

I'm Dating a Holiday.

How can it be that it's only Wednesday? Working at a school and having a schedule that is consistently packed makes the days fly by but for some reason, this week is dragging on. I guess I should celebrate this fact as I am very very very nervous about Yom Kippur this year. Am I allowed to admit that? Eh, who cares. I just admitted it. Yes, I'm extremely nervous about it this year. You see, I did not fast last year. Last year's chagim (holiday), which occurred roughly 2 months after giving birth, were kind of like that 'chagim that never were' for me. I was so sleep deprived and so wrapped up in my own depressive, post-partum state that the chagim seemed to just fly by. When Yom Kippur came, my husband went to synagogue and I stayed home with our smooshy baby. And, truth time, I strapped that baby to me and watched TV and made myself a tofu dog with cheese and mustard on a whole wheat bun. In fact, I made two of them. I'm not proud of this. I'm really and truly not proud of it. I look back at where I was emotionally and mentally just one year ago and my stomach starts to do flips. Rosh Hashanah used to be my favorite holiday of all time but when I realized that Rosh Hashanah and truly, all of the chagim, would look and feel different in this new role as 'parent', I kinda let it over take me and I just let the whole thing fly by last year. I gave myself excuses like, "I'm too tired", or "I have nothing left to give this year". You know, the things we say to ourselves when we're feeling guilty about something and what we really mean to say is, "I don't want to."

So this year, I need to rekindle the flame; to get to know the chagim through my new lens/identity. It's kind of like when therapists recommend 'dating' a partner again if you feel like your marriage is struggling or a romantic spark needs to be rekindled. I'm going to start dating the chagim because we need some rekindling and well, I'm nervous. What if the

holidays and I don't mesh like we used to? And how does one rekindle the spark with a holiday? It's not like I can take Yom Kippur out for a romantic dinner cause, well, it's Yom Kippur and that'd just be wrong. So instead of the traditional 'wining and dining' I'm doing a lot of reading, a lot of reflection and a lot of forgiving myself for watching Bravo and eating a tofu dogs on Yom Kippur.



She's stealing my brunch!



Gluten-free mac n' cheese for my nephew.
Delicious. Just don't overfeed it to your
baby. #oops



Rosh Hashanah prep



New year. New do.

Therefore, I begin anew this year. I'm allowing myself to wipe the slate clean. I seek permission from no one but myself and I gave myself the 'go ahead' to move on from the tofu dog incident of 5773.

Rosh Hashanah was once again spent in Asheville, North Carolina with my mom as well as my brother and his glorious family. I did the majority of the cooking, which was very new. Usually, it's mom's house, mom's food. But I think she was happy to let someone else take over for once in a while. There was a lot of beer drinking, a bit of sleeping and a lot of giggling, which helps when you need to rekindle an old flame.

Oh, I have to give a big shout out of love to Bubbe Carol, my first official "fan". I met Carol during Rosh Hashanah services when she leaned over to me and said, "it's too bad it's a holiday otherwise I would ask for your autograph.". It was a very sweet moment for me and I want to publicly thank her for her support.

Anyway, the kiddo and I landed in Asheville a few days prior to everyone else so we had some time to explore the city and talk computer-talk with my mom, who is a wiz on the computer.

Therefore, the really nerdy, exciting news is that in about a week or so, this blog will look brand spanking new! As a result, I've got to go offline for a bit so we can transfer all of the content from this blog to it's new home. But before we say 'good-bye' to www.jewhungry.wordpress.com forever, I wanted to give you, the reader, a GIANT shout-out for all your support, your patience, your feedback and, of course, your reading! I hope you please do comeback and keep reading. Thank

you!



She eventually got up the nerve to actually pet him.



We visited our wedding Venue 3 years after the wedding – with our plus 1.



Chocolate chip skillet cookie with pecan praline ice cream and candied ginger from Wicked Weed Brewery.



Wise advice from the Well-Bred Bakery in Weaverville, NC where we stopped for cookies and coffee before heading home.



The drive from Weaverville back to Asheville. Hello trees!