

# What if Moses and Pharaoh had e-mailed?

*A short dialogue between 2 Oberlin professors — names not to be revealed to preserve deniability*

Quick question for you of a halachic nature: chickpeas (garbanzos) for Pesah — Kosher? No go? One of the Ashkenazi/Sephardi disagreements?

Depends if you follow the arcane, based on textual/ scribal error, Ashkenazi lunacy of kitniot (forbidden legumes . . . ) or not . . . Those of us who know the secret tradition that the Egyptians made the Hebrews' lives bitter by making them eat beans all the time keep this particular tradition. Those of us who know the tradition that the Hebrews made the Egyptians' lives bitter by eating beans all the time, also keep this tradition. Sefardim think it's all hot air.

I didn't even get to the secret tradition that the Hebrews roasted — marshmallows — on the eve of exodus; proof text: this is the ONLY time all year you suddenly see kosher marshmallows (at 5.99 a 2 oz bag, for sure, kosher!) Perhaps to cushion your head after all the times the automatic door banged it while reaching for the matsa.

What a religion!

Or maybe to put on your seat to help you recline? I suspect that someone thought that fluffernutter on matzoh would be the perfect journey food (although tough in the dessert unless you've got some Snapple to wash it down). Indeed, what a religion.

Tough in the dessert — ?

Are we mixing metaphors here, or disgusting food combinations?

I say: put the garbanzos on the seats, then recline . . . Marshmallows on the seats is — Reform. Pfui.