

Yingl Tsingl Khvat

①

I have a ___ here to tell
To all my ___ you as well.
Hush, dear friends, be very ___
Hear my story, if you will.

There's a land that's quite ___,
Beyond the reach of ___ or ___;
Even traveling by ___
couldn't bring you there on course.

In this far-off land we find
A ___, and right through it winds
A ___, stretching like a string,
Thin and straight as anything.

Near the river, on each shore
Stand some ___, and, what's more
There are ___, a ___ too,
And a ___ in full view.

___ and ___ live like brothers,
Sharing, helping one another,
Always ___ to lend a hand—
All's well in this far-off land.

②

Then, it happened, one fine day,
That the ___ went away—
Well, now, what is there to ___?
Summer ___ every year!

___ comes before you know;
Covers everything with snow—
Houses, mountain, marketplace—
All entwined with frosty lace.

All about the world is ___
In its ___ of ___;
Just like this the valley stays
'Til Pesach comes—and ___er ___.

Peasants come from all around,
Driving ___ right into town.
Every sleigh is piled high
With ___ and ___, with ___ and rye.

Jews are running everywhere,
___ing here and ___ing there,
Faces shining as they say,
"What a splendid market day!"

③ Gangs of boys go ___ing by,
___ing, wheeling, as they fly
Over ___ as ___ and fair
As the sparkling winter air.

Other fellows race downhill,
___ing, flying, then they spill,
___ing, screaming as they go
'Til they land in banks of snow.

Children using all their might
___ up ___, big and white,
Stack them up as best they can,
Make themselves a fine ___

With a ___ and ___ and eyes.
And the snowman, good and wise,
Watches one boy rub his ___
And whisper, "Stay 'til spring this year."

④

___ this year, as it turned out,
Winter never came about.
It was ___ and ___ as pitch—
Just like living in a ditch!

How the ___ did fall and fall—
Winter wasn't there at all.
There wasn't any ___ to see—
Snow had simply ceased to be.

And the market turned to muck.
Take one step, and you'd get stuck.
Try to travel, if you please—
Streets oozed right up to your knees!

A peasant with his horse and cart
Tried to cross the ___-filled mart;
Cracked his whip, "I won't be stopped!"
Poor horse—pulled until it dropped.

Then, a coachman passing through
Got his wagon stuck there, too.
How he ranted, how he cursed!
But he sank down all the worse.

All the little ___ in school
Studied late, as was the rule.
But to cross the ___ at night
Gave them all an awful ___.

(To be continued...)