

ESTHER'S COURAGE

by JOHN COSPER

GENRE: Comedy

SYNOPSIS: Esther gives courage to the Cowardly Lion of Oz by telling her story.

TIME: Under 5 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 2

TOPIC: Youth, Christian Living

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: The Book of Esther

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Any

SUGGESTED USE: Children's Service

CHARACTERS:

QUEEN ESTHER

THE COWARDLY LION OF OZ

PROPS: A dog

COSTUMES: Robes befitting a queen or a Dorothy dress for Esther; lion costume

SOUND: Wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: The Land of Oz

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ISSN 1084-5917

Publisher: Regi Stone

Executive Editor: Kimberlee Crisafulli / Assistant Editor: Scott Crain

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ESTHER'S COURAGE *by John Casper*

ESTHER enters.

ESTHER: Wow! Will you look at this? What a strange place this is. Toto, I don't think we're in Persia anymore. This is just like when we left Israel and were brought into the King's palace. You remember that, Toto? Seems like such a long time ago. So much has happened. And now ...

A noise is heard offstage.

ESTHER: Oh, no, Toto. Did you hear that? This place could be dangerous—filled with lions and tigers and bears.

The LION enters and is startled.

LION: Oh, my!

ESTHER: I told you, Toto. It's a lion!

LION: Ahhh! It's a princess!!! And her little dog, too!

ESTHER: Why, Toto, did you hear that? The lion—I think he's just as frightened as we are.

LION: N-n-n-n-no, I'm not! Really?

ESTHER: *(Steps closer)* Really?

LION: *(In fear)* DON'T COME ANY CLOSER! *(Regaining composure)* I mean, if you come closer, I'll...I'll EAT you! Yeah, that's the ticket. I'll eat you and then ... drink a Coca-Cola...and then I'll eat you some more.

ESTHER: *(Steps closer)* How could you say such a horrible thing?

LION: AAHHH!! Get away from me!!

ESTHER: See, Toto? I told you he was just a big coward.

LION: Oh, you're right. I'm nothing but a scared little kitty cat. I'm afraid of my own...

The LION sees his shadow and screams, leaping into ESTHER'S arms.

ESTHER: What is it?

LION: It's...it's...my SHADOW!!

ESTHER: Oh, you poor creature. This just isn't right, for you to be so afraid.