Noach and the Giant Og

By Ari Ebstein

After G-d had made everything, the Light and the Seas
And the Land and the Grass and the Seeds and the Trees
And the Stars in the Sky, Fish that swim, Birds that fly,
He made people and allowed them to do as they please.

Now of course, being G-d, He desired for good,
That people should act like good people should,
“But they must decide how their lives they will use.”
And so G-d granted people the power to choose.

Now it didn’t take long, no, it happened so fast
That being good and being kind seemed but things of the past
People weren’t really nice, they would jostle and tussle,
They’d say, “This is mine, because *I* have more muscle!”

And the angels up high let out a big sigh,
“We’ll be better than the people on Earth!” was their cry.
G-d said, “It’s easy to be holy way up in the sky,
So go down to Earth and give choosing a try.”

The angels were named Shamchazzai and Azzael

And when they came from the heavens, they honestly fell!
They landed on earth with a BANG and a CRASH
And began wanting this thing, and that thing, and that!

They took and they grabbed, ate thousands of courses
For breakfast their children ate one thousand horses!
They broke every code, they were wild and rogue
Shamchazzai had a grandson, and his name was Og.

From the heavens, G-d sent a messenger down:
“The world is a mess, so soon it will drown.”
And Shamchazzai cried out, “How can this be?!
What will my children eat for their afternoon tea?”

Next G-d called to Noach, said build a big boat
For one-hundred-and-twenty years in a place not remote
So that giants and people would wander right by.
They laughed at old Noach. “This boat of yours! Why?”

When the laughter went quiet, old Noach would say,
“G-d’s bringing a flood. Change your ways, and pray!
This grabbing and taking G-d cannot sustain,
He’s decided it’s time to reset with a rain.”

You’d think they would listen. You’d think, but not so.

So G-d said to Noach, “It’s time, time to go.”
And the animals followed, by twos and by seven
Each step safely guided by their Maker in Heaven.

They huddled in rooms lit by a shimmering pearl
As outside the rain and the wind did whirl
And they dreamt of the peaceful, post-flooded world
As the caribou snored, and the sheep lay curled.

When suddenly they heard a KER-PLUNK and a CLOMP
The geese honked in a flurry, and the big ox stomped.
Noach lifted his head and poked it outside
And when he saw what he saw, his mouth opened wide…

On a rung of a ladder attached to the boat
Clung Og the Giant, barely afloat,
“Noach,” he shouted, “It’s awful, this weather!
If you help me, I promise – I’ll be your servant forever!”

The boat lurched! The storm water rumbled beneath.
The seas bellowed and boiled and bubbled with heat.
“Please,” begged Og, “I can’t even swim!
I’ll just hang on the side, you don’t have to let me in!”

The last of the giants, that proud, fearsome race
Tossed by the waves and pleading for grace,
Teetered, terrified, on that thin plank of wood
Needing someone not giant, not mighty, but *good*.

So Noach looked down at his long to-do list
With each animal's needs and their favorite dish
And he wrote a new item. What did it say?
"Make sure to feed Og at least once a day."

And so Og did survive forty days full of rain.
Noach opened a window and passed to him grain
The giant held on through the towering tide,
To the boat where the nice but small man lived inside.

This life-saving favor, did Og here deserve it?
To be kind to another, must somebody earn it?
Not every good deed must be measured or weighed.
Noach saw a scared giant and came to his aid.

When the flood was over, with a nudge they emerged
The deer and the goats, the cows and the birds
For there on the boat, only peace was the way
There had been no divide between predator, prey.

Even Og the enormous was forced to concede,

That kindness was greater than bigness indeed.

He didn’t survive for his strength or his size

But for Noach, who was righteous and whole in God’s eyes.