The original Hebrew story of Joseph as still read in synagogues around the world today,

ברשיה Genesis 37-50

VAYESHEV
Genesis 37:1-40:3
Vayeshev

Ya’akov be’eretz megurei aviv be’eretz K’na’an.

37:1 And Jacob dwelled in the land of his father’s sojournings, in the land of Canaan.

2This is the lineage of Jacob—Joseph, seventeen years old, was tending the flock with his brothers, assisting the sons of Bilhah and the sons of Zilpah, the wives of his father. And Joseph brought ill report of them to their father. 3And Israel loved Joseph more than all his sons, for he was the child of his old age, and he made him an ornamented tunic. 4And his brothers saw it was he their father loved more than all his brothers, and they hated him and could not speak a kind word to him. 5And Joseph dreamed a dream and told it to his brothers and they hated him all the more. 6And he said to them, “Listen, pray, to this dream that I dreamed. And Joseph dreamed a dream and told it to his brothers and they hated him all the more. 7And, look, we were binding sheaves in the field, and, look, my sheaf arose and actually stood up, and, look, your sheaves drew round and bowed to my sheaf.” 8And his brothers said to him, “Do you mean to reign over us, do you mean to rule us?” And they hated him all the more, for his dreams and for his words. 9And he dreamed yet another dream and recounted it to his brothers, and he said, “Look, I dreamed a dream again, and, look, the sun and the moon and eleven stars were bowing to me.” 10And he recounted it to his father and to his brothers, and his father rebuked him and said to him, “What is this dream that you have dreamed? Shall we really come, I and your mother and your brothers, to bow before you to the ground?” 11And his brothers were jealous of him, while his father kept the thing in mind.
12 And his brothers went to graze their father’s flock at Shechem. 13 And Israel said to Joseph, “You know, your brothers are pasturing at Shechem. Come, let me send you to them,” and he said to him, “Here I am.” 14 And he said to him, “Go, pray, to see how your brothers fare, and how the flock fares, and bring me back word.” And he sent him from the valley of Hebron and he came to Shechem. 15 And a man found him and, look: he was wandering in the field, and the man asked him, saying, “What is it you seek?” 16 And he said, “My brothers I seek. Tell me, pray, where are they pasturing?” 17 And the man said, “They have journeyed on from here, for I heard them say, ‘Let us go to Dothan’” And Joseph went after his brothers and found them at Dothan. 18 And they saw him from afar before he drew near them and they plotted against him to put him to death. And they said to each other, 19 “Here comes that dream-master! 20 And so now, let us kill him and fling him into one of the pits and we can say, a vicious beast has devoured him, and we shall see what will come of his dreams/” 21 And Reuben heard and came to his rescue and said, “We must not take his life/” 22 And Reuben said to them, “Shed no blood! Fling him into this pit in the wilderness and do not raise a hand against him”—that he might rescue him from their hands to bring him back to his father. 23 And it happened when Joseph came to his brothers that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the ornamented tunic that he had on him. 24 And they took him and flung him into the pit, and the pit was empty, there was no water in it. 25 And they sat down to eat bread, and they raised their eyes and saw and, look, a caravan of Ishmaelites was coming from Gilead, their camels bearing gum and balm and ladanum on their way to take down to Egypt. 26 And Judah said to his brothers, “What gain is there if we kill our brother and cover up his blood? 27 Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites and our hand will not be against him, for he is our brother, our own flesh/” And his brothers agreed. 28 And Midianite merchantmen passed by and pulled Joseph up out of the pit and sold Joseph to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver, and they brought Joseph to Egypt. 29 And Reuben came back to the pit and, look, Joseph was not in the pit, and he rent his garments, 30 and he came back to his brothers, and he said, ‘The boy is gone, and I, where can I turn?” 31 And they took Joseph’s tunic and slaughtered a kid and dipped the tunic in the blood, 32 and they sent the ornamented tunic and had it brought to their father, and they said, “This we found. Recognize, pray, is it your sons tunic or not?” 33 And he recognized it, and he said, “It is my son’s tunic.
A vicious beast has devoured him, Joseph is torn to shreds!

טָרֹף טֹרָף יוֹסֵף

chayah ra’ah achalathu
tarof toraf Yosef.

Hebrew grammar note:

טָרֹף tarof is an infinitive absolute. placed before or after a finite verbal form “to emphasize the verbal idea in some way, The English translation of this construction will vary from context to context, often requiring the use of adverbs such as ‘surely, certainly, indeed.’”

טֹרָף toraf is a verb in the perfect tense. “the Hebrew perfect may be translated as the English simple past (I wrote) or the present perfect (I have written)” (p. 38)


34 Vayikra Ya’akov simlotav vayasem sak bemotnav vayit’abel al-beno yamim rabim. 35 Vayakumu chol-banav vechol-bnotav lenachamo vayema’en lehinachem vayomer ki-erad el-beni avel she’olah vayevk oto aviv.

