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Introduction to Talmud: Creative Writing Assignment

Power of Words and Hevruta Study in the Buffyverse

Source Text: The 144 episodes of the television show “Buffy the Vampire Slayer,” created by Joss Whedon, aired from 1997 to 2003. The show tells the story of Buffy Summers, the latest in a long line of “vampire slayers,” young women who are given supernatural strength and called to battle vampires, demons, and other forces of darkness. Buffy is aided by her “Watcher” (who guides, teaches, and trains her) and a circle of loyal friends. The “Buffyverse” is the fictional universe in which “Buffy” and its spin-off, “Angel,” are set.

Masoret Ha-קמד Episodes		Buffyverse אור	
[The Wish S3 E9]	<p>someone you'd never seen before. A vengeance demon pretending to be a guidance counselor: I didn't know. But Xander does know the consequences of a risky spell (Bewitched, Bothered, and Bewildered S2 E16), so he is either trying to evade responsibility or he has forgotten: she too. Dawn, as much as Xander does: has the memory of his love spell gone awry: it is false. The memory of the love spell was given to her by the monks when they created her from Glory's key: what do you know is a rhetorical question, but the “love” is because of the spell of the letterman's jacket. Dawn's feelings are actually as dubiously motivated as she thinks they are unclear to Buffy: all the more so. In the first she doesn't know what she is doing and in the second she doesn't know what is being done to her: Willow tried not to suffer her broken heart by casting a spell for her “will to be done” (Something Blue S4 E9) – so that she could end her pain – which she initially thought didn't work but actually did all too well:</p>	<p>OUR MISHNA (מתני'). In the beit midrash, words can change worlds. If there is an unknown, do not say, I wish. Do not say, These words were said by so-and-so (בשם פלוני), when you did not hear them from so-and-so (פלוני). And do not say, I know this text, when you have not read all of the words. And the sages say (והחכמים אומרים), even if you have read all of the words. As it is written (שנאמר), °There are others in the world who can do what you did. You just don't want to meet them.</p>	Flooded S5 E4
		<p>GEMARA (גמ'). Our rabbis taught (ת"ר), °You made a wish to someone you'd never seen before?* is unknown. You say (אחד אומר) unknown but perhaps it's really (או אינו אלא) forgotten. When it says (כשהוא אומר) °I didn't know what was gonna happen!, this is (הרי) forgotten. What do I learn from (מה אני מקיים) °You made a wish to someone you'd never seen before? That it is unknown. How can this be (הא כיצד)? Although she too has the memory, it is false for her. Rabbi Chelbo said that Rabbi Chanina said (אמר ר' חלבו אמר רב חננא), just as (מה) someone you've never seen before so too (אף) °What do you know about our love?! Abaye said (אמר אביי), someone you'd never seen before is unknown – all the more so (קל וחומר) what do you know. Rabba bar bar Chana said that Rabbi Yochanan said (אמר רבה בר בר חנה אמר רבי יוחנן), it is better for someone (נוח לו לאדם) to suffer a broken heart than to change the world with words. How is this derived (מנ"ל)? From Willow, as it is written (דכתיב), °You have to go through</p>	Older and Far Away S6 E14 Once More With Feeling S6 E7 Older and Far Away S6 E14 Him S7 E6 Something Blue S4 E9

