A snippet from Megillah on the Roof...Fiddler on the Roof

King Ahashverosh, Haman, Zeresh and Hegai enter.

Hegai: I'm sorry to hear about Vashti, your highness. She DID dance divinely!

King: I know, but she was SO disagreeable. Wives are supposed to cater to their husbands' every whim. Isn't that right, Zeresh?t

Zeresh: Oh yes, sire. Absolutely, sire. [Aside, to audience] What century is HE living in?

Haman: That's right, your excellency. Zeresh always obeys me!

King: Frankly, Haman... [PAUSE] I suspect that she had better obey you... or suffer the consequences. You DO have a pretty nasty temper.

Haman: It's because I have so much responsibility, sir. You count on me to do an awful lot around here. In fact, I think it's time for me to have a new title. 'Prime minister' just doesn't cut it anymore. I would like to be known as 'Tzar Haman.' [PAUSE]

King: Fine, fine... You can be the Tzar. I don't care. I have much more important concerns at the moment. I need a new queen ' and the sooner the better! I'm lonely.

Hegai: Vashti has only been gone since the end of the last scene. How can you be lonely already?

King: I am a very impatient man!

Haman: You heard him, Hegai... Get out there and find him a queen! And while you're at it, keep your eyes open for those nasty Jews. We wouldn't want one of THEM to be queen, now, would we?.

Hegai: Oh, no. Perish the thought, Haman! [PAUSE]

Haman: Perish... now THERE'S an idea!

Zeresh: I just love the way you think, Tzar Haman! [PAUSE]