

**SCENE 1: Introduction** (Director, Rabbi; all cast)

**DIRECTOR:** RABBI, RABBI. Let's get started here. Everybody ready back there, too? Okay, Okay, let's go.

**RABBI:** Goodness Gracious Great Balls of Fire – It's time for the "Megillah According To Rock 'N Roll," and kayn a hora, I'm all shook up. Every year at Purim, we read from the Book of Esther. Tonight we are taking that old story and giving it a new Twist. (AD LIB Cheer, med cheer, Eh, Boo-hiss-stomp-grogger for Es, Mordi, King, Haman)

(Motion to cast to start coming into the sanctuary)

Now, when Esther was a teenager, nobody called her Esther. She was Es. Mordi called her Es. Her school chums called her Es. So, tonight, we read from the Book of Es.

Hey – did you ever wonder - Who wrote the Book of Es?

(All sing as march in and go onto and below stage)

[SONG:]

Tell me, tell me, tell me,

Oh, who wrote the Book of Es?

I think it was Chuck Berry.

Buddy Holly's my next guess.

Oh, I wonder, wonder who, BaDooOoWho

Who wrote the book of Es?

King loves you tender.

Esther gives us a thrill.

And we'll all be diggin' Mordecai

On Blueberry Hill.

Oh I wonder, wonder who, BaDoOoWho

Who wrote the Book of Es?

Chapter One says to Vashti,

Be ready for King to call.

Chapter Two she tells him, I'll never, never, never, never, ever show it all!

In Chapter Three, remember,

How Vashti got the boot?

In Chapter Four comes Esther,

And she's lookin' so doggone cute!

Oh I wonder, wonder, who, BaDoOoWho

Who wrote the Book of Es?

King tells Duke of Earl that Esther looks so fine.

And he takes a lovin' spoonful of

Love Potion Number Nine.

I wonder, wonder who, BaDoOoWho

Who wrote the Book of Es?

Chapter Five Haman orders

To bow down and do it now.

Chapter Six Jews tell him, We're never, never, never, never, ever gonna bow!

In Chapter Seven, remember,

The Jews have got the blues.

In Chapter Eight, it's sackcloth,

And they take off their blue suede shoes.

Oh I wonder, wonder who, BaDoOoWho

Who wrote the Book of Es?

Haman, Haman, Haman,

We hate you, yes we do!

And we'll grogger when we hear your name!

Ours is the faith that's true!

Oh I wonder wonder who, BaDooOoWho, who wrote the Book of Es?

I——— wonder who?

(SHOUT) Yeah!

Who wrote the Book of Es! (STOP FAST) (Everyone but King and Wise Guys exit)

SCENE 2: The King has a BAD Idea (Director, King, Wise Guys)

**DIRECTOR:** Ladies and Gentlemen: Presenting The King of Persia — The King of Shushan Palace — The King of Rock 'N Roll — KING AHASUELVIS!

(King center stage with Wise Guys].

**KING** (“elvis” it up): Thank you very much!

[SONG:]

**KING:** My name’s Ahasuelvis.  
Shushan Palace is where I dwell.  
And every Prince in Persia’s here  
To raise a little hell.

**GUYS:** He’s throwin’ a, he’s throwin’ a party baby.  
King’s throwin’ a party.  
Without a woman, we could die.

**KING:** The champagne it keeps flowin’.  
Chopped liver by the ton.  
But with no female company,  
It ain’t a lot of fun.

**GUYS:** We get so, we get so lonely baby.  
We get so lonely.  
Without a woman we could die.

**KING:** Party games and prizes,  
Rock bands singin’ rap,  
But not one single sweet young thing  
To sit upon your lap.

**GUYS:** No more raw, no more raw veggies baby. No more line dances.  
Show us a woman or we’ll die.

**KING:** Think I’ll send for Vashti,  
To show her beauty and her style.  
Tell her the dress code’s casual,  
Just wear a pretty smile.

**GUYS:** Bring on Queen, bring on Queen Vashti, Kingy.  
Bring on Queen Vashti.  
Without a woman we could die.

**KING & GUYS** (doing dances):  
We do the Macarena.

We do the Electric Slide.  
But when they play slow dancin’  
Then we all just run and hide.  
We’re feelin’ so, we’re feelin’ so lonely baby. We’re feelin’ so lonely.  
Without a woman we could die.

Without a woman we could die. (arm gesture as hold 4 beats)

(Guys step back)

**KING** (gesturing): (sings) Da Doo Ron Ron –

(speaks) Tell Queen Vashti to come and do the Stroll at my party.

(King & Guys exit. Director forward)

SCENE 3: Vashti and the Vandellas React to King’s Request (Director, Vashti, Serving Girls)

**DIRECTOR:** Vashti is with her serving girls when she is summoned to make an appearance at the King’s party to show off her beauty to all the men there. Vashti is not amused. Ladies and Gentlemen: Vashti and the Vandellas!

(Vashti and Serving Girls to center stage)

**VASHTI & SG** (Spoken): What’s wrong with him? Does he think he owns me [you]? Just wait till the next time I see him. I’m going to tell him a thing or two! [She’ll tell him.]

[SONG:]

**VASHTI** (Sings): You don’t own me.  
I’m not just one of your many toys.  
You don’t own me. I’m not gonna show off  
For the boys.  
And don’t tell me what to do.  
And don’t tell me what to say.  
And please, at your party, too.  
Don’t put me on display.

‘Cause

**V & SGs:** You don’t own me (her).

Don’t try to boss me (her) in any way.

You don’t own me (her).

The time has come for the mice to play.

Then I’ll (we’ll) tell you what is cool.

Then I’ll (we’ll) tell you where it’s at.

No more will I (we) play the fool.

I (We) don’t buy into that.

**VASHTI: (Speaks)**

That’s right, Big Daddy, you don’t own me.

Forget your Chantilly Lace, Big Bopper, I’m into leather. What’s that, Buddy? You say you’re gonna change?

