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Working for Shalom

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English Words & Music by Beth A. Schafer Recorded on the CD Love Your Neighbor

In the garden Adam had no worries
In that world there was no word for war
Now banished, incomplete and full of fury
With no garden anymore

Hurtful words are coming from the writers Money meant for learning funds defense Graceful moves come only from the fighters Instead, let's get out and dance

Chorus

I'm working for Shalom I'm praying for Sha la la la la la la lalom I'm singing for Shalom Sha la la la la la lalom

Misdirected talent fuels the fire Hungry but not knowing what we crave Sends us 'round in circles 'til we tire With only our souls to save

One day we will leave our doors wide open On that day our hearts will open too Until that time is hear I'll just keep hopin' That we will know what to do

Chorus

Who is brave enough to be humble? Who stands tall enough to sit down? Who can use their power to be quiet 'Til the others come around

Lo V'Chayil

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Music by Beth A. Schafer and Rachelle Nelson English words by Beth Schafer Hebrew text: Zecharia 4:6

Recorded on the CD Love Your Neighbor, written in honor of the 30th year of women in the rabbinate

Translation Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit alone.

I will take my place
I will add my words
With dignity and grace
I'll honor the ones before me

I will lend my voice
I will light the flame
I make the holy choice
To serve and teach and sing God's name

Chorus
Lo v'chayil v'lo v'choach vim b'ruchi
Lo v'chayil v'lo v'choach vim b'ruchi

The Shechinah will dwell
The Shechinah is part of me
The stories I will tell
Will help our people see differently

Chorus

Tears of pain, tears of joy Fill the well that sustains us Not by might nor by power but by our spirit alone Shall we all live in peace and serve in peace

The Word

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English Words & Music by Beth A. Schafer Hebrew text: from morning service, prayerbook Recorded on the CD Love Your Neighbor

Translation: Blessed is the One who spoke and created the world.

When all was dark and there was nothing From out of the darkness there was the word And when all was still on the verge of creation From out of the stillness there came the word

Chorus

You are The Word, the first and the last Baruch she'amar v'haya ha'olam You are The Word, through Your lips life would pass Baruch she'amar v'haya ha'olam

A word to set the world in motion A word to bring on the light Let all hear with awe and devotion That the language of God is life, is life

Chorus

When it is dark and I can't find my being I reach in the darkness for Your word And when I am still on the verge of creation I search in my stillness for the right word

Chorus w/echo
You are The Word, [and there was evening]
the first and the last [and there was morning]
Baruch she'amar v'haya ha'olam [on the first day]
You are The Word, [v'y'hi erev]
through Your lips life would pass [v'yihi voker]
Baruch she'amar v'haya ha'olam [yom echad]

Translation of echo: And there was evening And there was morning On the first day

Kol Yisrael

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English Words & Music by Beth A. Schafer Hebrew text: Babylonian Talmud, Shavuout 29a Recorded on the CD Love Your Neighbor

Trans: All Israel is responsible one for another.

You can say that I don't know you You can say you don't know me You can say that we're so far apart But only geographically

Though the road is long between us Your blood runs through my veins Your triumph is my joy And your sorrow is my pain

Chorus

Kol Yisrael arevim zeh l'zeh, Kol Yisrael arevim zeh l'zeh Kol Yisrael arevim zeh l'zeh, Kol Yisrael arevim zeh l'zeh

We can let our hearts be tender Or we can let them turn to stone We can stand strengthened together Or fall desperately alone

Heroes Like You

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Music and Words by Beth A. Schafer and Rachelle Nelson In memory of Ilan Ramone

Recorded on the CD Love Your Neighbor

In the desert, lost in freedom, tablets smashed in dismay "Build an ark, a holy vessel to carry it away and if your heart so moves you, God said, bring your special skill and make this vessel sacred with your hands and what you feel. Give my gift a place of honor to remind you who I am. May my words not end in pieces scattered o'er the land."

Chorus

Round and round you'll go, to all the world you'll show That you we just don't survive, we flourish and we thrive Heroes like you will keep the faith alive

Europe cries, children die, who will save the chosen ones? Will they perish in the terror when the war is done? Then in the middle of the night a boy becomes a man Screams in his ears, death at his feet, a torah reaches his hands "Now take this gift to safety, my son, for you will surely live. Find it a place of honor, for this, my life, I'll give.

Chorus

Two nations cry as seven die, the heavens are aflame A holy vessel's precious cargo is pouring down like rain And out in Eastern Texas lies a man on holy ground Who took a grown boy's torah from that European town He reached above the smoke of death, he rose above the wall And took the gift up to the stars to shine upon us all

Chorus

You gave God's gift a place of honor and remembered God's command Now those words are scattered blessings over you and all the land

Love Your Neighbor

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English Words & Music by Beth A. Schafer Based on Leviticus 18:19

Recorded on the CD Love Your Neighbor

It seems so perfectly simple
We make it so complex
What should come naturally to us
Leaves us unnaturally vexed

Dismissing those who are different We barely know their names Believing our own propaganda When we're the ones to blame

Chorus

Love your neighbor (love your neighbor)
Love your neighbor (as yourself)
Do the world a favor love your neighbor as yourself
Love your neighbor (love your neighbor)
Love your neighbor (as yourself)
Do the world a favor love your neighbor as yourself

No one said it'd be easy
We can agree to disagree
But holding each life sacred
Will set our souls free

Chorus

It starts in your home with your brother and sister Don't forget the classroom and the boardroom, mister Spreads over the land, and over the seas, And when we run out of places, well, we get world peace

Benediction

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English Words & Music by Beth A. Schafer Hebrew text: Deuteronomy

Recorded on the CD Love Your Neighbor

Translation: May you be blessed as you enter, may you be blessed as you leave

Baruch atah b'voecha, b'voecha Baruch atah b'tzeitecha, b'tzeitecha

May you be blessed as you come in, And as you leave, may God bless you again Amen, amen, amen