

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 hytoo - 27 Jan 2025 20:09

Hi! It's my 55th day bh super happy! Totally agree with this that Urges are normal and the only thing we have to do is to keep on taking the right decisions!!

thanks for your chizzuk!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by parev - 27 Jan 2025 22:05

[eerie wrote on 27 Jan 2025 19:50:](#)

Hi, dear friends!

BH today I'm doing much better. Urges have basically subsided.

I gotta say, when I was posting I was thinking that perhaps there were those **that would respect me less** for having urges.

But then I reminded myself that those who know the truth, that urges are not something to be ashamed of, that urges are part of being human, that urges are not an aveirah, **they will not think less of me**. Yes, I am human, and I can have urges. It doesn't mean anything less about me. All I have to do is keep choosing the right thing. And those who haven't yet learned those

truths, oh, they'll learn them soon, beH

Just wanna reassure you [and everyone else reading this] than on GYE respect is mutual, independent of where one is holding on their journey. Even during a fall.

GYE is a safe space and we dont judge, or rate, anyone.

We are all beloved children of Hashem EVEN when we succumb to our desires

If you are on GYE it means you care about your life and are doing something positive to improve it and for that you are a HERO

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 29 Jan 2025 00:31

Was listening to the song "from the ashes" by Abie Rotenberg, and I had a thought

The song brings out, as only Abie knows how, the unbelievable and unfathomable gevura our grandparents had, having barely survived the inferno of the Holocaust, having lost everything, and yet they set out to rebuild. And rebuild they did! They built the communities we see today, thriving and growing. They had nothing and no one, and yet, they somehow persevered, digging into the deep reservoirs of strength and faith that a Yid has, and somehow managed to restart, to build together such beautiful families and communities.

And as I was listening to this, I had the thought.

Klal Yisroel is much bigger than today, yesterday and tomorrow. We have been challenged throughout the ages, and we are still here. We had many challenges prior to the Holocaust, and there was the unique challenge of the post-Holocaust generation.

And our generation has its challenge.

And our children will perhaps be challenged by this in an even stronger way.

And we, the people fighting to stay as pure as we possibly can, as we are challenged by the decadent society that surrounds, as we try so hard to rebuild our sense of kedusha, as we try so hard to rebuild our inner selves, as we try mightily to fix the things that were destroyed, we face a daunting challenge. That of rebuilding ourselves from scratch, of relearning how to behave, of rebuilding our connection to Hashem. All while we look back at the past and see spiritual ashes

And yet, we see geboirei Chayil, warriors of the highest order, facing such difficult challenges and rebuilding in spite of it all. Klal Yisroel has a rich history, and we have grandfathers and grandmothers to inspire us, with but the clothing on their backs, with but tears for them to drink, with but pain for them to eat, they worked to rebuild from the ashes.

And today's rebuilders take strength, as they contemplate the ashes of parts of their insides, and the only thing they can feel is an overwhelming sense of sadness, of terrible loss, of the lost innocence, of the lost years, of the lost growth. And yet, they are here, one day at a time, rebuilding themselves, rebuilding their lives, rebuilding a person that can be the next link in the glorious chain of Yiddishkeit.

My dear friends, perhaps there will one day be a song about us. About the builders who stood among the ashes of their lives and pulled themselves together, gave each other strength, and paved the road for the next chapter of klal Yisroel.

But perhaps there will be no song.

Yet every single one of the wonderful fighters here is writing the most beautiful, exquisite song for all eternity, the song of ?????? ????? ?? ??????

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by altehmirrerr - 30 Jan 2025 05:10

[eerie wrote on 27 Jan 2025 19:50:](#)

I gotta say, when I was posting I was thinking that perhaps there were those that would respect me less for having urges.

Sholom dear eerie! i feel a little weird responding to u! but hey just a small thought that went through my head, who cares what others think AT ALL, we gotta just focus on doing what's
) either way loving ur honesty,
hatzlocha raba from the mir!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 06 Feb 2025 06:10

With tears in my eyes, I beg you Hashem, ?? ??? ?????? ?????, ??? ????? ?????!!!!!!

