

# STANDARD TRANSLITERATION OF YIDDISH

By Dr. Barnett Zumoff

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## Introduction

Transliteration is a system of representing the sounds of Yiddish by letters of the Roman alphabet. It has become the *lingua franca* that connects Yiddish-lovers at various levels of skill in Yiddish: those who are expert in reading, writing, and speaking Yiddish use transliteration (for example, on the blog *Mendele* and in our own *Der Bay*) to speed up and simplify communication among themselves without having to write cursive Yiddish or type Yiddish with letters of the Hebrew alphabet, which is still a slow, complicated process even with modern computers; those whose ability to read Yiddish in its original alphabet is poor but who understand the language reasonably well become, through the use of transliteration, able to read Yiddish as freely as their more learned colleagues can. They are also able to transmit Yiddish messages of their own quickly and easily. The only basic requirement for using transliteration is knowledge of what the Yiddish words sound like (some words are derived from Hebrew and the sound cannot be readily figured out from the spelling.)

Learning the rules of transliteration is simple and quick--anyone can become an expert in half an hour. However, to facilitate mutual understanding we must use a standard transliteration rather than an everyone-for-himself (or herself) transliteration, by analogy to the written standard Yiddish (*klal-yidish*) that is now used in magazines, newspapers, and books by all educated Yiddish-speakers regardless of their individual spoken dialects. This presentation will teach the listeners the standard rules so that they too can become experts in this useful technique.

## Letters of the Transliteration Alphabet

### 1. Simple Vowels

### Sound

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| a | Always like "o" in "not" (as pronounced in American English).<br><u>Example</u> : <i>tate</i> (father). |
| e | Always like "e" in "extra";<br><u>Example</u> : " <i>elf</i> " (eleven).                                |

(Note: never silent. When it is written at the end of a word (such as "*tate*", the "e" is always sounded—it is not necessary and not correct to follow it with an "h" to show that it is sounded.

Example: "*hagode*," not "*hagodeh*."

- i Two possible sounds:  
long, like "ee" in "feet";  
Example: "*glid*" (limb).  
short, like "i" in "hit";  
Example: "*mishn*" (to mix).

At the end of a word or before a vowel (even another "i"), always pronounced hard;

Examples: "*mi*" (effort)  
"*fri*" (early)  
"*tsion*" (Zion)  
"*gliik*" (glowing)

Before a consonant, may be pronounced either hard or soft,  
Examples: (hard first, then soft):

- |            |  |
|------------|--|
| before "b" | " <i>fiber</i> " (fever)<br>" <i>tsibele</i> " (dark)    |
| before "d" | " <i>mid</i> " (weary)<br>" <i>niderik</i> " (onion)     |
| before "f" | " <i>tif</i> " (deep)<br>" <i>shif</i> " (ship)          |
| before "g" | " <i>tsigl</i> " (brick)<br>" <i>lign</i> " (lie)        |
| before "k" | " <i>sikkh</i> " (Sikh)<br>" <i>shikn</i> " (to send)    |
| before "l" | " <i>tsil</i> " (goal)<br>" <i>mild</i> " (gentle)       |
| before "m" | " <i>bime</i> " (platform)<br>" <i>tsimer</i> " (room)   |
| before "n" | " <i>diner</i> " (servant)<br>" <i>diner</i> " (thinner) |

(two words spelled the same but pronounced differently)

before "p" "kipa" (yarmulke)  
"lipn" (lips)

before "r" "firn" (to lead)  
"lirish" (lyrical)

before "s" "mister" (ugliest)  
"flister" (whisper)

before "t" "geglit" (glowed)  
"tsiter" (tremble)

before "v" "bekivn" (deliberately)  
"farglivert" (frozen)

before "z" "shpiz" (spear)  
"iz" (is)

o Always like "u" in "nut";  
Example: "hobn" (to have)

u Two possible sounds:  
hard, like "oo" in "boot"  
Example: "tsufridn" (satisfied);  
soft, like "oo" in "foot"  
Example: "puter" (butter)

## 2. Compound vowels:

ay Like "ay" in "aye, aye";  
Example: "fayer" (fire)

ey Like "ey" in "hey";  
Example: "eyder" (before)

oy Like "oy" in "Oy, vey!"  
Example: "froy" (woman)

## 3. Simple Consonants:

b, d, f, h, k, l, m, n, p, r, s, t, v, z As in English

c Not used in transliteration; its  
"soft" sound is represented by  
"s" and its hard sound by "k"

g Always hard, as in "gone"; the  
sound of "soft g", usually in  
foreign words, is represented  
either by "dzh" or "zh" (see pages  
6 and 7)

j Not used in transliteration; in  
foreign words with that  
sound, use "dzh";  
Example: "dzhimi" (Jimmy)

q Not used in transliteration; in  
foreign words with that sound,  
use "kv" instead;  
Example: "kvin elizabet"

w Not used in transliteration; in  
foreign words with that sound,  
use "v" instead;  
Example: "kvalitet" (quality)

x Not used in transliteration; in words  
with that sound, use "ks" instead;  
Example: "oks" (ox)

## 4. Compound Consonants

ch Not used in transliteration, ex-  
cept to transliterate a proper name or  
a rare foreign word spelled with it;  
Examples: "Bach" (pronounced "bakh").

dzh Represents the sound of "j" or soft "g"  
in foreign words or names;  
Example: "dzhimi" (Jimmy)  
"dzherald" (Gerald)

kh Represents the guttural sound that is  
represented in German by "ch";  
do not use "ch" for that sound in  
transliteration;  
Example: "ikh" (I), not "ich"

sh Like "sh" in "push"; represent the  
sound of "shin" in Yiddish;  
Example: "tsvishn" (between)

ts Like "ts" in "cats"; represents  
the letter "tsadik" in Yiddish;  
Example: "tsuker" (sugar)

tsh Like "ch" in "cherry";  
Example: "tsholnt" (Sabbath stew)

zh Like the "g's" in the French name  
"Georges"  
Examples: "zhabe" (frog);  
"zhest" (gesture)

# Gazlen un der Volf

By Minneapolis JCC Yiddish Vinkl

## Introduction

Welcome to the world premiere of Gazlen un der Volf af yidish, with an orchestra of one. Judith Eisner arranged all of the orchestral parts for her performance on violin while Lev Mailer did the narration and Doug Cole presented images of the original story via a slide show.

Our translation was done by group process during Tuesday Shmuesday, which is part of the Minneapolis Jewish Community Center Yiddish Vinkl.