That’ll Be the Day. I’m sick, and I’m tired, and I’m not gonna take it anymore. I demand respect!

**SGs (Sing):** R-E-S-P-E-C-T

**VASHTI:** And if you want to kick me out, then kick me out. I Will Survive! ‘Cause I’m A Woman!

**SGs (Sing):** W - O - M - A - N. Let her say it again!

**VASHTI:** I’m A Woman, and You Don’t Own Me!

**V & SG (Sing):** I’m (She’s) bright, and I (she) love(s) to be bright.

I’m (She’s) free, and I (she) love(s) to be free.

The time has come. I (She) know(s) that I’m (she’s) right.

I’ll (She’ll) say and do what feels good to me (her).

**VASHTI:** You don’t own me.

You don’t own me .

You don’t own me. (hold 10 beats.)

(Vashti sits on throne, SGs around her. They whisper, V gestures sending them off, SGs exit.)

SCENE 4: King finds out Vashti has refused (Director, Vashti, Serving Girls, King, Wise Guys)

**DIRECTOR:** The King takes the news that Vashti won’t appear at his party in stride, just like any mature adult male throughout the ages.

(King & Wise Guys enter, King crying like a baby):

Vashti won’t come to my party.

Vashti disobeys my order!

Vashti isn’t very nice!

**WG #1:** King, stop all the cryin’ and carrying on. That’s very unbecoming a King.

[SONG:]

**KING:** It’s my party,

I’ll k-vetch if I want to,

Sigh if I want to,

Cry if I want to.

You would cry too

If it happened to you!

**WGs:** Have some more cheese dip,

Keep boozin’ all night.

**KING:** Just leave me alone for a while.

Till Vashti’s posin’ for us,

I’ve got no reason to smile.

It’s my party,

I’ll k-vetch if I want to,

Sigh if I want to,

Cry if I want to.

**WGs:** You would cry, too, if it happened to you.

You would cry, too, if it happened to you.

You would cry, too, if it happened to you.

If it happened to you. If it happened to you.

If it happened to you! (Hold 4 Beats & ARM THRUST)

(WGs step back. King takes throne from Vashti. Vashti forward to meet Director as Director enters.)

SCENE 5: Vashti has to go (Director, Vashti, K, WGs)

**DIRECTOR:** So Vashti defied the King and refused to appear at his party.

**VASHTI:** You got that right, Mister!

**DIRECTOR:** The King was beside himself. So he summoned the Wise Guys, who knew how to fix things. And the King asked the Wise Guys what he should do, and they said they'd take care of it.

Ladies and Gentlemen - The King's Wise Guys (**Gesture at each**)

Ray (**Step forward and point**)

And (**Step forward and point**)

Charles (**Step forward and point**)

**ALL WGs:** (circle arm to point at Vashti, strut forward, snapping fingers.) (All WGs snap fingers through song)

[SONG:]

**WGs (sing throughout):** Hit the road, Vasht.

**VASHTI (speaks):** Wise men, What you say?

**WGs:** Hit the road, Vasht.

**VASHTI (speaks):** Don't be that way.

**WGs:** Hit the road, Vasht.

**VASHTI (speaks):** Wise Men don't be rude!

**WGs:** Hit the road, Vasht.

**VASHTI (speaks):** Change your attitude!

**VASHTI (sings):** Oh, Wise Men, Oh, Wise Men, Don't treat me so mean.

You're the meanest old wise men that I've ever seen.

**WGs:** You broke the law, and so,

You have to pack your things and go.

**VASHTI (sings):** Oh No!

**WGs:** Hit the road, Vasht, And don't cha come back no more, no more,  
no more, no more. Hit the road, Vasht, And don't cha come back no more.

**VASHTI (speaks):** Wise Men, what you say?

**WGs:** Hit the road, Vasht, And don't cha give us no lip, no lip, no lip, no lip.

Hit the road, Vasht, And don't cha give us no lip.

Now Vashti, listen Vashti, you have done the King wrong. Now every wife in Persia wants to sing your song.  
You insult every husband, and that ain't cool. In his own house every man should rule.

**VASHTI (sings):** Well I guess, if you say so,

I'll have to pack my things and go.

**WGs:** That's right!

Hit the road, Vasht, and don't cha come back no more, no more, no more, no more.

Hit the road, Vasht, and don't cha come back no more.

**VASHTI (speaks):** What you say?

**WGs:** Hit the road Vasht, and don't cha give us no lip, no lip, no lip, no lip.

Hit the road, Vasht, And don't cha give us no lip.

**VASHTI (speaks):** Say what?

**WGs:** Don't cha come back no more.

**VASHTI (speaks):** You talkin' to me?

**WGs:** Don't cha come back no more.

**VASHTI (speaks):** You can't mean that!

**WGs (start shaking fingers and crowding v)**

Don't cha come back no more.

Don't cha come back no more.

**VASHTI (speaks):** What you tryin' to do to me? (**begin exit**)

**WGs:** Read our lips, Vashti. (**also begin exit**)

**VASHTI (speaks):** Yeah? (**exits**),

**WGs (SHOUT):** Hit the road! (**exit**)

(Beauty Contestants get ready.)

SCENE 6: King decides to have a beauty pageant (King, WGs, Director, Dick Clark)

King to center stage

**KING (gestures): (sings)** Da Doo Ron Ron. (**speaks**) I need a new Queen. What'll I do now?

**WG #1:** We'll summon all the fair young virgins in the Kingdom to come to Lincoln and put them on the South Street Bandstand. And you will choose one to be your new Queen.

**KING:** Thank you very much!

**DIRECTOR:** South Street Bandstand. That's right. That means it time to introduce to you our Bandstand host, longtime beloved South Street MC, DICK CLARK!

**DICK (Joins King center stage):** Hello, hello, hello.

**(To audience):** Yes, I really am that old.

You know, King, finding a new Queen is a big job. And big jobs work up a big appetite.

