

This week,

Hannukah is right around the corner, so why not indulge in the now classic Jewish tradition of complaining about how over-commercialized and poorly-commercialized the holiday is. There's a lot to cover on the subject with my guest for this episode, Izzy Wellman, so let's get kvetching.

I'm Lev Gringauz, and welcome to The Jews Are Tired, your podcast about Jewish news.

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So this was an extra fun episode to record because who doesn't love ugh-ing and oy-ing at the state of Hannukah in the United States as a less interesting, less colorful, poorly marketed, and extra tacky Christmas. There are countless examples of bizarre and boring products marketed to Jews around this time of year.

And it's kind of weird because Hannukah, in the grand scheme of Jewish importance, means very very little. It's a nice time to light some candles, give some presents, and feel pretty much no actual Jewish responsibility — or as some of us like to call it, guilt. Yea, the Maccabees fought the Syrian Greeks 2,000 years ago, they fought for their religious freedom from Greek oppression, and we're just gonna try and ignore the fact that the Maccabees also killed a ton of more assimilated Jews and then later became Hellenized Greek-style rulers of Judea anyway.

But that's ok. Candles are nice. Don't think too hard about it. But in some sense, Hannukah's broad visibility in the United States also speaks to the home that Jews have been able to find in this country; relatively safer and more tolerant than many other parts of the world that we have lived in. That's pretty significant.

So the Festival of Lights has a lot going on for a holiday that, again, isn't really supposed to mean a whole lot. And as I and other TC Jewfolk staff commiserated about this in group chats, I thought it'd be interesting and fun to bring Izzy Wellman, TC Jewfolk's social media and marketing strategist, on the show to chat about all this.

And to back up a moment, if you're unsure of why we're so critical of Hannukah, here's the first glorious paragraph of an Atlantic article from 2015 by Emma Green about how Hannukah became so commercialized. I think it sums up the basis of where we're starting from.

QUOTE "As far as holidays go, Hanukkah sucks. Contrary to the popular public-school-kid myth, eight days of presents doesn't mean the holiday is super Christmas; it means the presents are junk, a proliferation of crap. Dreidl is a terrible game that requires no strategy and practically no skill. Somehow, the world's entire gelt supply seems to have been manufactured in 1993, so even if you do win, your reward is stale, filmy-white, sub-par chocolate. Worst of all, Jews are forever manufacturing kitschy alternatives to Christmas customs: What's with the Hanukkah bear, anyways? Arguably, latkes are one merit of the Festival of Lights, but woe to the holiday that relies upon potatoes as its only defense." ENDQUOTE

So let's get to it. This conversation has been edited for length and clarity. Enjoy.

Lev Gringauz 00:00

Izzy, you have some shall we say strong critical feelings about Hanukkah. But we could say so what do you is the number one thing wrong with the holiday?

Izzy Wellman 04:07

Honestly, I think of all the things that could be wrong with the holiday. I think my least favorite thing is the attempted like Hanukkah merchandising that stores do, because some of them are like actually kind of cute and like, Oh, I could see that like being in my home. But then other things have nothing to do with the holiday. It's like the wrong holiday that it highlights stuff is spelled wrong, like on all of the pictures, you know, it's the wrong menorah. So, you know, one of the things I was doing today is I was looking up, like clipart graphics for some of our clients stuff. And they it was like seven point menorahs and I was like that has nothing to do with this holiday. But you know, and you know, like all the gnomes that have been popping up everywhere. So I think just the attempts of merchandising that some stores do is just it goes a little too far. Like I appreciate Some of it, because it's nice to feel included for once. But you know, most of the time, it's just so bad that it's funny.

Lev Gringauz 05:07

Where was your sort of moment of awakening with this? How did you come to the realization that like, maybe this is a little bit too much.

Izzy Wellman 05:14

So I have always kind of been a Grinch when it comes to Christmas, mostly out of like a pure, like jealousy sort of thing, because it's like I get everyone gets this cool, awesome holiday. But I have no emotional attachment to everything about it drives me nuts. And it's like, because Christmas culture in the United States is very exclusionary, to people who do not celebrate. Because everyone just assumes you do. And if you don't, then it's like, Well, why not? Like what's wrong with you? Like, you don't like Christmas? You don't like the spirit of joy and giving when it's like, no, people are just different and don't all do that. And so I've always kind of been this way of not just, you know, December in general, it's just, you know, it's dark, it's cold, it's kind of depressing. It starts snowing in December in Minnesota, so I don't like that either. Um, but, you know, in the last couple of years, it's just gotten like comic like, a lot worse to the point where I can I'll be sitting in the car with my boyfriend, and he'll ask me one question about the holidays. And I'll go on a 20 minute rant about why I hate Hanukkah and Christmas. And he's like, that is not what I asked you. So it has been ongoing for a couple years now. My Grinch Enos,