The workers on the job were:

Roz Fletcher, Shifre Teener, Ruth Kaiser, Dorothy Marden, Gitele Eisner, Lev Mailer, Markl Karlen, Beryl Miller, and Walter Littman. The enthusiasm during the process was evident by the many words, phrases, and idioms tossed around -- usually all expressed at the same time! What emerged is a translation that captures deep memories of our mameloshn, a beloved tale from our childhood, and a story with new twist -- the addition of yidishe tam.

Peter and the Wolf, both the music and the text, was written by Sergei Prokofiev in 1936 for the Moscow Children's Musical Theater, shortly after taking his children there. He was so inspired, that he completed the work in only one week!

(It took us two months to translate!)

The story: A boy wanders through nature, observing animals -- especially a duck, a bird, and a cat. The cat tries to catch the bird. Der gazlen's grandfather scolds him for wandering in a dangerous place -- where he might be attacked by a wolf. He takes "der gazlen" home by the hand and locks him in. But from that safe place, sure enough, "der gazlen" sneaks back outside and manages to catch the wolf with the help of the bird and a rope. When hunters arrive on the scene, anxious to kill the wolf, "der gazlen" urges them to let the animal be taken to the zoo instead. As they all march off in a happy procession, the duck can be heard quacking inside the wolf's stomach, because the wolf, in his hurry, had swallowed her whole.

## DER GAZLEN UN DER VOLF

1. in der fri hot der gazlen geefent dem toyer un iz gegangen in dem groysn grinem feld.
2. af der tsveyg fun a groysn boym iz gezesn a feygele, a kleynem, a fraynd fun der gazlen. "s'iz gants shtil" getsirt di feygele in freydn.
3. bald iz gevakeven a katsшке. zi iz geven take tsufridn az der gazlen hot nisht farmakht dem toyer, un zi hot bashlosn bay zikh tsu shvimen in dem tifer taykh in feld.
4. az di feygele hot gezen di katsшке, iz zi aropgefloygn afn groz, hot zikh bazetst lebn ir. zi hot gehoybn di fliglen.
5. "vos far a min foygl bistu az du kenst nisht flien?" hot geentfert di katsшке, "vos far a min foygl bistu az du kenst nisht shvimen", un zi iz arayngeshprungen in vaser.
6. zey hobn zikh gekrikt un gekrikt, di katsшке shvimendik in taykh un di feygele shpringendik afn breg.
7. plutsling hot der gazlen epes bamerkt.
8. er hot bamerkt az a kats krikht in dem groz.
9. der kats hot getrakht. di feygele iz farnumen mit dem krigeray, vel ikh im khapn.
10. er iz ganeyvish gekrokhn tsu ir af samete fisele.
11. "hit zikh" hot geshrign der gazlen. un di feygele iz mit a mol aroyfgefloygn afn boym.
12. di katsшке iz in kas af dem kats un hot gekvakt fun mitn taykh.
13. der kats iz gekrokhn aroyf dem boym un hot getrakht: "es vert aroyftsukrikhn azoy hoykh? az ikh vel dergreykhn dem shpits, volt di feygele shoyne avekgefloygn."
14. der zeyde iz aroysgekumen. er iz geven in kas af der gazlen vayl der gazlen iz gegangen in feld arayn. "s'iz a geferlekh ort. az a volf zol aroys fun vald, vos volstu ton?"

15. der gazlen hot ignorirt zayn zeydns verter.  
yingelekh vi er hobn nisht keyn moyre far volfn.
16. ober zeyde hot der gazlen gefirt bay der hant  
aheym, un farmakht dem toyer.
17. glaykh vi der gazlen iz avek gegangen, iz a  
groyer groyser volf aroys fun vald.
18. in an oygnblik iz der kats aroyfgekrokhn af dem  
boym.
19. di katshke hot gekvakt un gekvakt un iz  
aroysgeshprungen fun taykh.
20. vi shver es iz geven tsu antloyfn fun volf, hot di  
katshke nisht gekent.
21. der volf iz gekumen noenter ---- noenter -----
22. er hot zi shier gekhapt.
23. mit a mol hot der volf di katshke gekhapt un  
hot zi aropgeshlungen.
24. nu, itst ....
25. der kats zitst af eyn tsveyg ...
26. di feygele af an andere ...
27. nisht vayt fun kats ...
28. un der volf iz arumgegangen in a krayz arum  
dem boym - kukendik af zey mit hungerike oygn.
29. dervayl der gazlen, on keyn moyre, iz gestanen  
hinter dem farshlosenem gortn toyer - tsukukndik  
alts vos pasirt.
30. er iz aheym gelofn, hot genumen a grubn shtrik, un  
iz aroyfgekrokhn af dem hoykhen moyer. eyne fun di  
tsveygen fun boym aribergehangt iber dem moyer.
31. der gazlen hot ongekapt di tsveyg un iz  
glaykh aroyfgekrokhn afn boym.
32. der gazlen hot gezogt tsum feygele --"flig arop  
un ringlet arum dem volfs kop. nor zayt forzikhtik  
az er zol dir nisht khapn."
33. di feygele hot kimat ongerirt dem volfs kop mit  
ire fliglen vayl der volf, a beyzer, hot ir geknaklt  
fun ale zaytn.
34. di feygele hot zikh ongetshepet tsum volf. oy --  
hot er ir gevolt khapn. ober di feygele iz geven  
kliger, un der volf hot gornisht gekent ton.
35. der gazlen hot gemakht a lasso un hot langsam  
un forzikhtik es aropgelozt ...
36. er hot gekhapt dem volf baym ek, un hot  
getsoygen mit ale koyekh.
37. vilderhayt hot der volf ongehoynbn shpringen  
un hot zikh gevolt bafrayen.
38. ober der gazlen hot tsugebunden di andern ek  
fun shtrik tsum boym ...
39. un dem volfs shpringen hot nor gemakht dem  
shtrik enger.
40. grod dan ...
41. zaynen di yegers aroys fun vald ...
42. shisendik zaynen zey nokhgegangen dem volf.
43. ober gazlen, zitsindik afn boym, hot gezogt:  
"shist nisht!" di feygele un ikh hobn shoyn  
gekapt dem volf. itst - helft undz im brengen  
tsum zoo.
44. un dortn ...
45. shtelt zikh for di triumfale protsesie.
46. gazlen b'rosh ...
47. nokh im di yegers firendik dem volf ...
48. un tsum end fun di protsesie zaynen gegangen  
der zeyde un der kats. der zeyde hot geshoklt  
zayn kop umtsufridik. "nu" -- hot er gezogt, "oyb  
der gazlen volt nisht gekhapt dem volf -- vos volt  
pasirt?"
49. iber zey iz gefloygn di feygele, zingendik in  
freyd. "vi vunderlikh mir zaynen, der gazlen un  
ikh. zet vos mir hobn gekhapt!"
50. un az men hert zikh tsu, ken men hern vi di  
katshke kvakt in dem volfs boykh. vayl der volf in  
zayn aylenish hot aropgeshlungen di gantse  
katshke lebedik.
- dem sof