34 And Jacob rent his clothes and put sackcloth round his waist and mourned for his son many days. 35 And all his sons and all his daughters rose to console him and he refused to be consoled and he said, “Rather I will go down to my son in Sheol mourning,” and his father keened for him.

36 Vehamedanim machru oto el-Mitzrayim le-Potifar sris Par’oh sar hatabachim.

36 But the Midianites had sold him into Egypt to Potiphar, Pharaoh’s courtier, the high chamberlain.
38:1 And it happened at this time that Judah went down from his brothers and pitched his tent by an Adullamite named Hirah. 2 And Judah saw there the daughter of a Canaanite man named Shua, and he took her and came to bed with her. 3 And she conceived and bore a son and called his name Er. 4 And she conceived again and bore a son and called his name Onan. 5 And she bore still another son and called his name Shelah, and he was at Chezib when she bore him. 6 And Judah took a wife for Er his firstborn, and her name was Tamar. 7 And Er, Judah’s firstborn, was evil in the eyes of the LORD, and the LORD put him to death. 8 And Judah said to Onan, “Come to bed with your brother’s wife and do your duty as brother-in-law for her and raise up seed for your brother/” 9 And Onan knew that the seed would not be his and so when he would come to bed with his brother’s wife, he would waste his seed on the ground, so to give no seed to his brother. 10 And what he did was evil in the eyes of the LORD, and He put him to death as well. 11 And Judah said to Tamar his daughter-in-law, “Stay a widow in your father’s house until Shelah my son is grown up,” for he

12 And a long time passed and the daughter of Shua, Judah’s wife, died, and after the mourning period Judah went up to his sheepshearers, he with Hirah the Adullamite his friend, to Timnah. 13 And Tamar was told, saying, “Look, your father-in-law is going up to Timnah to shear his sheep.” 14 And she took off her widow’s garb and covered herself with a veil and wrapped herself and sat by the entrance to Enaim, which is on the road to Timnah, for she saw that Shelah had grown up and she had not been given to him as wife. 15 And Judah saw her and he took her for a whore, for she had covered her face. 16 And he turned aside to her by the road and said, “Here, pray, let me come to bed with you,” for he knew not that she was his daughter-in-law. And she said, “What will you give me for coming to bed with me?” 17 And he said, “I personally will send a kid from the flock.” And she said, “Only if you give a pledge till you send it.” 18 And he said, “What pledge shall I give you?” And she said, “Your seal-and-cord, and the staff in your hand.” And he gave them to her and he came to bed with her and she conceived by him. 19 And he returned
And it happened about three months later that Judah was told, saying, “Tamar your daughter-in-law has played the whore and what’s more, she’s conceived by her whoring.” And Judah said, “Take her out to be burned.” 25 Out she was taken, when she sent to her father-in-law, saying, “By the man to whom these belong I have conceived,” and she said, “Recognize, pray, whose are this seal-and-cord and this staff?” 26 And Judah recognized them and he said, “She is more in the right than I, for have I not failed to give her to Shelah, my son?” And he knew her again no more.

And it happened at the time she gave birth that, look, there were twins in her womb. 28 And it happened as she gave birth that one put out his hand and the midwife took it and bound a scarlet thread on his hand, 29 to say, this one came out first. And as he was drawing back his hand, look, out came his brother, and she said, “What a breach you have made for yourself!” And she called his name Perez. And afterward out came his brother, on whose hand was the scarlet thread, and she called his name Zerah.

And Joseph was brought down to Egypt, and Potiphar, courtier of Pharaoh, the high chamberlain, an Egyptian man, bought him from the Ishmaelites who had brought him down there. 2 And the LORD was with Joseph and he was a successful man, and he was in the house of his Egyptian master. 3 And his master saw that the LORD was with him, and all that he did the LORD made succeed in his hand, 4 and Joseph found favor in his eyes and he ministered to him, and he put him in charge of his house, and all that he had he placed in his hands. 5 And it happened from the time he put him in charge of his house and of all he had, that the LORD had blessed the Egyptian’s house for Joseph’s sake and the LORD’s blessing was on all that he had in house and field. 6 And he left all that he had in Joseph’s hands, and he gave no thought to anything with him there save the bread he ate. And Joseph was comely in features and comely to look at.

