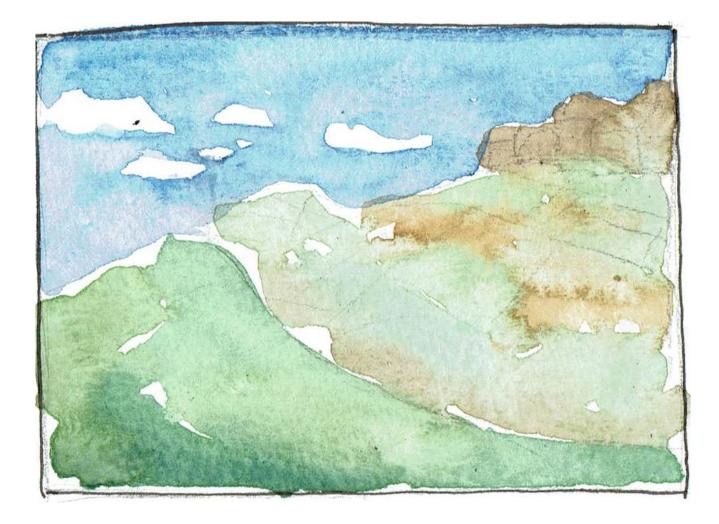


## My little Chanaka Book



Dad, I'm confused, could you explain to me, Is the menorah, the Jewish version of a Christmas tree?

My friends celebrate with gifts and we do too, What makes Chanuka different for me and you?



You ask a good question, my little one, Let me tell you the story how it all begun. A long time ago, in a faraway land, There rose a great kingdom – it was really grand!

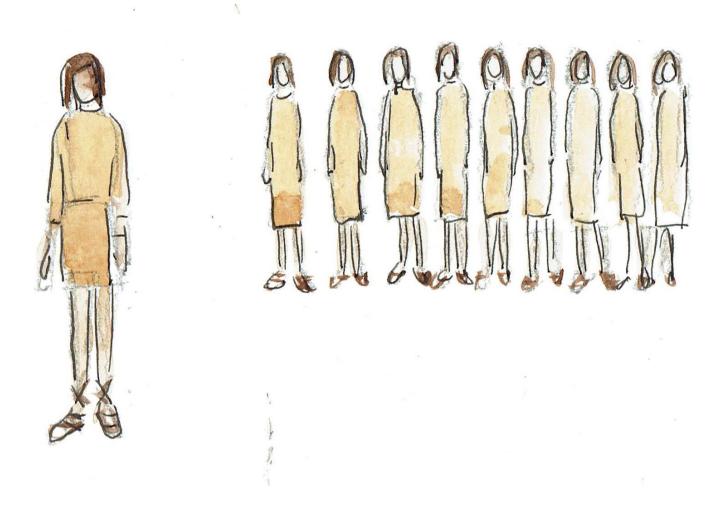


The people were beautiful, they were mighty and strong, They drew gorgeous pictures and grew their hair really long.

They had much wisdom, and their ideas were great, So what was the problem? - you'll see, just wait...

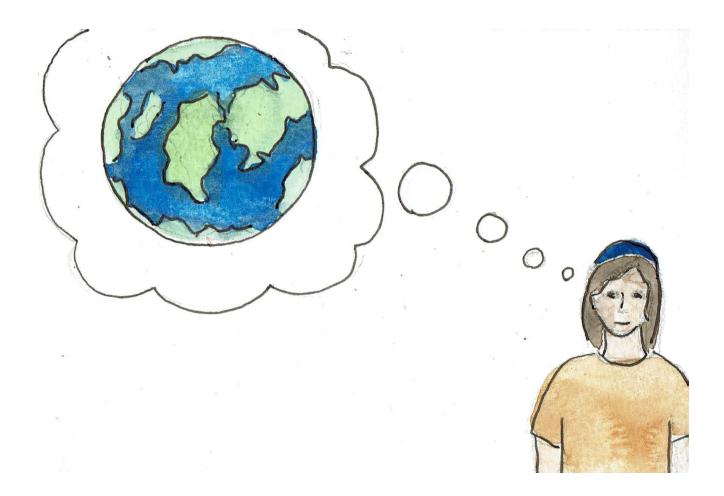


They worshipped the outside – one's body, one's strength, But really most important is to be a mentsch. That means to be kind, and help a friend, Looking pretty is great, but it's not the end.

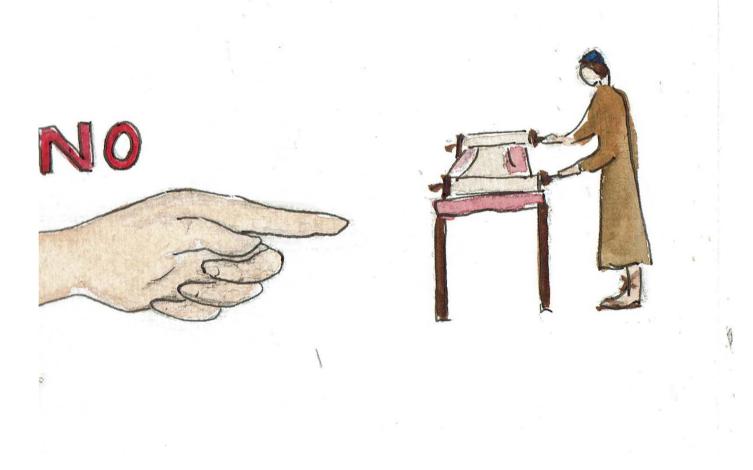


The Greeks wanted everyone to be the same And because they were popular, some joined in their games

But some Jews remembered Hashem and His laws He gave them to us for a very good cause.



