

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 proudyungerman - 11 Apr 2025 20:57

[redfaced wrote on 11 Apr 2025 04:26:](#)

[eerie wrote on 10 Apr 2025 22:49:](#)

@ CMS- There's no chiddush. Yes, unloading. And reminding us, those of us who have kids

@JF- Redfaced answered correctly.

@ Redfaced- can you bring a horse to a farbrengen?

You can even make it drink

Clink Clink

yum yum

Umm...what in the world is a horse?!?!?!

Warning: Spoiler!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by tzaddikvikam13 - 11 Apr 2025 22:11

[jubilantfalcon18 wrote on 10 Apr 2025 01:50:](#)

Interesting, How did she get your number?

Is Eerie on TikTok??

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by eerie - 20 May 2025 02:14

Dearest friends and brothers,

BH this past Shabbos was 1000 days clean for me.

my dear friends who have helped me get here, who have held my hand, have developed real, meaningful friendships, and inspired me all the time, Thank you for all you have done! Thank you is really so shallow, for you have all built me back, given me strength when the going was tough, taught me such valuable lessons, discussed and dissected topics which have helped me discover great truths

I feel it important to point out that the 1000 days is not really a milestone in and of itself

Because it's not about a number of days in a row, and Hashem doesn't work for the Guinness World records. It's about being in the game, and staying in the game. It's about knowing what are your weak points and learning how to deal with them successfully. A guy who goes a thousand days and then falls for two days straight, and a guy who goes 500 days and then falls once and then goes another 500 days and falls again, the second guy is no less then the first.

Do I have to write what has worked for me? If you've ever read my posts you know what I'll say already. It was 3 things:

Friends, Friend, and friends

In truth, there's much I'd love to share, and perhaps I'll try to make it back to the forum more

often, I've just been very busy offline lately. Zeit moichel, dear friends

May we all continue to see success, growing through these challenges, and lighting up the way for others!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by vehkam - 20 May 2025 12:49

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by chaimoigen - 20 May 2025 14:37

Friends, Friends, Friends.

Eerie: you are all three!!!

Ain't no words to say what is in the heart...

...Will never forget that unexpected pounding on the door...

.....and so, so much more....

Emerson said "A friend is someone to whom I can think out loud".

Frost said " Home is the place where, when you have to go there, They have to take you in. ' Something you somehow haven't to deserve."

Chaimoigen says “ Eerie is the one that even when you don’t deserve,,he takes you in and lets you talk your soul, until ???? ?????? ?????? ??????

Here’s to thousands more days of helping Yiddin,

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by m111 - 20 May 2025 17:57

[vehkam wrote on 20 May 2025 12:49:](#)

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Mutual feelings, even though I wasn't yet zoche to this (as in the "real" Eerie, meaning since joining GYE).

Oh, the emotions are poring in my heart....

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by hashem help me - 21 May 2025 03:07

Mazel Tov yedidi ha'ne'eman! Celebrate, but then get right back to work! The oilam needs you!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by altehmirrerr - 21 May 2025 03:30

Reb eerie, Mazel Tov!!!! i am so so excited for you! and dare i say that as excited as i am for you my selfish self is even more excited for me! if i wouldn't have you who knows if i wouldv'e been in '??? ? already... without a way out!! mazel tov brother!

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by Muttel - 21 May 2025 17:20

Where would we all be without R' Eerie.....

From this 1000 to the next 1000 and beyond, Bs"d...

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by lamaazavtuni - 22 May 2025 03:38

Dont feel rayoi to post on such a chashivah thread but what can I do the simcha is just overflowing, !!!! For each step you took r eeire you gathered more neshamos , put them in your sack , swung it over your shoulder,beared the weight and trucked vaiter, like the yidden leaving miztrayim towards matan Torah leaving the 49 sharai tuumah, never slowing holding more and more yidden in your sack whoever you can grab on the journey to kedusha and oohh how tight you hold them ,and like r shayalas sack that gave out challas even though

there was non left , your sack r eeire always has room for nuch ah tayeraeh yid even when theres no more room.

With utmost respect and mutual friendship!.

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Re: It's all in the name

Posted by amevakesh - 30 May 2025 14:27

Time - Year 1:

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Starting with an exile in Egypt, it will be the first of many trials and tribulations, an "iron furnace", meant to purge the nation from those unwilling to take a leap of faith by trusting a venture into an unknown wilderness after Him.

