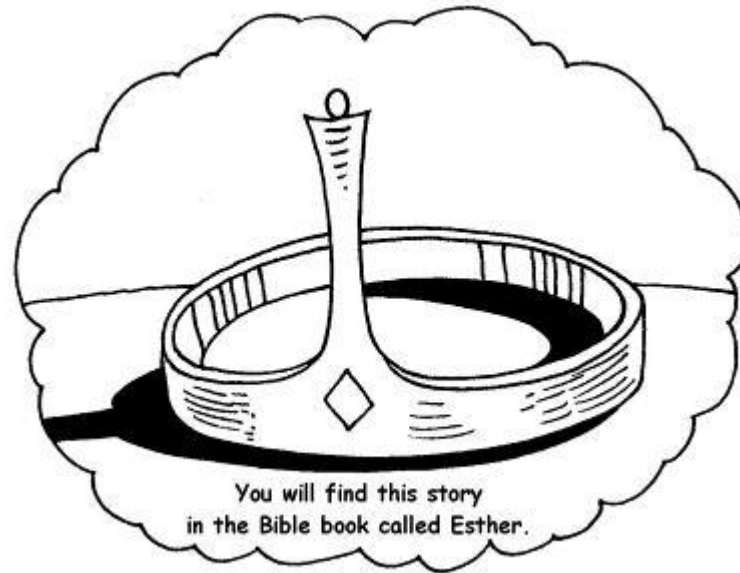


ESTHER THE VERY BRAVE QUEEN

By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



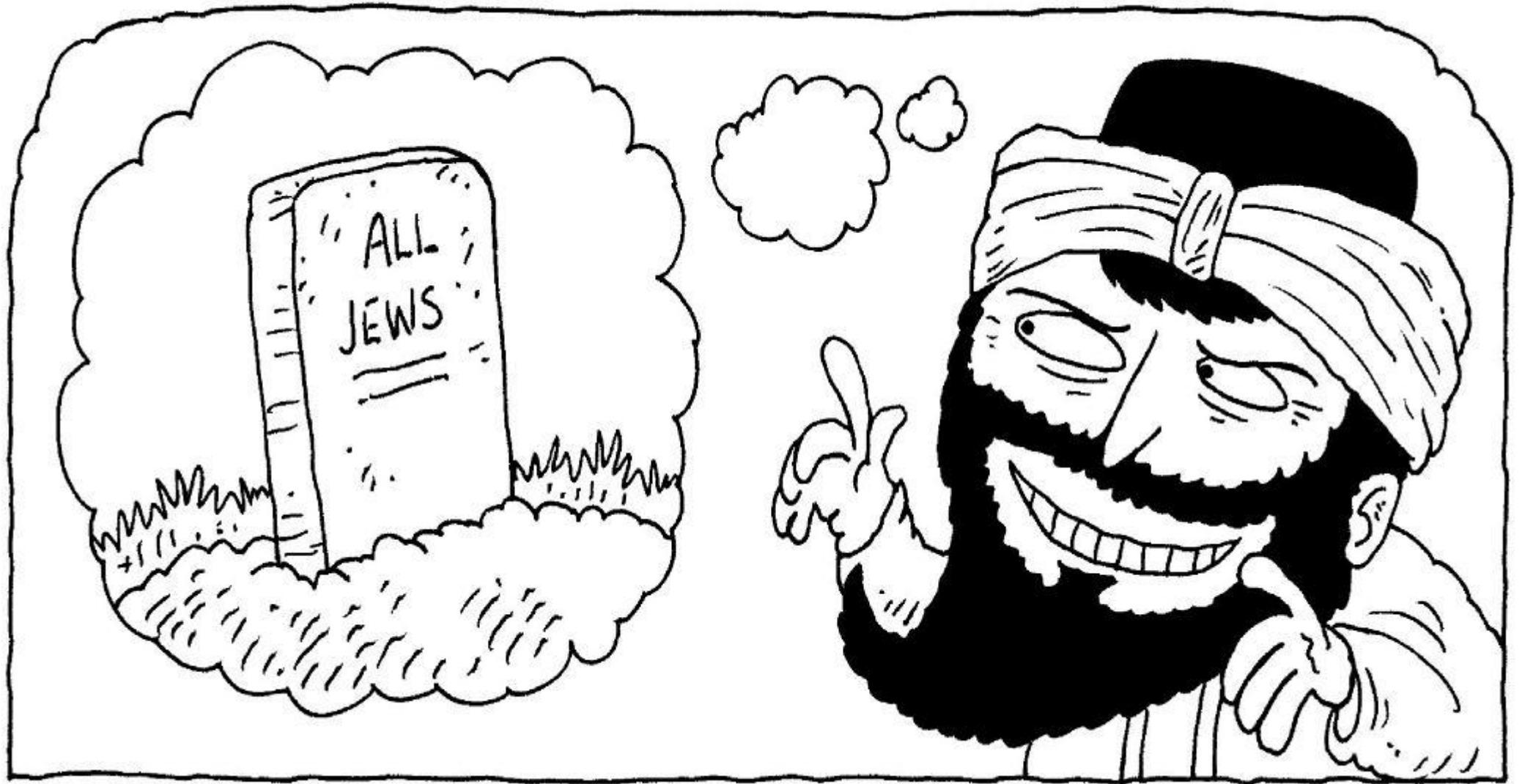
Long ago, in the land of Persia,
lived a young queen called Esther.
She was beautiful and wise,
but she was also a Jew.



Her husband, the king,
was very rich and powerful.
Whatever he said,
then that was the law.



Some people in the kingdom of Persia wanted to kill all the Jews. One of these people was a man called Haman.



Haman thought up a clever plan. He would trick the king into making a law commanding that all Jews must die.



But Queen Esther was smart. When she found out about Haman's plan she invited Haman to a special meal. He didn't know that Esther was a Jew.



At the special meal, Queen Esther told her husband the king about Haman's plan. The king was very angry.



“If you kill the Jews,”
said the king, “then you
will have killed my wife!”
Haman was scared.



The king ordered that
Haman be killed. Now
the Jews were safe and
Queen Esther was safe too.