

The Schmooze

Stories with a Yiddish Twist

“SHE SHEDS” ARE THE NEW “MAN CAVES”--SUCH “NARISHKAYT”*

*The Yiddish word for foolishness/stupidity is “narishkayt.”

by
Marjorie Gottlieb Wolfe



Syosset, New York

The late comedian, Sam Levenson (1911-1980), wrote that as newlyweds, he and his wife, Esther, spent weekends visiting their “Dream House on Long Island.” Every Sunday, they allowed themselves to be driven by real estate brokers to another dream house with a hobby room in the basement. In 2015, the home would have a “media room,” a “man cave” in the basement, and a “she shed” in the backyard.

Rodger Powell of Mancave Construction says, “Everyone needs their own place and space to go get away from their husbands and wives and put their minds at rest a little.” So, “man caves” have been set aside for watching sports and movies on spectacularly large screens with booming sound alarms.

What’s going on? The Huffington Post said, “First, there were actual caves. Then came man caves.” Now we’ve got legally sane women who want a “she shed” for a quiet reprieve from the world (di velt).

abcnews.go.com states that “She Shed” is where women go to get away. They’re jumping on this new home decor to create their own personalized sanctuaries.

The Church Mouse says that every woman should be able to have their own place that they can go and all of their ailments just melt away. And what’s Rule #1? ONLY me allowed. My shed. My Rules.

Rule #2: This is where I drink tea in my yoga pants.

What happened with the Yiddish expression, “Nor a shteyn zol zayn aleyn.” (Only a stone should be alone)?

Before marriage, spending time alone with each other was your highest priority. Engaged couples craved opportunities to be in each other’s presence. They missed each other in their absence. Jonathan Haidt said that [before marriage] “Your texts used to be so loving; It’s hard to focus on anything at work, ‘cause all that’s in my head is you. Now your texts are like: Let’s just meet at Whole Foods.

Why is it that AFTER marriage, some couples keep a Date Night on the calendar? Most marriages begin with romantic love that is linked to passion, excitement, and an overwhelming attraction to the one you love. Over time, the passion can fade if you do nothing to nurture it. Date Nights have the potential to take your ho hum marriage and make it spicy and fun again.

Lyss Stern, CEO of DivaMoms.com, said, “If we don’t make a date night, we’d be two ships passing in the night. It would be all about the kids, the kids, the kids.”

A 2007 study by the Office for National Statistics find that on average we spend 2 to 2 1/2 hours a day together, including weekends. And what do we do when we’re alone with our loved ones? Watch TV (one-third of the time spent together), eat (30 minutes), and do housework together (24 minutes). Whoopee. Married people spend half an hour MORE together than people who cohab. Retired couples spend only four hours a day together.

Source: “Love by Number,” Dr. Loisa Dillner, June 2007

If Sam Levenson were alive today, what newspaper headlines would probably anger him?

- A) Riverside Brookfield H. S. in Chicago, began the Frank Sinatra DETENTION CLUB, an after school punishment during which students must listen to the singer’s music for half an hour.
- B) Sharpened No. 2 pencils No Longer Needed for Graduate Record Examinations (G.R.E.). Agility with a Mouse Is!
- C) School Rosters include the names “Royaltee,” “Payzley,” and “Wizdom.”

- D) They never phone, they never visit, they only text message--a Jewish Grandmother complains
- E) NYC schools closed on May 4 in celebration of Star Wars Day. All based on a pun based on the date, May 4, May 4, May the fourth. "May the fourth be with you." :-)
- F) School nurse tells student, "I'm afraid your insurance doesn't cover you for diseases with over five syllables."
- G) Bring Back Cursive Writing
- H) School lunches now include "pluots"--an apricot that self-identifies as a plum. (Source: Emily Flake cartoon, The New Yorker)
- I) Asians Score Higher on SATS
- J) SAT College Admission Test Essay to be Optional in 2016
- K) New research shows that happy long-married couples say their secret is "We give each other space."

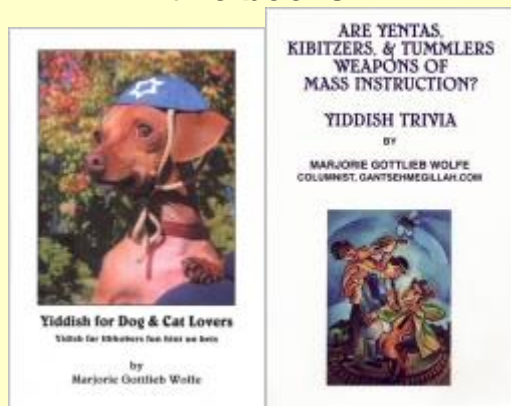
Answer: All of the answers are correct.

"Man Caves, "She Sheds," "personalized sanctuaries"--NARISHKEIT!

MARJORIE WOLFE will be speaking at the Jericho Library, Jericho, New York, on MONDAY, OCT. 19, at 2 p.m. Her topic: "The Humor of Judge Judy."

Search for Stories Beginning with the Letter												
<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>C</u>	<u>D</u>	<u>E</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>G</u>	<u>H</u>	<u>I</u>	<u>J</u>	<u>K</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>M</u>
<u>N</u>	<u>O</u>	<u>P</u>	<u>Q</u>	<u>R</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>T</u>	<u>U</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>W</u>		<u>Y</u>	<u>Z</u>

Marjorie Gottlieb Wolfe is the author of two books:



"Yiddish for Dog & Cat Lovers" and

"Are Yentas, Kibitzers, & Tumblers Weapons of Mass Instruction?
Yiddish

Trivia." To order a copy, go to her
website: MarjorieGottliebWolfe.com

NU, what are you waiting for? Order the book!



[Yiddish Stuff](#)
[Jewish Humor](#)
[Schmooze News](#)
[More Majorie Wolfe](#)

[Principle](#)
[Jewish Stories](#)
[All Things Jewish](#)
[Jewish Communities of the World](#)

Site Designed and Maintained by
Haruth Communications