

הַגְּדָה

haggadah
for passover

presented by



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introduction

Hello (Shalom!) and welcome to your Seder. Passover is a special time of year; one in which we give up the bread we love in order to remember the struggle and sacrifice we hated.

Seders are a special tradition passed down from generation to generation. And, as anyone who grew up with this tradition can tell you, it's a very special time spent telling stories, and playing with our food before eating it. Some Seders are unbearably long, while others are merely very long. For those of you who are new to the Seder, welcome! We'll try to get this over with as quickly as possible without skipping any of the important parts.

First and foremost, you should know this e-Haggadah is fully functional. Designed to be

a simple, yet easy-to-use guide to the Passover Seder, this will give you all the information you need to host a complete Seder.

Let's get started! Passover is a time to look at what we have in our lives and to be grateful for those blessings. For example, you could be reading this on a modern tablet vs. Moses's kind of Tablet or, at the very least, reading it next to someone while you discretely text under the table on your smartphone.

Look around and appreciate all you have, for we were once Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt where there was no cell reception and very few taxi cabs.



chametz

Passover is a wonderful holiday. It's especially great for those on The Atkins Diet, as it is customary to remove all Chametz (see: divine, delicious bread-goodness) from the home. If you find yourself too attached to carbs, it is also acceptable to temporarily "lend" your Chametz to a non-Jewish friend. Of course, the catch there is drafting up a solid leasing agreement about bread, which is why we've included one for you (see the next page). Once all Chametz has been removed (and/or leased), you can say the following prayer:

ברוך אתה יהוה
אלהינו מלך העולם,
אשר קדשנו במצותיו
וצונו על בעור חמץ

Baruch ata Adonai, eloheinu melach ha
olam, aher kid'shanu bi'mitzvo'tav, vi'tzivanu
al bi'ur chametz

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Creator of the universe, Who makes us holy with Your mitzvot, and Who commanded us concerning the removal of Chametz.

Do one last sweep to make sure there is nothing left for the inevitable moments of weakness and then you can finish it off by saying:

Any Chametz, which is in my possession that I did or did not see, which I did or did not remove, shall be nullified and be ownerless as the dust of the Earth.

Dramatic, but necessary. You are now ready to celebrate Passover!

CHAMETZ LEASE AGREEMENT

(just for fun)



1) IDENTIFICATION OF PARTIES AND BREADS

This Agreement is made and entered into this _____ Day of _____, 20____, among the following named persons:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

(Collectively, Breadholders) and _____ (Bread Owner). Subjecting to the terms and conditions set forth in this agreement, Bread Owner will lend out the bread items listed below to Breadholders; Breadholders will then hold onto the following items for Bread Owner:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

These items will be collectively known as "The Goods."

2) INDIVIDUAL LIABILITIES:

Each Breadholder who signs this agreement shall be jointly and individually liable to return The Goods in the state in which they were lent, taking into account reasonable staleness and/or loss of freshness.

Should part of The Goods go missing, whether due to Breadholders negligence or inability to refrain from consuming its bready goodness, The Goods must be replaced by Breadholders with a bready item of equal or greater breadyness. Cookies may also serve as replacements so long as they are not lemon-flavored, nor contain any known allergens of Bread Owner.

3) TERM OF THE LEASE

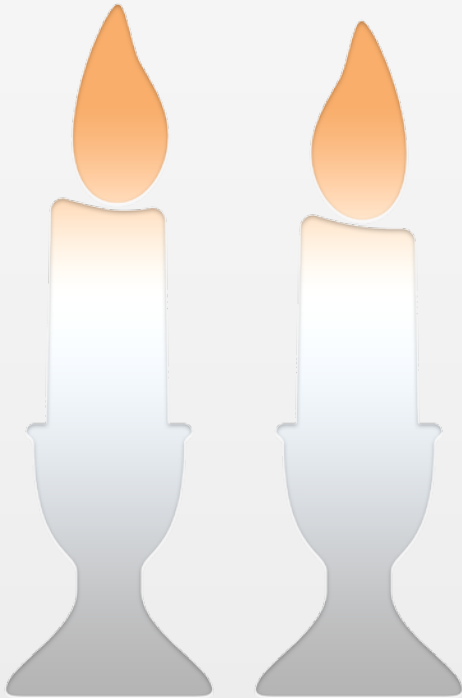
All terms of the lease agreement herein, forthwith, unto and so forth shall be held until _____ / _____ / _____ (insert last day of Passover here) when all The Goods shall be returned to Bread Owner who may choose to consume them in their entirety on the spot (should they dare). Judgment from Breadholders is not permitted as you don't know what Bread Owner just went through. You don't even know.

Signed and dated

Breadholder

Bread Owner

shabbat candles



It's tradition in some homes to do something special for Passover. And by special, I mean familiar, because this special act is something we Jews do every Friday night: the lighting of the festival, or Shabbat candles. So, break out your best waxed wicks, light 'em up, and say the following prayer:

ברוך אתה אדו-ני אלו-הינו
מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו
וצונו להדליק נר של יום טוב

Baruch atah Adonai, elo-heinu melech ha-olam,
asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu l'hadlik
ner shel yom tov

*Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Creator of
the universe, Who makes us holy with Your
mitzvot, who commanded us to light (Sabbath
and) festival candles.*

ברוך אתה אדו-ני
אלו-הינו מלך העולם, שהחיינו
וקימנו והגיענו לזמן הזה

Baruch atah Adonai, elo-heinu melech ha-olam,
she-heche-yanu, v'kiye-manu vehigi-yanu
la-z'man ha-zeh

*Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Creator of
the universe, Who gave us life, sustained us,
and enabled us to reach this season of joy.*

opening prayer



The Seder is very similar to a professional basketball game, except in almost every way imaginable. The one thing they both share is an opening ritual to get the crowd fired up and excited. (Note: if you are not performing your

Seder in front of a crowd, don't worry it's just a metaphor. If you are, don't forget to let the white doves in your jacket breathe, lest they suffocate before the big finale.)