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begins. Fear of the unknown, instability, humiliation and degradation. Expulsion from place to place, they wander, barely a chance to catch their breath and rebuild, when they're decimated time and again. Beset by tragedies, including but not limited to, Crusades in France, an inquisition in Spain, a revolution of Cossacks in Poland, to a frightful decree of Cantonists in Russia, blood libels, pogroms, all which pale in comparison to the cataclysmic devastation wrought by the Holocaust.

Resolve to His mandate is severely tested by different waves of change that assault the fabric of the nation. Emancipation, leading to Enlightenment, Socialism, communism, and integration into host cultures, are only some of the many winds that blow, causing multitudes to become detached from the tree of life.

Yet miraculously, a core remains, due to His promise to their father Abraham. They find strength, endurance and solace in their mandate of old. They tenaciously cling to its tenets with a religious fervor, that keeps them bound to their creator, allowing them to persevere and transcend the persecution they endure. These remnants struggle to new shores, and despite all odds, make a valiant attempt to reestablish all that was lost. Their efforts will be blessed with success that is unnatural, which will ensure the continuity of the nation until the end of days.

Year 1946 CE:

Battered, bruised but not broken, the nation starts rebuilding. Unbeknownst to them, something dramatic is unfolding in the heavenly spheres. An awesome assembly of celestial beings. Summoned urgently together, they are gathered to discuss a matter of utmost importance. In attendance, are numerous angels. The heavenly academy comprised of righteous individuals from times gone by are there as well. The topic under discussion - "The final hurdle" before the Messianic revelation. To be decided, is the degree of difficulty, and specific details about how it will be administered. The outcome, will determine the fate of many a person, whether they have what it takes, to overcome a test of epic proportions. Those that do, will be rewarded with participation in the culmination of history, when the glory of G-d Almighty is revealed to the world. The arena of battle has already been decided. It goes to the core and foundation of the nation, and is a defining of essence for every individual's loyalty. It is to be in the of area Holiness.

As discussion abounds, two camps slowly form. Those that demand strict judgement, and those that beg for mercy. Some want "the challenge" more intense, only to be passed by the few and righteous, while others want it more accommodating to well meaning people who's heart are in the right place.

As the magnitude of the final hurdle becomes clear, tension abounds, as all in attendance brace for its details. A tidal wave of promiscuity is to be unleashed onto the world, one which will consume the vast majority of its inhabitance. The first volley of attack is to be in the form of big, bulky boxes, that flash moving images. Those assembled, soundlessly nod to each other, we've seen challenges like this before. It's clear, something that's unequivocally forbidden. True there will be those that succumb to temptation, but by and large, those that truly desire to stay loyal will be spared. No doubt, the righteous among will warn them to stay away, and they'll be successful.

However, when they're appraised of what will follow, a sense of dread envelopes all those who hear it. Something far more sinister, will penetrate the finest of homes, entering through the guise of powerful benefits and conveniences it offers. A dangerous mix of good and bad, insidious by nature, it strikes silently, isolating its prey, wrapping its pernicious tentacles until it clutches and strangles its victims, who limp along with glazed eyes, living double lives, consumed by hypocrisy. It robs them of any mental acuity, distorts their perception of reality, and cripples any meaningful relationship.

From homes, it will progress to pockets, it will become something that humans live inside of, an alternate reality of sorts. Easily accessible, it will be readily available for anyone at anytime. The sheer power and the way it reprograms the hearts and minds of even the most well meaning is staggering.

Angles of mercy, along with righteous people that span generations, rush to protest. "After all they've been through, how can it be? Decimated, tortured for generations, they stood strong, only to be consumed by such deception!"

Their claim is pondered, but for a moment, when a response is forthcoming. "Claim accepted. There will arise 2 great men from the midst of the nation, that will alert them to the great danger of the test." On a cloudless summer day, the day that "our cry" kisses "acceptance", amidst tens of thousands of men, they will rally those that tremble before Him. Like the Matisyahu of old, with a clarion call of "Mi LaShem Eilei", the danger will be unmasked and exposed, for all that seek the truth.

