

Megillah Madness:
"AN ANNIE PURIMSPIEL!"

Script and New Purim Lyrics by Rabbi Billy Dreskin & Cantor Ellen Dreskin
Music adapted from Strouse and Charnin's *Annie*

- ____ Quiet, everyone! We're on the air in three ... two ... one ...
- ____ *Purim sameakh!* Happy Purim, everybody! Welcome to WWCT Radio's annual broadcast of "Megillah Madness."
- ____ Tonight, we present for your Purim entertainment ...
- ____ a story that's not dripping with diamonds ...
- ____ ... a story that's not dripping with pearls ...
- ____ ... a story that *is* dripping with ...
- ____ ... little girls!
- ____ Stay with us as Daddy Warbucks, Miss Hannigan and, of course, Little Orphan Annie ...
- ____ ... lead us on a journey from the Municipal Girls Orphanage and the Warbucks Mansion ...
- ____ ... to Shushan some 2400 years ago.
- ____ Yes, Shushan — that walled city in Persia where long ago, the life of every Jewish man, woman and billionaire ...
- ____ ... was on the line when a despicable, evil villain plotted their doom.
- ____ So hey, hobo man ...
- ____ ... hey, Dapper Dan ...
- ____ ... put on your smile ...
- ____ ... because WWCT Radio is proud to present ...
- CAST** ... "An Annie Purimspiel"!

"APPLAUSE" SIGN

— Don't touch that dial. "Megillah Madness" will return after this word from our sponsor.

**YOUR "COMMERCIAL" GOES HERE
(or use the one below)**

— Have to perform in your temple's purimspiel? Learned your lines? Got a monster grogger? But wait! It's an hour before curtain and, ooo, that's a nasty toothache! Well, fret not. Because you've got a good friend waiting for you ... IF your synagogue has purchased the incredible Megillah the Drillah! That's right. Through the miracle of modern science, with the very same scroll you'll use to drill into Purim, you can also perform root canal! Just unroll the high-speed, diamond-tipped megillah, and presto, you'll have that tooth capped in a jiffy! Megillah the Drillah, for relief of biblical proportions. Designed by really Jewish dentists.

— Welcome back. This is WWCT Radio's award-winning broadcast of "Megillah Madness: An Annie Purimspiel." As a public service to our studio audience and to you folks at home, we now invite Mr. Oliver Warbucks to share a few words on Purim safety.

— *Purim sameakh*, children. I'm grateful for the opportunity to address this impressive assemblage (most of whom I have bribed at one time or another) to speak with you about grogger-safety education. Purim is a great deal of fun, but somebody can get hurt. Not that I'm opposed to hurt. I have, after all, made a lot of money selling munitions to many governments. But everything in its own place and own time, eh? This evening, we need to understand the proper technique for swinging our groggers. First of all, don't forget to raise your grogger high in the air – the object is to blot out Haman, not the person sitting next to you (unless it's a competitor of mine). And second, hold tight to your grogger. You don't want it to fly across the room and bop the rabbi on his/her head. Hmm, flying groggers. I wonder if I can sell them to the government of Guam?

— Thank you, Mr. Warbucks. Groggers make a lot of noise, so it's important to know when and when not to shake them. Here's how it works. When you hear the special word and you see this signal [display go-signal], make as much noise as you can. But when you see *this* signal [display stop-signal], stop as quickly as you can. Let's give it a try, shall we?

PRACTICE WITH SIGNAL

— (Daddy Warbucks again) Superb! Job well done! Have a wonderful time tonight. Or else I'll have you shipped off to Guam with my groggers!

— And now, we invite our studio audience and the folks at home to join us in chanting the traditional *megillah* blessings.

THE THREE BLESSINGS ARE CHANTED

____ And away we go!

____ Our story takes place like a gazillion years ago!

____ In a city called Shushan ...

____ where King Ahashuerus ruled over 127 provinces.

CAST From India to Nubia!

____ Practically the entire world.

____ In the third year of his reign, Ahahuerus threw a big celebration.

CAST How big?

____ A hundred and eighty days big.

____ And what a celebration! With the palace opened wide for everyone to see and to enjoy.

____ The king gave orders to every palace steward to comply with each man's wishes.

CAST You mean each *person's* wishes.

____ Actually, each *man's*.

____ Which is what got Ahashuerus into trouble.

____ Yep. He called for his wife, the very beautiful Queen Vashti, and ordered her to appear before the king and all his friends wearing her royal crown.

CAST That doesn't sound so bad.

____ Only her royal crown.

____ Huh? <pause> Oh.

____ Needless to say, Queen Vashti wasn't happy. Here's what happened.

SONG: KING A'S SONG