Opening Prayer:

*May all who are enslaved throughout the world
come to know freedom. May all who are free,
appreciate the blessings of abundance. And
may all of us dwell in the house of God and give
thanks for our good fortune as we celebrate
these rituals of Passover.*

the seder plate



The Seder plate is the “cheat sheet” to Passover. If you ever want to quickly remember, and get the general idea of what went down those many years ago, look no further than this plate of symbolism. And like most of the best things in Judaism, it’s contents are consumable.



Matzah – Three matzot sit under a cover. Stop us if you’ve heard this one. As children, we are taught the cover is to prevent the matzah’s feelings from being hurt and that’s why we say the motzi last. As adults, we realize that we’re just coddling the matzah and if it

doesn’t learn to cope with disappointment, it’s going to be very soft as an adult. The matzah symbolizes the bread the Israelites escaped Egypt with that did not have time to rise. Though, in modern times, it has come to mean a dry mouth.

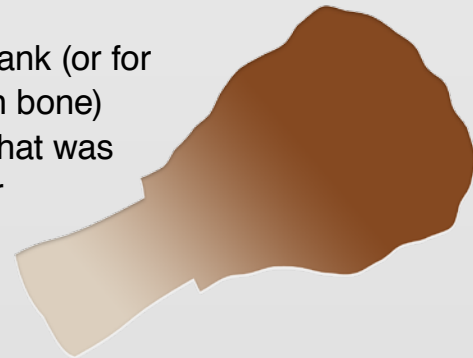
Maror and Chazeret – These bitter herbs symbolize the bitter life the Jews lived while slaves in Egypt. Every year, we eat it, feel the burn in our sinuses and then complain about it, all while enjoying the whole process just a little. Very Jewish.

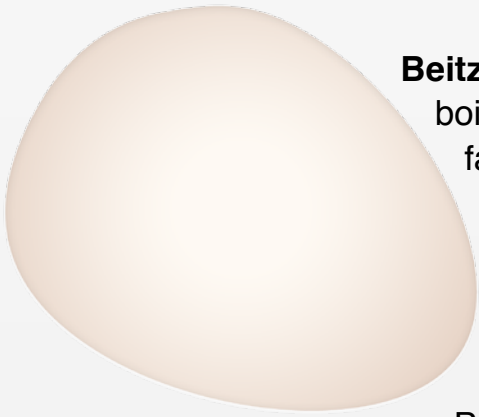


Charoset – Also known as the thing goyim reference when trying to convince you they know what Passover is.

However, they call it “that apple thing that’s all mushy.” Yet that mushy part, in this case, is important. The charoset is symbolic of the mortar our Jewish ancestors used to make Egyptian buildings.

Zeroa – The lamb shank (or for the thrifty, the chicken bone) represents the lamb that was sacrificed so our door frames could receive a lovely coat of blood (even though the color didn’t match the trim). It also represents the arm of God that convinced the Egyptians to free the slaves; much in the same way an older brother would “convince” his younger sibling to hand over their dessert by giving charley horses until they relinquished.





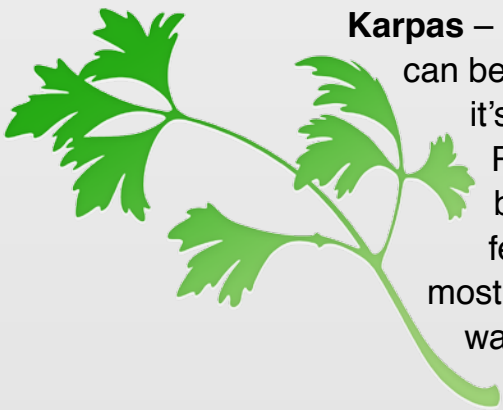
Beitzah –The hard-boiled egg (a crowd favorite) is symbolic of a few things. For one, it represents the second sacrifice on the eve of Passover; this is

typically a hipster’s favorite sacrifice as most people have never heard of it. The egg also reminds us of the sadness brought on by the destruction of the holy temple because, much like the egg, the destruction of the temple brought on high cholesterol. The circular shape of the egg reminds us of the circle of life, which incidentally reminds us of the *Lion King* (which starred Jonathan Taylor Thomas who was in *Man of The House* with Jim Smith who was in *Mystic River* with Kevin Bacon).



Wine – Over the course of the Seder, we drink four cups of wine (or eight if you’re trying to spice up the night). The four (or eight... seriously, it’s going to be a spiced up night) cups symbolize the four times redemption is referenced in the book of Exodus.

- I will bring you out of Egypt
- I will deliver you from bondage
- I will redeem you with an outstretched arm
- I will take you to Me for a people



Karpas – Any vegetable can be used for this, but it’s usually parsley. Passover used to be an agricultural festival, but, like most historical events, was rewritten involving blood and death (and

Michael Bay is attached to direct).

The wine should be filled by the person sitting next to you as to pretend that you have your own personal servant. Treat them nicely for, as this story will tell you, servants can sometimes become a pain in the tuchus (remember the blood, locusts, and whole first born thing?). It is also customary to drink the entire cup. It is not customary, but still acceptable, to then slam the cup down and let out a refreshing “ahhhhhh, that’s good SAUCE!” before starting the conga line (spicy!).

Salt Water – Symbolic of the tears and sweat we shed when we were slaves.



