



Behind the Shadow

By Tehila Israel

**Our beauty, my Sista's, has always been in the shadow
and was never meant to remain a blank surface.**

**A shadow is only an image of what it sees,
but does it truly capture what it mirrors, or does it simply place a silhouette against a
canvas wall?**

**Can it portray what the shadow holds within?
Does it reflect outwards the core of what it is?**

**It moves when we move
no lagging or flex,
but just as the sway of a palm tree, the leaves dance in tune
so is the shadow lifeless without the blowing of our movements.**

**Wouldn't you rather be a light than the darkness of a shadow?
and shouldn't we strive for virtue, walk in kindness
and be as pillars to the Kings entrusted to us?**

So, why then can't we mortify the members of sin that separate us?

**Why can't we embrace the differences of our same?
Knowing God commands us to do so.**

**Are we not teachers of young, being as old, with guidance in the scriptures?
and are we not doers and partakers of our own Salvation?**

**Then why, must jealousy and envy run rampant like a growing weed
and grudges stand like stagnant water flowing through the past?**

Have we not yet realized that hatred shall in no ways enter the Kingdom?

**Why have we put on make-up to uncover our flaws?
and why has our grace turned to slips and falls?**

**Have we not learned to rise while it is yet night and seek our Heavenly Father?
Do we not build up our houses and increase within like a merchant?
Oh, how we love to plant vineyards and stretch forth our hands.**

**Yet the shadow does not give insight to the beauty of our being and cannot show our
willingness to make fine linen and gird up our loins with strength.**

**We cannot bring life to a lifeless shadow, until we bring life to ourselves
and must understand; to ourselves, also means to each other.**

**For what does it profit to renew the shadow alone,
when your Sister's shadow still holds the darkness?
We must breathe life in unison.**

**As a unit is formed by the pieces put together,
we all must whether
the storm.**

**Our endurance will measure our growth to help us flow,
out of the dark because we know
we are accountable for it.**

**Matthew tells us to seek, with Zephaniah 2:1;
it is the beginning, not one and done**

So intentionally we bypass Romans 6:23

**then we shall be,
prayerfully, free
to be,
on an accord of one,
Shadowing our Sisters, as Proverbs 31.**