

- 01 – A Loaf of Bread – 25:19
- 02 – Summer Night – 27:57
- 03 – Dead – 34:27
- 04 – Commandment – 24:41
- 05 – At Night, part 1 – 35:11
- 06 – At Night, part 2 – 22:25
- 07 – Wanderings, part 1 – 32:12
- 08 – Wanderings, part 2 – 20:53



Brenner

Out of a Gloomy Valley  
by Yosef Haim Brenner

מעמק עכור  
יוסף חיים ברנר

מעמק עכור

This recording is in Hebrew.  
Read by Omri Lernau

Total running time 3:45:05

Yosef Haim Brenner (1881-1921) was a Ukrainian-born Hebrew-language author, one of the pioneers of modern Hebrew literature. Born to a poor family, Brenner grew up in grinding poverty. Brenner immigrated to Palestine (then part of the Ottoman Empire) in 1909. He worked as a farmer, eager to put his Zionist ideology into practice. Later he devoted himself to literature and teaching at the Gymnasia Herzliya in Tel Aviv. He was murdered in southern Tel Aviv in May 1921 in the course of the anti-Jewish Arab riots known as the "massacres of 1921". Brenner was very much an "experimental" writer, both in his use of language and in literary form. With Modern Hebrew still in its infancy, Brenner improvised with an intriguing mixture of Hebrew, Aramaic, Yiddish, English and Arabic. In his attempt to portray life realistically, his work is full of emotive punctuation and ellipses. Out Of A Gloomy Valley was his first book published in Warsaw 1900. It is a collection of 6 short stories about Jewish life in the diaspora.

Cover image: *Son of the Ancient People* by Jozef Israels, c. 1898. CD cover design by LA Walden.

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Out of a Gloomy Valley

יוסף חיים ברנר