And it happened after these things that his master’s wife raised her eyes to Judah and said, “I could not find her, and the men of the place said as well, “There has been no cult-harlot here.” 23 And Judah said, “Let her take them, lest we be a laughingstock. Look, I sent this kid and you could not find her.”
et-eyneyha el-Yosef vatomer shichvah imi. 8 Vayema’en vayomer el-eshet adonai lo-yada iti mah-babayit vechol asher-yesh-lo natan beyadi. 9 Eynenu gadol babayit hazeh mimeni velo-chasach mimeni me’umah ki im-otach ba’asher atishto ve’ezych e’eshe harah hazot vechachatii le-Elokim. 10 Vayehi kedabrah el-Yosef yom yom velo-shama eleyha lishkav etzlah lihyot imah. 11 Vayehi kehayom hazeh vayavo habaytah la’asot melachto ve’eyn ish me’anshei habayit sham babayit. 12 Vatitpesehu bevigdo lemor shichvah imi vaya’azov bigdo beyadah vayanas vayetze hachutzah. 13 Vayehi kir’otah ki-azav bigdo beyadah vayanas hachutzah. 14 Vatikra le-an-

Joseph and said, “Lie with me.” 8 And he refused. And he said to his master’s wife, “Look, my master has given no thought with me here to what is in the house, and all that he has he has placed in my hands. 9 He is not greater in this house than I, and he has held back nothing from me except you, as you are his wife, and how could I do this great evil and give offense to God?” 10 And so she spoke to Joseph day after day, and he would not listen to her, to lie by her, to be with her. 11 And it happened, on one such day, that he came into the house to perform his task, and there was no man of the men of the house there in the house. 12 And she seized him by his garment, saying, “Lie with me.” And he left his garment in her hand and he fled and went out. 13 And so, when she saw that he had left his garment in her hand and fled outside, 14 she called out

Vatitpesehu bevigdo lemor shichvah imi vaya’azov bigdo beyadah vayanas vayetze hachutzah.

And she seized him by his garment, saying, “Lie with me.” And he left his garment in her hand and he fled and went out.
shei veytah vapoter lahem lemor re’u hevi lanu ish Ivri letzachek banu ba elai lishkivim va’ekra bekol gadol. 15 Vayehi cheshom’o ki-harimoti koli va’ekra vaya’azov bigdo etzli yayanas vayetez hachutzah. 16 Vatanach bigdo etzlah ad-bo adonav el-beyto. 17 Vatedaber elav kadvarim ha’eleh lemor ba elay ha’aved ha’Ivri asher-heveta lanu letzachek bi. 18 Vayehi kaharimini koli va’ekra vaya’azov bigdo etzli yayanas hachutzah. 19 Vayehi chishmo adonav et-divrei ishto asher dibrah elav lemor kadvarim ha’eleh asah li avdecha va’yicher apo. 20 Vayikach adenoi Yosef oto vayitnehu el-beyto hasohar mekom asher-asirei hamelech asurim vayehi-sham beveyt hasohar.

40:1 Vayehi achar hadevarim ha’eleh chate’u mashkeh me lech-Mitzrayim veha’ofeh la’adoneyhem lemelech Mitzrayim 2 Vayiktzof Par’oh al shnei sarisav al sar hamashkim ve’al sar ha’ofim. 3 Vayiten otam bemishmar beit sar hatabachim el-beit hasohar mekom asher Yosef asur sham. 4 Vayifkod sar hatabachim et-Yosef itam vayesharet otam vayihyu yamim be mishmar.

5 Vayachalmu chalom shneyhem ish chalom belailah ehad ish kfitron chalom hamashkeh veha’ofeh asher lemelech Mitzrayim asher asurim beveyt hasohar. 6 Vayavo alehem Yosef baboker yavar otam vehinam zo’afim. 7 Vayish’al et-srisei Par’oh ashah ito vemishmar beit adonav lemore ma’dua pneychem ra’im hayom. 8 Vayomeru elav chalom chalamnu ufoter eyn oto vayomer alehem Yosef halo le-Elokim pitronim saprura li. 9 Vayesaper sar-hamashkim et-chalomo le-Yosef vayomer lo barchalomi veyineh-gefien lefanay. 10 Uvagefen shloshah sarigim vehei cheforachat allah nitzah hvishilu askheloteyya

to the people of the house and said to them, saying, “See, he has brought us a Hebrew man to play with us. He came into me to lie with me and I called out in a loud voice, 15 and so, when he heard me raise my voice and call out, he left his garment by me and fled and went out.” 16 And she laid out his garment by her until his master returned to his house. 17 And she spoke to him things of this sort, saying, “The Hebrew slave came into me, whom you brought us, to play with me. 18 And so, when I raised my voice and called out, he left his garment by me and fled outside.” 19 And it happened, when his master heard his wife’s words which she spoke to him, saying, “Things of this sort your slave has done to me,” he became incensed. 20 And Joseph’s master took him and placed him in the prison-house, the place where the king’s prisoners were held. And he was there in the prison-house,

21 Vayehi HASHEM et-Yosef vayet elav chased vayiten chino be’eyney sar beit-hasohar. 22 Vayiten sar beit-hasohar beyad-Yosef et kol-ha’asirim asher beveyt hasohar ve’et kol-asher osim sham hu hayah oseh. 23 Eyn sar beit-hasohar ro’e et-kol-mefun ne’um beyado ba’asher HASHEM ito va’asher-hu oseh HASHEM matzliach.