The karpas is dipped in the salt because if there’s anything our ancestors would want, it’s for their freed descendents to enjoy the taste of their tears and sweat.



first kiddush

Pour the first cup of wine for your neighbor. Say, "Thank you." Good manners are becoming. Then raise your glasses up and say:

ברוך אתה אדו-ני אלו-הינו
מלך העולם, בורא פרי הגפן

Baruch atah Adonai elo-heinu melech ha-olam
boreh pre hagafen

*Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the
universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine.*

Recline as you drink the wine. This is done to rub the fact that we now have freedom and wealth in the faces of our past oppressors. This act is known in modern times as "swagger."

washing of the hands (urechatz)

On Passover we wash our hands to symbolize the preparation for the Seder. This act is also symbolic of getting the gross stuff off of your hands before you touch food that's about to go

in your mouth; a tradition that still exists today in many cultures looking to avoid getting sick.

dipping of the karpas

Dip the Karpas into the salt water. For fun, pretend like the Karpas is a dolphin jumping in and out of the ocean, or an informant being worked over by the mafia for information, as you dip it. Before eating the traitor to the family, say this prayer:

ברוך אתה יי אלהינו
מלך העולם. בורא
פרי האדמה

Baruch atah Adonai elo-heinu melech haolam
boreh pre ha'adamah
*Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the
universe, Who creates the fruit of the earth.*

breaking the matzah (afikomen)



The leader should uncover the matzah and break the middle matzah (the Jan Brady of matzot) in two. Take the larger half and say "Matzah, Matzah, Matzah!" Then everyone will have a good laugh because that's a clever reference. Then say:

"In haste did we go out of Egypt."

Next, go hide the afikomen so that later in the Seder everyone can search for it with a sense of child-like wonder. Adults: If there are actual children around, try to let them find it first before giving in to your urges and hunting for it yourself.

The matzah reminds us of affliction and poverty (much like some of Eminem's darker songs), so proclaim out loud: "Whoever is hungry, come dig in and celebrate Passover! To the poor and oppressed, we hope this next year brings you a better life." As it's been said: if Britney Spears can survive 2007, we can get through our tough times, too.

the 4 questions

On every other night, we have millions and millions of questions: “Why haven’t they texted me back?” “Is this a good enough picture of me to use as my profile

pic?” “Should I Instagram

this?” So why on Passover do we ask only four? Don’t answer that. That would make it five questions and we can’t go upsetting anyone.

The leader asks:

מה נשתנה הלילה הזה מכל הלילות

Ma nishtanah ha-lailah ha-zeh mi-kol ha-leilot
Why is this night different from all other nights?

Find the youngest person at the table. And, as a reward (or punishment if they hate reading) for their age, which they have no control over, make them read:

שבכל הלילות אנו אוכלין
חמץ ומצה. הלילה הזה כלו מצה

She-b’khol ha-layloht anu okhlin chameytz u-matzah, chameytz u-matzah. Halailah hazeh, halailah hazeh, kooloh matzah
On all other nights we may eat chamatz and matzah, but on this night, only matzah.

שבכל הלילות אנו אוכלין
שאר ירקות הלילה הזה מרור

She-b’khol ha-layloht anu okhlin sh’ar y’rakot, sh’ar y’rakot. Halailah hazeh, halailah hazeh, maror
On all other nights we eat many vegetables, but on this night, only maror.

שבכל הלילות אין אנו
מטבילין אפילו פעם אחת.
הלילה הזה שתי פעמים

She-b’khol ha-layloht ayn anu mat’bilin afilu pa’am echat, afilu pa’am echat. Halailah hazeh, halailah hazeh, sh’tay p’amim
On all other nights we don’t even dip once, but on this night, we dip twice.

(Note: it is also acceptable to answer this question by blasting “Da’ Dip” by Freak Nasty.)

שבכל הלילות אנו אוכלין
בין יושבין ובין מסובין.
הלילה הזה כלנו מסובין

She-b’khol ha-layloht anu okhlin bayn yosh’bin u’vayn m’soobin, bayn yosh’bin u’vayn m’soobin. Halailah hazeh, halailah hazeh, koolanu m’soobin
On all other nights we eat either sitting up or reclining, but on this night, we all recline.

Now, everyone should turn to the youngest and point out that none of those are questions, but, in fact, statements. Tousele their hair and commend them on the great job they did reading.