Lev Gringauz 06:26

I also think we should take a moment of appreciation for everyone who lives in Minnesota who absolutely despises the cold, dark, wet, gloomy, gray awfulness I could just go on forever and drives me nuts. Yeah, it's horrible. Let's ask kind of a broad question. What do you think went wrong here? How did we get to this weird point that a Jewish holiday is sort of celebrated ish and recognized so widely in the US, but not necessarily in a way that's meaningful to a lot of us?

Izzy Wellman 06:56

Yeah, so I was that was what I did most of my research on when I was preparing to come on to the podcast, because I was genuinely curious like how Hanukkah kind of came to be this cultural phenom that we know it is, and a lot of it had to do with or a lot of what I found had to do with kind of the assimilation movement of Jews in the early 1900s to like the 1960s or 70s. At this time, you know, a lot of Jews had very negative experiences with Christmas, in particular, because of pogroms and you know, Christians using it as a way a time of year to attack Jews and other minorities. So when Jews we can't be in emigrating to the United States, and once you know, and they saw Christmas culture, they were like, Oh, well, how can we one How can we do something similar? So our kids don't feel left out? And you know, how can we make ourselves known for this holiday? And what can we use to make kids want to come to synagogue and you know, want to be Jewish and they connect with their Jewish heritage and

Hanukkah became that channels do it mostly because of how closely correlates to Christmas? And pretty much everything I found was like, No, yeah, that's the biggest reason why everyone just blows it up is because it's a Christmas time holiday. So and like all of the reading, I read, it covered how Christmas has kind of materialized this American Jewish Hanukkah tradition because other Jewish communities across the world don't celebrate Hanukkah, the way Jews in America celebrate Hanukkah, one of the things I found is, you know, like in I found a Vox article about like the history of Hanukkah, and it was like, Why did Hanukkah become such a big deal for contemporary Jews? You likely know the answer to this already Christmas. So and there was a study that was actually done in 2010. By Oren Rigby ran Abram Mitski and Leon Aina, they weren't they did this study at Stanford University. And they basically looked at how American Jews approach Hanukkah and the importance of it. And they basically found that, you know, it varies from Judah Jew, but a lot of it has to do with Hanukkah being so close to Christmas that they kind of get lump sum together. And reformed Jews actually have a much different interpretation of, you know, Hanukkah celebrations than Conservative and Orthodox Jews in that order, with reformed Jews being more likely to celebrate in like large gaudy ways and participate in the consumerism behind it, whereas conservative Jews are less likely and Orthodox Jews are the least likely to participate in that sort of celebrating. So it was very interesting getting to do all this reading and learn like oh, so it is really like a simulations fault. And if we could just let people live and be themselves, then we wouldn't have this issue. But of course, we can't have that because we can't have nice things.

Lev Gringauz 09:50

So I guess here's, here's another interesting way to poke at it. To ask a common question that Jews tend to ask a lot. Is this good or bad for the Jews? Because like, on one hand, the commercialization aspect is really annoying to a lot of us. And on the other hand, for Jewish engagement aspect, it's a lot easier to like engage Jews who may be scared of religious Judaism with a holiday like Hanukkah, where there's not that much kind of baggage and stuff going on. So it seems like it's interesting and for Jews who wanted to be accepted across, you know, so many different places, and so many different times, it's like, kind of nice, maybe that we get to be accepted at this point in America. So good or bad for the Jews, where do you land on this?

