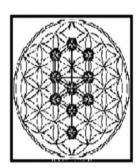
Sepher ha Zohar ("Book of Splendor")

Beresheet A ("Genesis" / "beginning")
(18) "The slingshot"



200. פָּתַוֹז רַבִּי שִּׂמְעוֹן וַאֲמֵר, עָּלָּאִין שְּׁמָעוֹ, תַּתָּאִין אָתְכַּנְּשוֹּ, אַכֵּין מָארֵי מְתִיבְתָּא דִּלְעַילָא וְתַתָּא. אַלִּיָהוֹ בְּאוֹמָאָה עְּלֶךְ, טוֹל רְשׁוּ וּנְּוֹזִית הָכָא, דְּהָא קְּרָבָא סַנִּיאָה אִוְּדַּמֵּן. וְזַנוֹךְ מְמֵנָּא נְּוֹזִית הָכָא, אַנְּתְּ, וְכָל מָארֵי מְתִיבְתָּא דִתְּוֹזֹת יְדָךְ, דְּלָא לִיקּרָא דִילִי עַבִּירְנָא, אֱלָא לִיקָּרָא דְשִׂכִינְּתָא.

200. Rabbi Shimon opened the discussion saying: Listen, all you celestial beings. Gather, all you earthly beings, the masters of the Yeshivah above and below. Elijah, upon an oath, ask permission from the Holy One, blessed be He, to come down here because a great battle awaits you. Come down, Enoch Metatron, you and all the masters of the Yeshivot under your supervision. I did not do this for my glory, but for the glory of the Shechinah.

201. פְּתֵּיוֹ כְּמִלְקְּדְּמִיּן, וַאֲמֵּר, וַּרְקָּא, וַדַּאי בְּמֵיחָךְ לְסַלְּקָא צְּלוֹתָא לְהַהֹּוּא אֲתַר יְדִיעַ, כְּמָר דְּהָיִרְאָ אֲתַר יְדִיעַ, הָבֵי צָּרִיךְ לְסַלְקָּא בַּוֹוְשַּׁבְּתֵּיה, כְּמָה דְּהָהִיא אַבְּנָא דְקִירְטָא, דְאִוֹּדְרִיקֹת לַאֲתַר יְדִיעַ, הָבֵי צָּרִיךְ לְסַלְקָּא בַּוֹוְשַׁבְּתִיה, בְּאָתְּמָר בְּה כְּל הַוֹּוֹקַף וֹוֹקַף בַּשַּׂם, בְּצְׁלוֹתֵיה בְּהָ כָּל הַוֹּוֹקֵף וֹוֹקַף בַּשַּׂם, דְצָרִיךְ לְסַלְקָּא לָה תַּמָּן.

201. RABBI SHIMON began again EXPLAINING ZARKA, MAKAF ETC., saying: Assuredly by the cantillation mark, Zarka, the prayer should be elevated to that known place, just as one aims the stone in a slingshot. JUST AS ONE AIMS THE STONE CAREFULLY, SO AS NOT TO MISS THE TARGET, so should thought be elevated with concentration on prayer to that crown, which is the decorated and all-inclusive stone. Of this STONE, THE FEMALE PRINCIPLE, it is said that one should stand upright with the mention of the Name.