



קובץ הכנה

# Introduction

In the following pages you will read how even from early childhood the Rebbe was concerned to comfort and save even a single Neshomo.

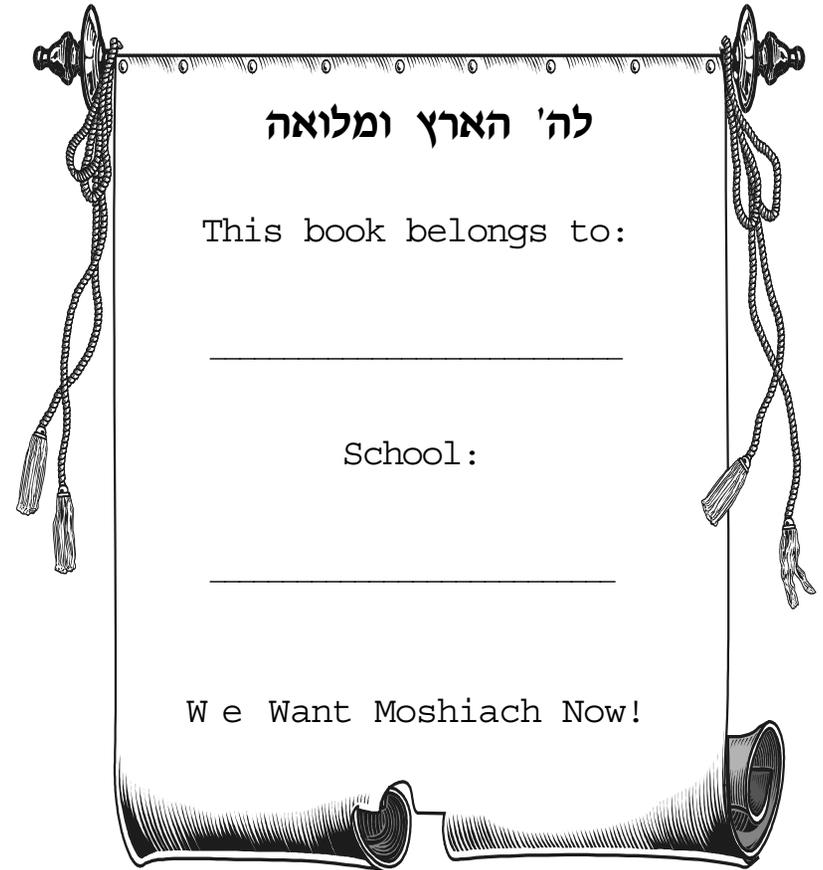
Later, especially after the Nesius, the Rebbe's care became even more obvious.

His care for every Jew is beyond understanding. It is the height of Ahavas Yisroel. So great is this caring that it is felt by everyone of us whether or not we had the zechus to see or hear the Rebbe personally.

The Rebbe has devoted his life to helping and saving his fellow Jews. Over the years, the Rebbe has given so much to so many people: his own Chassidim, all of Klal Yisroel and the whole world.

The Rebbe's gifts are special because they are not the kind that can be used up or forgotten. They are gifts that stay with us forever and help us to become stronger and better.

Now, what do you think the Rebbe would like as a present?



לע"נ הילדה מנוחה רחל ע"ה בת הרד"ת ר' יצחק יהודה שיחי בוימגארטן  
נפטרה ט"ז אייר תשנ"ז

A Project of



Your Logo  
Here

Over the next week I tried to contact the girl without success. Finally, on the night before Yom Kippur, I got her address and phone number. But when I called and said who I was, the phone would go dead. So I took a taxi to her home, and convinced her family to let me in.

"Betty told me the whole story: 'My parents sent me to the only school for the blind in the city; a Catholic school. They were very happy because I did not have to pay tuition. Soon, the priest told me that I must convert or else I would have to pay full tuition. So my parents decided that we had no choice and that I must convert.

" 'On the day before the holiday, I played hooky and asked a neighbor to drive me to the synagogue. There I prayed to G-d asking Him to send me a sign. The next day, we had guests and one of them said, "A rabbi from Sydney is asking about you." I knew this was a sign from Heaven.



We all know that ever since the Rebbe was a very young child there was one thing that has always been on his mind, there is one thing that the Rebbe has always wanted.