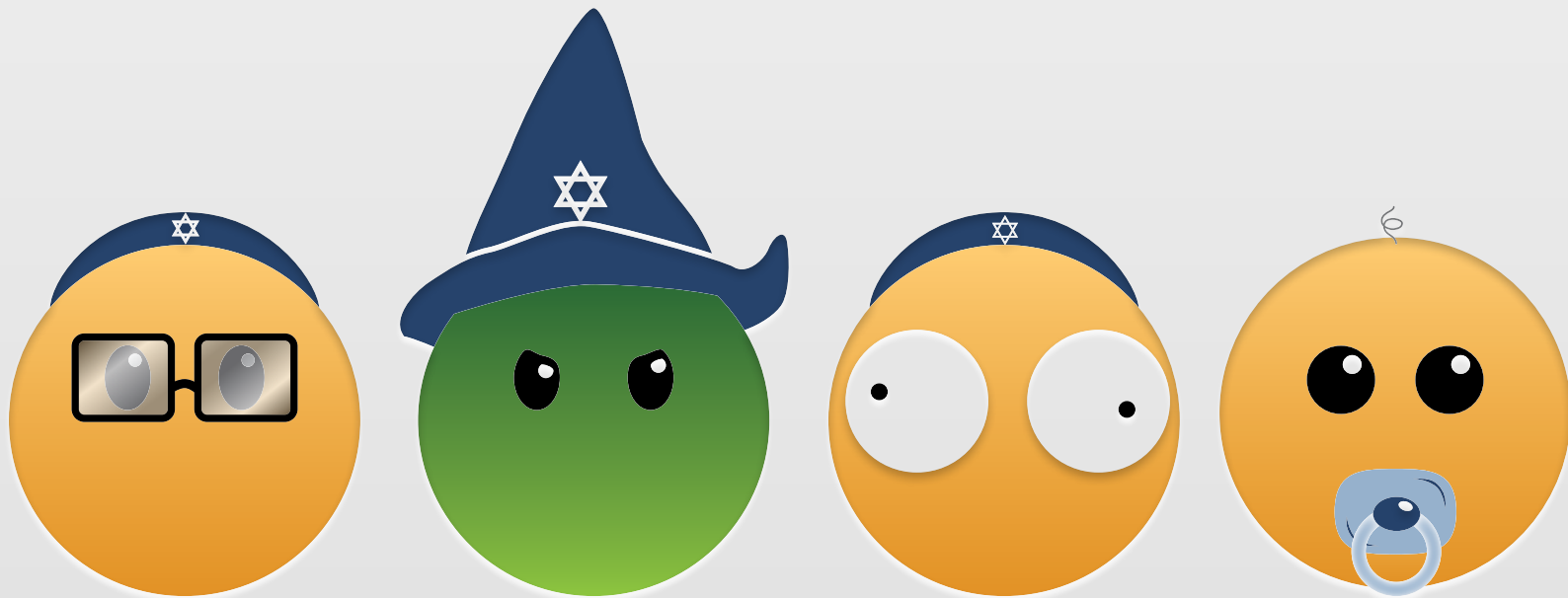
answering the 4 questions

While those four questions were, in reality, anything but questions, they do ironically answer the leader's actual question. Why IS this night different? Because once a year on this night we decide to remind ourselves that we were once slaves to Pharaoh, and were never once approved for overtime pay (or any pay for that matter). Take every horrible boss you've ever had, multiply it by the worst babysitter you can imagine, and throw some weird head garb on it. Only then can you START to get an idea of what slavery was like in ancient Egypt.

If it weren't for God taking us out of Egypt, we might still be there today; and have you read the news lately? Things aren't so hot over there right now. Unless we're speaking literally, in that case, they are blazing. And we'd probably still have no air conditioning.

This can be hard for certain people to understand. As good Jews, it's our responsibility to not only tell the story of Passover, but also to make sure it's understood.

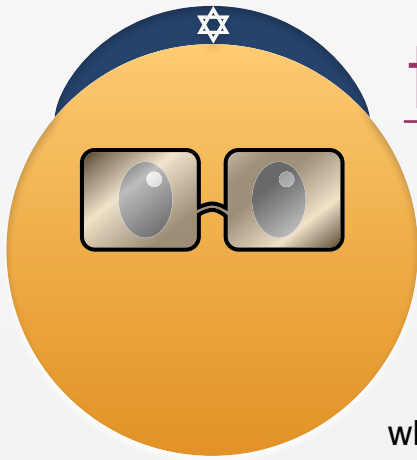
the 4 children (or people who act like them)



We all have people in our lives who don't listen or learn well for one reason or another. Yet, if we were to leave them behind, we would be doing everybody a disservice. Much like the friend that doesn't understand what's going on in a movie, if you don't fill them in on what's

going on, they're just going to keep asking questions through all your favorite parts. So, it's in our best interest (and also a Mitzvah as a bonus) to help them comprehend.

the wise child



Yes, even the wise will ask questions. Whether it be a studious child or a friend who knows what actor played

every doctor in *Dr. Who*, give them the tools to discover what Passover means on their own. Maybe they'll make a special Passover edition of *Dungeons and Dragons* (roll a higher number than the defense of the Red Sea to part it, and lead the Jews to freedom).

the wicked child

Oh, you're too cool for Passover? We see how it is. The "wicked child" might be the person in your life who only sees things as it relates to them, like a roommate who always leaves the empty roll of toilet paper or deletes a TV show off the DVR before you had a chance to watch it (yes, people actually do this and it's atrocious). Explain the story of Passover to them in terms

they love and understand: by making it about them. It might take a while to Photoshop their face over Moses's likeness, but they might someday go as far as making it their JDate profile pic.



the simple child

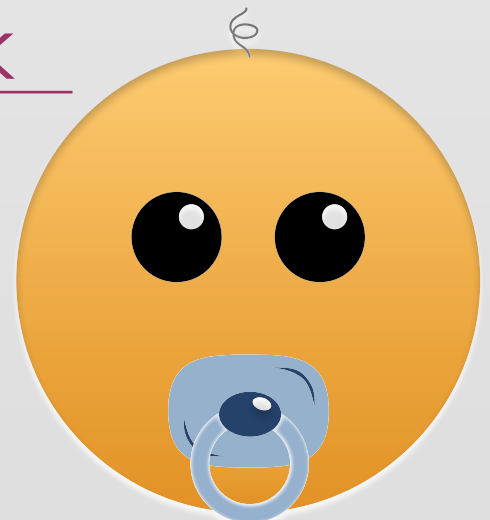
The person who is easily overwhelmed. Maybe jokes fly over their head, maybe they just can't pay attention

long enough to get it. Even though they love all the television you hate, and don't understand your favorite movies, it doesn't mean they can't understand Passover. Work slowly with them, explain Passover to them as if it's their favorite sitcom, but please don't cast a troubled actor. We've seen how that ends and nobody wins.

the child who cannot ask

Whether it be a child too young to speak or an incapacitated adult, some people simply cannot ask questions. While these can be some of our favorite people (sometimes for this very reason) we shouldn't forget about them. Instead we should love them, care for them, and simply

explain to them why tonight is special. Also, high fives. Everyone loves a good high five.





second kiddush

With this glass we toast to our endurance as a people. Throughout history, people have wanted Jews dead and through some miracle, we've survived it all. Whether it be the Egyptians, the Nazis, or just that mean kid that kept making inept anti-Semitic jokes in school, we've managed to triumph over it all. We're the GI Joe of people, but with a better sense of humor about everything.

ברוך אתה אדו-ני אלו-הינו
מלך העולם, בורא פרי הגפן

Baruch atah Adonai elo-heinu melech ha-olam
boreh pre hagafen

*Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Ruler of the
universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine.*



Email



Favorite



StraightAndPharaoh

Man seeking Slaves

From Pi-Ramsses, Egypt

Logged in around August 1213 B.C.



In My Own Words

About Me

I'm a no-nonsense kind of guy. I have to be; I run a pretty tight ship and have a lot of people working below me. I have a rough exterior, but once you get to know me I'm a good person. I enjoy the finer things in life: jewels, riches, indentured servitude, breakfast for dinner, etc.

