Roles

- King Achashverosh
- Haman
- Mordechai
- Esther
- Kings guards
- Vashti
- Vashti's maidservant, Leah
- Hamans son Shimshi
- Heavenly voice
- Random person in the crown (1 line in first skit)

Costumes and props

- King costume crown and shirt
- queen esther -
- queen vashti (can be similar to esther) -
- Haman -
- Mordechai hat with peyos
- Guard costume and sword
- throne decor
- any persian decor
- genie lamps
- robes?
- scarves for women
- low pillows?
- drapes
- persian music
- fez hats

Mustaches?

1. Skit 1 at dinner -

ONE SIDE OF ROOM

Mordechai: All Jews. please listen to me. The king's royal party puts us in a grave situation. Not just to us but to all Jews. Achashverosh knows Hashem will always protect us and that the only way we can be harmed is if we sin. We cannot go to the party. I can only now imagine the conversation that occurred bet Achashverosh and Haman before the banquet.

OTHER SIDE OF ROOM

<u>Achashverosh</u> - Every night I am haunted by the prophecy of Jeremiah who said that at the end of 70 years, the Jewish exile will end and their temple will be rebuilt. When Jerusalem is rebuilt my kingdom fails. I know that soon my Kingdom will fail and I can't help but being nervous...

<u>Haman</u> - No, your majesty. according to my calculation, 70 years finished already, Jeremiah was wrong, the Jewish temple isn't being rebuilt and will never be. (EVIL LAUGH) You will rule forever. A toast to his majesty!

<u>Achashverosh</u>: No, don't you remember what happened to my father in law, King balshatzer, who made a party with the vessels of the temple celebrating that the 70 years had ended. and by the morning he was dead!

<u>Haman:</u> Yes, Balshatzer was wrong in his counting. He messed up and didn't understand the truth. But now, we are right in our calculations. The 70 years are over and the Jewish G-d has abandoned them. The Jew's have powers only if they do the will of their G-d. If they sin, they are in our hands (RUB HANDS TOGETHER).

<u>Achashveirosh</u>: Yes, I understand. This calls for a great celebration. Let's celebrate a feast fit for a king lasting 180 days long! And I will wear the garments that the high priest wore in the temple. But how do we make them sin?

<u>Haman</u>: The feast will cater to our plan! The feast will make them fall prey to sin. Will have fine non kosher cuisine and wine...they will sin. EVIL LAUGH. But we won't force them to sin. They will choose to sin on their own. And then their G-d won't help them

BACK TO MORDECHAL

Mordechai - We as jews cannot attend the party.

<u>Random Person</u>: No, we must go. You're causing anti-semitism. We need to go to the feast to show we are loyal citizens. We need our neighbors to like us. Then they will never turn on us! We are going!

AT THE PARTY - At dinner

Achashveirosh: I am so glad you have all attended this royal feast. I feel so good being able to walk around in the choshen, in the holy vessel that the Jewish high priest, used to wear in the temple. Now the best is yet to come. I would like to show off my beautiful Queen. Guards, please call for Vashti and tell her to come in wearing the royal crown!

IN THE QUEEN'S CHAMBERS ON SHABBOS

Vashti: Haha, EVIL LAUGH. Leah - boil that cup of tea for me.

Leah: Yes, your majesty

Vashti: And smile while you do it. And did you tend to the garden today?

Leah: No i haven't had a chance yet, I plan to do it first thing tomorrow

<u>Vashti:</u> No, I know why you haven't done it today. Because it is your Sabbath and you don't want to work your land on the Sabbath. Don't give me your excuses? Is that true? (grabs her)

Leah: No i thought you didn't need it done till tomorrow

<u>Vashi:</u> Don't lie to me. I know why you didn't want to do it. Because you wanted to keep your Sabbath. Well it won't work. My grandfather Nevuchadnetzar destroyed your holy temple and I II prevent it from ever being rebuilt again. EVIL LAUGH. Do you see these water basins? They were taken from your holy temple. Your G-d is no longer with you. If he had power, why doesn't he stand up and avenge his honor?

<u>Leah</u>: Your majesty herself is the biggest proof of G-d. if His majesty allows such wicked people as yourself to exist, it's the biggest proof of his greatness. G-d is in no rush. He rules the whole world and you can't hide from him. You won't go unpunished for long and Hashem has seen all the suffering and embarrassment you have caused to so many Jewish girls.

Vashti: Slap, you filthy Jew. You will be punished for your words!

Leah leaves

GUARD ENTERS

<u>Guard</u> - Vashti you have been called to the party in royal crown.

<u>Vashti to herself-</u> Wow what an honor. I can show my greatness. One second, I'm coming. Let me look in the mirror. HOLDS MIRROR But wait, what's this? pimples? I look so ugly. What can be more embarrassing. And tail is growing. MOVE JACKET SHOW TAIL I can't appear this way. I will be the laughing stock of the party

<u>Vashti to Guard</u> - Guard, tell your stupid master than in the house of my father, king Balshatzer, he wouldn't have been good enough to clean the horses stables. My father could drink enough wine for 1000 men and he wouldn't get drunk. Achashveirosh has just a few drinks and he's already wasted. I refused to obey his insane command. Tell the king **I will not come**

GUARD GOES TO KING

Guard to Achashveirosh - your majesty, she refused to come.

Achashveirosh - what did she say?

<u>Guard:</u> What did she say? She said "tell your stupid master than in the house of my father, king Balshatzer, he wouldn't have been good enough to clean the horses stables. My father could drink enough wine for 1000 men and he wouldn't get drunk. Achashveirosh has just a few drinks and he's already wasted. I refused to obey his insane command. Tell the king **I will not come**

<u>Achashverosh:</u> Enough already...Is that what she said? I'm not sure how to do with this. Bring me my royal advisors.

