

4] I will put hooks through your jaws,  
and make the fish of your streams stick to your  
scales.

I will pull you up out of your River branches  
with all the fish of your River branches sticking to  
your scales.

5] I will throw you out into the wilderness—  
you and all the fish of your River branches.  
You shall fall on dry ground  
ungathered and unburied.

I have given you as food  
to the beasts of the earth and the birds of the sky.

6] Then all who dwell in Egypt shall know that I  
am the Eternal.

For you were a staff of reed to the House of  
Israel:

7] when they took hold of you, you splintered,  
cutting their palms;  
when they leaned on you, you broke,  
rattling all their bones.

8] Therefore, thus says the Eternal God:  
Behold, I will bring a sword upon you,  
and deprive you of people and beasts.

9] Because you thought:

“The River is mine, I made it,”

Egypt will be a desolation, a ruin,  
and they shall know that I am the Eternal!

10] Therefore, I am against you and your streams. I  
will make of the land of Egypt an utterly ruined  
desolation, from Migdol to Aswan, all the way to

4] וְנָתַתִּי חַחִיִּים בְּלַחְתֶּיךָ  
וְהִדְבַקְתִּי דְגַת יְאֲרֵיךָ בְּקַשְׁקֻשְׁתֶּיךָ  
וְהַעֲלִיתִיךָ מִתּוֹךְ יְאֲרֵיךָ  
וְאֵת כָּל-דְּגַת יְאֲרֵיךָ בְּקַשְׁקֻשְׁתֶּיךָ תִּדְבֹּק:  
5 וְנִטְשְׁתִּיךָ הַמִּדְבָּרָה  
אֹתְךָ וְאֵת כָּל-דְּגַת יְאֲרֵיךָ  
עַל-פְּנֵי הַשָּׂדֶה הַתְּפֹל  
לֹא תִאֶסֶף וְלֹא תִקְבֹּץ  
לְחַיַּת הָאָרֶץ וְלַעוֹף הַשָּׁמַיִם  
נִתְתִּיךָ לְאֹכְלָהּ:

6 וְיָדְעוּ כָּל-יֹשְׁבֵי מִצְרַיִם כִּי אֲנִי יְהוָה  
יַעַן הָיִיתֶם מְשַׁעֲנַת קִנְיָה לְבַיִת יִשְׂרָאֵל:

7 בְּתַפְשֶׁם בְּךָ בַכֶּפֶר בְּכַף תְּרוּץ  
וּבְקַעַת לָהֶם כָּל-כַּתֵּף  
וּבְהַשְׁעֲנֶם עָלֶיךָ תִשָּׁבֵר  
וְהַעֲמַדְתָּ לָהֶם כָּל-מִתְנָיִם:

8 לָכֵן כֹּה אָמַר אֲדֹנָי יְהוִה אֱלֹהֵימִי  
הַנִּנְי מֵבִיא עָלֶיךָ חֶרֶב  
וְהִכְרַתִּי מִמֶּךָ אָדָם וּבְהֵמָה:

9 וְהִיְתָה אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לְשִׁמְמָה וְחֶרֶבָה  
וְיָדְעוּ כִּי-אֲנִי יְהוָה  
יַעַן אָמַר

יְאֹר לִי וְאֲנִי עָשִׂיתִי:

10 לָכֵן הַנִּנְי אֵלֶיךָ וְאֶל-יְאֲרֵיךָ וְנָתַתִּי אֶת-  
אֶרֶץ מִצְרַיִם לְחֶרֶבוֹת חֶרֶב שִׁמְמָה מִמִּגְדֹּל

עַד אַסְוָן

יְאֹר לִי וְאֲנִי עָשִׂיתִי:

4] *Hooks through your jaws.* Crocodiles were  
hunted in this way.

*Fish.* Meaning the people and its army, who  
will share the fate of the crocodile (Pharaoh) when it  
is dragged out of the River.

5] *Unburied.* Reading תקבר (*tikkaver*) for תקבץ  
(*tikkavetz*), following the Targum.

6] *Staff of reed.* A sarcastic description; Israel had  
leaned upon Pharaoh with disastrous results.

7] *Cutting their palms.* Reading כף (*kaf*) instead of  
כתף (*katef*, shoulder), following the ancient Greek  
and Syriac versions of the text.

*Rattling all their bones.* Literally, making all  
their limbs shake. Reading מער (*maad*) instead of  
עמד (*amad*, stand), following the ancient Syriac  
version.

10] *Migdol.* A town or military installation in the  
delta area of the Nile.

*Aswan.* An old locale near today's dam.