Izzy Wellman 10:33

So I'm kind of in the middle. I don't think it's necessarily a bad thing for the Jews. While I wish they would have chosen literally any other holiday to do this with, um, I don't think it's a bad thing for the Jews, it's nice to have some recognition and some appreciation for our culture. On the other hand, it's, you know, a holiday that really doesn't have that much meaning to Jewish individuals, aside from what we've created it to be, you know, of this, coming together a family and getting the presence and everything. And that's a lot of that is just from insolence from

Christmas, but it is a nice time for people to get together and hang out with their families. So it kind of goes both ways, where it's like, it's great that we're getting like some sort of respect. But on the other hand, it's like, we get like an NS capita target, and nothing else for the rest of the year, despite this being like such a minor holiday. And that I think, is one of the biggest reasons why Hanukkah drives me nuts is because in my head, I'm like, why don't we celebrate anything else on a public scale like Rosh Hashanah, cool, love it, you know, Happy New Year, loving, Yom Kippur, very meaningful fasting, reflecting on what you've done over the past year, setting yourself up for the next year, the Passover, celebrating the triumph of our people, and blah, blah, blah. And Hanukkah is just like, we needed something. Like, here are the stories of these guys who did this thing that 1000s of years ago, and we're gonna push them up and be like, Wow, look at them, because it happened around Christmas, even though we don't even know if that's true. They were just like, well throw that in there

Lev Gringauz 12:04

for the other question is like, I think an Atlantic article I read also kind of had this that point of like, well, why not other holidays how commercialised? Can some other holidays be like, what would we sell for Yom Kippur? You know,

Izzy Wellman 12:18

yes, exactly. I think I read that article while I was doing my research.

Lev Gringauz 12:22

Yeah. So it's like kind of an interesting concept of like, if we could take any other Jewish holiday and turn it into the commercial, sort of powerhouse that Hanukkah is, what which one would it be and why?

Izzy Wellman 12:32

So in my personal opinion, I think Passover is the perfect holiday for that, because it has like the seriousness aspect and the you know, the big story behind it kind of like what Hanukkah has, but it also has a lot of avenues where you can like, take in a lot of traditions that you can take and like commercialize if you really wanted to. So there's the Seder plate. There's the template, there's the four questions there, you know, I know, we've both seen for those of you who have not, there's a I think a shower curtain or something that's being sold, or a pillow that says why are these nights different from all other nights? And it's like that would be great as a Passover pillow, not for Hanukkah, because this is not the holiday where we ask that question. So it's just part of it is more representation for Jews in these meetings, like okay, what do people actually want to see for their Hanukkah decorations? And part of it is also you know, Passover is Passover is my favorite holiday, if you couldn't tell them a very big Passover pin. And not a huge Hanukkah. So I think if we shifted all the little of that Hanukkah, yes, and put it

on Passover, I would certainly appreciate that move. And it's perfect because it's right near Easter, which is another huge Christian holiday. So you know, the Christians could feel like they can compare it to something, because that's what they did with Hanukkah and Christmas anyway. And that's why people have to get online every year and be like, No, Hanukkah is not Jewish Christmas. The only similarity is we get gifts. That's it.

Lev Gringauz 14:00

It's nice that you brought up the pillow example because that especially would work for Passover, when we're supposed to lean on one side like kings and queens and royalty. Perfect pillow marketing. I also I gotta say, like doing this kind of episode is really nice, because normally I have to read like half a million things to get enough in my brain to write one single episode. And now I can just kind of like ask you, but all the research you've done. So like what's, what's another, like really interesting factoid or piece of information that as you were looking into this, you went, 'that's kind of interesting.'

Izzy Wellman 14:29

Yeah. So there were a bunch of things that I came across in the Atlantic article. And the title of the article is a little confusing. So I ended up pulling like the most like quotes for reference from this article. And it's called Hanukkah why, and it focuses on the commercialization of the holiday. And I was actually very intrigued because one of the sources that Emma green the journalist had interviewed was a professor at Rowan University, which is my alma mater. So I just thought that was really funny. I was reading I get this morning I was like, Oh my God, I know that place. That's where I went to school. So one of the things that Diane Ashton, who was the historian that worked at Rowan University that was involved in this article basically said was Hanukkah, strongest American advocates seem to be those who feel felt the complexities of American Jewish life most acutely. So a lot of people who celebrate Hanukkah, you know, Hanukkah is their like, only way to be in touch with their Judaism, a lot of people some for a lot of, you know, not modernized American Jews, but you know, secular American Jews, a lot of them attach on to Hanukkah, because that's, you know, the one thing that they don't have to celebrate in the context of their family enough people know what it is that they can celebrate it with other people. Another thing that I thought was interesting that I found and I just really liked the phrasing of this was in the same article, Jenna Weissman. Joe slid who is a professor at George Washington University, compared Hanukkah and Christmas as and in the statement, she said, that's, that's the cheap and dirty way of looking at it that Hanukkah is penis envy, and that Jews need to have their own equivalent of Christmas. And I couldn't agree with that more. I think that's honestly, personally for me, that's what it boils down to is it's like this need to have something that like compared like his comparative with the Christian, like the Christian community, but we don't really need that. And you know, like, it's a, it's a bad way of looking at it. And it's a cheap and dirty way of looking at it, but it kind of makes the most sense.