40:1 And it happened after these things that the cupbearer of the king of Egypt and his baker gave offense to their lord, the king of Egypt. 2 And Pharaoh was furious with his two courtiers, the chief cupbearer and the chief baker. 3 And he put them under guard in the house of the high chamberlain, the prison-house, the place where Joseph was held. 4 And the high chamberlain assigned Joseph to them and he ministered to them, and they stayed a good while under guard.

5 And the two of them dreamed a dream, each his own dream, on a single night, each a dream with its own solution—the cupbearer and the baker to the king of Egypt who were held in the prison-house. 6 And Joseph came to them in the morning and saw them and, look, they were frowning. 7 And he asked Pharaoh’s courtiers who were with him under guard in his lord’s house, saying, “Why are your faces downcast today?” 8 And they said to him, “We dreamed a dream and there is no one to solve it.” And Joseph said to them, “Are not solutions from God? Pray, recount them to me.” 9 And the chief cupbearer recounted his dream to Joseph and said to him, “In my dream—and look, a vine was before me. 10 And on the vine were three tendrils, and as it was budding, its blossom shot up,
its clusters ripened to grapes. 11 And Pharaoh’s cup was in my hand. And I took the grapes and crushed them into Pharaoh’s cup and I placed the cup in Pharaoh’s palm.” 12 And Joseph said, ‘This is its solution. The three tendrils are three days. 13 Three days hence Pharaoh will lift up your head and restore you to your place, and you will put Pharaoh’s cup in his hand, as you used to do when you were his cupbearer. 14 But if you remember I was with you once it goes well for you, do me the kindness, pray, to mention me to Pharaoh and bring me out of this house. 15 For indeed I was stolen from the land of the Hebrews, and here, too, I have done nothing that I should have been put in the pit.” 16 And the chief baker said that he had solved well, and he said to Joseph, “I, too, in my dream—and look, there were three openwork baskets on my head, 17 and in the topmost were all sorts of food for Pharaoh, baker’s ware, and birds were eating from the basket over my head.” 18 And Joseph answered and said, ‘This is its solution. The three baskets are three days. 19 Three days hence Pharaoh will lift up your head from upon you and impale you on a pole and the birds will eat your flesh from upon you.”