# MISHPOKHE KHEYNDELEKH - 56

Transliterated by Ana Berman

Ibergezest fun yidish, funem forverts

Shmulik un zayn froy, Yentl, hobn zikh arayngekvetsht in a gepaktn lift (elevator). Nokh dem vi di tirn hobn zikh farmakht, hot Yentl bamerkt mit fardros, az ir man shteyt gor noent tsu a sheyner yunger froy, un zet oys tsufridn derfun.

Ven der lift hot zikh opgeshtelt un di tirn hobn zikh geeft, hot di yunge froy plutsling (suddenly) derlangt Shmulikn a patsh in ponim, shrayendik: "Vi dervegstu zikh mikh ontsutapn azoy?!"

Shmulik un Yentl hobn nisht gezogt keyn vort un aroys fun lift, ober ven zey hobn zikh arayngezetst in oyto, hot Shmulik gezogt: "Ikh kon zikh shvern, tayere, kh'hob zi bekhlal nisht ongerirt."

"Kh'veys," hot Yentl gezogt mit a shmeykhl. "Dos hob ikh geton."

\* \* \*

Az me ganvet di gedanken bay a mentshn, heyst es plagiat. Ven me ganvet bay a sakh mentshn --- heyst es a forsh-arbet.

\* \* \*

Di Isroeldike ekonomye iz in gehakte vundn. Di Kneset ruft a spetsyele sesye tsu bashlisen vos tsu ton.

Nokh etlekhe sho, shteyt oyf a deputat, Yitskhok, un derklert: "Sha, ikh hob a plan. Lomir derklern milkhome mit Amerike."

"Vos?! Bistu meshuge gevorn?" varft men zikh oyf im aroyf.

"Hert mikh oys," zogt Yitskhok. "Mir veln derklern a milkhome. Amerike vet, farshteyt zikh, zign, un ton vi zi tut nokh yedn nitsokhn. Zi vet alts iberboyen: undzere shoseyen, flifelder, hafns, shpitoln... Dertsu vet zi undz layen gelt. Undzere tsores veln farshvindn."

"Nu, gut," entfert a tsveyter deputat. "Vos vet ober zayn, oyb mir veln di milkhome, kholile, gevinen?"

\* \* \*

A gevir iz geshtorbn. Der durkhfirer fun der tsavoe hot farzamlt di mishpokhe un forgeleyent di tsavoe:

"Far mayn tayerer froy, Seydi, loz ikh iber dos hoyz un eyn milyon dolar. Mayn zun, Beri, loz ikh iber dem mertsedes un dem dzhagvar oytos. Mayn tokhter, Suzi, loz ikh mayn yakhte (yacht) un \$250,000. Un mayn shvoger, dzef, vos hot tomid zikh ayngeshpart, az dos gezunt iz vikhtiker vi gelt – loz ikh iber mayn yogurt-makher."

\* \* \*

Di naye krankn-shvester hot gepruvt farshteyn dem altn patsyent, nor zayn aktsent iz geven a shverer.

Mit der tsayt hot zi farshtanen, az er hot nisht keyn gezunt-farzikherung, un az er iz a veteran fun der tsveyter velt-milkhome. Hot zi im ibergeschikt inem shpitol fun der veteranen-administratsye, vu er volt geven barekhtikt tsu di benefitn.

Dem tsveytn tog hot men umgekeret dem patsyent mit a brivl: "Gedint hot er take in der tsveyter velt-milkhome—ober nisht oyf undzer tsad!"

\* \* \*

A psikhologye-profesor hot opgehalt a lektsye vegn der hamoyn-psikhologye. Vi a bayshpil fun masn-histerye hot er gevizn naves-opshnitn fun di masn meydlekh, vos hobn bagrist di "bitlz" in flifeld in di 1060er yorn.

Mit a mol hot eyn student oysgeshosn in a gelekhter. Der professor hot opgeshlosn dem video un gefregt: "Vos iz do azoy komish?"

Entfert der student: Kh'ob dort derkent mamen!"

\* \* \*

A froy iz gezesn oyf der sofe un gekukt ir balibtste kokh-program oyf televizye.

"Far vos kukstu di programen?" hot ir man gefregt. "Du kokhst afile nisht."

Kukt zi on ir man un zogt: "Nu, oyb azoy, far vos zhe kukstu futbol?"

\* \* \*

# Mishpokhe Kheyndelekh – 46

Transliterated by Ana Berman

Ibergezest fun yidish, funem forverts

An almone hot bashlosn tsu koyfn a hunt, kedey zi tsu bashitsn (protect). Zi iz gegangen in a gevelb (store) fun shtub-khayes, un ongevizn oyf a Daytshn shof-hunt.

“Er hot nisht lib keyn mener,” hot der farkoyfer gezogt. Zeyer gut, hot di almone getrakht, un gekoyft dem hunt.

Eyn ovnt, shpatsirndik mitn hunt, zenen tsvey mener tsugekumen tsu ir, un zi hot gevart tsu zen, vi azoy ir “vekhter” vet reagirn. Zi hot bald bamerkt, az der farkoyfer iz take geven gerekht. Ven di mener hobn zikh dernentert, iz der hunt antlofn.

\* \* \*

Bes an English-klas, hot di lererin dertseylt di oyslendishe (foreign) studentn vegn a khinezisher (Chinese) imigrantke, vos hot shtark gevolt trogn an Englishn nomen lekoved (in honor of) ir nayer heym.

“Zi hot oysgeklibn (selected) dem nomen ‘geduldik’ --- hot di lererin derklert --- kedey tomid tsu gedenken tsu zayn geduldik mit andere mentshn.

“Vil ikh aykh fregn: Oyb ir volt gekent bakumen a nayem Englishn nomen, vos volt ir oysgeklibn?”

Entfert a yunger-man: “Raykhman.”

\* \* \*

Hagam Yentl iz shoyn geven iber 70 yor alt, hot zi lib gehat tsu forn oyfn velosiped, befrat mit ir akht-yorik eynikl, Dine.

