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Re: Purim 2020

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## AT THE MOVIES

**JoJo Rabbi**—Pharoah gives Joseph an endearing nickname

**Pair o' Sites**—Israel offers tours of Judea and Samaria

**Kittel Women**—Jewish feminists protest at the Western Wall

**Once Upon a Time...in Challahwood**—Movie stars bake Shabbat bread

**Belz v Satmar**—Chasidic sects end a 50-year feud

**The Amishman**—Pennsylvania Dutch settler mistaken for Chasid

**Jewker**—Story of a Catskills comedian

**Remarriage Story**—Woman battles to obtain a get

**\$19.17**—A \$20 value, but for you...

**Pain and Gory**—Mohel's knife slips

**The Two Pops**—Gay couple adopts a child

**A Beautiful Day for the Neighbor Hood**—Meyer Lansky seizes control of Las Vegas

**Three-Star Wars: The Rise of Skywatchers**—Rabbis debate when Shabbos is over

**Hairy Yet**—Woman wears same sheytl for 25 years

**Judyism**—Renee Zellweger converts

## IN THE THEATER

**Ain't Too Loud**—Bride's father warns the band before the wedding

**Bottlejews**—Shul has a popular kiddush club

**Come Away Frum**—High school grads spend gap year in Israel

**Who's Afraid of Virgin Wool?**—Shatnez discovered at an Italian suit factory

**Flying Past Sunset**—Delayed air travelers violate the Sabbath

**Ladiestown**---Women's tefillah groups multiply

**Jagged Little Pillow**—Zayda hides his afikoman

**Mean Curls**—Pulling payos is ruled a hate crime

**Moo Long Route**—After the sin of the Golden Calf, God extends the Jews' trek in the desert

**Mrs. Debt Fire**—Building owner commits arson to avoid bankruptcy

**The Music Mun**—Fantasy about singing hamantashen

**To Kill a Knocking Bird**—Housewife cooks woodpecker soup

**West Side Store**—Fairway Market threatens to close

**Wick It**---Family lights an oil menorah

**The Laymen Trinity**—Purim congregants masquerade as the rabbi, cantor, and gabbai

## **TRUMP TO HOST NEW BEAUTY PAGEANT**

Atlantic City—President Donald Trump announced today that he plans to produce a new beauty pageant this fall, called “Make Miss America Great Again.”

“It’ll be huge,” the president boasted at a press conference held in the White House Rose Garden. “The contestants will be really, really hot. They’ll make all other beauty pageants look like the Westminster Dog Show.”

Asked by a reporter who would judge the contest, Trump snapped back, “That’s a stupid question. Who do you think, idiot?”

The president justified his new venture by citing the historic significance of beauty pageants.

“Remember, Queen Esther saved her people after winning a beauty contest,” Trump stated. “She deceived the king by not revealing at first that she was Jewish. But her lie didn’t matter, because she was so hot. Hotter than Melania and Ivanka, and maybe even Stormy, although I can’t say for sure, since I never met her.”

## **ISRAEL DEBATES GLOBAL WARMING**

Jerusalem—Getta Sunburn, the noted Swedish teenage climate activist, arrived in Israel this week to explore the question of global warming on Shabbat.

On Tuesday, she met in Jerusalem with nine Orthodox rabbis to discuss the matter.

Four of the rabbis maintained that global warming is permitted on Shabbat, since it is merely warming and not cooking—an activity strictly prohibitive to observant Jews on the Sabbath.

The other rabbis disagreed.

“Once you allow global warming,” warned Rabbi Herr Splitter, “it can easily lead to boiling temperatures, and boiling is clearly forbidden on Shabbat.”

When Sunburn inquired as to how the problem of global warming on Shabbat might be solved, one rabbi suggested, “Find a non-Jew to warm the globe for you.”

## **SYNAGOGUE IDENTITY THEFTS**

New Square, NY--Members of a large Orthodox synagogue in New Square, New York, recently discovered that they are the victims of identity thefts that occurred in their congregation over the past six months.

"It's outrageous," said Rabbi Mayer Culpa, "spiritual leader of the congregation. "People come here for spiritual comfort, and instead they get ripped off."

According to a police report, several individuals who were not synagogue members approached the sexton, or shul gabbai, at Sabbath services and identified themselves by the stolen Hebrew names. The impostors were then called to the Torah for blessings, called aliyahs.

Congregants discovered the identity thefts only after receiving invoices from the shul office.

One synagogue member, Noah Mazel, said he was billed for nine aliyahs over the past half year.

"It's crazy!" the victim exclaimed. "I was always lucky if I got one aliyah a year. Now, strangers impersonating me have gotten nine. And even worse, they pledged over \$5,000 in my name!"

Rabbi Culpa said he is unsure how the Hebrew names were stolen. "Sadly, identity theft isn't a new crime," the rabbi noted. "It goes all the way back to Esau and Jacob in the Bible."

home during shiva, the traditional seven-day mourning period.

