

## **Esther and the Hood**

By Aaron Eime, CMJ Israel

### **Scene 1 Overture opening credit sequence with the Bard positioned on the Pulpit, backdrop of Shushan Forest.**

Bard: Good evening my Lords and Ladies .. and anyone else present and accounted for! There have been many legends and tall tales told of the Story of Purim, of dashing Mordechai (Cheer) and beautiful Esther (Cheer) and lets not forget that villainous Haman (Boo). We at Christ Church of course have our own version of events, and this is the true story of what *really* happened to the Jewish people way down in the Persian Forest of Shushan. Oh coincidentally I'm Alan-A-Dale, minstrel, bard and notorious fabricator of fables. Tonight though you are all equally blessed as without further ado and no more gilding the lily, we will tell the story of Esther (Cheer) and the Hood. Hark, here come our heroes now. Let the tale begin!

**Overture, Robin Hood and Little John and Golly what a Day!** Mordechai, Esther, Little Johnette enter the Forest. **Sound effect - twang of a bowstring.**

Little Johnette: That was a good shot Mordechai (Cheer), you really are getting very good you know. You might now be the best shot in all Persia.

Mordechai: Thanks Little Johnette, though I dare say there isn't really that much competition here in Shushan.

Esther: Cousin Mordechai (Cheer), if we live in Persia, how come we are hanging out in this forest all the time?

Mordechai: Good question lady Esther (Cheer), here we are in Shushan Forest which everyone thinks is somewhere near Nottingham. Actually it's right here in Persia. Yes we Jews have been here in Persia since the end of 2nd Kings. And things haven't really gone well for us of late. The King has raised the taxes and his evil henchman the Sheriff of Shushan .. you don't want to say that with a lisp .. that Sheriff Haman (Boo) he hates us and our people. So here we are, Mordechai ben Hood (Cheer) and his merry men .. well some of them are men .. hiding in Shushan Forest, robbing from the rich and giving to the needy.

Esther: We rob from the rich and give to the poor?

Mordechai: We rob from the rich and give to the needy, take a wee percentage but I'm not greedy.

Little Johnette: Hey Mordechai (Cheer), Something is bothering me, are we the good guys or the bad guys? After all, we do steal a lot. They might soon have to change your name to Robbing ben Hood.

Mordechai: Steal Little Johnette? Oh no, we don't steal, we only borrow from those who can afford it.

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Little Johnette: Borrow! Oh boy, are we in a lot of debt. King David would be so proud.

Mordechai: Hark now Little Johnette, I hear the sound of horses, rich horses. Time to get to get to work and prepare a donation for the poor.

**Merry Men hide, King, Sheriff Haman, Friar Tuckette arrive riding to sound of coconuts.**

King: Ah Haman (Boo) my good Sheriff, do I not rule one of the greatest Empires in the world?

Haman: Oh eternal star of the dawn, your most magnificent light shines on all 127 provinces, from Ethiopia to India and everything in between.

King: Yes, 127 provinces stretching as far as any eye can see, and do you know what the best thing is about my Kingdom Haman (Boo)?

Haman: No your radiance, what is the best thing about your Kingdom?

King: Taxes! Beautiful Bountiful Taxes! So many Taxes! One for all and more for me!

Haman: And no one knows how to collect the Taxes better than I do, your Grace. I'll squeeze the gold and silver from those miserable peasants.

King: Wonderful Haman (Boo), the only things that are certain in this world are Death, my Taxes and a muslim majority in the United Nations.

Mordechai: No withdrawals for you today gentlemen, time to deposit some of that coin to the poor I do think. Hand it over.

King: What? Bandits! Robbers! Masked men!

Haman: I think some of them are actually women, your excellence.

King: Well do something Haman (Boo)!

Haman: I'm outnumbered, I could bang my coconuts together.

Mordechai: Where did you get those coconuts? Persia is a temperate zone and coconuts are tropical.

King: Amazing what Amazon will deliver these days.

Mordechai: Take everything Little Johnette!

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Little Johnette: Don't worry, we're just borrowing it. That's what Robbin ben Hood says.

