

The Story of Yankel

Posted by Menucha Vsimcha - 12 Mar 2021 04:29

I'd like to share about myself and years of the on and off struggling. Hopefully this will help me and I'm sure also others who can relate.

I'm not such a story teller, and I'm definitely not a good English writer, but it still will probably come out more detailed and more accurate if I write in third person.

Of course all comments and chizuk or criticism etc are very welcome and encouraging.

So here goes.

Part 1: Elementary school years

Little Yankel was a boy just like all other little boys, actually an exceptionally good boy who excelled in his elementary school, loved by all his rabbe'im, and from a beautiful family.

One of Yankel's earliest memories is his haschalas Chumash (in primary) where he was chosen to be the 'rebbe' for all his other classmates, standing by the very short shtender which the teacher had for this, saying "vos lernt min rabboisai...", as his parents and grandparents looked on with such nachas.

Yankel continued like this through school years, loving his learning, loving his rabbe'im, asking and answering the geshmake questions during class, getting over 100 on all his tests, being involved in extra learning both at home and in school, etc etc. (some times getting in trouble for not being respectful to the English teachers, typical for such a boy)

However, together with Yankel's vibrance for learning and love for it, together with his gebentched kishronos and personality, along came an extra strong burning taiva, the start of a life long private fight.

Already at age ten or eleven he was drawn to listen to any conversation which the popular boys were having about what the word sex means. Yankel would get a hold of dictionaries and encyclopaedias, checking out any words to do with the topic, would read through the 'reproduction' parts of encyclopaedia to read about the female organs etc etc, looking though clean pregnancy books found under the sink cabinet if his parents bedroom hoping to find some paragraph or drawing of a drop of the female private spots.

Yankel's father, a very choshov Youngerman, realised right away all this, and had that 'conversation' with yankel already at age 11 or 12, saying how hashem created men and women, that a husband and wife have sex (saying clearly exactly what that means, that the eiver gets excited and hard, ready to go into the female etc) and the female egg ovulates etc and that's how the world populates, etc. He told Yankel that it's our lifelong struggle to only

have this (kishui eiver and letting out zera) for our wives after marriage, and that it's no easy task, and that only By Yaakov avinu it is said ????? ???? showing that all of us struggle and strive to be like Yaakov avinu, but we shouldn't be down if we can't always win.

Yankels Father added the detail of Yosef hatzadiks nisayon, explaining that he was able to win by seeing the demus of his father Yaakov. Out of humility, yankels father told yankel 'my demus may not be holy enough, so if a strong taiva comes think if the demus of MY father - zeidy!'

Very soon yankel was trying out all of the above, making his eiver hard letting out the zera in all sorts of interesting ways, sitting in the bathroom for hours. This was all at age twelve or earlier. (It's unclear if the fathers conversation gave any 'ideas' and started him off earlier, which may be the case, but either way he had already had this extra interest in anything to do with sex before the convo, so lichora he would've started all that stuff very soon).

This strong taiva would get stronger by the day, shabbos afternoons after reading or learning, he would fantasise about his older sisters friends for hours touching his eiver. Although yankel shared a room with his brother, it did not stop him from trying out all sorts of stuff with his eiver under his covers all the time, letting out zera in all different ways.

He knew this was all bad and already at that age he would read an English Sefer about kedusha topics, to try to help him learn about the severity of the sin and the maalohs of Shmiras Einayim and of overcoming the taiva etc. Obviously this didn't help for too long.

Being that yankel was the bright good boy of his class, along with his extra taiva, he was the go to boy if anyone wanted to know exactly what it says in this and this Sefer about zera or bi'ah or anything of the like. He had all the info clear in his mind.

Already before bar mitzvah, he had some crazy stories. There was an incident where he pulled down a neighbour young girl's underwear for a sec (getting called over later by yankels mother trying to figure out if and what happened). the same happened with a young sister. He even recalls pulling down a younger brothers underwear, putting his hard eiver against the buttocks, then pleading with the little boy not to tell tatty and mommy.

