

7125 Mahoning  
Highland Magazine

TEVET 5783 • 193

# קשקשת

## טוב שכן טוב

A neighbor who himself  
is good to his neighbors.

(Rabbeinu Yonah)

### The Roving Ranch

The Roving Ranch is a unique property located in the heart of the city. It offers a wide range of services and amenities, making it an ideal choice for those seeking a comfortable and convenient living environment. The property is well-maintained and features modern facilities, ensuring a high quality of life for its residents.

04

### 16,000 Shekels in a Box

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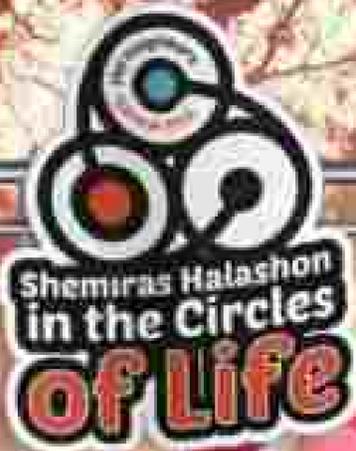
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### How Much Is Your Apartment Worth?

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08





Shemiras Halashon  
in the Circles  
of Life

# A Porch Is Born

The phone call catches R. Chaim Kac at the end of supper with the family. He takes his cell phone and leaves the well-lit, heated dining room, heading for the little porch. For this kind of call, he prefers no other listening ear around. He needs to concentrate on what he will say. He knows that a word here or there can determine a world.

It is actually rather pleasant on the porch – sooooo cold. The fresh fragrance of greenery after the rain tickles his nose. He leans on the iron fence, releasing a small sigh at the sight of Eidelstein's porch.

"So as I was saying they suggested I speak to you as a close neighbor," said the person on the line. The next moment, he dropped the "buzz" –

For years, they'd been neighbors on the same floor but until plans for the building expansion came along, everything was more or less okay. The truth is that even after Shimon Eidelstein went around to all the neighbors, architectural plan in hand, to ask for their signatures, there was still a relaxed and generous atmosphere. Everyone wished the Eidelsteins success and promised

themselves that they'd take a deep breath and try to bear patiently with the noise, the dust, and all the other unavoidable side effects of construction.

But Chaim will never forget that afternoon when he approached the building and was shocked to see that the scaffolding had veered left, biting into his territory and reaching almost to his porch.

It must be a mistake, he said to himself, stepping cautiously between the bags of cement and the piles of gravel, slipping up the steps to their floor and looking feverishly for the phone number of Eidelstein, who'd allocated for the duration of the construction. Amidst the medley of voices shouting in guttural Arabic and the pounding of hammers, he could barely hear his neighbor Shimon's voice emerging from the receiver. Maybe that is why he was sure his ears were deceiving him or that he was hallucinating... Coherence – how could he explain the shouts and threats that his specific area – which belonged to his apartment according to the municipal records – was most decidedly not the area in the plan Shimon had spoken about at the time of the signing.

That week, their building was in an uproar. The neighbors were appalled at Eidelstein's change. Some of them also tried to speak with him, but they encountered a brick wall. Even though it was clear that the primary victim here was the Katz family, everyone felt enraged by their neighbor Shimon's behavior. It wasn't just the building deviation; it wasn't just the violation of the promises he'd given to the neighbors who'd signed and permitted him to build. It was the total lack of *menachlikhkeit*.

And amidst all this, Chaim Katz walked around in a daze. On the one hand, he felt boiling lava burning inside him, threatening to erupt in the form of open rage against the neighbor and his conduct. On the other hand, there was his father's will, in which he'd asked his beloved children to do everything possible to live in peace, judge favorably, and not fight with any Yid.

How? How can anyone judge a person like that favorably?!!!

More than the damage done to the value of his apartment, more than the loss of the expansion option he had planned to realize in the future, and more than Shimon's brutal tongue-lashing – it galled him that perhaps he was not succeeding in carrying out Abba's

will, even though he wanted to and was trying so hard.