"If Shalom were alive, he would surely accede to her request," Feit explained, "even though he would no doubt disagree with her decision."

Friends of Bayis have established a memorial fund called Alav HaShalom Bayis, where contributions can be sent.

## **FEMALE RABBIS: WHAT'S IN A NAME?**

New York—With the increasing number of females being hired as spiritual leaders in synagogues, a debate has reignited over the proper title for their rabbinic position.

Lila Cageygal, a 2015 graduate of Yeshivat Maharat, a women's seminary in New York, said she prefers to be addressed as Rabbi.

Objections were quickly voiced by hard-line traditionalists who insist that only men can rightfully be called Rabbi.

Sara Using Herwits, a graduate of the same yeshiva, received the title Maharat upon being ordained in 2009. Eventually she adopted the term Rabba, a female version of Rabbi.

"It's all gotten so confusing," confessed Rabbi Amnot Wise, founder of the women's yeshiva. "At this point, I say let each girl pick her own title and run with it."

Mae Meriva, a classmate of Cageygal, announced this week that she plans to call herself "not Rabba, but Rabra."

Molly Hassam, a staunch feminist who is slated to graduate the seminary next year, said, "Forget all those stupid, misogynistic jokes that men think are so amusing. I just want to be called Rabbi. Period."

## **NEW YESHIVA TO OPEN**

Brooklyn—Rabbis today announced the opening of a new yeshiva this fall on Ocean Parkway in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn.

The school is called the Mirror Yeshiva.

"The Mirror will be a seminary for serious self-reflection," said its dean, Rabbi Ashmira Silver.

"The entire yeshiva is made of mirrors--the walls, doors, ceiling, floors, the works," he explained. "Our goal is to give every student an enhanced self-image."

The rabbi noted that the learning hall, or beis medrash, is comprised entirely of mirrors.

"Each student will sit in front of a mirror and acquire a study partner who is always on the same page as himself," Rabbi Silver said.

The yeshiva, slated to open in September, was founded by Jewish philanthropists Ima and Ura Narcissist.

## **SHALOM BAYIS, 78, DIES**

New York--Shalom Bayis, a well-known New Yorker famous for his constant efforts to please his family, died today at the age of 78.

Eliasz Feit, a family friend, said that Bayis suffered a heart attack during a sudden, vitriolic argument with his wife.

"I think he just couldn't take it anymore and snapped," Feit stated. "Shalom always gave in to his wife and kids for the sake of peace in the house. I guess all that pent-up aggravation finally caught up with him."

Feit said the Bayis widow plans no funeral service and requests that no visitors come to the

## SIAMESE TWINS BATTLE IN ISRAEL

Jerusalem—Esau and Jacob were contentious twins, but they seem like lightweight compared to the pair of 18-year-old siblings now literally locked in a court battle in Jerusalem.

Jewish Siamese twins Siman Tov and Mazal Tov are joined at the hip. After their birth, doctors determined that surgery to separate the two bodies would be too risky, so the two siblings have remained as one.

Raised as secular Jews in Haifa, the twins recently reached the age of legal emancipation. They now each possess the right to make their own decisions. But with conjoined bodies, and personalities that are polar opposites, making decisions is easier said than done.

Mazal, who is female, recently declared herself to be a religious feminist. She dons a talis and tefillin daily, and wishes to relocate to Jerusalem to pray at the Kotel with the Women of the Wall.

Siman, a male, remains a secular Jew with no interest in any religious observances. While his sister prays each morning, he often watches television or eats pork to annoy her. He refuses to move to Jerusalem.

With lawyers unable to agree whether the case should be tried in a secular or religious court, it is now up to Israel's Supreme Court to decide where the twins will be allowed to live.

**UPDATE:** After intense mediation, the Tov twins announced that they have reconciled and withdrawn their court case. In an amicable settlement, Siman and Mazal have agreed to move to England, so the other one can drive.

## “FIDDLER” TO PERFORM IN NEW LANGUAGE

New York—Following the sold-out success of its Yiddish production of “Fiddler on the Roof,” the Folksbinderdudat Theater announced that it will next perform the classic musical in Pig Latin.

“‘Fiddler’ will have a special sentimental appeal in Pig Latin,” explained the company’s artistic director, Cole E. Shaw. “After all, it’s the language the characters would have spoken had they been pigs in ancient Rome.”

The cast has yet to be announced.

“We’re hoping to get major stars to play Evyatay and Oldiegay,” Shaw said. “And we’re looking for a topnotch ensemble that can handle beautiful songs like ‘Unrisesay, Unsetsay.’”

Shaw said that the production, scheduled to start previews next spring, will have a revised opening monologue. Performing a brief excerpt, he emoted, “And what does a math teacher use to hold his cafeteria lunch? That I can tell you in a single word: Addition-tray!”