

This Week in Kailua-Kona: Shalom Aleichem

We've gotten into a habit.
Every time Vance or I leaves home
one of us says, "Shalom Aleichem."
The other answers back, "Aleichem Shalom."

The Hebrew meanings are rich.

Shalom Aleichem means:
"May peace be upon you and bless you in our separateness."

Aleichem Shalom means:
"May our separateness peacefully come back together in oneness."

The Jews think of Shalom as singular, a unity;
Aleichem is plural, rooted in diversity.

Think Trinity:

Our God is both singular and plural.
We're made in that same image.
Shalom Aleichem is part of our spiritual DNA.



This theme of apart togetherness,
separate oneness,
is seen also in mothers and lovers.

Mother love starts with oneness and
leads to separateness.

Romantic love begins with separateness
and leads to oneness.

One comes before the other.
We separate from mother first.
Only then are we ready for romance.

Shalom means much more than peace.
It's a many layered word and implies:
safety, rest, prosperity, wholeness, welfare,
completion, fullness, soundness, and well-being.
As we walk in the Spirit, we experience Shalom.
—Jonathan Cahn, *The Book of Mysteries*

Aleichem implies multiple giftings, skills, and voices
singing in harmony. The Road we walk is broad
enough for each of us to be unique,
yet in need of each other.

I'm not better than you, nor you better than me.
When we walk in the Spirit, we are Aleichem.