The funniest thing that I found was at the end of this Atlantic article, the author goes on to say And besides griping about Hanukkah is a tradition of its own. Every year, Jews kvetch about commercialism saying how distasteful it is or that it is completely distorting what the holiday this holiday is about, Ashton said, people have been saying that for more than 100 years, so I felt very, you know, in my I finished that I was like, that's a great way to end this article. And it was just, it was very interesting to find, you know, that like, and every, everything I looked up was just like how Christmas affects everything else around it in the month of December. So really, my gripes are with Christmas, not with Hanukkah, because you know, the fundamentals of it, that connectedness with your family, like all for it, love being able to hang out and spend time with my family. Um, the whole commercialization of it. And being used is like that token of representation. Not fun. And I think that's, you know, it's nice to know that a lot of Jews also feel that way. And they're not as much of a fan of how the holiday is personalized.

Lev Gringauz 17:27

Yeah, I love that line about penis envy, and it's definitely gonna earn this episode an explicit rating. Yeah. I always love when that happens. So, actually, so the Christmas thing is really interesting. I got a question about that a little bit. For first, do you think we'd be complaining about this as much if the commercialization of Hanukkah was better, like the marketing and most products are either bad or bland. And I also wonder if it's like even possible to break free of that, because Hanukkah is kind of a really basic holiday. Like, I found an academic article looking at Hanukkah and the like, late 1800s and early 1900s, through the lens of like, what secular newspapers are writing at that time. And you've got stuff like a 1909 Seattle star article stating that, quote, light is the predominating feature of the festival of Hanukkah, like that's not a lot to work with.

Izzy Wellman 18:17

Yeah, I mean, I think honestly, I think if you got a bunch of Jews in a room, and you're like, how can we effectively market like a Hanukkah campaign, I think they would be able to do it in a way that was tasteful to Jews and made it understood by people who weren't, you know, in on the holiday. And not to say that, you know, there aren't plenty of good Christian marketers out there. But if you're not on the inside, you don't really know all the fun stuff. And it's like that with every community. You know, I don't know anything about Kwanzaa aside from what I see on TV, and there are probably people who celebrate Kwanzaa with that are like actually no, there's a lot more to it, than what is discussed. So, again, my big issues of Christmas, but like, I think if there was a way to market it, where it was focusing on the family aspects and focusing on on you know, not on the gifts and the decorations and the kitschy pillows and the you know, whatever. I think it's focused more on the feeling of family and like, gave you tools to you know, have a great Hanukkah party that weren't like really stupid looking plates that say something that has nothing to do with the holiday of Hanukkah. Um, and just stuff like that. And you know,

as great as you know, nice little loves that say Dreidel, Dreidel, Dreidel are not that great. Like I'm not going to use that outside of the one week that Hanukkah is if there was something that he or you know, all of the stuff with menorahs the whole nut not right number of like candlesticks on the menorah thing makes me laugh. It makes me laugh so hard, but it's also like this was the simplest thing you could have done. The simplest thing, there's eight nights, why would we have a menorah with seven candles? How does that make sense? And they both come up when you look up menorah? Because the hanukkiah is, you know, slightly different to Islam ignore it, because that's what it is. It's just, I really think that if anyone in the Jewish community actually like was able to put more time and effort into it and be like, This is how you effectively run a Hanukkah campaign, it would be great. And you know, they could do it for every major hot or Jewish holiday, and I would give them all my money, and be like, I'm not buying from anyone else again, because they get it.

Lev Gringauz 20:22

I also love how you said that, like, you know, you have to be on the inside to know all the fun stuff. I you know, a backing moment, I don't know that it's always fun, but I appreciate that you put it that way,

Izzy Wellman 20:31

oh, I'm granted, you know, talking about the slaughtering of Jewish people and be closed off SNESs that we've also often had to face in relation to our religion is definitely not what I would consider fun. And it's all like, the, you know, background stuff. So you know, all of the information about the Maccabees and who they were and what they're referred to as and, you know, all the stuff with the temple and how like, what the deal is with the temple and why it was so important and what all of this meant to you know, Jewish people then and what it means to us now and how that translates kind of gets lost when you haven't grown up hearing stories about the temple and hearing the story of Hanukkah every year since you were three years old, or earlier. So that kind of gets lost on people and then they take it for what it is at face value. And then they hear all these common you know, Jewish sayings and they're like, oh, yeah, that works. We can we can market that we can sell that people will buy it kind of thing. So I feel it's not always fun. Fun is not the right word. But you know you don't get all the good stuff until you're on the inside.