**KING:** That's when I go for the banana and peanut butter sandwiches.

**DICK:** But if you really want to get rid of that craving, there's only one thing that will do. Yes, you've got that right: PRUNE HAMANTASCHEN. There's nothing like prune hamantaschen to fill that empty feeling you get when you don't have time to grab a good meal. As a matter of fact, there's nothing quite like prune hamantaschen for when you have that "too full" feeling. Prune hamantaschen. Ask for it by name.

**KING:** I'll do that.

**DICK:** Good for you, Kingy. And now... from the four corners of Persia, you have all the fair young virgins to choose from. Who will it be?

**KING:** Well... well... well, let's see them first.

**DICK:** Alright!

**(DIRECTOR EXITS)**

**Musical Interlude (possible extra comedic speech by Dick Clark). Just before start of scene, DIRECTOR gets rest of cast onto/around stage, to watch the contest.)**

**SCENE 7: The Beauty Pageant (Dick Clark, King, WGs, Beauty Contestants, rest of chorus)**

**DICK CLARK [ to audience ]** To help you get to know each contestant better so you can help the King choose his new Queen, we will introduce each contestant by name.

**SONG (NOTE TO GLEN: We have to revise the next to songs to match this shortened text)**

**(All but contestants sing as women enter)**

[SONG:]

Lollipop, Lollipop,  
King's Lolli, Lolli, Lolli.  
Lollipop, Lollipop,  
King's Lolli, Lolli, Lolli.  
Lollipop, Lollipop,  
King's Lolli, Lolli, Lolli.

Now listen, Kingy, what we're telling you,  
Don't keep away from Run Around Sue.  
Wake Up Little Susie.  
Wake up little Susie.  
Wake up little Susie.  
Go getta the King.

**(SPOKEN) Esther!**

**(SUNG) Esther, Esther, Bo Bester,  
Bonana, Fanna, Fo Fester,  
Fee, Fi, Mo Mester,  
Esther!**

**(SUNG) Poison Ivy,  
Poison Ivy,  
Poison Ivy,  
Poison Ivy  
Late at night in the kitchen,  
Yes, the King will be a - itchin' for you.**

And, here's to you, Mrs. Rebbitsin.  
King will love you more than you can know. Wo Wo Wo.  
God bless you, please, Mrs. Rebbitsin.  
For you and all the gals we give a cheer.

Hear, Hear, Hear!  
Give a cheer! (Arm gesture as hold 8 beats.)

**DICK CLARK:** Ladies and Gentlemen -- Judge for yourselves!

[SONG:]

**BEAUTY CONTESTANTS:** I'm goin' to Shushan City.  
Shushan City, here I come.  
I'm goin' to Shushan City.  
Shushan City, here I come.  
The King is lookin' for a woman there,  
And I'm a gonna be the one. Two.  
Uh One, Two, Three, Four.  
Ahasuelvis, I'm your baby.  
Ahasuelvis, I don't mean maybe.  
Ahasuelvis, I'm your lover.  
Ahasuelvis, don't run for cover.  
Ahasuelvis, I'm your Baby Love,  
Your Baby Love,  
Your Baby Love.

**LOLLI:** Take your licks with Lollipop.  
With her the fun will never stop.

**SUSIE:** Don't run away from runaround Sue.  
Wake her up, she'll know what to do.

**ALL CONTESTANTS:** Ahasuelvis, I'm your baby.  
Ahasuelvis, I don't mean maybe.  
Ahasuelvis, I'm your Baby Love,  
Your Baby Love,  
Your Baby Love.

**ES:** Esther's Queen of all the teens.  
And she really looks great in a pair of jeans.

**POISON IVY:** Try Poison Ivy, she comes on strong  
And her passion lasts the whole night long.

**MRS REBBETSIN:**  
But come on and try Mrs. Rebbetsin's kiss,  
Or you'll never know the joy you've missed/.  
**ALL CONTESTANTS:** Ahasuelvis, I'm your baby.  
Ahasuelvis, I don't mean maybe.  
Ahasuelvis, I'm your Baby Love,  
Your Baby Love, Your Baby Love,  
Your Baby Love, Your Baby Love,  
Your Baby Love, Your Baby Love,  
Your Baby Love, Your Baby Love!  
Oh Yeahhhh!

SCENE 8: The King chooses Esther and marries her (Dick Clark/Duke of Earl, King, Es, Mordi, Rabbi [with glass], other beauty contestants still on stage; rest of chorus around stage)

(King moves to center stage) (Dick changes to become Duke)

**KING** (gesturing): (sings) Da Doo Ron Ron. Thank you very much!

Well, this is a tough call, and (sings) I don't want to be cruel to all your hearts that I know are true...(speaks) but the one who has me all shook up is -- I know this will come as a surprise to everybody -- Esther.

All Contestants except ES (Sing): Ain't That A Shame!

**KING:** Esther, you are so swayve, (sings) Come Stand By Me.

**ESTHER** (goes to K): I think you mean suave, and I'll stand by you, but in the words of Chuck Berry – Kingy, Be Good.

**KING:** Esther, it's time to get married and become Queen Esther.

**ESTHER:** Queen Esther! That has such a nice ring to it. (Points to finger)

**KING:** Now for our wedding. Guess where we're goin'?

**ESTHER:** (sings) Under The Boardwalk.

**KING:** No.

**ESTHER:** (sings) Up On The Roof?

**KING:** No.

**ESTHER:** (sings) Downtown?

**KING:** No.

**ESTHER:** I can't guess.

**KING:** Then, everybody -- tell her where we're goin'!

[SONG:]

**ALL CHORUS:** Goin' to the Palace, and they're gonna get married.

**ESTHER:** Goin' to the Palace, and we're gonna get married.

**KING:** Gee I really love you, and we're gonna get married.

**ALL:** Goin' to the Palace of Love.

Mordicai gives Es away.

(M. Steps to center)

Duke Of Earl Best Man today.

