

Dining Out In New Milford: Passion? Or Passionate?

By Maria Koulouris | Owner/The Iron Rail



So, here's a triggering question; what is one of your least favorite words? Whether it's the way it sounds or what it reminds you of. One of my least favorite words in the English language is passion. I know it sounds silly but, whenever I hear that word posed in a question I immediately stop listening. I know it's not the best quality I have but hearing the word passion has always scared me. Only for the sheer fact that I never knew what my passion was.

Passion is described as a strong and uncontrollable emotion. The reason I tend to shy away from using that word is because I couldn't handle the magnitude of it when I was younger. To ask a kid in high school what is your passion? Only for the sole purpose of determining which profession they should practice is cruel and unnecessary. Passion is specific yet vague at the same time and holds too much power. How is a kid supposed to answer that question? That question was the bane of my existence in high school. A power that I was and am still afraid of. Which is why when the other day when one of my servers said that cocktails and the bar are your passion, I instantly fought that notion. The



way she described my process was almost on the poetic side. Am I passionate about creating cocktails? So, I thought to myself, is this passion? All I could think of was heavens no! The thought of having a passion scared me again almost like it couldn't be possible.

Although I have grown up, I am still hesitant when it comes to answering questions about my passion. However, I do like the word passionate. To be passionate is to be fully consumed with feeling or a strong belief in something. As I think back about what the server said I decided I still don't really know if mixology is my passion, but I am passionate about creating. I'm passionate about mixing flavors and colors whether that is in a cocktail shaker or a mixing bowl. I'm passionate about creating experiences. Going over the top is what I love to do and creating a memorable unforgettable experience is always the goal. Today it's the glitter and the flames. Tomorrow is the clouds and the moon.

So, find what you're passionate about. Not because anyone is asking, but because it feels good to explore and experience. Don't look too hard though, because that can get frustrating, just start futzing around. Try out different things, see what lights that fire in you and let it burn bright. Add the kindling and let that wildfire burn. Hey, you never know what might happen.

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