

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 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 redfaced - 11 Jan 2024 21:13

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

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

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

@true_love

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

Can I ask you what you're trying to do? It looks weird, whatever it is.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by true_self - 11 Jan 2024 21:53

[redfaced wrote on 11 Jan 2024 21:13:](#)

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

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

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by redfaced - 11 Jan 2024 21:59

[true_self wrote on 11 Jan 2024 21:53:](#)

[redfaced wrote on 11 Jan 2024 21:13:](#)

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

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

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One would think there is a better way to say it.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by true_self - 11 Jan 2024 22:04

[eerie wrote on 11 Jan 2024 20:59:](#)

I believe HHM's point is that many a time people have dreams of different sorts, and even if on a logical level they know that dreams are meaningless, on an emotional level they are unnerved. I once had a longer time that I had to deal with someone who had a terrible dream, and the dream had a real effect for a long time. Reminding him that dreams are meaningless did very little to ease his tension. For that, the practice of hatavas Chalom can possibly help calm the nerves. (In my case I did something else) So it's not about giving it power, it's a way to help calm the nerves. And if I would be unnerved by the dream, I might be an idea. It just doesn't really apply here, because I happen to not be bothered by the dream or its meaning, it was the effect that the dream had, the lust it brought on, the thinking about it while sitting with my chavrusah that I was dealing with.

Reb Eerie, When I wrote that post I thought about what you told me about that person calling you with a *bahhaaallllaaaaahhh* that he had this crazy dream (If I got it right, that guy daydreams fantastic dreams lately), What you told me was that with his calling in all his reserves to fight his dream he actually gave it power! you said that we shouldn't give it any significance and just get on with life.

Talking about '*Hatavat Chalom*', I'm reminded that I had a *brisker maggid shiur* in *yeshivah ketanah* that used to be very busy with this ritual but it didn't seem to calm his nerves (not to his students in any case).

And sometimes it's worth to go through a nerve-racking day once or twice in order to avoid getting nerved-up everytime he has a bad dream and needing to run to shul to find some guys that have patience for his crazy problems. And just imagine what it would look like if he can't find anyone? it would be like entering the coffee room 6am discovering that there's no hot water for your 16oz coffee!

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by true_self - 11 Jan 2024 22:06

[redfaced wrote on 11 Jan 2024 21:59:](#)

[true_self wrote on 11 Jan 2024 21:53:](#)

[redfaced wrote on 11 Jan 2024 21:13:](#)

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

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One would think there is a better way to say it.

For that one must learn to use Merriam webster or spell-check etc.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 19 Jan 2024 19:33

Saw a vort from the chiddushei Harim that really spoke to me. It says ??? ??? ??? ?? ????? ???
??? ??? ??????. Says the Gerrer Rebbe, the greatest tzara is that one person cannot see the
other person's pain, and when he can't see his brother, that causes ??? ??? ??? ??????. It's the
togetherness, the brotherhood, the caring, the empathy, that we find on GYE that gives us the
power to stand up. Not to be ??? ???.

Dear brothers, have a wonderful Shabbos! Keep trucking....and smiling!

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by eerie - 30 Jan 2024 19:42

Such a wonderful thing, this GYE. I posted yesterday that I was having a miserable day and enjoyed the good laughs that come with Foolie's and YKW's stuff, and all of a sudden phones start ringing, texts start dinging, and Red pulled such a good shtickel on me, EPIC!

Anyway, thank you all of my dear friends, especially Redfaced, Reb CO, Hee Chochma, and the guy that's living Realer than real. Very, very appreciated.

p.s. Reb CO, I think you're comment about not having hard days sparked an Ayin Hara of some sort. Please, Holy Rabbi, PLEASE pour some lead or say some incantation! I think the oilam

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by true_self - 30 Jan 2024 21:14

[eerie wrote on 30 Jan 2024 19:42:](#)

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has already been fully convinced otherwise, either way.

Maybe it's because you didn't hear my voice in a while?

P.S. A text is not enough.

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by true_self - 30 Jan 2024 21:17

Oops! How do I delete a post? I shouldn't post...

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by eerie - 30 Jan 2024 22:11

[true_self wrote on 30 Jan 2024 21:14:](#)

[eerie wrote on 30 Jan 2024 19:42:](#)

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Maybe it's because you didn't hear my voice in a while?

P.S. A text is not enough.

You know, my friend, you write more confidently since you joined SA. So far, I'd say it's from the best things you've done.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 30 Jan 2024 22:14

That's a real possibility...

[eerie wrote on 30 Jan 2024 19:42:](#)

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Anyway, thank you all of my dear friends, especially Redfaced, Reb CO, Hee Chochma, and the guy that's living Redfaced here. Very, very appreciated.

p.s. Reb CO, I think you're comment about not having hard days sparked an Ayin Hara of some sort. Please, Holy Rabbi, PLEASE pour some lead or say some incantation! I think the oilam

I meant to mention, the feeling of being open and vulnerable, of showing your frailty to another human being, is not so geshmak. But boy is it worth it! I would have rather made believe I'm superman, and I don't need anybody to give me anything. It's humbling to realize your limitations. And thank you for the friends who help fill in those blanks!

Chevra, Keep trucking!!!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by chaimoigen - 31 Jan 2024 02:05

[eerie wrote on 30 Jan 2024 19:42:](#)

Please, Holy Rabbi, PLEASE pour some lead or say some incantation! I think the oilam has

Oy! The last time I descended to perform a ritual in the Mikva for one of my friends it didn't end well....

I'll just send James this time...

Eerie, we are here for each other, Chaver.

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by eerie - 13 Mar 2024 18:26

Hi dear friends, grouchy or otherwise!

It's been a few weeks since I've been to GYE for real. (I actually has this thought that maybe Hashem was telling me that it's time to move on from GYE.) BH going through some major earthquakes in my life, each earthquake alone could kill a horse, but then again, I'm no horse. So, overwhelmed big time. And counting.

As I wrote in that grouch room, I'm still trying to decide whether to count it as a fall (the final psak will be by HHM, gotta make the time to call him, after I get my protective gear on). Details not necessary. Suffice it to say that a few weeks of not being on GYE lowered some guards, (although it was so weird, because just last week I was thinking "Wow, I don't even have a taavah for those things anymore-famous last words) and I, the totally not tech-savvy guy, figured out a way, by mistake, that allowed me to see things normally blocked by my filter. And I did.

BH, called techloq and got it all blocked.

And I learned the hard way what I always knew:

Stick to your GYE friends. Stick to GYE. It is VERY needed.

I hope I haven't disappointed my friends here. I feel like I did. I'm embarrassed. And I should be! . I'm really ok. I ~~just~~also need your friendship, the knowledge that we are all in this together. And whether I reset my counter or not, we will fly away, you and I together, to a place above the clouds, as we journey towards true freedom!

L'chaim

P.s.

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Re: It's all in the name
Posted by cande - 13 Mar 2024 18:46

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L'chaim

P.s.

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hi eerie, we need you!

looks like your going through a ??? ????? ?????? ????? ??????

so do your self a favor and go ????? on the fall.

love it!

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