* **Title of the work**: Sefer Yetzira - Chronicles of Desire
* **Name on Contract**: J. Hershy Worch
* First Edition
* **About the Author**: J. Hershy Worch was born in Manchester, England in 1995 and ordained in 1992 by Rabbi Shlomo Carlebach. He has served as rabbi of Congregation Ohave Shalom of Pawtucket, Rhode Island, and currently resides in Los Angeles, California where he teaches Jewish texts at the Open Yeshiva - Yeshiva Ateret Tzvi. Previously published works include Sacred Fire: Torah from the Years of Fury 1939-1942, The Kabbalist Haggadah - A Handbook of the Seder, and My Soul Thirsts - A Collection of Hasidic Songs.
* **Summary:**

Sefer Yetzira is a sacred book of great antiquity and power, one of Judaism's oldest texts after the Bible. In this new translation and commentary Rabbi Worch leads us step-by-step to the innermost chambers of Jewish mysticism. We are allowed to listen in to the arguments between Moses and God, to the whispered dialogue between Rabbis Akiba and Ishmael, and to those fervid and passionate practitioners of whose ecstasies these pages remain redolent.

In the beginning was God’s desire for us. Sefer Yetzira describes the process whereby desire materializes in the Breath of God and thence into the Ten Sephirot and Twenty Two Letters of the Hebrew alphabet. Commentaries to the Sefer Yetzira, down the ages, have reflected the spirit and yearning of those times, the genius and romance of the zeitgeist, be it philosophical, mathematical or contemplative. This commentary reflects the strikingly mystical qualities of Hasidism and the post-modern approach to text. Here we read how to listen for the breath of the Living God, how to hear it and breathe it back, in the mystery of our sacred kisses.

* **Comments and endorsements:** There are no recognized authorities in the translation or practice of Sefer Yetzira, since the death of Rabbi Aryeh Kaplan in 1983.
* **Table of Contents:**

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