

Creative Contest: „Christian-Jewish Dialogue –
Why? What for?

Contribution by Jordan Lahmy

The Word is Love

The essence is Love

I and the father are one

That man also said to Love thy neighbour as you Love yourself

The essence of the Torah

To have nothing done you wouldn't want done

To yourself

Both places teach the same thing

Because both are the same

For at their source

The source is one

And the source is Love.

The aim is Love

A Love for yourself

And a Love for others

So often we forget the word

Not just the word but the source from which it springs

A source found in ourselves

A source we forget

A source veiled by the caverns of folly

A folly painted in endless spectacle

We get blinded by form

We get blinded by creed

We get blinded by petrified hatred

And the word was Love

Both teach patience

Both teach wisdom

Both teach acceptance

Both teach Love

Because at their roots

Behind the veils, and the distressing disguises

Both are Love

To say one is right and one is wrong

Is to miss the word

To miss the teaching

The precious kernel of truth

That both endlessly work to awaken

A Saint is a holy Rabbi

And a holy Rabbi a Saint

For both are couched in Love

If you meet a being in Love with Love

He cares not for your background

Your actions or deeds

Your words are but birds

Delivering the sweet nectar of Love

And he smiles and says

“Come, sit and Love”

Through a text of Christ, through the words of Hillel

Through the still small voice of the Quaker

Through the fiery chariot of Ishmael

Through a sermon on some distant mount

Of some distant land

A man preached the words of Love

For the man was Love

Speaking of Love

To Love.

And so Love all

And so Serve all

And so Remember

That at the root of both ancient of Oaks

is Love.

Comment on the poem by Jordan Lahmy:

In the age of rapidity, our minds rule supreme. A most fierce ally, a most powerful tool we use to break apart phenomena, including ourselves. The price we pay for physical mastery is the growing snare of isolation. With a thought, I cast you as Other, out of my heart for the pain is too great to bear. And yet freedom begins by sitting with your pain, by having your heart break again and again. True Love is not mere sense pleasure, nor an interpersonal possessive dynamic. It starts when you can really sit, and say in truth with a sad open and yet oddly joyful heart "yes, and this too".

Short biography Jordan Lahmy:

Born in France and currently living in Montreal, I've dabbled in many avenues of life. From farmer to painter to potential web-developer, and currently settled on recreational therapy. A part-time yogi with a penchant for plants and poetry, I enjoy exploring methods integrating the needs of the heart with the demands of the marketplace.