Time is very important to the Rebbe. What the Rebbe squeezed into his day was impossible by normal standards: learning, answering letters, Yechidus, Kois Shel Brocho, Lekach, Dollars, Rallies etc. --the list got longer and longer and took up more and more time. Yet the Rebbe found time for everything and everyone: for you and for me.

The Rebbe's attitude could be expressed in two words: caring and sharing.

As the Rebbe wrote in a letter in 5717, that even before he started going to cheder he began to imagine what the world would be like after Moshiach would come.

Yes! the best present we can give the Rebbe is to bring Moshiach Now!

Can you think of something you can do to bring Moshiach Now!

## ***"TAKE CARE OF THE EGYPTIAN JEWS"***

During my first years in Sydney, Australia," relates Rabbi Chaim Gutnick, "I was asked to serve as rabbi for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur for the Jewish community of Adelaide. Unwilling to leave my family, I refused. So the shul committee wrote a letter to the Rebbe saying that they needed a rabbi. I soon received a special delivery letter from the Rebbe saying that I should go. The Rebbe added, 'While there, take care of the needs of the Egyptian Jews.'

"I arrived in Adelaide on Erev Rosh Hashanah and went to shul. As I was there, a woman entered and asked me, 'Where is the holiest place in the synagogue?' I pointed to the Aron HaKodesh.

"She immediately rushed out and led a blind teenage girl to the Aron, and then left. The girl kissed the curtains of the Aron and burst into tears. After a few minutes the woman returned and took the girl out.

"I described the scene to the shul secretary, who said, 'Ah, she's one of the Egyptians. 'They don't get along with us. Her parents don't even come to shul on Rosh Hashanah.'

"When I heard the word 'Egyptians,' the Rebbe's letter became clear. After Rosh Hashanah, the phone in my room rang. 'Hello, I'm Betty the blind girl.' But an abrupt click told me that someone did not want me to speak to her.

For many years, the Rebbe gave out lekach on Erev Yom Kippur and Hoshana Rabbah. On Erev Yom Kippur the Rebbe would stand by the door of his office and on Hoshana Rabbah at the door of his Sukkah - on the front lawn of 770.

In later years, when many more would come, the Rebbe would give out lekach a few times during Aseres Yimei Teshuvah so that everyone would have a chance to receive a piece.

The Rebbe would say to each person: L'shana Tova Umisuka.

In 5752, the Rebbe distributed lekach another 3 times in addition to the times he would do it every year:

◆ On 27 Cheshvan, the Rebbe gave out the Kuntres about Siyum Sefer Torah together with lekach and 1 dollar.

◆ On 22 Shevat, the Rebbe gave out Kuntres Chof Beis Shevat together with lekach and 5 dollars.

◆ On Purim Kattan, the Rebbe gave out the maamar Vikibeil Hayehudim together with lekach and 2 dollars.

Perhaps that was a year that needed a little bit of extra sweetness...

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	2
CALMING THE CHILDREN.....	6
INTO THE SEA.....	7
THE HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL.....	8
YECHIDUS.....	9
DOLLARS.....	11
LETTERS.....	13
AZKIR AL HATZIYON.....	15
KOS SHEL BROCHA.....	17
LEKACH.....	19
"TAKE CARE OF THE EGYPTIAN JEWS.....	21

## CALMING THE CHILDREN

When the Rebbe was a child, his family lived in Nikolayev. Once, when a pogrom (a riot) had broken out, Rebbetzin Chana took her children to a shelter where other women and children were hiding. Everyone remained very quiet so that their hiding place would not be discovered by the rioters. Suddenly, some of the terrified children, who did not understand what was happening, began to cry. While everyone else was paralyzed with fright, a child who was less than five years old calmed the children until it was quiet once again.

That child was the Rebbe.



## LEKACH

Every year before Yom Kippur, the Rebbe would hand out a piece of lekach, honey cake, to all who wished: men, women and children.



Whenever the Rebbe's becher was almost empty, Rabbi Mentlik (and later Rabbi Junik) would fill the becher with wine and the Rebbe would continue distributing kois shel brocho.

People would usually say L'chaim to the Rebbe and the Rebbe would usually respond: L'chaim vilivrocho.

While the Rebbe gave out kois shel brocho, the chassidim would stand by and watch. They would sing freiliche niggunim and the Rebbe would often encourage the singing and clap very fast. It was a very lebedike event.

Kois shel brocho would go on for hours -sometimes until four or five in the morning - but the Rebbe kept standing and pouring and encouraging the singing, never getting tired.