Again, his good parents were well (or at least somewhat) aware of the matzav and quickly reached out to professionals. They were told to take him to a top psychologist in Manhattan. Now, Being that yankel was from a large family with many young children, and old time simple kollel parents, it was a big deal that he went himself just him and his two parents, like every week, to the city and back, sometimes eating lunch at a seemingly fancy restaurant (on Yankel's standards) and sometimes going in a rented car (as the old family car must've not been capable of the smooth drive there and back). The parents also knew that it was an uncomfortable thing they were telling their son to do, so they made it extra nice each time. (The rest of the siblings did get jealous thinking yankels having the time of his life going on few hour trips just him with both parents, and Yankel's parents had to do something nice for them as well

which they lovingly did!)

So this top older known doc (not living anymore), met Yankel's parents and then yankel privately, and explained to him how boys look at females as objects and was trying to explain ways to look at them differently. As said, yankel was a great student, showed lots of interest in what the doc had to say, the doc was impressed by the fact that young 12 year old yankel was trying to work on himself. Yankel and his parents went in for a few sessions (once a week or so) and that was that.

Now, believe it or not lol, even after this young boy had already graduated the therapist meetings, the struggle was only starting.

Again during all this, yankel was a growing boy in all parts of his Aliya, his report-cards would be sent home with almost all subjects ?????? (except for lateness or the type), with beautiful notes on the back written by the rebbi and menahel, saying how much yankel adds to the classes and how he's growing so nicely.

His bar mitzva was one of the last of his peers (as he was 'skipped' due to his kishron etc, yes in those days it WAS heard of to skip, it was hard to adjust to the new class but that's what the menahel suggested for certain reasons), being that the Class was older by now it was extra lively. He wasn't the popular boy, wasn't the one good at sports neither the most confident, but he was a very 'good' kid and pretty normal so he was liked by all for that. He aslo leined the whole parsha, had learnt through his whole pshetel with his father and said it over beautifully, etc.

As you can guess, he was accepted to the top mesivta (Although he was the only bachur that came to his farher without a hat and jacket as he was still not barmitzva then), and would soon start knocking even further in his learning etc etc. And so did his lonely fight only continue...

To be continued - 'mesivta years.'

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by HappyYid - 16 Mar 2021 00:35

Keep them coming Menucha Vsimcha!

I feel like the next time you come to your thread and see all this talk about your post you may feel bad and have second thoughts about continuing...

Just saying I personally really look forward to reading all the next chapters.

Thank you!

HappyYid

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by Rebuild613 - 16 Mar 2021 00:41

Deleted

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by Menucha Vsimcha - 16 Mar 2021 02:37

Hi all!

Thanks everyone for reading and for showing so much interest in the story (??? ??????!)

Regarding the shaila at stake, I can't see a te'eles in asking on the story thread if others find it triggering, as that's more like a question it it's own, meaning the questioner wants to know if others feel the same as him and lichora he should ask that in his own thread...

if the intent was that I should take something out then that would a pm request as there's probably no to'eles in discussing that publicly (thanks lion king, will edit bl'n).

I'd personably find it very hard to believe that someone would break his clean streak from reading such a post, and that only someone who's coming here just to read up (like I myself did over the years) and not dealing with recovery or with his clean streak or with forum posting, would find the explicitness triggering. As grant and markz said, explicitness and triggering are not the same. But that's just my own thoughts. Additionally I'd be curious to know, those that said it is triggering, what did it trigger you to do (obviously feel free not to answer, I'm just trying to clarify a point as did you really mean it's triggering or did you just mean it's more explicit than you'd expect).

i have a tzad to move this story to the Baal habatim forum, as anyways it'll probably be easier there if I get up to the recent married years. My sincerest apologies to yeshiva guy or shtark and emotional

either way I appreciate what someone mentioned about the open conversation my father had with me and I'd like to clarify something Before I begin part 2.