Lev Gringauz 21:35

Just just to pile on to sort of the the marketing aspect of what does come up especially the kitschy side. Just want to throw this quote your way to see how you maybe react to it from an alma piece in 2017. Quote, "Christmas has tacky but it also has traditional, it has modern, it has quirky. Our only options are tacky or straight up old world Judaica."

Izzy Wellman 21:57

Absolutely. 100%. And that is I think one of the other gripes that I have is not only is it marketed poorly, but we have so few marketing options, that there's no like fun interpretive ways to celebrate Hanukkah that isn't super, super old school, you know, right out of the shuttle, or, you know, super kitschy target brand. So and you know, I remember last year specifically, I was doing like, you know, different I'm super into makeup. That was one of the things I got into during quarantine. And I was like, I want to make my dude like nice. I make up for Hanukkah. So I looked it up and everything was just blue and white. It was stars, like on your face like had nothing to do with the holiday. Like I literally could not find anything and I was like I have no idea what to do. I ended up doing some like orange and yellow thick and it looks really cute but like took me a while to figure out what to even do because it was like there's no way for me to celebrate this. That is a painted blue, white and gold and has a giant Jewish star on my face. One of the things like I said I was looking at these two parts before and a lot of like they have little like people celebrating Hanukkah and they have the menorah in one hand and they had like a Jewish star on their shirt. And it's like could we not tell that they were Jewish without the Jewish star like that it was the kind of thing that like made me like tilt my head a little bit and you know all of the boys have yarmulke Zhan like you didn't need to include that like plenty of Jewish men don't wear a yarmulke is like, you could also just be celebrating Hanukkah, you don't know the kind of people that just celebrate Christmas. Everyone celebrates. Everyone celebrates Christmas, everyone could celebrate Hanukkah too, in theory, and not all people that celebrate Hanukkah have to wear a kippah and hold the hanukkiah and have a Jewish star on their shirt. God forbid, we don't know that they're Jewish.

Lev Gringauz 23:42

So this is gonna be another kind of meaty thing to throw your way. Especially on the like your gripe being with Christmas moreso than with Hanukkah, this is kind of an interesting stab at that. But just to come back to that of like, Hanukkah is penis envy for Christmas. Part of me goes yeah, that makes sense. But another part of me is like, Wait a second. So much of what Christmas is in America was made by Jews from the classic movies, the songs, the imagery, the marketing that you know, not to be anti semitic, but we're a little bit you know, everywhere. So we've we've had a hand in creating this thing. And it kind of makes me think like, should we in some sense, maybe, hear me out, give up on Hanukkah being this big thing and instead kind of learn to celebrate Christmas, not in the like birth of Christ way. But like we've done so much for this holiday, on a cultural level that like Don't we have a right to enjoy our work and celebrate it?

Izzy Wellman 24:35

Yes. So I think that Jewish celebrations of Christmas are some of my favorite celebrations of Christmas, because they totally ignore the whole Jesus part of it, which is the part that I feel

the most alienated from and they totally focus on everything else. I know my boyfriend's family. I love this tradition that they do. I look forward to it every year. They invite all their friends over on Christmas Day we eat Chinese food and we watch movies based on Jewish that There's a Jewish actor, there's a Jewish director, and then we just watched those movies all day. And it brings me joy because it's not, I'm not focused on, you know, Christmas and you know, scrolling through my Instagram, seeing everyone with their Christmas trees, and with their presence and their heaps of presence, you know, I'm focused more on spending time with my boyfriend and his family who I adore very much, watching movies and eating Chinese food, which feels very culturally Jewish to me, because who doesn't love eating Chinese food on Christmas? It's like the tradition. So I think, and I do agree that I think you should, you know, be able to benefit for a lot of the labor that they put into Christmas, especially because a lot of shoes are the people that wrote Christmas, you know, the traditional Christmas carols, and stuff like that. And I think it's very, I like looking back on it. Because in a way, in the context of, we didn't have an option to do stuff for ourselves. So we had to do it for other people. And that's, and you know, I agree, she's put in a lot of time and effort, and have made a lot of money off of the idea of Christmas, which good for them, like, go you, but also, you know, as much as someone I would want to be able to embrace Christmas at its core. It's about Jesus. And that does like that. It's hard for at least for me personally, a lot of people can argue this with me about being able to separate the two and how, you know, consumer Christmas is much different than Christian Christmas. But for me, it's the same. Like Christ is literally in the name, I can't separate Jesus from the holiday itself. It's the birthday of Jesus is what it is become, to everyone. That's how everyone celebrates it and like, and you know, how it's been known for so many years, it's really hard to take that whole Christian aspect out of the Christian holiday. So I think as much as as great as much as I support, you know, Jews celebrating Christmas in their own right. And, you know, I do have a lot of Jewish friends who also celebrate Christmas and there are several interfaith families who celebrate both and all of those are valid. I just personally don't think that it's something I would be able to do because I can't get Jesus out of it.