Suddenly standing there on his small porch, immersed in melancholy thoughts, watching Eidelstein's building addition taking shape before his very eyes, he remembered –

He remembered that a few years ago his neighbor Shimon had been hospitalized to donate a kidney to his ailing mother. He remembered what they said then about Shimon in that, how he'd literally saved his mother from certain death. They described how Shimon had gone into the office of the head of the ward, sat on the table and shouted that if they'd continue putting off his mother's transplant, he would turn the ward upside down and get the entire hospital on its feet. He didn't let up until his mother was taken to the operating room and received the kidney – his kidney – that saved her life.

It's actually – Chaim said to himself now – this is a great moral lesson for my neighbor Shimon. True, he has a tough, aggressive personality, but he definitely utilizes that personality for good things, for mitzvot, for saving lives. In this building, too, there were quite a few things that moved only thanks to Shimon's strong personality: problems with the municipality that were resolved, procedures that

were accelerated...

This new view of Shimon's image helped – if only a little bit – to soften the great anger that was fermenting in Chaim. True, it didn't change the picture of the reality. Eidelstein's construction was still encroaching almost until his porch. Still, it eased R. Chaim Katz's struggle somewhat and infused him with new energy.

The person on the other end of the line is calm and relaxed, not at all foreseeing the storm he is about to set off. So since you are a close neighbor, on the same floor, I wanted to inquire from you about the Eidelstein family. The words land like boiling missiles directly on Chaim's heart. The already heard that the father there is not an easy person, the anonymous spokesman continues. "I get information from several sources about his tough personality and stubborn conduct. But still, aside the other aspects of the situation, I wanted to hear how you see the picture, how you manage to get along with him..."

BOOOO BOOO--OOOOOO.

His heart is about to explode.

Wie is him if he speaks too to him if he doesn't...

A moment of silence and then another one and finally R. Chaim manages to put himself together.



"To tell you the truth, I don't deny the personality that you described. I just want to tell you how my neighbor uses that personality of his in a positive way," he said, and then relates to the goetzal mechanism, the story of the kidney transplant. At the end, he also says, "As you can see, we've been

neighbors for many years and naturally, we manage to live with him in peace and with dignity."

A week later, lively song resounds from the Eidelstein's apartment. The children knock at the neighbor's door to borrow chairs. Their plates is

engaged. The men all come in to shake hands and take part in the mitzvot. The women, who tearfully sing the praises of the *halakha* to her own mother-in-law, she really is a sweet and fine girl, very capable and with exceptional *midot* – apparently the apple does sometimes fall far from the tree...

After midnight, there is the sound of chairs being dragged to the Katz's door and then a light rapping. R. Chaim opens the door to find his neighbor Shimon standing there, looking extremely uncomfortable. He asks permission to come in and pour out his heart –

"I know. The *shadchan* told me everything... The woodcutter came all at once. I cannot fathom the *galut* here that you displayed..." he continues, patting it. It clearly, hard for him to get the words out.

"It's all right, Shimon," Chaim interrupts. "We've already forgotten what happened and now we are so happy with your *simcha*!"

But Shimon cannot calm himself. Then and there, as he stands among the chairs brought back from the neighbor's yard, he announces his decision: to give his neighbor the entire terrace that was built as their property. He would summon the engineer first thing in the morning to prepare an orderly *gizil*.

Because what is destined to come to someone who maintains peace... comes in the end, and in a big way.







# Who Likes Gefilte Fish?

The Thursday evening is full of the smell of chopped onions, but that is not the reason for the tears in Yuda's eyes. He quickly wipes them with the back of his hand, so Irma – and even more important, Sarva – shouldn't see.

Irma and Sarva are both standing at the counter, Irma is washing very quickly chopping vegetables for salads, stirring the soup in the pot, pecking into the oven where strips of yeast cake are baking. Next to her, Sarva is proceeding slowly, mixing the gefilte fish batter and forming patties. Yuda knows already that this Shabbos day it will be having the gefilte fish games that he doesn't like.

