

THE BOOK OF MERMAN
Elders CALLBACK Side

6-10-18
17.

~~ETHEL~~

~~We're not done yet?~~

~~ELDER BRAITHWAITE~~

~~Our lives are burdened down with heaviness...~~

~~ETHEL~~

~~More?~~

~~ELDER BRAITHWAITE~~

~~Obstacles, despair...~~

~~ETHEL~~

~~Okay! Tell ya what, let's just start off with a basic package... Howsabout "The New Yorker."~~

~~ELDER BRAITHWAITE~~

~~We feel trapped and in a maze...~~

~~ETHEL~~

~~Who do I make this out to?~~

~~ELDER BRAITHWAITE~~

~~Do you often feel like that?~~

~~ETHEL~~

~~You're a chatty one! HELL..~~

~~ELDER BRAITHWAITE & ELDER
SHUMWAY~~

~~(React to the profanity) Ahhhhhhhhhhh!~~

~~ETHEL~~

~~Oh! I forgot my pen. Hold this, I'll be right back.~~

~~(She hands her check book to
ELDER SHUMWAY and leaves.)~~

START 

~~ELDER SHUMWAY~~

~~This is hopeless!~~

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

Now, come on! Don't get discouraged. She let us in! She wants to write us a check!

(Elder Shumway looks in the checkbook and comes unglued, gasps.)

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

What? Are you okay?

(Gasps continue.)

WHAT?!

ELDER SHUMWAY

Holy Macaroni, you know who that is?

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

A crazy lady that thinks we're selling magazines!

ELDER SHUMWAY

That's Ethel Merman!

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

Who?

ELDER SHUMWAY

ETHEL MERMAN!

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

Who's Ethel Merman?

(Biggest gasp of all)

ELDER SHUMWAY

"Who's Ethel Merman!?" Flippin fetcher, Elder Braithwaite!

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

No cursing!

ELDER SHUMWAY

It's THE Ethel Merman. "Annie Get Your Gun"! "Call Me, Madam"!, "GYPSY"!!!

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

She looks American to me.

ELDER SHUMWAY

Fetchin' Gosh! She's the undisputed First Lady of the American Musical Stage, Elder Braithwaite. Look! (He pulls out a Merman Biography) I have her biography right here.

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

Hey, wait a minute. That's the book you read every morning during scripture study!

ELDER SHUMWAY

Uh...

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

When we're supposed to be in contemplation, you're reading that?! I thought your copy of the Doctrine and Covenants looked funny.

ELDER SHUMWAY

ANYWAY, this is unbelievable! She's the most important person we will EVER meet. I gotta get her autograph!

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

(A realization.)

The guys at the Missionary Training Center told me about you. I didn't believe them. But now I see it's true.

ELDER SHUMWAY

What are you talking about? Told you WHAT about me?

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

You're always singing show tunes. I see how you dance around when no one's looking. Now you're going all mushypants over some musical theatre actress!

ELDER SHUMWAY

So?!

ELDER BRAITHWAITE

And... you talk with your hands a *lot*.

ELDER SHUMWAY
(Putting his hand on his hip and striking a pose, then realizing it) What if I do?

~~ELDER BRAITHWAITE~~
It's true, then.

~~ELDER SHUMWAY~~
What?

~~ELDER BRAITHWAITE~~
I don't know if I even dare say it?

ELDER SHUMWAY
Go ahead, Elder Braithwaite. SAY IT!

ELDER BRAITHWAITE
You're an OSMOND!

END

~~ELDER SHUMWAY~~
What!?!?

~~ELDER BRAITHWAITE~~
~~It's okay. I LOVE Donny and Marie.~~

~~ELDER SHUMWAY~~
~~Braithwaite! It's Ethel Merman!~~

~~SHE CAN SING: LIKE NO ONE EVER SANG BEFORE.
AND SHE SINGS; CUTTING THROUGH ENTIRE ORCHESTRATIONS WITHOUT
A MIC
AND SHE SINGS: AND YOU CAN HEAR EVERY WORD BECAUSE HER
DICTION IS A SLAP IN THE FACE.
SHE'S ETHEL MERMAN AND SHE SINGS!~~

~~SHE CAN SING: SHE WAS OFTEN ON TV ON ED SULLIVAN OR CAROL
BURNETT
AND SHE SINGS. BUT I REMEMBER HER BEST ON THE LOVE BOAT
PLAYING COPHER'S MOM
AND SHE SINGS: AND THOUGH HER ACTING WAS MUCH BROADER THAN
THE SMALL SCREEN COULD EVER CONTAIN
SHE'S ETHEL MERMAN AND SHE SINGS.~~

~~EVERYONE WROTE SHOWS FOR HER
GERSHWIN AND PORTER ARE TWO
AND SHE STARRED IN THE MOVIES~~