Mordechai: Thank you for your generosity, I'm sure the poor will be most delighted and want to show their appreciation, unless they cannot find you or if they forget. Bye now!

King: Robbin ben Hood eh! Haman (Boo), back to the castle, post a reward for the head of this bandit. I want him alive so I can cut his entrails out with a spoon.

Haman: A spoon oh mighty smiter, surely something sharper, like an axe would be better.

King: No you imbecile, the spoon is blunt, it'll hurt more. Back to the castle. (Haman and King Exit)

Little Johnette: Good show Mordechai (Cheer), we sent that Tax man packing. Now what do we have here?

Friar Tuckette: (Beautiful Irish accent) Top of the morning to you. I'm Friar Tuckette, servant to the Almighty, Blessed be He, and purveyor of religious relics.

Mordechai: A Friar! I didn't know there were female friars?

Friar Tuckette: You know, best not to tell the Pope.

Mordechai: Whats this about religious relics?

Friar Tuckette: Relics, religious and rare, can I interest you in the allen-key of Abraham? (Produces an allen key)

Mordechai: The allen key of Abraham?

Friar Tuckette: Well how else do suppose he put his tent up every day, seriously.

Little Johnette: What are you doing in the service of the King?

Friar Tuckette: All God's creatures are in need of spiritual counsel, a warm heart and listening ear .. and I pop in the odd Catholic joke to lighten the mood. Like: how do you make holy water? You boil the hell out of it. Why don't blind people go sky diving? It scares their dogs. What do you call a sleepwalking nun? A roaming catholic.

Mordechai: Well good Friar, all that aside, we could use some spiritual inspiration here in Shushan Forest. What say you join our band of merry men? Everyone needs a bit of confession every now and again.

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Little Johnette: Especially after a hard day of borrowing hey Mordechai (Cheer)!

Mordechai: Indeed! Ok, lets round up the gold and make sure we also take the food supplies and grain. We all need to keep our strength up.

Friar Tuckette: Tis grain which any fool can eat, but for which the Lord intended a more divine means of consumption, let us thank the Almighty .. for Guinness.

Mordechai: Guinness?

Friar Tuckette: Which is good for you! **(project the advert: Guinness is Good For You on the screen)** See!

Mordechai: The Lord does work in mysterious ways. This should be fun! Come good Friar, the Forest awaits.

**Exit Overture BBC Robin Hood Theme (backdrop changes from Forest to Castle)**

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### **Scene 2 King enters to British Fanfare**

King: I'm so upset, they took my taxes .. swine .. burglars .. ruffians! I feel violated. Look Haman (Boo) I'm pacing!

Haman: I hate to see you like this most wrathful one, shall I summon the queen Vashti?

King: Brilliant idea. My wife Vashti knows me better than FaceBook. And she's got more friends too. Summon the queen Vashti.

### **Vasti appears to the Overture That Don't Impress me much Shania Twain**

King: Vashti, Queen of Persia, I suffer indignation at the hands of outlaws, vexed beyond measure, I am in need of amusement. Attend me.

Vashti: You are in need of a muse? Is that all I am to you my husband? Something to laugh at? Do you not remember who I am? I am descended from Nebuchadnezzar himself.

King: I am in need of a good laugh. Make me laugh!

Vasti: Laughing is the best medicine, that is true, but if you are laughing for no reason .. well then you need medicine.

King: You are my wife, you have to do as I command. Make me laugh? Amuse me?

Vashti: No I will not be humiliated in this way.

King: You have to obey me? I am the King, its in the rules!

Vashti: Rules? Those rules are all in your head, along with the voices.

King: What? I have never been so insulted in my life.

Vashti: I find that hard to believe.

King: Insolence, disobedience .. and some sort of insult. Haman (Boo) what should I do?

Haman: Well my lord, if word gets out about this, about women standing up to men, there is no telling where this will end or what damage this will do to society. We will have civil disobedience, gender confusion, shared public toilets, it's going to be a mess.

King: Babylon's beard! Shared public toilets, what will happen next?

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Haman: You might have to do some of the cooking.

King: Oh my, chaos I tell you. This is catastrophic! Vashti, I divorce you and banish you from Persia!

Vashti: Banish me! You couldn't live without me.