He made the world, and He knows what's right, You are not the strongest, if you win the fight The strongest person conquers himself And spends his time helping someone else.



The Greeks were annoyed, they wanted us to change They became nasty if we didn't play their game They forbade the Jews to learn our special Torah They didn't let us keep Shabbat or have a Brit Mila.



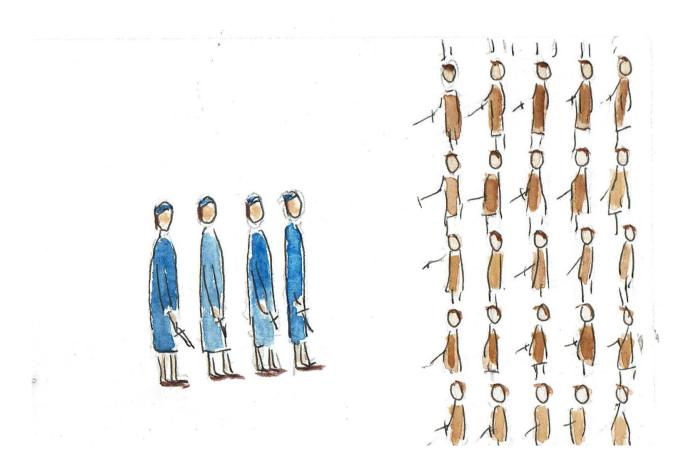
We had to hide in caves, To live our Jewish way. We pretended to play dreidel, When the soldiers came each day.



But really we were learning, We didn't want to forget. What it means to be a Jew, Even if the Greeks didn't let.



One day, it was just too much They put an idol in our temple! They tried to destroy our holiest place This really made us tremble 🔅



So a few Jewish people Stood up to the mighty Greeks We had no fancy armour Just our true, sincere belief



We davened to Hashem, And asked him to help us fight. We wanted to live freely as Jews, What they were doing, was not right!



Hashem performed a miracle for us On that amazing day We won a crazy battle And the Greeks had to run away



We came back to our temple So sad to see the destruction there We wanted to light the menorah But we couldn't find pure oil anywhere.



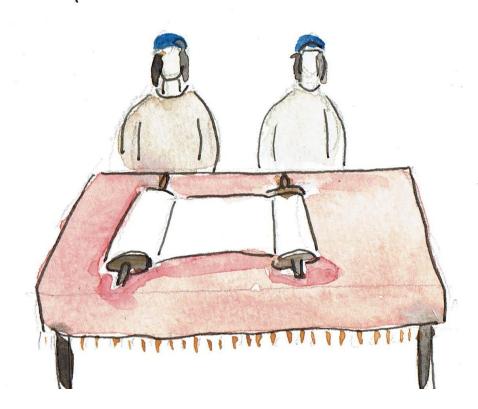
We searched and searched for a long, long time Until a tiny jug of oil was found We were so delighted, We jumped up and down!



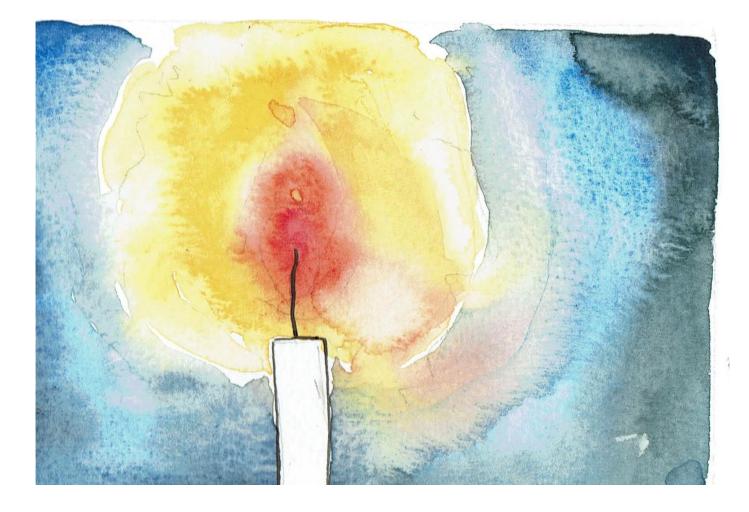
We lit the beautiful menorah, with enough oil to last one night But Hashem made it last for 7 more days So that we could bring the world more light!



We are lucky nowadays We live in a country that's kind They let us keep our laws, They really don't mind.



We make sure to follow their rules And we daven for the Queen too, They also allow us to learn Torah And keep all the mitzvot we do.



Our job as Jews in this world Is to be a light to all the nations When darkness fills the universe We try to bring hope and consolation.



Each one of us is special We have our own little light Let's work together this Chanuka To make the world shine bright



Thank you, Daddy, now I understand Why I am here, and what I am I am a Jew and I'm proud And I will do what I can To make sure I keep Hashem's mitzvot and elevate this land.



Author: Shuli Liss Illustrator: Nicole Price Arranged by: Hadassa Liss