(Duke comes center)

(All gesture at band) (Director helps flower girl, ring bearer, chupa makers get to stage as needed)

Bill Haley's band is gonna play.

And they'll never be lonely anymore.

**ESTHER (TO M.):**

Don't I need a chupah if I'm gonna get married?

**MORDI (To E., pushing her back to k):**

Yes, you need a chupah if you're gonna get mairried.

**CHORUS (Some make chupah):**

We will make chupah, and you're gonna get married.

Goin' to the Palace of Love.

(Gesture at kids as they cross stage)

Flower Girl, see how she strolls.

Ring bearer, too, gonna Rock and Roll.

(Gesture at band)

Bill Haley plays with heart and soul.

And they'll never be lonely anymore.

**ESTHER (To M.):** Don't I need rabbi if I'm gonna get married.

**MORDI (To E., pushing her back to K):** Yes, you'll need a Rabbi if you're gonna get married.

**CHORUS:** We can get a Rabbi,

(RABBI forward)

and you're gonna get married.

**ALL:** Goin' to the Palace of Love.

**KING:** Esther, dear, you have real class.

**ESTHER:** Oh, my King, I'm a happy lass!

**MORDI (To K):** Don't ask me why. Just break this glass.

(Music stops and King breaks glass)

**ALL SHOUT:** Mazeltov!

(Drop arms – no more chupah)

**ALL SING:** And they'll never be lonely anymore. Because, they're Goin' to the palace and they're gonna get married.

Goin' to the palace and they're gonna get married. Gee, they're really happy, and they're gonna get married.

Goin' to the Palace of Love.

**MORDI:** Oh yeah, one more time!

**ALL:** Goin' to the Palace of Love.

**MORDI:** Come on, let me hear it!

**ALL:** Goin' to the Palace

**ESTHER:** Of

(ALL, IN 3 PARTS) Love

Love

Love.

Shoobie do wah Dah.

**DIRECTOR:** (To aud.) Don't you just love a wedding? (To chorus) Well done, everyone. Take a bow, take a bow. (CHORUS bows. DIR shoos everyone but K, Es, Mord offstage to their seats). And after this wedding, we have even MORE good news. Suppose it's too good to be true? (exits)

SCENE 9: Mordi gets a job (King, Esther, Mordi) (chorus sings from seats)

**KING** (gestures & sings): Da Doo Ron Ron.

Esther, your Uncle Mordecai is very swayve.

**ESTHER:** Suave, Kingy, suave.

**KING:** Right – well, lets get rid of him, and go to our honeymoon retreat at Graceland.

**ESTHER:** OK, but first, please give my Uncle Mordecai a good job at the Palace.

**KING:** No problem. Mordecai, YOU GOT A JOB.

[SONG:]

**MORDI:** Sha na, na, na, Sha na, na, na, na.

Sha na, na, na, Sha na, na, na, na.

**ALL:** Sh na, na, na, Sha na, na, na na.

Sha na, na, na, Sha na, na, na, na.

**MORDI:** Yip, Yip, Yip, Yip, Yip, Yip, Yip, Yip, Mum, Mum, Mum, Mum, Mum, Mum. Got a job!

**ALL:** Sh na, na, na, Sha na, na, na na.

**MORDI:** Got a job!

**ALL:** Sh na, na, na, Sha na, na, na na.

**KING:** STOP -- Nobody sings rock 'n roll around here except me. Now report to the palace gate and keep a watch over things.

**MORDI:** Do Wah Diddy!

(EXIT KING & ESTHER)

SCENE 10: Mordi finds out about a plot and warns the King (Everly Brothers, Citizen, Mordi, chorus from seats, King & Es)

(ENTER EVERLY BROTHERS below center stage)

(ENTER Citizen who approaches Mordi, center stage)

**CITIZEN:** Hey, Mordecai.

**MORDI:** Who are you?

**CITIZEN:** I'm \_\_\_\_\_. (NEED TO ADD CONTEMPORARY DIALOGUE HERE).

**CITIZEN:** No, No -- not that one. Look, Mordecai, it's so hot, why don't you stand in the shade over there. Mordecai, look, do you see those two silhouettes in the shade?

**MORDI:** Yeah. That's Bigthan and Teresh Everly -- two of the King's chamberlains.

**CITIZEN:** Them Everly Brothers, all they ever do is dream, dream, dream - and they're always up to no good.

**MORDI:** Well, I don't know about that.

**CITIZEN:** They're two shady guys, and you should find out why they're lurking in the shade.

**MORDI:** Just leave them alone.

**CITIZEN:** Mordecai, those silhouettes look like they're up to some mischief. You should try to hear what they're saying.

**MORDI:** Do Wah Diddy, I don't want to make waves. I got a good Union job with hospitalization and 3 weeks vacation and 2 coffee breaks.

**CITIZEN:** Mordecai, don't be a goon. Check out them two silhouettes. (exits) (DIRECTOR enters)

**MORDI:** Well, Do Wah Diddy.

**DIRECTOR:** Ladies and Gentlemen — Mordecai, our hero!

[SONG:]

**CHORUS:** Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette

**EV. BROS.:** Ah - Oh

**CHORUS:** Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette

**EV. BROS.:** Ah - Oh

**MORDI:** Take a walk nearby the gate, late today. See two guys and try to hear what they say. From my view the sunlight cast two silhouettes in the shade.

Oh, what a fearsome couple they made.

**EV. BRO#1:** Hey there brother, listen up, here's the thing. Now's the time for us to act, kill the King.

**EV. BRO#2:** But for now we gotta be two silhouettes in the shade. We'll stay and hide, till the King walks on by.

**CHORUS:** Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette

EV. BROS.: Ah – Oh

(ESTHER & KING entering, K lagging behind)

ALL: Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette

EV. BROS.: Ah – Oh

MORDI: (cross to meet Esther and ring bell)

Lost control and rang her bell. Esther dear,

Let me in so I can tell what I hear

(Pulls ESTHER toward center. K still lags behind)

From two villains over there, (POINTING)

Two silhouettes in the shade.