King: Well I'm going to try! I divorce thee!

### **Vashti leaves Overture That Don't Impress me much Shania Twain**

Haman: Well it looks like we save civilization your grace, that was a close one. Phew! We are going to have to find you a new wife though. Every King needs his Queen.

King: How do we do that Haman (Boo), I haven't been single since I was 11. It's been a long time since I had to find a wife and to be honest I can't remember how I found the last one. Did I get her through Amazon?

Haman: No your mother arranged the last one.

King: Mother's not here anymore, perhaps Vashti was right, I cannot do this on my own.

Haman: Have no fear, your noble singleness. For I have a plan that cannot fail. We shall have a Ball, a great Beauty Pageant. Invitations shall be sent to all the provinces of Persia, they shall send their maidens to the Castle. During the dance you can choose for yourself a new wife.

King: Only problem Haman (Boo), I don't know how to dance. When I dance people think I'm looking for my keys.

Haman: Dance oh noble one, like nobody's watching, because they're not, they are all on their cell phones.

Bard: He's not much of a King I admit. But he is the only one we have and we really did need another Queen. Every King needs his Queen. Invitations were sent out and a Beauty Pageant was arranged. Even our lovely Esther (Cheer) was sent. She didn't really want to go though, something about the dancing, but Mordechai (Cheer) persuaded her. Let's see how they get on.

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### **Scene 3 Beauty Pageant and Choosing Bride, Overture Warcraft Lion's Pride**

King: Smashing Banquet I must say Haman (Boo), are there really this many women in my Kingdom? Who would have known?

Haman: Thank you your lordliness, do any of these maidens catch your eye?

King: (Looks out at crowd) Hmm, some of them have beards, is that normal?

Haman: My grandmother had a beard, it was quite fetching.

Beauty #1: The King will have to choose me, I tell the best jokes, I'm the funniest girl in all Persia.

Beauty #2: You sure about that, I've heard some of your humour its terrible.

Beauty #1: Have you heard the one about the blind man who walked into a bar .. and a table ... and a chair. What did the fish say when he hit the wall .. Dam! How many kids with ADHD does it take to change a light bulb .. lets go play on our bikes. Atheism is a non-prophet organization. What did the Frenchman say to other Frenchman .. I don't know I don't speak French!

Beauty #2: oh my gosh there's no hope at all.

Beauty #1: You didn't find that funny?

Beauty #2: Not really.

Beauty #1: You never give me any support.

Beauty #2: Just telling it like it is.

Beauty #1: I'm still going to win. I have to win, I'm the best girl here. I'm going to be the queen. I have to win.

Beauty #2: I think you are losing it right now!

Esther: I don't know Mordechai (Cheer) I don't really want to be here. I'm not like these other girls.

Mordechai: That's the point Esther (Cheer), this might be our chance to heal the realm.

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Haman: Attention, Attention! Lovely maidens .. and .. er .. those with beards, the Beauty Pageant will commence.

### **Overture and Dance Emotion in Motion, Ric Ocasek**

King: Thou art a maid of pure delight to mine eyes. What is thy name maid, Marion I presume?

Esther: Its Esther! (Cheer)

King: Not Marion? How about Miriam? Maid Miriam is closer.

Esther: No its Esther! (Cheer)

King: As you wish my lady, I present our royal choice and gift to the realm, the lovely Maid Esther (Cheer). And now I give to you a lady-in-waiting. All Queens must have one.

Esther: A lady in waiting, and what does she do?

King: Well .. she stands around and waits .. it's in the name .. she's very good at it.

(Everyone looks at the Lady in Waiting, who just stands there and waits)

Esther: Thank you your highness .. I guess.

### **Exit Overture Warcraft Lion's Pride**



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### **Scene 4 Assassins plot to kill the King Overture Bad Boys What ya Gonna Do?**

Assassin #1: If I spend one more night in that cold damp forest I swear I'll catch the pox and die.

Assassin #2: Yes I'm sick of living in that stinky forest, while the King continues to live in his warm castle. Last night I found a mushroom growing in my hair. And this cold weather really hurts my gammy leg.

Assassin #1: Yuk, and the King has so many rules, don't steal, don't lie, don't cheat.