The Rebbetzin would always wait up at home until the Rebbe would come home.

Many people received special miraculous brochois during kois shel brocho and from the wine of kois shel brocho.

## ***INTO THE SEA***

The Rebbe's family once spent a summer in Balaclava, by the shore of the Black Sea in Crimea. One day, as the vacationers were relaxing, someone shouted: "A boy is drowning!" A young boy had gone out alone in a small boat, and the boat had tipped over far from shore.



Another boy jumped into the water and swam out to the boat to rescue the child. Hurrying to the scene, the Rebbe's mother discovered that the 'hero' was none other than her nine-year-old son.

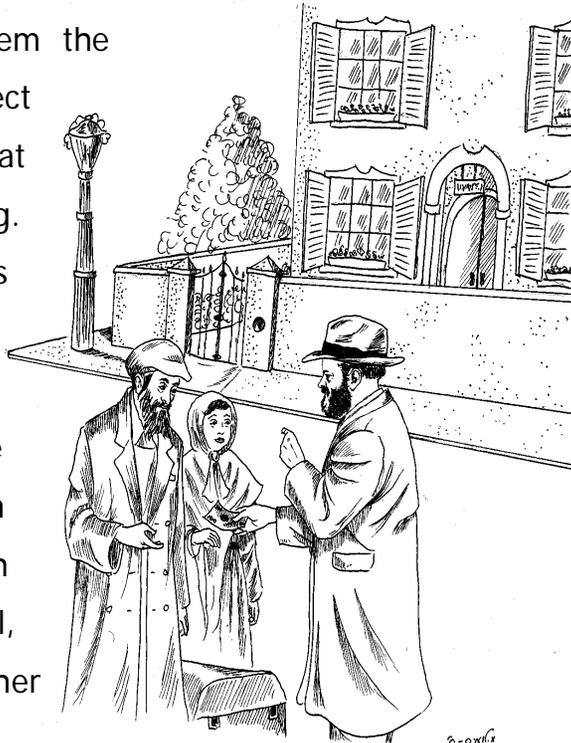
## ***THE HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL***

Fleeing from the Nazis (yimach shimom) during World War II, the Rebbe and Rebbetzin Chaya Mushka arrived in Vichy, France. Vichy was under Italian rule and the Italians were less Anti-Semitic than the Germans. Still, life anywhere in Nazi Europe was dangerous for Jews.

To get into a hotel, a guest would have to prove that he had at least one hundred dollars. Obviously most of the refugees did not have that much money.

The Rebbe had a single one hundred-dollar bill. So he went out into the streets looking for

refugees. Giving them the bill, he would direct them to the hotel at which he was staying. After the refugee was let in, he would give the bill back to the Rebbe and the Rebbe would return to the streets with the 'door-opening bill,' looking for another 'customer.'

