

## WELL OF FORTUNE

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**CHAYAY SARAH**

Genesis 23:1-25:18

### Cast of Characters

Narrator #1

Narrator #2

Girl

Abraham

Isaac

Eliezer

Rebekah

Bethuel

Laban

**NARRATOR #1:** This week's parashah is called Chayay Sarah.

**NARRATOR #2:** Which means "The life of Sarah."

*(A Girl enters, upset.)*

**GIRL:** Excuse me... did you guys write this play?

**NARRATOR #1:** *(Proudly.)* We are the Narrators.

**NARRATOR #2:** I am the voice of the writer. I speak for the writer.

**GIRL:** Well, speak to me about this. How come I never get a good part?

**NARRATOR #1:** We really can't talk about that now. We have a play to narrate.

**GIRL:** Forget it. There's not going to be any play until I get a good part.

**ABRAHAM:** For this kind of sacrifice, we don't need a ram.

**ISAAC:** I don't think I like the way this is working out.

**PURIM:** Suddenly Abraham heard an Angel's voice.

**ANGEL #1:** Abraham, Abraham. What are you doing?

**ABRAHAM:** What God told me to do.

**ANGEL #1:** God just wanted to see if you would do it. Now God knows how loyal you are. God does not want you to harm your son.

**ISAAC:** Thanks! You're an Angel!

**ANGEL #1:** Yes. I know.

**PURIM:** You see. There is a happy ending. What do you think?

**PERRY:** I like it. But I think we should do it as a musical! *(He sings.)* It's not my fault... you turned to salt...

**ANNOUNCER:** As you can probably guess, the movie did not turn out to be a big hit. But the book has been a bestseller for a long, long time....

**NARRATOR #2:** I'm sorry, but it's too late. All the parts have been cast.

**NARRATOR #1:** Except the part of the . . . camel.

**GIRL:** No way I'm playing a camel. I want to be the star.

**NARRATOR #2:** There is no star in this play.

**GIRL:** You can't fool me. I heard you say the play was called "The Life of Sarah." I want to be Sarah.

**NARRATOR #1:** But . . .

**GIRL:** No buts about it. I'm playing Sarah. Now go on with the play.

**NARRATOR #2:** If you say so. As we were saying. Sarah lived to be a hundred and twenty and seven years . . .

**GIRL:** (*Dramatically.*) I am so old!

**NARRATOR #1:** And then she died . . .

**GIRL:** What? I thought this parashah was called the "Life of Sarah."

**NARRATOR #2:** It is. But Sarah dies in the second sentence.

**GIRL:** Really? Well, maybe I will play the camel. (*She sulks off.*)

**NARRATOR #1:** Abraham was very sad to lose his wife. But he knew he would die soon, too . . . and he wanted to make sure his son Isaac would always be happy.

(*Abraham enters with Isaac.*)

**ABRAHAM:** Isaac, I am very old.

**ISAAC:** I know. And you want to make me happy when you're gone.

**ABRAHAM:** How did you know that?

**ISAAC:** I was watching the play. Anyway . . . I figured you'd still have some guilt from that binding business on the mountain, remember?

**ABRAHAM:** You'll never let me live that down, will you? Isaac, I've asked my chief servant Eliezer to join us.

(*Eliezer enters.*)

**ELIEZER:** Sir, your loyal servant is at your service.

**ABRAHAM:** Good. Put your hand under my thigh.

**ELIEZER:** Sir?

**ABRAHAM:** This is a way we signify an oath.

**ELIEZER:** I knew that.

**ABRAHAM:** Now . . . I want you to go to Haran, where many of my family members live, and find a suitable wife for Isaac. God will protect you on your journey.

**ISAAC:** Maybe I should go with him. That way I can make sure I get a good wife.

**ABRAHAM:** Don't even think about it. You must not leave your home. Anyway, I'm sure Eliezer has excellent taste in women.

**ELIEZER:** You flatter me, sir. And when I have chosen the right woman, do I send for Isaac to come meet her?

**ABRAHAM:** No. You will bring her back here, to live in Canaan with Isaac. Promise me.

**ELIEZER:** I promise. (*Turns to go.*) I hope she travels light.

**NARRATOR #2:** And so Eliezer traveled to Haran with ten camels.

**NARRATOR #1:** And in the evening, he stopped by a well, where all the women went to draw water.

**GIRL:** (*Runs onstage.*) May I play one of the women?

**NARRATOR #2:** You said you wanted to be the camel.

**GIRL:** Is the camel a good part?

**NARRATOR #1:** Are you kidding? The whole story depends on the camel!

**GIRL:** Okay, I'll do it!

**ELIEZER:** Well, here I am at the well. And there are so many beautiful girls here. How will I know which one is right for Isaac?

**GIRL:** Abraham told you God would send you a sign.

**ELIEZER:** You're a camel! You have no lines. Wait, that gives me an idea. O God, I will stop one of these girls and ask her for water. If she says "Drink . . . and I will give your camels some water, too . . .," please let her be the one. Look. Here comes a beautiful woman now.

(*Rebekah enters.*)

**REBEKAH:** Sir . . . you look so thirsty.

**ELIEZER:** I am. Could you fetch me some water?

**REBEKAH:** Sure. (*Rebekah starts to draw water.*)

**GIRL:** Mmm . . . hmm . . . I'm kinda thirsty myself . . .

**REBEKAH:** Is it my imagination, or . . . did that camel just talk? Oh, well, drink, and I will give your camels some water, too.

**ELIEZER:** What did you say?

**REBEKAH:** Drink, and I will give your camels some water, too.

**ELIEZER:** My goodness. I guess you're the lucky one. Here's a golden ring . . . and two very expensive bracelets.

**REBEKAH:** Is this some sort of game show?

**ELIEZER:** No, I was sent here to find someone just like you.

**REBEKAH:** Come, I will take you home to meet my family.

(*Bethuel and Laban enter.*)

**BETHUEL:** Welcome to my home, sir, my name is Bethuel. I'd like to know what you have been telling my daughter.

**LABAN:** Yeah . . . what do you want from my sister?

**REBEKAH:** Don't be mean to our guest. Look what he just gave me.

**BETHUEL:** Do you think you can impress us with expensive jewels and gold?

**LABAN:** Of course he can. Come right in!

**NARRATOR #1:** And Eliezer sat down with Laban and Bethuel and told them why he had come to Haran.

**BETHUEL:** Isaac sounds like a nice person. Rebekah may marry him.

**ELIEZER:** Excellent. We'll leave immediately.

**LABAN:** Immediately? Can't she stay here just ten more days?

**ELIEZER:** I'm afraid that's not possible.

**REBEKAH:** That's all right. I'm ready. I packed light.

**BETHUEL:** Go in good health, Rebekah.