And it happened on the third day, Pharaoh’s birthday, that he made a feast for all his servants, and he lifted up the head of the chief cupbearer and the head of the chief baker in the midst of his servants. 21 And he restored the chief cupbearer to his cupbearing, and he put the cup in Pharaoh’s hand; 22 and the chief baker he impaled—just as Joseph had solved it for them. 23 But the chief cupbearer did not remember Joseph, no, he forgot him.
14 And Pharaoh sent and called for Joseph, and they hurried him from the pit, and he shaved and changed his garments and came before Pharaoh. 15 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I dreamed a dream and none can solve it, and I have heard about you that you can understand a dream to solve it.” 16 And Joseph answered Pharaoh, saying, “Not I! God will answer for Pharaoh’s well-being.” 17 And Pharaoh spoke to Joseph: “In my dream, here I was standing on the bank of the Nile, 18 and, look, out of the Nile came up seven cows fat in flesh and fair in feature, and they grazed in the rushes. 19 And, look, another seven cows came up after them, gaunt and very foul-featured and meager in flesh, I had not seen their like in all the land of Egypt for foulness. 20 And the meager, foul cows ate up the first seven fat cows, 21 and they were taken into their bellies and you could not tell that they had come into their bellies, for their looks were as foul as before, and I woke. 22 And I saw in my dream, and, look, seven ears of grain came up on a single stalk, full and goodly. 23 And, look, seven shriveled, meager ears, blasted by the east wind, sprouted after them. 24 And the meager ears swallowed the seven goodly ears, and I spoke to my soothsayers and none could tell me the meaning.” 25 And Joseph said to Pharaoh, “Pharaoh’s dream is one, What God is about to do He has told Pharaoh. 26 The seven goodly cows are seven years, and the seven ears of grain are seven years. 27 And the seven meager ears, blasted by the east wind, are seven years of famine. 28 So it will go with Pharaoh’s dream; God is about to speak to Pharaoh, to his servants concerning theseven years of plenty in Egypt. 29 There will come up seven years of great plenty in all the land of Egypt, and seven years of famine, which you have dreamed of. 30 Seven fruitful and plenteous years will come in Egypt, 31 and seven lean and hungry years, which will come after them, shall be seven years of desolation; equal to all the plenty before them. 32 So there shall arise seven bullocks, fat and goodly, 33 and there shall arise seven ears of grain, full and goodly. 34 And the one shall eat up the seven after them, because they are few and so does not greatly abound. 35 And when Pharaoh awoke, he remembered his dreams, and behold, behold, in Egypt there are seven cows, fat and goodly. 36 And there are seven ears of grain, full and goodly, in Egypt, 37 before they be cut down; it will be seven years of famine, and all the plenty of the seven good years which will be before them shall be wiped out, and they shall not be remembered in all the land of Egypt, for it shall be a very sore famine; 38 but there will not a remnant of the seven lean and hungry years be seen in any part of Egypt; for it will be very grievous before them. 39 And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find such an one as this, an spirit in Israel?” 40 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “See, I have set you over all my house; you shall be ruler over all my people Egypt. 41 And it shall come to pass that when any man has a business and it is not settled, he shall come to you, and you shall judge between them. Then shall you be to them a law of God. 42 And it shall be, when the people of the land shall go to you and say, ‘We have a business; let a spirit of God come upon you and judge us.’ 43 Then you shall say to them, ‘Whoever has a business shall come to the king of Egypt.”'
of grain are seven years. The dream is one. 27 And the seven meager and foul cows who came up after them are seven years, and the seven meager ears of grain, blasted by the east wind, will be seven years of famine. 28 It is just as I said to Pharaoh: what God is about to do He has shown Pharaoh. 29 Look, seven years are coming of great plenty through all the land of Egypt. 30 And seven years of famine will arise after them and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt, and the famine will ravage the land, 31 and you will not be able to tell there was plenty in the land because of that famine afterward, for it will be very grave. 32 And the repeating of the dream to Pharaoh two times, this means that the thing has been fixed by God and God is hastening to do it. 33 And so, let Pharaoh look out for a discerning, wise man and set him over the land of Egypt. 34 Let Pharaoh do this: appoint overseers for the land and muster the land of Egypt in the seven years of plenty. 35 And let them collect all the food of these good years that are coming and let them pile up grain under Pharaoh’s hand, food in the cities, to keep under guard. 36 And the food will be a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine which will be in the land of Egypt, that the land may not perish in the famine.” 37 And the thing seemed good in Pharaoh’s eyes and in the eyes of his servants. 38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Could we find a man like him, in whom is the spirit of God?” 39 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “After God has made known to you all this, there is none as discerning and wise as you. 40 You shall be over my house, and by your lips all my folk shall be guided. By the throne alone shall I be greater than you” 41 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “See, I have set you over all the land of Egypt” 42 And Pharaoh took off his ring from his hand and put it on Joseph’s hand and had him clothed in fine linen clothes and placed the golden collar round his neck. 43 And he had him ride in the chariot of his viceroy, and they called out before him Abrekh, setting him over all the land of Egypt. 44 And Pharaoh said to Joseph, “I am Pharaoh! Without you no man shall raise hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.” 45 And Pharaoh called Joseph’s name Zaphenath-paneah, and he gave him Asenath daughter of Poti-pherah, priest of On, as wife, and Joseph went out over the land of Egypt.

46 And Joseph was thirty years old when he stood before Pharaoh king of Egypt, and Joseph went out from Pharaoh’s presence and passed through
bechol eretz Mitzrayim. 47 Vata’as ha’aretz besheva shnei
hasava likmatzim. 48 Vayikbotz et-kol-ochel sheva shanim
asher hayu be’eretz Mitzrayim vayiten-ochel be’arim ochel
sdeh-ha’ir asher svivoteyha natan betochah. 49 Vayitzbor
Yosef bar kechol hayam harbeh me’od ad ki-chadal lispor
ki-eyn mispar.

50 Ule-Yosef yulad shnei vanim beterem tavo shnat hara’av
asher yaldah-lo Asenat bat-Poti-fera kohen On. 51 Vayikra
Yosef et-shem habechor Menashshe ki-nashani Elokim
et-kol-amali ve’et kol-beit avi. 52 Ve’et shem hasheni kara
Efrayim ki-hifrani Elokim be’eretz oni’i.

