

It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 24 Nov 2022 19:25

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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 likes 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 chaimoigen - 19 Jul 2023 12:48

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**Eerie, Eerie, Dabri Shir!**

**Encouragement and loving cheer,**

**A hand, a hug, a heart to touch -**

**Thank you, Tzadik, for so much.**

**Connection is the key to RISE,**

**There's no such tool as Guard Your Eyes.**

**You show us hope - how we can BE**

**Thank Hashem for YOU - Eerie!**

**A year ago a pathway shown**

**Mighty wings since then you've grown**

**Soaring higher, giving aid**

**Helping others find His shade.**

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by redfaced - 19 Jul 2023 14:33

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[chaimoigen wrote on 19 Jul 2023 12:48:](#)

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Seriously you gotta start posting some mumbo jumbo . If every post you write has to be saved  
youre making way to much pressure on us .

But I agree to the ??????. **Hiccup**

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by yitzchokm - 19 Jul 2023 15:52

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I am a fresh boarder and I read through your thread. Going back to your first post, thank you for

being our mechanech. I was greatly inspired by your thread and please keep on posting.

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by true\_self - 23 Jul 2023 11:31

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Dear Eerie!!! We love You!!!!!!!!!!

Nov was not only the start of YOUR new life, But also the start of MY and many others new life!!!

Thanks Eerie for always giving me life, hope & strength.

Always thinking of you!

Your friend

True self.

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by monseyid41 - 23 Jul 2023 15:09

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Hey Eerie, I've been really busy this past month and I haven't been on GYE much. Today I had a few minutes so I came on just to see what's doing and the first thing I bumped into was your poem from June 19.

WOW! How do I describe it? Beautiful? Touching? Meaningful? All of that sounds too trite to capture the essence of this poem. So I'll stop here and just tell you a few things: 1. Mazel Tov on this incredible milestone. 2. As others have mentioned, we're so happy you hit the submit button. It's all of us here who have gained so much from you this past year. 3. Keep on inspiring yourself and us. (And Keep on Trucking!).

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Re: It's all in the name

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Posted by Eerie - 25 Jul 2023 04:40

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Hi dear friends, friends who mean so much to me. There are a few things I wanted to share, but for now I'll just say one. I had the opportunity to shmooze with Heeling, and I was so blown away by his selflessness, by his putting his own needs and desires behind his wife's. I must say, he taught me so much. In every single day that we interact with our wives, I'm sure that there wants and plans and desires and schedules, and how often do I REALLY think to myself "my wife's need/desire/want/event etc is just as important as mine, and I should work on respecting her to the point that I should be mevater. I'm sorry to say that I'm not proud of my answer. But Heeling inspired me by sharing some of his story, and I began working on it. I have a long way

Takeaway: Respect your wife's desires! For real, they are just as important as yours, and your job is to be mevater

Takeaway # 2: there is so much to learn from every person here. And I second HHM's

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by Eerie - 15 Aug 2023 21:05

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to come, so I hope G-d will grant me many more years so I can get to the finish line before I go  
Travelling takes its toll. It lowers the strength we have to fight.

Having time with less structure is no good. Terrible, actually.

My friends, there is good news too. Vacation is almost over:)

And all of us should learn from our friend, Eccentric Composer, and have a battle plan before our next vacay

Keep trucking! Ah, my dear friends, it is wonderful to be here!

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by Heeling - 15 Aug 2023 21:24

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[Eerie wrote on 25 Jul 2023 04:40:](#)

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Takeaway: Respect your wife's desires! For real, they are just as important as yours, and your job is to be mevater

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nomination...

Humbling

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by Eerie - 16 Aug 2023 20:34

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Do we count a year based on the Jewish calendar? On the secular calendar? On the date, or

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the amount of days? T4, for those that know what that means....

Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by Heeling - 16 Aug 2023 20:42

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Mazel Tov to Eerie for reaching a clean Jewish calendar year + 5 days!!!!

Wow! that awesome!

(I dont know what T4 means...)

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by chaimoigen - 17 Aug 2023 05:10

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[Eerie wrote on 16 Aug 2023 20:34:](#)

Do we count a year based on the Jewish calendar? On the secular calendar? On the date, or



Mazal Tov, Heilige Chaver.

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keep climbing and soaring higher and higher and lifting everyone up along with you!!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by true\_self - 17 Aug 2023 14:12

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May you celebrate many more clean years together with us and continue to be mezakeh es horabim.

When you will come up to shomayim (don't like to think about it...) you will discover that in fact you have more clean years that you ever lived, These will be all those days that you helped others to defeat their yetzer hara.

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by Eerie - 18 Aug 2023 18:52

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[Heeling wrote on 16 Aug 2023 20:42:](#)

Mazel Tov to Eerie for reaching a clean Jewish calendar year + 5 days!!!!

Wow! that awesome!

(I dont know what T4 means...)

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Re: It's all in the name  
Posted by chaimoigen - 18 Aug 2023 21:09

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I know what T4 means, but have not managed to figure out why in the world T4 means that....

Either way, you Harav Eerie shlita, my heilige Yedid, should IMYH keep on towing us all all behind your shining, lit up, beautiful MONSTER TOWTRUCK!!!!

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It's hard to explain. Ask your local 6th grader...