

Just a Story...

An Angelic Midwife

by Rabbi Mendel Weinbach zt"l



A tough decision had to be made by the young Torah scholar as he prepared for the Pesach Seder. He had been approached by members of an organization involved in outreach to come to a Seder being held in Bnei Brak for Jews who were showing an interest in returning to their roots and to deliver one of his famed talks to them. Although this meant sacrificing his own Seder he consented. His plan was to first come home to perform all the mitzvot and to then go deliver his inspiring talk. But when he came home he saw his pregnant wife suffering from labor pains. As expected, he accompanied her to the hospital where they found many women preparing for birth and only a single midwife on duty. He was reluctant to leave his wife but she insisted that there was nothing he could do to help her. She insisted it would be wiser for him to go deliver his talk and rely on Heaven to take care of her and all the other expectant mothers.

When he returned from the talk, his wife had given birth to a healthy child. She told him that as soon as he left, a woman in white entered the room and took care of all her needs and then disappeared. When she took a look at her face she recognized her as a rebbitzen who had passed away a few years earlier.

[Source: Ohr Somayach Institutions www.ohr.edu . Printed with permission]

Hints & Answers* SHMIRAS SHABBOS: Tying a knot on one end of a rope, string, balloon, etc., by looping it around itself, is not allowed on Shabbos. (See O.C. Rama 317:1). The Mishna Berura (ibid., §15) explains that since a single knot tied on one end of a rope is tight, it has a status of a קשר של אומן ("a professional knot"). Such a knot is problematic on Shabbos - both tying it and untying it. **RHYME:** "please" **RIDDLE:** Shimon is a father of a new baby boy. The boy had the *bris* done today (on a "pushed off" 9th of Av). After midday, the baby's father and mother, the *mohel* and a *sandek* are allowed to eat! See *Shulchan Aruch* 559:9. *Note: Menucha's answer are not to be taken as final decisions in halacha, but rather as a springboard for discussions, questions to a Moreh Hora'ah, and further study.



Menucha

בס"ד
A Shabbos table companion
for the whole family

לע"נ ר' ברוך חיים בן שלמון ז"ל

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Devorim

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Shmiras Shabbos

Inflating and Tying a Balloon on Shabbos



"Tonight, on *leil* Shabbos is Bracha's birthday," Miri reminded her friends during recess in school. "Let's surprise her!" proposed Leah, "Let's come to her house after the Friday night *seuda* with a lot of balloons!"

Rivky loved the idea and said, "I actually have a lot of old balloons in my house that were used at another party. We just need to un-tie them, blow them up and tie them again." But Chani pointed out: "Since we'll all be busy today helping our parents to prepare the house for Shabbos, we'll need to prepare the balloons on *leil* Shabbos."

Sari objected: "Even though we'll only be re-inflating the old balloons and not inflating new ones, isn't there still going to be a problem of untying and tying the balloons, because of the *melachos* of tying and untying?" But then she thought for a moment and said, "Or maybe it's not a problem since it's only a single knot, not a double-knot!"

Question: Should the girls prepare the balloons for Bracha's surprise before Shabbos, or is it okay to do it even on Shabbos?

(The "Hints & Answers" section is on page 4)

◆ Dedicated anonymously for yeshuos and refuos to all Klal Yisroel





Parsha Pearls

אלה הדברים אשר דבר משה אל כל ישראל... ובין תפל
ולבן... דברים א:

These are the words that Moshe spoke to all of Yisroel...and between Tofel and white... -- Devorim 1:1

Rashi tells us that the first verse of this week's parsha lists through hints the rebuking words that Moshe Rabbeinu told to Klal Yisroel. Regarding the words "between Tofel and white" Rashi (quoting the words of Chazal) writes: *הוכיחן -*

He rebuked them for complaining about the mann that was white.

What lesson can we learn from this? Don't complain about your food! The food that's on your plate, although it is not "the *mann*", it is "a *mann*" - it is the food that HaKadosh Baruch Hu gave you. Appreciate it. Appreciate Hashem's love for you that is manifested in your food's color, texture, taste and nutritional value.



Rhymes for Kids



בעבר הנידון בארץ מואב הואיל משה באר אַתְּהַתּוֹרָה הַזֹּאת לְאֶמְרָ.

On that side of the Jordan, in the land of Moab, Moshe explained this Torah, saying, (Devorim 1:5)

You probably know that Rashi comments on this verse and says:

Moshe explained it to them in seventy languages.

But did you know that the reason why Moshe had to do that, as explained by some commentaries on the Chumash, was in order to bring *kedusha* into other languages as well, so that when a Jew will learn Torah in a foreign language, his learning will have *kedusha* of Torah!

Even if I say a *dvar* Torah in Chinese

The words will have *kedusha* and my soul I will surely _____



Riddles



Sunday, Tisha B'Av. Everyone is fasting. Shimon, however, is eating and enjoying a delicious roll. Shimon is Jewish and Torah observant. He is awake, and fully aware of everything, including the fact that today is a fast day. Shimon is not in danger and is perfectly healthy.

Why is Shimon not fasting!?