



HIGH HOLIDAY RESOURCE GUIDE

About This Guide

The Jewish High Holidays are meant to be a radical time. Set against the backdrop of our mortality, these Days of Awe are designed to crack open our hearts, allowing us to address the pressing needs of our lives, communities and the world.

As you begin to plan for this thoughtful time of year, Reboot has curated offerings from our work that we feel capture the themes of this moment. From grief and loss to democracy and human rights, from Sarah and Hagar to Kol Nidre and Ashamnu, the interactive material is grounded in our collective Jewish stories and traditions while encompassing our shared universal themes. Like everything Reboot does, this material is designed to complement or supplement your High Holiday experience and spark meaningful conversations and actions.

We Have Highlighted These Themes Throughout the Guide

Renewal, Reflection, Repentance, Atonement, Earth, Grief, Loss, Transition, Ritual, Democracy, Antisemitism, Jewish safety, Racism, and more.

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10Q

The 10 days between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are customarily a time of **reflection**, and Reboot's 10Q provides a modern take on the tradition, emailing participants a new question every day for 10 days. Afterwards, you send your answers to the secure online vault. One year later, your answers are unlocked and returned and the process begins anew. Sign up to participate in the 10Q experience and explore the resource folder to find printable discussion cards, reflection journals, and a DIY toolkit to walk you through how to bring 10Q to your holiday.

- [Digital Platform](#)
- [10Q Resources](#)

Six-Word Memoirs on Jewish Life



Legend has it that Ernest Hemingway was once challenged to write a six-word story and came up with, "For Sale: baby shoes, never worn." Inspired by Hemingway's short, short story, SMITH Magazine, launched online in 2006, challenged readers and famous writers alike to submit the short stories of their lives, calling it the Six-Word Memoir®. For the High Holidays, Reboot has created several Six-Word Memoir prompts to help you reflect on the New Year.

- [Six-Word Memoirs on High Holidays](#)



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Just For Us: Discussion and Learning Guide

In 2023 Reboot Studios co-produced Alex Edelman's Broadway show **Just For Us**. The New York Times Critic's Pick was recorded live by HBO and is now streaming on MAX! To supplement this hilarious and powerful special, Reboot created a discussion and learning guide to help you dig deeper into the themes of the show. We have identified four topics that feature prominently in Just For Us: **Jewish humor, empathy, Jews and whiteness, and antisemitism and white nationalism**. For each subject, we have provided historical context and discussion questions to help guide a conversation or aid in your personal reflection.

- [Download the Just For Us Discussion and Learning Guide](#)
- [Watch Just For Us on MAX](#)



Tashlich

For nearly 15 years, Reboot has been reimagining Tashlich as "Tashlique." Hundreds of people gather on the beach in San Francisco to throw crumbs into the water and **release** the past year by writing the things they wish to leave behind in the wet sand and watching the waves erase them, all while being immersed in the sound of the shofar and the music of local musicians. While you may not be able to join us, no matter how you cast your "sins" away, you can use our roadmap to create your own **ritual** and **reflect** on the year you envision ahead.

- [Download the Tashlique DIY Toolkit](#)

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High Holidays Video Playlist

This playlist contains a selection of video highlights that include creative interpretations of the Torah Service, three variations on Kol Nidre and thought provoking meditations that touch on topics from Democracy, antisemitism, racism and choice to grief, loss, freedom and the future. These videos were created in partnership with Hillel International for Higher Holidays 2020.

- [Full High Holidays Playlist](#)

Navigating the High Holiday Playlist

Rosh Hashanah

- [A Hum at the Edge of Hearing - A Story for the New Year by Gayle Wald](#) A meditation on **atonement, racism, and the Earth**.
- [Sarah and Hagar and Gabriel and God by Starlee Kine and Friends](#) A comedic interpretation of Sarah and Hagar's relationship inspired by the **Torah portion** read on Rosh Hashanah.
- [Hannah's Prayer by Arielle Goldman](#) A monologue inspired by the **Haftorah** portion read on Rosh Hashanah.
- [Impersonation of Sins by Jordan Firstman](#) Satirical yet thoughtful take on **repentance**.

Kol Nidre

Traditionally, Kol Nidre is presented in three parts. Inspired by Reboot's commitment to the arts, each rendition is performed by leading voices of the theatre.

- [Kol Nidre by Adam Kantor](#) Broadway actor Adam Kantor (Company, The Band's Visit), the great-great-grandson of Rabbi Samuel Kantor, an Orthodox rabbi and a revered cantor, sings a heartfelt Kol Nidre in the **Ashkenazi** tradition, supported by Rak Shalom.
- [Kol Nidre by Sharone Sayegh](#) Broadway actress Sharone Sayegh (Come From Away, The Band's Visit) sings Kol Nidre in the Iraqi **Sephardic** tradition.
- [Kol Nidre by Danny Burstein](#) Broadway actor Danny Burstein (Moulin Rouge!) reads a **contemporary** interpretation of Kol Nidre in English, accompanied by cello and clarinet.