Eyn mol, forndik zalbetsveyt durkhn park, hot Yentl zikh a bisl fartrakht. “In tsen yor vestu mistome gikher veln farbrengen mit dayne fraynd, eyder tsu geyn mit mir shpatsirn, shvimen, oder forn mitn velosiped bicycle), azoy vi itst,” hot zi bamerkt.

“S’makht nisht oys,” hot Dine zi getreyst. “In tsen yor vestu mistome say-vi zayn tsu alt tsu ton azoyne zakhn.”

\* \* \*

A man iz gekumen tsu an (outstanding) ongezeenem psikhiator un gezogt: “Dokter, ikh hob

a zhvere problem. S’halt zikh mir in eyn dakhtn, az ikh bin a hunt. S’iz mamesh (literally) meshuge, kh’veys shoyn (already) mer nisht vos tsu ton.

“Aaa, dos iz nisht keyn umbakante zakh; s’heyst a hunt-kompleks,” hot der dokter gezogt. “Zorgt zikh nisht, ikh ken aykh helfn. Kumt aher un leygt zikh anider oyf der sofe.”

“Kholile --- hot der man geentfert a nervezer --- m’hot mir geheysn nisht krikhn oyf di mebl!”

\* \* \*

In mitn der nakht hot geklungen der telefon bay a biblioteker in der heym.

“Vifl a zeyger efnt zikh di bibliotek?” --- hot gefregt der man oyfn telefon.

“Nayn a zeyger in der fri --- hot der biblioteker geentfert --- ober far vos klingt ir mir in der heym in mitn der nakht tsu shteln (ask) aza frage?”

“Ir zogt, es vet nisht zayn ofn biz nayn a zeyger?” --- khazert iber der man.

“Neyn, nisht biz nayn a zeyger!” --- entfert der biblioteker. “Far vos vilt ir geyn in bibliotek azoy fri?”

“Ver zogt, az ikh vil arayngeyn?” --- entfert der man. “Ikh vil aroys!”

\* \* \*

A yung sheyn meydli iz arayn in a shnitkrom un gevizn oyf a geviser vare. “Kh’volt gevolt koyfn di vare far a nay kleyd. Vifl kost es?”

Der yungerman hintern tombank hot gevunken tsu ir un gezogt: “Bloyz eyn kush far yedn meter.”

“Gut, oyb azoy vel ikh koyfn tsen meter.”

Der yungerman hot zikh tshemeykhlt, gikh oysgemostn di skhoyre, es ayngelikht un tsugerukt zayn ponim noent tsu irs.

Dos meydli hot tsugenumen dos pekl, gevizn oyfn altn man hinter ir un gezogt: “Zeyde vet batsoln.”

# Vi Azoy Cristofer Columbus Hot Oyfgedekt (Discovered) Amerike

fun Ed Goldman

Der Rikhtiker Emes (The Unvarnished Truth)

Kinig Ferdinand: Nu, Mister meshugener oysforshener (explorer), du vilst oyfdekn Amerike?

Cristofer C: Azoy zeyer shtark (so badly) az ikh ken funem filn dem tam (I can taste it).

Kinigin Izabela: Fun vos hot es a tam?

C.C.: Tshikn zup mit matzo-kneydlekh, a maykhl.

Ferdi: Men zogt, du bist fun dem Yidishn gloybn.

Izi: A Galitsianer, nokh.

C.C.: S'iz shver tsu zayn a Yid, ober ikh ken shvern oyf mayn mames mezuze a Galitsianer bin ikh nit. Der zeyde fun der muters tsad iz geven Edvard M. Goldman, der Litvisher bobbe mayse shrayber.

Ferdi: Vu hostu genumen aza modne (strange) idee, az di erd iz kaylekhdik (round)?

C.C.: Ikh hob a familye yerushe, a mape geshribn gevorn fun der hant fun Moyshn aley. Got hot im gezogt, "Moysh, gloyb nit vos dayne Mitsraishe (Egyptian) lerers hobn dir gelernt. Di erd iz nit flatshik (flat), s'iz epes keylekhdik. Na, nem mayn kvalpen (fountain pen) un dem blat papayrus, un ikh vel dir helfn skitsirn a mape fun der velt. Do iz Mitsraim, un dortn iz Amerike, un arunter dortn iz Miami. (Er tsit oys a mape, vayzt on oyf Amerike.

Ferdi: Vos zaynen di fingerdrukn (fingerprints)?

C.C.: Dos iz vu Moyshe hot gehaltn dem papayrus oyf a groysn shteyn beys Got hot im geholfn skitsirn di mape.

Izi: Du rikhtst zikh (expect) az mir zoln gloybn aza kok-a-meymi geshikhte?

C.C.: Ikh rekhn az ikh muz geyn tsu di Rusn far finantsirn. Oyb zey kenen gloybn in komunizm, kenen zey gloybn in dem oykh.

Ferdi: Loz mikh zen di mape. Izi, gelibte, derlang mir mayn fargrese-gloz. Aha, itst ze ikh es—a pitsinker shtern oyf dem grobn fingerdruk.

C.C.: Avade! Yeder Yid veyst az der moel vos hot Moyshn gemalt hot im glatt kosher tsertifitsirt (certified) mitn aynshraybn oyf yedern grobn finger a Mogn-Dovid.

Izi: Fargres di ruskis. Ot iz der opmakh (deal): nem mit dir tsvantsik Yidn—tsen mener un tsen froyen—un loz zey bazetsn (settle) in Beyon, Niu Jerzy. Ven mir varfn aroys ale Yidn fun Shpanye—zay nit umgerekht mit mir (don't get me wrong), etlekhe fun mayne beste fraynd zaynen Yidn—zey veln hobn a Ganeydn vuhin zey kenen forn.

Ferdi: Izi, mayn kinigin, du bist a jeni (genius). Du zolst kinig zayn.

Izi: Ferdi, mayn kinig, mit a razirung un mayne getsatskele (fancy) kleyder kenstu a kinigin zayn.

Narator: Columbus hot gezegelt (sailed) fertsik teg un fertsik nekht, hot gezen di Statue fun Frayhayt, gelandet oyf Plimut Rok, gehert an Indianisher zogn oyf Yidish: Indianisher shef (chief): Kapitan Livingston, ikh gloyb.

C.C.: Umgerekht, mayn fayn gefederter (feathered) fraynd. Ikh heys Cristofer Columbus.

Shef: Vos tut a Yid mit a nomen Cristofer? (Aside): A klog oyf Columbus.