Suddenly an interesting thought enters Yuda's mind. Maybe for Irma too, it's not easy now, after Sara was married, and Sarva, who was left alone, has come to live with them. Maybe Irma really prefers to cook the fish herself, too, and she asks Sarva every week to prepare "her delicious fish" just to give Sarva a good feeling.

This thought helps Yuda stop making a face at the fish that he doesn't like. He doesn't want

to make Irma feel any worse.

But apparently Irma has already seen his tears. At eight, when Yuda is to bed, almost asleep, she sits next to him and tells him a story about a tradition named Rav Shmuel Tzipi Kovalitsky. "Rav Kovalitsky zt"l didn't take any interest at all in what he ate but still his whole family knew that there was one slug – a thick vegetable soup – that he liked very much."

"I also like the soup you make," Yuda interjects with a smile. Irma continues: "When Rav Kovalitsky was a doctor, his mother once prepared this soup for him and he complimented her that it was very tasty. His teacher had never heard a word from him about what food he preferred and what he didn't enjoy, so she felt that if he spoke up he must like this soup very much. To make him happy, she prepared it again and again... When he got married his wife told his father that there it was one soup she should prepare for him and she gave her the recipe."

Yuda yawns. He's tired already. But suddenly Irma tells him something strange that happened after Rav Kovalitsky was buried. The family got a letter of nichumim from America. When Rav Kovalitsky's tomb opened and started reading they were shocked...

"After I got married, it was very hard for me to get used to the food my young wife cooked. It wasn't tasty to me at all, and I would walk around looking irritable and sad. My friend Rav Kovalitsky wanted to give me a boost, so he told me that when he was a young doctor his mother once made him a vegetable soup that tasted awful. He could barely swallow it, but his mother was standing

there and watching, so he forced himself to continue eating without showing any sign of dissatisfaction. He even complimented her on the tasty soup...

"When his mother heard him say how much he'd enjoyed it she started preparing this soup frequently. Each time he'd feel that the soup was stuck in his throat, still, he overcame his feelings so as not to make his wife feel bad, and he even thanked her and praised the delicious soup."

"Right, but he didn't like the soup at all and he still ate it again and again and again and said it was yummy, and didn't make a face..." Yuda is very overcome by the story he just heard.

"It was a big tradition, it's really very special behavior," Irma agrees with him. "So do you Yuda, be always happy to hear from you what you like more and what less, and I try to prepare food that you like."

"Like you saved me some of yesterday's schmelz because you knew I don't like today's meatballs," he says, flashing his loving mother a grateful smile.

A strong smell of gefilte fish patties cooking in sauce wafts in from the kitchen. The games that all his brothers like – and only he can't bring himself to eat Sarva or probably still wanting there and wanting, Yuda imagines to himself, and suddenly he feels he has the strength, maybe he'll even manage to take a little bit of Shabbos and to say a big "Thank you" to Sarva...



# שבת הקטנה

Special issue for  
the Mishkan  
HaShalom 100



## Telling Parents What I Saw in Our Cousins' House

Ask the Rav  
by Rabbi  
Hershel  
Kovachem  
Mendel  
Fuchs zt"l  
Rabbi of  
Mishkan  
HaShalom

**Question:** My younger sister and I went to my aunt for Shabbos, and there were some things there that aren't acceptable in our family: disrespectful way of talking to parents, a newspaper that is considered "bother" but that we don't take into our house, and more. All Shabbos, I felt a responsibility to watch myself and my sister. I wanted to know if I am allowed to tell my parents what I saw in my cousins' house.

**Answer:** The parents need to know that the chofech and ag'la in the cousins' home is different from that in their own home, so that they can decide whether to send the children for Shabbos again, etc. Therefore, it is permissible for the questioner to tell the parents what she saw.