Also, I'm a rich and powerful ruler of a desert land. If you want to know which one, I guess you'll have to message me. ;)

My perfect first date:

You come meet me at my palace and vie for my affections.

My past relationships:

Have taught me certain people are not to be trusted. Even if they're almost like a son to you, they can still come back to betray you and free all of your slaves.

On our first date, remind me to tell you the story about:

The time my land was ravaged by blood, frogs, lice, wild beasts, dead cattle, boils, hail, locusts, and darkness. It was nuts.

You should definitely message me if you:

Love a guy in a sweet golden hat.



Email



Favorite



PharaohzLittleGirl

Woman seeking Baby

From Pi-Ramsses, Egypt

Logged in some time ago



In My Own Words

About Me

I'm a total daddy's girl so if you can't handle that, stop reading right now. LOL. I'm kind of a clean freak, so I clean all the time. I take like four baths in the river a day, but I guess you have to when you live in the desert (it's so hot! Haha!)

When I see something I want, I take it, LOL!

My perfect first date:

Something simple where you show off a feat of strength to try to win my love.

My life and ambitions:

I want to have a baby, but not have to take care of it. I think babies are so cute, I could just SNATCH ONE UP! HAHA.

For fun I like to:

Clean myself, hang out by the river, watch for babies. All that kinda stuff.

You should definitely message me if you:

Know of a good wet-nurse to take care of any babies I may find.



Email



Favorite



GunsNMoses

Man seeking God
From Goshen, Egypt

Logged in a long time ago



In My Own Words

About Me

I'm the wandering, free-thinking type. I grew up wealthy, but got away from all that recently and am really looking to meet someone who is down to fight for freedom. I'm a shepherd by trade, but I really enjoy talking to bushes and shrubbery in my down time.

I'm really good at chariot racing, so definitely contact me if you want to race. I might just let you win. ;)

A brief history of my life:

I was rescued from a river by Pharaoh's daughter as a baby, then raised as an Egyptian, only to discover I was actually enslaving my own people. I later killed a guard (who totally deserved it), fled, and then worked out a plan with God to free the Israelites.

My perfect first date:

At this point, anything where they serve bread on the table. Would you believe I once baked a ton of bread, but didn't have time to let it rise?

My past relationships:

I have some abandonment issues so I haven't been able to get super close to anyone, really. My sister Miriam says I should be looking for a girl who plays the timbrel; she says percussionists always hit the right note when it comes to relationships. Any hot timbrel players out there?!

You should definitely message me if you:

Want to get out of Egypt.



Email



Favorite



WhippinBoy

Man seeking Submissives

From Pi-Ramsses, Egypt

Logged in some time ago



In My Own Words

About Me

I'm a workaholic. I am a taskmaster of the Jewish slaves, but they say when you love what you do, then work isn't really work. I've been told I have an encouraging personality and I'm pretty quick with a joke when a situation gets heavy. I love asking if it's "hot enough for ya?" because it's seriously blazing, so of course it is.

I have a really tight knit group of friends. I'm pretty comfortable leaving myself open and vulnerable to them.

Things I could never live without:

My friends, my whip, my sense of humor, my belief in karma.

I'm looking for:

Someone who has a crazy work schedule like mine, but still makes time for relaxation... like reading or practicing whipping.

My ideal relationship:

Someone with a similar temperament to mine. Someone who can understand why I'm angry or happy about something without overreacting. Someone who won't beat me to death.

On our first date, remind me to tell you the story about:

The time I sent six slaves to prison for slacking on their building duties. It was a record!

You should definitely message me if you:

Want to learn how to whip.

the story of passover

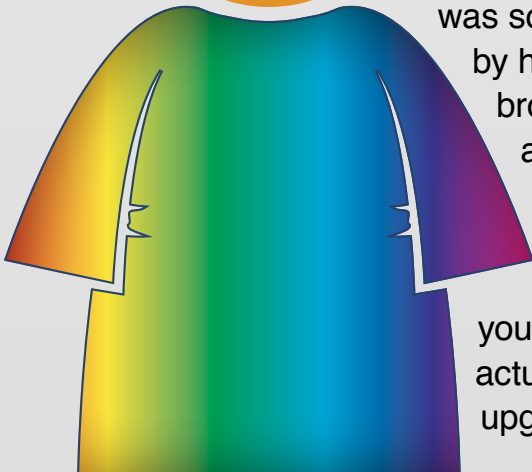
Lower your cups of wine and uncover the Matzah. It's time to tell the age-old story of Passover which, unlike most things passed from generation to generation, comes without that weird smell.

You've heard a lot about our enslaved ancestors and how it was a less-than-stellar experience for everyone involved. Just like anyone going through a tough time, you might be asking, "How did we get here and who can we blame?" Great question. Blame Joseph and his Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat. You can even blame Andrew Lloyd Webber by association if it makes you feel better. But as Jews, we're problem solvers, not problem dwellers, so we focus on who to thank, rather than who to blame. However, if you decide to blame, good luck finding an attorney to take the case.

A long, long time ago, in a desert far, far away, there



was a land where the people worshipped cats and men wore eyeliner. No, this wasn't the Internet; it was the land of Egypt. There, a man named Joseph was sold into slavery by his 11 older brothers, who, as anyone with even just one older brother could tell you, might have actually been an upgrade from living



with 11 older brothers. Joseph had a special talent for interpreting dreams and predicting the future, and that earned him great favor in the eyes of the Egyptian Pharaoh. The Pharaoh quickly promoted him, and all the other slaves responded with, "This guy got the promotion? I guess I came in every weekend for nothing!"