CALLS TO THE AUDIENCE

Achashveirosh: Advisors, what should we do? I'm looking for advice

<u>Haman-</u> Although I am unworthy of speaking first, I will advise out of love for the king, that Vashti has wronged not only his majesty but the entire kingdom. When other women hear these things, they will also disobey their husbands. I think you should execute her and then you'll find a new Queen and send a message to all the women in the kingdom that they shouldn't disobey their husbands either

<u>Achashveirosh:</u> that's a great idea. Brilliant. The law has been passed. Spread the word. Let all men rule their houses. And let's execute Vashti. Party on!

2. Before session 1

<u>Haman</u> - How dare Mordechai defy my authority, he never bows to me. I'll have him killed. No, actually, i have a better plan. Mordechai opposes me bec he is a Jew. Really, all the Jews hate me. Instead of only killing Mordechai, I will annihilate all the Jews from the face of this earth. EVIL LAUGH - Nothing will stand in my way.

I am ready to make a pur and decide. Shimshi, my son, are you ready?

Shimshi: yes

<u>Haman</u>: I have waited for this moment. Let's employ the forces of evil and impurity to decide when to rid the jews.

Shimshi: Which day of week should we do it

Haman: Let's roll the die? Sunday!

<u>Heavenly loud voice</u>: No - heaven and earth created for the Jews on the first day. You can't do it on first day of the week.

Haman: What about Monday?

<u>Heavenly loud voice</u>- Hashem separated the higher and lower waters on the second day. Jews are also separated for G-d's service

<u>Haman</u>: Wait, this isn't working. Let's try Tuesday.

<u>Heavenly loud voice - Laugh.</u> The plants were created on the 3rd day and Jews use plants for mitzvos, you wont be able to destroy them on Tuesday

Haman: Let's try Wednesday

<u>Heavenly loud voice:</u> No the sun and stars were made then - the jews are compared to the stars. The sun was made for jews

Haman: Oy, this is not working. Now what? FAINTING

Shimshi: Father, are you dead? tell me?

haman: the days have failed me

Shimshi: Yes, i see you are in a daze

Haman: No, I mean the days of the week

Shimshi: No, i know the days make you weak, maybe you should write a will?

Haman: Stop it. Let's try the months. Which month can I destroy the Jews in? Nissan

Heavenly loud voice: Nope, Passover is then...

Haman: Iyar?

Heavenly loud voice- No, the second time to bring the Passover Sacrifice is then

Haman: sivan?

Heavenly loud voice - Nope, they got the Torah

Haman? OY, Tishrei?

Heavenly loud voice - Nope. Rosh hashana and yom kippur is then

Haman - kislev?

Heavenly loud voice - nope. chanukah

. . .

Haman - oy, all the months have a merit...Wait, there's one more month - Adar Yes, their leader Moses died then. EVIL LAUGH We got it. It worked. Adar.

What's the zodiac sign for Adar? AhhFish? Good i like fish.

Shimshi: Me too

<u>haman</u>: Fish is good sign, just as a big fish swallows small fish, i will swallow the jews EVIL LAUGH

Heavenly loud voice- sometimes a fish swallows and sometimes it gets swallowed. Laugh

haman and Achashveirosh make toast to destruction of Jews

Haman: A toast to the destruction of the Jews in Adar.

<u>Achashverosh</u>: To the Jews destruction. Let it be known in all the land that on the 13th day of Jewish month of Adar, let all Jews be killed, destroyed, and exterminated. A toast RAISE CUPS

3. Before tefilla session -

<u>Esther</u>: I don't want any beauty treatments, please. And I am a vegetarian so please no meat. I will go to the king as is.

<u>Hagai</u>: you must put on some makeup. It's time to go. King will be mad. Put on Jewelry. Good luck

ANNOUNCE: Next contestant.

Esther to herself, praying: It's so hard to believe I'm on my way to the chambers of the wicked king Achashverosh. Hashem you know I haven't put on makeup in the hope that I won't be chosen as Queen. I haven't told anyone that I am Jewish. The thought of me, Esther being picked makes me sick. Hashem, I know all you do is for the good. Please lead me in the right way.

Achashverosh: What's your name?

Esther: Esther

Achashverosh: Your making a mistake

Esther: Your majesty

Achashverosh: Your name is not Esther, your name is queen esther, you are my new queen

Throw sparkles.

4. Before last session -

<u>Esther</u>: Mordechai why are you crying? Why are you dressed in sackcloth and ashes? What's going on?

<u>Mordechai</u>: Have you not heard about Haman's evil decree? He and Achashveirosh have decreed that all Jews should die on the 13th of Adar. We are at the crucial crossroads. Esther, the time has come for you to reveal yourself. You need to go the King and beg for the Jews to live!

<u>Esther</u>: But Morderchai, I haven't been called to the King for 30 days now. I can't enter without being summoned. If I go to the King and he doesn't stick out his scepter for me, I will be killed on the spot.

<u>Mordechai</u>: Don't think that just because you live in the palace, your fate will be any different from the rest of the Jews. If you choose to stay silent, if you don't choose to help the Jews, then the Jews will be saved another way and you and your family's house will perish. Esther, now is the time to become a leader. Now is the time to make a difference. And who knows if it was for this exact reason that you were appointed as Queen? The Jews will always continue on. Esther, do you want to be the impetus for the salvation? Esther, do you want to be a hero?

WAIT A MOMENT

<u>Esther</u>: Okay, go assemble all the Jews of Persia and have them fast for me. They shouldn't eat or drink for 3 days or nights. I and my maidservants will do the same. Then I will go to the King. And if I perish, I will perish.

1. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYs1YFCck8E