

# Funny Passover Songs

(sung to the tune of "There's no Business  
like Show business")

*by Rabbi Dan Liben*

There's no seder like our seder,  
There's no seder I know.  
Everything about it is halachic  
Nothing that the Torah won't allow.  
Listen how we read the whole Haggadah  
It's all in Hebrew  
'Cause we know how.  
There's no Seder like our seder,  
We tell a tale that is swell:  
Moses took the people out into the heat  
They baked the matzah  
While on their feet  
Now isn't that a story  
That just can't be beat?  
Let's go on with the show!

**Take Us out of Egypt**  
(sung to the tune of Take me out to the  
ball game")

Take us out of Egypt  
Free us from slavery  
Bake us some matzah in a haste  
Don't worry 'bout flavor--  
Give no thought to taste.  
Oh it's rush, rush, rush, to the Red Sea  
If we don't cross it's a shame  
For it's ten plagues,  
Down and you're out  
At the Pessah history game.

# **Elijah** **(to the tune of "Maria")**

*by Rabbi Dan Liben*

Elijah!  
I just saw the prophet Elijah.  
And suddenly that name  
Will never sound the same to me.  
Elijah!  
He came to our seder  
Elijah!  
He had his cup of wine,  
But could not stay to dine  
This year--  
Elijah!  
For your message all Jews are waiting:  
That the time's come for peace  
and not hating--  
Elijah--  
Next year we'll be waiting.  
Elijah!

# **Les Miselijah** **(to the tune of "Do you hear the people Sing" from Les Miserables)**

Do you hear the doorbell ring,  
And it's a little after ten?  
It can only be Elijah  
Come to take a sip again.  
He is feeling pretty fine  
But in his head a screw is loose.  
So perhaps instead of wine  
We should only give him juice.

# Just a Tad of Haroset (to the tune of "Just a spoon full of sugar")

Chorus:

Just a tad of haroset helps the bitter herbs  
go down,  
The bitter herbs go down, the bitter herbs go down.  
Just a tad of Charoset helps the bitter herbs  
go down,  
In the most disguising way.

Oh, back in Egypt long ago,  
The Jews were slaves under Pharaoh  
They sweat and toiled and labored  
through the day.  
So when we gather Pesach night,  
We do what we think right.  
Maror, we chew,  
To feel what they went through.

Chorus

So after years of slavery  
They saw no chance of being free.  
Their suffering was the only life they knew.  
But baby Moses grew up tall,  
And said he'd save them all.  
He did, and yet,  
We swear we won't forget.  
That.....

Chorus

While the Maror is being passed,  
We all refill our water glass,  
Preparing for the taste that turns us red.  
Although Maror seems full of minuses,  
It sure does clear our sinuses.  
But what's to do?  
It's hard to be a Jew!!!

Chorus

## Same time next year (to the tune of "Makin' Whoopee")

Another Pesach, another year,  
The family seder with near and dear...  
Our faces shining,  
All thoughts of dining  
Are put on hold now.  
We hear four questions,  
The answer given  
Recalls the Jews from Egypt driven.  
The khrain is bitter, (haroset better!)  
Please pass the matzah.  
Why is this evening different  
This year the Jews all over  
Are free to perform the rites.  
A gorgeous dinner--who can deny it--  
Won't make us thinner, to hell with diet!  
It's such great cooking...  
and no one's looking,  
So just enjoy it.  
Moving along at steady clip  
Elijah enters, and takes a sip;  
And then the singing with voices ringing  
Our laughter mingling.  
When singing about Had Gadya.  
Watch close or your place you'll lose,  
For Ehad Mi Yode'a:  
Which tune shall we use?  
We pray next Pessah  
We'll all be here.  
It's a tradition...  
Same time next year...  
So fill it up now, the final cup now,  
Next year at \_\_\_\_\_

## **The Matzah Show (to the theme of "The Muppet Show")**

It's time to burn some chometz  
It's time to bless the lights  
It's time to start the seder,  
On the Matzah Show tonight

It's time to put on nice clothes  
It's time to lean left, not right  
It's time to raise the 4 cups,  
On the Matzah Show tonight

It's time to ask some questions  
It's time to leave Egypt tonight  
It's time to get things started  
On the most sensational,  
Inspirational, celebrational, sederational  
This is what we call the Matzah Show!!!!