Lev Gringauz 27:07

No, it's a really good point. It's like no matter what way you look at it, we're kind of stuck in between like rock and a hard place for both Hanukkah and Christmas in terms of like, all the stuff so to to kind of wrap on some more positive maybe and uplifting questions, cuz you know, Jews, we're gonna get into deep dark stuff. First of all, when we're looking at you mentioned this a little bit before but when you're looking at Hanukkah, what would you say are like, number one positive and actually Jewish things that we should be taking away from the holiday?

Izzy Wellman 27:41

Yes. So I love the fact that it centers around lighting the candles, like the gifts are great. The lockers are amazing. I love lockers. I'm going to be very controversial. I think the box lockers are the best kind of lockers like box mix. I don't care about homemade if it comes from the box, it tastes better. Last year we tested I know I'm like probably one of the only people that thinks that and I am totally okay with that. That's my unpopular opinion. I don't know nuanced November box lockers are better than homemade lockers. But, you know, all of that is great. But the idea of coming together as a family lighting these candles, you know, thanking God or whoever you pray to for being in this moment being able to celebrate this holiday without fear of Criswell without too much fear of persecution. Because they're you're never say,

Lev Gringauz 28:35

This was supposed to be uplifting! This was supposed to be positive! Jews.

Izzy Wellman 28:43

Listen, it's really hard. It's really deeply ingrained in our culture is to be a little bit scared all the time. But you know, to be able to stand with your family and you know, be able to celebrate this seat that we were able to overcome adversity and now still be able to stand and tell the tale and like these Hanukkah, candles, now 1000s of years later is really nice. And I like anything for me that focuses on the the idea of the family construct, because I think that's such a key part of a lot of Jews, a lot of Jewish principles and values. Um, anything that focuses on family, for me is something that I immediately am drawn to. So I really like lighting the candles. I'm really excited. We just got a menorah this year for our apartment, so it's going to be my first time lighting candles like in an apartment. And we already did. We were like trying to decide where the menorah should go like which windowsill it should go in. So we're very excited for it. Um, and you know, despite my gripes of Hanukkah, I just I like being able to look at the candles. They all look so pretty, especially on the eighth night when they're all there. It's awesome. So I think that's my favorite part about Hanukkah is being able to be with my family and celebrate you know, our existence.

Lev Gringauz 29:59

So the last question I have for you is now that you haven't already thrown out some controversial hot takes, how do you prefer to spell Hanukkah and what's the absolute most ungodly way to spell it according to you.

Izzy Wellman 30:13

Okay, there has to be an H at the end I understand why. You know, the H is optional has to be an H at the end. I don't care about the ends of the case I usually do two ends and 1k or one end and two K's in the middle. But it can be both both is too much. I actually I was we have like a whiteboard calendar in our apartment and I was like decorating it for Hanukkah to be

annoying because Hanukkah starts in November this year. And I just wrote Hanukkah as like poorly as it was like ch a and and UKKH like the most like the longest way that I could think of like spelling it out like that is atrocious. I also think I'm starting it with a ch and ending it with just an A, like ch a and u k a is a really bad one. I just I don't know what it is. It just does not look right to me. I'm my go to spelling is Ha and you KKH that is usually what I do. Um, you know when it comes to like, work stuff, and everything like that, and like my most common spelling variation of it.

End:

This has been this week's The Jews Are Tired podcast, I'm Lev Gringauz, don't forget to subscribe and share, and hopefully next week, the Jews will get some rest.

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