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SAFIYA. Mum! I would love to marry Ali! I would love to be your daughter in law – but there are just so many problems.

MUM. Like what?

SAFIYA. Like I'm a slave. Like Sharon and Cassim own me. Like they won't sell me –

MUM. But Ali wants to buy your freedom.

SAFIYA. Yes, but they want more money than he'll ever be able to afford.

MUM. Then run away!

SAFIYA. I can't run away, there's Huma.

MUM. Make her Ali's sister in law.

SAFIYA. Yes but, oh! It's just all so complicated!

(ALI bursts in at the back of the auditorium with HUMA and the CHORUS.)

ALI. Safiya!

SAFIYA. Ali!

ALI. I've got to tell you something – you won't believe it!

SAFIYA. What is it?

ALI. I've found fifty dinars!

SAFIYA. Fifty dinars!?

ALI. Fifty dinars, Safiya! I can buy your freedom!

MUM. You can get married!

HUMA. You can be free!

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ALI. Its' true, Safiya. You can be free! Absolutely –

ALI, MUM
CHORUS.

FREE!!

(NUMBER. Suggest 'To be free' by Alan Menken from Aladdin.

At the end of the number, SHARON and CASSIM enter.)

SHARON. What's all this, singing and dancing? Cassim?

CASSIM. Yes, Sharon?

SHARON. Do you have any idea why our slaves and relations are singing and dancing in the street with the common people?

CHORUS
1 & 2.

We're not common!

SHARON. You're a lot more common than what I am, thank you very much.

CHORUS 3. Oooh, it's Lady Baba!

(CHORUS laugh.)

CHORUS 4. We're dancing because we're happy!

MUM. Because today is the day that Safiya becomes a free woman!

CASSIM. Says who?

ALI. Says fifty dinars.

SHARON. Where did you get fifty dinars?

CASSIM. Yes, where did you get fifty dinars?

SHARON. Shut up, Cassim.

CASSIM. Sorry, Sharon.

SAFIYA. What does it matter where he got it? He got it so that I can be free. So, here it is, Sharon, fifty dinars. **(Offers coin.)**

SHARON. **(looks at the coin for a moment)** No.

OTHERS. NO?

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SHARON. No.

CASSIM. But Sharon –

SHARON. Shut up, Cassim. What about Huma?

SAFIYA. Huma?

SHARON. Who pays for her?

SAFIYA. But –

SHARON. She's fifty dinars too.

SAFIYA. But you never said -

ALI. I'll get more money –

SHARON. What, from the money tree?

ALI. **(grabbing coin and offering it)** You can still release Safiya!

SAFIYA. No, Ali, no!

ALI. What?

SAFIYA. Not without Huma. I can't be free if she isn't free.

HUMA. But, Safiya, this is too important –

SAFIYA. No, Huma! I can't... I just can't.

HUMA. **(quietly)** OK.