## **A Few of My Favorite Things (To "These are a few of my Favorite Things")**

Cleaning and cooking and so many dishes  
Out with the hametz, no pasta, no knishes  
Fish that's gefillted, horseradish that stings  
These are a few of our passover things.

Matzoh and karpas and yummy charoset  
Shankbone and kiddish and yiddish neuroses  
Children excited and cousins that sing  
These are a few of our Passover things.

Motzi and maror and trouble with Pharoahs  
Famines and locusts and slaves with wheelbarrows  
Matzah balls floating and eggshell that cling  
These are a few of our Passover things.

When the plagues strike  
When the lice bite  
When we're feeling sad  
We simply remember our Passover things  
And then we don't feel so bad

## Don't sit on the Afikomen

(To the tune of *Glory, Glory, Hallelujah*)

My Dad at every Seder breaks a Matza piece in two  
And hides the Afikomen half –  
A game for me and you  
Find it, hold it ransom for the Seder isn't through  
'till the Afikomen's gone.

Chorus:

Don't sit on the Afikomen.  
Don't sit on the Afikomen.  
Don't sit on the Afikomen.  
Or the Meal will last all night

One year Daddy hid it 'neath a pillow on a chair  
But just as I raced over, my Aunt Sophie sat down there  
She threw herself upon it-Awful crunching filled the air  
And crumbs flew all around

Chorus

Don't sit on the Afikomen.  
Don't sit on the Afikomen.  
Don't sit on the Afikomen.  
Or the Meal will last all night

There were matza crumbs all over-Oh, it was a messy sight  
We swept up all the pieces though it took us half the night  
So, if you want your seder ending sooner than dawn's light,  
Don't sit on the Afiko-o-men

Chorus

Don't sit on the Afikomen.  
Don't sit on the Afikomen.  
Don't sit on the Afikomen.  
Or the Meal will last all night

## The Dr. Seuss version of the 4 questions

(Professor Eliezer Segal, <http://www.acs.ucalgary.ca/~elsegal/>)

Why is it only  
on Passover night  
we never know how  
to do anything right?  
We don't eat our meals  
in the regular ways,  
the ways that we do  
on all other days.  
'Cause on all other nights  
we may eat  
all kinds of wonderful  
good bready treats,  
like big purple pizza  
that tastes like a pickle,  
crumbly crackers  
and pink pumpernickel,  
sassafras sandwich  
and tiger on rye,  
fifty falafels in pita,  
fresh-fried,  
with peanut-butter  
and tangerine sauce  
spread onto each side  
up-and-down, then across,  
and toasted whole-wheat bread  
with liver and ducks,  
and crumpets and dumplings,  
and bagels and lox,  
and doughnuts with one hole  
and doughnuts with four,  
and cake with six layers  
and windows and doors.  
Yes--  
on all other nights  
we eat all kinds of bread,  
but tonight of all nights  
we munch matzah instead.

And on all other nights  
we devour  
vegetables, green things,  
and bushes and flowers,  
lettuce that's leafy  
and candy-striped spinach,  
fresh silly celery  
(Have more when you're finished!)  
cabbage that's flown

from the jungles of Glome  
by a polka-dot bird  
who can't find his way home,  
daisies and roses

And on all other nights  
you would probably flip  
if anyone asked you  
how often you dip.  
On some days I only dip  
one Bup-Bup egg  
in a teaspoon of vinegar  
mixed with nutmeg,  
but sometimes we take  
more than ten thousand tails  
of the Yakkity-birds  
that are hunted in Wales,  
and dip them in vats  
full of Mumbegum juice.  
Then we feed them to Harold,  
our six-legged moose.  
Or we don't dip at all!  
We don't ask your advice.  
So why on this night  
do we have to dip twice?  
And on all other nights  
we can sit as we please,  
on our heads, on our elbows,  
our backs or our knees,  
or hang by our toes  
from the tail of a Glump,  
or on top of a camel  
with one or two humps,  
with our foot on the table,  
our nose on the floor,  
with one ear in the window  
and one out the door,  
doing somersaults  
over the greasy k'nishes  
or dancing a jig  
without breaking the dishes.  
Yes--  
on all other nights  
you sit nicely when dining--  
So why on this night  
must it all be reclining?

