

## V'AHAVTA

From the album *habayta (homeward)*

Hebrew lyrics from Deuteronomy 6:5–9, and Numbers 15:40-41

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V'ahavta

AND YOU SHALL LOVE

et Adonai Elohecha

ALL THAT WAS, IS, AND WILL BE

b'chol l'vavcha

with all your heart

(YEARNING)

uv'chol nafsh'cha

with all your soul

(SHIMMERING QUINTESENCE)

uv'chol m'odecha.

with all your might

(TREMBLING SINEW)

V'hayu

AND MAY IT BE

had'varim ha-eileh

ALL THESE THINGS

asher anochi m'tzav'cha

which I command you

(COMPEL YOU)

hayom

THIS DAY

al l'vavecha.

be upon your heart

(DEEP IN THE CORE OF YOUR BEING)

V'shinantam

teach them

(BE A BEACON)

l'vanecha

TO YOUR CHILDREN

v'dibarta bam

and speak of them

(AN ETERNAL INVOCATION)

b'shiv't'cha

IN STILLNESS

b'veitecha

IN YOUR HOME

uv'lecht'cha vaderech

and on your way

(THE TWITCH AND QUICK WITHOUT)

uv'shochb'cha uv'kumecha

when you lay down

(DREAMING)

and when you rise

(ASCENDING)

Uk'shartam l'ot al yadecha

bind them as a sign upon your hand

(YOUR HANDS BOUND WITH ALL OTHERS)

v'hayu l'totafot bein einecha

and let them be a symbol between your eyes

(NARROW YOUR VISION)

Uch'tavtam

INSCRIBE THEM

al m'zuzot beitecha

ON THE DOORPOSTS OF YOUR HOUSE

uvish'arecha.

and your gates

(EVERY THRESHOLD, EVERY PASSAGE, A SANCTIFIED RENEWAL)

L'maan tizk'ru

THUS YOU SHALL REMEMBER

Va-asitem et kol mitzvotai

and do all My commandments

(SACRED OPPORTUNITIES)

vih'yitem k'doshim

AND BE HOLY

l'Eloheichem.

to your sovereign

(ALL THAT WAS, IS, AND WILL BE)

Ani

I (AM)

Adonai Eloheichem

your God

(THE QUANTUM MECHANIC)

asher hotzeiti et-chem

who led you out

(MERCIFUL GRAVITY)

mei-eretz Mitzrayim

from a narrow place

(CONSTRICTED IN A LAND OF BURNING SAND)

lih'yot lachem l'Elohim

to be your source of all forces

(PULSING TENSEGRITY)

Ani Adonai Eloheichem.

I AM ALL THAT WAS, IS, AND WILL BE...

(SELAH, SELAH)