

# Miriam

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Source:

## Song of Miriam

*By Rabbi Ruth Sohn*

I, Miriam, stand at the sea and turn to face the desert stretching endless and still.  
My eyes are dazzled –  
the sky brilliant blue, sunburst sands unyielding white.  
My hands turn to dove wings.  
My arms reach for the sky and I want to sing the song rising inside me.  
My mouth open, I stop.  
Where are the words?  
Where the melody?  
In a moment of panic my eyes go blind.  
Can I take a step without knowing a destination?  
Will I falter? Will I fall? Will the ground sink away from under me?  
The song still unformed – How can I sing?  
To take the first step – to sing a new song –  
to close one's eyes and dive into unknown waters.  
For a moment knowing nothing, risking all –  
But then to discover the waters are friendly.  
The ground is firm and the song rises again.  
Out of my mouth come words lifting the wind,  
and I hear for the first time the song that has been in my heart,  
silent, unknown, even to me.