Evil they bring. We must tell the King.

(ESTHER pulls K forward)

ESTHER: Tell the King about the plot.

KING: Oh my wife, You and Uncle Mordecai Saved my life. Now I plan to put to death Two silhouettes in the shade.

ESTHER: Write it all down,

(KING writes and nods)

Two silhouettes in the shade.

MORDI: He wrote it down.

My fortune is made.

ALL: Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette

EV. BROS.: Ah - Oh

ALL: Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette, Silhouette

EV. BROS.: Ah – Oh

ALL: Mordecai has made the grade! (HOLD 6 BEATS)

(EV. BROS exit)

KING (GESTURING, sings): Da Doo Ron Ron. (speaks) Mordecai, you are so swayve.

MORDI: Suave, King, Suave.

KING: Thanks for saving my life.

MORDI: Well, Do Wah Diddy. It was nothing, King, but make sure you write it down in your chronicles.

KING: Of course. Now get back to the Palace Gate and keep your nose to the ground.

MORDI: I think you mean my ear.

(MORDI EXITS)

KING: That was a close call. I'd better appoint a Prime Minister who can rule with a steel fist.

QUEEN: You mean an iron hand.

KING: Right. Bring me Haman - The Leader of the Pack.

(ENTER HAMAN) (EXIT ESTHER)

SCENE 11: The King appoints Haman Prime Minister (King, Haman)

KING: Haman, I am promoting you and setting you above all the Princes. Now get your ear to the grindstone.

HAMAN: I think you mean my nose. Say, King, what's the most important thing you want me to accomplish?

KING: Get me on the Ed Sullivan Show.

HAMAN: Check!

KING: Second of all, my fund-raising efforts have come to a standstill.

HAMAN: I have a great idea. You could host expensive dinners at the Palace for very rich supporters and remind them how nice it is to be one of the "HAVES" while you solicit them for money.

KING: I couldn't. That's against Persian law. On the other hand, I MAKE Persian law.

HAMAN: And you could really raise a lot of money.

KING: Then we'll do it!

HAMAN: Good -- But don't be a complete idiot and videotape them. And make sure Michael Moore doesn't get in somehow.

KING: Of course not.

HAMAN: Good. Now, you must issue a decree that everyone in Persia must bow down to me.

KING: It is so decreed. Now get to work.

(EXIT KING;

SCENE 12: Haman demands that the Jews bow to him (Haman, Mordi, WGs, Woman with Sax)

(ENTER MORDI)

HAMAN: Mordecai, the King just made me Prime Minister and decreed that everyone must bow down to me.

**MORDI:** Well, Do Wah Diddy, Haman. Jews only bow down to God. See You Later Alligator.

**(MORDI EXITS. WGs enter)**

**HAMAN:** Mordecai and the Jews refuse to bow down to me. They know they will be severely punished. I don't get it!

**DIRECTOR:** Ladies and Gentlemen - Haman Lyman and the Wise – I mean, Thugs!

[SONG:]

**HAMAN:** Eh Toomba, Ta Toomba, Ta Toomba, Duh Duh.

**WGs:** Ooo-wah, Ooo -Wah,

Ooo - Wah, Ooo -Wah,

Ooo - Wah, Ooo -Wah.

**HAMAN:** Why do Jews not bow down?

Why do Jews say, Oy Vey?

And when I command, they don't obey!

Why do they not bow down?

**WGs (ECHO):** Not bow down.

**HAMAN:** Why do the Jews act so very odd?

Why do they have one God?

Why do they act so odd?

**WGs (ECHO):** Act so odd.

**HAMAN:** (while WGs OOO 3 lines)

Theirs is a losing game.

It will be their shame.

I know of a Jew, you see,

Would not bow down to me.

**(Woman brings sax)**

**(Falsetto)** Tell me why iii iii.

Tell me why.

**(Sax and jitterbugging)**

**HAMAN:** Why do Jews cause me wrath?

And always in school so good at math?

Why do they cause me wrath?

**WGs (ECHO):** Cause me wrath.

**HAMAN:** Why won't the Jews listen to the crown?

Why do they make me frown?

Why do they not bow down?

**WGs (ECHO):** Not bow down.

**HAMAN:** (while men OOO 3 lines)

Why do the Jews

act so indiscreet. They must know

it will mean defeat.

**(Falsetto)** Tell me why iii iii

Tell me why

**WGs & H:** Why do Jews

**HAMAN (Spoken):** Oy!

**WGs & H:** Not bow down? **(HOLD 8 BEATS)**

SCENE 13: Haman decrees that the Jews will die and Kids harrass him (Director, Haman, Kids [Teens], Chorus from seats)

**HAMAN:** I will destroy all the Jews in the Kingdom, or my name isn't Haman.

**CHORUS:** BOO!

**HAMAN:** The Jews obey their own laws. They must obey Haman!

**CHORUS:** BOO!

**HAMAN:** On the 13th of Adar, every Jewish man, woman, and child shall die on the gallows built by Haman!

**ENTER Director (shoos WGs off stage and motions kids onto stage as speaks):** Well, this is a pretty kettle of fish, isn't it? And it's going to get worse. What are we going to do about it? **(Exits) (Kids begin approaching Haman, making faces.)**

**CHORUS:** BOO!

**HAMAN (TO KIDS):** Why are you kids doing that?

**(KIDS pursue Haman around stage, in his face)**

[SONG:]

**KIDS (speak):** ‘Cause –

**KIDS (sing):** You ain’t nothin’ but a Schmendrick, Kvetchin’ all the time.  
You ain’t nothin’ but a Schmendrick, Kvetchin’ all the time.

Well, we ain’t never gonna bow down

And you know that ain’t no crime.

Kingy said we was high class.

He said that we are swayve.

**(HAMAN speaks:** He meant suave)

Kingy said we was high class.

He said that we are swayve.

