

## Isaac and Rebecca: Liberation through Love

Rachel Sharansky Danziger \* November 9<sup>th</sup> 2021\* Bereshit: The Birthplace of Human Relationships #6

### 1: The art of storytelling

#### Peter Guber, "Four Truths of the Storyteller" (From the December 2007 issue of The Business Harvard Review):

Every storyteller is in the expectations-management business and must take responsibility for leading listeners effectively through the story experience, incorporating both surprise and fulfillment. At the end of the story, listeners should think, "We never expected *that*—but somehow, it makes perfect sense." Thus, a great story is never fully predictable through foresight—but it's projectable through hindsight.

#### Nancy Lamb, *The Art and Craft of Storytelling*, 88-89:

Like Hansel and Gretel, even in the simplest story you must drop enough crumbs for the reader to follow so the ending is a logical outgrowth of the path you have traveled through the book... The ending of your story... needs to be the inescapable outcome of plot lines and promises you have set up throughout the book.

### 2: The first encounter

#### Genesis 24:61-67

(61) Then Rebekah and her maids arose, mounted the camels, and followed the man. So the servant took Rebekah and went his way.

(62) Isaac had just come back from the vicinity of Beer-lahai-roi, for he was settled in the region of the Negeb. (63) And Isaac went out walking in the field toward evening and, looking up, he saw camels approaching.

(64) Raising her eyes, Rebekah saw Isaac. She alighted from the camel (65) and said to the servant, "Who is that man walking in the field toward us?" And the servant said, "That is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself.

(66) The servant told Isaac all the things that he had done.

(67) Isaac then brought her into the tent of his mother Sarah, and he took Rebekah as his wife. Isaac loved her, and thus found comfort after his mother's death.

#### בראשית כ"ד:ס"א-ס"ז

(סא) וּתְלָקָם רִבְקָה וּנְעֻרֹתֶיהָ וַתִּרְכַּבְנָה עַל-  
הַגָּמְלִים וַתִּלְכְּנָה אַחֲרַי הָאִישׁ וַיִּקַּח הָעֶבֶד  
אֶת-רִבְקָה וַיֵּלֶךְ:

(סב) וַיִּצְחַק בְּכֹחַ מְבֹאֵה בְּאֶרֶץ לְחַי רֵאֵי וְהוּא  
יּוֹשֵׁב בְּאֶרֶץ הַנֶּגֶב: (סג) וַיֵּצֵא יִצְחָק לְשׂוּמ  
בְּשָׂדֵה לַפְּנֹת עָרֵב וַיִּשָּׂא עֵינָיו וַיִּרְא וְהִנֵּה  
גָּמְלִים בָּאִים:

(סד) וַתִּשָּׂא רִבְקָה אֶת-עֵינֶיהָ וַתִּרְא אֶת-יִצְחָק  
וַתִּפֹּל מֵעַל הַגָּמֶל: (סה) וַתִּנְאֶמֶר אֶל-הָעֶבֶד  
מִי-הָאִישׁ הַלֵּזֶה הַהֹלֵךְ בְּשָׂדֵה לְקִרְאֹתָנוּ  
וַיִּנְאֶמֶר הָעֶבֶד הוּא אֲדֹנָי וַתִּקַּח הַצְעִירָה וַתִּתְכַס:

(סו) וַיְסַפֵּר הָעֶבֶד לְיִצְחָק אֵת כָּל-הַדְּבָרִים  
אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה:

(סז) וַיְבִאֶהָ יִצְחָק הָאֵהָלָה שָׂרָה אִמּוֹ וַיִּקַּח  
אֶת-רִבְקָה וַתְּהִי-לּוֹ לְאִשָּׁה וַיֶּאֱהָבֶהָ וַיִּנְחַם  
יִצְחָק אַחֲרַי אִמּוֹ: (פ)

### 3: The well and the field

#### Genesis 16:6-15

(6) Abram said to Sarai, “Your maid is in your hands. Deal with her as you think right.” Then Sarai treated her harshly, and she ran away from her.

