

# Fun Seder Songs

These are some of the most popular. Do a web search to find more.

Their primary purpose is to keep the kids interested and participating during the long evening before the meal.

*Let us all sing together - HEE NAY MA-TOV (fast version)*

HEE NAY MA-TOV OO -MA-NA-EEM  
SHEH-VET AH-CHIM GAM YA-CHAD (repeat)

HEE NAY MA-TOV Hee Nay MA Tov  
La la la la la la

“What a good and pleasant time it is for brothers and sisters  
to be together in joy and in peace.”

HEE NAY MA-TOV OO-MA-NA-EEM  
SHEH-VET AH-CHIM GAM YA-CHAD (repeat)

*Leader: THE BALLAD OF THE 4 SONS (Sing along to the tune of “Clementine”)*

Tonight is a time for questioning and teaching the next generations. An old Jewish story tells the story of 4 sons, each of whom have different ideas about Passover. We have changed the words a bit and put it in the form of a song.

Said the father to his children  
“At the seder you will dine,  
You will eat your fill of matza  
You will drink four cups of wine.”

Now this father had no daughters  
but his sons they numbered four.  
One was wise and one was wicked,  
one was simple and would learn more.

And the fourth was sweet and winsome,  
He was young and he was small.  
While his bothers asked the questions,  
he could scarcely speak at all.

Said the wise son to his father,  
“Would you please explain the laws?”  
Of the customs of the Seder  
Would you please explain the cause?”

And the father proudly answered,  
“As our people ate in speed  
ate the Pascal lamb near midnight  
and from slavery were freed.”

So we follow their example  
and by midnight must complete,  
all the Seder and we should not  
after twelve remain to eat.

Then did sneer the son so wicked  
“What does all this mean to you?”  
And the father’s voice was bitter,  
As his grief and anger grew.

“If yourself you don’t consider  
As a son of Yis ra el,  
Then for you this has no meaning,  
You could be a slave as well.”

Then the simple son said softly,  
“What is this” and quietly  
the good father told his offspring  
“We were freed from slavery.”

But the youngest son was silent,  
He could barely speak at all.  
His young eyes were bright with wonder,  
as his father told them all.

Now dear children, heed the lesson  
and remember evermore,  
What the father told his children,  
Told his sons that numbered four.

The song “Go Down Moses” tells of Moses’ plea to the Pharaoh to free his people. The song “Go Down Moses” has stimulated the writing creativity of many generations. While the first 2 verses are traditional, succeeding verses are often very different. The slaves of America often sang their own variations of this song. Please join in singing this variation.

When Israel was in Egypt land  
LET MY PEOPLE GO.  
Oppressed so hard they could not sta  
LET MY PEOPLE GO.

Go down, Moses  
Way down in Egypt’s land  
Tell old Pharaoh  
LET MY PEOPLE GO.

Oh let us from all bondage flee  
LET MY PEOPLE GO.  
We long to have our people free  
LET MY PEOPLE GO.

Go down, Moses  
Way down in Egypt’s land  
Tell old Pharaoh  
LET MY PEOPLE GO.

Tyrants come in every age  
LET MY PEOPLE GO.  
May all be free from oppressions cage.  
LET MY PEOPLE GO.

Go down, Moses  
Way down in Egypt’s land  
Tell old Pharaoh  
LET MY PEOPLE GO.

**DAH YAY NEW - "It would have been enough."**

One of the traditional songs of Passover, "Dayenu," gives thanks for each step along the road to freedom in the promised land.

We sing "It would have been enough" to have been freed from slavery, even if nothing more was given.

We can sing Dayenu to celebrate each step we take toward liberation as if it were enough, and then start out on the next step. We say today that all these gifts are not enough unless we apply the lessons to our daily lives. The freedom struggle continues and there are many wrongs we must right before we can be fully satisfied.

It is not enough for us to end slavery and build happy lives for ourselves while others are oppressed.

It is not enough for us to celebrate our dignity if we allow intolerance to harm others.

As Hillel suggests, "If we are only for ourselves, who are we?"

It is not enough to stop when we are satisfied with our own lives. We can, and should, continue to discuss our level of responsibility to help others in need.

Everyone join in song. (We will sing just the Chorus - There are many variations of tongue twisting verses.)

**EE-LOO HO-TSI, HO-TSI AH-NOO**

**HO-TSI AH-NOO MEE -MITS-RA-YEEM (sing this line twice)**

**DY AY NOO**

**DY DY AY-NOO, DY DY AY-NOO**

**DY DY AY-NOO, DY-AY-NOO ... repeat last 2 lines**

**Take Me Out To The Seder**

(sung to the tune of "Take Me Out to the Ballgame!")

Take me out to the Seder

Take me out with the crowd.

Feed me on matzo and chicken legs,

I don't care for the hard-boiled eggs.

And its root, root, root for Elijah

That he will soon reappear.

And let's hope, hope, hope that we'll meet

Once again next year!

Take me out to the Seder

Take me out with the crowd.

Read the Haggadah

And don't skip a word.