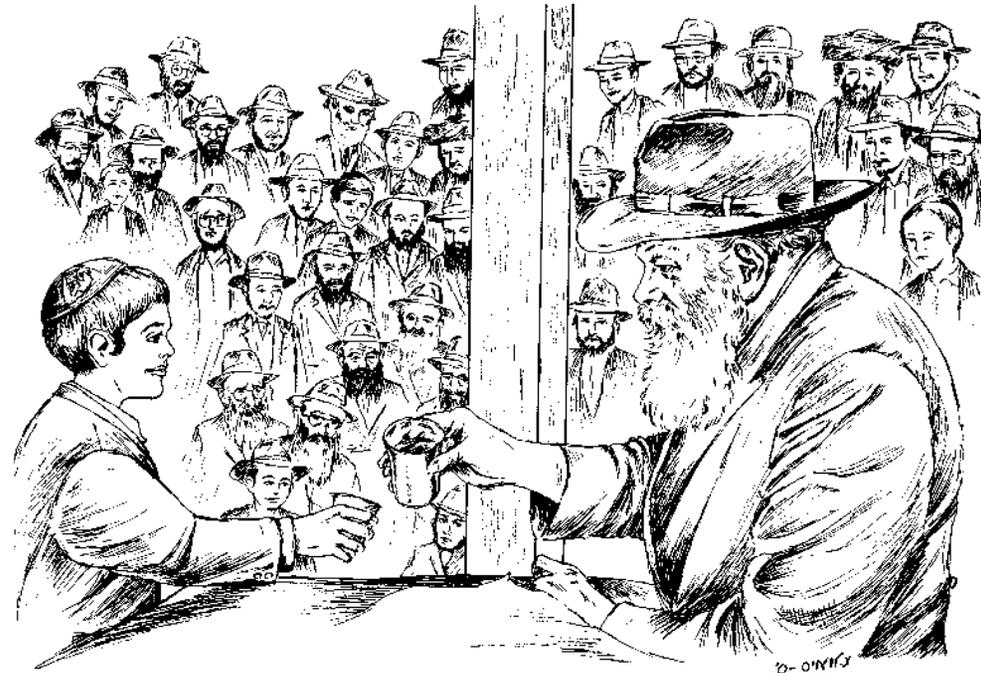


## ***Kos Shel Brocha***

Four times a year, on the last day of Rosh Hashono, Simchas Torah, Pesach and Shavuos, the Rebbe would farbreng in the late afternoon.

The Farbrengen would last until after Yom Tov; and after bentching and Maariv; the Rebbe would make Havdalah. The Rebbe would then give out kois shel brocho from the left over wine in his becher.

Thousands of people would walk past the Rebbe holding small plastic cups and the Rebbe would pour a little bit of wine into each cup from his becher.



The Rebbe would bring large paper bags filled with letters from people all over the world asking for brochois for all sorts of things.

For many hours (at times five or six) the Rebbe would stand and read the letters, most of which he would tear up and leave in the ohel. There were times when the Rebbe would break down crying as he read the letters.

The Rebbe stood in freezing cold and pouring rain, davening for Klal Yisroel. Only in "later years was more and more done to make it more comfortable for the Rebbe to daven at the ohel.

In later years, after returning from the ohel, the Rebbe would often say a sicho and give out dollars.

On special occasions the Rebbe would give out different seforim standing until the late hours of the night without eating.

The Rebbe once said that his visits to the ohel are "hatzolas nefoshois (saving lives)."

## YECHIDUS

Yechidus - a private meeting between a Rebbe and a chassid - began in the times of the Alter Rebbe. During yechidus, a chassid was able to pour out his heart and ask for advice and a brocho for anything that troubled him.

The Rebbe would have to "put himself into the shoes" of the person he was speaking with - feel his pain, experience his frustrations - and then return to himself as a Rebbe and advise accordingly. This was an extremely



exhausting task. (The Frierdiker Rebbe would have to change his clothing after yechidus since the clothing that he was wearing would be soaking wet.)

While speaking with the Rebbe, every person felt as if he was the only person in the world and that the Rebbe's full concentration was on him. This was true even late at night after the Rebbe had spoken to many people and many more were waiting outside.

In the early years of the Rebbe's leadership he would devote three nights a week for yechidus. Though some went on for over an hour, most sessions lasted less than 10 minutes so that as many people as possible would have a yechidus. The Rebbe began seeing people in the evening and continued until the sun began to rise.

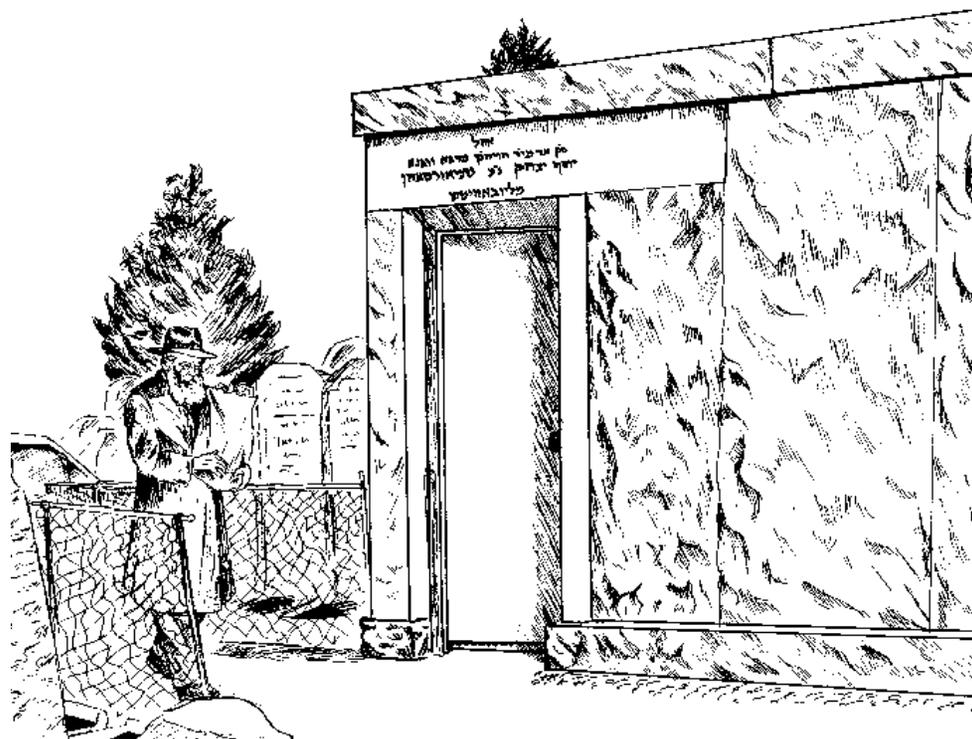
In later years, as the amount of chassidim grew, there was simply not enough time for each chassid to have a yechidus. So the Rebbe offered yechidus in other forms. Firstly, there was the Farbrengen. The Rebbe said that people could find answers to their questions in the words the Rebbe spoke at the Farbrengen.

