

Tu BiShvat Tree Walk

Great Trees of Green-Wood Cemetery & Arboretum

ראה בני אדם נאין ואילנות נאין אומר ברוך שברא בריות נאות

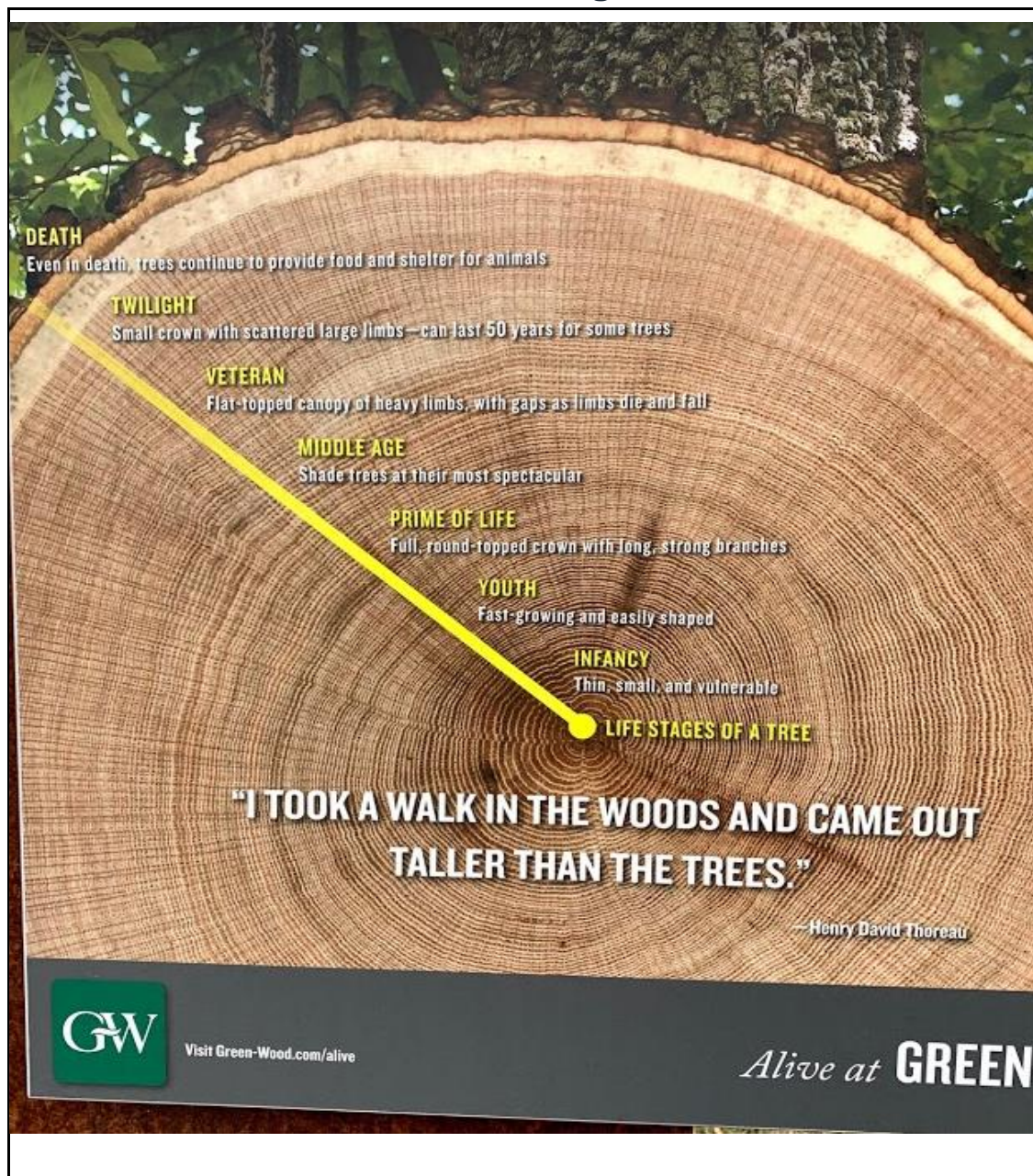
[A person] that sees beautiful people and beautiful trees says [the following Beracha (blessing):] Baruch [Ata Hashem Eloheinu Melech Haolam] [Mi Shekacha Lo] Beriot Naot (Blessed are You Hashem, our God, King of the world, Who has such beautiful creations [in God's world]). *Tosefta Berachot 6:7*

ברוך אתה יהוה אלהינו מלך העולם שככה לו בעולמו

Blessed are You, LORD, our God, Ruler of the Universe, who has such things in God's world