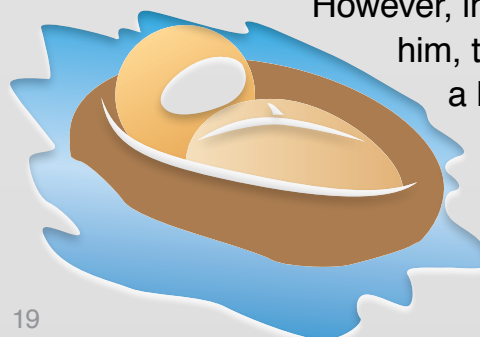
As time passed, a new Pharaoh who had never heard of Joseph came to power. He took one look at the number of Israelites in the land and decided it would be bad news if they ever turned against Egypt.

This fear turned Pharaoh to the dark side (just as it did to Darth Vader, and more recently to the executives behind Honey Boo Boo), and he enslaved the poor unsuspecting Israelites.

Being a slave was terrible. The job description included many hours of manual labor, very few breaks, and NO vacation days. Worst of all, in order to control the population and prevent uprising, every baby boy was to be drowned in the river, which is just as unenjoyable as it sounds.



One day, two Israelites birthed a baby boy. However, instead of drowning him, they put him in a basket and sent him down the river. Fortunately, Pharaoh's daughter was



bathing herself in the river and happened upon the little basket-riding tyke. She named him “Moses,” which means “brought out of the water.” We should be glad this practice of naming children based on their discovery doesn’t still exist lest a gross percentage of our population be named “Cesarean.”

The biggest problem with adopting a river-baby is finding someone to feed it. Luckily, Moses’s older sister, Miriam, was hiding in the reeds watching this take place and quickly recommended Moses’s actual mother for the job. After many reference checks and interview questions (none of which were, “Are you this child’s birth mother?” or “Will you influence this child to one day liberate your people from slavery?”), she landed the gig as the royal wet nurse and helped to raise little Moses.

Moses lived a life of wealth amongst the Egyptians, but secretly knew he was a Jew (and therefore was much funnier than the Egyptians). However, Moses could not stand to watch the terrible treatment his people had to endure. One day he came across an Egyptian taskmaster beating a slave. Moses could take it no longer; he snapped and like something out of a Quentin Tarantino movie and beat the taskmaster to death. Needless to say, Pharaoh wasn’t thrilled and told Moses he had to leave Egypt, but probably with harsher words. Moses fled to the desert where he found work as a shepherd.

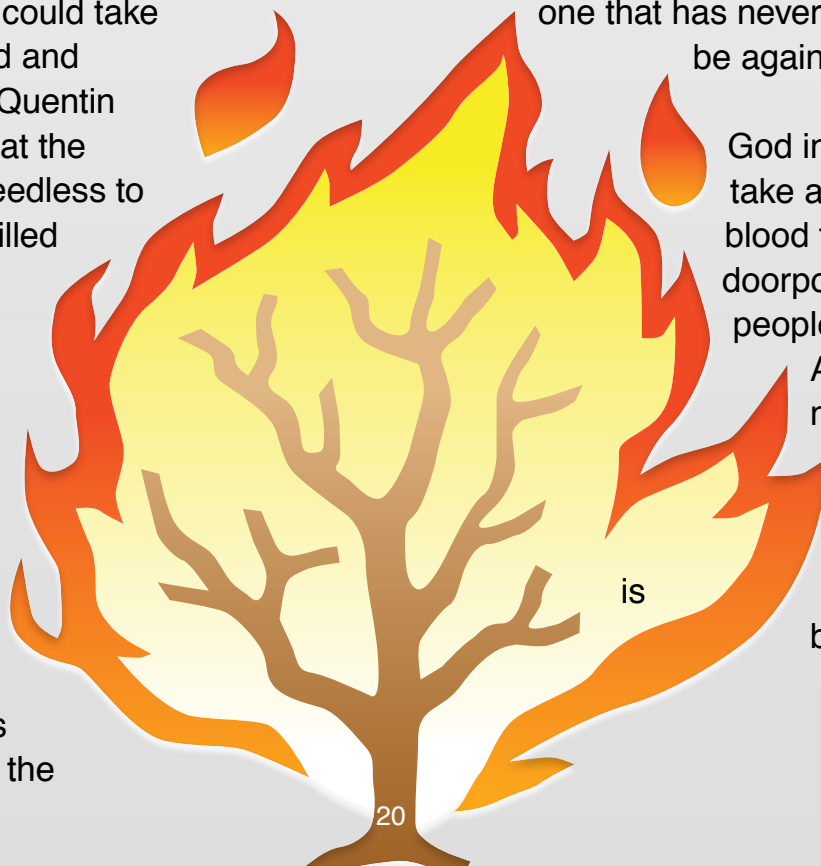
While shepherding, Moses came across a burning bush that was strangely unaffected by the

fire. From the bush came the voice of God that told Moses to go back to Egypt and free his people from slavery. Moses responded, “What, like, now?” And God said “Ummm, duh!”

So, just as Timberlake returned to music, Moses returned to Egypt and went to see Pharaoh with his brother Aaron (like Timberlake with Jay-Z). Moses and Aaron confronted Pharaoh and demanded, “Let my people go!” But as anyone who’s ever been yelled at by a bearded guy holding a shepherd’s staff can tell you, it wasn’t super persuasive. That’s when God stepped in and, through Moses, brought on the ten plagues. After each plague, Pharaoh would say he would let the Jewish people go and then God would harden Pharaoh’s heart (possibly with cholesterol, so go easy on those eggs), and changed his mind at the last minute.

After nine rounds of plagues, God warned Moses he was going to bring on the tenth and final plague. “This final plague,” God explained, “will kill the firstborn of Pharaoh, every Egyptian, and even every Egyptian animal. There will be a loud cry in the land of Egypt, one that has never been, or will ever be again...”

God instructed Moses to take a lamb and use its blood to paint over the doorposts of all the Jewish people, ensuring the Angel of Death would not strike them in the night. Although God is omniscient, the angel of death easily fooled by décor.



That night the Angel of Death killed the firstborn of every household, but “passed over” the houses of the Israelites. Needless to say, it was a pretty sorrowful morning in Egypt, but the coroner’s business had never done better.

