

For Shloshim 11/26/18

When Jacob died, all of Egypt wept thirty days.
When Joseph died all of Egypt wept thirty days.
When Miriam died all of Israel wept thirty days
When Aaron died all of Israel wept thirty days.
When Moses died, Israel wept thirty days.
And then Israel reached the Promised Land.
We could not do it without you.

You Eleven too made us what we are today.
And your absence wears heavy on our souls.
We miss your smiles, your humor, your leadership
We miss your energy, your love, your loyalty.
May we merit what we lost in you at the end of thirty days.
We are told that thirty days ends the weeping.
We are told now we can move on.
But it remains – the story, the grief, the day.
It was you who showered me with compassion.
With hope.
With love.
It was You who created my mind
You who fashioned me in my mother's womb
I praise you.
You praised them.
For they were awesomely, wondrously made:
Your work is wonderful.
Their souls know it well.
May we merit a peek of what they know now.

Rabbi Jonathan Perlman