



## Chapter VIII: The Sack and the Wreckage

*The Travels of Reb Mendelovitch* is an experimental comix strip in the form of a scroll, describing the imaginary adventures of reb Mendelovitch in a chaotic, politically unstable world. The protagonist is based on Schneur Zalman, of Hebron, an orthodox artist, a HABAD rabbinical envoy who had traveled around the world, and the author's great-great-grandfather.

In the eighth installment (the Sack and the Wreckage), Mendelovitch arrives at the conquered city Herbon,\* to see it ransacked by the Queen's armies.

Column / David Duvshani June 15, 2021

### DUVSHAN4.jpg



Several days,  
And a few nights,  
Mendelovitch lingers  
On a mountaintop.  
He shaves his hair, he tosses and turns,  
Exhausted, the tedium is great.  
Under the mountain, another city  
Called Herbon.\*  
Part rocky land,  
Part burial ground,  
Its people slain  
By the marauding  
Troops of the Queen.

#### Chapter Eight: The Sack and the Wreckage

**Mendelovitch:** I walk in the city of death.  
Why was the city destroyed?

**Figure:** we are Queen's slaves!

**Mendelovitch:** Would she gorge on the tatters  
of her realm?

**Slaves' Blues:**

Regard that hostile land,  
Evil and stubborn,  
Behold the deeds of malicious hearts  
Wrecking everything, sparing nothing.  
One invents torments for gold,  
Another incites a thousand crimes,  
And all maliciously commit  
Theft  
Murder  
And much violence.

**Figure:** now we shall free the bonded!  
With cries and mayhem  
Herbon will revolt



In the quest for justice,  
But its voice is not heard.

**Soldier:** we shall undo what is banned!

**Mendelovitch:** Luviouvi? Are the great Gvirs here too?

From the devastation  
Mendelovitch dangles  
With his egg  
Into the Luviouvi's house  
Between shame  
And rebellion.

(\*) A transposition of **Hebron**, meaning, in Hebrew, that things have gone awry, with an allusion to defecating.

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