C.C.: Vi azoy redt an Indianisher Yidish?

Shef: Bite, ruf mikh nit an Indianisher; ikh bin an Ayngeboyryner Amerikaner.

C.C.: Antshuldik mir, Shef—

Shef: Shef Patsh-in-Tokhes, hoypt fun di tsen farblondzhete shvotim (lost tribes) fun Yisrael. Ikh ze az du host gebrakht etlekhe griniz tsu kolonizirn di Goldene Medine. Mir hobn a minyen, veln mir daven minkha, boyen a khupe, hobn a khasene—ikh bin oykh der hoypt rebi-keyner zol di kinder nit rufn mamzeyrim. Ven du zeglst tsurik keyn Shpanye, nem a shif ful mit di kubner tsigarn, du vest a sakh gelt fardinen.

C.C.: Vi General Duglas Mekartur vet zogn, "Ikh vel tsurikkumen."

# Vi Azoy Edison Hot Dem Elektrische Likht Lempl (Bulb) Oysgefunen

A Komishe Stsene fun Edvard M. Goldman

Edison: Grizhen, grizhen,! Tchepe zikh op. Do, in mayn varshat (workshop), ikh darft zayn a kenig.

Froy Edison: Shoyn eyn mol a kenig! A poshete zakh vi an elektrishe likht, efsher zekhtsik oder finf un zibetsik vatn, a por ampers (amperes), gornisht "fensi shmensi," dos kenstu nit oysgefinen?

Ed: Kenstu nit zen az ikh bin farnumen mit an anti-shverkraft (anti-graviy) mashin?

Froy: Oyf aza kok-a-memi oystrakhtenish (fantasy) hob ikh akht yor dikh geshikt in Yeshive? Aroysgevorfn gelt. Oy, o, oy, oy, oy!

Ed: Mit dir bay mir iz do eyn zakh vos ikh darf nit oysgefinen-Gehenem oyf der erd.

Froy: Oyb ikh bin geven a yunge, sheyne shikse, voltstu mir oysgefinen a mekhayerike (delicious) elektrishe likht. Ikh hob gehoft tsu zayn dayn inspiratsiye. (Sings from God Bless America)

Ed: Du host grod (just now) mir gegebn an idee far an inkandesent lempl.

Froy: Vos?

Ed: Ikh hob es okersht oysgeklert (just now made it up). Ikh veys nit afile (even) vi azoy es oystsuleygn.

Frov: In drerd der oysleyg; ikh trakht shoyn fun farkoyfn. Mir veln an ashires (fortune) fardinen.

Ed: Ikh hob shoyn a bild funem lempl in mayn moyekh (mind) a kvadratisher sloy (square jar) mit a likht ineveynik, un an elektrishn drot (wire) farbundn mitn knoyt (connected to the wick).

Froy: Ikh aleyn hob libersht (I prefer) a "seksi" forem, mer feminin, vi mayn meydlshe figur.

Ed: Du tsindst on mayn fayer. (Er kusht zi).

Froy: Ikh bin kit (putty) in dayne hent.

Ed: Makh mir mayn spetsieln hero sendvitsh-stashkeshmir (peanut butter), halbe zoyere ugerke, ketshop, grivenes, tsibeles, Italienishe gevirtsn (spices), a bisl soy sos, un a sakh mayonez.

Froy: Du muzst hobn a mogn vi a tsementn durkhmisher (cement mixer). Men ken oysbrekhn.

Ed: Kh'vel di end funem drot (wire) farbindn tsu mayn baysikl, un tsu der likht knoyt (candle wick).

Narator: Er zitst oyfn baysikl, heybt on pompen.

Ed: (Zingt Bicycle Built for Two): But you'll look sweet upon the seat of a bicycle built for two.

(Redt): Hayda (Here goes) ! Kh'vel dem oysshliser aynshlisl, un dos gelt vet arayngisn.

Narator: Funem hoyz hert er zayn froy shrayendik vi a geshtokhener khazir. Zi kumt in shop arayn.

Froy: Nudnik, klots! Du host a kurtsshlus gemakht (short circuited) in ale likht, du shmegegi, du!

Ea: Ikh hob dir oykh lib, mayn oytser. Gib mir a bisl tsayt; men hot nyu york nit geboyt far eyn tog.

Froy: Oyb ikh volt geven a rikhterin (judge), volt ikh dir gegebn tsayt-inem meshugoyim-hoyz.

Ed: Genug! Ikh nem a krikhndikn shifl keyn Khine (China), a milyon mayl vayter fun dayn kvetshn.

Froy: Na, dayn valize, in gantsn ayngepakt.

Ed: Halt nit ayn dayn otem vartndik oyf mir. Efsher vel ikh trefn a prekhtike goyishe gayshe (geishe), un kh'vel blaybn in oysland oyf mayn gantsn lebn.

Froy: Tsi iz dos a tsuzog (promise)?

Ed: Du vilst poter vern fun mir?

Froy: Dos du host oysgerekhent (figured out)?

Ed: Du host shoyn nokh emetsn, a yunger buhay?

Froy: Du trakhtst az du bist der eyn un eyntsiker bay undz vos hot shoyn genug gehat? S'iz shoyn tsayt tsesheydn zikh (to split).

Ed. Kh'vel tsheshpaltn dem drot (wire), di elektriye vet shpringen fun beyde endn funem drot, un ven zi treft zikh in mitn, vi Got zogt, "Loz zayn likht."



# Shayles un Tshuves in "Hilkhes Libe"

Fun der khaznte Khane Sleik

"Forverts" – 9/25-10/1/2009

[transliterated, edited and annotated by Goldie Adler Gold]

Tayere khaznte,

Ikh bin nisht keyn religyezer yid, ober ikh nem onteyl [*participate*] in ale yidishe yontoyvim, bifrat [*especially*] di yomim-neroim [*10 Days of Awe*]. Di letste etlekhe khadoshim [*months*] zenen geven shvere far mir, tsulib [*because*] groyse veytikn in mayn pleytse [*shoulder pains*].

Ikh hob bedeye gehat [*intended*] tsu forn mit mayn man oyf a vakatsye lekoved [*to celebrate*] mayn 50-yorikn geboyrn-tog [*birthday*], ober in der letster minut zenen mir nisht geforn tsulib [*because*] di veytikn [*pains*]. Bemeshekh [*during*] funem zumer, hob ikh azoy fil zakhn nisht gekent oyfton, az di khadoshim [*months*] zenen farbay [*passed*] mit groys antoyshung [*disappointment*].