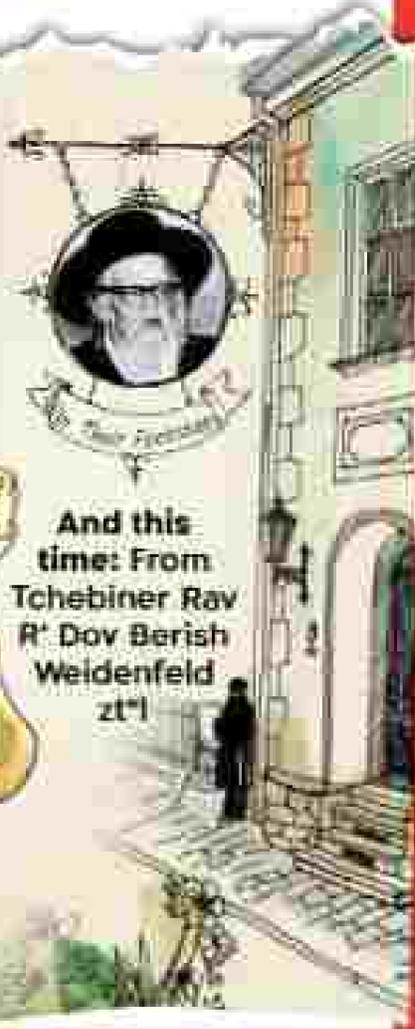
The parents should also consider whether to talk about it with the children and explain that while the chofech in their cousins' house is according to the Torah, "We are more mekadeh" in certain areas. *Honorable Rav Shalom.*

## Along the Path

Rav Kahaneiman once was together with the Tchebiner Rav at the mineral springs. There was an unfortunate man staying at the same hotel, who kept bothering the rabbonim with silly questions and comments and it was hard to get rid of him. One day this man clung to the Tchebiner Rav and accompanied him for a long stretch, and who walked right behind them? Rav Kahaneiman...

Afterwards, Rav Kahaneiman came to the Tchebiner Rav and apologized for "spying on him." He explained that he simply couldn't stop watching the noble and refined manner in which the Rav spoke with that poor Yid – patiently and with remarkable attention.

Based on the Seder



And this time: From Tchebiner Rav R' Dov Berish Weidenfeld zt"l



# The New Math Teacher

In late afternoon, Talpy goes out to the building courtyard. Her friends are sitting on the stone fence and chatting. It looks very interesting. From the corner a little closer catches a few words and understands. They're talking about the new math teacher.

Talpy realizes that they - most likely - are not sharing compliments about the teacher. Still, she thinks that it's not a problem for her to walk over and listen in.



**Just before Chodesh Chesh, Shlomo Lander says to Talpy:**  
"Call the 337-2212 Ext. 33, and whenever I Talpy did the math thing by moving closer and joining the group. There will answer correctly will automatically enter a raffle."



The idea title and the prize was from Yehuda D. from Yehudagitt.

**You're invited to send us queries suitable for this column: matters in which a friend was almost hurt or embarrassed and thanks to someone's sensitivity, it was prevented, and also stories in which, sadly, a friend was hurt. The stories chosen for this magazine will earn the reader a prize.**



## No Offense

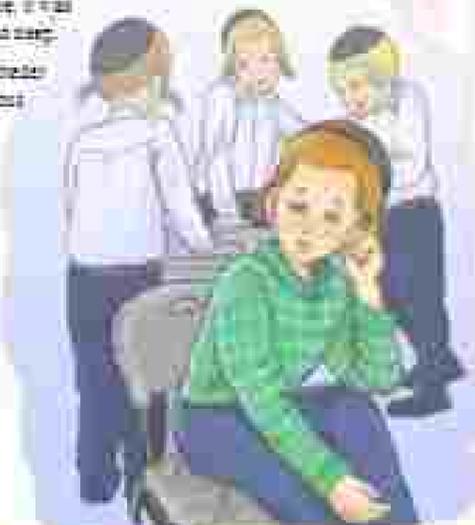
# White or Colorful

Mendy doesn't come to cheer yesterday. He had an appointment at the outpatient clinic of the hospital. Two months ago, Mendy (he's got his hair and beard) had an operation. Now he has a good beard. Mendy, for the doctor, wanted to come in for a checkup to make sure that his arm was completely healed.

