

Naming Ceremony of

Rose Yael

Freedman-Riles

May eleventh, two-thousand eight



On Children

Kahlil Gibran

Your children are not your children.
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for
itself.
They come through you but not from you,
And though they are with you yet they belong not to
you.

You may give them your love but not your thoughts,
For they have their own thoughts.
You may house their bodies but not their souls,
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,
which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.
You may strive to be like them,
but seek not to make them like you.
For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday.



Blessing for Rose Yael

This is a traditional Jewish blessing used at baby naming ceremonies.

מי שברך אמותינו שרה ורבקה, רחל ולאה, ומרים הנביאה
ואביגיל ואסתר בת אביחיל, הוא יברך את הילדה הנעימה
הזאת, ויקרא שמה יעל בת דניאל ביירם ורינה זהבה. במזל
טוב ובשעת ברכה, ויגדלוה בבריאות, שלום ומנוחה. כשם
שנכנסה לברית כן תכנס לתורה ולחפה ולמעשים טובים.

Mishebeirach imoteinu Sarah v'Rivkah, Rachel v'Leah u'Miriam
ha-niviyah v'Avigail v'Esther bat Avichail, Hu yivarech et ha-
yaldah ha-ni'imah ha-zot, v'yikra sh'mah Yael bat Daniel Byrum
v'Reena Zahava. B'mazal tov uvish'at brachah v'yigadluha
b'vriyut, shalom u-minuchah. K'shem shenikhnesah la-brit ken
tikanah l'torah ul'chupah ul'ma'asim tovim.

May He who blessed our matriarchs Sarah, Rivkah, Rachel and Leah, and Miriam the Prophetess, Abigail, and Esther the daughter of Avichail, may He bless this dear girl, and let her name be called Yael the daughter of Daniel Byrum and Reena Zahava. May God cause her to grow in good health, peace and tranquility. As she has entered into the covenant, so may she enter into a life of Torah, loving relationships and good deeds.

Reena & Dan's

Blessing

Every child born into this world is precious, and we gather here today to celebrate Rose Yael. She is firmly anchored to the past through our traditions and cultures, through her name, and through the stories of our families and friends. As an infant, she is living purely in each moment of the present, and she represents the possibilities of the future—one that she will reveal to us like the opening of a flower.

In this journey, may she have a full and happy life filled with wonder, creativity, love, and passion. May she feel, appreciate, and add to the rhythms of the world around her. May she draw strength and joy from her family and communities, and may she find peace in her own company. May Rose Yael help make this world a better place.



Rose

Aunt Rose, Dan's great-aunt, was the oldest of three siblings. Rose lived near her sister, Dan's Grandma Sally, and helped care for Linda, Roger, and Judy.

Rose loved everyone and saw only the good; she saw the world through rose colored glasses. She had green fingers, and I remember the roses, sweet peas, apricots, plums and peaches. Rose taught Judy and me how to play the piano and to read music. She mothered us and the world and had a heart of gold.

-Linda Riles

She was a very happy and loving person. I think little Rose is off to a good start just by being named for such a wonderful person!

- Roger Smith

Rosie was like an angel to me. She had the sweetest disposition and loved everybody in the whole world. Rosie had a green thumb; she would cut a bouquet of flowers for me to take to my teachers. She was also a wonderful cook, and her apple strudel with powdered sugar was the treat of all times.

- Judy Stecks

יעל

"Blessed by women is Yael...by women in the tent will she be blessed." (The Song of Deborah from the Book of Judges)

Our daughter's middle name is Yael, in honor of her grandmother Barbara Freedman, who passed away several years ago. In the Book of Judges, the character of Yael is a heroine whose brave actions helped win a great battle. Barbara was herself a strong woman, one who built a loving family and successful career with remarkable modesty. She rose above conventional gender boundaries to contribute significantly to her fields of interest. She reached out and made a difference in people's lives with her warmth, intelligence and sensitivity, whether it be a family member, a colleague, or those with whom she rode the train to work each day. She was the silent glue that held our family together. We hope that Rose Yael will embody her strength, wisdom, humor and warmth.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

This blessing directs our attention to the good and the wondrous in our lives – that which we are experiencing at this very moment.

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם שהחיינו וקימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה.

Baruch Atah Adonai, Eloheinu Melech ha-olam, shehechyanu v'kiyamanu v'higianu la'zman ha-zeh.

Blessed Are You, Lord our God, Source of the universe, who has kept us in life, sustained us, and brought us to this special time.

Rose's Lullaby

(by Jim and Linda to the tune of Brahms' Lullaby)

Baby mine, eyes that shine
Lovely Rose, our sweet darling.
We love you, Rose Yael
Our dear baby, our sweet joy.

Little one, grow and flower
With your parents so dear.
Little Rose, rest and slumber
Your parents are here.