(7) An angel of the LORD found her by a spring of water in the wilderness, the spring on the road to Shur, (8) and said, “Hagar, slave of Sarai, where have you come from, and where are you going?” And she said, “I am running away from my mistress Sarai.” (9) And the angel of the LORD said to her, “Go back to your mistress, and submit to her harsh treatment.” (10) And the angel of the LORD said to her, “I will greatly increase your offspring, And they shall be too many to count.” (11) The angel of the LORD said to her further, “Behold, you are with child And shall bear a son; You shall call him Ishmael, For the LORD has paid heed to your suffering. (12) He shall be a wild ass of a man; His hand against everyone, And everyone’s hand against him; He shall dwell alongside of all his kinsmen.” (13) And she called the LORD who spoke to her, “You Are El-roi,” by which she meant, “Have I not gone on seeing after He saw me!” (14) Therefore the well was called Beer-lahai-roi; it is between Kadesh and Bered.— (15) Hagar bore a son to Abram, and Abram gave the son that Hagar bore him the name Ishmael.

#### Genesis 23:19-20

(19) And then Abraham buried his wife Sarah in the cave of the field of Machpelah, facing Mamre—now Hebron—in the land of Canaan. (20) Thus the field with its cave passed from the Hittites to Abraham, as a burial site.

#### בראשית ט"ז:ו-ט"ו

(ו) וַיֹּאמֶר אַבְרָם אֶל-שָׂרַי הִנֵּה שָׁפְחָתְךָ בְּיָדְךָ עֲשִׂי-לָהּ הַטּוֹב בְּעֵינֶיךָ וַתַּעֲנֶנּוּ שָׂרַי וַתִּבְרַח מִפְּנֵיהָ:  
(ז) וַיִּמְצָאֶהָ מִלְאָךְ יְהוָה עַל-עֵין הַמַּיִם בַּמִּדְבָּר עַל-הָעֵין בְּדֶרֶךְ שׁוּר: (ח) וַיֹּאמֶר הָגָר שָׁפְחַת שָׂרַי אֵי-מֵנָה בָאת וְאַנְהָ תִלְכִּי וַתֹּאמֶר מִפְּנֵי שָׂרַי גִּבְרַתִּי אֲנֹכִי בְרַחַת: (ט) וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מִלְאָךְ יְהוָה שׁוּבִי אֶל-גִּבְרַתְךָ וְהִתְעַנִּי תַחַת יְדֶיהָ:  
(י) וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מִלְאָךְ יְהוָה הֲרִבָּה אֲרֻבָּה אֶת-זֶרְעֶךָ וְלֹא יִסְפָּר מְרֹב: (יא) וַיֹּאמֶר לָהּ מִלְאָךְ יְהוָה הִנֵּה הָרָה וְיִלְדֶת בֵּן וְקָרָאת שְׁמוֹ יִשְׁמָעֵאל כִּי-שָׁמַע יְהוָה אֶל-עֲנִיָּה: (יב) וְהוּא יְהִי פְרָא אָדָם יָדוּ בְּכָל וָיָד כָּל בֶּן וְעַל-פָּנָי כָּל-אָחִיו יִשְׁכֹּן:  
(יג) וַתִּקְרָא שֵׁם-יְהוָה הַדִּבֶּר אֵלֶיהָ אַתָּה אֵל רֵאִי כִּי אָמְרָה הַגִּם הַלֵּם רֵאִיתִי אַחֲרַי רֵאִי: (יד) עַל-כֵּן קָרָא לְבָאָר בָּאָר לַחַי רֵאִי הִנֵּה בֵּין קָדֵשׁ וּבֵין בֶּרֶד: (טו) וַתֵּלֶד הָגָר לְאַבְרָם בֶּן וַיִּקְרָא אַבְרָם שֵׁם-בְּנֵוֹ אֲשֶׁר-יָלְדָהּ הָגָר יִשְׁמָעֵאל:

#### בראשית כ"ג:י"ט-כ"

(יט) וְאַחֲרֵי-כֵן קָבַר אַבְרָהָם אֶת-שָׂרָה אִשְׁתּוֹ אֶל-מְעֵרַת שְׂדֵה הַמַּכְפֵּלָה עַל-פְּנֵי מַמְרֵה הוּא חֶבְרוֹן בְּאֶרֶץ כְּנָעַן: (כ) וַיִּקְם הַשְּׂדֵה וְהַמְעָרָה אֲשֶׁר-בֵּוֹ לְאַבְרָהָם לְאַחֲזֵת-קֶבֶר מֵאֵת בְּנֵי-חֵת: (ס)