Mayn mans mishpokhe [*family*] greyt tsu a rosheshonedike sude [*feast*] in Philadelphia, etlekhe sho [*hours*] fun undz, ober es kumt mir on tsu shver tsu zitsn in oyto azoy fil tsayt. Ikh vil nisht, az er zol nisht kenen farbrengen [*enjoy*] vi er vil beys [*during*] di yontoyvim.. Vos zol ikh ton? Zikh mutshen [*suffer*] un forn ahin far zaynet vegn [*...his sake*]? Im lozn blaybn in der heym mit mir, vi er hot forgeleygt [*proposed*], un zikh filn shuldik [*guilty*]? Oder zol ikh im heysn forn aleyn, on mir, un zikh filn umetik [*sad*], vos ikh blayb aleyn in der heym?

## Rosheshone shayle [*question*]

Tayere rosh...sh...,

Koydem kol [*first of all*], vintsh ikh aykh a refueshleyme [*complete recovery*]. Kh'halt [*I believe*] az keyner darf nisht farbrengen [*spend*] rosheshone aleyn. Khotsh [*although*] ir vilt nisht tsurikhaltn [*to hold him back*] ayer man, vet ir zikh filn elnt un dershlogn [*lonely...depressed*] ven ir blaybt aleyn in der heym. Oyb ir kent fartrogn [*tolerate*] dos forn eyn veg tsu di kroyvim [*relatives*] in Philadelphia, nekhtikt iber [*stay over*] bay zey di nakht. Azoy tsi azoy [*one way or the other*], beser tsu fabrengen [*spend time*] rosheshone mit mishpokhe. Leshone-toyve [*New Year*].

+++++

Tayere khaznte,

Mayn tate lozt mikh nisht farbetn [*invite*] mayn yingl in undzer shtub opftsufastn nokh yonkiper.

Far vos? Dovidn hot men dertsoygn [*brought up*] vi a yid; er hot gehat a bris, a barmitsve, un er pravet [*observes*] di yontoyvim. Er hot afile oysgeklitn [*selected*] yidishe shtudies vi limud [*classes*] in universitet.

Zayn tate iz a yid, zayn mame nisht. Er veyst, az oyb mir voltn khasene gehat, volt er zikh gedarf megayer zayn [*convert to Judaism*]. Khotsh [*even though*] er iz a reform-yid, volt er zikh megayer geven loyt der ortodoksisher traditsye. Ober mayn frumer [*religious*] tate vil zikh afile nisht bakenen [*get acquainted*] mit im un zogt, az ikh khaver zikh [*associate*] mit a goy. Ikh ver azoy tserudert [*agitated*] fun dem. Vi ken ikh ibertsaygn [*convince*] mayn tatn, er zol farshteyn [*understand*] mayn meynung [*opinion*]. Zayn velt iz shvarts un vays [*he sees things black and white*].

## A Voyle [*good*] Yidishe Tokhter

Tayere v...y...t...,

Es klingt [*seems*], vi dos iz a sensitiver inyen [*matter*] far ayer tatn un far aykh. Hob ikh tsvey forleygn [*suggestions*]: redt mit im un zogt im, az ir darf gefinen a tsayt, ven me ken dos arumredn [*discuss*]. Zogt im, az ir vilt zikh nisht oystaynen [*argue*] mit im, ober me darf firn an erlekhn shmues [*honest talk*]. Hert zikh tsu [*listen*] tsu im, on im ibertsuraysn [*interruption*], eyder ir entfert [*before answering*], un dernokh [*afterwards*] bet im, er zol zikh tsuheren tsu aykh [*listen to you*] mit geduld [*patience*].

Efsher kent ir im ibertsaygn [*persuade...*], az es ken zikh azoy trefn [*occur*], az ayer khaver vet amol zayn zayn eydem [*son-in-law*] un geyn mit aykh unter der khupe [*wedding canopy*]; un oyb er iz umfrayndlekh [*unfriendly*] itst, veln di mishpokhedike batsiungen laydn shpeter [*family relationships will suffer later*].

Mayn tsveyter forleyg: [*my second suggestion*] vendt zikh [*appeal*] tsu ayer mamen. Oyb zi shtitst [*supports*] ayer pozitsye [*position*], ken zi efsher [*perhaps*] hobn a hashpoe [*influence*] oyfn tatn. Zol zayn mit mazl un a gut-yor!

**Editor's note:** Golda has had a running series in *Der Bay*. We hope to compile them in a booklet for the IAYC clubs to use at their meetings. It is especially helpful to those who have difficulty in reading Yiddish with the Hebrew / Yiddish letters.

# Shayles un Tshuves in "Hilkhes Libe"

(Questions and Answers in the Matter of Love)

[transliterated and annotated by Goldie Adler Gold] *Forverts*: Aug. 24, 2007

Tayere Khaznte,

Mayn tokhter volt gevolt zikh randkevn [date] mit a nit-yidishn bokher. Zi iz a gute un a kluge. Ikh veys nisht vos ikh zol ir zogn. S'iz vikhtik far undz az undzere kinder zoln khasene hobn mit yidn, ober zi iz nokh zeyer vayt fun khasene hobn. Tseyln oykh di 'high-school' romanen?

Tayere Farzorgte Mame,

Ir hot geentfert oyf ayer eygener shayle [question]. Oyb khasene hobn mit a yid iz vikhtik in ayer mishpokhe, darf zi oykh randkevn [date] mit a yid-un dos iz der eyntsiker veg. Ayer tokhters 'high-school' batsiungen [relationships] veln bashtimen [determine] mit vemen zi vet zikh shpeter bakenen. Ikh vintsh aykh hatslokhe [success] inem shmues, ven ir vet ir dertseyln—mit libshaft--farvos ir halt nisht fun ir plan.

