



CONGREGATION SHEARITH ISRAEL
The Spanish & Portuguese Synagogue

FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS

Rabbi Meir Soloveichik

March 11, 2021 | Shabbat Vayaqhel-Pekude

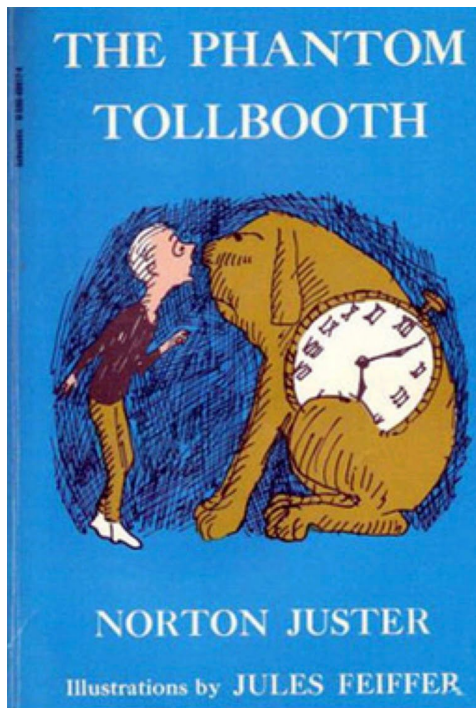
The Phantom Tollbooth and the Haggadah

*2020-2021 season of Friday Night Lights
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Thank you to this week's sponsors:

Barbara & Guy Reiss, in memory of Barbara's father, Moishe Tepler

1)



2) (Sefaria):

Exodus 12 ▼



וְהָיָה כִּי־תָבֹאוּ אֶל־הָאָרֶץ אֲשֶׁר יִתֵּן יְהוָה לָכֶם כַּאֲשֶׁר
דִּבֶּר וּשְׁמַרְתֶּם אֶת־הָעֲבֹדָה הַזֹּאת: 25

And when you enter the land that the LORD will give you, as He has promised, you shall observe this rite.

וְהָיָה כִּי־יֹאמְרוּ אֲלֵיכֶם בְּנֵיכֶם מַה הָעֲבֹדָה הַזֹּאת לָכֶם: 26

And when your children ask you, 'What do you mean by this rite?'

וְאָמַרְתֶּם זִבְח־פֶּסַח הוּא לַיהוָה אֲשֶׁר פָּסַח עַל־בְּתִי
בְּנֵי־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּמִצְרַיִם בְּנִגְפוֹ אֶת־מִצְרַיִם וְאֶת־בְּתִינוּ הִצִּיל
וַיִּקַּד הָעָם וַיִּשְׁתַּחֲוּ: 27

you shall say, 'It is the passover sacrifice to the LORD, because He passed over the houses of the Israelites in Egypt when He smote the Egyptians, but saved our houses.'" The people then bowed low in homage.

וַיֵּלְכוּ וַיַּעֲשׂוּ כִּכְנִי יִשְׂרָאֵל כַּאֲשֶׁר צִוָּה יְהוָה אֶת־מֹשֶׁה
וְאַהֲרֹן כִּן עָשׂוּ: (ס) 28

And the Israelites went and did so; just as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

3) The Phantom Tollbooth:

Would it be possible for me to see something from up there?" asked Milo politely.

"You could," said Alec, "but only if you try very hard to look at things as an adult does."

Milo tried as hard as he could, and, as he did, his feet floated slowly off the ground until he was standing in the air next to Alex Bings. He looked around very quickly and, an instant later, crashed back down to the earth again.

"Interesting, wasn't it?" asked Alex.

"Yes, it was," agreed Milo, rubbing his head and dusting himself off, "but I think I'll continue to see things as a child. It's not so far to fall."

4) Rabbi Lamm:

We live in a world where, unfortunately, the Rasha reigns supreme. It is not enough, in this kind of environment, to emphasize the Hakham alone. For while it is true that wisdom is indispensable both to general life and Jewish living, it is equally true that beyond all the complexities and subtleties that tantalize man's mind and confound his understanding there stands the simple and sublime truth of the One God, Author of all. What we need is the Tam, one who can include wisdom in his personality and transcend it, who can possess scholarship without displaying pretentiousness, who can develop his intellect and yet, in the moment he turns to his God, abandon his self-consciousness and serve his Maker with wonder"

5) Rabbi Sacks:

