

PURIM SHPIL 1986: Where the Goys Are, or Spring Break in Shushan

Chorus: Twilight Zone music--last two moves, Shelley alone

BARRY (Narrator, in Rod Serling imitation):

You are entering another dimension. A dimension beyond sound and sight. A dimension where people talk funny like this.... You are entering the PURIM Zone.

Submitted for your approval, a group of Jews...Shushan...some time in the distant past. Miraculously transported to a beach some place in Southern California. Here they will play out their fates to a rock and roll beat. One more case in the files of the PURIM Zone.

So sit back and be prepared. Let's put a ~~coin~~^{shekel} in the ol' Jew box tonight and spin our merry tale...

SCENE ONE

Jews are on the beach partying, wearing yellow polka dot Jew beanies.

SHELLEY: Pass me the Copper Tone, will you?

HOWARD: OK. But would you pass me the Ginger Kale? I'm thirsty!

(Persian motorcyclists, David and Ed, invade scene, revving motors.)

JEWS: Oh, no! It's those uncircumcised Persians again!

Bethanie: Eeeee!

DAVID (Hey Man): Look at these ridiculous nerdy Jews, wearing their funny little hats! They're absurd!

David sings SONG 1

DAVID

~~Hey Man~~: You know why I can't stand those peculiar people? I'll tell you!

(Sings, to the tune of "Itsy Bitsy Teenie Weeny Yellow Polka Dot Bikini")

They wear these itsy bitsy teenie weenie

Yellow polka dot Jew beanies

Like potholders on top of the head

These itsy bitsy teenie weenie

Yellow polka dot Jew beanies

They should wear something classy instead.

It drives me crazy whenever I see them
Walking round on the beach or the park
I wish they'd all go jump into the water
And have their heads bitten off by a shark

Two three four
Tell the people why you're sore

} GIRL
CHORUS

They wear these itsy bitsy teenie weenie
Yellow polka dot Jew beanies
Some are silken and some are crocheted
These itsy bitsy teenie weenie
Yellow Polka Dot Jew beanies
My abhorrence cannot be conveyed.

Those little hats don't give any protection
From the sun or the cold or the rain
But I'm told by the best of our doctors
That they might cause to overheat the brain

Zvei drei feir
Tell the people what they wear

} GIRL
CHORUS

They wear these itsy bitsy teenie weenie
Yellow polka dot Jew beanies
Like a fixture on top of the head
These itsy bitsy teenie weenie
Yellow polka dot Jew beanies
I wonder if they wear 'em to bed!

Fai
David and Ed leave. Jews remain in background.

SCENE TWO

BARRY: At this point in our narrative the Persian leader, Ahash-V-Rex, performs the traditional teenage breakup ceremony with his soon-to-be ex-girlfriend, Vashti Vandella.

ED: Vashti Vandella, give me back my ID bracelet.

ARI: Here, you can have it!

Ed sings SONG 2 (tune of "Venus")

Hey Vashti... Oh Vashti...

Vashti, you're my slave
So I expect you to behave
You'd better take your clothes off when I say
Or I'll send you far away

Vashti, please be fair
Disobey me--don't you dare!
Because the women of Shushan
Must never get the upper hand.

Vashti--use your head while it's attached
Your bikini's not hard to unlatch
Do it before you are scratched!

Vashti, if you will
I know that it will give the guys a thrill
Be careful, 'cause an answer that is NO
Will land you in OLAM HABO

Ari sings SONG 3 (tune of "Bewitched, Bothered, and Bewildered")

You're the Rex
I've always known it
And I've shown respect and fear.
But now, dear Rex,
You've really blown it.
I'm getting out of here.

I'm through with you
Adieu to you
I'm going to turn that old screw in you
Bewitched, bothered, and bewildered, no more!

I've had enough
Of games and stuff
So I'm checking out
And I say: That's tough!
Bewitched, bothered, and bewildered, no more!

