

NY LUNCH

Karyn Niles

If you are not from New York, you don't know lunch.

You don't know how to order a sandwich.

Like Alaska has words for snow, NY has words for sandwiches.

Wedges, hoagies, subs bagels, sandwiches, heroes, there are more.

You don't know that you decide on the shell first-but order the middle first.

If you aren't from NY, you don't know how many choices exist for just the outside. You don't know that the bread, or shell of the sandwich is just the beginning- but deciding on type of bread, texture, toasted, grilled, with or without seeds is important because it couches the inside.

If you aren't from NY you don't know how to skip to the middle. You need to know how to select the main ingredient. If you aren't from NY, you don't know that the brand and type of meat and thickness of cut matter.

You don't know that if you say turkey, you have limited yourself.-like ordering a rail drink at an open bar.

If you aren't from NY, you won't feel comfortable saying "I'll have a Boar's Head smoked, peppered turkey on a toasted Kaiser roll."

If you are not from NY, you don't know to pause here and wait while the meat is freshly cut, slice, slice, slice and stacked thick. You may not know that the cheese is ordered with the same care. You may think that then you are done.

If you are not from NY, you may not know the importance of specifying lettuce, not iceberg, no tomatoes, mayo, spread thin, and salt and pepper. "Boar's Head smoked, peppered turkey on a toasted Kaiser roll with muenster cheese, lettuce, not iceberg, no tomatoes, mayo, spread thin, and salt and pepper."

If you are not from NY, you don't know how the salt of the pickle is and the sweet of the egg cream balance the sandwich.

If you aren't from NY, you missed lunch.

Being Kenzie's Mom

Tory Swanson

You're not Kenzie's mom if you don't know that Kenzie is, at 7 months, a happy baby girl.

You're not Kenzie's mom if you don't know that Kenzie giggles and squeals when she watches mommy play with the dog.

You're not Kenzie's mom if you don't wish you get the hiccups just to hear Kenzie's giggling again.

You're not Kenzie's mom if you don't know not to wear glasses around her if you don't want her to cry.

You're not Kenzie's mom if you don't know that she does not like car rides unless it is nap time. Or, that if she does have to ride somewhere during awake time, her favorite place is next to her daddy in his pick-up.

You're not Kenzie's mom if you don't know that Kenzie lights up when she hears, "Mr. Brown Can Moo, Can You?" by Dr. Seuss. She especially loves the buzzing of a bee.

You're not Kenzie's mom if you don't know that Kenzie likes to get her groove on with mommy to the leapfrog ABC song.

You're not Kenzie's mom if you don't know that hearing the first words of "da, da" at 8am on a Saturday morning was music to mommy's ears!

You're not Kenzie's mom if you don't know that the best times of the day are 4:15pm, pick-up time at daycare, and 8pm, bedtime or relaxation time.

Finally, you're not Mackenzie's mom if you do not know that she is the cutest baby in the world.

The Carrillo-Klein Group

Sam Klein

If you're not from my family, you don't know my family. If you're not from the Carrillo-Klein family you've probably never said Shabbat prayers on Friday in Hebrew, English and Spanish. If you're not from my family, you don't know about chilaquiles, tomatillos and mole, and you don't know about kasha varneskus and hot matzo and eggs.... with sugar.

If you're not from my family, you don't know to hablar Espanol con mi mama and to speak English with dad. If you're not from my family, you don't know the differences or commonalities of Salsa, Merengue and Klezmer music.

Good news.... Hang out with me and you'll learn it all while we eat Jalapeno bagels.

You Don't Understand..

Donna O'Neill

If you're not a MS teacher you don't know the joys of working with adolescents.

You don't know that a bright smile can flip to a surly scowl to a quivering tear drop in a five minute span.

You don't know that a best friend can change to a treacherous liar and back in a single block period.

You don't know that the most detailed, heartfelt writing is found in an intricately folded note being surreptitiously passed down the aisle from one BFF to the other.

If you are not a MS teacher, you don't know the tempestuous tortured times of the tweeners. If you aren't a MS teacher, you've missed out