Mendy's little house was on a rather quiet street in the morning. They were three houses in the hospital in Yehudagitt and it was over an hour for their appointment. Then they had to go on a way and after a while to return in the doctor's office to hear his opinion of the way. When Mendy and his wife got home, it was almost night and Mendy was surprised when he saw...

In the morning, Mendy got up and went to school early, holding the note explaining the previous day's absence. But when he got to the classroom, his heart sank... all the boys had come in and when Mendy suddenly he heard that the rabbi had announced yesterday that there would be a yom tov and everyone should come in Shabbos clothes.

It was so uncomfortable for him to be the only one in an everyday dress... What a shame that none of the friends noticed that he was absent and thought of calling to tell him about the yom tov...

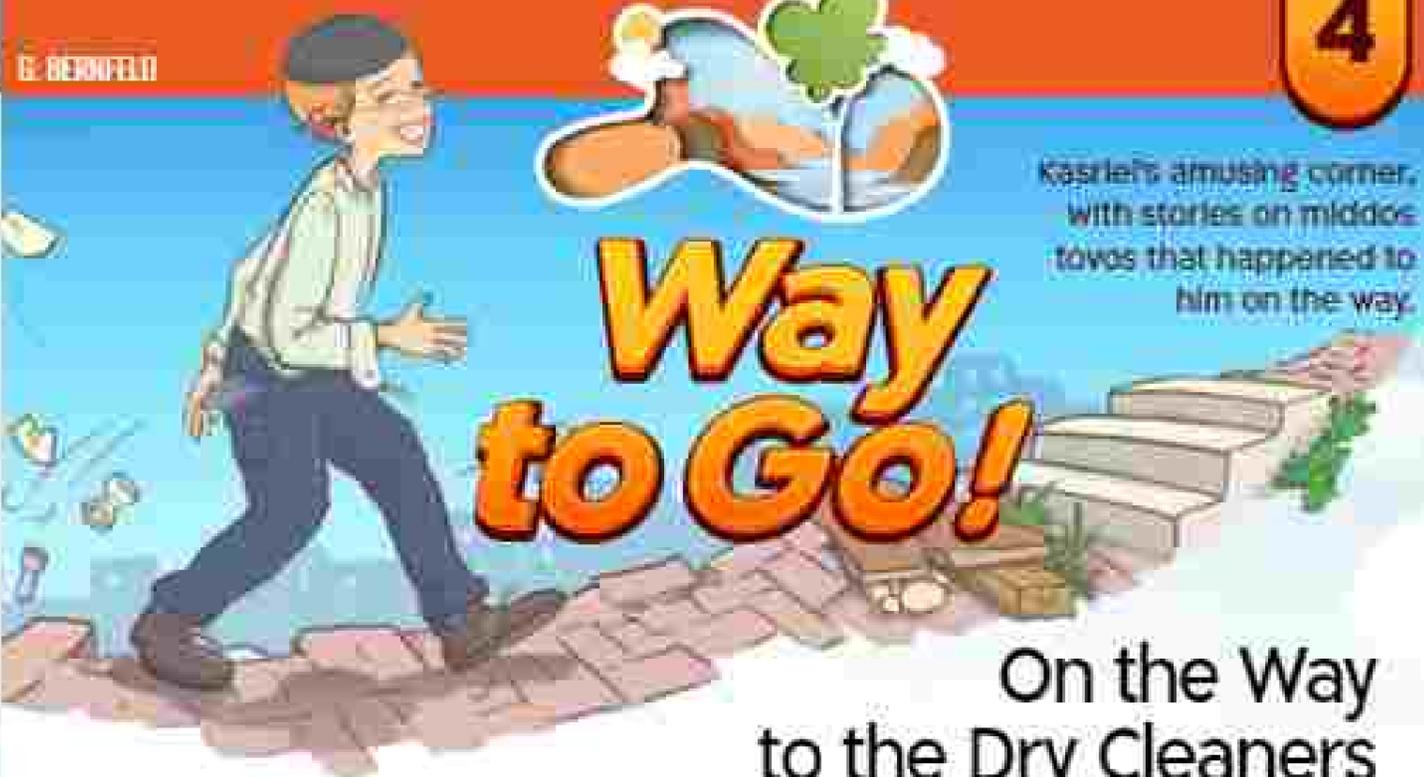


## A few words from Mendy:

**What almost happened:**  
Mendy is sad all day. He sits in the back corner, so as not to stand out in his blue checkered shirt. Even while the friends are singing for the yom tov and everyone gets much less still dejected.

