

It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 24 Nov 2022 19:25

Hi there all my anonymous friends!

I am on here for a while, most of the time just to sign in and update where I'm holding, but from time to time I do read around some posts on the forums, and I am really at a loss of words when I try to describe what I think about all of you. I'm simply awed into silence. You guys are all amazing, fighting the terrible urges, sometimes in such difficult circumstances, from complicated pasts, I stand humbled. I am so proud to at least be part of the same nation, even if I don't come close. Keep up the fight and may Hashem be with all of you and may you feel his closeness.

And now, Hi! I gave myself the name eerie because that's what I think about my situation. I am blissfully married to a really special person,(which, I learned from the posts on this site, is not to be taken for granted. It's something that so many of my dear friends here struggle with, their addictions creating issues in their marriage and the problems in their marriage further exacerbating their addictions) and we have a few wonderful kids. I really cannot imagine a better marriage, we respect each other, love each other, communicate beautifully, and my intimate life is wonderful. I believe my wife would say the same. I am a seriously respected member of my community, I am in a position of chinuch (and I think I do a pretty good job:)), so why oh why on earth am I here? What would the people think if they knew? Would I still have a wife? Would they let me talk to my kids? At that point would I even care about my job or my life's mission? I BH had a wonderful upbringing, loving and caring parents who are very proud of their "successful kli kodesh" son. What would they think if they knew? These thoughts were on my mind as I created my account and the feeling I had was "This is eerie. A mechanech. A talmid chacham. Sought after maggid shiur. This is totally eerie." So there you have it. It's all in the name.

A little about me. I think many of you would disagree but I don't think I'm addicted to P&M. I have normal urges like all healthy people. I have no smartphone (if you would only hear me speak about the downfalls), no computer at home. So where and when do/did I fall? I called a talk line by mistake, I was trying to reach a company. I was horrified. I hung up and told my wife about it. But, of course, my curiosity plus urge got me to call. This was probably 10+ years ago, called maybe 10 times total. Can't remember the last time I did that. Then my wife got a smartphone, and we blocked the browser entirely through parental controls, with each of us having half the code. Of course, when I was down I tried a few times and of course I figured out her half. Here and there I would go on really bad sites. Not long thereafter we got rid of that phone. That was also 10+ years ago/ But every once in a while I fall. I once found that one computer in the Yeshiva (!!!!) where I work had no filter. You read that right.. No filter, in the yeshiva computer! I would estimate that once in 2-3 months I went on really bad stuff there. One day I just realized that I need accountability, so I came to GYE. I know I have to answer to someone, I'm going to write it if I fall, and that helps me.

Now you might wonder, what am I writing this for? I am writing it first of all because I feel a kinship and I feel like it's "therapeutic" to tell my story someplace. Because even the people that I really trust, I can't tell them any of this. I sometimes wish there was an anonymous phone line where I could call and tell a Rav what I struggle with, to get it out of my system. When I was

bachur I was really close to my rebbeim, and I shared with them even my deepest secrets and struggles, I would tell my Rebbe if I M'd. BH I didn't struggle with that much, but I did do it a few times in my bachurische years, and my rebbe knew/knows about it. Maybe I'm weird that I shared that with my rebbe, but that's me. If I felt an attraction to a bachur I told him, and he understood me, always helped me, never judged me. There's no question that having such a person in my life changed me in unimaginable ways. Alas, I don't think I'll ever have the nerve to go to anyone and discuss my normal struggles and mistakes at this point. What would a rav or even my rebbe, whom I am still very close to 20+ years later, think if a person in my position came and said "I struggle with this. Once in a while I can fall into watching P." I can't do that, so I'm saying it here. I'm a healthy person with normal urges and desires and it can happen that I fall sometimes. I try to avoid unfiltered machines, when I'm at my parents' house I don't touch their devices, I told them to never let my kids touch their things and I warn my children to stay away, not even to look at Grandma's phone. But I know that every once in a while I'll find a device, and my urges, desires and curiosity (yes, I am still curious as to what some tags on some sites are supposed to mean. Curiosity is powerful.) can get the better of me. I joined GYE so I have to give an accounting, and I even had a fall since I joined, which I reported. I have a life's story, like everyone else, and here I shared some. Maybe some more another time.

But another reason I write this is because I look at what other people have written here, and I realize how small I am. I, the guy who sits up front at dinners, the guy whom you may have even heard at a dinner or some other place, I look at you in awe. Because I am not torn to shreds like some of you are, I have a happy marriage, and so many of you are working so hard to just keep the pieces in place. You are brutally honest with yourselves, and in spite of being in places I have only read about, doing things out there....in spite of that you are here, trying mightily to get only closer to Hashem, to be good, to be clean. I also struggle, but nowhere nearly as much as most of the people here. And I wish I could shake your hand and tell you how proud I am of you. I am so proud, and I know that I can't imagine how proud Hashem is. Keep it up!!! In this world I'm at the head table at the dinner, but believe me, at the se'udas livyason you guys will be up there, I hope I'll at least be in the crowd!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by Eerie - 24 May 2023 23:36

Hi, all my special friends and brothers, my family at GYE!

