

Kol Nidre — Review, Release, and Restart
by Phil Straus

Section 1 (three verses)

I was not the best I could be.
I did not do the best I could do.
Perfect was a foolish goal.

I thought of others when I needed to think of myself.
I thought of me when others needed me.
Perfect is an impossible goal.

I didn't accept my own feelings as me.
I did not change what could be changed within me.
I have said I too many times.

Section 2 (two verses)

Today, I start again.
I open the door
to excellent non-perfection.
I know I will never completely leave,
completely leave
my traps.
I know I will have misguided thoughts.
I will improve,
knowing
I won't be as good
as I want to be.
I will try again.

Today, I start again.
I open the door
to excellent non-perfection.
I know I will again return to the same,
return to the same
bad feelings.
I know I will have misguided thoughts.
I will improve,
knowing
I won't be as good
as I want to be.
I will try again.

Section 3

I release myself.

I accept myself as imperfect.

Change regrets into stories.

Turn errors into lessons.

Smile gently at foolish efforts for perfection.

In spite of knowing the best is impossible,

I will do my best.

Do my best.