

Bible Drama Scripts presents

WEAK LIKE OTHER MEN

By Patricia Souder

SYNOPSIS: Blinded by Delilah's beauty, Samson determines to make her his own. Delilah has no real interest in Samson until the Philistines offer her a large amount of money to learn the secret of Samson's strength. Delilah entices, pouts, and rages until Samson finally tells her the secret of his strength, thus revealing how lust and self-will weaken and defeat the strongest man who ever lived.

SETTING: Delilah's room in the Valley of Sorek in the land of the Philistines

CHARACTERS: SAMSON and DELILAH

PERFORMANCE TIME: 6-7 minutes.

PERFORMANCE NOTE: Characters say lines together when marked with a star.

TOPICS: Lust. Self-will. Relationships. Results of sin.

PERFORMANCE POSSIBILITIES: Teen discussion groups on the opposite sex. Marriage and premarital seminars. Men's, Women's, or Couples' events. Small groups.

BIBLE REFERENCE: Judges 16:4-31

PROPS: Leather bowstrings, ropes, and a loom or simulated loom to which Samson's hair is fastened.

<u>SAMSON</u> <u>DELILAH</u>

That Delilah! (Gestures toward Delilah.)

(To audience.) I am blinded by her beauty

And I WANT HER.

Like a honeybee steals nectar,

I SHALL HAVE HER.

(Looks away from Samson as if speaking to Philistine rulers.)

You say that macho, muscled Samson says he wants me?

Well, what if I don't want him?

After all, we're Philistines and . . .

(Pauses, then asks with surprise)

What's that you said?

Each of you will give me eleven hundred silver shekels . . .

If I seduce him into sharing the secret of his strength?

Am I a woman or not?

There's a weakness in each strong man . . .

And I'll find it.

(Turns toward Samson.)

(Looks longingly at Delilah.)

Dazzled by your beauty,

Oh, delightful, dear Delilah,

I am desperate to possess you.

Daytime dreams and nighttime visions

Torment my soul

With delusions that undo me.

Ah, delusions that undo you?
I'm enchanted by your choice of words.
(Flirtatiously.)

<u>SAMSON</u> <u>DELILAH</u>

And by your brawny, bulging biceps.

You're so strong, Samson.

No one is as strong as you.

Tell me, what's the secret of your strength?

Oh, desirable Delilah,

You admire me?

And you ask why I'm so strong?

Come a little closer and I'll tell you:

Tie me with seven raw leather bowstrings

And I'll be weak like other men.

(Yawns and closes eyes as if sleeping.)

(Snores.)

(Yawns and snaps bowstrings like thread.

Smiles a little, as if amused.)

Delilah, you play games with me.

(Moves a little closer.)

Weak like other men? (Quizzical look.)

Sleep well, my smitten suitor... (Pauses.)

And we'll see. (*Pretends to tie him.*)

(Excitedly, as if surprised.) Samson! Samson!

The Philistines are here!

ME?

Play games with you?

(Petulantly.)

You're the one who's playing games with me.

You've mocked me and made a fool of me.

(Angry.) You lied to me!

(Coyly.) If you loved me,

you'd tell me the secret of your strength.

Oh, delicious, dear Delilah,

Why do you care?

Why don't you just enjoy

My rippling masculinity?

<u>SAMSON</u> <u>DELILAH</u>

(Cocks head and looks away.)

(Sighs.) All right...

Come a little closer and I'll tell you:

(Moves a little closer.)

Tie me with new ropes, never used,

And I'll be weak like other men.

Weak like other men? (Smiles knowingly.)

Sleep well, my smitten suitor . . .

(Yawns and closes eyes as if asleep.)

And we'll see. (Pretends to tie with ropes.)

(Snores.)

(Excitedly, as if surprised.) Samson! Samson!

The Philistines are here!

(Awakens slower than before; realizes he's tied.

Breaks ropes with one forceful movement.)

(A little annoyed.) Delilah, you're playing games again.

(Indignant.) ME?

How dare YOU accuse ME of playing games?

You've mocked me again

And told me more lies.

(Pouts.) I don't think you care about me at all.

But darling, I do care . . .

Then prove it

By telling me the secret of your strength.

Oh, delirious, dear Delilah,

Why can't you be happy knowing

The strongest man in all the world

Wants YOU?

(Turns back to Samson, lifts head haughtily.)

(Sighs deeply.) All right...

Come a little closer and I'll tell you:

(Moves a little closer.)

<u>SAMSON</u> <u>DELILAH</u>

Weave my hair into the fabric on your loom.

And then I'll be weak like other men.

Weak like other men? (Laughs.)

Sleep well, my smitten suitor...

(Yawns and closes eyes as if asleep.)

And we'll see.

(Pretends to weave hair into loom.)

(Snores.)

(Excited, as if surprised.) Samson! The

Philistines are here!

(Awakens slower than before. Acts as if he wants to move head, but can't. Reaches hand back to feel hair. Yanks hair out with great effort. Shows pain on face. Angry.)

DELILAH, YOU'RE PLAYING GAMES AGAIN!

(Very angry.) ME?

You blame ME for EVERYTHING!

How can you say you love me

And then make fun of me THREE TIMES?

LIES, LIES, LIES.

All you do is lie.

You don't trust me;

You're using me,

And I WON'T HAVE IT!

(Turns cold shoulder and cries.)

Delilah, don't you understand?

I love you and I WANT YOU

Like a honeybee needs nectar.

Like a honeybee needs nectar?

But does the nectar need the honeybee?

Samson, if you love me,

You'll stop being so stubborn and

Tell me the secret of your strength.

<u>SAMSON</u> <u>DELILAH</u>

(Discouraged.)

God's the secret of my strength.

But what good is it to be so strong

When I can't have the woman I want?

Oh, Delilah, dearest despot,

I am devastated by you.

Your nagging and your whining

Drive me wild.

Yet I yearn and burn to have you,

With a passion so demanding

I could die! (Sighs deeply.)

So, just come a little closer . . .

And I'll tell you all my secrets:

Vows before my birth declared

I should never cut my hair.

If you shave it, all is severed;

Dear Delilah . . .

I'll be weak like other men!

Ah, Delilah . . .

Love is so blind.

(Yawns and closes eyes as if asleep.)

(Wakes very slowly. Reaches for hair.

Points to Delilah with anguished look.)

And she's found it!

You could if you didn't keep secrets!

(Moves a little closer.)

If I shave it, all is severed

And you'll really be as weak as other men?

Sensual Samson . . .

★ Lust is so blind.

Sleep well, O smitten suitor . . .

(Pretends to cut hair.)

There's a weakness in each strong man.

(Nods head. Raises fist in triumph.)

★ And I've found it!