Assassin #2: The King obviously hates competition.

Assassin #1: Mordechai (Cheer) just isn't up to the task of bringing the King down. It's time we took matters into our own hands.

Assassin #2: Yeah I think all he cares about is other people, especially the poor people, he keeps giving away all the stuff we steal.

Assassins #1: Borrow, you mean all the stuff we borrow.

Assassin #2: Borrow? I ain't giving it back. We stole that stuff totally legal like. Its ours!

Assassin #1: I think it's time we remove the King permanently and replace him with someone more suitable for ruling Persia.

Assassin #2: And who would that be?

Assassin #1: Us you moron! Seriously if you weren't related to my mother I'd .. look we kill the king and we take the throne.

Assassin #2: Oh, that's a good plan.

Mordechai: What is this, an evil plot I hear! Put down your weapons if you know what's good for you.

Assassin #2: Oh I know what's good for you, Birthdays!

Assassin #1: What? What are you saying?

Assassin #2: Yes its a proven fact, the more Birthdays you have the longer you live. Must be good for you.

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Assassin #1: Do you even think before you open that mouth of yours?

Assassin #2: Oh I don't like to think before I speak .. I like to be just as surprised as everyone else about what I say. It's really quite liberating.

Assassin #1: I'm starting to wonder that if I was stuck on a desert island and I had to choose someone to be stuck with, it might not be you!

Assassin #2: Well I'd choose my uncle Bob.

Assassin #1: Not me? Whats so special about uncle Bob?

Assassin #2: He's got a boat.

Assassin #1: What is the colour of the sky in your world?

Assassin #2: Pink, isn't yours?

Assassin #1: You know the hardest part of my job is being nice to stupid people. This is not going to end well. But we will not go quietly Mordechai (Cheer). Have at thee!

**Fight Scene, Overture Eye of the Tiger Assassins defeated.**

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### **Scene 5 Mordechai meets Haman**

Mordechai: Well that takes care of them, hard to find an honest thief these days, ah wait .. those are called lawyers .. I really should get back to the Forest, someone might recognize me. Opps .. too late! Here comes that evil Sheriff of Shushan, Haman (Boo), he doesn't like me very much.

### **Haman enters Overture Back in Black ACDC**

Haman: Ah there you are Mordechai (Cheer), you know, I don't like you very much.

Mordechai: What did I tell you. And how did I manage to deserve such a great honour Haman (Boo)?

Haman: I am the Sheriff of Shushan, its a prestigious position, you and your kind never show me any respect. Whenever I come to collect the Taxes, you never bow down and pay up. What with that?

Mordechai: We mean no disrespect Sheriff Haman (Boo), but according to our tradition, we can only bow to Heaven. And concerns the Taxes, we will render to the Caesar the things that are the Caesar's, some smart Jewish guy said that. We will pay the King's Taxes fairly, but you take too much.

Haman: Your people have been rebellious ever since Shadach, Meshach .. and .. and that other guy. Say, you bear much resemblance to that mysterious outlaw, the one they call Robbing ben Hood. You are him, aren't you Mordechai (Cheer)?

Mordechai: Of course not Sheriff, he's my fourth cousins twins podiatrists secretary.

Haman: Cousins .. fourth .. twin .. What? What relation is that to you?

Mordechai: Absolutely no relation at all Haman (Boo)!

Haman: I've had it with you people, your crafty tricks, bad jokes and greasy falafels. If I had my way there would not be one Jew left in all of Persia. Say, that's an idea. Thats a very good idea .. or should I say, a very nasty idea. Haha! (Haman leaves)

Mordechai: How did we get into this mess? Things looked like they were going so well. To the man upstairs, you haven't said much so far in this play. Do you mind giving us some help? We could use a bit of Divine Providence right about now.

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Bard: Ladies and Gentlemen, Heroes and Heroines, It's true, we haven't heard much from God at this point, and things do look pretty bad, but that doesn't mean the Big Guy is not working behind the scenes. Have some faith people, the shows not over until the geometrically challenged lady ... well you know!

### **Scene 6 Haman and Zeresh Overture Back in Black ACDC**

Haman: Zeresh, wife I am need of your counsel, come and attend me.

