

# כַּרְפֵּס

## Karpas

As the Four Questions will soon point out, we dip twice in our seder. The two dippings are opposites. The first time, as we prepare to enter a world of slavery, we dip a green vegetable into saltwater, marring its life-giving freshness with the taste of tears and death. The second time, as we move towards redemption, we moderate the bitterness of maror with the sweetness of *charoset*.

Any time we find ourselves immersed in sadness and suffering, may we always have the courage to know that blessing is coming.

*Baruch Atah Adonai Eloheinu*      בָּרוּךְ אַתָּה ה' אֱלֹהֵינוּ מֶלֶךְ  
*Melech haOlam boreh pri ha'adamah.*      הָעוֹלָם בּוֹרֵא פְּרִי הָאֲדָמָה.

Blessed are You ETERNAL our God, Master of time and space,  
who creates the fruit of the earth.



**"Moon—Safe Harbor," by Margeaux Gray**  
11" x 11", Acrylic and mixed media, © 2015.

"During my enslavement, the moon was a constant in my life. Its light was a safe harbor in my darkness. It gave me hope. I would look at it and not feel alone. Something about its glow made me believe in the light of others. It allowed me to feel confident that not all humans would abuse and devalue me." Margeaux is a survivor of domestic child sex trafficking. Much of her artwork incorporates everyday items that other people might consider trash. This serves as a symbol that people whom our society might be ready to discard—among them people forced into human trafficking—remain creatures of value and beauty. Margeaux has transcended her experience as a trafficking victim, and today she is an advocate, motivational speaker, and artist.

Visit her website: [margeauxgray.com](http://margeauxgray.com)