The mission of **Torah Is Geshmack** is to bring out the richness and enjoyment of Torah for everyone, and in doing so bring them closer to Hashem.

תשפ״ו

A Love of Seforim

Dovid Kopel

When I recently visited my Rebbe, HaRav Nochum Lansky שליט״א, in Lakewood, we began speaking about buying seforim.

Rebbe recalled that the Rosh Yeshiva זצ״ל, the בעל עבודת לוי, Rav Ruderman, had an extraordinary desire to acquire seforim. The Rosh Yeshiva once asked him, "Nu, what sefer did you buy recently?"

Rebbe answered, "I am in Kollel and do not have very much money. I cannot really afford to buy seforim."

The Rosh Yeshiva looked at him and replied, "Did you ever hear of a שיכור (*drunkard*) who could not afford booze?"

Rebbe laughed as he told me the story. The Rosh Yeshiva simply could not restrain his love for seforim.

Rebbe then recounted another time when he saw the Rosh Yeshiva pacing back and forth near a seforim truck. He would begin to walk away, take a few steps, and then find himself turning back toward the truck. He wanted them all.

I have a tremendous אהבה (*love*) for seforim, something I feel I received from my Rebbe. I am not always certain whether I should be grateful to him for that—but I have decided that the answer is yes.

While I was in Lakewood, I mentioned that I own three different editions of a particular sefer that I learn regularly. I told Rebbe which editions I had.

He looked at me in genuine confusion.

"Dovid, you do not have this one?"

ברוך השם, they had it in the seforim store in Lakewood. After all, how could I possibly not own the edition my Rebbe prefers?

A Love of Seforim

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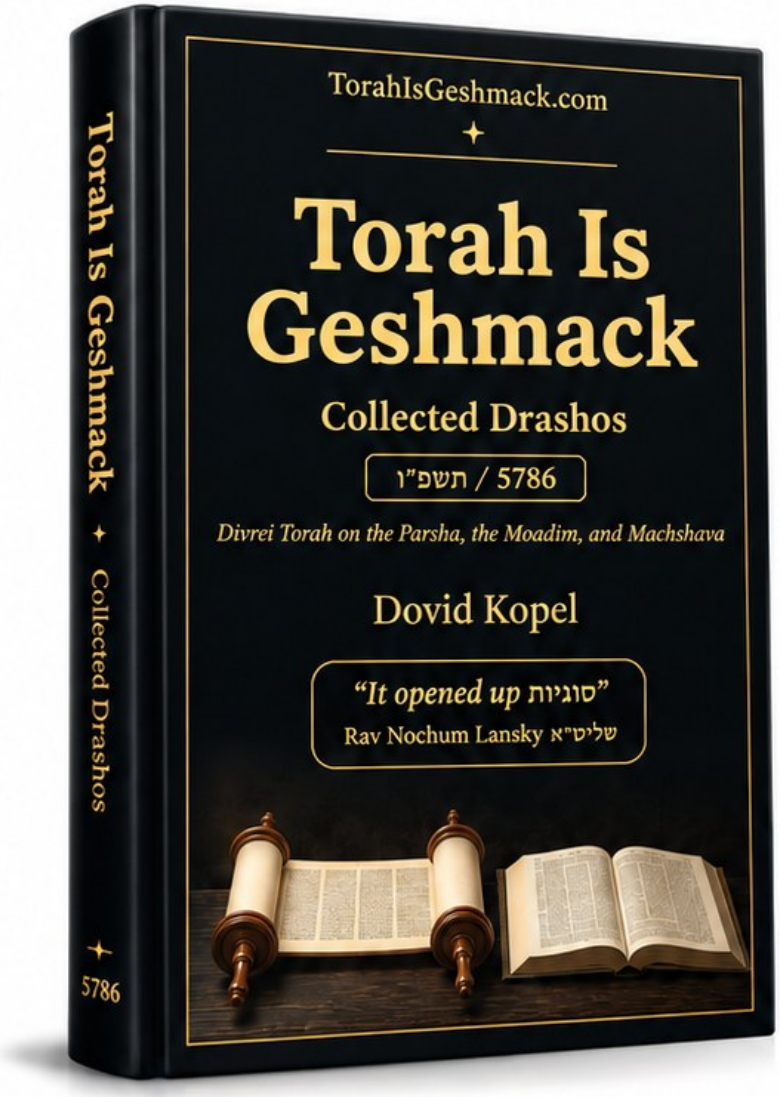
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