

# Nothing Is Ever New

Lane Igoudin

They can be so charming  
Those anti-dash-Zionists  
Like young SS soldiers  
In pressed uniforms  
With breeze on their temples  
Marching lockstep and onwards  
With no room to question  
Right from wrong

We see them as people  
They see us as slogans  
They blame us for something  
We didn't create  
When we get assaulted  
Attacked at the shul gates  
It merits no notice  
Like water – no trace

In times so divided, uncertain, and lawless  
We feel like a fortress besieged within walls  
When friendships dissolve into glee that speaks volumes  
The void feels so strange  
The void seems so new to us  
But nothing is new  
As nothing is ever new  
To a Jew

And still we have hope  
A true cause to fight for  
And stand up wherever we can  
That's we've done  
Everywhere and always –  
Trust our faith and our hope  
Amidst chanting and taunting  
'Cause nothing is new  
As nothing is ever new  
To a Jew

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*Lane Igoudin has written extensively on Jewish mindfulness and spiritual growth for Applied Jewish Spirituality, Forward, and Jewish News. He is professor of English/ESL at Los Angeles City College.*