On this day of great celebration and joy, on the twenty-seventh day of the month of Tishrei in the year five thousand seven hundred eighty-two, which corresponds to the third day of the month of October in the year two thousand twenty-one, in San Jose, California, in the presence of family and friends, the brides June Rosen Higginbotham and Mara Gene Berton entered into a mutual covenant as equal partners and said to each other, “I have found the one whom my soul loves. I dedicate myself to you, according to the ever-evolving laws of Moses and Israel.”

As we embark on life’s adventure, we promise to love, cherish, protect, encourage, and uplift one another. We will form a covenant of devotion, as Jonathan made a covenant with David because he loved him like his own soul; of love and companionship as Ruth said to Naomi, “wherever you go I will go, wherever you stay, I will stay, your people shall be my people, and your God my God.”

We vow to value and support each other, always striving to show sensitivity to each other’s needs. May we maintain the intimacy that fosters trust, honesty, and communication. We promise to navigate life together, celebrating joys with grace and facing adversities with strength. We will respect each other and the divine image within us. May we continue to grow together, maintaining the courage and determination to pursue our desired paths. We will love each other always, the people we are and the people we will become.

As life partners, we shall strive to create a home echoing with ancient and new melodies; a home which will be a link to the generations of the Jewish people; a home emanating joy, love, and acceptance; a home committed to repairing the world together. Through each other’s eyes, we see the world anew: may we be better together.

All of this is valid and binding.