#### **Zeresh enters Overture Also Sprach Zarathustra**

Zeresh: How have you been my husband Haman (Boo) Sheriff of Shushan?

Haman: Zeresh, things are terrible, I was robbed in the Shushan Forest, Vashti was divorced, it's true the King can't dance, and there's lots of women in this country with beards.

Zeresh: Surely collecting all those Taxes makes you happy?

Haman: It's not enough, not with Mordechai (Cheer) and all his people around. I swear he looks like that guy in the Forest, that Robbing ben Hood.

Zeresh: Don't take it so personally, there is no need to overreact.

Haman: Overreact? Zeresh, if they are not stopped they will have falafel shops on every corner, people will hand out little red strings all time and we never be able to order meat on our Pizzas again. Think about that!

Zeresh: Oh my, those really *are* evil people. Do something Haman (Boo) What is your plan?

Haman: I will choose a day, a day like no other, a day we can destroy the Jewish People once for all. It will be a glorious massacre.

Zeresh: And Mordechai (Cheer), what of him? What of your plans for that one?

Haman: I don't know, what do you suggest?

Zeresh: The Hangman has not had much work as of late, so build new gallows, 75 feet high and during this special day of days you can hang in.

Haman: 75 feet high, yes, I like it. Very public!

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Zeresh: Yes, everyone will see, everyone will know what it means to cross swords with Haman (Boo) the Sheriff of Shushan! Have you chosen a date for this special day of days?

Haman: No, not yet, let's do that now.

Zeresh: In the usual way, in the custom of the Persians. (Zeresh and Haman do Rock, Paper, Scissors) It's the 13th of Adar.

Haman: Sounds good, nice ring to it. Oh I am so excited, I can't wait to tell the King.

Zeresh: You don't have wait long, here comes the King now.

### **Enter King Overture British Fanfare**

King: Ah something about that song even gets me excited, and I don't even know why.

Haman: Greetings your magnificence, most perfunctious of us to meet so soon. But I'm afraid I have some bad news. It concerns the Realm of Persia.

King: Oh no, I really hate bad news. I'm not getting divorced again am I?

Haman: No not that, but there are a people in your Kingdom who don't pay your Taxes, they find all kinds of off shore accounts, legal loopholes and tax evasions. A nasty people who make these small fried balls of chick peas .. it's seriously evil.

King: Tax evasion, they're getting through the bureaucracy, this sounds terrible. The stuff of nightmares. What is to be done Haman (Boo)?

Haman: Issue a decree for a royal pogrom against the Jewish People, across the whole Persian Empire, a pogrom on the 13th of Adar. That should do it.

King: Sounds like you have thought this through Sheriff. Send the decree to all my lands. No more tax exemptions in my realm.

Haman: Most cathedral of you sire, it shall be done.

### **Everyone leaves Overture and Video Not in Nottingham from Robin Hood Disney**

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### **Scene 7 Esther and Lady in Waiting on stage Overture Heaven is a place on Earth Belinda Carlisle, Mordechai enters.**

Mordechai: Esther (Cheer)

Esther: What is it cousin Mordechai (Cheer)?

Mordechai: I'm trying to say something important Esther (Cheer) .. but it's really hard to get a word in with all this cheering going on.

Esther: Well, stop saying my name then Mordechai (Cheer).

Mordechai: Who this?

Esther: This is one of my ladies-in-waiting.

Mordechai: Well what's she doing?

Lady in Waiting: I'm waiting!

Esther: She's very good at it.

Mordechai: Look, this is serious. Very serious! I've just gotten word of a nasty plan by the Sheriff of Shushan to destroy our people.

Esther: What is that scoundrel Sheriff Haman (Boo) up to now?

Mordechai: He's planned a massacre on the 13th of Adar, he's going to wipe out the Jewish people from all Persia, the whole world!

Esther: Oh that is terrible, what can be done?

Mordechai: You will have to go to the King. You will have to defend our people.

Esther: Mordechai (Cheer), you know I can't go to the King without an invitation. It's against the law. The penalty can be severe.