Tayere Khaznte,

Ikh bin 28 yor alt un kh'hob gefunen mayn bashertn [destined one]. Mir zenen beyde farlibt un hobn bashlosn, az mir veln oyslebn undzere teg tsuzamen. Mir tuen kimat alts tsuzamen, un mir hobn lib tsu farbrengen mit andere mishpokhes oykh. Undzer lebn iz kimat perfekt. Di eyntsike problem iz gelt--Gelt iz zeyer vikhtik far Allen. Er hot zikh tsugezogt az er vet nisht khasene hobn biz er hot nisht a milyon \$ in bank. Allen arbet in a guter yurisprudents-firme [law firm] un hot a gute parnose, ober iz nokh vayt fun dergreykhn zayn finantsyeln tsil [goal], un ikh ze nisht keyn sibe [reason] tsu vartn. Vi azoy ken ikh oyf im virkn, er zol fargesn in gelt un khasene hobn mit mir itst? Ayer - Umgeduldike

Tayere Umgeduldike,

Nit kukndik oyfn inyen [matter] fun gelt, tsi filt zikh Allen greyt khasene tsu hobn mit aykh? Tsi vil er khasene hobn mit aykh azoy shtark vi ir vilt mit im? Mayn ershte reaktsye oyf ayer frage iz, az dos veln fardinen azoy fil gelt iz nor a terets [excuse]. Oyb dos iz take azoy, un ir hot zikh beyde lib vi ir bashraybt, darft ir hobn an erlekhn [serious] shmues un gebn Allen tsu farshteyn, az dos lib hobn hot nisht tsu ton mit gelt in bank. Oyb dos gelt iz mer vikhtik [important], iz er nisht vert ayer libshaft. Oyb er zogt, az ir zent yo mer vikhtik, vintsh ikh aykh a mazldik lebn tsuzamen. Ir zent mer vert vi a milyon \$.

Tayere Khaznte,

Ikh hob zikh geget farayorn [last year]. Sof-kol-sof, fil ikh zikh greyt tsu geyn oyf randkes [dates] mit mener. Di problem iz, vos ikh veys nisht vi azoy zikh tsu bakenen mit mentshn. Ikh bin in mayne shpete 40er yorn un di mener vos ikh ken, hobn shoyn khasene gehat. Inem kleynem shtetl vu ikh voyn, zenen nisht faran keyn nisht-khasene-gehate. Vu heybt men on?

Ayer - grushe [divorcee]

Tayere Grushe,

Koydem-kol, darft ir trakhtn vegn zikh vi fun a froy, an antik [special]. Ir darft zikh nisht prezentirn tsu der velt, der iker [chiefly], vi a gegete. Heybt on zikh tsu bateylikn [take part] in aktivitetn vos ir hot say-vi [anyhow] fun zey hano. Me ken keynmol nisht visn, vemen me ken bagegenen in teater, oder oyf a tenis-farmest, oder a leyenkrayz. Azoy arum vet ir gut farbrengen mit emetsn, tsi nisht. Oyb ir voynt in a kleyn shtetl, fort oyf tshikaves [curiosity] in der noentster groysn shtot. Koyft dortn di lokale tsaytung un git a kuk ver se shraybt inem "bokher-meydl"-opteyl fun di shadkhones-zaytn [matchmaking...].

Haynt iz di internets oykh an oysgetseykhnter [outstanding] oyfn zikh tsu bakenen mit mentshn, vos ir vet nisht bagegenen oyf der gas. Toyznter shidukhim hot men geshlosn, a dank di vebzaytlekh J.Date, eHarmony un match.com frumster. Farshraybt zikh haynt.

Tayere Khaznte,

Ikh hob shver gearbet mayn gants lebn, un hob letstns zikh pensyonirt [retired] tsu 65 yor. Itst farbreng ikh mayne teg azoy--ikh shlof shpet, leyen di tsaytung, khap a driml, es groyse moltsaytn, un leyg zikh fri shlofn. Mayn vayb ken es shoyn mer nisht oyshaltn un zogt, az ikh bin gevorn an alter man. Tsi kumt mir nisht a bisl ru un opshpan?

Tayerer Pensyonirter, [retiree]

Ir hot zikh pensyonirt fun ayer arbet, ober nisht funem lebn. Farbrengt mit ayer vayb aktiv; bazukht tsuzamen di unternemungen vos ir hot nisht gekent bazukhn ven ir hot gearbet a fule vokh. Planirt a vakatsye! Geyt tsu fraynd. Ikh meyn, az ir vet nokh kenen zikh opruen un hano hobn funem lebn oyf a nisht geayltn [unhurried], pamelekhn oyfn.

## Yidisher Geografiye –

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Ikh hob gemakht a plan far a vakatsiye in Nyu Meksike, mit Karmen, di ershte vayb fun mayn geshtorbenem man. Karmen iz a goye, un voynt in Las Krusis. Mir hobn bashlosn tsu farbrengen di ershte vokh in an Eltere lernung salye (Elderhostel) in Santa Fey, un af der tsveyter vokh in Las Krusis.

Ven mir zaynen arayngefurn in Las Krusis, hob ikh opgerufn Nansi Peters Heystings:. Zi iz geven di gast redaktorike fun eyne fun Kafe' Solo, eyne fun di zhurnaln velkhe hobn publikirt an oystsug fun mayne zikhroynes. Zi hot mir nerayet az mir zoln zikh tsuzamenkumen bay Nabe's Kafe Bar.

Ven Nansi iz tsugekumen tsum tish, un zikh gemakht bakant, hot zi derzen vi a man geyt aroys fun restoran. "Aw" hot zi gezogt, un im tsugebrakht, mit a shokldike hant. "Ot iz a man velkher ikh vil ir zolt im bakant makhn, Er iz oykhet a shrayber, un a redakter."

Ven Nansi hot dem man undz bakant gemakht, (zayn nomen) Ben Nusbaum\*. Vi azoy hot a man mitn nomen Nusbaum farblondzhet in Las Krusis?

"Fun vanen kumt ir?" hob ikh gefregt.

"Montiselo, nyu york" makht er.

Nu, ken dos zayn az er iz gekumen fun Montiselo, di shtot in de Ketskil Berg, dafke dortn vi ikh bin geboyrn gevorn?

Ikh hob im dertseylt az ikh hob graduirt fun der hoykh shule in nayntsn zeks un fertsig, ober ikh hob keynem nisht gekent mitn numen Nusbaum. "Ober in Vudridzh (Woodridge), dortn vi ikh hob gevoynt fun 1936 biz 1941, dortn hob ikh gekent eymitsn mitn numen Nusbaum. Er iz geven a gibs arbeter, un iz geven a fraynd mayne eltem.

"Dos iz geven mayn zeyde," zogt Ben.

"Hob ikh demolts farshtanen az ikh meyg take dertseyln Ben a mayse; aza mayse vos ikh hob mit zikh arumgetrogen far kmat zekhtsig yor. "Efsher vet gefeln a skandal vegn ayer Mime Sheril\*?" hob ikh gefregt. Yo, er vet dus take gevolt.