You were smug, and complacent
I was sweet, and demure
We're no longer adjacent
I'm checking out, for sure!

I know you're rex
But all the same
From now, get your sex
From some other dame
Bewitched, bothered, and bewildered, no more!

Ari leaves.

SCENE THREE

ED: Hey, Big Tan, put down your reflector and get over here.

(PAUL enters)

I'm gonna need another girlfriend. Go search the beach for a girl who is fair enough to be Rex's girl. (Rex/Ed leaves)

PAUL: That shouldn't be too hard. After all, there are plenty of lovely ladies in the Middle East.

Paul sings SONG 4 (tune of "California Girls")

Well, Egyptian girls are hip
I really dig their straight black hair

Babylon chicks with the way they talk--
They babble on everywhere.

Damsels from Damascus always ask us for a bite
And the bedouin, with their flair for sin,
Keep their camels warm at night...

I wish they all could be like the Shushan
Wish they all could be like the Shushan
Wish they all could be like the Shushan girls....

(Paul goes off, looking for girls)

SCENE FOUR

Esther (BETHAMIE) and the JEWS are in center stage.

BETHAMIE: Oh, my, it's really dry here on the beach. I think I'll go and fetch a pail of water.

SHELLEY: Can I go with you?

BETHAMIE: NO, I'll manage all right.

(To Audience): Really, I've been dying for a CHEESEBURGER.
I'll go find the nearest concession.

Bethamie walks off.

She arrives at Cheeseburger stand. As she gets there, Rex arrives.

BETHAMIE: I'll have a cheeseburger, please.

ED: Make that two.

MICHAEL: Cheesebugga, Cheesebugga!!

ED: You know you really are a beautiful girl. When you walked by, you really moved my heart.

Ed Sings Song 5 (tune of "Poetry in Motion")

When I ~~see~~^{see} you walk by
With a wiggle in your walk,
Do YOU know WHAT I see?? I see...

Piyyutim in motion
Grace from ALEF to TAV
My heart is in commotion
The moment you show me your stuff

Piyyutim in motion
Rock 'n' Gabirol
I see in your construction
Kalonymous poured out his soul!

I love every shuckle
Your movements are divine
Your legs, your arms, your knuckles--
Are sweeter than malaga wine!

Piyyutim in motion
Kalir'd be impressed
Your stir in me devotion
When my hand touches your...

Wo,
Wo wo wo wo
Wo,
Wo wo wo wo,
Wo...

ED gives BETHAMIE his bracelet (handcuffs).
ED: Now you're my prisoner of love.
BETHAMIE: I guess.
They walk off together.

SCENE FIVE

The Jews play volleyball (no ball, pantomime) on the beach.

BARRY: At this point in our narrative, the Jews' beachball knock^{ed}s over the radio of the meanest Persian of them all, the much-feared HEY MAN.

HOWARD: Sorry 'bout that, Hey Man. It was only an accident.

BARRY: A nice try by the leader of the Jews, MORE THAN CHAI, so named because of his preference for Jewish Jewelry. Unfortunately, Hey Man does not buy More Than Chai's story. Hey Man engages More Than Chai in something of an altercation...

(Howard and David struggle).

HOWARD: Look (pointing upward)! It's a bird!

(David looks up, like a putz, and Howard lands one on David's jaw. David falls back. David wants to continue to fight, but Ed restrains him)

ED: Leave him go! Leave him go!

DAVID: Leave 'em alone, eh?

David sings Song 6 (tune of "Jailhouse Rock"), enunciating clearly

The Jews are pushy and they've pushed enough
 No goy like me is gonna take their stuff
 Those Jews are really gettin' in my hair
 Let's drive 'em in the sea, or anywhere!

Let's knock
 Knock off their block
 Let 'em squirm, let 'em crawl, let 'em plotz
 Let's knock, knock off their block

They don't indulge themselves in rape or theft
 They read books backward, goin' from right to left
 While we rassle alligators on the shore-ah,
 They sit in cheders and they study Torah!