Pharaoh once again let the Israelites free, but Moses had seen him do this before. Fool us once, shame on you; fool us nine subsequent times, shame on us.

Moses instructed the Israelites to gather whatever they could carry so they could leave as soon as possible should Pharaoh change his mind and “pull a Pharaoh” as it has since become known. This meant there was no time to cook the bread, so the dough was kneaded on the road and baked on rocks into what we now call “Matzah.”

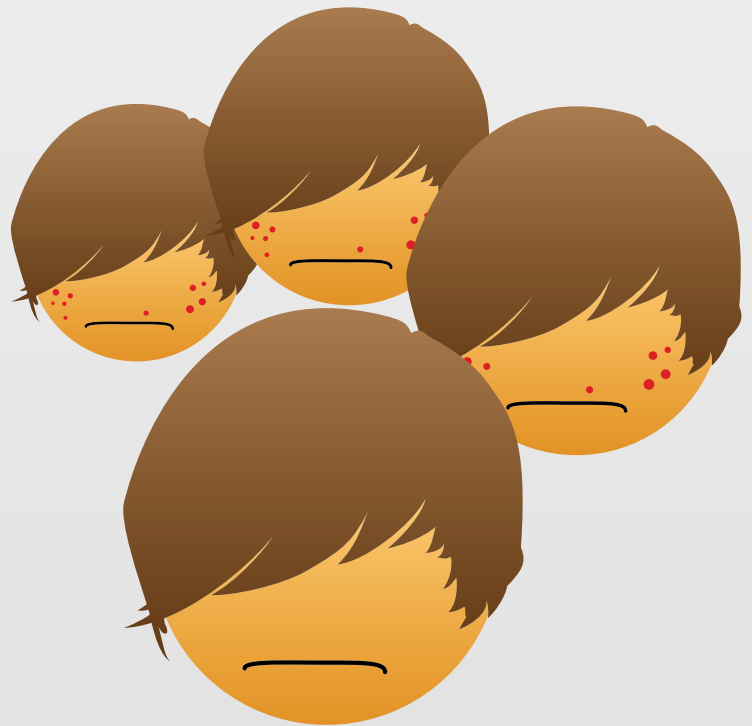
Sure enough, Pharaoh changed his mind, like politicians tend to do, and decided he didn’t want to let all the free labor get away. He sent his armies after the Israelites and they caught up to them at the Red Sea. It was here God instructed Moses to raise his staff and then God parted the waters. It wasn’t until the last Israelite crossed onto dry land that the waters came crashing down upon Pharaoh’s army, killing every last one of them. Finally, the Israelites were free!

the ten plagues



Living in a world of modern-day comforts and technologies, some may find these plagues unrelatable. So, here is a “First World Problems” version of the ten plagues for the out of touch:

- 1) Gridlock Traffic
- 2) Freezing Cold Water in the Shower
- 3) Morning Breath
- 4) Bed Bugs
- 5) Acne
- 6) Slow Internet
- 7) Allergies
- 8) Bieber Fever
- 9) Gangnam Style
- 10) A Spoiling of the End of *Breaking Bad*



We are not supposed to take joy in the suffering of the Egyptians (even though Freud would argue that it is human nature to do so), and so it is for them that we dip our finger into our wine and place a drop on our plate as we recite the ten plagues that God bestowed on the Egyptians.

- 1) Blood
- 2) Frogs
- 3) Lice
- 4) Wild Beasts
- 5) Cattle-Plague
- 6) Boils
- 7) Hail
- 8) Locusts
- 9) Darkness
- 10) Killing of the Firstborn

God took us out of Egypt, but he didn't have to. We exclaim "Dayenu," which means "it would have been enough," as a way to say thank you to Him for freeing us without actually saying "Thank You." For this we pray that God understands inferred gratitude. Say "Dayenu" after each sentence is read:

Ilu hotzianu mimitzrayim, v'lo asah bahem sh'fatim, dayeinu!

If He had brought us out from Egypt, and had not carried out judgments against them — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu asah bahem sh'fatim v'lo asah be'eloheihem, dayeinu!

If He had carried out judgments against them, and not against their idols — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu asah be'eloheihem, v'lo harag et b'choreihem, dayeinu!

If He had destroyed their idols, and had not smitten their first-born — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu harag et b'choreihem, v'lo natan lanu et mamonom, dayeinu!

If He had smitten their first-born, and had not given us their wealth — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

v

Ilu natan lanu et mamonom, v'lo kara lanu et hayam, dayeinu!

If He had given us their wealth, and had not split the sea for us — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu kara lanu et hayam, v'lo he'eviranu v'tocho becharavah, dayeinu!

If He had split the sea for us, and had not taken

us through it on dry land — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu he'eviranu v'tocho becharavah, v'lo shika tzareinu b'tocho, dayeinu!

If He had taken us through the sea on dry land, and had not drowned our oppressors in it — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu shika tzareinu b'tocho, v'lo sipeik tzorkeinu bamidbar arba'im shana dayeinu!

If He had drowned our oppressors in it, and had not supplied our needs in the desert for forty years — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu sipeik tzorkeinu bamidbar arba'im shana, v'lo he'echilanu et haman, dayeinu!

If He had supplied our needs in the desert for forty years, and had not fed us the manna — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu he'echilanu et haman, v'lo natan lanu et hashabbat, dayeinu!

If He had fed us the manna, and had not given us the Shabbat — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu natan lanu et hashabbat, v'lo keirvanu lifnei har sinai, dayeinu!

If He had given us the Shabbat, and had not brought us before Mount Sinai — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu keirvanu lifnei har sinai, v'lo natan lanu et hatorah, dayeinu!

If He had brought us before Mount Sinai, and had not given us the Torah — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Ilu natan lanu et hatorah, v'lo hichnisanu l'erezt yisra'eil, v'lo hichnisanu l'erezt yisra'eil, dayeinu!