Then there was "dollars," another form of yechidus.

## AZKIR AL HATZIYON

One of the ways that the Rebbe would take care of his flock was by davening for them. When people would ask for a brocho, they would often receive this answer: "azkir al hatziyon --I will mention it the burial site [of my father-in-law]." This meant the Rebbe would daven for them at the ohel where the Frierdiker Rebbe is buried.

The day the Rebbe would go to the ohel was a special day. The Rebbe would wear his silk sertuk (which was reserved for special days ), go to the mikva, and, aside from a drink, would eat nothing the entire day.



that letter down and picking up another, the Rebbe would tell the secretary what to write in response to the first letter while at the same time reading the second letter!

Sometimes, the Rebbe would ask his secretary to read a letter aloud while the Rebbe read one or two letters himself. When the secretary finished reading, the Rebbe would give his answers quickly and without hesitation, both to the letter read by the secretary and the ones the Rebbe had simultaneously read himself.

Many of the letters - such as Bar and Bas Mitzvah letters - were exactly the same. So to save the Rebbe time, one of the secretaries suggested that a rubber stamp with an imprint of the Rebbe's signature be used to sign these letters so that the Rebbe would not have to sign them himself.

The Rebbe thanked his secretary but rejected the idea. The Rebbe said, "How can I send prayerful wishes to a person in such an artificial way? And how would that person feel if he or she received good wishes from his or her Rebbe in a letter that was signed, mechanically; with a rubber stamp?"

## DOLLARS

It was Sunday, Yud Alef Nissan, 5746, the Rebbe's 84th birthday. The chassidim in 770 were finishing Shachris, when suddenly news spread throughout the shul: "The Rebbe is giving out dollars!" Within minutes, hundreds of chassidim formed a line outside the Rebbe's office. One by one, each chassid passed by the Rebbe and received a short brocho ("brochoh vihatzlochoh - blessing and success") and a dollar for tzedokoh.



Two weeks later, after Pesach, the same thing happened, and on the following Sunday the chassidim were no longer surprised to hear that the Rebbe was giving out dollars again.

So began the custom that gave tens of thousands of people from all over the world a chance to be face to face and have a yechidus with the Rebbe.

From that first Sunday until the Sunday of Chof Vov Adar, Tof Shin Nun Beis, week after week, the Rebbe would stand in the entrance hall of 770 for up to 5 or 6 hours, distributing dollars and brochos.

Thousands of people from all walks of life would come every week. Some came for advice, a brochoh for children, a refuah, and others came just to see the Rebbe and receive a dollar from his holy hand.

One Sunday a woman asked the Rebbe how he was able to stand for so long without getting tired. The Rebbe replied: "When you count diamonds you don't get tired."

For the Rebbe, every person is a diamond.

## LETTERS

Every day, sacks and sacks of letters would arrive at 770 Eastern Parkway, addressed to the Rebbe. The Rebbe always answered his mail personally.

He never allowed any of his secretaries to answer in his name. The Rebbe spent five or six hours a week answering the letters.

How did the Rebbe manage to answer all these letters in such a short time? Well, for one thing, he was an exceptionally fast reader. He would sweep through a letter with extraordinary speed, missing nothing. Then, putting