Please hold your talking,

We want to be heard.

And lets, root, root, root for the leader

That he will finish his spiel

So we can nosh, nosh, nosh and by-gosh

Let's eat the meal!!!

**CHAD GAHD YA** - (a traditional Passover parable song)

*Passover is the festival of life and Jewish survival. Against the fury of many foes the Jewish people have survived. No enemy can stamp out a tradition and history that is so resilient.*

CHAD GAHD YA is a metaphor for the name of the little goat of Israel which others have sought to devour. But in the end, they themselves have been devoured. (each verse is sung a little faster than the one before - start out slow)

CHAD GAHD YA, CHAD GAHD YA

My father bought for two zuzim.

CHAD GAHD YA, CHAD GAHD YA

Then came a cat and chased the kid  
My father bought for two zuzim.

CHAD GAHD YA, CHAD GAHD YA

Then came a dog and bit the cat  
That chased the kid  
My father bought for two zuzim.

CHAD GAHD YA, CHAD GAHD YA

Then came a stick and hit the dog  
that bit the cat that chased the kid  
My father bought for two zuzim.

CHAD GAHD YA, CHAD GAHD YA

Then came the fire and burned the stick  
That hit the dog that bit the cat  
That chased the kid  
My father bought for two zuzim.

CHAD GAHD YA, CHAD GAHD YA

Then came the water that quenched the fire  
That burned the stick  
That hit the dog  
That bit the cat  
That chased the kid  
My father bought for two zuzim.

CHAD GAHD YA, CHAD GAHD YA

(There are several more verses and variations of this song)

**“Who Knows?”**

knows one?

I know One. One is flame of hope we all share.

Leader: Who knows Two?

I know two. Two Tablets of commandments One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows Three?

I know three. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob. Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows four?

I know four. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob. Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows five?

I know five. Five books of the Torah. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob. Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows Six?

I know six. Six points in David's star. Five books of the Torah. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob. Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows Seven?

I know seven. Seven seas we have traveled to find a home. Six points in David's star. Five books of the Torah. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob. Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows Eight?

I know eight. Eight nights of Hanukah. Seven seas, Six points in David's star. Five books of the Torah. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob. Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows Nine?

I know nine. Nine Jewish festivals\*. Eight nights of Hanukah. Seven seas, Six points in David's star. Five books of the Torah. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob. Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows Ten?

I know Ten. Ten Commandments. Nine Jewish festivals. Eight nights of Hanukah. Seven seas, Six points in David's

star.

Five books of the Torah. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob. Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows Eleven?

I know Eleven. Eleven stars in Joseph's dream. Ten Commandments. Nine Jewish festivals. Eight nights of Hanukah. Seven seas, Six points in David's star. Five books of the Torah. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob.

Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows Twelve?

I know Twelve. Twelve tribes of Israel. Eleven stars in Joseph's dream. Ten Commandments. Nine Jewish festivals. Eight nights of Hanukah. Seven seas, Six points in David's star. Five books of the Torah. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Two . One Flame of hope.

Leader: Who knows Thirteen? Everyone together

I know Thirteen. Thirteen years to Bar and Bat Mitzvah. Twelve tribes of Israel. Eleven stars in Joseph's dream. Ten Commandments. Nine Jewish festivals. Eight nights of Hanukah. Seven seas, Six points in David's star. Five books of the Torah. Four seasons. Three patriarchs - Abraham, Issac & Jacob. Two . One Flame of hope.

FYI- The nine Jewish festivals are Passover, Shavuot, Rosh HaShana, Yom Kippur, Simchat Torah Sukkot, Hannukah, Purim and the Sabbath. There is no explanation of why there are 13 items in this chant. The subjects in the chant are subject to creative interpretation.

### "We Simply Remember"

[Sung to the tune of "These are a few of my favorite things"]

Cleaning and cooking and so many dishes  
Out with the hametz, no pasta, no knishes  
Fish that's gefillted, horseradish that stings  
These are a few of our passover things.

Matzoh and karpas and chopped up haroset  
Shankbones and kiddish and yiddish neuroses  
Tante who kvetches and uncle who sings  
These are a few of our Passover things.

Motzi and maror and trouble with Pharoahs  
Famines and locusts and slaves with wheelbarrows  
Matzah balls floating and eggshell that cling  
These are a few of our Passover things.

When the plagues strike  
When the lice bite  
When we're feeling sad  
We simply remember our Passover things  
And then we don't feel so bad.

Matzah Ball Soup  
(sung to the tune of "10 Little Indians")  
1 little, 2 little, 3 little, matzo balls  
4 little, 5 little, 6 little, matzo balls  
7 little, 8 little, 9 little, matzo balls  
Ten cheers for the matzo ball soup!

Leader - Let us conclude our journey with a song. Shalom Cha Vay Reem - Farewell friends, till we meet again

**Shalom cha-vay-reem, Shalom cha-vay-reem,  
Shalom, shalom,  
L'hit-ra-ot, l'hit ra-ot,  
Shalom, shalom**