#### 4. Future wells and fields

##### Genesis 26:12-13

(12) Isaac sowed in that land and reaped a hundredfold the same year. The LORD blessed him, (13) and the man grew richer and richer until he was very wealthy:

(יב) ויזרע יצחק בארץ ההוא וימצא בשנה ההוא מאה שערים ויברכהו יהוה: (יג) ויגדל האיש ויגדל הלוח ויגדל עד כִּי־גָדַל מְאֹד:

##### בראשית כ"ו:י"ב-י"ג

##### Genesis 26:18-24

(18) Isaac dug anew the wells which had been dug in the days of his father Abraham and which the Philistines had stopped up after Abraham's death; and he gave them the same names that his father had given them.

(19) But when Isaac's servants, digging in the wadi, found there a well of spring water, (20) the herdsmen of Gerar quarreled with Isaac's herdsmen, saying, "The water is ours." He named that well Esek, because they contended with him.

(21) And when they dug another well, they disputed over that one also; so he named it Sitnah.

(22) He moved from there and dug yet another well, and they did not quarrel over it; so he called it Rehoboth, saying, "Now at last the LORD has granted us ample space to increase in the land."

(23) From there he went up to Beer-sheba.

(24) That night the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am the God of your father Abraham. Fear not, for I am with you, and I will bless you and increase your offspring for the sake of My servant Abraham."

##### בראשית כ"ו:י"ח-כ"ד

(יח) וישב יצחק ויחפר ואת־בְּאֵרֵת הַמַּיִם אֲשֶׁר חָפְרוּ בַיְמֵי אֲבֹתָם אָבִיו וַיִּסְתְּמוּם פְּלִשְׁתִּים אַחֲרָי מוֹת אֲבֹתָם וַיִּקְרָא לָהֶן שְׁמוֹת כַּשְׁמֹת אֲשֶׁר־קָרָא לָהֶן אָבִיו:

(יט) ויחפרו עבדי־יצחק בנגחל וימצאו־שם באר מים חיים: (כ) ויריבו רעי גֵרָר עם־רעי יצחק לאמר לנו המים ויקרא שם־הבאר עֶשֶׂק כִּי הִתְעַשְׁקוּ עִמּוֹ: (כא) ויחפרו באר אחרת ויריבו גם־עליה ויקרא שמה שִׁטְנָה: (כב) ויעתק משם ויחפר באר אחרת ולא רבו עליה ויקרא שמה רְחֹבוֹת ויאמר כִּי־עַתָּה הִרְחִיב יְהוָה לָנוּ ופָרְנוּ בְּאֶרֶץ: (כג) ויעל משם באר שָׁבַע:

(כד) וירא אליו יהוה בלילה ההוא ויאמר אנכי אלהי אברהם אביך אל־תִּירָא כִּי־אֲתָהּ אֲנֹכִי וּבְרַכְתִּיךָ וְהִרְבִּיתִי אֶת־זֶרְעךָ בְּעִבּוֹר אֲבֹתָם עַבְדִּי:

##### Genesis 25:27-28

(27) When the boys grew up, Esau became a skillful hunter, a man of the outdoors; but Jacob was a mild man who stayed in camp. (28) Isaac favored Esau because he had a taste for game; but Rebekah favored Jacob.

##### בראשית כ"ה:כ"ז-כ"ח

(כו) ויגדלו הנערים ויהי עשו איש ידע ציד איש שדה ויעקב איש תם ישב אהלים: (כח) ויאהב יצחק את־עשו כִּי־צִיד בָּפִיו וּרְבִקָּה אֲהָבָת אֶת־יעקב:

## 5: Camels

**Genesis 24:14-28**

(14) let the maiden to whom I say, ‘Please, lower your jar that I may drink,’ and who replies, ‘Drink, and I will also water your camels’—let her be the one whom You have decreed for Your servant Isaac. Thereby shall I know that You have dealt graciously with my master.”

