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NAGEELA SHABBOS

Have-a

SEASON 6

EPISODE 35

a kid friendly publication of Nageela West Coast Joyfully Jewish Experiences



Absolutely Anything, Except...

by Rabbi Dani Locker

“Oh boy, oh boy, oh boy! This is gonna be good!”

Walter rubbed his hands gleefully together in a perfect imitation of every villain ever. He was excited. Walter’s parents rarely took him to a restaurant. Eating out was a pretty big deal. But even on those unusual occasions, Walter knew he had limited options. He could never just order whatever he wanted. Usually, he had to share it with his sister. Sometimes his parents insisted he just load up on the rolls and chips that were put on the table, so they could get away with just getting a salad or soup instead of a main course. They always said, “Oh, water is just fine for us!” while the other tables seemed like they were chugging root beer straight from a keg. And forget about dessert. There was never any dessert.

school glory untold. His family was so proud, his mom had said, “Walter, we’re going to a restaurant, and you can get ANYTHING YOU WANT.” Walter’s mouth watered. His eyes bulged. His nose began to twitch. He marched right up to the waiter and said, “I’d like ice cream, stuffed into seaweed, wrapped with pastrami, covered with raspberry syrup, deep fried in chicken fat, in a gluten-free burrito, floating in a huge bowl of sriracha soup. and a Diet Coke. I like to stay healthy.”

The waiter stared at Walter. Walter waited for the waiter. The waiter’s water wound up washing the windows as the pitcher fell from his grasp.

“Umm, sir. We don’t have that.”

“WHAT?” Wondered Walter.

“WE DON’T HAVE

Oh,



Today would be different. Walter had won the state championship in badminton, bringing his

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- Scottsdale 7:22
- Henderson 7:41
- San Diego 7:41
- Las Vegas 7:43
- Irvine 7:46
- Los Angeles 7:49
- Reno 8:10
- Oakland 8:15
- Dingle, ID 8:45

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Candle lighting

THAT!" Wailed the waiter. "Perhaps we can get it on special order for next week..."

Walter whimpered. "But Mommy said I could have ANYTHING I wanted."

"Wonderful Walter..." His mother began. "You can have anything the restaurant has. Anything. But if you ask for an item that nobody else ever asks for, they probably won't have it in stock. EVERYTHING includes all the things that are standard needs."

Did you know that even the wisest and smartest people have limitations? King Solomon is considered to be the wisest man who ever lived. Yet he admitted that he was far from understanding one of the mitzvos

in this week's Torah portion. If you haven't read it yet, here is a spoiler alert. The Torah describes a very unusual ritual involving a red cow, ashes and a one-legged alien. I'm joking about the alien part, but the red cow's ashes are a real thing. If a person gets contaminated by touching or being near someone who has passed away, the only way they can be purified is by being sprinkled by the ashes of a red cow. I don't understand how this works. But I don't feel bad because even King Solomon said he didn't understand it. It is one of the Torah's rules known as a 'chok,' a rule that humans aren't meant to comprehend.

Part of wisdom is understanding that we don't need to know EVERYTHING.

But if Solomon was the wisest of men, why couldn't he understand EVERYTHING?

Walter gives us the answer. King Solomon did understand everything 'in the restaurant.' He understood everything that people have a need to understand. But part of wisdom is understanding that nobody needs seaweed wrapped ice cream in chicken fat. And part of wisdom is understanding that people do not need to understand EVERYTHING.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

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I'm going to tell you a time-travel joke...

But you didn't like it.

OUCH! GROAN!
Why do bad jokes happen to good people? Find a better joke. Send it to dlocker@nageelawest.org

Nageela West Coast

breaks the mold of old school Jewish outreach by providing out-of-the-box social and educational programs for Jewish children across the West Coast. Through afterschool activities, weekend retreats and our signature summer camp, we engage elementary and middle school children in a fun and meaningful experience.

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