

How to Marry the Rabbi

Barbara Trainin Blank





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ArtAge Publications

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HOW TO MARRY THE RABBI

by

Barbara Trainin Blank

Cast

DEBORAH WEINSTEIN: Sarcastic, determined, leader of the pack.

LEAH SCHWARTZ: A little scatter-brained, less brainy, and pushy than the other two.

MIRIAM SIMON: Gossipy and long-winded.

LILLIAN BERNSTEIN: The Rabbi's assistant, dedicated, attractive, and attracted to the rabbi. Pleasant, but can be sarcastic with annoying people.

RABBI WALLER: A little pompous and a slow learner when it comes to people, but basically a good man, devoted to his profession.

Place

The porch of Deborah's house, in suburbia.

Office of Lillian Bernstein, the Rabbi's assistant—and also the Rabbi's office.

The porch of Deborah's house.

Time

The present.

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ACT I
Scene 1

Setting: The porch of a house in suburbia. The back door is Up Center. DEBORAH WEINSTEIN and LEAH SCHWARTZ are sitting on the porch in rocking chairs, chatting. LEAH is knitting a sweater. DEBORAH is doing a crossword puzzle but clearly isn't interested.

At Rise: MIRIAM STERN enters in a fast pace from the walkway, which is Down Right. She is waving her hands excitedly. DEBORAH and LEAH look up startled as she speaks.

MIRIAM: So, have you heard?

DEBORAH: *(Yawns)* Heard what? On a scale of 1 to 10, your gossip is usually a -3... *(Still, she puts down the crossword puzzle.)*

MIRIAM: No, this is really good. *(She sits down, breathless.)*

LEAH: So, tell us.

DEBORAH: *(She picks up the puzzle again.)* Tell us or don't.

MIRIAM: OK, OK. Rabbi Waller's wife walked.

DEBORAH: She walks every day. Trying to keep the youthful figure she never had.

MIRIAM: I mean she walked out.

DEBORAH: All you do is repeat idle chatter.

MIRIAM: I never repeat. So listen the first time.

LEAH: Quiet, I hate fighting. *(pause)* So the Rabbi's wife actually walked?

MIRIAM: So it seems. I have it on the best of authority.

LEAH: Her hairdresser?

MIRIAM: The butcher, silly. He's making two sets of deliveries.

LEAH: Wow, that is a shock.

DEBORAH: Did you notice she hasn't defended his sermons lately?

LEAH: I say it's because she's burned out: I've heard that 15 percent of rabbis' wives walk out because they can't stand being in the public eye all the time.

DEBORAH: What public eye? No one pays her the slightest attention.

LEAH: The butcher does. And *we're* talking about her...

MIRIAM: The point is, the rabbi's free. So we have to find him another wife.

DEBORAH: Consider it done. She's sitting right here.

MIRIAM: You don't even like him.

DEBORAH: But to be a rebbetzin...In the public eye...

LEAH: What if he likes the quiet type?

MIRIAM: What if he likes the nosey type?

DEBORAH: I'm the one least like his current wife.

LEAH: The experts say you end up marrying the same person second time round.

DEBORAH: With the same results.

END OF FREEVIEW
You'll want to read and perform this show!