's story

MAY 2023: BREINDY IN 11TH GRADE

YUUUUM! BREINDY THIS DRAWING IS HEAVEN. YOU MUST LEARN PROFESSIONALLY!

SO BREINDY, I JUST SAW THIS AD ABOUT AN AMAZING DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION COURSE. C'MON! DO IT. IT'S SOOO YOU!

I CAN TOTALLY SEE YOU DOING THIS AS A JOB ONE DAY...

SEP 2023: BREINDY'S ARTISTIC TALENT AND CREATIVITY POPPED UP IN ALL AREAS OF HER LIFE. AN ALL-TIME FAVORITE WAS DECORATING HER BEDROOM WALLS.

JAN 2024: DURING THE COURSE

CAN I EVER THANK YOU ENOUGH FOR PUSHING ME TO DO THIS? IT WAS BH SUCH A SMART MOVE TO JOIN THE COURSE WHILE I'M STILL IN SCHOOL AND HAVE FREE TIME ON MY HANDS.

JUNE 2025: BREINDY IS HIRED TO ILLUSTRATE SOME COVERS FOR THE CIRCLE MAG

JULY 2025: BREINDY!!! JUST GOT THE CIRCLE AND I SEE YOUR COVER- LOOOOOOOVE IT! THEY'RE SO LUCKY TO HAVE YOU THERE!

SIGN UP BEFORE ROSH H-SHANA AND GET A GRAND \$540 DISCOUNT

YOU can be our next SUCCESS STORY!

Pursue a successful career in **Digital Illustration** with **BerlingerArt Academy**, the comprehensive digital illustration course on **USB** that takes you from budding artist to well-paid professional.

NEW ADD-ON THIS YEAR:
Master all AI Secrets in Digital Art

Email us for a **FREE Taster Lesson!**

berlingerart.ACADEMY
DIGITAL ILLUSTRATION TRAINING

845.940.2220

ACADEMY@BERLINGERART.COM

ACADEMY.BERLINGERARTSTUDIO.COM

learned that I had lost one of the babies and that the other two were now high risk. By appointment three, I wasn't taking any chances: I went in "packing heat" (with my *Tehillim*, of course).

I left my house early so I could get there with plenty of time before the appointment to say *Tehillim*. I was just settling into a chair in the waiting room when the nurse burst in and called my name. Shocked, I followed her to her office, but inquired, "Isn't my appointment in another 15 minutes?"

"I can't stand the suspense," she answered. "I also want to know what's going on with these babies!"

I was thankful for her "*Imo anochi b'tzarah*" attitude, but simultaneously disappointed that I would not have time to say *Tehillim*. Still, while she prepped, I grabbed a moment to open the *sefer* at random. My eyes fell on *Perek 71*:

בְּרֵיָהּ חִסִּיתִי אֶל־אֲבוֹנָשָׁה לְעוֹלָם:

I seek refuge in You; may I never be disappointed.

בְּצִדְקֹתֶיךָ תִּצְלִינִי וּתְפַלְטֵנִי הַטָּה־אֱלֹהִי אֲזַנְךָ וְהוֹשִׁיעֵנִי:

As You are beneficent, save me and rescue me.

הָיָה לִי לְצִוֵּר מְעוֹן לְבֹא תִמְדִּי צִוִּיתִי לְהוֹשִׁיעֵנִי כִּי־סִלְעִי וּמִצּוֹדֹתַי אֶתֶּה:

Be a sheltering rock for me... decree my deliverance, for You are my rock and my fortress.

I was amazed how those *pesukim* spoke to me in what I was experiencing, but then, when I reached the following *pesukim*, I burst into tears:

כִּי־אֶתֶּה תִּקְוַתִּי אֲדֹנָי הַ מְבֹטְחִי מִנְעוּרִי:

For You are my hope... my trust from my youngest age.

עָלִידָה נִסְמְכֹתִי מִבֶּטֶן מִמְעֵי אִמִּי אֶתֶּה גֹזֵי בְּךָ תִּהְלֹתִי תִמְדִּי:

While yet unborn, I depended on You; in the womb of my mother, You were my support; I sing Your praises always.

"I can't stand the suspense," she answered. "I also want to know what's going on with these babies!"

I felt in that moment that Hashem had made me the mouthpiece for my unborn babies, giving me the exact words with which I could pray for their *yeshuah*. He was helping me cry out on their behalf: *Even in the womb, we are dependent on Your every decree; from the youngest of ages, we need Your hashgachah.*

I barely remembered the nurse. I was lost in the world of Dovid Hamelech's Divine channel. I felt Hashem had directed my hand to open the *sefer* to this exact *perek*.

I felt fortified. *Baruch Hashem*, I ended the appointment with good news: The babies were in a better situation than the doctors had thought. But there was still much *davening* ahead.

This *perek* became my banner supplication for months: I said it every day of the pregnancy. And even when we lost those precious souls a few months later, I continued to say it for a year in their memory. Through my heartbreak, it helped me remember that even from the womb, a holy *neshamah* created by Hashem can serve him and "call out to Him with faith."

Even in the womb, we are dependent on Your every decree; from my youngest of ages, we need Your hashgachah. The words were right there in *Tehillim* from the beginning of time. ●

The APA & The Harris Poll found alarming rates of **STRESS & ANXIETY** in the U.S.*

30-DAY ANXIETY CHALLENGE

* APA Stress in America Report 3/22

TAKE THE CHALLENGE by following the calendar for **30 DAYS** **WIN** a special prize!

(No cost. Supplies are limited.)

Need advice on reducing stress and anxiety? *Call today to join!*

Rifka Schonfeld

THE NAME THAT HAS HELPED THOUSANDS

ph 718.382.5437 e info@rifkaschonfeld.com
www.rifkaschonfeld.com