Let's knock
 Knock off their block
 Let 'em squirm, let 'em crawl, let 'em plotz
 Let's knock, knock off their block

Let's drown the lot, parents, sons, and daughters
 Their God won't bother now to part the waters
 They can pray all day, they can chant TEHILLIM
 But God's ears are plugged and he will never hear 'em (gestures by putting
 fingers in ears)

Let's knock,
 Knock off their block
 Let 'em squirm, let 'em crawl, let 'em plotz
 Let's knock, knock off their block

DAVID: I'll leave these Jews, for now---but if I ever see you (looks
 at Howard) or anyone else wearing one of those polka dot Jew
 beanies on the beach, I'm gonna put crazy glue in your Copper
 Tone!

(JEWS all hold their heads, as though their hands were stuck)

(David and Ed leave)

BARRY: The Jews discuss the mega-issue of what to do now...

MICHAEL: That Hey Man is a really bad goy.

HOWARD: There are good goys and bad goys, and it seems that it's
 always the bad goys who make our lives so difficult.

BARRY sings Song 7 (tune of "Big Girls Don't Cry")

Barry and Chorus:

Bad Goys, Oh MY! (hold head)
 Bad Goys, Oh My! (" ")

BARRY:

Bad goys make us cry ai ai

[CHORUS in parentheses]

(Make us cry)
Bad Goys make us cry
(Why do they make us cry?)

Bad goys make us cry ai ai
(Make us cry)
Bad Goys make us cry
(I wonder why!)

Why don't they stay home (ED: stay home)
In their pagan digs
Stay home (stay home)
Eatin' dogs and pigs
Stay home (stay home)
We don't give two figs
For any of their awful way ay ays

Bad goys make us cry ai ai
(Make us cry) n't
Good Jews should have to die
(They shouldn't die)

Good Jews learn Torah (Torah)
Makes us kind and sweet
Gemora (Gemora)
Keeps us off the street
Dance Horah (Horah)
Even keeps our feet
Travelin' in only the very best circles

Bad goys make us cry ai ai
(Make us cry)
Good Jews shouldn't have to die
(SHouldn't HAVE TO DIE!)

SCENE SIX

DAVID: We've got to rid the beach of this Jew beany menace!

ED: Right, we've got to get the Jews!

(Michael, David, and Ed, leaning with right shoulders forward and snapping fingers, sing:)

Song 8 (tune of "Get a Job")

DAVID AND ED: Get the Jews
MICHAEL: Sha na na na, sha na na na na
D, and E: Get the Jews

M: KA ba la la, Ka ba la la la

D, and E: Get the Jews

M: Ha la kha kha, ha la ha la kha

D, and E: Get the Jews

M: Ha la VA VA, Ha la Ha la VA VA

ALL: Yip Yip Yip, Yip Yip Yip, Oy Oy Oy Oy Oy Get the Jews....

(They leave stage, continuing song, fading...)

HOWARD happens to hear the song and takes center stage/

HOWARD (holding his head, lamentful): Get the Jews! Oy, vay, I'll say!
I'd better go warn my people! I'll go tell Esther.

SCENE SEVEN

Howard confronts Bethamie.

HOWARD: Esther!

BETHAMIE: Here I am Uncle More Than Chai.

Howard sings Song 9 (tune of "You'll Never Walk Alone")

When your people need succor
You cannot duck or
Escape your du-ty
When they write the Megilla
Won't it totally thrill ya?
When they talk of your beau-ty?

Haman will have his wishes
Feed us to the fishes
So this shiddukh is a must, don't you see?
Put away your cheeseburger
Consent to a royal merGer
Join the Zionist conspiracy

Be a plus, not a minus,
Wed his lovable royal highness
Take advantage of your sex
Go get Ahash-V-Rex
Take off that bikini
Go get him, Queenie,
And we won't have to die!
Or my name ain't More Than Chai!

