



Dayenu: A Special Passover Reading for American Jews
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Had our ancestors only made the voyage to America,

DAYENU

Had they only endured hardships and made a new life for themselves and their descendants,

DAYENU

Had our country only offered us, a storm-tossed people, a respite and haven,

DAYENU

Had the United States only been the first country in history to give Jews citizenship,

DAYENU

Had America only given us Freedom of Speech and Assembly,

DAYENU

Had we only been guaranteed Freedom of Religion and the separation of church and state,

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Had the United States only struggled mightily for the abolishment of slavery,

DAYENU

Had the United States only enfranchised women to vote and hold public office.

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Had the United States only fought to destroy Nazism and its fascist supporters,

DAYENU

Had the United States only been the first country in the world to recognize the State of Israel,

DAYENU

Had the United States only remained a stalwart friend of the Jewish State,

DAYENU

Had the United States only struggled to remove the blight of Jim Crow laws and listen to the voice of freedom in our own time.

DAYENU

Had the youth of America only continued to believe in the promise of America

DAYENU

Had American Jews only worked to plant our traditions on these shores and build institutions of Jewish life and learning.

DAYENU

Had American Jews only taken on the responsibility of helping Jews around the world.

DAYENU

Would that American Jews reaffirm their devotion to Judaism in this land of freedom and opportunity and strive to sustain our ancient faith in this place from generation to generation.

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