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Cattails in the Wind

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understood what he was memorizing, he hurled some terrific questions at the Rabbi. And all the while the Rabbi praised him for his devotion to Talmud and his understanding of the text.

Several months later, the yeshiva received an invitation from one of its former students that he was getting married and all the Rabbis, teachers, and students were invited to the ceremony and the reception.

While glancing out over the sea of dancing students and rabbis, Rabbi Tannenbaum spotted his longtime friend Rabbi Maury Burger, who was the Rosh Yeshiva for one of the most prestigious yeshivas in the country. They shook hands and retired to the side of the reception hall. After some chitchat, Rabbi Berger asked, "So I haven't seen you in a while, Adam. What have you been up to?"

"I started a yeshiva," said Rabbi T.

"Really? What kind of boys do you have?" asked Rabbi Burger.

"They're incredible. You would never believe such talent."

As he was speaking, he was scanning the room. In a moment, he spotted Jacob and summoned him over. Jacob was in awe as he was introduced to Rabbi Burger. Everyone had heard of Rabbi Berger. He was even a bigger Torah scholar than Rabbi Tannenbaum. *Oy!* thought Jacob.

"Jacob," said Rabbi Tannenbaum, "I told Rabbi Berger that we had the best Talmud students of any yeshiva anywhere. Let's give him an example, shall we?"

Jacob looked at his Rabbi with that deer-in-the-headlights look, while his insides were screaming for help. He looked around for someone, anyone, to come to his aid, but there was none to be had. He was trapped! And Rabbi Tannenbaum was talking again.

"Let's do something a bit tough," he paused as if to think. "How about ... Chullin? Why don't you recite it for us?"

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