Baruch ata Adonai, Eloheinu melech ha-olam, she kacha loh b'olamo

Life Stages of a Person & Tree



Pirkei Avot 5:21

הוא הִיהָ אומר, בן חמש שנים
למקרא, בן עשר למשנה, בן
שלוש עשרה למצות, בן חמש
עשרה לתלמוד, בן שמונה עשרה
לחפה, בן עשרים לרדף, בן
שלושים לפח, בן ארבעים לבניה,
בן חמשים לעצה, בן ששים
לזקנה, בן שבעים לשיבה, בן
שמונים לגבורה, בן תשעים
לשוט, בן מאה כאלו מת ועבר
ובטל מן העולם:

He used to say: At five years of age the study of Scripture; At ten the study of Mishnah; At thirteen subject to the commandments; At fifteen the study of Talmud; At eighteen the bridal canopy; At twenty for pursuit [of livelihood]; At thirty the peak of strength; At forty wisdom; At fifty able to give counsel; At sixty old age; At seventy fullness of years; At eighty the age of "strength"; At ninety a bent body; At one hundred, as if dead and left the world

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Four Trees of our Walking Seder



The kabbalists mystical Tu BiShvat seder revolves around drinking four cups of wine, and eating different fruits with each, to represent the four levels or worlds of existence. Each world/level reflects a stage of our development and spiritual growth and is associated with a season. Likewise, our walk will take us to trees representing each physical and spiritual season. You can also use [Green-Wood's Tree Finder](#) and [Cemetery Map](#) to make your own self-guided walk. See this [Tu BiShvat Grows in Brooklyn Haggadah](#) for fuller explanations on the symbolism behind each seder/walk step.

אֶל־גֶּנֶת אֶגֶז וַיֵּרְדֹּתִי לִרְאוֹת בְּאֲבֵי הַנָּחַל לִרְאוֹת הַפְּרוּחָה הַיְּבֵנָה הַנִּצֹּץ הָרִמְנִים:

I went down into the garden of nuts, to look at the green plants of the valley, to see whether the vine budded,
and the pomegranates were in flower

לֹא יָדַעְתִּי בִפְשִׁי שְׂמֵתִנִּי מִרְכָּבוֹת עַמִּי־נָדִיב

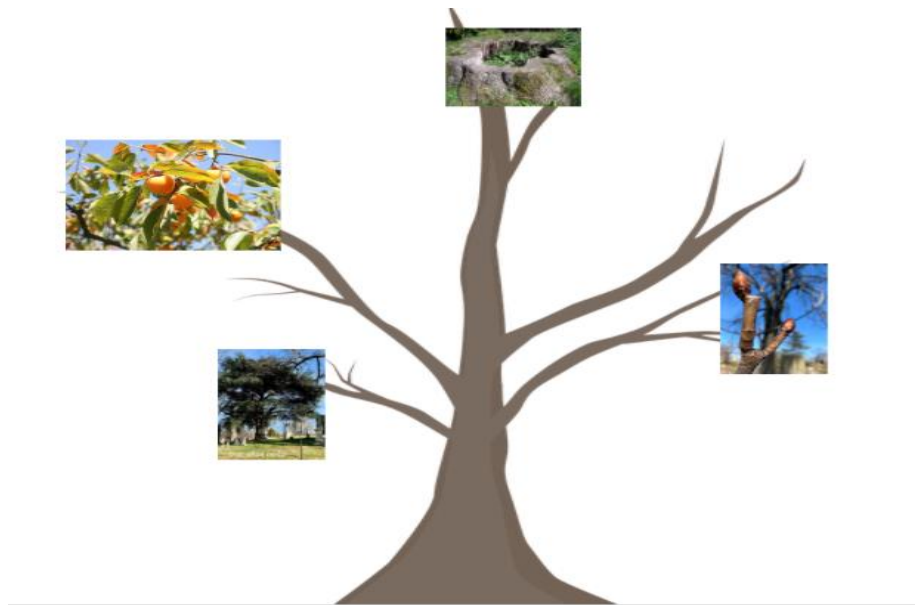
Before I knew it, My soul set me upon the chariots of princely/generous/open-hearted people [Song of Songs]

The first world is *Asiyah*, or Action, the physical world around us associated with Winter
We visit a Blue Atlas Cedar and Holly Tree

The second is *Yetsirah*, or Formation, the world of feelings and emotions associated with Spring
We visit budding Magnolias and European Horse Chestnut Trees

The third is *Beriyah*, or Creation, the world of intellect and the mind associated with Summer
We visit a Persimmon tree, whose fruit represents the soft inside and outside of this seder step

The fourth is *Atsilut*, or Emanation, the world of divine essence associated with Fall
We visit trees who that are regenerating and continuing the cycle of life onto a new generation, along with taking in some tremendous Tulip Trees, Oaks, and Ornamental varieties



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