

# **Sally**

**a biblical tale re-worked**

**by**

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**Cast:**

**HARRY – a crime boss**

**SALLY – his stepdaughter – good looking – preferably a dancer**

**JOHN – one of the crime boss’s men falsely accused of being a police informer**

**ABE            )**

**BEN            )**

**CHARLIE ) 3 of the crime boss’s soldiers**

**Props:**

A pumpkin or other head shaped vegetable or melon, weight 10 - 14 lbs, sewn into a white cloth with red paint on it to look like fresh blood, to be re-useable, with some more paint or dye which can go onto Sally’s face.

**This play is based on the biblical story of Salome (Sally).**

Harry is based on King Herod. John is based on John the Baptist.

The story is much shortened, the religious material is removed from it, and it is placed in a modern setting. It is, however, intended to have the same dramatic effect. That will depend upon how far the director is prepared to go and how far the actress playing Sally is prepared to go.

**Music:**

There may be many useful extracts from Richard Strauss’ opera “Salome”.

SALLY

*[Lights revealing a chair with arms and a small high table. A, B and C are tying and strapping John into the chair.]*

- John: You know I am innocent. I would never have turned police informer.
- A: You may have been framed, but the frame makes a pretty picture.
- B: You knew you should have given up when Sally started chasing you.
- C: Knocking back Sally was a pretty stupid thing to do.
- John: But I can't stand that woman. The last man she had bored her after a time and he ended up in the harbour.
- A: All you had to do was to keep her interest.
- B: They all feel the same in the dark.
- C: Anyway, you've been nicely framed now and you will never convince Harry.
- A: The only one who can convince Harry is his wife.
- B: The only one who can convince Harriet is her daughter.
- C: I don't think Harry likes his stepdaughter either, but he is quite gone on Harriet.
- John: If I've been framed, why aren't I now somewhere off a bush country track with a bullet in me?
- B: Sally wanted you brought here. This may still be your last chance.

*[Enter Sally.]*

Sally: OK boys. Thanks.

*[A, B and C leave.]*

- John: Why did you frame me?
- Sally: Because I am fed up with the contempt you kept showing me.
- John: I wasn't showing contempt. It did not seem a good idea to get involved with the boss's daughter, well stepdaughter.
- Sally: Don't give me that. Harry would not have minded.

John: Why did you pick on me?

Sally: I saw your big strong body, your clear eyes, your confident walk, and your steady loyalty to Harry and your love of your wife. I wanted your eyes to look on me. I wanted your lips to caress me.

John: But any of the boys would have gone for you. Any of them would have been happy to marry you. They would have been loyal husbands.

Sally: They would not have dared to be anything else. But you weren't interested. Aren't I good looking enough for you?

John: You are OK, but it is no crime that you just did not appeal to me.

Sally: Give me your love and live.

John: I would rather keep my self-respect and die.

Sally: *[Getting angry]* Don't I have a great body?

*[Directors and actresses discretion – displays herself in a seductive way – exposes her breasts – or pulls off her dress to panties and bra. Dances around him.]*

John: But it is all a bit late now. You framed me well. Harry will want to get rid of me. He will never trust me again.

Sally: Can't you get it through your thick head. I am going to have you. Just say that you will be totally mine that you will get rid of the cow you are married to, and that you will never look at another woman and I can still save you.

*[Sally goes up to him and attempts to kiss him. He turns his head away so that she can't kiss him.]*

Sally: *[Furious]* I ... will ... kiss ... your ... lips. *[With great emphasis.]*

John: You rotten bitch. I had everything going for me. I was Harry's right hand man. I would probably have succeeded him. You have wrecked it all just to get me into bed with you.

Sally: No one can reject me. I will kiss your lips.

*[Furiously putting her dress back on or covering her breasts.]* Harry!

*[Enter Harry, A, B and C.]*

Sally: I can't find out anything more from this bastard. He's all yours.

*[A, B and C go to the chair and start to drag the chair and John from the stage.]*

Sally: *[Very sweetly to Harry.]* Harry, can you do your little girl a great favour?

Harry: Sure, anything within reason.

Sally: Can I have his head?

Harry: That is not necessary, besides cutting off a head makes a lot of blood and mess.

Sally: *[To A, B and C]* Hold him under a shower while you are doing it. Use a saw or a blunt knife as an example to others.

*[Harry laughs appreciatively.]*

Harry: OK boys. Whatever the lady wants.

Sally: *[To John as he leaves the stage]* I will kiss your lips.

*[The stage darkens to suggest the passage of time. The stage lights up again. A, B and C enter. A is carrying a tray with what appears to be the head on it covered with a cloth or a teatowel stained with blood. A puts it on the small table.]*

B: He did not give us any trouble. All he said was – “Boy, you know I’m innocent, but if you have to do it, you have to do it.”

Harry: What are you going to do with the head now?

Sally: I will kiss his lips.

Harry: *[Looking shocked.]* That sounds pretty disgusting.

*[Sally kneels alongside the table so the audience sees her face but not the head as she lifts the towel back off the face but not the whole head. Sally looks at the head in triumph.]*

Sally: I will kiss your lips.

*[She leans forward and appears to kiss the lips on the head.]*

Harry: That’s disgusting. Stop it.

*[Sally lifts her face from the severed head. Her face is now smeared with blood. She ignores Harry. She is looking at the head.]*

Sally: You should have loved me when you had the opportunity. You should not have rejected me.

*[She again leans forward and kisses the head.]*

Harry:           *[Outraged.]* Stop that. No woman should do that.

Sally:           *[Ignoring Harry]* I will kiss your lips.

Harry:           Stop that at once.

*[Sally ignores him and lifts up the head with her hands on each side of the towel and presses the head to her face.]*

Harry:           I told you to stop that. Put that head down. Get up. This is the most hideous thing I have ever seen.

Sally ignores him.

Harry:           *[To A, B and C]* Kill that woman.

*[A, B and C gather around her obscuring her from the audience and appear to bash her to death.]*

*[Lights]*