**What happened in the end:**  
When the rabbi came into class in the morning and saw the absence note and Mendy's blue shirt, he understood immediately what had happened. He called Mendy's parents and asked if there was any way to send a white shirt to school. Indeed, Mendy's Abba stepped by on the way to Kibbutz and brought the shirt.

# Way to Go!



Kasriel's amusing corner, with stories on middos tovas that happened to him on the way.

## On the Way to the Dry Cleaners

Ordinary, respectable men, with their shirts tucked in and sleeves buttoned, can go to the dry cleaners without a problem. But for kids like me, it is a bit of a problem. Because there is a table to make a mistake and put them - the boys themselves - into the giant washing machine.

That was what occurred to me when I saw the message hanging on the table. The letters on the yellow note said: "Dear Kasriel, remember Dry Cleaners. Thank you, Mrs."

I sighed. I wasn't really afraid that someone would think me a machine and press the button, even though my shirt is decorated with an assortment of buttons and buttons stains. The real problem was the bag and everything never-ending walk there. If only I could press a magic button and have "deflated buttons" to bring me there instantly.

I took the bag (Mrs. had left for me and set off with the elephant) but instead, I had a "deflated" - a jutting course! Why walk in a gray boring way when I could have a refreshing jump walk!

I jumped on the footpath on the stairs covered a street and a ball. Then I alternated the low jumps and high jumps (another two streets). I tried jumping - as it says in books - "as if blown by a snail" (even though there were no snails on the sidewalk, just ants) and after that, I jumped lightly, and I took the stairs at the velocity of Ben Haim.

And I was not the only one jumping. I saw jumpsuits of my pocket too. First was a stub of a pencil (I wish that I shouldn't be stubborn...), then came the remains of an apple (a beautiful apple the grown boys remember that I planted it). Even when my little soccer ball dropped to the dust, followed by a squeezed plastic cup (-) continued jumping. I figured that on the way back, my hands would be empty (of the bag) and my heart would be light (after completing my assignment). Then I'd head over and retrieve everything that had gone overboard.

Jumping cheerfully, I reached the dry cleaners. The store was empty, as if it had waited just for me. The salesman told me the price and I reached into my pocket to take out the coin - the 10 SHEKEL COIN. I fumbled in my right pocket, but that's a reform: some gift cards, counted so my left pocket was in trouble. Maybe my pocket pocket or my shirt? Or...

"Not you paying?" the salesman demanded, at the entrance. I walked in.

"I'm sorry, I panicked. I just have to find it. It's... ah... that's in my pocket!"

"It's good pocket!" the salesman investigated me. Maybe he'd forgotten his eyeglasses glasses here and that's why he didn't notice my condition - a little itching, a spool of thread, and... paying pocket.

"I'm really sorry!" I apologized. "My credit card must have fallen out."

I walked home the way ordinary kids walk. But after that, even sleeping the sidewalk. How could I not have noticed? Was my pocket open? It is a problem!

The trip was long, as you already know, especially with the salesman's interest and without a corner of a yom tov. I had time to think some serious thoughts. Maybe I need to learn to close pockets? Maybe when I'm jolly and jumpy and too careful, important things are liable to fall out?

That made me think about my chattering mouth and how words tended to "jump out". I thought about this, sometimes in my cheerful talkative state, other kids sometimes get caught by - Hey! how as I was pondering about my pocket's "trouble" I almost gave. There was the lost credit card, floating in the drain the edge of the sidewalk...

