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The Rabbi And The Twenty-nine Witches





Synopsis

Once a month, when the moon is full, twenty-nine of the meanest, scariest, ugliest, wickedest witches that ever lived come out of their cave to terrify the villagers . . . until one day the wise rabbi invents a plan to rid his village of those wicked witches forever. The rabbi's clever plan works--with hilarious results!

Book Information

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Grade Level: 1st - 3rd

Customer Reviews

there is nothing babyish about this story at all.I remember tensing up to see if the strongminded dancing partners could pull off the charade. Scary.But the heroes make it look Easy Breezy.ETA:I found this story is related to an earlier one about Rabbi Shimon Ben Shetach with a different ending:"So the Rabbi whistled once and the young men put on their wraps, which they had kept dry under the pitchers. Then the Rabbi whistled again and they all rushed into the cave.Each young man picked up a witch, put her on his camel, and rode away with her.The witches all married the nice Jewish young men. They became good hard-working women and were the mothers of some great scholars in Israel."_______wikipedia:Witch-hunt and his son's deathIn a significant case of an early witch-hunt, on a single day Simeon ben Shetach's court sentenced to death eighty women in Ashkelon who had been charged with sorcery.[20] The relatives of these women, filled with a desire for revenge, brought false witnesses against Simeon's son, whom they accused of a

crime which involved capital punishment; and as a result of this charge he was sentenced to death. While on the way to the place of execution, the witnesses recanted their testimony. Simeon ben Shetach sought to have the case reopened. Simeon's son protested that, according to the Law, a witness must not be believed when he withdraws a former statement, and he said to his father, "If you seek to bring about salvation, then consider me as a threshold [towards that goal]."[21] The execution then proceeded. This sad event was probably the reason why Simeon issued a warning that witnesses should always be carefully cross-questioned.

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