53 Vatichleynah sheva shnei hasava asher hayah be’eretz
Mitzrayim. 54 Vatichleynah sheva shnei hara’av lavo
ka’asher amar Yosef vayehi ra’av bechol-ha’aretz cavaych
erets Mitzrayim hayah lachem. 55 Vattir’av kol erets Mitz-
rayim vayitz’ak ha’am el-Par’oh lalachem vayehi ra’ah be’eretz
menashsheh ki-nashani Elokim et-kol-amali ve’et kol-beit avi.
56 Vehara’av hayah al kol-penei ha’aretz vayishbor Yosef
et-kol-ochel bahem vayeshbor le-Mitzrayim vayeechazak
hara’av be’eretz Mitzrayim. 57 Vechol-ha’aretz ba’u Mitz-
rayim lishbor el-Yosef ki-chazak hara’av bechol-ha’aretz.

42:1 Vayar Ya’akov ki yesh-shever beMitzrayim vayomer
Ya’akov levanav lamah titra’u. 2 Vayomer hineh shamati
ki yesh-shever beMitzrayim redu-shamah veshivru-lanu
misham venichyeh velo namut. 3 Vayirdu achei-Yosef asarah
lishbor bar mi-Mitzrayim. 4 Ve’et-Binyamin achi Yosef
lo-shalach Ya’akov et-echav ki amar pen-yikra’enu ason.

5 Vayavo’u benei Yisra’el lishbor betoch haba’im ki-hayah
hara’av be’eretz Kena’an. 6 VeYosef hu hashalit al-ha’aretz
hu hamashbir lechol-am ha’aretz vayavo’u achei Yosef vay-
ishchavu-lo apayim artzah. 7 Vayar Yosef et-echav vaya-
kirem vayitmaker aleyhem vayedaber itam kashot vayomer
alehem me’ayin batem vayomeru me’eretz Kena’an lishbor-

all the land of Egypt. 47 And the land in the seven years of plenty made gatherings. 48 And he collected all the food of the seven years that were in the land of Egypt and he placed food in the cities, the food from the fields round each city he placed within it. 49 And Joseph piled up grain like the sand of the sea, very much, until he ceased counting, for it was beyond count.

50 And to Joseph two sons were born before the coming of the year of famine, whom Asenath daughter of Poti-phaera priest of On bore him. 51 And Joseph called the name of the firstborn Manasseh, meaning, God has released me from all the debt of my hardship, and of all my father’s house. 52 And the name of the second he called Ephraim, meaning, God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction.

53 And the seven years of the plenty that had been in the land of Egypt came to an end. 54 And the seven years of famine began to come, as Joseph had said, and there was famine in all the lands, but in the land of Egypt there was bread. 55 And all the land of Egypt was hungry and the people cried out to Pharaoh for bread, and Pharaoh said to all of Egypt, “Go to Joseph. What he says to you, you must do.” 56 And the famine was over all the land. And Joseph laid open whatever had grain within and sold provisions to Egypt. And the famine grew harsh in the land of Egypt. 57 And all the earth came to Egypt, to Joseph, to get provisions, for the famine had grown harsh in all the earth.

42:1 And Jacob saw that there were provisions in Egypt, and Jacob said to his sons, “Why are you fearful?” 2 And he said, “Look, I have heard that there are provisions in Egypt. Go down there, and get us provisions from there that we may live and not die.” 3 And the ten brothers of Joseph went down to buy grain from Egypt. 4 But Benjamin, Joseph’s brother, Jacob did not send with his brothers, for he thought, Lest harm befall him.

5 And the sons of Israel came to buy provisions among those who came, for there was famine in the land of Canaan. 6 As for Joseph, he was the regent of the land, he was the provider to all the people of the land. And Joseph’s brothers came and bowed down to him, their faces to the ground. 7 And Joseph saw his brothers and recognized them, and he played the stranger to them and spoke harshly to them, and said to them, “Where have you come
ochel. 8 Vayaker Yosef et-echav vehem lo hikiruhu. 9 Vayizkor Yosef et hachalomot asher chalam lahem vayomer alehem meraglim atem li’ot et-ervat ha’aretz batem. 10 Vayomeru elav lo adoni va’avadeycha ba’u lishbor ochel. 11 Kulanu from?” And they said, “From the land of Canaan, to buy food.” 8 And Joseph recognized his brothers but they did not recognize him. 9 And Joseph remembered the dreams he had dreamed about them, and he said to them, “You are spies! To see the land’s nakedness you have come.” 10 And they said to him, “No, my

Joseph: Egyptian

= Metru nton =

Spies you [-are]

