

Introduction

Contributed by [Diane Akerman](#)

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The Seder

This book is a Hagadah, which means "telling." Tonight we will be having a seder, which means, "order". Through this traditionally ordered ritual, we will retell the story of the Israelites' journey out of Egypt, eat special foods that symbolize Pesach's many messages, and teach each other the traditions of Pesach, first celebrated more than 3,000 years ago.

An ancient rabbinic text instructs us, "Each person in every generation must regard himself or herself as having been personally freed from Egypt." for the seder to be successful.

Tonight's Seder is not just the retelling of an ancient story. Rather, we are asked to actually experience and acknowledge the bitterness of oppression and the sweetness of freedom so we may better understand the hope and courage of all men and women, of all generations, in their quest for liberty, security, and human rights. This haggadah attempts to incorporate the lives and work of each guest, and to relate the traditional story of passover to our personal experiences and to the modern world around us.

In the words of Audre Lorde: I cannot afford the luxury of fighting one form of oppression only. I cannot afford to believe that freedom from intolerance is the right of only one particular group. And I cannot afford to choose between the fronts upon which I must battle these forces of discrimination, wherever they appear to destroy me. And when they appear to destroy me, it will not be long before they appear to destroy you.

The order of the seder:

[Kadesh](#)-the recitation of Kiddush.

[Urchatz](#)-washing the hands.

[Karpas](#)-eating a vegetable dipped in salt-water.

[Yachatz](#)-breaking of the middle matzo.

[Maggid](#)-the recitation of the Hagadah.

[Rachtzah](#)-washing of the hands a second time.

[Motze](#)-the recitation of the blessing hamotzi.

[Matzah](#)-the recitation of the blessing al Achilas matzo, eating the matzo.

[Morrer](#)-eating the bitter herbs.

[Korech](#)-eating a sandwich of matzo and bitter herbs.

[Shulchan Oruch](#)-eating the festive meal.

[Tzafun](#)-eating the afikomen.

[Bayrech](#)-the recitation of grace.

[Hallel](#)-the recitation of Hallel psalms of praise

[Nirtzah](#)-our prayer that G-d accepts our service.