## **The Israelites in General (Gilbert & Sullivan's "I am the Very Model of a Modern Major-General")**

We're here to tell the story of the Israelites in general  
They were the slaves of Pharaoh, who was really quite tyrannical  
We read in the Haggadah of the tale that is historical  
And that is what a seder is, in order categorical

The Jews were slaves in Egypt and their lives were very tragical  
At least that's how we tell all of our stories that are biblical  
If we were living way back then, our fate would make the front page news  
With many sullen facts including killing all the male-born Jews

**All:** With many sullen facts including killing all the male-born Jews (2x)  
With many sullen facts including killing all the male-born, male-born Jews

Now Moses went to Egypt with a mission very serious  
Told Pharaoh he must free the Jews and not to be nefarious  
They were the slaves of Pharaoh, who was really quite tyrannical  
We're here to tell the story of the Israelites in general

**All:** They were the slaves of Pharaoh, who was really quite tyrannical  
We're here to tell the story of the Israelites in general

When Pharaoh didn't listen, God sent plagues that were just like a pox  
Upon the people and the land and animals as large as ox  
God hoped that Pharaoh would concede and show he was not merciless  
Instead the slaves were beaten more, while Pharaoh stood emotionless

So Moses raised his staff which changed the waters into blood with ease  
They heard the croaking chorus from the frogs a'croaking in the breeze  
Then lice infested everyone, wild beasts stampeded with a roar  
The cattle died, they all were killed, until there weren't any more

**All:** The cattle died, they all were killed, until there weren't any more (2x)  
The cattle died, they all were killed, until there weren't any, any more

So Moses came back with demands in Babylonian cuneiform  
God sent the plague of boils in hopes that Pharaoh would, at last, reform  
We were the slaves of Pharaoh, who was really quite tyrannical  
We're here to tell the story of the Israelites in general

**All:** We were the slaves of Pharaoh, who was really quite tyrannical  
We're here to tell the story of the Israelites in general

Egyptians and their Pharaoh waited for the next plague to begin  
The hail came down in torrents with the sharpness of a javelin  
The locusts swarmed, the blackened sky you could see from Mount Ararat  
Then darkness overcame the land, folks couldn't see where they were at

The Jews put lambs' blood on their doors and packed their clothes and finery  
Egyptians' first-born sons were killed; these are the plagues in summary  
And then the Pharaoh did comply, told Moses that he would agree  
The Jews could now leave Egypt, he would let them live and set them free

**All:** The Jews could now leave Egypt, he would let them live and set them free (2x)  
The Jews could now leave Egypt, he would let them live and set them, set them free

We're here tonight to tell about our ancestors in slavery  
We'd not be here today without their courage, strength and bravery  
We were the slaves of Pharaoh, who was really quite tyrannical  
And now we've told the story of the Israelites in general

**All:** We were the slaves of Pharaoh, who was really quite tyrannical  
And now we've told the story of the Israelites in general.

## **He Freed Us (Sung to the tune of "She Loves You")**

He freed us, yeah, yeah, yeah  
He freed us, yeah, yeah, yeah  
He freed us, yeah, yeah, yeah, yeah.

### **Verse 1**

You think you're not so free  
Well, it was so yesterday-yi-yay.  
It's just like you were there  
And he told us what to say-yi-yay

### **Chorus:**

You know he freed us,  
and you know that can't be bad  
Oh yes, he freed us,  
and you know we should be glad  
He freed us, yeah, yeah, yeah  
He freed us, yeah, yeah, yeah

### **Verse 2**

God said you must act so  
As if you were there too  
And then God says you'll know  
How we maintain the glue

### **Chorus**

### **Verse 3**

You know he freed the Jews  
He brought us from that land  
As if you were there too  
Grab on to his hand

### **Chorus**

### **Ending:**

And with a god like that  
You know we should . . . be glad  
Yeah, Yeah, Yeah  
Yeah, Yeah, Yeah, Yeahhhh

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# Let My People Go

## GO DOWN MOSES

Spiritual

1.

