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עש"ק פ' חקת בלק י"א תמוז תש"פ

July 3, 2020

Antwerp	9:42	Los Angeles	7:50
Atlanta	8:34	Melbourne	4:54
Baltimore	8:19	Miami	7:58
Boston	8:06	Milwaukee	8:16
Chicago	8:11	Minneapolis	8:45
Cincinnati	8:50	Monsey	8:14
Cleveland	8:46	Montreal	8:28
Dallas	8:21	New York	8:12
Denver	8:13	Passaic	8:14
Detroit	8:54	Philadelphia	8:15
Edison	8:14	Pittsburgh	8:36
Haifa	7:21	Seattle	8:52
Jerusalem	7:13	St. Louis	8:11
Lakewood	8:11	Tel Aviv	7:28
Liberty	8:19	Toronto	8:45
London	9:07	Waterbury	8:12

Sponsored by:

**LETTERS**

**YOUR SAY**

**Sisters and Strangers**

I just wanted to let you know that I am really enjoying this serial. The character development is outstanding, and I find myself experiencing their feelings and thoughts along with them. It is so absorbing that my mind keeps searching for a neat resolution for all the different dilemmas that the characters face.

What kind of "happily ever after" will it be?

Will the characters just put nice Band-Aids on the issues, or will they actually search deep inside themselves and do the inner work that will enable them to heal, move on, and grow?

Can they overcome the seemingly largest hurdle — the lack of open and honest communication — to square things away?

Carried away as I was by the conflicts of the plot, I thought to myself, "How would I end this story?" and considered writing a falling action and resolution myself.

But why shouldn't I share the fun? It would be so intriguing to pause the story and invite readers to propose their endings to the story before rolling out what is sure to be a spectacular ending by Suri Epstein. What do you think?

*All the best,  
Yehudis Kaplan*

**Alienaton**

Issue # 689

I assume you printed this story knowing it would evoke an emotional response. The article was lacking information, which gave it a feeling of the macabre. Did the husband have no role in this? What kind of son trips his mother up with a test — and uses his kids as ammunition? Or was he goaded by a narcissistic wife?

Does the protagonist have co-dependent family members who get a thrill out of creating this mess? And I wonder what the married kids' version of this story would read like... They couldn't approach either parent? Did they purposely seek out someone who would validate them? Something is off!

The message to advice-givers should be clear: "Ya'atznu rah" is an "al chet" that ruins lives. If, in fact, this was an accurate portrayal of what occurred, the perpetrators alienated children from their roots and these children will, without a doubt, grow up emotionally crippled. The young parents don't realize that they won't be able to control their kids' thought processes forever! Eventually, they'll form their own opinions. In addition, they're

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teaching their young children how to treat their own parents in the future.

I remember a woman who planted seeds of discontent in her friend's marriage. The friend had been content until then. Against the advice of responsible, respected *askanim* in the community, the friend divorced, with the unrelenting support of this woman. The "well-meaning woman" could have saved a marriage, but her pride got in the way.

T.H.

What a powerful story Miriam Pfeiffer wrote in your magazine last week regarding the selfless woman whose children alienated her and her husband because they were led to believe that their parents had chosen their cousins over themselves.

It was beyond sad and painfully raw to hear the pain that this couple is going through.

Children need to realize that if they have a problem, they can discuss it with whomever they feel makes sense, but it must be *with* their parents so that everyone can hear each other's feelings and figure it out together.

Leaving one's parents without having a sensible conversation together can cause a rift that won't heal so easily.

*Waiting for yeshuos*

As a parent who experiences the heartache of alienation, I often think that this must be what it feels like to have a limb amputation without anesthesia. There is nothing to numb the pain except to remind myself that Hashem is here with me in my anguish.

I look back and realize that I made mistakes. I see where I could have been more sensitive, and I am a better and more caring person today.

I hope that my daughter and other alienating children will read your article. I pray that my grandchildren know that I love and miss them, and

important to clarify that this may indeed be *hatmanah* and, if so, prohibited on Shabbos.

*Thank you,  
A Caring Jew*

### Binah Staff on a Diet

This column by Tanya Rosen has changed my life! I really enjoy reading the installments and they make my Shabbos so much more enjoyable. I was always on the heavy side and ever since reading her articles, I have been thinking twice before I eat that extra slice of

*As a parent who experiences the heartache of alienation, I often think that this must be what it feels like to have a limb amputation without anesthesia.*

that one day they will contact me and allow me to shower them with the love that I have stored up for them.

*Name Withheld*

### Imprisoned in a Hotel

*Issue #686*

The interviewee mentioned that on Shabbos morning she piled blankets on the cholent that had been left at the door to keep it warm. Perhaps it is

challah or the plate of potato kugel. I've lost 40 pounds so far, so thank you so much!

*Miri Lerner*

### Correction:

In "Chinuch Coach," Issue #689, the "IN Focus" article was accidentally attributed to the wrong author. The writer is Chasya Bernstein.

*Binah welcomes submissions, which should be sent to [submissions@binahmagazine.com](mailto:submissions@binahmagazine.com). Binah also invites readers to submit letters and comments via regular mail, fax, or e-mail to [inbox@binahmagazine.com](mailto:inbox@binahmagazine.com). Please include your name, address and phone number. We reserve the right to edit all submissions and will withhold your name upon request. Due to the large volume of mail, we cannot print all the letters received but sincerely appreciate your feedback nevertheless. We will honor all requests for anonymity, but we cannot consider letters that arrive without contact information.*

THE DATING PROCESS CAN BE AWKWARD & HARD FOR MANY WONDERFUL BOYS & GIRLS LOOKING TO GET MARRIED



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