



# TORAH 4 TEENS

## BY TEENS NCSY ISRAEL



**Shlomo Rayman**  
Beit Shemesh  
Chapter Director

### Moshe's Missing Origin Story

Every superhero has an origin story, describing the events and circumstances that lead them to discover and embrace their powers. There is one figure who stands out as not having an origin story: Moshe.

All we know is that Moshe grew up in Pharaoh's house. Suddenly he is eighty years old, leading the Exodus as history's greatest prophet. Why doesn't Moshe have an origin story?

In standard superhero narratives, we often hear of individuals who gain their powers through some unexpected event - perhaps an accident involving radiation, or an experiment gone awry. These tales serve to underscore the idea that not everyone has the potential to be a superhero, as such events do not happen to everyone.

The Rambam writes (Teshuva 5:2) "*every person has the ability to be righteous like Moshe Rabbeinu.*" Moshe serves as an example of someone who grew up in the worst possible spiritual and moral circumstances and worked on himself, achieving greatness. The lack of an origin story emphasizes the idea that anyone, regardless of their background or circumstances, can be righteous. We do not have to wait

for something extraordinary to happen to us to become a leader or make a difference.

The true secret to greatness, leadership, and righteousness is not fate, but faith - faith in God and in ourselves. Moshe teaches us that we must take our lives into our own hands and strive for greatness through this faith. Unlike superheroes, we are not simply the objects of fate, but active agents in shaping our own destinies.



**Raphael Roshwalb**  
11th grade,  
Raanana

### "More Than Just a Name"

שמות פרק א

א וְאֵלֶּה, שְׁמוֹת בְּנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל, הַבָּאִים, מִצְרָיִם: אֶת יַעֲקֹב, אִישׁ וּבֵיתוֹ בָּאוּ.

Names are superficial labels that are attached to a person, but they are also handles to a person's essence. When someone is called by their name, they respond as a whole, not just as a certain aspect of their personality.

This is why the portion of the Torah that deals with exile, a state that is foreign to a Jew's true self, is called "Names" in Hebrew

Secluded Vacation  
Retreat that sleeps 50

- Large Heated Pool
- Kosher Kitchen
- Sports / Game Room
- Kid Friendly

[isravilla.com](http://isravilla.com) 058.416.6927



(Shemot). Exile evokes the deepest reserves of a person's soul, reserves that would otherwise remain hidden.

Rabbi Menachem M. Schneerson, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Lubavitcher Rebbe know as the Tzemach Tzedek, once shared a story about his grandfather, Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi, and his own childhood. When he was three years old, Menachem Mendel's mother died, and he was raised by his grandfather. One day, Menachem Mendel was sitting on his grandfather's lap and pulling on his beard, calling him "Zeideh." However, Rabbi Schneur Zalman corrected him, saying that the beard was not the zeideh, but rather just a part of him. The child then pointed to his grandfather's head, eyes, hands, and body, but the



Rabbi Schneur Zalman of Liadi

Rebbe kept asking, "Where is zeideh?"

Finally, Menachem Mendel hid behind the door and called out, "ZEI-DEH!" When his grandfather turned towards him, the child exclaimed, "There is the zeideh!"

This story illustrates that a person's essence, or true self, is not

just their appearance or physical attributes, but rather something that is more abstract and difficult to define.

Every teen throughout his life comes to a point of standstill, a 'what to do now?' kind of situation where they get to decide what their name represents and to try to always pick the right choice and further not only their name but the name of Am Yisrael in this world and in the one to come. ■

 <p><b>Listing Agency that sells!</b></p> <p>Real Estate   Investments   Management services</p>	 <p>Scan to visit our site www.noamhomes.com</p> <p>Look for us: NOAM HOMES</p>  <p><b>Noam Homes</b> 24 Even Sapir St., Jerusalem <b>058-793-2222</b> office@noamhomes.com</p>
<p><b>FOR SALE</b> <b>Amazing penthouse, Old Katamon, JLM</b></p> <p>6BR penthouse, 172 m<sup>2</sup> in authentic building. 4 exps, 3 balconies with view. Spacious rooms. Master BR with en-suite &amp; walk-in closet. Jacuzzi. In central quiet area. Close to cafes, synagogues, Stiebelach, and parks. <b>NIS 7,500,000 - Noca: 052-870-2387</b></p>	<p><b>FOR SALE</b> <b>Ground floor Apartment, Rechavia, JLM</b></p> <p>1.5BR, 60m<sup>2</sup> (48m<sup>2</sup> Tabu), fully furnished. Storage unit. Ground floor, private entrance with beautiful yard in use. High ceilings. Underfloor heating. Excellent location near Rehavia, Talbiye, &amp; Kiryat Shmuel neighborhoods. <b>NIS 3,200,000 - Tehila: 050-420-5333</b></p>
<p><b>FOR SALE</b> <b>Spectacular penthouse, Old Katamon, JLM</b></p> <p>Spacious 4.5BR penthouse, 140m<sup>2</sup>, authentic &amp; preserved building, high ceilings, roof terrace with panoramic view. Pastoral &amp; quiet area, close to the Jerusalem Theater, Emek Refaim, Stiebelach, cafes, parks, and more. <b>NIS 7,600,000 - Noca: 052-870-2387</b></p>	<p><b>FOR SALE</b> <b>Garden Apartment, Rechavia, JLM</b></p> <p>2BR garden apt, 60m<sup>2</sup> (43m<sup>2</sup> in Tabu). Yard in exclusive use of about 30m<sup>2</sup>. Newly renovated! Shared storage room. On the sought-after Narkis Street! Perfect location, short walking distance from the city center! <b>NIS 2,830,000 - Tehila: 050-420-5333</b></p>
<p><b>FOR SALE</b> <b>Mitzpeh Yericho (under 30 min from JLM)</b></p> <p>3BR (2 living rooms!) 138m<sup>2</sup> 2 baths 3 balconies available. Availability: July 2023. <b>NIS 2,050,000 - Mordechai: 052-720-3089</b></p>	<p><b>FOR SALE</b> <b>Renovated apt, Young Arnona, JLM</b></p> <p>Very spacious 3BR apt, 116m<sup>2</sup>, high-level renovation (originally 4BR), new building, 2 bathrooms, central a/c, 3 balconies (22m<sup>2</sup>), sukkah balcony, storage unit, accessible (elevator), private parking. <b>NIS 3,650,000 - Ouriel: 058-516-1356</b></p>
<p><b>FOR SALE</b> <b>Amazing Tuscan style House, Moshav Luzit</b></p> <p>735 m<sup>2</sup> lot, built 265 m<sup>2</sup>, 60 m<sup>2</sup> pool, 5 BR, 4.5 bathroom, 20 m<sup>2</sup> patio. Incl. furniture. Perfect vacation home! Option for rental unit! BBQ, a/c, fireplace, high ceilings. In a pastoral area. Btw Beit Shemesh and Kiryat Gat. <b>NIS 6,350,000 - Noca: 052-870-2387</b></p>	<p><b>FOR SALE</b> <b>HaDekel St., Mahane Yehuda, JLM</b></p> <p>Great 2BR apt in all the action. Full of light and fresh air. Excellent location. Well-kept apartment of 45m<sup>2</sup>. Balcony 4m<sup>2</sup>. Storage unit. Rented 4400/month. 4<sup>th</sup> floor walk-up. <b>NIS 2,000,000 Mendel: 052-720-3497</b></p>