Hob ikh im dertselt aza mayse: ven ikh bin gegangen in dem elementere shule in Vudridzh, hob ikh zikh bamerkt az dortn iz a zeyer sheyne yunge moyd geven, m'stame akhtsn yur alt dem gibs arbeters a tokhter, Sheril. Zi hot gehat epes an umshuldikn kuk.

Dem zumer, a man mitn nomen Dzhek Komblat\*, eyner fun di Nyu Yorkern, di vus hobn farbrakht in Vudridzh demolts, iz bakant gevorn mit ir, un hot zikh farlibt in ir, un hot ir gefregt tsu zi vil mit im hayretn. Zey zaynen farhayret gevorn dem zelbn zumer un nokh dem geforn kayn Manhetn.

"Zi iz shtendig geven a shpringerin."

Mit Etlekhe yurn shpeter, dervayle, ven Sheril iz geven in zeyer Nyu Yorker dire, hot ir telefon geklungen, un der vos hot gerufn hot nokhgefregt nokh Dzhek. "Er is nisht du yetst," hot zi gezugt. "Ober, mit tsufridnhayt, vel ikh im zugn, ven er kumt aheym, az ir hot im ongeklungen."

"Ver iz dos?" hot der telefonirer gevolt visn.

"Ikh bin zayn vayb," makht Sheril.

"Dos iz take modne. Es klingt nisht vi Betsi's\* shtime." hot der man gezogt. "Ober loz visn Dzhek az er zol mikh oprifn ven er kumt aheym."

"Es klingt nisht vi Betsi's shtime"? Ver iz Betsi?

Ven Dzhek iz aheymgekumen, hot es nisht lang gedoyert biz Sheril hot oysgefunden ver Betsi iz geven. Betsi iz shoyn lang geven Dzheks vayb, a froy mit dray fun zayne kinder, un zi iz shoyn take geven zayn vayb, eyder er hot forgeleygt khasene tsu hobn, un shpeyter khasene gehot mit Sheni. Un er iz geven dortn mit der dozike froy, mit vemen er iz nokh geven farhayret, mit di kinder.

Sheril, nokh di tern un nokh di remonstratsyes, iz avek fun Nyu York un tsurikgeforn kayn Vudridzh, epes a shande. Kmat nokhdem, hot zi khasene gehat mitn voylbarstn bokher fun shtetl, un es hot zikh mir gedakht az zi hot mit im gelebt mit tsufndenhayt oyf eybig in Vudridzh.

"Yetst hot zi shoyn ir fertn un efsher, er iz der finfter—ober eygentlekh, treft zikh az er nokh yetst ir ferter man, un itst voynt zi mit im in Kalifornye."

Ben hot geklingt zayn tate- oystsugefinen varum men hot im keynmol nisht dertseylt vegn zayn Mime Sheril un ir ershte khasene.

The asterisked names are fictitious. This an excerpt from Ms. Sonia Pressman Fuentes' memoirs, "Eat First—You Don't Know What They'll Give You, The Adventures of an Immigrant Family and Their Feminist Daughter."

## *Fishele, farges nisht yidish*

by Philip "Fishl" Kutner

Mame, yedn morgn, ven ikh vek oyf, trakht ikh vegn dir un di verter vos du host alemol gezogt: "Fishele, farges nisht yidish".

Haynt iz gekumen tsum zinen a modne vort, "erger" (worse). Alts iz gut bay mir un der gantser mishpokhe, alzo vey's ikh nisht farvos dos vort iz gekumen in gedank.

Hob ikh zikh gevondn tsu vaynraykhs English-yidish, yidish-english verterbukh un gezen tsvey andere verter vos heybn zikh on mit di zelbe oysyes. Eyns iz geven "ergenish" (grief)—oykhet nisht keyn freylekh vort.

Aha, ober dortn iz oykhet geven dos vort "ergets" (somewhere). S'iz gekumen tsurik tsu mir der kino vos heyst "der mekhashef fun oz," mit der aktrise dzhudi garland. Zi zingt dos sheyne lid, "ergets ibern regnboyn". Dos iz a sakh beser!

Mame, a shmeykhl iz gekumen tsu mayn ponim. Oy, volt es geven a mekhaye tsu zen dir nokh a mol un redn yidish mit dir.

## *Mame, kh'ob derherlekh*

by Philip "Fishl" Kutner

Mame, az me vert elter, farlirt men es, es falt aroys, es tut vey, es vert an ander kolir, oder es arbet nisht.

S'hot zikh ongehoyn mit an operatsye far a nayem eyortik ventil far dem hartsn. Zey hobn aroysgenumen an altn, un arayngeton a nayem, behaynes gekintsltn ventil.

Nokh dem iz geven di oygn. Vayl ikh ze nisht keyn sakh, hob ikh gedarft hobn a kontaktlinz far dem linken oyg. Oyf dem rekhtn oyg ze ikh avade gornisht.

Mame, ven ikh hob tsuersht gehert vegn REM, APAP, BPAP, CPAP, un *sleep apnea*, bin ikh gevorn tsemisht. Yetst shlof ikh mit a maske vos hot a kishke durkh velkher es blozt luft fun a bafaykhter. S'iz itst a knape yor vos ikh shlof aley. Frier hob ikh gekhropet, un itst darf ikh hobn a mashinke...

Der letster nayer farbayt teyl iz a derherl. Der dokter hot gezogt az a probe hot aroysgefunen az ikh hob forlorn geher in di hekhre frekventsn un darf derherlekh far di oyren.

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## *Mame, s'hot zikh mir gekholemt*

by Philip "Fishl" Kutner

Mame, ikh hob gehat a kholem az di malokhim vu du bist zenen alte lererins. Ven a malakh vert alt, falirt zi ire fliglekh un vert a lererin.

In der kholem bistu geven in kompyuter klas un di lererin hot gehalten a lektsye vegn nutsn mikroveykht vort un mikroveykht oystseykhenung far onheybers.

Mama, es tut mir vey tsu dertseyln az du bist nisht geven a gute student. Kh'hob gevolt zitsn mit dir un helfn, ober Er hot gezogt az ale student darfn "zinken oder shvimen."

In dem moment hob ikh geefnt di oygn un zikh oysgetshukhet. Mame, ikh hob dertseylt mayn kholem tsu serken, mayn vayb fun knape zibn un zekhtsik yor, un zi hot gezogt, "erger zikh nisht, zi hot nisht gevust vi tsu nutsn a kompyuter ven zi iz geven do mit undz un s'vet nisht shatn az zi vet nisht kenen es nutsn dortn vu zi iz."

Yo, mame, du host alemol gezogt az mayn serke iz a kluge meyd.