Interpreter: Hebrew

מרגילים אתם

Meraglim atem

Spies you [-are]

benei ish-echad nachnu kenim anachnu lo-hayu avadeycha meraglim. 12 Vayomer alehem lo ki-ervat ha’aretz batem li’ot. 13 Vayomeru shneyim asar avadeycha achim anachnu benei ish-echad be’eretz Kena’an veheinu hakaton et-avinu hayom veha’echad eynenu. 14 Vayomer alehem Yosef hu asherr dibarti alechem lemor meraglim atem. 15 Bezot tibachenu chei Par’oh im-tetz’u mizeh ki im-bevo achichem hakaton henah. 16 Shilechu mikem echad veyikach et-achichem ve’atem he’asru veyibachanu divreichem ha’emet itchem ve’im-lo chei Par’oh ki meraglim atem. 17 Vaye’esof otam el-mishmar shloshet ya-mim. 18 Vayomer alehem Yosef bayom hashlishi zot asu vicheyu et-ha’Elokim ani yare. 19 Im-kenim atem achichem echad labi, for your servants have come to buy food. 11 We are all the sons of one man. We are honest. Your servants would never be spies.” 12 He said to them, “No! For the land’s nakedness you have come to see.” 13 And they said, “Your twelve servants are brothers, we are the sons of one man in the land of Canaan, and, look, the youngest is now with our father, and one is no more.” 14 And Joseph said to them, “That’s just what I told you, you are spies. 15 In this shall you be tested—by Pharaoh! You shall not leave this place unless your youngest brother comes here. 16 Send one of you to bring your brother, and as for the rest of you, you will be detained, and your words will be tested as to whether the truth is with you, and if not, by Pharaoh, you must be spies!” 17 And he put them under guard for three days. 18 And Joseph said to them on the third day, “Do this and live, for I fear God. 19 If you are honest, let one of your brothers
ye’aser beveit mishmarkhem ve’atem lechu havi’u shever ra’avon bateychem. 20 Ve’et-achichem hakaton tavi’u elai veye’amenu divreichenem velo tamutu vaya’asu-chen. 21 Vayomeru ish el-achiv aval ashemim anachnu al-achinu ash-er ra’inu tzarat nafsho behitchanenoleineu velo shamanu al-ken ba’ah eleinu hatzarah hazot. 22 Vaya’an Re’uven otam lehu halo amarti aleichehem lemeror al-techet’u vay-eled velo shematem vegam-damo hineh nidrash. 23 Vehem lo yad’u ki shomea Yosef ki hamelitz'eyneyhem. 24 Vayisov me’aleym hem vayekshof alehim vayedaber alehem vayikach me’itam et-Shim’on vaye’esor oto le’eyneyhem.

25 Vayetzav Yosef vayemal’u et-kleyhem bar ulehashiv kaysheyhem ish el-sako velatet lahem tzadah ladarech vaya’as lahem ken. 26 Vayis’u et-shivram el-chamoreyhem vayelechu misham. 27 Vayiftach ha’eched et-sako latet mispo lachamoro bamalon vayar et-kaspo vekosha-hu befi amtahto. 28 Vayomer el-eched hushav karspi vekosha vey’taamchi vayetze libam vayehesheku ish el-achiv lemeror mah-zot asah Elohim lanu. 29 Vaya’avo’u el-Ya’akov avihem artzah Kena’an vayagidu lo et kol-hakorot otam lemor. 30 Diber ha’ish adonei ha’ret zitnu kashot vayiten otanu kimeraglim et-ha’ret zit. 31 Vanomer elav kemen anachnu lo hayineh meraglim. 32 Shneym-asar anachnu achim beney avinu ha’eched eynenu vekakaron hayom et-avimu be’ret Kena’an. 33 Vayomer eleyenu ha’ish adonei ha’ret bezot eda ki chenim atem achichem ha’eched hanichu iti ve’et-ra’avon bateychem kechu vayelechu. 34 Vehavi’u et-achichem hakaton elay ve’evede’ah ki lo meraglim atem kienim atem et-achichem eten lachem ve’et-ha’aretz tischaru. 35 Vayehi hem merikim sakeyhem vekosha-ish tzor-kaspo besako vayir’u et-tzerorot kaysheyhem hemah va’avihem vayira’u. 36 Vayomer alehem Ya’akov avihem oti shikaltet Yosef eynenu veShim’on eynenu ve’et-Binyamin tikachu alai hayu khulanah. 37 Vayomer Re’uven el-aviv lemeror et-shnei vanai tamit im-lo avi’enu eleycha tnah oto al-yadi va’ani ashivenu eleycha. 38 Vayomer lo-yered beni imachem ki-be detained in this very guardhouse, and the rest of you go forth and bring back provisions to stave off the famine in your homes. 20 And your youngest brother you shall bring to me, that your words may be confirmed and you need not die.” And so they did. 21 And they said each to his brother, “Alas, we are guilty for our brother, whose mortal distress we saw when he pleaded with us and we did not listen. That is why this distress has overtaken us.” 22 Then Reuben spoke out to them in these words: “Didn’t I say to you, ‘Do not sin against the boy,’ and you would not listen? And now, look, his blood is requited.” 23 And they did not know that Joseph understood, for there was an interpreter between them. 24 And he turned away from them and wept and returned to them and spoke to them, and he took Simeon from them and placed him in fetters before their eyes.
43:1 And the famine grew grave in the land. 2 And it happened when they had eaten up the provisions they had brought from Egypt, that their father said to them, “Go back, buy us some food.” 3 And Judah said to him, saying, “The man firmly warned us, saying, ‘You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you.’” 4 If you are going to send our brother with us, we may go down and buy you food, 5 but if you are not going to send him, we will not go down, for the man said to us, “You shall not see my face unless your brother is with you.” 6 And Israel said, “Why have you done me this harm to tell the man you had another brother?” 7 And they said, “The man firmly asked us about ourselves and our kindred, saying, ‘Is your father still living? Do you have a brother?’” 8 And Judah said to Israel his father, “Send the lad with me, and let us rise and go, that we may live and not die, neither we, nor you, nor our little ones. 9 I will be his pledge, from my hand you may seek him: if I do not bring him to you and set him before you, I will bear the blame to you for all time. 10 For had we not tarried, by now we could have come back twice.” 11 And Israel their father said to them, “If it must be so, do this: take of the best yield of the land in your baggage and bring down to the man as tribute, some balm and some honey, gum and ladanum, pistachio nuts and almonds. 12 And double the silver take in your hand, and the silver that was put back in the mouths of your bags bring back in your hand. Perhaps it was a mistake. 13 And your brother take, and rise and go back to the man. 14 And may El Shaddai grant you mercy before the man, that he discharge to you your other brother, and Benjamin. As for me, if I must be bereaved, I will be bereaved.”

