

## VASHTI'S SONG

Lyrics and music by Ros Schwartz © March 2005  
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*Gloria Steinem, the writer who founded Ms magazine,  
spent some time as a Playboy bunny,  
to research an article from the insider's point of view.  
Plus ça change, plus c'est la même chose!*

Vashti was young, she was Queen of the harem  
that King Ahashverosh had gathered around  
After a contest of one year of one-night-stands  
He said that she was the best lay he'd found.

King Ahashverosh was famed for his drinking  
at parties and revelries he liked to host  
Telling lewd stories of women he'd been with  
comparing their merits ... this king loved to boast

"Vashti my Queen is quite gorgeous and talented  
Funny and smart and intelligent too ...  
and if you don't buy it - if you don't believe me -  
I'll have her come here and dance naked for you!"

"Vashti! Come hither!" slurred King Ahashverosh  
"There's no need to waste any time getting dressed -  
My friends are waiting to see you dance naked!"  
Queen Vashti was singularly unimpressed.

"I'm not your doll", scorned Queen Vashti, "your plaything,  
a sextoy that you can exploit for your sport!  
What you don't know is that I am a writer  
who went undercover to research your court!!!

Here is your crown back, I'm sure you'll find someone  
who's willing to come and dance naked for you ...  
Meanwhile the press knows my book will be out soon  
This 'former Queen Vashti' has writing to do!"

What can a King do, when his Queen has left him?  
He can't spend a whole night alone in his bed!  
Long and hard, he thought, til he found the answer:  
A new year-long contest to choose who to wed!

Hundreds of women signed up to audition  
The King's casting couch was in use every day  
While gorgeous young Vashti put quill to her parchment:  
"Inside the King's Court: an ex-Queen's exposé!"