

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 redfaced - 08 Jan 2024 00:09

[eerie wrote on 07 Jan 2024 22:20:](#)

The only reason you never heard me in a bad mood when we spoke is because I was talking to YOU!

Now I understand why you're always in a bad mood when you speak to me..

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 09 Jan 2024 18:16

[true_self wrote on 07 Jan 2024 18:50:](#)

I'll challenge you to come here to post what you feel/did next time you have a bad day, If you won't prove us we will continue having a hard time to believe you. I have a feeling that the bad

days are only on shabbos when we can't hear your voice

Ok, my friend True-self. I'm up for the challenge. I'm having a hard day and I'm in a bad mood. You can call me and cheer me up if you're feeling like you wanna be nice

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by cordnoy - 09 Jan 2024 19:44

[eerie wrote on 09 Jan 2024 18:16:](#)

[true_self wrote on 07 Jan 2024 18:50:](#)

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Too bad you weren't in the raffle; winnin' would've cheered you up.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 09 Jan 2024 20:46

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[true_self wrote on 07 Jan 2024 18:50:](#)

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Hey, TS, you missed your chance. Heeling and Hechochma already called and cheered me up. And Cordnoy post really made me laugh. Especially because I think YKW is gonna win and he's

Keep trucking, holy friends!

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Re: It's all in the name
gonna mail it to me
Posted by cordnoy - 09 Jan 2024 20:58

[eerie wrote on 09 Jan 2024 20:46:](#)
Yes, Hechochma, no whatevers....

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And perhaps Reb CO spoke to your wife and she told him why you are on GYE

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Nope; he didn't.

We had a couple guys on the call; strange that both of them had no tickets.

A newbie and an oldie.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 10 Jan 2024 18:19

Hi there friends and brothers. I'm on a roll here

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Actually, this happened a few days ago, I just found the time and presence of mind to share

I didn't dream about James. But I did have a dream that disturbed me. I dreamt that I was

Yes, Hechochma, no whatevers....

having an inappropriate encounter with a chavrusah of mine. One that I currently learn with. I'll skip the details so as not be triggering. The weird thing is that this is the second time I had this exact dream, about the same chavrusah. The first time was shortly after I began here, approximately a year ago.

Now, I know that dreams are meaningless. And it's not my subconscious mind thirsting for lust. First of all, I'm at 500+ days. Second of all, my marriage is pretty good. And no, I have never fantasized about having such an encounter with him. SSA is not one of challenges. But The dream brought two challenges, and I'd think that's exactly why it happened, to present me with a challenge

1- when I woke up, lets just say I was in a mood not conducive to kedusha. And I started remembering things that I've seen and heard, things I have not thought about in a long time. And I started fantasizing about them. BH I was able to catch myself quickly. I reminded myself that **NO WAY! I DON'T WANT THIS!** And I started to think about something else. Thank you Hashem for the challenge, and for the tools I learned here to overcome challenges

2-when I sat with my chavrusah that day, it took me a few minutes to stop thinking about my disgusting dream. I kept seeing him in that light. That bothered me. BH after a few minutes of learning I managed to focus on the gemara and not on the utter nonsense

So, True-self, are you beginning to believe me that I also have challenging days?

Dear friends, life is definitely filled with its challenges. That's the way it was meant to be. BH, by the grace of the Good L-rd I am where I am. Remember, the YH never sleeps. He got a job to test me with that a few days ago.(And plenty other tests in all areas of my life.) And thank you Hashem for GYE where I learned how to deal with these challenges, thank you Hashem for the friends that make a difference in my life and give me the strength to keep trucking!

Dear friends, thanks for listening, and special thanks to Heeling, Hechochma, Mevakesh for reaching out to cheer me up yesterday. Very appreciated

Keep smiling!

P.s. Cordnoy, I remember you wearing bar hedya's other hat somewhere on the forum, so if you

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by cande - 10 Jan 2024 20:00

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Dear friends, thanks for listening, and special thanks to Heeling, Hechochma, Mevakesh for reaching out to cheer me up yesterday. Very appreciated

Keep smiling!

P.s. Cordnoy, I remember you wearing bar hedya's other hat somewhere on the forum, so if you

have an interpretation to share...

hi rebbi!

now that you mastered and won over the women challenge,

he might be switching thing up and trying to get you on the SSA vibe.

just saying from my life roller coaster

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by yitzchokm - 10 Jan 2024 20:14

[eerie wrote on 10 Jan 2024 18:19:](#)

2-when I sat with my chavrusah that day, it took me a few minutes to stop thinking about my disgusting dream. I kept seeing him in that light. That bothered me. BH after a few minutes of learning I managed to focus on the gemara and not on the utter nonsense

I wouldn't be concerned. You probably read someone's post recently and dreamed about it at night. As you wrote, you don't have such challenges and it is utter nonsense. Continue focusing on your Gemara and you will be fine.

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by Hashem Help Me - 11 Jan 2024 01:05

Why wouldn't you do hatavas chalom? You don't have to tell the three guys the details of the dream.

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by true_self - 11 Jan 2024 12:28

[Hashem Help Me wrote on 11 Jan 2024 01:05:](#)

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Why make a big deal out of a stupid dream that has no significance? Why give it power?

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by cordnoy - 11 Jan 2024 15:04

[true_self wrote on 11 Jan 2024 12:28:](#)

[Hashem Help Me wrote on 11 Jan 2024 01:05:](#)

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Mr. True_Self seems to be turnin' a corner (at least imho - 'h' stands for haughty); I wonder if it's connected to his current matzav haruach.

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Posted by cande - 11 Jan 2024 19:20

[true_self wrote on 11 Jan 2024 12:28:](#)

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@true_love

i dreamt last night that i was having a sex encounter with my wife, do i give it power?

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With G-d on the steering wheel I will hopefully (imho - 'h' is for ~~hopeful~~).

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by true_self - 11 Jan 2024 20:22

[cande wrote on 11 Jan 2024 19:20:](#)

[true_self wrote on 11 Jan 2024 12:28:](#)

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@true_love

i dreamt last night that i was having a sex encounter with my wife, do i give it power?

What I'm about to write now is not with any attention to ridicule you.

You seem to be having a hard time understanding me (and maybe also cordnoy) in writing, I welcome you to reach out to me on the phone and I can try to explain what my point was to the best of my ability, I have a pretty flexible schedule.

If you want to be more courageous you can ask cordnoy if he's willing to give you from his time.

If I offended you I give you my sincere apologies.

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