Initially, a palpable sigh of relief spreads throughout the assembly. But then a strong voice, the embodiment of mercy - father Abraham himself, cries out, "not good enough. If the only way the

ambiguity will be dispelled is by unmasking its true character with dire warnings, what will happen to those that fall in to the trap just once, are they to be doomed forever? Where will they turn to, how will they extricate themselves from the muck once they've fallen in? If the message to dissuade usage, is one that users are giving up their entire spirituality, won't they feel shunned and ostracized, how will all these well meaning people be helped? How can they possibly be understood by those that never went through the pain and confusion they did?"

"Claim accepted" a thunderous voice rings out. "To even the playing field, a counter-balance is indeed required."

"But what can the counter-balance possibly be? They've already been warned by the sages that guide. Once exposed, whether through fault or circumstance, willpower is not enough", the side of mercy contends.

They huddle together discussing different option, various pros and cons, when an astounding proposal is made. "What if there was a holy person that mingled with common folk, spoke their language, understood nay felt their pain, and was blessed with a healthy dose of common sense?" "We need someone, that can be dynamic, yet empathetic, caring, loving, that can somehow find a way in to the hearts of those already exposed."

And so, they formulate their request to the heavenly tribunal. **"If we can can have a lofty soul, one who's genuine, caring and loves his fellow like himself. Allot him a personality, talent, and charisma to be a leader of men. Give him a sense of responsibility to his brothers, and the ability to think outside the box. Grant him an abundance of patience, to tolerate the foibles and idiosyncrasies that come his way. Let him have a rare blend of warmth and strength, with broad shoulders that can absorb many tears, to lift the spirits of those that falter. Give him the skill to navigate the complexities of the human condition and bless him with a healthy dose of common sense. Finally, above all, endow him with a heart so compassionate and selfless, that perfects the art of making takers feel like givers, to the extent that they'll feel entitled having him pick up their calls at all times. Taint him ever so slightly with the forbidden waters that he may understand and empathize with the pain of one consumed by desire. If such a man is to be found, perhaps even good people that have stumbled, will have given another chance."**

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Probably both; based on your avatar there's clearly something in your eye..

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Year 70 CE - Year 1945 CE:

Second temple destroyed, due to baseless hatred. Current exile begins, its end is not disclosed. Jews exiled to Rome and dispersed throughout the world. A long dark, seemingly endless night begins. Fear of the unknown, instability, humiliation and degradation. Expulsion from place to place, they wander, barely a chance to catch their breath and rebuild, when they're decimated time and again. Beset by tragedies, including but not limited to, Crusades in France, an inquisition in Spain, a revolution of Cossacks in Poland, to a frightful decree of Cantonists in Russia, blood libels, pogroms, all which pale in comparison to the cataclysmic devastation wrought by the Holocaust.

Resolve to His mandate is severely tested by different waves of change that assault the fabric of the nation. Emancipation, leading to Enlightenment, Socialism, communism, and integration into host cultures, are only some of the many winds that blow, causing multitudes to become detached from the tree of life.

Yet miraculously, a core remains, due to His promise to their father Abraham. They find strength, endurance and solace in their mandate of old. They tenaciously cling to its tenets with

a religious fervor, that keeps them bound to their creator, allowing them to persevere and transcend the persecution they endure. These remnants struggle to new shores, and despite all odds, make a valiant attempt to reestablish all that was lost. Their efforts will be blessed with success that is unnatural, which will ensure the continuity of the nation until the end of days.

Year 1946 CE:

Battered, bruised but not broken, the nation starts rebuilding. Unbeknownst to them, something dramatic is unfolding in the heavenly spheres. An awesome assembly of celestial beings. Summoned urgently together, they are gathered to discuss a matter of utmost importance. In attendance, are numerous angels. The heavenly academy comprised of righteous individuals from times gone by are there as well. The topic under discussion - "The final hurdle" before the Messianic revelation. To be decided, is the degree of difficulty, and specific details about how it will be administered. The outcome, will determine the fate of many a person, whether they have what it takes, to overcome a test of epic proportions. Those that do, will be rewarded with participation in the culmination of history, when the glory of G-d Almighty is revealed to the world. The arena of battle has already been decided. It goes to the core and foundation of the nation, and is a defining of essence for every individual's loyalty. It is to be in the area of Holiness.