(Agav, I forgot to write That after the whole convo he lovingly told me that If I still have questions, Mommy is more then happy to talk about it as well, who may be able to explain and answer better).

When I was preparing writing part 2 about mesivta years, I realised I never felt that I was the only one doing this, on the contrary, I was convinced that all are dealing with the same, and therefore never felt depressed about it. I attribute this fully to my fathers open conversation with me. What I meant by 'lonely' struggle (which I would edit now and take that word out), I meant that I wouldn't open up to a rebbi and no rebbi would ask about it, which they definitely should, but I don't think I felt crazy or weird. (Actually maybe one of the reasons it took me so long to finally work on this woth all I've got is probably because I never felt too too crazy about it..)

When Ive had the opportunity to teach or tutor some Bochrin, if I see the boy is having a hard time, we always get into the conversation eventually, and they seem so happy someone agrees to talk

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by lionking - 16 Mar 2021 05:06

Thank you for your kind words and thoughtfulness. I personally didn't find it triggering or it causing me to do anything. I just felt it might border on being too explicit and sent you the PM before this whole discussion started because I was worried about this happening, about other people finding it leading them to think too much about it.

Over the years I haven't encountered a post that was too triggering (well except once when the discussion was so heated, I got all anxious and upset about the poster, and negative feelings are a huge trigger for me).

Keep on sharing

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by bego - 16 Mar 2021 14:04

Just throwing my own 2 cents in here.

I think I've seen a change on the board from a few years ago when it was about chizuk to now, where it's explicit. Not good. Not bad. Just what I've seen. I looked back at my very first post (a few years ago) and I actually wrote that I was trying to keep it clean because having been watching the site for a while, I saw that this was the way to do it. Things change. Websites evolve.

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by Ish MiGrodno - 17 Mar 2021 05:15

Chevra,

The "triggering conversation" is stale and leads us off course.

Politicians spend entire election cycles discussing how their opponents campaigned corruptly....and the issues are completely overlooked. Let's avoid that pitfall and address the issues at hand (e.g., provide chizuk to our peers via PM and phone calls, etc.) rather than endlessly agonize whether the process was executed exactly on par with our standards.

Fact remains that we all have done some pretty awful stuff, so a trigger here and there is a small price to pay. More importantly, we have endless options of posts that are not personally triggering.

MNVS is a sincere guy who has endured tremendous suffering; let's give him the pass that he deserves.

?IMG

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by Yehuda B - 17 Mar 2021 15:42

I love it how all the people who keep insisting that these stories are appropriate and helpful keep pushing back and constantly knock those who disagree. Many people on this forum think it's ridiculous and irresponsible to allow such stories to be posted on this site. We are not taking away from the experience of the author but simply have an opinion that posting such stories that have gone up on this site over the past few months, some only in the baal habatim forum, are inappropriate and counter productive for some. And no I'm not getting all excited and ending up in a situation I'll regret after reading about the sad tale of a young child. I'm just saying that when experiences are written in a detailed story format it can do more harm than good. A person can write about their experiences in a clear way without taking the reader into the actual experience itself, as a story can easily do. Whether you agree or disagree there's no reason why some people should write that these stories are all good and dandy and that anyone who thinks otherwise should just leave this site etc. All opinions on both sides of the fence should continue to be heard and people shouldn't feel so threatened about some of us disagreeing with their opinions.

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by Ish MiGrodno - 17 Mar 2021 20:19

R' Yehuda,

I truly respect your opinion.

My deepest apologies if you perceived my post as condescending or dismissive. Please forgive me for being too harsh.

