

POETRY

The Seder's Order

Contributed by [Haggadot](#)

Source: Marge Piercy

The Seder's Order by Marge Piercy

The songs we join in
are beeswax candles
burning with no smoke
a clean fire licking at the evening

our voices small flames quivering.
The songs string us like beads
on the hour. The ritual is
its own melody that leads us

where we have gone before
and hope to go again, the comfort
of year after year. Order:
we must touch each base

of the haggadah as we pass,
blessing, handwashing,
dipping this and that. Voices
half harmonize on the bruchahs.

Dear faces like a multitude
of moons hang over the table
and the truest brief blessing:
affection and peace that we make.

Marge Piercy, "The Seder's Order" from *The Crooked Inheritance*. Copyright © 2006 by Marge Piercy.