Lady in Waiting: The only exception is if he extends out his royal sceptre. That means he will spare your life.

Esther: And it's been nearly 30 days since I was last invited to go to the King.

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Lady in Waiting: You haven't been invited to the King in 30 days! Huh! Talk about a boring husband.

Mordechai: Esther (Cheer) do not think that you will be spared the coming disaster. You too will share our fate. Should you do nothing, I tell you, help will come from another place, but who knows .. perhaps you have come to this position for such a time as this.

Esther: You are right Mordechai (Cheer), I will do this thing, go fast and pray, I will go to the King even though it is against the law, and if I perish I perish.

### **Exit Overture Heaven is a place on Earth**

#### **Scene 8 King can't sleep, Overture British Fanfare**

King: You know that great feeling you have when you get into bed, fall straight to sleep and wake up feeling refreshed and ready to take on the day .. No, me neither! I don't have it. Here I am in the dead of night, not even counting my Taxes makes me happy any more. What can I do? What can help put me to sleep? I could read Leviticus, that's pretty boring. Oh I know, I shall read the Royal Histories. Nothing like an overview of my own personal history to brighten the mood. I dare say. Now let's see. 25th of Kislev .. awoke early .. shower .. shave .. decaf chai latte with twist of cinnamon and lemon from that guy with the beard in the coffee shop .. oh tasty ... back to bathroom suddenly ... wow this really is gripping stuff ... hmm ... found falafel ball in soup .. well we will get that sorted out soon enough won't we? Hello what's this .. saved from assassination attempt by Mordechai (Cheer). He beat them like a drum it says. You know I had completely forgotten about that. I really should give that guy a reward. I am the King and that's what King's do, they reward their faithful subjects. Do they not? Hmm, what sort of reward? Sheriff Haman (Boo) he might know. He always knows a good thing to do. Sheriff Haman (boo) come here, your King needs you.

Haman: Yes highly proficient one, how may I be of service?

King: Ah there you are Haman (Boo), there is a man in my Realm whom I desire to honour more than any other. This man has done me a great service and I needs reward him. How should I do this thing?

Haman: (To the audience) Wow, he must be talking about me. I'm mean who else right? Who else has done him service like me? I'm really too humble you know, I'm actually much greater than I think I am. He must be talking about me?

Haman: Your exquisiteness, this must really be a special man.

King: Oh absolutely, he's brilliant.

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Haman: Who needs real honouring indeed.

King: Yes he does.

Haman: Almost like a king!

King: Let's not get carried away too much there Sheriff Haman (Boo). What shall be done to the man whom the king delights to honour?

Haman: You should put on me .. I mean him .. the royal cloak and parade him through the streets so all the people can see me .. I mean him, whom the King delights to reward.

King: That sounds awesome, good plan .. you didn't think about this before did you?

Haman: Oh no your Grace, it just came to me.

King: Then do all that you have said for ... for Mordechai ben Hood (Cheer).

Haman: What? How? When?

King: Now Haman! (Boo)

Mordechai enters, Haman parades him around banging two coconuts together.

Haman: (Despondent) Make way for Mordechai (Cheer) the man whom the King delights to honour. Make way for Mordechai (Cheer)

Mordechai: You really are going to have to tell where you get those coconuts. Were they brought here by a swallow perchance?

### **Exit all leave Overture Robin Hood BBC Theme**

Bard: Well things are starting to look up are they not? Haman (Boo) is humiliated and Mordechai (Cheer) is honoured. But we still have that terrible massacre approaching. We haven't done anything about that. Esther (Cheer) takes her chance to visit the King unannounced. What will happen next could change the fate of the world.



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**Scene 9 Haman and Esther enter to wake the King who is sleeping. Overture All I have to do is Dream, Everly Brothers.**

Haman: My Lord, your magnificence ... wake up! Rise oh mighty sleeper!

King: hmmm ... what ... what time is it Haman? (Boo)

Haman: Its half ten .. oh toast of the zodiac!

King: What .. half ten .. I never get up at half ten ... what happens?

Haman: Well .. nothing .. but the Queen, the radiant Esther (Cheer) is here to present herself before you, oh dweller of the clouds of heaven.

