

Songs from:
Megillah Madness: "THE WIZARD OF OZ"

New Purim Lyrics by Rabbi William Dreskin & Cantor Ellen Dreskin

Music adapted from M-G-M's "The Wizard of Oz"

Song: VASHTI'S DEMISE & ESTHER'S RISE ("We're Off to See the Wizard")

What did she think he would say?
"If you don't come, that's okay"?
Vashti dissed the King and now she
Really is going to pay.
Wouldn't appear and dance for the men.
Ahashuerus is single again.
Spread the word of what occurred.
Come gather the people and then ...

We're waiting to discover
Who's going to be the new queen.
From far and wide, he'll pick a new bride,
A beauty who won't cause a scene.
To get the girls ready will take a year.
In front of the King, they'll each appear.
They'll have their job cut out for them, it's
clear.
For some lucky girl, it's a new career.
We're waiting to discover
Who's going to be the new queen.

*Meanwhile, a fellow by the name of
Mordechai had been listening to CNN BCE.*

Mordechai heard the big news.
Thought he had nothing to lose.
Family as royalty,
That couldn't be bad for the Jews.
Esther, his cousin, playing the part —
She had the beauty to win the King's heart.
Looks and charm that could disarm,
As well as a Bachelor of Arts.

We're proud to say that Esther
Is going to be the new queen.
That Mordechai's the cleverest guy,
A marvelous mind machine.
'Twas certain that Esther would ace the test.
Of ten thousand girls, she was the best.
Achashverosh, he must have been
impressed,
'Tho he didn't know of her Jewishness.
We're thrilled to say that Esther
Is going to be the new queen,
Is going to be the new queen,
Is going to be the new queen.

Song: HAMAN’S PLOT & MORDECHAI’S CRY (“If I Only Had a Brain”)

He’s been made the King’s advisor.
The King is none the wiser.
This power, he’ll abuse.
‘Cuz we won’t bow, he’s steaming
And initiated scheming
How to get rid of the Jews.

We insist this terrifier
Is nothing but a liar,
But still we stand accused.
He prepares by the hour
To make use of all his power
Just to get rid of the Jews.

Goodbye to Mordechai.
His future’s not serene.
‘Cuz the King’s advisor’s face is turning
green.
He’s really mean — that’s his routine.

For a miracle, we’re wishin’.
He’s got the King’s permission
To make us sing the blues.
In the month of Adar
He thinks he’ll be the brightest star
When he rids Shushan of the Jews.

*Things did not look good for our hero. Is
this the end for our combative cousin?*

Mordechai began to worry.
He’d really have to hurry
To try and intervene.
To expose Haman’s malice,
He would have to warn the palace
He just had to see the queen.

Esther heard of his condition
And sent an expedition
To hear his uttering.
He said, “Look, your royal Highness,
You must shed your royal shyness
And approach the Persian king.”

Oh why must Haman lie?
And why’s he so unfair?
Everyone of us is sunk into despair.
O woe is we,
We’re really scared!

We can’t sit by doin’ nuttin’.
We’ve got to think of som’in,
Or else that man will win.
Thinks he’s best, but we’re bester,
We must run and plead with Esther,
She’s our story’s heroine.
Thinks he’s best, but we’re bester,
We must run and plead with Esther,
She’s our story’s heroine.

Song: THE KING'S SLEEPLESS NIGHT ("The Merry Old Land of Oz")

Late that evening while in bed —
Royal socks on his feet and a crown on his head —
Though he'd had some warm milk like his mother had said,
Even counted ten million sheep,
It was very clear that King *Achashverosh* couldn't fall asleep.
So he sat right up and he called right out
For a foot-long hot dog with some sauerkraut.
Then he thanked his royal cook,
And the king began to read his Royal Book.

There he found and recalled that a month ago in July,
Achashverosh's life was saved by a fellow named Mordechai.
Two big thugs had proposed that the king of Shushan should die.
But Sing-Sing was proposed instead by a fellow named Mordechai.
Then the king asked what reward was given him.
"Nothing whatsoever," said his servant Jim
Whose future looked grim.
"I don't know," said the king, "how a thing like this just slips by.
We must prepare a proper thanks for this fellow named Mordechai."

At that same exact time, the Prime Minister walked in to ask the king for permission to execute Mordechai. Boy, was he surprised!

