

## 35 Days Completed

### Learning Focus

Here I am ready to consider **Pharaoh's fear** on this journey,  
undertaking to know more each day about the workings of oppression,  
so that we might get ourselves, all of us,  
out from under this millstone that is the Narrow Place.

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Early in Exodus, we learn of Pharaoh's fear "in the event of a war" (Day 30). For decades this country has been confused about whether we are in/near the event of a war (here) as suggested by the following comments.

Angela Y. Davis, shortly after her acquittal in the Soledad Brothers Trial:

The prison system is a weapon of repression. The government views young black and brown people as actually and potentially the most rebellious elements of this society. And thus the jails and prisons of this society are overflowing with young people of color. Anyone who has seen the streets of ghettos and barrios can already understand how easily a sister or a brother can fall victim to the police who are always there en masse. -- 6/9/72 speech delivered at Embassy Auditorium, Los Angeles, IN Say It Loud

New York Times editorial at the time of her capture by the FBI:

...one who might have made a significant contribution to the nation's normal political debate and to its needed processes of peaceful change became so alienated that she finally went over to revolutionary words and perhaps even worse.  
-- "The Tragedy of Angela Davis," NYT editorial, 10/16/70

Related topics -- guns, prison, police, etc. -- were among the most challenging for our Cross River Dialogue. Our individual experiences and opinions ranged as widely as those of Angela Davis and the NYT above. Some of us view "event of a war" at home as a distant possibility, while others experience some aspects of community survival as a daily battle and believe we have long been at war with forces of White Supremacy.

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**How do considerations** around "the event of war" relate to the topics of trust and worth raised in the previous stage of the journey?

**How do your own experiences,** assumptions, and privileges influence your perspective on how close or distant the US is to "the event of war"?

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## Ritual Focus

### Here I am, ready and prepared

[use traditional *kavanah* and/or continue here]

Here I am, ready and prepared to fulfill this project of counting 49 days,  
from Narrowness to Expansion,  
seeking to examine oppression and envision liberation,  
inspired by the Torah's counting of the Omer,  
counting seven full weeks, from Liberation to Revelation,  
until I reach fifty days,  
and prepare to bring new thoughts before the Eternal and into the world.

### Bless

[See "Blessing" page for masculine or feminine God-language]

*Brukheh ateh YHVH*

*Elohéinu hei ha'olamim*

*asher kidshétu*

*bəmitzvotéihe vatzivétu*

*al sefirat ha'omer*

ברוכה אתה יהוה

אלהינו חי העולמים

אשר קדשנו

במצוותיה וצונו

על ספירת העמר

Blessed are you, YHVH,  
our God, Life of endless worlds,  
who made us holy  
with Voix commandments and commanded us  
to count the Omer.

### Count

היום ששה ושלשים יום שהם חמשה שבועות ויום אחד לעמר.

*Hayom shishah ushloshim yom*

*shehem chamishah shavuot v'yom echad la-omer.*

Today is thirty-six days, which is five weeks and one day of the Omer.

visit <http://Rereading4Liberation.com> for more on Recounting Exodus  
and Rereading Exodus along the Anacostia