(15) He had scarcely finished speaking, when Rebekah, who was born to Bethuel, the son of Milcah the wife of Abraham’s brother Nahor, came out with her jar on her shoulder...(17) The servant ran toward her and said, “Please, let me sip a little water from your jar.” (18) “Drink, my lord,” she said, and she quickly lowered her jar upon her hand and let him drink. (19) When she had let him drink his fill, she said, “I will also draw for your camels, until they finish drinking.” (20) Quickly emptying her jar into the trough, she ran back to the well to draw, and she drew for all his camels...

(22) When the camels had finished drinking, the man took a gold nose-ring weighing a half-shekel, and two gold bands for her arms, ten shekels in weight. (23) “Pray tell me,” he said, “whose daughter are you? Is there room in your father’s house for us to spend the night?” (24) She replied, “I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor.” (25) And she went on, “There is plenty of straw and feed at home, and also room to spend the night.”

(26) The man bowed low in homage to the LORD (27) and said, “Blessed be the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who has not withheld His steadfast faithfulness from my master. For I have been guided on my errand by the LORD, to the house of my master’s kinsmen.” (28) The maiden ran and told all this to her mother’s household.

**בראשית כ"ד:י"ד-כ"ח**

(יד) וְהָיָה הַנְּעֹרָ אֲשֶׁר אָמַר אֵלַיָּהָ הַטִּי-נָא כַדָּיָהּ וְאִשְׁתָּהּ וְאִמְרָהּ שְׂתֵהּ וְגַם-גִּמְלִיָּהּ אֲשַׁקֶּה אֹתָהּ הַכֹּחֶתְ לְעִבְדָּךָ. לְיִצְחָק וּבָהּ אֲדַע כִּי-עָשִׂיתָ חֶסֶד עִמָּי אֲדֹנָי.

(טו) וַיְהִי-הוּא טָרַם כֹּלָּה לְדַבֵּר וְהִנֵּה רִבְקָה יֹצֵאת אֲשֶׁר יִלְדָה לְבֵתוֹאֵל בִּן מִלְכָּה אִשְׁתּוֹ נְחוֹר אֶחָיו אֲבִרָהֶם וְכַדָּה עַל-שִׁכְמָהּ... (יז) וַיִּרְץ הָעֶבֶד לְקָרְאתָהּ וַיֹּאמֶר הַגִּמְלִיָּהּ נָא מֵעַט-מִיָּם מִכַּדָּהּ: (יח) וַתֹּאמֶר שְׂתֵה אֲדֹנָי וַתְּמַהֵר וַתִּרְד כַּדָּהּ עַל-יָדָהּ וַתִּשְׁקֶהוּ: (יט) וַתִּכַּל לְהִשְׁקֹתוֹ וַתֹּאמֶר גַּם לְגִמְלִיָּהּ אֲשַׁאֵב עַד אִם-כָּלוּ לְשִׁתָּתְךָ: (כ) וַתְּמַהֵר וַתַּעַר כַּדָּהּ אֶל-הַשִּׁקָּת וַתִּרְץ עוֹד אֶל-הַבְּאֵר לְשָׂאֵב וַתִּשְׁאֵב לְכָל-גִּמְלֵיו... (כב) וַיְהִי כַּאֲשֶׁר כָּלוּ הַגִּמְלִים לְשִׁתוֹת וַיִּקַּח הָאִישׁ גִּזָּם זָהָב בְּקַע מִשְׁקָלוֹ וּשְׁנַי צְמִידִים עַל-יָדָיָהּ עֲשָׂרָה זָהָב מִשְׁקָלָם: (כג) וַיֹּאמֶר בֶּת-מִי אַתְּ הַגִּידִי נָא לִי הֲיֵשׁ בֵּית-אָבִיךָ מְקוֹם לָנוּ לָלִי: (כד) וַתֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו בֵּת-בֵּתוֹאֵל אֲנֹכִי בֵּן מִלְכָּה אֲשֶׁר יִלְדָה לְנְחוֹר: (כה) וַתֹּאמֶר אֵלָיו גַּם-תָּבוֹן גַּם-מִסְפּוֹא רַב עִמָּנוּ גַּם-מְקוֹם לָלוֹן:

(כו) וַיִּקַּד הָאִישׁ וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ לַיהוָה: (כז) וַיֹּאמֶר בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲדֹנָי אֲבִרָהֶם אֲשֶׁר לֹא-עָזַב חֶסְדּוֹ וְאִמְתּוֹ מֵעַם אֲדֹנָי אֲנֹכִי בְּדַרְךְךָ נִחַנִּי יְהוָה בֵּית אֶחָיו אֲדֹנָי: (כח) וַתִּרְץ הַנְּעֹרָ וַתִּגַּד לְבֵית אִמָּהּ כַּדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה:

(כו) וַיִּקַּד הָאִישׁ וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ לַיהוָה: (כז) וַיֹּאמֶר בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֱלֹהֵי אֲדֹנָי אֲבִרָהֶם אֲשֶׁר לֹא-עָזַב חֶסְדּוֹ וְאִמְתּוֹ מֵעַם אֲדֹנָי אֲנֹכִי בְּדַרְךְךָ נִחַנִּי יְהוָה בֵּית אֶחָיו אֲדֹנָי: (כח) וַתִּרְץ הַנְּעֹרָ וַתִּגַּד לְבֵית אִמָּהּ כַּדְּבָרִים הָאֵלֶּה:

## 6: Abrahamic echoes

### Genesis 18:2-8

(2) Looking up, he saw three men standing near him. As soon as he saw them, he ran from the entrance of the tent to greet them and, bowing to the ground, (3) he said, “My lords, if it please you, do not go on past your servant. (4) Let a little water be brought; bathe your feet and recline under the tree. (5) And let me fetch a morsel of bread that you may refresh yourselves; then go on—seeing that you have come your servant’s way.” They replied, “Do as you have said.” (6) Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Quick, three seahs of choice flour! Knead and make cakes!” (7) Then Abraham ran to the herd, took a calf, tender and choice, and gave it to a servant-boy, who hastened to prepare it. (8) He took curds and milk and the calf that had been prepared and set these before them; and he waited on them under the tree as they ate.

### Genesis 24:57-60

(57) And they said, “Let us call the girl and ask for her reply.” (58) They called Rebekah and said to her, “Will you go with this man?” And she said, “I will.” (59) So they sent off their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham’s servant and his men. (60) And they blessed Rebekah and said to her, “O sister! May you grow Into thousands of myriads; May your offspring seize The gates of their foes.”

### Genesis 12:1

(1) The LORD said to Abram, “Go forth from your native land and from your father’s house to the land that I will show you.

### בראשית י"ח:ב-ח'

(ב) וַיִּשָּׂא עֵינָיו וַיֵּרָא וְהִנֵּה שְׁלֹשָׁה אַנְשִׁים נֹצְבִים עָלָיו וַיֵּרָא וַיִּרְץ לְקִרְאתָם מִפֶּתַח הָאֹהֶל וַיִּשְׁתַּחוּ אֲרָצָה: (ג) וַיֹּאמֶר אֲדֹנָי אִם-נָא מְצֹאתִי חֵן בְּעֵינֶיךָ אֵל-נָא תַעֲבֹר מֵעַל עַבְדְּךָ: (ד) יִקַּח-נָא מֵעֶט-מַיִם וְרָחֵצוּ רַגְלֵיכֶם וְהִשְׁעֲנוּ תַּחַת הָעֵץ: (ה) וְאָקַח פַּת-לֶחֶם וְסַעְדוּ לְבַבְכֶם אַחֲרַי תַעֲבֹרוּ כִי-עַל-כֵּן עֲבַרְתֶּם עַל-עַבְדְּכֶם וַיֹּאמְרוּ כֵּן תַעֲשֶׂה כַּאֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְתָּ: (ו) וַיִּמְהַר אַבְרָהָם הָאֹהֶל אֶל-שָׂרָה וַיֹּאמֶר מִהֵרָא שְׁלֵשׁ סָאִים קָמַח סֹלֶת לְוָשִׁי וְעֲשֵׂי עֲגוֹת: (ז) וְאֶל-הַבָּקָר רֵץ אַבְרָהָם וַיִּקַּח בֶּן-בָּקָר רֶדֶד וְטוֹב וַיִּתֵּן אֶל-הַנָּעַר וַיִּמְהַר לַעֲשׂוֹת אֹתוֹ: (ח) וַיִּקַּח חֲמָאָה וְחֵלֶב וּבֹן-הַבָּקָר אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה וַיִּתֵּן לַפְּנֵיהֶם וְהוּא-עֹמֵד עֲלֵיהֶם תַּחַת הָעֵץ וַיֹּאכְלוּ:

### בראשית כ"ד:נ"ז-ס'

(נז) וַיֹּאמְרוּ נִקְרָא לְנַעֲרָה וְנִשְׁאַלָהּ אֶת-פִּיהָ: (נח) וַיִּקְרְאוּ לְרֵבְקָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ אֵלֶיהָ הֲתִלְכִי עִם-הָאִישׁ הַזֶּה וְתֵאמֶר אֵלָיו: (נט) וַיִּשְׁלַחוּ אֶת-רֵבְקָה אַחֲתָם וְאֶת-מִנְקֻתָהּ וְאֶת-עַבְדַּי אַבְרָהָם וְאֶת-אֲנָשָׁיו: (ס) וַיְבָרְכוּ אֶת-רֵבְקָה וַיֹּאמְרוּ לָהּ אַחֲתָנוּ אַתְּ הִנֵּי לְאֵלֵינוּ רֵבְבָה וַיִּרְשׁ זְרַעֲךָ אֶת-שַׁעַר שַׁנְאֵינוּ:

### בראשית י"ב:א'

(א) וַיֹּאמֶר יְהוָה אֶל-אַבְרָם לֵךְ-לָךְ מֵאַרְצְךָ וּמִמְּוֹלַדְתְּךָ וּמִבֵּית אָבִיךָ אֶל-הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר אֲרָאָה:

## 7: Raising eyes

### Genesis 13:10

(10) Lot looked about him and saw how well watered was the whole plain of the Jordan, all of it—this was before the LORD had destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah—all the way to Zoar, like the garden of the LORD, like the land of Egypt.

### בראשית י"ג:

(י) וישאל לוט את עיניו וירא את כל כפר הירדן כי כלה משקה לפניו שחת יהוה את סדם ואת עמורה כגון יהוה כפארץ מצרים באכה צער:

### Genesis 18:2

(2) Looking up, he saw three men standing near him...

### בראשית י"ח:ב'

(ב) וישאל עיניו וירא והנה שלשה אנשים נצבים עליו...

### Genesis 22:4

(4) On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place from afar.

### בראשית כ"ב:ד'

(ד) ביום השלישי וישאל אברהם את עיניו וירא את המקום מרחוק:

### Genesis 22:13

(13) When Abraham looked up, his eye fell upon a ram, caught in the thicket by its horns. So Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering in place of his son.

### בראשית כ"ב:י"ג

(יג) וישאל אברהם את עיניו וירא והנה איל אחר נאטו בסבך בקרניו וילה אברהם ויקח את האיל ועלהו לעלה תחת בנו:

## 8: A missing type scene

### Genesis 29:10-13

(10) And when Jacob saw Rachel, the daughter of his uncle Laban, and the flock of his uncle Laban, Jacob went up and rolled the stone off the mouth of the well, and watered the flock of his uncle Laban. (11) Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and broke into tears. (12) Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's kinsman, that he was Rebekah's son; and she ran and told her father.

