

## *Fiddler on the Roof* Week 5 Address

Are you tired yet? We have one week left until break. You've all worked *extremely hard*. Please keep up the dedication for five more days, and then you can enjoy an extremely well-deserved break. Again, I want to thank you for the work you've put into this project to date. By the end of this week you should be able to feel extremely comfortable with how far we've come in just a few short weeks. If we had two weeks left following break, we'd be on the verge of a pretty good show. However, we'll have three weeks left. As a result, I'm cautiously watching you approach what can be a truly exceptional production. Remain vigilant!

Thank you to the actors, makeup crew, Mrs. Everitt, Mrs. Kornfeld, and Mrs. Kadian for helping to make Saturday's trailer shoot a success. Their work will help to further promote the show, and we're aiming for capacity houses! I also want to extend my additional thanks to Mr. Brody, Mrs. Everitt, and those who worked with the children's chorus during their lunch break on Saturday. It's very rare that I'm forced to miss a rehearsal, but I heard that things went extremely well. I took a red-eye flight to Kiev in order to procure human hair beards from men living in the village of Boyarka, Ukraine. Sadly, I obviously can't count on anyone except Chris Brody and Alex Long to do the job naturally. I'm only half joking, gentlemen. What happened to the beards you're supposed to be growing? In this case, true dedication truly shows.

Perhaps you've begun to truly, legitimately listen to this show's truths. The production continues to be one of the most highly-produced pieces of musical theatre in the high school, college, and community theatre circles. Its longevity speaks to its value. Its themes continue to resonate with audiences precisely because they're timeless. In an increasingly over-crowded, globally-connected, culturally-blended world, *Fiddler on the Roof* offers lessons and commentary on the path towards a better tomorrow. Yes, we're doing a high school musical, but there's more there than meets the eye. I hope you see, feel, sense, and realize that distinction. Don't just "do" shows. Think about them as you're a part of them. They want to genuinely be heard, especially by their principal carriers... you, the actors!

Well, it's late, and I still haven't actually sent you the schedule. As such, it's time for me to end my rambling. I'll simply point to a few remaining items. First, tickets. Mrs. Brody has informed me that we're experiencing significantly greater ticket sales than normal for this stage in our process. Please don't force your parents, grandma, and Aunt Delilah wind up sitting three rows from the back of the house in the left wing. You know Aunt Delilah's agitation with poor sightlines during theatrical performances. And grandma certainly doesn't deserve the ordeal of negotiating the steps up to the wing. Purchase your tickets today for the best possible seating. Here's the link: [https://www.showtix4u.com/index.php?submit=Search+for+Events&begin=1542968&current\\_client=105059100930546&event\\_id=2470](https://www.showtix4u.com/index.php?submit=Search+for+Events&begin=1542968&current_client=105059100930546&event_id=2470)

While I wish I would have missed rehearsal for something more joyous than a funeral, it was very nice to see so many old friends and acquaintances from my hometown. Made me think of our village of Anatevka. Community matters. The people in the community matter. The connections between those people matter. Good fences make good neighbors? Bah. NO, not *that* bah. See you tomorrow.

- Greene

**QUOTE OF THE WEEK:** *Chava: "The world is changing, Papa."*

**THOUGHTS FOR THE WEEK:** How much is the world actually changing? A former student once shared one of his college professor's comments with me. His professor had made the argument that while people were more knowledgeable nowadays, they weren't any more intelligent. His comments speak to our propensity for creative problem-solving, as well as our tendencies toward repeating mistakes. In a rapidly changing world, we require increasingly acute problem-solvers. We also need to be mindful of and learn from our past mistakes. Tradition? Yes *and* no.