

We are the Generation between the flames

Contributed by [Marcia Plumb](#)

Source: Rabbi Arthur Waskow

Between the Fires:

A Prayer for lighting Candles by Rabbi Arthur Waskow

We are the generation that stands

Between the fires:

Behind us the flame and smoke

that rose from Auschwitz and from Hiroshima;

From the burning forests of the Amazon,

From the hottest years of human history

that bring upon us

Melted ice fields, Flooded cities, Scorching droughts.

Before us the nightmare of a Flood of Fire,

The heat and smoke that could consume all Earth.

"Here! The day is coming

That will flame like a furnace,"

Says the Infinite YHWH / Yahhhh,

The Breath of Life –

when all the arrogant, all evil-doers,

root and branch,

will like straw be burnt to ashes.

Yet for those of you who revere My Name,

Yes! My Name, Yahhhh, the Interbreath of Life!

For them a sun of justice will arise

with healing in its wings / rays. . . .

"Here! Before the coming

of the great and awesome day

of YHWH/ the Breath of Life,

I will send you the Prophet Elijah

to turn the hearts of parents to their children

and the hearts of children to their parents,

lest I come and smite the earth with utter destruction."

(Malachi 3: 20-21, 23-24.)

Here! we ourselves are coming

Before that great and terrible day

of smiting Earth –

For we ourselves shall turn the hearts
Of parents to their children
And the hearts of children to their parents
So that this day of smiting
Does not fall upon us.

.”(Malachi 3: 20-21, 23-24.)

It is our task to make from fire not an all-consuming blaze
But the light in which we see each other fully.
All of us different, All of us bearing
One Spark.
We kindle these candle-fires to see more clearly
That the earth and all who live as part of it
Are not for burning.
We light these fires to see more clearly
The rainbow in the many-colored faces of all life
Blessed is the One within the many.
Blessed are the many who make One.