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**\*\*\* TWO PAGE EXCERPT \*\*\***

**A Charlie Brownstein Hanukkah**

(a Peanuts parody)

by

**Julius Galacki**

("The Eight Nights of Hanukkah" parody lyrics to the public domain song "The Twelve Days of Christmas" by Judy Victor and Julius Galacki)

SYNOPSIS: in this parody, Charlie Brown is visited by a rabbinical ghost who tells Charlie that he, the Christmas icon, is really Jewish. Charlie tries to discover what it means to be a Jew and the true meaning of the Festival of Lights by directing a Hanukkah pageant.

CAST in Order of Appearance

Charlie Brown(stein)..... a depressed "blockhead"  
Lucy Van Pelt .....a psychiatrist, a Purim Queen, a girl for all seasons  
Jacob ..... a rabbinical ghost  
Linus Van Pelt..... Lucy’s brother  
Sally Brown(stein)..... Charlie’s sister  
Frieda Rich..... a member of the Peanuts Gang with naturally curly  
(red) hair  
Violet Gray..... a member of the Peanuts Gang  
Franklin Armstrong..... 1<sup>st</sup> African American member of the Peanuts Gang  
Pig Pen ..... a member of the Peanuts Gang  
Snoopy ..... Charlie Brownstein's dog  
Harriet Glickman..... a real life white Jewish mother (and grandmother),  
who wrote to Charles Schultz, and who lives in the San  
Fernando Valley  
Ken Kelly..... a real life black man and friend of Harriet living  
in the Valley; also a JPL engineer  
Jesus ..... a ghost of biblical past

(Note: for economic reasons, many of the characters above can be double-cast e.g. Franklin, Ken Kelly and Jesus can all be played the same actor; the actor playing Rabbi Jacob could also play Snoopy and even Pig Pen – with a quick costume change; Frieda could also play Harriet; and with the use of a wig, the actress playing dark haired Violet could also play blonde Sally.)

*(Lucy sits behind what looks like a lemonade stand but a sign reads “The Doctor is In”. Charlie sits in a chair in front of her.)*

**Charlie**

I’m having an identity crisis.

**Lucy**

10 cents.

**Charlie**

Ten cents!

**Lucy**

Inflation.

*(Charlie puts a dime in her can and she shakes it gleefully.)*

**Lucy**

Gelt! Gelt! Gelt!

**Charlie**

What did you just say?!

**Lucy**

I said, “Money! Money! Money!” Perhaps you just have ear-o-phobia, Charlie Brown.

**Charlie**

No, I’m losing my mind – it all started with a dream I had last night. I was in bed when...

*(Charlie walks over to another part of the stage where his bed is. He lies down and Jacob enters.)*

**Jacob**

Wake up. Charlie Brownstein. Wake up! WAKE UP YOU BLOCKHEAD. I don’t have all night.

**Charlie**

What? What? Who are you?

**Jacob**

I am the ghost of Rabbi Jacob Hillman, sent by G dash D to bring you back into the Tribe.

**Charlie**

The Cleveland Indians?

**Jacob**

Oy gevalt. Listen kid. Here's the almighty scoop. When your grandfather came into Ellis Island, he changed his name from Brownstein to Brown.

**Charlie**

I can't be Jewish. I'm a Christmas icon.

**Jacob**

Jesus was Jewish and he's more of a Christmas icon than you. So, I think you can deal, boychik.

**Charlie**

Well, what does it mean to be a Jew?

**Jacob**

It means... It means... yes, what *does* it mean to be a Jew?

*(The lights fade out on Jacob as he contemplates Charlie goes back to the psychiatry booth.)*

**Charlie**

That's when I woke up. Now do you understand?

**Lucy**

Hmmm. I better show you some ink blots and test your reactions. What do you see when you look at this one?

**Charlie**

Matzoh balls.

**Lucy**

And this one?