**(HAMAN speaks:** He meant suave)

Well, we will tell the King about cha

and we know that we’ll be saved!

**KIDS:** Yakety Yak.

**HAMAN (speak):** Don’t talk back!

**KIDS:** Put on the sackcloth and the ash.

You know that Haman’s talkin’ trash.

We’ll get to even up the score.

You ain’t gonna rock ‘n roll no more.

Yakety Yak.

**HAMAN speaks:** Don’t talk back!

**KIDS:** You make us weep and make us wail.

How come you’re always kickin’ tail?

We pick ourselves up off the floors.

Someday we know that you’ll get yours!

Yakety Yak.

**HAMAN speaks:** Don’t talk back.

**KIDS:** Don’t you give us no dirty looks!

You and your friends, a bunch of crooks!

Remember well the month Adar!

That’s when the Jews are goin’ far!

Yakety Yak.

**HAMAN speaks:** Don’t talk back!

**KIDS:** Fee, Fee, Fi, Fi, Fo, Fo, Fum.

We don’t need all your pandemonium!

Bring Haman down! Bring Haman down!

He’s a clown! We’ll bring him down!

He’s gonna get his! Just you wait and see!

**HAMAN speaks:** Why’s everybody always pickin’ on me?

**KIDS:** He walks through the city cool and slow.

He calls the learn-ed Rabbi Daddy-O.

Bring Haman down. Bring Haman down.

He’s a clown. We’ll bring him down.

He’s gonna get his! Just you wait and see!

**HAMAN speaks:** Why’s everybody always pickin’ on me?

**KIDS (speak):** ‘Cause

**KIDS (sing):** You ain’t nothin’ but a Schmendrick, Kvetchin’ all the time.

You ain’t nothin’ but a Schmendrick, Kvetchin’ all the time.

Well, we ain’t never gonna bow down,

And you know

That

Ain’t

No

Crime. **(HOLD 13 BEATS)**

**KIDS SHOUT:** YEAH!

**(EXIT HAMAN. KIDS exit.)**

SCENE 14: Esther finds out about Haman's decree (Director, Esther, Mordi in sackcloth and ashes, Fabian [formerly Dick Clark and Duke])

(DIRECTOR enters. ESTHER enters separately)

DIRECTOR: Mordecai heard about Haman's decree to kill the Jews, and he started to shake, rattle, and roll! He put on sackcloth and ashes, and he came before the King's gate with a loud and bitter cry.

(ENTER MORDI, pulling at sackcloth, wailing)

ESTHER: Where's my main slave, Fabian?

(FABIAN enters)

ESTHER: You look better on TV!

FABIAN: I know.

ESTHER: Go ask Mordecai why he's dressed like a slob and making such a racket.

FABIAN (goes to M): Mordecai, Esther wants to know why you are dressed like a slob and making such a racket.

MORDI: Tell Esther Haman means to kill all the Jews. She must go to the King and make him love us tender.

FABIAN (goes to E): Esther, Mordecai says Haman means to kill all the Jews. You must go to the King and make him love them tender.

ESTHER: Tell Mordecai that if I go to the King and he doesn't raise his golden sceptre, I will be put to death.

FABIAN (goes to M): Mordecai, Esther says that...

MORDI: OK, OK, I heard her. Tell Esther that she HAS to go before the King and save her people.

FABIAN (goes to E): Esther, Mordecai says you –

ESTHER: OK, OK, I heard him. Fetch me my Wise Old Serving Woman and my Serving Girls.

SCENE 15: Esther learns she must save her people (Es, SGs, WOSW)

(EXIT MORDI and FABIAN. ENTER WOSW and SGs)

ESTHER: Oh, Wise Old Serving Woman and my ditsy serving girls, I am so upset. First of all, I'm having a bad hair day, and then Mordecai said –

SGs: OK, OK, we heard him.

ESTHER: So I must go unto the King, and if he doesn't raise his gold sceptre, it's Bye Bye Love, Bye Bye Happiness, Bye Bye ...

SGs: OK, OK.

WOSW: This is all the fault of Rock 'n 'Roll music. It is disgusting and vile and, thank God, it will never last. Esther, listen to me: (Snobbily acts out song with ES)

[SONG: In British accent]

WOSW: Put your head on my shoulder.

Be a brave young thing, Esther.

Stand up to the King. Show him

That you are a star.

SGs: That you are a star!

WOSW: Put your hand on my heart, dear.

Do you feel it beat duly?

It will serve you most truly.

You and I are going far.

SGs: You and I are going far.

WOSW: Chin up, Es, You've got to give,

Give him a loving gaze.

If there's a way, you'll find it today,

Then watch his golden sceptre raise!

Put your head on my shoulder.

Put your hand on my heart, dear.

Put your nose to the grindstone.

Show the world that you're a star.

SGs: Show the world that you're a star.

WOSW: Esther, stand straight and tall, dear.

Today you will find glory.

Remember, this is your story.

Put your head on my shoulder.

ESTHER: Thanks, I feel better already. But why does Haman have to be so intolerant?

WOSW: I don't know. It started with lactose, and now he's intolerant of everything.

ESTHER: There's the King. Wish me luck.

**WOSW:** Good luck, Es. **(To audience)** She's a goner! **(Exit WOSW and SGs)**

SCENE 16: Esther approaches the King (Es, K)

**(KING enters, to throne, sits)**

**(ES cross to K. K rise, hold up sceptre. K & E cross together to center stage.)**

[SONG:]

**ESTHER:** So I went to Kingy and I heard him say,

**KING (gestures):** Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**ESTHER:** He raised his sceptre like - right away.

**KING (gestures):** Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**ESTHER:** Raised it right away.

Really made my day.

That's when I heard him say,

**KING (gestures):** Da Do Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**ESTHER:** I said, Hi, Kingy, tell me what is new?