15 And the men took this tribute and double the silver they took in their hand, and Benjamin, and they rose and went down to Egypt and stood in Joseph’s presence. 16 And Joseph saw Benjamin with them and he said to the one who was over his house, “Bring the men into the house, and slaughter an an imal and prepare it, for with me the men shall eat at noon.” 17 And the man did as Joseph had said, and the man brought the men to Joseph’s house. 18 And the men were afraid at being brought to Joseph’s house, and they said, “Because of the silver put back in our bags the first time we’ve been brought, in order to fall upon us, to attack us, and to take us as slaves, and our donkeys.” 19 And way you are going, you would bring down my gray head in sorrow to Sheol.”
they approached the man who was over Joseph’s house, and they spoke to him by the entrance of the house. 20 And they said, “Please, my lord, we indeed came down the first time to buy food, 21 and it happened when we came to the encampment that we opened our bags and, look, each man’s silver was in the mouth of his bag, our silver in full weight, and we have brought it back in our hand, 22 and we have brought down more silver to buy food. We do not know who put our silver in our bags.” 23 And he said, “All is well with you, do not fear. Your God and the God of your father has placed treasure for you in your bags. Your silver has come to me.” And he brought Simeon out to them. 24 And the man brought the men into Joseph’s house, and he gave them water and they bathed their feet, and he gave provender to their donkeys. 25 And they prepared the tribute against Joseph’s arrival at noon, for they had heard that there they would eat bread. 26 And Joseph came into the house, and they brought him the tribute that was in their hand, into the house, and they bowed down to him to the ground. 27 And he asked how they were, and he said, “Is all well with your aged father of whom you spoke? Is he still alive?” 28 And they said, “All is well with your servant, our father. He is still alive,” and they did obeisance and bowed down. 29 And he raised his eyes and saw Benjamin his brother, his mother’s son, and he said, “Is this your youngest brother of whom you spoke to me?” And he said, “God be gracious to you, my son.” 30 And Joseph hurried out, for his feelings for his brother overwhelmed him and he wanted to weep, and he went into the chamber and wept there. 31 And he bathed his face and came out and held himself in check and said, “Serve bread.” 32 And they served him and them separately and the Egyptians that were eating with him separately, for the Egyptians would not eat bread with the Hebrews, as it was abhorrent to Egypt. 33 And they were seated before him, the firstborn according to his birthright, the youngest according to his youth, and the men marvelled to each other. 34 And he had portions passed to them from before him, and Benjamin’s portion was five times more than the portion of all the rest, and they drank, and they got drunk with him.

44:1 And he commanded the one who was over his house, saying, “Fill the men’s bags with as much food as they can carry, and put each man’s silver in the mouth of his bag. 2 And my goblet, the silver goblet, put in the mouth of the bag of the youngest, with the silver for his provis- ions.” And he did as Joseph had spoken. 3 The morning had just brightened when the men were sent off, they and their donkeys. 4 They had come out of the city, they were not far off, when Joseph