Please RBSO, just as you have helped me, in your infinite kindness, to reach this milestone, please help me continue to grow, stronger and stronger, closer and closer to You. And, please, I beg You, Hashem, your children cry from the depths of the YH's clutches, they are in such pain, they really want to be close to You, they really want to make You proud. The challenges are tremendous. Please, I beg you, Hashem, help Your beautiful children come close! Minimize the challenges. Show them how much you love them and the efforts they make even in the depths. Please Hashem, take us out of this galus. We just can't take it here anymore! We need your holy embrace!

And dearest, amazing friends and brothers, thank you for all you always do for me. Impossible to describe. Hashem should pay you all back for all that you do!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by Muttel - 06 Feb 2025 09:18

Mazel tov!!!

Eerie, you're an inspiration to us all! To see that beautiful round number is to see emese kedusha, a living embodiment of ODAAT, and a tzaddik who doesn't stop helping others.... And trucking!

With boundless brotherly love,

Muttel

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by cleanmendy - 06 Feb 2025 15:17

Mazel tov 900!!

Hadran alach, Hadran alach!

Its amazing to see how much a person can change and grow, Its almost unrelatable to me, but i know its possible, thanks to you showing me the way.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by lamaazavtuni - 06 Feb 2025 20:21

MAZEL TOV REBBI !!!!!!! YOUR NUMBER INSPIRES ME, THE MORE ZEROS YOU HAVE YOUR NUMBER BECOMES INDEFINETLY GREATER !!! rabboysay lets take all our zeros all our falls all our second looks..... and use them to help our other brothers that ned all the help they can get , just like our rebbi r eeire did. imh vieter by the ganz gye mishpacha

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 26 Feb 2025 00:37

I have been dealing lately with a couple where the wife busted her husband and found out all about his infidelity. The massage parlors, the porn, the phone relationships. As you can all imagine, all hell broke loose

And I found it fascinating that this woman is mostly destroyed by the fact that her husband was shmoozing with Jewish women on the phone. Women he never met. In her words, the having sex in the massage parlors, the porn, even the discussing inappropriate things on chat lines, that doesn't kill her. She understands that men can have a tayva, and they'll do crazy things to get their tayva fulfilled. Of course it bothers her, very much so, but it doesn't kill her. It's the shmoozing about stam things with those Jewish women that he found on those cursed chat lines that she can't forgive. In her words, "am I not even good enough for a conversation?"

There's the part that she sees this as a relationship, as a threat to her own, etc. Bottom line is, a woman can be much more distraught that her husband is casually shmoozing with another women in an inappropriate setting, than she is by the fact that he had sex with other women

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by yiftach - 26 Feb 2025 00:46

[eerie wrote on 26 Feb 2025 00:37:](#)

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Well, it's a very different type of conversation when it's lust oriented, no?! ??? ??????...

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by chaimoigen - 26 Feb 2025 00:48

[eerie wrote on 26 Feb 2025 00:37:](#)

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Powerful.

Just want to accentuate the obvious: you're not mitigating the fact that many women would murder their husbands (and dismember them limb by limb) for having any kind of physical contact with another woman, let alone sex. You're pointing out that to some women, casual intimate conversation can be as bad (or in this particular case worse).

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 26 Feb 2025 01:01

[yiftach wrote on 26 Feb 2025 00:46:](#)

[eerie wrote on 26 Feb 2025 00:37:](#)

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women, than she is by the fact that he had sex with other women

Well, it's a very different type of conversation when it's lust oriented, no?! ??? ??????...

Of course. And that's what I have been trying to explain to her, when she's calm enough to listen, that these women don't replace her, he has no real relationship and caring for these women, and even the stam shmoozing is just a way to fill his tayva.

Depending on her mood, she can hear it somewhat.

But it still kills her the most of all his misdeeds

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 26 Feb 2025 01:02

[chaimoigen wrote on 26 Feb 2025 00:48:](#)

[eerie wrote on 26 Feb 2025 00:37:](#)

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ABSOLUTELY!

I don't want to imagine what most women would do their husband when they find out what this woman did. I want people to realize that 'just' chatting on the phone, and even if not seriously inappropriate stuff are being said, is enough to drive a wife insane

And, being honest, wouldn't it drive any one of us insane if we found out our wives were doing something like that?

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by youknowwho - 26 Feb 2025 01:10

[chaimoigen wrote on 26 Feb 2025 00:48:](#)

[eerie wrote on 26 Feb 2025 00:37:](#)

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