

Jewish Concepts of Scripture

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Jewish Concepts of Scripture

A Comparative Introduction

EDITED BY

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שם, מעבר לבית,
 באפק,
 חיים את חייכם האלמים
 ההרים הנשפים, העוטים
 את סודם בצעיף אפר,
 ומתחת לרצפת הבית
 חי את חיו הטמירים,
 את חיו המזוהים,
 העפר,
 וכל מה שטמון בתוכו
 זרעים, שרשים, מעינות . . .

 ארשת של סתמיות שפוכה
 על פני אבניו הכהות—
 והרי זה כמעט בטחון.
 —זלדה, "הבית הישן"—

There, beyond the house,
 on the horizon,
 the lofty mountains, wearing
 their secret as a gray veil,
 live their mute lives,
 and beneath the floor of the house
 the dust
 lives its hidden life,
 its unique and solitary life,
 along with all that is hidden in it—
 seeds, roots, springs . . .

.
 An expression—uncertainty, just so—is poured
 over the surface of its dark stones—
 and after all, that is almost faith.

—Zeldah, "The Old House," in *Shirei Zeldah*
 (Tel Aviv: Haqqibbutz Hame'uchad, 1985), 9
 Translation by Benjamin D. Sommer

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