אני לדודי ודודי לי

Why do you sit under that tree
So little shade, don't you see?
Why do you not join me
Under my tree so leafy?

Very soon you will see
Why I sit under this tree,
Despite the sun that shines through
Sometimes uncomfortable too.

Months later:
Where did you get those luscious apples
That you delight in every bite,
I wish I had some to sustain me
Every day and every night.

From this tree I sit under
It's an apple tree you see.
Every day it sustains me
The sweetest treat that can be.

The nations of the world ask Klal Yisroel:
Your tree lets through trials and tribulations
Throughout your exile among the nations?
Why remain in Hashem's meek shade instead of joining together with me?

Klal Yisroel answers them with pride:
True we may suffer in galus far and wide
Your trees may provide short term shade.
But they bear no fruit or in the long run even shade
While mine bears delectable sweets constantly,
And in His shade we will bask for eternity!

Like an apple tree among trees of the forest - all flee from it because it provides no shade; So is my beloved among the youths - so did all the nations flee from Hashem, at the giving of the Torah, but; I delight to sit in his shade, and his fruit is sweet to my mouth.
(Shir HaShirim 2:3 with Rashi)

PRIORITY-1

IN LOVING MEMORY OF MR. MARVIN HALPERN