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Yom Kippur

- [Ashmanu by Rachel Fleit, sung by Cantor Jen Cohen](#) An **acrostic of sins** interpreted by Reboot's artists.
- [Separated: An American Tragedy by Jacob Soboroff \(NBC News and MSNBC correspondent\) and Brina Milikowsky \(political strategist\)](#) Discussion of family separation at the US-Mexico border, inspired by the idea of **scapegoats** introduced in the **Yom Kippur Haftorah portion**.
- [Forgiveness by Aaron Samuels](#) A visual poem from Aaron Samuels that invites the listener to reflect upon our shortcomings and enter a period of **repair, atonement, and forgiveness**.

Neilah

- [The Shema by Cantor Jen Cohen](#) Closing of the gates. **Closure to the holiday**.

Forgiveness

Forgiveness explores the **transitional spiritual space** that we enter on Kol Nidre when we move from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur as part of a larger transition from one year to the next. The visual poem invites the listener to question their own processes of **atonement** and **forgiveness**. Alongside the short film is a post-film talkback between the filmmaker, poet and Blavity co-founder Aaron Samuels and Mahogany L. Browne, executive director of Just Media and Poet-in-Residence at Lincoln Center. A downloadable educational guide provides discussion questions to accompany the film and talkback.

- [Watch Forgiveness](#)
- [Watch Reboot Ideas: Forgiveness with Aaron Samuels and Mahogany L. Brown](#)
- [Download Forgiveness Discussion Guide](#)

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Death Over Dinner: Jewish Edition

During the High Holidays, we reflect on life and death and those we have lost. We also think about who is not going to be with us next year. Talking about death is not easy and we're not used to it, but we believe that this conversation ultimately helps us appreciate the fullness of life. We have gathered rabbis, theologians, and medical leaders to transform this potentially difficult conversation into one of deep engagement, insight and empowerment that everyone can be a part of. Death Over Dinner is a meaningful addition to any Yom Kippur observance.

- [Death Over Dinner: Jewish Edition Website](#)
- [Resource Guide and Discussion Cards](#)



REBOOT IDEAS New Ideas for a New Year

Reboot Ideas hosts the critical conversations evolving the Jewish experience and transforming society. For 20 years, Reboot has been gathering and catalyzing some of the best and brightest change-agents for off-the-record conversations about Jewish identity and meaning, and we are now amplifying these vital ideas and bringing in wider perspectives to identify and carve new pathways for wandering Jews and the world we live in. Our latest entries to the Reboot Ideas series explore themes of **democracy, antisemitism, Jewish safety, and how to navigate our modern world.**

- [Watch Reboot Ideas Presents Five Years Since Charlottesville: Democracy At Stake](#)
- [Watch Reboot Ideas Presents Tech, Hate and Web 3.0 with our Technology Experts Laurie Segall and Aza Raskin](#)

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The Kitchen Radio Podcast

The Kitchen Radio podcast brings listeners to the table of communities from Iran, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia for intergenerational stories of **community life** and **ritual practices** from guests who are part of a rising renaissance of creative food projects exploring the oft-overlooked **Jewish history** and **heritage**. To accompany the podcast, Reboot has assembled a companion cookbook so that you can bring your favorite Kitchen Radio recipes to your holiday table.

- [Listen to Kitchen Radio](#)
- [Download the Companion Cookbook](#)



The Jewish Bizarre Podcast



Dig into bloody murders, Yom Kippur riots, anarchist parties and pseudoscience - everything you never learned in Hebrew school and that your Rabbi still doesn't want you to know. Dr. Eddy Portnoy, academic advisor for the Max Weinreich Center and exhibition curator at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, Dr. Tony Michels, professor of Jewish American History at UW Madison, and Jessica Chaffin, writer, comedian and host of the popular podcast Ask Ronna join up on the Jewish Bizarre Podcast to discuss the strangest corners of Jewish history. As you listen to The Jewish Bizarre, follow along in the resource guide to find definitions for key terms, photographs, newspaper clippings, artwork and other visual resources and links to further reading about each subject.

- [Listen to The Jewish Bizarre](#)
- [Download the Jewish Bizarre Resource Guide](#)



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About Reboot

Reboot is an arts and culture non-profit that reimagines and reinforces Jewish thought and traditions. As a premier research and development platform for the Jewish world, Reboot catalyzes its Network of preeminent creators, artists, entrepreneurs and activists to produce experiences and products that evolve the Jewish conversation and transform society.

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