

A Seuss-shan Purim!
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Austin, Texas
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Characters:
Two Narrators (Thing One and Thing 2)
Queen Vashti
King Ahashverosh
Haman
Esther
Mordechai

Both Narrators (Thing 1 and Thing 2)
Shalom, Yeladim, and hear us well
For now is the story of Purim to tell.
It took place in Shushan so long, long ago.
Now off to Persia we all will go.

Narrator (Thing 2)
In this beautiful kingdom ruled a king
A king with no brain, who'd think such a thing?
He spent all his days and his nights having fun
Parading his wealth in the warm Persian sun.

Narrator (Thing 1)
A queen named Vashti was his loyal wife
She promised to love him all of her life.
She promised, that is, until he did ask
For her to perform an unthinkable task.

At his grandest of parties the king did command
Queen Vashti dance for royal men of the land.

Vashti:
"I am Not your servant, and dance I will Not!
I hereby refuse the King's sexist plot!"
No woman should have to put up with you!
"Hashtag #Me, too!!"

Narrator (Thing 2)
....she shouted as she quickly withdrew

For Vashti, you see, was not known as a fibber
She was, in fact, History's first women's libber.

Narrator (Thing 1)

Vashti was banished - away she did go.
Where did she go? That we do not know.

Narrator (Thing 2)

In this fair kingdom lived also the Jews
Who could not practice the religion they choosed
No Torah, no Challah, no Matzah Ball soup
For a villain named Haman had started a coup.

Haman:

"Bow down to me now"

Narrator (Thing 2)

... cruel Haman did say

Haman:

"For I am an important man of the day."
"I'm the King's right-hand man - I rule all that I see
If you don't bow down now, you will cease to be!!!"

Narrator (Thing 1)

Meanwhile back at the palace grand
An announcement went out throughout the land
A new queen to be chosen in an unusual way
In a beauty contest held the very next day.

Narrator (Thing 2)

All the maidens of the land were forced to appear
From near and from far, from far and from near
One such maiden had brains and had grace
Esther was her name...Such a pretty face!

Encouraged by her Uncle (or was it cousin?) Mordechai

Mordechai:

"I beg you dear Esther, this you MUST try"
"With your brains and your beauty YOU he would choose
"Go, go, go, go! "Comb your hair. Wear nice shoes!"

"Besides that my dear, with your grace and your charm
You will blow them away. You'll be on King Achashverosh's arm!"

Esther:

"I'm unsure of myself, but I'm willing to go
Because I love my Cousin, uh... I mean Uncle - so
I'll enter the contest
But please Mordechai, dear
Promise me that you'll always stay near."

Narrator (Thing 1)

The contest was held - They came one and all
And Esther of course was the Queen of the ball.

Narrator (Thing 2)

Though Achashverosh chose her, and she was now queen
There was one rotten rule she had not foreseen.

Under penalty of death she had to obey
The following rule in an unbending way:
Her new husband commanded she could only see him
When HE chose to see her and on HIS whim

Narrator (Thing 1)

So now back to Haman, that cruel crusty fellow
At the top of his lungs he continued to bellow:

Haman:

"Bow down, bow down NOW I command!
Or great harm will come to you in this land."

Mordechai:

"I, Mordechai, refuse to obey -
I bow only to G-D to my last dying day!"

Narrator (Thing 2)

Haman's face turned red with anger and hate ...

Haman:

"I'll get you my pretty - If it's the last breath I take!!" (Cackle cackle cackle)

Narrator (Thing 1)

Mordechai turned his back, and other Jews did follow
As for Haman, well, his pride he had to swallow

Haman:

"That Jew, Mordechai, has ruined my heinous plot
Because of this affront I will have to draw lots
The straw that I pick, the one that comes nigh

Is the day that the Jews of Persia shall die!"

Narrator (Thing 2)

Into his three-cornered hat - he did cast
All of the dates - The Future, The Past
The lot that he picked was the 13th of Adar

Haman:

"Make ready the gallows! Adar is not far."

Narrator (Thing 1)

Right after Haman he did pester
Went Mordechai to see Queen Esther.
Stealthily listening at the palace gate
Two guards were plotting to seal the King's fate

Bigthan and Terash were the names of the guards
Hearing their plot was terribly hard.
Mordy heard them, their talk he did broach
Planning to kill King Ahashverosh!