Bethamie, with Howard, sing Song 10 (tune of "You Gotta Have Heart")

BETH: Guess I've gotta have heart
I'll just have to do my part
Do not worry Uncle More Than Chai
I won't let our people die

HOW: Ahash-V-Rex ain't Adonis

BETH: I'll just have to have RACHMANIS

HOW: And you can't let Hey Man plague us

BETH: Better I should wed a Sheigitz?

HOW: When you feel his passion rising

BETH: I'll demurely close my eyes

HOW: There is hope on the horizon

BETH: My reward's in paradise!

CHORUS: There's nothing to it but to DO it!

9

HOW: You don't have to go to orgies
BETH: I'm not at his beck and call
HOW: Just do like Lucretia Borgies
BETH: I'll give him two TYLENOL!

CHORUS: It's the pits-a, but a mitsvah!

BETH: Guess I'll have to have heart
HOW: You have got to do your part
BETH: Do not worry Uncle More Than Chai
I won't let our people die

I cannot say Nay, man
So I'll start by trapping Hey Man
Says right here in my CIA files
"Susceptible to womanly wiles."

BETHAMIE: Oh, Hey Man...

(Howard leaves set, Hey Man/David arrives)

SCENE EIGHT

BETH: Oh, Hey Man... there's going to be a dance this Saturday night,
and you know how Rex hates to dance. Would you like to be my
partner?

DAVID: Well, sure, I guess. I think we'd better practice dancing *together.*

BETH: My idea, exactly.

(They begin to dance)

SHELLEY AND MIRIAM sing Song 11 (tune of "My Boyfriend's Back")

The king is coming
So you better stop the dancing
Hey la, Hey Man, the king is back!

ED arrives on the scene. Giving David a dirty look, he sings Song 12
(tune of "Bird Dog")

Hey Man, you're a joker--you're a turd
A loch im kopf, a joker--you're a turd
'Cause when you dance with my girl--you're a dog
You keep your paws off my girl--what a dog
Hey Man, you're a joker who's a tryin' to steal my baby--
You're a turd dog!

Hey Man, quick, better fly from the scene
I'll twist your neck until your face is black, blue, and green
Turd dog, you better buy insurance while you can!
Hey Man, you'll be a-singin' the blues
Hey Man, you better take a round-the-world cruise
Turd dog, you better never show your ugly face in Shushan!

ED: Hang ten, Hey Man!
(David leaves in fright)

BETH: Oh, Rex, I'm so relieved that you came. That Hey Man was just about to do me harm. Because you see, you haven't known it, but I am a Jew, too (displays yellow polka dot vestment).

BARRY: And so, folks, Hey Man hanged ten; Ahash-V-Rex and Esther remained happy for the rest of their life; and every year at this time, Esther can be heard singing the following song...

BETHAMIE sings Song 13 (tune of "If you Want to Be Happy")

If you want to be hanged at the end of your life
Just make a pass at the king's wife
And if you need a good excuse
Figure out a way to destroy the Jews

CHORUS:

If you want to be hanged at the end of your life
Just make a pass at the king's wife
And if you need a good excuse
Figure out a way to destroy the Jews

SCENE NINE, FINALE

All players come onto center stage.

BARRY: At this point in our narrative, there ought to come a transition that would connect our climax with the finale. But because we could not write a transition, we move immediately to the finale.

(SHELLEY and others distribute yellow polka dot Jew beanies)

David and Chorus sing song 13 (reprise of Song 1):

~~CHORUS~~

ALL: Let's all wear
itsy bitsy teeny weeny
yellow polka dot Jew beanies

DAVID: Just like banners
On top of our heads

ALL: Itsy bitsy teeny weeny
Yellow polka dot Jew beanies

DAVID Am Yisrael is Chai and not dead.

CHORUS: (repeats)

Itsy bitsy....