



## The Seder General Song

to the tune of "The Modern Major General Song" from "Pirates of Penzance" (with apologies to Gilbert & Sullivan)

### **General:**

I am the very model of a modern Seder General,  
I've information Biblical, liturgical and ritual,  
Regarding the Haggadah, I'm expert in ev'ry area,  
I know the rabbis' names by heart, Akiva to Azaria,  
The plagues of Egypt verminous, sanguinous, and climatical,  
The special blessings to be said when Pesach is Sabbatical.  
About the gifts bestowed on us, I'm teeming with the Dayeinus,  
With many cheerful facts about G-d's liberation of the Jews!

### **All:**

With many cheerful facts about G-d's liberation of the Jews!  
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With many cheerful facts about G-d's liberation of the Jews!

### **General:**

I'm very good at answering the child inquisitorial,  
The Exodus I recreate for Passover memorial.  
In short, in matters Biblical, liturgical and ritual,  
I am the very model of a modern Seder General.

### **All:**

In short, in matters Biblical, liturgical and ritual,  
He is the very model of a modern Seder General.

### **All:**

I specialize in knowing the ingredients on which we dine,  
Unleavened bread and bitter herbs, haroset and four cups of wine.  
I know that hard boiled eggs with salt are better than a rich soufflé,  
And much prefer the Concord grape to California cabernet.  
I deprecate tabasco sauce as substitute for horse radish,  
And know it is not kosher to use crab cakes for gefilte fish.  
I gently mold with my own hands each Manischewitz matzo ball.  
To make it light and fluffy is the most important thing of all!

### **All:**

To make it light and fluffy is the most important thing of all!  
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### **General:**

I know the afikoman is the last dessert on which we sup  
And never sip the vintage that I pour into Elijah's cup.

**All:** What, never?

**General:** No, never!

**All:** What, never?

**General:** Well, hardly ever!  
I hardly ever sip the vintage poured into Elijah's cup.  
In short, in matters oenological and gustatorial  
I am the very model of a modern Seder General.

### **All:**

In short, in matters oenological and gustatorial  
He is the very model of a modern Seder General.

### **General:**

I studied Torah very hard to reach the highest pinnacle,  
But my yeshiva time was brief, my training non-rabbinical.  
In fact, my education has a gap that is unfillable –  
Of Hebrew I am ignorant and comprehend no syllable.  
For one who leads the service I suppose it is heretical,  
But I admit my diction is entirely phonetical  
My method of enunciation is trans-lit-er-a-ti-on,  
My cantorial baritone is mere an-gli-ci-za-ti-on!

### **All:**

His cantorial baritone is mere an-gli-ci-za-ti-on!  
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His cantorial baritone is mere an-gli-ci-za-ti-on!

### **General:**

And so as we recline and celebrate with songs so lyrical,  
Let's not forget to praise the Lord for this, His latest miracle:  
This diff'rent night from other nights,  
to run the paschal festival,  
I am the very model of a modern Seder General.

### **All:**

This diff'rent night from other nights,  
to run the paschal festival,  
He is the very model of a modern Seder General.

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