**KING (gestures):** Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**ESTHER:** And by the way, King, I am a Jew.

**KING (gestures):** Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**ESTHER:** Yes, I am a Jew.

**KING:** So what else is new?

**ESTHER:** Will you still be true?

**KING (gestures):** Da Doo Ron on Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**(Musical break: King and Queen jitterbug)**

**ESTHER:** A man of very few words, this is all he said,

**KING (gestures):** Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**ESTHER:** I asked him what was goin' on in his head.

**KING (gestures):** Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**ESTHER:** Yes, I knocked him dead.

One thing in his head. And this is all he said,

**KING (gestures):** Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**ESTHER:** Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**BOTH:** Da Doo Ron Ron Ron, Da Doo Ron Ron.

**KING (speaks):** Esther, I love you, and you're Jewish, and you're so swayve.

**ESTHER:** I think you mean suave.

**KING:** Right. And your Uncle Mordecai, who saved my life — what's his name?

**ESTHER:** Mordecai.

**(MORDI enters)**

**KING:** He's swayve, too. Say, Es, have I done anything to honor Mordecai for saving my life?

**ESTHER:** No, you haven't, and that's not swayve — I mean, suave. But, King, there's something I have to tell you. You know, Haman's saying --

SCENE 17: The King orders Haman to honor Mordi (Es, K, Haman, Mordi)

**(Enter HAMAN)**

**KING:** Well, look, here comes Haman now. Let's ask him what I should do.

**ESTHER (retreats from H):** But, King --.

**KING:** Haman, How shall I honor a very well-deserving dude?

**HAMAN (aside to audience):** He means me, King wants to honor me!

**(TO KING)** Dress him up in your own royal duds .

**KING:** Right on.

**MORDI (sings):** Do Wah Diddy.

**HAMAN:** And set your crown on his head.

**KING:** Right on.

**MORDI (sings):** Do Wah Diddy.

**HAMAN:** And ride him through the streets of Shushan City and proclaim his name.

**KING:** Right on.

**MORDI (sings):** Do Wah Diddy.

**HAMAN:** And let him ride on the King's favorite horse.

**KING:** Right on.

**MORDI:** A horse? A horse? Whoever heard of a Jew on a horse? Esther, come here -- Call an audible at the line of scrimmage. Change the horse to a Lincoln Continental convertible.

**ESTHER:** King, no one should ride your favorite horse but your royal self. How about that tacky old classic Lincoln Continental convertible?

**KING:** That's it. Haman, see that all you suggested is done for Mordecai, who sits at the King's gate. But no horse - that was a dumb idea. Use my Lincoln Continental, with the top down.

**HAMAN (screaming and having conniptions):** For Mordecai ... No, No, it can't be! *(As exits)* Say it ain't so!

**CHORUS:** HURRAH!

**Director:** Okay, okay, let's get ready here now, time for Mordicai's parade. Positions, positions everyone.

SCENE 18: Mordicai's parade (Mordi, All cast)

*(MORDI to center, gradually exit to parade around the room as sings. Chorus to stage and around stage, with Director's help.)*

[SONG:]

**CHORUS:** Mordecai's just a ridin' down the street, singin',

**MORDI:** Do Wa Diddy Diddy Down Diddy Do.

**CHORUS:** He played the crowd and he didn't miss a beat, singin',

**MORDI:** Do Wa Diddy Diddy Down Diddy Do.

**CHORUS:** He looks good.

**MORDI:** Yeah, Yeah.

**CHORUS:** He looks fine.

**MORDI:** Yes, I do.

**CHORUS:** He looks good. He looks fine. Haman's nearly lost his mind.

Mordecai's acting like he's got it made, singin',

**MORDI:** Do Wa Diddy Diddy Down Diddy Do.

**CHORUS:** Starin' in the world's first tickertape parade, singin',

**MORDI:** Do Wa Diddy Diddy Down Diddy Do.

**CHORUS:** We all cheer.

**MORDI:** Yeah, Yeah.

**CHORUS:** We all shout.

**MORDI:** Yes, they do.

**CHORUS:** We all cheer. We all shout.

Haman's in an awful pout.

**SAX SOLO**

**CHORUS:** Just look at the hero go past.

**SAX SOLO**

**CHORUS:** We cannot help but ask,

Is it gonna last?

Now they're heading up the length

Of South Street, singing,

**MORDI:** Do Wa Diddy Diddy Down Diddy Do.

**CHORUS:** He's so happy, but will happiness stay? Singin',

**MORDI:** Do Wah Diddy Diddy Down Diddy Do.

**CHORUS:** He's the boss.

**MORDI:** Yeah, Yeah.

**CHORUS:** He's the man.

**MORDI:** Yes I am.

**CHORUS:** He's boss. He's the man!

What about Haman's plan? Singin,

**MORDI:** Do Wah Diddy Diddy Down Diddy Do.

**ALL:** Do Wah Diddy Diddy Down Diddy Do.

Down Diddy Do.

Down Diddy Diddy Diddy Do. *(Hold 4 beats; arm gesture)*

*(All exit except Director, Es, and K)*

SCENE 19: Esther tells the King of Haman's intentions and the King intervenes (Director, K, Es, Haman, Chorus from seats)

**DIRECTOR:** So Mordecai had his parade, and then he returned to the King's gate with a big head, thinking surely Haman had changed his mind now and everything was going to be wonderful forever and ever and ever. And

Haman went home to his wife Zeresh with a big headache and was even more determined to destroy all the Jews. And Esther went to Shushan Palace and made a cozy dinner for two, feeling a lot more courageous about speaking her mind, but because she was a woman she KNEW better than to think everything could be fine forever without any work. So, Esther said to the King, ALL IN ONE BREATH:

**ESTHER:** If I'm your little darlin', then please answer my prayer, and don't kill me and my people for we are to be destroyed and we are very blue.

