יעקב on his way from באר שבע to חרן) פדן ארם (חרן)

At the end of יעקב tells her son רבקה, פרשת תולדות that his brother לבן plots to kills him. Therefore he needs to flee from עשו to מדן ארם (חרן) where his uncle לבן lives, and stay there until עשו calms down. יעקב gives יעקב a blessing and sends him to פדן ארם to find a wife that is related to their family. It's probably the first time a tent dweller, leaves home for such a journey. He has never been to פדן ארם and travelling alone is not so common. He doesn't know what might happen on his journey.

Image **YOU** are יעקב who writes a diary. You would like to share your thoughts about your upcoming journey with your diary. What would you write there?

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DA Humash
Character Development and Elaboration
Examples of Descriptive Writing

Dear diary,

Yesterday I left Be'er Sheva on my way to Haran to meet my uncle Lavan. This is my first time being away from my home, away from my parents. How long would it take me to get there? I don't know. Maybe 3 weeks?! I took some food and water with me.

OK. I will stop here.

Yours,

Yaakov

Dear diary,

I think I can trust you by sharing with you some of my thoughts and feelings. The last few days have been very difficult for me. Walking from Be'er Sheva to Haran is quite a journey. I am not a hiker. It's 105 degrees now in the middle of this humid day and I just decided to take a short break. Sweaty, tired and very lonely, I am sitting by the old Tamarix tree. Around me, barren yellow brown hills have very few bushes. I wonder how it would look like in Haran, my destination. The water in my canteen is boiling hot and drinking doesn't refresh me at all. I am thirsty. My feet hurt and I feel the pebbles that are stuck in my sandals. I can hear soft music of a shepherd's flute from a far. I wish I could be with my sheep in Beer Sheva, my hometown instead of in this desolate place. I already miss my parents. They both took care of me so well. Now, who knows when I will be able to see them again? I can't believe what mom told me. Really? Esav, my twin brother wants to kill me? Just because I got the blessing from dad? I am the one who deserves to be the next leader. Will I be able to become this leader? There is a warm, pleasant breeze coming up from the east. Is it a sign from G-d that he is still with me? I am afraid that G-d doesn't want me leaving the Land of Canaan, the Holy Land.

The sun is about to set so I am looking for a place to spend the night. There are no motels or inns here. I will probably just lie on the ground and try to have a good night sleep. I can hear sound of wolfs and tigers across the valley. I start shaking just thinking about the terrible things that might happen during the night. Am I safe here? I am too tired to look for a safer place to sleep and who knows how long it might take to reach an inn.

I hope to live to see the morning so I can "meet" with you again.

Laylah Tov,

Yaakov