With brotherhood from Grodno ~ IMG

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by Hakolhevel - 18 Mar 2021 00:31

[Yehuda B wrote on 17 Mar 2021 15:42:](#)

I love it how all the people who keep insisting that these stories are appropriate and helpful keep pushing back and constantly knock those who disagree. Many people on this forum think it's ridiculous and irresponsible to allow such stories to be posted on this site. We are not taking away from the experience of the author but simply have an opinion that posting such stories that have gone up on this site over the past few months, some only in the baal habatim forum, are inappropriate and counter productive for some. And no I'm not getting all excited and ending up in a situation I'll regret after reading about the sad tale of a young child. I'm just saying that when experiences are written in a detailed story format it can do more harm than good. A person can write about their experiences in a clear way without taking the reader into the actual experience itself, as a story can easily do. Whether you agree or disagree there's no reason why some people should write that these stories are all good and dandy and that anyone who thinks otherwise should just leave this site etc. All opinions on both sides of the fence should continue to be heard and people shouldn't feel so threatened about some of us disagreeing with their opinions.

Yehudah. I understand where you are coming from. The worry though is, just as cancel culture in the real world has stunted conversation, the worry is the same will happen here. If everytime someone posts something some people hop on and say it's triggering, it can stunt people from sharing and posting.

Can posts be written cleaner, should they? Maybe. I obviously have a opinion and so do you. Where is the truth? I dont know. I tend to agree with LK assertion in this case.

Would a possible resolution be something that used to be common place around here. People would give fair warning that the upcoming post may be triggering? Would that work?

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by Yehuda B - 18 Mar 2021 01:17

I guess if this forum would have clear cut rules about how people should go about voicing their concerns about certain threads it would solve the issue

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by Hakolhevel - 18 Mar 2021 01:23

[Yehuda B wrote on 18 Mar 2021 01:17:](#)

I guess if this forum would have clear cut rules about how people should go about voicing their concerns about certain threads it would solve the issue

Good idea. Can we get The.Gaurd to weigh in?

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by cordnoy - 18 Mar 2021 02:40

Just for the record, my personal policy is that there is no policy; the less rules, the better. Let people live; let them express their thoughts. Of course, people should be civil and talk with respect (and perhaps I have not lived up to that always, and for that I apologize), but people should be able to voice their opinions and concerns - to criticize and defend. What happens when there is a majority one way, and one or two are in the minority? That is a problem, for the one or two might be too squeamish to speak up, but again, if done civilly, it opens the door.

Regardin' language, one should not be vulgar, nor should he be crude or crass; bein' explicit can be problematic, and is not for everyone. There is a tight balancin' act there.

What is triggerin'? Good question. I'll tell you what triggers me. Some tzaddik below was talkin' about intimacy, and he quoted a Rav that "Sex does not start in the bedroom; it begins in the kitchen." That triggered me.

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by wilnevergiveup - 18 Mar 2021 06:12

[cordnoy wrote on 18 Mar 2021 02:40:](#)

What is triggerin'? Good question. I'll tell you what triggers me. Some tzaddik below was talkin' about intimacy, and he quoted a Rav that "Sex does not start in the bedroom; it begins in the kitchen." That triggered me.

He probably should have said something like the dishes or garbage instead of the kitchen...
. Unless he meant it, then poor choice of a Rav. Very funny.

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Re: The Story of Yankel

Posted by Ish MiGrodno - 18 Mar 2021 19:53

...I'll tell you what triggers me. Some tzaddik below was talkin' about intimacy, and he quoted a Rav that "Sex does not start in the bedroom; it begins in the kitchen." That triggered me.

Oy R' Cordnoy!

?I ??? was ??? not triggered by the aforementioned "kitchen post" until you were ????? that it is indeed and truly a major trigger...so in essence, your highly insensitive post created a ????? of the initial post.

(Alright, I'm just kiddin' - but I'm sure that the ??? gets the point; i.e., Let's not become a bunch of whining liberals / 'twould be nice if everyone would take some personal acharyus, etc.)

Bein' mean in Grodno ~ IMG

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