King A asked what to do for a singular sort of guy
Whose name the king now wanted to
Shower praises and glorify.
Haman thought to himself, "Who deserves a hand more than I?"
So Haman said, "I've a few ideas that perhaps I can specify."
He suggested royal robes would be first-rate,
And a royal ride through town'd be adequate.
"Gee, I can't wait!"
"Great ideas," said the king. "Now the man we must notify.
Hamahn, go out and do this all for that fellow named Mordechai!
Hamahn, go out and do this all for that fellow named Mordechai!"

Song: THE THWARTING OF HAMAN (“Munchkinland”)

Hamahn, Hamahn, his goose had been cooked.
His sins were too glaring to be overlooked.

He thought he could act
With impunity,
But killing Queen Esther just wasn't PC.
Killing Queen Esther just wasn't PC.

Hamahn wanted fame,
And so we ascribe
His name to the others of Amalek's tribe.

He really was despicable. We curse his rotten name.

He hatched himself a plan,
And he began
To spread some rumors to the king.
The flames, he'd fan.

And then the King, while in a state of pan-
ic, handed off his royal seal
To this charlatan.

But Esther stopped this evil man.

She also had a plan
For this barbarian.
She asked the king to bring him to a very special ban-
quet, where she would somehow man-
age to expose
This evil man.

The queen she spoke with can-
dor of *Hamahn's* great slan-
der, leading to his plot to oust the Jews from all the land.
And the king, he then deman-
ded punishment
For this madman
Who had hatched this plan.
That charlatan,
Barbarian'-
d'be no octogenerian.

Song: PEACE IN SHUSHAN (“Over the Rainbow”)

Our Purim tale has now reached its conclusion.
Haman caused a profusion of concern.
But he packed up and disappeared.
What happened once could again bring trouble
Any bigot’s club’ll take their turn.
Let us make it very clear:
We need only turn away
For the threat to reappear.

In the kingdom of Shushan, far away,
Esther rescued her people, all on a Purim day.
Wasn’t might, wasn’t power, made him shoo.
Only courage and spirit brought all our people through.

Our world is full of thugs and rogues
Who think that it is always vogue to scare us.
But Esther taught us otherwise,
We each must stand up to these guys so they can’t snare us.

In the kingdom of Shushan, not so far
From the places we’ve been to, dreaming upon a star.
Mordechai saved our people. You would too.
Not much choice when there’s no one staging a palace coup.

Another time, another place,
Our heroes might not have embraced the struggle.
Another place, another time,
And they might not have stopped the crime. We’d be in trouble!

Everyone lives in Shushan, you and me.
We must all work together keeping our world free.
If we’d all learn to really care, then peace would quickly blossom everywhere.

Song: PROUD TO SAY WE'RE JEWISH ("We're Off to See the Wizard/Ding Dong the Witch is Dead")

This is the end of our show but we don't want you to go,
So we're going to sing a song that's utterly magnifico.
Celebrate just a few moments more with our fantabulous musical score.
Sing along and make it strong, and fill it with bravissimo!

We're proud to say we're Jewish, 'cuz Jewish is what we adore.
It enters every part of our lives in ways that we can't ignore.
We're starting to understand more and more the lessons of those who came before.
Our heroes really opened up the door
To study and culture and gifts galore.
We're proud to say we're Jewish, 'cuz Jewish is what we adore.

Purim, with fun for all,
Teaches us to stand up tall.
Pesach, resounding freedom's call.
Sh'vuot, we get the laws.
Yom Kippur, correct our flaws.
Shabbat, we take a day to pause.

The Torah is where it starts.
It grows within our hearts.
It's not someplace beyond our reach
To teach our children.

Living a Jewish way —
What we do, what we say —
Keeps us all from wandering astray.

Opening up the siddur, wondering what it is for.
Could it be our legacy's become a passee dinosaur?
Not if we take a good look inside
There we will find the siddur's qualified
To be for us the impetus to exercise Jewish pride.

The secret of being Jewish is hidden inside of our prayers;
The words we say in synagogue must follow us everywhere.
Whenever encountering people in need,
It's very important that we intercede.
We have to make sure life is not unfair.
Our services challenge us all to care.
We're proud to say we're Jewish, 'cuz Jewish is what we adore,
'Cuz Jewish is what we adore, 'cuz Jewish is what we adore.