<p>[Fear Itself S4 E4]</p> <p>[Amends S3 E10]</p>	<p>pain. Here this is the unknown and not the action taken: don't speak Latin. He didn't know Latin and just pronounced the words (<i>librum incendere</i>) but the mere pronunciation ignited the book: in front of the books. from the book: I will. Even though her initial commands had no efficacy, she willed that they would. 17 minutes. From of a total of 44: as it is said (שנאמר) is really written since no one spoke in this episode: the scream changed the world. Buffy's scream kills the Gentlemen, who had taken the voice of everyone in Sunnydale: exactly right again. Buffy only made the world as it had been before the Gentlemen changed it, and so no net change took place: I should have translated. Giles didn't read the Gaelic inscription underneath the picture of Gachnar: Destroying the mark of Gachnar כו'. Buffy acted before Giles finished his sentence: this dimension. Giles' neglect only led to a misunderstanding about the demon: other dimensions. Buffy's impulse summoned the demon: no weapon forged. Until Xander realized that a rocket launcher is not “forged” – and therefore capable of killing the Judge – he continued to gain strength and kill more and more people:</p>	<p>the pain. Just as (כשם ש) one should not change the world with words intentionally so too (כך) unintentionally*, as it is said (שנאמר), °Xander, don't speak Latin in front of the books. Could it be (יכול) that she changed the world by accident? The Buffyverse teaches (ת"ל): °I will that this book speak its words to me. Master Zutra bar Tovya said that Rav said – and some say that Rav Chana bar Bizna said that Rabbi Shimon Chasida said – and some say that Rabbi Yochanan said in the name of Rabbi Shimon ben Yochai (האמר מר זוטרא בר טוביה אמר רב ואמרי לה אמר חנה בר ביזנה אמר ר"ש חסידא ואמרי לה א"ר יוחנן נוח לו לאדם) it is better for someone (משום רש"י) not to say anything at all than to change the world with words. How is this derived (מנ"ל)? From “Hush,” in which there is only 17 minutes of dialogue. Rav said (רב), and what's more (ועוד) what was uttered was exactly right, as it is said (שנאמר), °but the princess screamed once and they all died. What does he mean (הכי קאמר)? The scream changed the world. Rav Papa said (רב פפא), the scream made the world exactly right again. Rabbi Yochanan said in the name of Rabbi Shimon ben Yochai (א"ר יוחנן משום ר"ש בן (יוחאי), greater (גדול) is acting on unknown text than (מ) not reading a text. That about this is said (שזה נאמר בו), °I should have translated, and about this it is said (שזה נאמר בו), °Destroying the mark of Gachnar . . is not one of them. And Rabbi Elazor says (ור' אלעזר ומר), this (זה) is impulse and this (זהה) is neglect. Another version (לישנא אחרינא): this is through words about (הא במילי ד) this dimension and this is through words about (והא במילי ד) other dimensions. A tanna recites a baraita before Rav Nachman bar Yitchak (תני (תנה קמיה דרב נחמן בר יצחק Everyone who is certain in understanding of a text it is as if (כאילו) he spills blood. He said to him, you have spoken well (א"ל) (שפיר קא אמרת), as I have seen it, a certainty of interpretation causing death. Abaye said to Rav Dimi (אמר ליה אבבי לרב דימי), What do those in Sunnydale most carefully avoid? He replied, being certain about text*, because of °no weapon forged. As Rabbi Chanina said (דאמר רבי חנינא), everyone comes back to life except four. Do you really</p>	<p>Superstar S4 E17</p> <p>Something Blue S4 E9</p> <p>Hush S4 E10</p> <p>Fear, Itself S4 E4 Ibid. (שם)</p> <p>Innocence S2 E14</p>
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<p>[Villains S6 E 20]</p> <p>[The Gift S E]</p> <p>[Out of My Mind S5 E4]</p> <p>[The I in Team S4 E13, The Yoko Factor S4 E20]</p> <p>[Wrecked S6 E10]</p>	<p>the one who is drowned. Buffy, who was revived by Xander via CPR: the one who is killed on Acatlha. Angel, who was returned from a hell dimension to earth by the powers-that-be: the one whose gift is death. Buffy, who was brought back to life by Willow via black magic: the one who wears the amulet. Spike, who was sent to Angel Investigations as a ghost by the powers-that-be: kick his ass. Xander changes Willow's message to Buffy: You remember. Buffy later uses his words (said in the name of Willow) as evidence of his hypocrisy: he thereby ensured not only the death of Angel, of whom he was jealous, but also the closing of the mouth of Acatlha, who, awakened, would suck the world into hell: his death. the death of Angel: Whatever I have to. So Buffy says to Whistler before her conversation with Xander, indicating that she is already prepared to kill Angel: Faith in the name of Buffy. When she uses the mayor's device to switch bodies with Buffy (Who Are You S4 E 14). One would think she <i>was</i> Buffy: Seven minutes of intercourse. Thus she implies his sexual disfunction: I could squeeze you כ"י. She taunts Spike, who can't respond because of the Initiative's chip in his head: driving stick. Crude expression for sleeping with a man. Tara fears that Willow is really straight (New Moon Rising S4 19): fomenting distrust. Buffy is hurt by Riley's sleeping with Faith: as it is written (Superstar S4 E17), She's not over the thing with Riley sleeping with Faith. You know what I mean – Faith's insides, in Buffy's outsides, when her insides were out: thaumogenesis. creation of a demon:</p>	<p>think (ס"ד) everyone? Rather, say (אלא אימא) everyone who dies does not come back to life except four*, who die and come back to life. These are they (אלו הן): The one who was drowned by the Master and the one who was killed on Acatlha and the one whose gift is death and the one who wore the amulet. But drowned is the same as (היינו) gift! This is not difficult (לא קשיא): Because the former (הא) occurred via CPR and the latter (והא) occurred via black magic. Rav Chanina said that Rav Idi said (אמר רב חננה בריה), what can be derived from (מה דכתיב) (דרב אידי) Willow . . . she said to tell you . . . kick his ass? That one should always (לעולם יהא אדם) take care not to speak in the name of so-and-so (בשם פלוני), when so-and-so (פלוני) did not say so. How so (כיצד)? It is said (שנאמר), °You remember giving me Willow's message: “Kick his ass?” Could it be (יכול) that he thereby ensured his death? The Buffyverse teaches (ת"ל): °Whatever I have to.* Our rabbis taught (ת"ר): Faith in the name of (בשם) Buffy said to Xander, °Well we certainly don't want to cut into <i>that</i> seven minutes and to Spike, °I could squeeze you till you popped like warm champagne and you'd beg me to hurt you just a little bit more* and to Tara, °So Willow's not driving stick anymore* and to Riley, °What do you want to do with this body?° Both (אחד) seven minutes and (ואחד) warm champagne, both (אחד) this body and (ואחד) driving stick: These words all change the world. How so (כיצד)? seven minutes: this is (זו) whitening the face of a friend in public and warm champagne: this is (זו) inciting lust and driving stick: this is (זו) confirming fear and this body: this is (זו) fomenting distrust. We learned elsewhere (תנן התם), one who does not take care with words creates hell on earth. And they said (ואמרו), Buffy's coming back to life causes thaumogenesis, as it is said (שנאמר), °This is a demon we made. What teaching can be derived from (מאי דכתיב), °There are others in the world who can do what you did. You just don't want to meet them*? Just because you can change the world doesn't mean that you should.</p>	<p>Becoming Part 2 S2 E22</p> <p>Selfless S7 E5</p> <p>Becoming Part 2 S2 E2</p> <p>Who Are You? S4 E16</p> <p>Ibid. (שם)</p> <p>Ibid. (שם) Ibid. (שם)</p> <p>[Superstar S4 E17]</p> <p>After Life S6 E3</p> <p>Flooded S5 E4</p>
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