I shoved the card into my pocket and raced back to the dry cleaner. I don't know if the British Royal Guards ever run or just stand at attention, but I watched over that card like a soldier on guard duty.

I thought about the nightmare we'll meet here, Kasriel. Maybe it will be when I'm on the way to the synagogue to get a chap for my pocket. And maybe I'll already be able to tell you that I got an improved "way" on my mind...





# Beware! Fire!



For two weeks now, our class has been storming.

What happened?

The truth is - I don't have a clear answer. There are different versions of how it started and it's hard to know which is correct. Nobody remembers who said what, when, and why. What we know is the unfortunate fact that the class is currently split into two groups: Tania's group and Charan's group.

I'm in Charan's group. He's one of the friends I walk to school with every morning and I always considered him a mature kid. How did he get swept into such a childish fight? The answer is that when it comes to fights, the gender here doesn't distinguish between mature and childish and between right and not right. When there's a fire, anyone in the area is liable to get hurt - and the same is true for the fire of insubordination.

For two weeks, there have been accusing notes being passed from one to the next, secret meetings at which our sick noble deeds are being plotted against the other group, fights and slogans - and what not!

One evening, I went with Abba to visit his elderly uncle. Uncle Pichara's house is right opposite our class, and since the grown-up talk bored me, I stood at the window facing the class and checked if I could see our classroom. Can Uncle Pichara see me in class? Can he read what is going on the board?

Suddenly, I caught my breath. Someone was walking into our classroom! It wasn't the janitor. I could see him on the floor below. That must be how this mystery person got in here! I don't believe it! It's Abba... Wait no, I won't reveal who the boy is because it'll be Janoo's turn. We'll call him 'Emuuel'. 'Emuuel' One of the wisest boys in Tania's group. What is he doing in the classroom in this hour?

Emuuel had an erasable marker in his hand. He wrote the board and wrote a few lines. Then he looked around to make sure that nobody had seen him and left.

I identified him without a doubt and I even managed to read what he'd written: 'Everyone should know: Tania and his friends are the ones who did it so I'm not writing questions would be on the board. Because of them, the rebels got angry and took all points from everyone!'

It's... what? What's going on? How could someone be writing against Tania's group? Against himself? Maybe he defected to Charan's group? No, can't be. He's too loyal to Tania. So what does it mean, what I see there, blue marker or whiteboard?

Suddenly I understood and this understanding shocked me. He's writing against his own group for a purpose, so everyone will be angry at his group because they'll think the

re wrote it. Everyone will suspect everyone and the flames will reach up to...

"Interesting how that Abba stood next to me.

I was very worked up. The story burst out of me all at once. Abba listened intently, as I told him all about the fight, the accusations, the prohibited words.

Meanwhile, the janitor finished his work and locked the gate, so entering the board was out of the question.

"What will I do in the morning?" I asked. I can't be able to keep myself from saying who wrote these words! It will be even worse in class than it's been all last week!

"Don't worry - I'll call him out. You'll come only after the first lesson, when things have calmed down a bit. I'll give you a note, and Hashem will save us from the fire of mistakes."

And that's what happened.

I handed the note that you saw at the beginning of the story to the robot. Naturally, he was surprised by the unusual content. He called me outside and I told him everything.

The next day he devoted two full lessons to the subject. Speaking from his heart, he managed to penetrate the

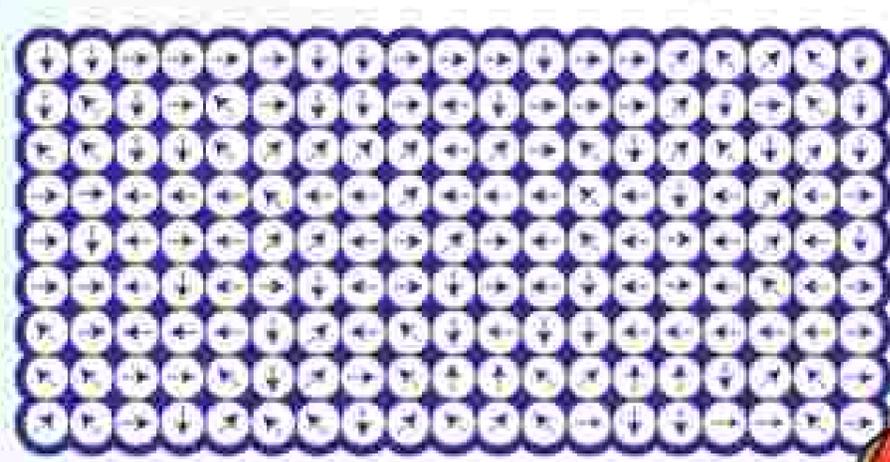
hearts of all of us.