I have been planning for a while to write a nice piece here, but I simply can't find the time. It will have to wait. So, what's the occasion that I'm writing on my thread? Today is BH 275 clean from P and M, but that's not what I want to write about. I was just reading a bunch of threads, and I was so inspired. I thought about it a few minutes and I am blown away.

I am here for only a short while, having joined in July, but really only started visiting regularly and taking an active part since November. And I have seen so many special people come here, I've watched them start off, hesitating, wondering if they can do it, airing concerns, and then

slowly but surely they get the hang of it and they start soaring!!! Literally soaring!

The epiphany I had as I read through the threads, of Chaimoigen, of Yitz, of Eccentric
(), of SimchasTorah, lwillmanage, MY41,
and so many others, and seeing what truly special people they are! Such really special people!
I'm sitting here reading and I can't get over it, there are so many special people here! There are
so many that were here not so long ago that have BH reached a place where they are healthy
enough to move on(although it would have been nice to have them inspire some others). It is so
beautiful, I have no words. And to see the oilam supporting each other, helping, inspiring,
sharing advice, making each guy feel like a brother, it is so unbelievably beautiful I cannot
capture it in words. It is just amazing, to talk to some guys here, every guy I've ever spoken to
struck me as so special, as having such a good and positive interior, of wanting so badly to just
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to the beauty of the oilam here.

In my first post I said that when I read the things people here wrote I'm awed into silence. My
friends, I've come full circle.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by Grant400 - 25 May 2023 00:12

[Eerie wrote on 24 May 2023 23:36:](#)

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And much of it is thanks to you. You are an incredible chizuk around here! Everyone who is/was lucky enough to feel your care and concern has become better for it.

Please keep it up!

P.S. Can you please add your number of clean days next to your username? It gives chizzuk...

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by EccentricComposer - 25 May 2023 00:35

I feel so special that I give you chizzuk, thank you so much!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by chaimoigen - 25 May 2023 04:36

Eerie,

Your genuine encouragement and warmth has given me the koach to "buy in" here. Hope I can stay in and keep trucking as you say.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by chaimoigen - 25 May 2023 12:46

I have been reading the opening pages of your post. I relate to pretty much everything you wrote and many of your experiences. The fact that you are where you are today is a very powerful for me. Pretty much on the same page - want to be where you are in a year. Gut Yom Tov!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by Eerie - 25 May 2023 15:27

[Grant400 wrote on 25 May 2023 00:12:](#)

[Eerie wrote on 24 May 2023 23:36:](#)

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by Eerie - 25 May 2023 15:29

[chaimoigen wrote on 25 May 2023 12:46:](#)

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Reb Chaim, I have a very strong feeling that you will soon be way ahead of me! Your posts speak of a very articulate, thought out, caring person, and if you stick around here a little I'm sure I and many others will have much to gain.

Keep it up!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by Gevura Shebyesod - 25 May 2023 15:35

[Eerie wrote on 25 May 2023 15:27:](#)

[Grant400 wrote on 25 May 2023 00:12:](#)

[Eerie wrote on 24 May 2023 23:36:](#)

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Go to your name in the Wall of Honor and click on "Display Streak in Forum"

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by Eerie - 25 May 2023 19:27

When I go to the wall of honor it says to click here if I don't want my streak displayed. I can't figure this out.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by ChaimMod - 28 May 2023 18:52

[Eerie wrote on 25 May 2023 19:27:](#)

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Do you want the streak to show in the forum under your name or not to show?

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by Grant400 - 28 May 2023 20:54

[ChaimMod wrote on 28 May 2023 18:52:](#)

[Eerie wrote on 25 May 2023 19:27:](#)

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Do you want the streak to show in the forum under your name or not to show?

He wants it to show.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by true_self - 28 May 2023 21:13

[Eerie wrote on 25 May 2023 19:27:](#)

When I go to the wall of honor it says to click here if I don't want my streak displayed. I can't figure this out.

Just kidding, but this is how many of today's kids are...

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by true_self - 28 May 2023 21:18

[Grant400 wrote on 28 May 2023 20:54:](#)

[ChaimMod wrote on 28 May 2023 18:52:](#)

[Eerie wrote on 25 May 2023 19:27:](#)

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Grant I actually need your help.

I want to create a hyperlink (whatever its called) for my signature, like yours, but I couldn't figure out how to do it.

Many thanks

True self.

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by Grant400 - 28 May 2023 22:45

[true self wrote on 28 May 2023 21:18:](#)

[Grant400 wrote on 28 May 2023 20:54:](#)

[ChaimMod wrote on 28 May 2023 18:52:](#)

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Many thanks

True self.

Copy the URL (link) of the page you want, and when you open the page to edit you signature (or any post) on the top row, 4th to right box you will see an icon with a chain and a green plus sign. Select it and paste the URL.

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