

The Game

By Alan R. Hergert

Overview: Getting out of the stands and into the game isn't a new problem. Two soldiers from a familiar Biblical story offer insights into this dilemma.

Time: 4-5 minutes

Characters: Joe – common foot soldier from Israel's mighty army
Rudy – common foot soldier from Israel's mighty army

Props: 2 spears

Costumes: Modern casual clothes

Lighting: General lighting.

Sound: Two wireless lapel mics.

Scene opens with bench center stage with Joe seated motionless staring straight ahead over audience...

Rudy: *(entering stage right – crosses over to bench)* Hey Joe, what's going on?

Joe: *(stands to greet Rudy)* Not much, you know... *(shakes Rudy's hand)* Just sitting here waiting for the big guy to come out and do his thing *(pointing out over audience)* How 'bout you?

Rudy: Not much... *(both turn and sit)* Same ol', same ol'... Got a letter from the wife..

Joe: Oh, yeah, what did she say?

Rudy: Wants me to come home... The camel has been acting up again... Wants me to get a new one...

Joe: A new camel? On what we make... *(chuckles)* What is she thinking?

Rudy: I don't know...

Joe: What are you going to do?

Rudy: Don't know... The camel has seen its better days... I'll probably take it down to Akmad's and see what I can get for it as a trade in on a used one...

Joe: Akmad's Used Camel Emporium? You better be careful... My cousin Jezriah, the Levite, went down there and Akmad took him to the cleaners... He got him back though...

Rudy: What did he do?

Joe: He took a Sharpie and put a mark on Akmad's sacrifice the next week...
(*Both laugh.*)

So what kind of camel you looking for?

Rudy: Well... With the kids and all, I think we're ready to move up to a two humper...

Joe: Oh... Those are nice but can you afford the hay mileage?

Rudy: Yeah, Sarah just takes it down to the market on Wednesdays... And I'll use it to tow the boat on weekends... We should be able to handle that...

Joe: OK... When this is all over, we need to get out on your boat and do a little fishing...

Rudy: Yeah, if we ever get out of this valley... Say, how long have we been out here anyway?

Joe: I don't know... It's gotta be at least forty days...

Rudy: (*Stands – looks out over the audience*) Forty days of the same thing... over and over... (*deeper voice*) "This day I defy the ranks of Israel. Give me a man and let us fight each other"... blah, blah blah... Why doesn't Saul take care of this knuckle head?

Joe: (*Chuckle*) OK, hero... Why don't you take care of him?

Rudy: (*Turning back to Joe*) Maybe I will... (*Joe laughs harder – Stands*)

Joe: He's like over nine feet tall...

Rudy: So... (*Looking over audience again*)

Joe: (*chuckling*) So... You're like under nine feet tall...

Rudy: And your point?

Joe: He would crush you like an olive, man!

Rudy: I am so sick of sitting here on this bench everyday waiting for something to happen. I want to get in the game. I want a chance to show you what I could do...

Joe: Do? To the big guy?

Rudy: Yeah... I could do some heavy damage...

Joe: To what? His knee cap? (*Chuckles – Rudy turns and glares at Joe*) Hey... Here he comes... Sic'em, Tiger...

Rudy: He doesn't look so tough from here...

Joe: Yeah... We're like eight hundred cubits away... With the whole Israeli army around us...

Rudy: Just give me a crack at him...

Joe: Oh, here he goes again... "This day I defy the ranks of Israel. Blah, blah, blah..." *(Turns away and sits)*

Rudy: Sure... go ahead and sit down while your nation is being challenged...

Joe: I'm just playing it safe... Saul will figure something out then we'll be home free... *(Leans back looking at his finger nails)*

Rudy: Hey... what's going on? *(Joe jumps up – both lean forward looking out over the audience – hands above their eyes as if to shield the sun)*

Joe: Isn't that the shepherd boy, David? What's he doing?

Rudy: It looks like he's yelling something at the big guy! Something about God handing him over and cutting off the big guy's head...

BOTH: He is SO dead! *(Both cover their eyes with their hands... then peer between the fingers to see what's going on)*

Joe: Wow... He did it... He knocked him down...

Rudy: And he's not so big any more...

Joe: Yeah... I guess you could say he really lost his head... *(Both laugh...)*

Rudy: So... what do we do now?

Joe: I dunno... I guess maybe we should go plunder some Philistines...

Rudy: Oh... OK... You think I can pick up a camel? *(both walk off stage right)*

Joe: Sure... Why not?

Rudy: A two humper?

Joe: Sure... we'll find a two humper for you...

Fade to black.