**KING:** You mean my swayve Jews are feelin' blue?

**ESTHER:** Suave, King.

**KING:** Who dares to destroy you and your people?

**ESTHER:** Wicked Haman dares and double-dares.

**KING:** Haman! Come here, you turkey!

**(HAMAN enters) (ESTHER retreats)**

**ESTHER (points. Everyone looks):** Look, King, see those gallows. Haman built them for Mordecai, who saved your life.

**KING:** Haman, I love the Jews -- they are very swayve.

**HAMAN:** Suave, King.

**KING:** And you have made the Jews put on sackcloth and ashes and weep and wail, and altogether my swayve Jews are feelin' very blue.

**ESTHER:** Look out -- I think I know what's comin'!

**KING:** Haman, listen up!

**(Pushes Haman in the chest while singing)**

[SONG:]

**KING**

Number One is my honey.

Mordecai's two.

They are both Jewish

And feelin' blue.

Oh don't you step on my Blue Swayve Jews.

**ESTHER (SPOKEN)** That's what I was afraid of!

**KING:** You can do anything, but lay off of my Blue Swayve Jews.

Well, don't you mess with Es,

'Cause she's my wife.

Nor Mordecai, cause he saved my life.

Do anything you wanna do,

But uh uh, Haman, lay off of my Jews.

Don't you step on my Blue Swayve Jews.

You can do anything, but lay off of my Blue Swayve Jews.

My accountant's a Jew, and he is prized.

My doctor and lawyer both were circumcised.

All my Wise Guys, they pay Temple dues.

So uh uh, Haman, lay off of my Jews.

Don't you step on my Blue Swayve Jews.

You can do anything, but lay off of my Blue Swayve Jews.

You can do anything, but lay off of my Blue Swayve Jews.

**ALL:** Blue, blue, blue swayve Jews.

Blue, blue, blue swayve Jews.

You can do anything but lay off of my (his)

Blue -- Swayve -- Jews **(hold 5)** -- oh yeah!

SCENE 20: FINALE (Es, King, Haman, Kids, Rabbi, Chorus)

**ESTHER:** King Ahasuevis, what are we going to do about those gallows?

**KING:** We shouldn't let them go to waste. KIDS, COME GET HAMAN!

**(KIDS grab Haman.)**

**KING:** Haman, you shall take Mordecai's place on the gallows.

**ALL:** HURRAH

**RABBI:** Hold on there, King, hold on. Don't you remember what I told you before about the law? You can't hang someone because he was GOING to do something. And, frankly, we Reform Jews don't want you hanging anyone even if you think they HAVE done something. What if you're wrong? You can lock Haman up, but don't hang him.

It's your responsibility as our leader to always make sure you've got the facts right and that you stick to the law's spirit, as well as its letter, and that you NEVER, EVER punish the wrong people.

**KING:** Okay, Okay. But I can lock him up?

**RABBI:** Give him a fair trial, THEN lock him up.

**KING:** Okay, Haman, you're going to trial, you and your cohorts.

**ALL:** HURRAH

**KING:** And when they're convicted, your cohorts will have to spend the rest of their days listening to Pat Boone records.

**ALL:** HURRAH

**KING:** And I ordain that a day be celebrated every year by Jews around the world —

**ALL:** HURRAH

**KING:** with feasting and gladness, and the kids should dress up like Halloween —

**ALL:** HURRAH

**KING:** and eat prune hamantaschen —

**DIRECTOR:** HURRAH

**EVERYONE ELSE:** BOO

**KING:** and everyone should be nice to one another and give gifts to the poor -

**MORDI:** Gifts to the poor -- the poor — Why don't we call it Poor - im?

**ALL:** GROAN

**KING:** Right. And every year on Poor – im, every man, woman, and child shall rock and roll!

**ALL:** HURRAH

(King to stage right, Esther center, Mordi left. Chorus in 3 groups below each)

(K's group move up around K)

[SONG:]

Esther's story is goin to rock.

Mordecai's glory is going to rock.

Haman so gory is going to rock.

We're gonna rock around the Pur - im – spiel.

Take your sackcloth off and be a star.

We'll have some fun

When the month's Adar.

We're gonna rock around the Purimspiel.

We're gonna show the world how good we feel.

We're gonna rock, gonna rock

Around the Purimspiel.

(Es's group move up behind queen)

It rocks in the Temple, all the day long,

Hoppin' and a - boppin' and a - singin' this song.

Everybody says how good they feel

When they hear the Rock 'n Roll Purimspiel.

Rockin' Purim. Rock, Rock Rock.

Rockin' Purim. Rock. Rock. Rock.

It's Rockin' Purim 'cause we're really gonna rock tonight.

(M's group move up behind Mordi)

**WOMEN:** Sha na na na Sha na na na na

Sha na na na Sha na na na na

Sha na na na Sha na na na na

Sha na na na Sha na na na na

**MEN:** Yip Yip Yip Yip Yip Yip Yip Yip

Mum Mum Mum Mum Mum Mum

Purimspiel

**WOMEN:** Sha na na na Sha na na na na

**MEN:** Purimspiel

**WOMEN:** Sha na na na Sha na na na na

(Everyone spread out around stage and dance while sing)

**WOMEN:** Oh you can rock it, you can roll it,

Do the slop, and even stroll it

**MEN:** At the Spiel.

**WOMEN:** Sha na na na Sha na na na na.

**ES:** You can really move your pelvis with good King Ahasuevis  
At the Spiel.

**WOMEN:** Sha na na na Sha na na na na.

**ES:** Throw away all caution. and have some hamantaschen  
At the Spiel.

**WOMEN:** Sha na na na Sha na na na na.

Let's go to the Spiel,

**MEN:** Oh Baby.

**WOMEN:** Dig the Purimspiel,

**MEN:** Oh Baby.

**WOMEN:** Rock and Roll the Spiel,

**MEN:** Oh Baby.

**WOMEN:** Let's go to the Spiel,

**MEN:** Oh Baby. COME ON.

**ALL:** We don't care what the people say, Purim-spiel is here to stay. We don't care what the people say, Purimspiel  
is here to stay.

We don't care what the people say,

Purimspiel is here... to ... stay. (Hold 12 beats while arm gesture. Then bow.)