

# Symbols We Have Yet to Discuss

Contributed by [ariana gould](#)

Source:

There are still some symbols on our seder plate we haven't talked about yet.

**The shank bone** represents the Pesach, the special lamb sacrifice made in the days of the Temple for the Passover holiday. It is called the pesach, from the Hebrew word meaning "to pass over," because God passed over the houses of our ancestors in Egypt when visiting plagues upon our oppressors.

**The matzah** reminds us that when our ancestors were finally free to leave Egypt, there was no time to pack or prepare. Our ancestors grabbed whatever dough was made and set out on their journey, letting their dough bake into matzah as they fled.

**The bitter herbs** provide a visceral reminder of the bitterness of slavery, the life of hard labor our ancestors experienced in Egypt.