King: You really are quite sycophantic aren't you Haman (Boo)?

Haman: Yes, I like to think so, oh opulent great baked bean.

King: Did you say the Queen was here?

Haman: Yes oh mighty extravagance! Here she is.

King: I don't recall inviting Queen Esther (Cheer), Haman (Boo) Did I invite her? Really?

Haman: No I don't think you did my lord. She comes before the King unannounced .. er .. what shall be done to the Queen who comes before the King unrequested?

King: Oh that's a tough one .. ah don't tell me ... (thinking) .. oh I should have paid more attention in Law School. Has this happened before Haman (Boo)?

Haman: Yes, in last years play I think.

King: Oh you're right, well I can't hurt my little queeny. Come here my darling. I extend the royal sceptre. What is it you would desire? Ask and it shall be yours, up to half the Kingdom.

Esther: If it pleases your Grace, I would like to invite both you and Haman (Boo) to a fabulous feast that I am preparing tomorrow.

King: A feast .. fabulous! Sounds good.

Haman: Sounds delicious!

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King: We are honoured to attend Lady Esther (Cheer), ah my queen is such a treasure, don't you think so?

Haman: Yes your elegance, a most courteous presence to be sure. But nothing compared to your historic magnimioniousness.

King: Haman (Boo) you really are going to have to tone that down you know. Not too much, but a little!

### **Exit Overture British Fanfare**

### **Scene 10 Banquet Warcraft Lions Pride**

Esther: This is it cousin Mordechai (Cheer), our one chance to save our people.

Mordechai: I'm sure you'll do fine Esther (Cheer), just speak the truth and the truth shall set us free ... hmm, something Biblical about that.

King: Delightful banquet my Queen and I'm very impressed with this Chai latte, the guy with the beard in the coffeeshop is quite good.

Esther: I'm glad that it pleases your Grace.

King: What do you think Haman (Boo)?

Haman: As your exaltedness has so aptly stated delightful banquet my lord. I do notice that your glass is empty, shall I get you another one?

King: Seriously, what would I want with two empty glasses. Now then my Queen, the time has come, what is it you desire, name it, up to half my Kingdom. Did I really say that? Wow you must be good!

Esther: My noble King and lord husband, if it pleases you to grant me my life, for there is an unjust plot to destroy my people and me along with them.

King: Someone dares to kill my Queen! Outrageous, who is this vile plotter? Is it that Robbin ben Hood? Unmask the villain!

Esther: In truth the villain lies close at hand my lord, there is the adversary, the Sheriff of Shushan himself, Haman (Boo) ... for I am Esther (Cheer) of the Jewish people and Mordechai (Cheer) is my cousin of the tribe of Benjamin.

Haman: What? I didn't know she was Jewish! This is terrible.

## **Esther and the Hood**

By Aaron Eime, CMJ Israel

Mordechai: No, this is great!

King: Actually this is complicated!

Esther: It's not complicated, Haman (Boo) has tricked you into signing a decree against my people, to destroy us all and that will include me. Your Queen!

King: Haman (Boo)!

Mordechai: It doesn't look good for you my friend.

Haman: You'll never take me alive Mordechai (Cheer).

Mordechai: Challenge accepted.

Haman: So its come down to this has it, one on one, man on man, mano e mano, just you and me and my guards! (Guard appears)

Mordechai: Politicians ... you just can't trust them.

### **Short Fight Scene Overture Pirates of Caribbean**

Mordechai: I have a trick up my sleeve too Haman (Boo), time to switch sides my little merry man. (Haman is captured)

King: Well done Mordechai (Cheer) the day is won. I see some 75 foot gallows with your name on them Sheriff, take him away for a long drop. Well I think that about wraps it up and we can call that the End.

Bard: All right it didn't happen exactly like that. Perhaps we added a few tales of our own. But God does indeed work in Mysterious ways, His hand, though not always so easily seen is still there, always! A day of darkness has been turned to light, sadness into joy, a time of despair into a season of gift giving and generosity. And so it was decreed that this would be an everlasting Festival for the Jewish People, to celebrate redemption, from now on and every year we will gather for the Feast of Purim.

### **The End, Overture Purim Song Maccabeats**