(13) On hearing the news of his sister's son Jacob, Laban ran to greet him; he embraced him and kissed him, and took him into his house. He told Laban all that had happened,

### בראשית כ"ט:י-י"ג

(י) ויהי כאשר ראה יעקב את רחל בת לבן אחתי אמו ואת צאן לבן אחתי אמו ויגש יעקב ויגל את האבן מעל פני הבאר וישק את צאן לבן אחתי אמו: (יא) וישק יעקב לרחל וישא את קלו ויבה: (יב) ויגד יעקב לרחל כי אחי אביה הוא וכי בורבקה הוא ותרוץ ותגד לאביה:

(יג) ויהי כשמע לבן את שמעו ויעקב בור אחתו וירץ לקראתו ויחבק לו וינשק לו ויביאהו אל ביתו ויספר ללבן את כל הדברים האלה:

### 9: A woman of many verbs

#### Genesis 27:5-15

(5) Rebekah had been listening as Isaac spoke to his son Esau. When Esau had gone out into the open to hunt game to bring home, (6) Rebekah said to her son Jacob, “I overheard your father speaking to your brother Esau, saying...(15) Rebekah then took the best clothes of her older son Esau, which were there in the house, and had her younger son Jacob put them on;

#### בראשית כ"ז:ה-ט"ו

(ה) וּרְבֵקָה שָׁמְעַת בְּדַבַּר יִצְחָק אֶל-עֵשָׂו בְּנֹו וַיֵּלֶךְ עֵשָׂו הַשְּׂדֵה לְצֹוד צֵיד לְהַבִּיא: (ו) וּרְבֵקָה אָמְרָה אֶל-יַעֲקֹב בְּנֶה לְאִמְרָה הִנֵּה שָׁמַעְתִּי אֶת-אָבִיךָ מְדַבֵּר אֶל-עֵשָׂו אָחִיךָ לְאִמְרָה... (טו) וַתִּקַּח רְבֵקָה אֶת-בְּגָדֵי עֵשָׂו בְּנֶה הַגָּדֹל הַחֲמֹדֹת אֲשֶׁר אָתָּה בַּבַּיִת וַתִּלְבַּשׁ אֶת-יַעֲקֹב בְּנֶה הַקָּטָן:

#### Genesis 25:34

(34) Jacob then gave Esau bread and lentil stew; he ate and drank, and he rose and went away. Thus did Esau spurn the birthright.

#### בראשית כ"ה:ל"ד

(לד) וַיַּעֲקֹב נָתַן לְעֵשָׂו לֶחֶם וּנְנִיד עֲדָשִׁים וַיֹּאכַל וַיִּשְׂתֶּה וַיִּקָּם וַיֵּלֶךְ וַיִּבֹז עֵשָׂו אֶת-הַבְּכֹרָה:

### 10: Love and Healing

#### Genesis 2:24

(24) Hence a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, so that they become one flesh.

#### בראשית ב':כ"ד

(כד) עַל-כֵּן יַעֲזֹב אִישׁ אֶת-אָבִיו וְאֶת-אִמּוֹ וְדָבַק בְּאִשְׁתּוֹ וְהֵיוּ לְבָשָׂר אֶחָד:

### 11: And yet

#### Genesis 27:46

(46) Rebekah said to Isaac, “I am disgusted with my life because of the Hittite women. If Jacob marries a Hittite woman like these, from among the native women, what good will life be to me?”

#### בראשית כ"ז:מ"ו

(מו) וַתֹּאמֶר רְבֵקָה אֶל-יִצְחָק קַצְתִּי בְּחַיֵּי מִפְּנֵי בָנוֹת חֵת אִם-לִקַּח יַעֲקֹב אִשָּׁה מִבְּנוֹת-חֵת כִּי־אֵלֶּה מִבְּנוֹת הָאָרֶץ לָמָּה לִּי חַיִּים:

#### Genesis 3:7

(7) Then the eyes of both of them were opened and they perceived that they were naked; and they sewed together fig leaves and made themselves loincloths.

#### בראשית ג':ז

(ז) וַתִּפְקַחְנָה עֵינֵי שְׁנֵיהֶם וַיֵּדְעוּ כִּי עֲרֻמִּם הֵם וַיִּתְּפְרוּ עֲלֵהָ תְּאֵנָה וַיַּעֲשׂוּ לָהֶם חִגְרֹת:

#### Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik, *Family Redeemed*, 21-22:

The I-awareness in Adam is totally incomprehensible to Eve, and vice-versa. Each of them has a secret which neither will ever betray. Man-*persona* and Woman-*persona* resemble each other and at the same time do not understand each other. She is *ezer ke-negdo*, his helper and his opponent at the same time.