

Beit Yaakov School Song (Anthem)

By Eleizer Schindler

While in a store in Lodz, the poet Eliezer Schindler saw children coming from school all singing the anthems of their organizations. The girls of Beit Yaakov had not anthem to sing. On a brown paper bag, he started to write the music and the lyrics.

We are like birds flying free.
We are like flowers in the field.
Together as faithful friends¹
We children of Jacob's tent

We learn and sing together.
We live in joy with one another.
No hatred exists among us,
the Torah is our bond.

We are faithful to our creator.
We guard God's holy law
We promise to uphold the Torah
To worship our holy God

מיר זענען ווי פייגאלעך פרייע
מיר זענען ווי בלימאלעך אין פעלד
מיר זענען חברות גיטראייע
מיר קינדער פון יעקב'ס גיצעלט.
מיר לערנען און שפילן צוזאמען
מיר לעבן צופרידן ביינאנט
קיין שנאה ביי אונדז נישט פארהאנען
די תורה, זי איז אונדזער באנד.
מיר זענען גיטריי אונדזער בורא
מיר היטן זיין הייליק גיבאט
מיר שווערן צו היטן די תורה
צו דינען דעם הייליקן ג-ט.



Bais Yaakov students in Buczacz perform in a play called "Joseph and His Brothers," circa 1934. From the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, courtesy of Esther Wagner; Photograph Number 49593.

"Did Schindler write a love song to Bais Yaakov because he identified with the marginality of girls and women in a world dominated by rabbis and activists? Did Bais Yaakov represent a more open field for cultural experimentation than was available in the male sphere?" – Naomi Seidman

¹ Chavrot – in female form

- To hear the singing of the anthem, "Sarah Schenirer and Bais Yaakov: A Revolution in the Name of Tradition," YouTube - <https://thebaisyaakovproject.religion.utoronto.ca/singing-the-bais-yaakov-song-on-a-lakewood-farm/>
- For further reading see Naomi Seidman, "Singing the Bais Yaakov Song on a Lakewood Farm," *Beis Yaakov Project*, September 19, 2019, <https://thebaisyaakovproject.com/singing-the-bais-yaakov-song-on-a-lakewood-farm/>