

A BASKET CASE

By Rod

Based on Exodus 1 and 2, this tells the story of Moses' rescue from the basket. We did it with 6 actors and a narrator, but people could double up.

POSSIBLE CAST

Narrator

Pharaoh

Pharaoh's 'bully' – our actor doubled up as Pharaoh's daughter

Moses' mother – also generic Israelite

Moses' father – also generic Israelite

Moses' sister – also generic Israelite

Moses as a boy – our actor also played the part of an Israelite

I will tell a little story;

It's about a basket case.

He's Egypt's royal Pharaoh,

But his conduct's pretty base.

Enter Pharaoh followed by bully

Narrator holds up BOO sign

He didn't like God's people,

Who had settled in his land.

He felt their growing numbers

Were getting out of hand.

*Enter mother, father, sister booing
(As Israelites)*

Boy Moses holds up large hand

He made them work for nothing

In making bricks and mortar.

He treated them so cruelly,

In a way he never oughta'.

3 Israelites get down to mime making bricks

Bully cracks whip/cane

He made their lives taste bitter;

Made to work hard night and day.

But numbers still kept rising,

So he tried another way.

Bully counts Isarelites - "3" to Pharaoh

Boy Moses sneaks to join other Israelites

Bully turns – to now see 4

Moses is cross

The Pharaoh passed an order,

That was horrible and vile.

Male Hebrew new-born babies

Must be thrown into the Nile.

Pharaoh grabs and holds up scroll

Narrator holds up BOO sign

All Israelites look shocked

Now at this time a Levite

And his wife, they bore a son.

Three months she kept him hidden;

Right from birth he's on the run.

Mother and father nip off stage -

To return with babe in arms.

Hide baby behind themselves as watch

Pharaoh and bully

But when he grew too chunky,
Was no longer just a titch,
She put him in a basket
That was daubed with tar and pitch.

Exit Pharaoh and bully
Father grabs basket
Mother places babe in basket
Other 2 Israelites paint basket with brushes

This meant the basket floated
When she placed it in the Nile,
Where baby's elder sister,
Hid nearby, and watched a while.

Mother places basket in Nile
Elder sister sneaks across stage to hide

Then one of Pharaoh's daughters
Came along to take a dip.
She heard the baby crying,
Bawling loud, with quiv'ring lip.

Enter Pharaoh's daughter + swimming towel
Mimes diving/entering water
Looks in basket

And as she cuddled baby;
Big sister seized her chance.
"Ma'am, if you need a wet-nurse,
I might know one - just perchance."

Pulls baby out of basket
Sister leaps up and mimes speech

So the baby's real mother
Was then fetched to raise the boy.
Midst the sadness caused by Pharaoh
Just a little bit of joy.

Sister goes off to fetch mother
Enter mother who nurses baby
Enter Pharaoh Narrator holds up BOO sign
Exit mother, sister and baby

But when the boy grew older,
Now son to Pharaoh's daughter,
She went and named him 'Moses',
"I drew him from the water".

Enter Boy Moses to join Pharaoh's daughter

She indicates Nile. Moses grabs basket

So Moses was protected
By a floating basket case,
That rescued him from Pharaoh –
God's chosen hiding place.

Enter all Israelites behind Moses

Enter Pharaoh. Narrator holds up BOO sign

God's people were still suff'ring,
Their lives no bed of roses;
But Great Escape had started –
Their leader would be Moses.

Moses' father is holding spray of roses
Pharaoh exits – grabbing rose on way

Moses steps forward. Others surround him.

THE END