If He had given us the Torah, and had not brought us into the land of Israel — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

Illo hichnisanu l'ereetz yisra'eil, v'lo vanah lanu et beit hamikdash, dayeinu!

If He had brought us into the land of Israel, and not built for us the Holy Temple — Dayenu, it would have sufficed!

For all this and more we say, “Dayenu.” Now, it might be tempting to make a list of all the things we prefer God hadn’t done, but now is not the time for that; that’s what birthday wishes are for.



third kiddush

It's time for another Kiddush. Are you keeping track? What number are we on? Have you had more than just the two glasses of wine so far? Are the people around you looking more attractive than when you started? If you answered "Yes!" to any of the previous questions, raise your glass and say this prayer:

ברוך אתה אדו-ני אלו-הינו
מלך העולם, בורא פרי הגפן

Baruch atah Adonai elo-heinu melech ha-olam
boreh pre hagafen

*Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Creator of
the universe, who creates the fruit of the vine.*

Do your best Lil' John impression and lay back and drink that entire cup.

motzi



It's time for the matzah! Hopefully its feelings weren't hurt by how long it took us to get to it, but our ancestors did wander in the desert for forty years so there's some perspective if it complains. (Note: if your matzah complains, see a doctor immediately.)

Raise the matzah and say:

ברוך אתה יי, אלהינו מלך
העולם, המוציא לחם מן הארץ

Baruch atah Adonai elo-heinu melech ha-olam
hamotzi lechem min ha-aretz
Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Creator

of the universe, who brings forth bread from the earth.

ברוך אתה אדו-ני אלו-הינו
מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו במצותיו
וצונו על אכילת מצה

Baruch atah Adonai, elo-heinu melech
ha-olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav
v'tzivanu al achilat matzah

Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Creator of the universe, who makes us holy with Your commandments, and has instructed us in the eating of matzah.

Take a piece of matzah and pass it around so everyone gets a taste of its goodness.

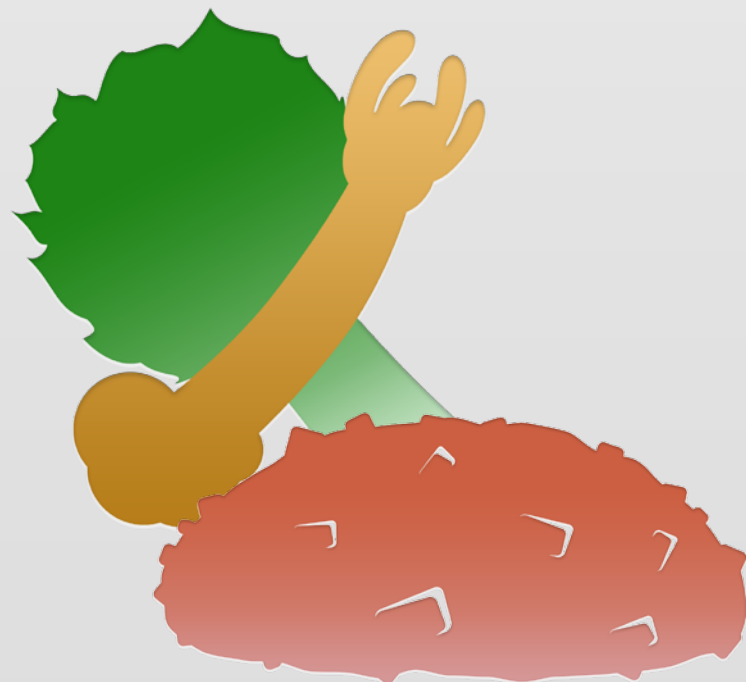
maror and charoset

Take a spoonful of each of the maror and charoset. We eat these to symbolize the bitterness of slavery, and the consistency of the mortar our ancestors used to build Egyptian cities. If only the mortar was as delicious as the charoset, the slavery might not have been quite so bitter. Say the following before eating them:

ברוך אתה אדו-ני אלו-הינו
מלך העולם, אשר קדשנו
במצותיו וצונו על אכילת מרור

Baruch atah Adonai, elo-heinu melech
ha-olam, asher kid'shanu b'mitzvotav
v'tzivanu al achilat maror
Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Creator of the universe, who makes us holy with Your mitzvot, and has commanded us concerning the eating of maror.

If you feel like going on a culinary adventure, combine the maror and charoset between two pieces of matzah and enjoy a **Hillel Sandwich**. Some say it feels like your taste buds are arguing, just like the rabbis used to do.



elijah the prophet

It is tradition that we put out a glass of wine for Elijah the Prophet in hopes that one day he'll come back to Earth and bring peace. Make sure to fill the glass because it would be terribly embarrassing if the prophet of peace came to Earth only to find there was no wine to welcome him. If this happens, he'll totally pack up his peace-making materials and hightail it out of

there. And then who will make peace between the ladies of *The Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*? Certainly not any of us.

Open a door and announce that Elijah is welcome to drop by; and it would be nice if he could give us a 15 – 20 minute heads up so we can clean the place up a bit.





fourth kiddush

It's time for the fourth and final (required) cup of wine. Far be it from us to stop you from having a good time. Raise your glasses and say:

ברוך אתה אדו-ני אלו-הינו מלך
העולם, בורא פרי הגפן

Baruch atah Adonai elo-heinu melech ha-olam
boreh pre hagafen

*Blessed are You, Adonai our God, Creator of
the universe, Who creates the fruit of the vine.*

next year in jerusalem!

We're almost there! It's time to find the afikomen. Based on how hungry you are, you can either give hints, or not. Whoever finds the afikomen gets a prize that, depending on your group, could be money, alcohol or, if they're single and over 18, a JDate membership.

One day we will all be reunited in the promised land of Israel. And it is with that hope in mind that we say:

לשנה הבאה בירושלים

Lishana ha-baah bi-yerushalyim
"Next Year in Jerusalem!"

**The Passover feast is served. Dig in.
You've earned it!**