Narrator (Thing 2)

Brave Mordy protected his king and his land
By revealing the plot in the palace grand
The King did not know, he glanced not a look
But, Mordy's deed was recorded in a grand, official book.

The king in his chamber that evening did read
Of Mordechai's loyalty in the Book of Good Deeds
With the smallest of brains, the king thought and he thought

King:

"Who is this Mordechai who saved me from the brink?
Who, who, WHO is this man who foiled the guards' plan?
I must reward him - send for Haman!"

"A question to you, Haman, I must pose:
"How should I honor a man who has been on his toes
Who has saved my kingdom through heroic deeds
Without a single thought to his own needs?"

Haman:

"Well, this hero he is honoring must surely be ME
For saving the kingdom from the Jews for the king!"

Narrator (Thing 1)

Haman pompously swelled with excitement and greed
He knew the King his words would heed:

Haman:

"I think my dear King no reward is too great
Give him diamonds and jewels—a house by the lake"
"Fabulous clothing and all of the best
Let him ride the King's horse on your next birthday fest!"

King:

"Make it so, dear Haman, loyal right hand man
Bring forth Mordechai the Jew...this is my command!"
"Instruct all my tailors, my jewelers my builders
To spare no sheckles, no rubles, or guilders
Call all the king's horses and all the king's men
To honor this Jew again and again!"

Narrator (Thing 2)

Haman astounded, speechless at best
Felt his anger spread from his feet to his chest

Haman:

"Could it be that this man who refused to bow down
Must now be honored all through the town?"

Narrator (Thing 1)

Seizing the moment, the opportunity here,
Mordechai to Esther did appear
Using his wits and Oh, so clever brain
Mordy made history, now Esther has fame.

Mordechai:

"You must risk your life and go to the King
And tell him about this heinous thing
That Haman is planning the Jews will all die
You must go brave Esther...this you MUST try."

Esther:

"But cousin (or Uncle)," I am trembling with fear
"Without his permission, I cannot go near!
It could be my life - I am so afraid."

Mordechai:

To that I'll reply: "You can do this, BABE."
"Use your brains and your charm and your prettiest skirt

And your shaina punim...What could that hurt?

Narrator (Thing 2)

So, Esther swallowed her fear,
And she calmed her nerves
She went after this task
With Vim and with Verve

Narrator (Thing 1)

At a party she threw that very same night
She walked into the banquet, trembling with fright.
Although shocked to see her, the King did beckon:

King:

"I'll see her, I'll see her...It's fine, I reckon."

Esther:

"Dear husband, I've gotten some news
So horribly horrible that I did choose
To come un-summoned to be by your side
You must listen to me - After all, I'm your bride!!"

Narrator (Thing 2)

Risking her life Esther told him the story
Of Haman's dastardly plan—Evil and Hoary
Esther, still trembling explained to her mate:

Esther:

"My lord, at the risk of sealing my fate
I must tell you something that to you may be news...
Someone is planning to kill all the Jews!"

"This includes Mordechai, And all of his kin
And in this category, you must put me in.
For you see, I am Jewish, but so loyal to you
Please don't hurt my people...Please don't hurt the Jews!
I fear my dear husband, unless you act with your heart
I too will die on the 13th of Adar."

Narrator (Thing 1)

Thinking the thoughts a king would sure think

King:

Hmmm... my loyal wife deserveth a mink!"

Narrator (Thing 1)

He called for his henchman...His Number Two
To question again—what should he do
In order to save his wife and her kin
Haman of course, slunk right in.

King:

"Esther, dear Esther, tell Haman your fear
Don't be afraid—Tell him my dear."

Esther:

"Okay, here goes nothing,"

Narrator (Thing 1)

...said Esther inside.

She looked straight at Haman, and summoned her pride:

Esther:

"You wicked wicked man...How dare you pretend
That you are loyal to my King to the end?
You who did plot to destroy all the Jews
Also will kill ME Whom the King did choose!
For I too am Jewish, you hateful old coot!"

King:

"Turn around – I'm the King ..."I give you the boot!
I decree that the Jews have the right to defend,
But YOUR entire family will pay in the end!

I sentence you now to the gallows you built
Not a single drop of Jewish blood shall be spilt!
Pack up your belongings but don't go far
On the gallows you'll be swinging on the 13th of Adar!!!"

Both Narrators:

The moral of the story, Yeladim, you now know
Is to honor G-D and all people wherever you go.
To stand up and speak out for all that is right
And to you Chag Sameach...Laila Tov, and good night.

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