

Gan Na'ul – The Secret Garden

גֵּן נְעוּל אַחֲתֵי כְּלָה גַל נְעוּל מֵעֵין חָתוּם

Gan Na'ul ahoti challah, gal na'ul mayan Chatum

An enclosed garden is my sister, my bride

A hidden fountain, a sealed spring. (Song of Songs 4:12)

There is a mystery at the center of the Beloved and at the center of my experience of love. I can experience that mystery as a secret garden, whose blossoms and fruit wait to be revealed, savored and appreciated. Or I can experience that mystery as a concealed fountain whose waters flow from the hidden depths. Both images lure me deeper, humbling me with the realization that there is so much that I still don't know. Yet in that awareness, my desire is sparked; my curiosity is kindled. The mystery draws me onward along the path of love.