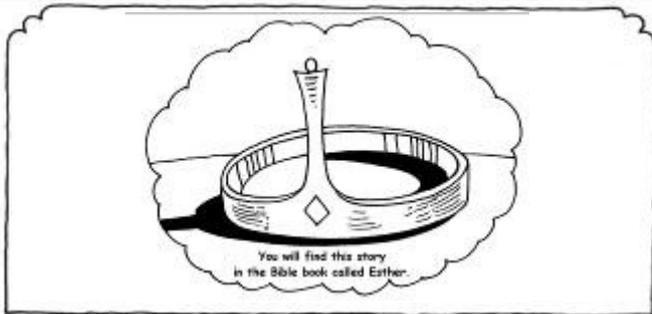


ESTHER the very brave Queen

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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.