

FILE

36 Bullough Park
Newtonville, MA 02160
May 5, 1997

Dr. Norman Lamm
President, Yeshiva University
500 West 185th Street
New York, NY 10033

Dear Rabbi Lamm,

Today my wife attended a Yom Hashoah commemoration at the Young Israel of Brookline. There she heard a local man quote at length from a Warsaw ghetto memoir "found in a bottle." It was written by a man named Rackover. This was presented as fact. (One woman asked if we were related.)

Am I mistaken in recalling that you once sent me offprints from an essay comparing the theological stances of Hershel Rasseyner and Yossele Rackover, the latter being a fictional creation first published in the Yiddish press after the war? (I forget the name of the author to whom the essay -- or was it a volume? -- was dedicated.)

All the best.

Avi

Avi Rockoff

P.S. At my son's graduation on the 22nd, I'll try to come over and say hello.

Dear Avi:
Yoshele Rackover
is a fictional character -
more real than real life.
He was a real rapist.
I love forward to seeing
you at commencement - and
wondering regards to your father.

Inc. D6