When Israel was in Egypt's land,  
Let my people go!  
Oppress'd so hard they could not stand,  
Let my people go!

Go down Moses, way down in Egypt's land;  
Tell old Pharaoh, "Let my people go!"

2.

"Thus saith the Lord," bold Moses said,  
"Let my people go!  
If not, I'll smite your first-born dead,  
Let my people go!"

Go down Moses, way down in Egypt's land;  
Tell old Pharaoh, "Let my people go!"

3.

The Lord told Moses what to do,  
Let my people go!  
To lead the children of Israel thro',  
Let my people go!

Go down Moses, way down in Egypt's land;  
Tell old Pharaoh, "Let my people go!"

4.

When they had reached the other shore,  
Let my people go!  
They sang the song of triumph o'er,  
Let my people go!

Go down Moses, way down in Egypt's land;  
Tell old Pharaoh, "Let my people go!"

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THE SONG OF MOSES

TO THE TUNE OF "SHE'LL BE COMING ROUND THE MOUNTAIN."

NOW MOSES' MOTHER HID HIM FOR A WHILE  
THEN SHE BUILT A BOX AND PUT HIM IN THE NILE  
PHAROAH'S DAUGHTER CAME AND SAW HIM  
TOLD HER SERVANTS TO WITHDRAW HIM  
LOOKED UPON THE CHILD AND BROKE INTO A SMILE.

SHE SAID "I REALLY DO BELIEVE MY LUCK IS IN  
THE THINGS ONE CAN DISCOVER ON A SWIM  
JUST WAIT 'TIL I TELL DADDY  
THAT I FOUND A LITTLE LADDIE  
I WILL TAKE HIM HOME AND MAKE A PRINCE OF HIM.

\*\*\*\*\*

ONE SUMMER DAY HE TOOK A WALK HE'D PLANNED  
SAW EGYPTIANS BEATING HEBREWS, WHIP IN HAND  
SO HE KILLED A CRUEL TASKMASTER  
AND TO AVOID DISASTER  
HE QUICKLY HID THE BODY IN THE SAND.

SAYING "PHAROAH WILL BE FURIOUS WHEN HE HEARS  
IN RETROSPECT I NOW AM FILLED WITH FEARS  
PHAROAH DON'T LIKE MARTYRS  
HE'LL HAVE MY GUTS FOR GARTERS"  
SO HE FLED AND STAYED AWAY FOR 40 YEARS.

\*\*\*\*\*

FROM A BURNING BUSH GOD SAID TO MOSES, "HEY-  
GO TELL PHAROAH THAT THE ISRAELITES WON'T STAY  
THEY DON'T LIKE HIS HOSPITALITY  
OR RACIST MENTALITY  
ON PESACH NIGHT THEY'LL ALL BE ON THEIR WAY.

TO THE RED SEA PHAROAH CHASED THEM WHERE HE FOUND  
THAT THE ISRAELITES HAD CROSSED IT ON DRY LAND  
AND THEY WERE NOT DOWNHEARTED  
FOR THEM THE SEA HAD PARTED  
IT WAS PHAROAH'S ARMY FOLLOWING THAT DROWNED.

\*\*\*\*\*

SO THE ISRAELITES WERE SAVED FROM FURTHER FLIGHT  
AND MARCHED OFF UNTIL MOUNT SINAI CAME IN SIGHT  
THEIR SLAVERY HAD ENDED  
MOSES TO THE TOP ASCENDED  
AND THE ISRAELITES SANG OUT WITH ALL THEIR MIGHT.

HE'LL BE COMING DOWN THE MOUNTAIN BY AND BY  
HE'LL BE HOLDING TEN COMMANDMENTS UP ON HIGH  
AND WE'LL NOT BE SLAVES NO MORER  
FOR WE'RE GONNA HAVE THE TORAH  
AYE AYE YIPPEE YIPPEE AYE!