As discussion abounds, two camps slowly form. Those that demand strict judgement, and those that beg for mercy. Some want "the challenge" more intense, only to be passed by the few and righteous, while others want it more accommodating to well meaning people whose heart is in the right place.

As the magnitude of the final hurdle becomes clear, tension abounds, as all in attendance brace for its details. A tidal wave of promiscuity is to be unleashed onto the world, one which will consume the vast majority of its inhabitants. The first volley of attack is to be in the form of big, bulky boxes, that flash moving images. Those assembled, soundlessly nod to each other, we've seen challenges like this before. It's clear, something that's unequivocally forbidden. True there will be those that succumb to temptation, but by and large, those that truly desire to stay loyal will be spared. No doubt, the righteous among will warn them to stay away, and they'll be successful.

However, when they're appraised of what will follow, a sense of dread envelopes all those who hear it. Something far more sinister, will penetrate the finest of homes, entering through the guise of powerful benefits and conveniences it offers. A dangerous mix of good and bad, insidious by nature, it strikes silently, isolating its prey, wrapping its pernicious tentacles until it

clutches and strangles its victims, who limp along with glazed eyes, living double lives, consumed by hypocrisy. It robs them of any mental acuity, distorts their perception of reality, and cripples any meaningful relationship.

From homes, it will progress to pockets, it will become something that humans live inside of, an alternate reality of sorts. Easily accessible, it will be readily available for anyone at anytime. The sheer power and the way it reprograms the hearts and minds of even the most well meaning is staggering.

Angles of mercy, along with righteous people that span generations, rush to protest. "After all they've been through, how can it be? Decimated, tortured for generations, they stood strong, only to be consumed by such deception!"

Their claim is pondered, but for a moment, when a response is forthcoming. "Claim accepted. There will arise 2 great men from the midst of the nation, that will alert them to the great danger of the test." On a cloudless summer day, the day that "our cry" kisses "acceptance", amidst tens of thousands of men, they will rally those that tremble before Him. Like the Matisyahu of old, with a clarion call of "Mi LaShem Eilei", the danger will be unmasked and exposed, for all that seek the truth.

Initially, a palpable sigh of relief spreads throughout the assembly. But then a strong voice, the embodiment of mercy - father Abraham himself, cries out, "not good enough. If the only way the ambiguity will be dispelled is by unmasking its true character with dire warnings, what will happen to those that fall in to the trap just once, are they to be doomed forever? Where will they turn to, how will they extricate themselves from the muck once they've fallen in? If the message to dissuade usage, is one that users are giving up their entire spirituality, won't they feel shunned and ostracized, how will all these well meaning people be helped? How can they possibly be understood by those that never went through the pain and confusion they did?"

"Claim accepted" a thunderous voice rings out. "To even the playing field, a counter-balance is indeed required."

"But what can the counter-balance possibly be? They've already been warned by the sages that guide. Once exposed, whether through fault or circumstance, willpower is not enough", the side of mercy contends.

They huddle together discussing different option, various pros and cons, when an astounding proposal is made. "What if there was a holy person that mingled with common folk, spoke their language, understood nay felt their pain, and was blessed with a healthy dose of common sense?" "We need someone, that can be dynamic, yet empathetic, caring, loving, that can somehow find a way in to the hearts of those already exposed."

And so, they formulate their request to the heavenly tribunal. **"If we can can have a lofty soul, one who's genuine, caring and loves his fellow like himself. Allot him a personality, talent, and charisma to be a leader of men. Give him a sense of responsibility to his brothers, and the ability to think outside the box. Grant him an abundance of patience, to tolerate the foibles and idiosyncrasies that come his way. Let him have a rare blend of warmth and strength, with broad shoulders that can absorb many tears, to lift the spirits of those that falter. Give him the skill to navigate the complexities of the human condition and bless him with a healthy dose of common sense. Finally, above all, endow him with a heart so compassionate and selfless, that perfects the art of making takers feel like givers, to the extent that they'll feel entitled having him pick up their calls at all times. Taint him ever so slightly with the forbidden waters that he may understand and empathize with the pain of one consumed by desire. If such a man is to be found, perhaps even good people that have stumbled, will have given another chance."**

The deafening sound of a gavel clapping down, echoes throughout the heavens, and the thunderous voice proclaims, "Let the final hurdle begin."

Just over 1000 days ago, a brilliant light begins to shine.

As moving as can be.....

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