The fight was over, thank Hashem. Let's hope it was the last one.



NOTE-WORTHY FOR THE FUTURE: DON'T ARGUE! TALK! PROVE TO SELF!

# One Way Only



The car needs to drive only in the direction + to get to school, where there will be a shirt on *hichos shmiras halashon*.

Color in all the squares with arrows pointing in this direction. What do you get?



# Drop a Letter

In each line, fill in the four-letter word, then drop one letter and mix the remaining letters to get the three-letter word.

Write the letters you drop in the middle column. What do you get?

- Clues:
- 1. Animal - insect
- 2. Soft to touch - fabric
- 3. Food - cooking wheat
- 4. Food - drink
- 5. Spring - water
- 6. Music - instrument
- 7. Food - vegetable - poor dairy
- 8. Drink - drinking water
- 9. Animal - lion

Send solutions to: Mishmarot Beit Din  
Attn: Charan B. Hershman at Tel: 02-540-4111  
Hashas follow the protocol at Mishmarot Beit Din office. Winners will be informed.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

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January

A fight rages in the city's  
has been M.E. incident that  
2001 after which father Igaz  
Bavarian. Alexander is now  
because the son, Shavrova,  
in January employed in house  
and agents to deliver the boy.  
That girl is to say his and  
his father's process of raising  
child in Tbilisi.

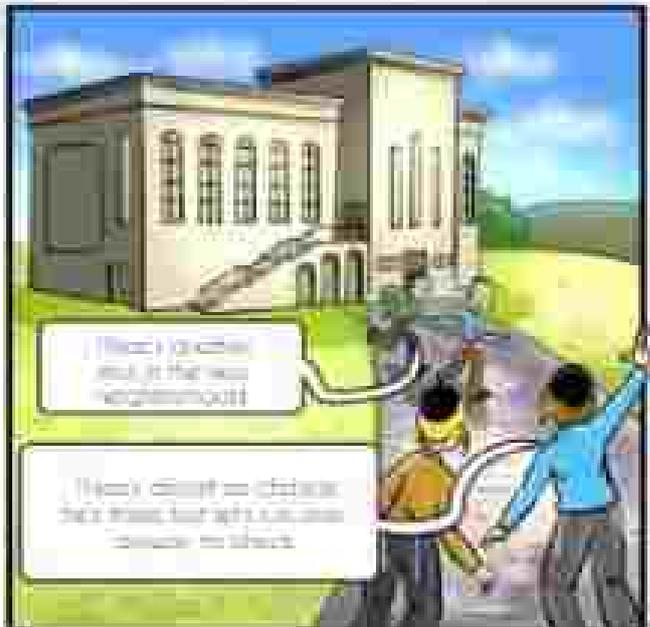
# Controlled

## EXPLOSION

By H. G. G. G. G.



NO MORE, please



I think I can't find it the way I remember it

I think I don't see it either. It's there but it's not the same as before.

Can you find the number 111 here and tell me if it's gone?

No, what is the meaning of the newspaper? Are all the houses in Tbilisi like this now?



I remember another place where there was an explosion. How can we get to it now?



In order that I received news of the explosion, I had to go to the city of Rustavi.

Maybe it's connected to the explosion that also started because we had clear visibility. Maybe the explosion had...

The school strategy took a lot of energy in the city. I remember that I remember it by no means. Finding the one who brought Alexander to us.

