

# "RUTH and BOAZ"

## CHARACTER PUPPETS

1. Narrator 1 and Narrator 2
2. Naomi
3. Ruth
4. Orpah
5. Boaz
6. Reapers (2) man and woman
7. Kinsman
8. Elders – Voice on Microphone

## SETTING and Props

- #1 Scene: MOAB
- #2 Barley Fields Daytime with Reapers
- #3 Scene: Naomi's Home
- #4 Scene: Barley Fields at Night
- #5 Scene: Gate and City, Elders 10 (drawn)
- Prop - SIGN "END OF BARLEY and WHEAT HARVEST"
- Prop – Barley Heap
- Prop – Table for Naomi's home

## BEGIN PUPPET SKIT

**ENTRANCE MUSIC:** So Beautiful 30 sec (Children's Orchestra)

**ENTER NARRATOR**

**NO SCENE YET**

**NARRATOR 1:**

Shalom my friends! This is a beautiful love story of loyalty and faithfulness between a lonely widow and her faithful daughter-in-law and a kinsman redeemer. Do you have your ears on? Here we go...

**ENTER Narrator 2 – POP UP**

**Narrator 2:**

Hey, wait, wait my friend!!!!!! What is a kinsman redeemer? I don't know what that is!

**NARRATOR 1:**

Oh, well don't worry my friend, I will tell you then! **PAUSE...**

A kinsman redeemer is when a person is not able to pay their debt, the person's relative (called a kinsman), will pay (or redeem) the debt for them! Do you understand now?

**Narrator 2:**

**(Shake head yes)**

Yes, thank you. Now, I understand. Oh, and yes I have my ears on and ready to listen. See you later!

**EXIT Narrator 2**

**NARRATOR 1:**

Bye, bye, my friend!

**PAUSE FOR A MOMENT.....**

Now, where were we...Oh yes...In the time of the judges there was a man from Bethlehem, named Elimelech. He moved with his wife, Naomi, and their two sons to the fields of Moab because there was a famine in the land of Judah.

Naomi heard that Yahweh visited His people in the fields of Moab to give them food. After living in Moab for a while, Naomi's husband died and his sons found wives, named Orpah and Ruth. They lived there about 10 years and then the sons also died.

Naomi was heartbroken because her husband and both her sons had died. So she decided to return to the land of Judah.

**EXIT Narrator**

**SCENE: #1 MOAB - ENTER Naomi, Orpah and Ruth -  
OPEN CURTAIN**

**Naomi:**

**(Turn to Orpah and Ruth)**

My Daughters, go back home and return to your mother's house. May YAHWEH deal kindly with you, as you have done with me and may YAHWEH grant you to find rest, each in the house of your husband.

**(Kiss Orpah and Ruth) (Orpah and Ruth weep loudly)**

**ORPAH:**

We will return to Judah with you, Naomi... to your people.

**NAOMI:**

No, Turn back, my daughters. Why should you go with me?

Turn back, my daughters, go. I am too old to belong to a husband and will not have any sons for you.

It is harder for me than for you, for the hand of YAHWEH has gone out against me.

**(Orpah and Ruth weep loudly again)**

**MUSIC: DESPAIR 11\_59 (Hopes & Dreams)**

**SOUND EFFECT: Loud Crying**

ORPAH:

**(Orpah kiss Naomi, turn back and walk away) –**

Goodbye mother, goodbye Ruth.

**EXIT ORPAH**

**Ruth hold tight to Naomi**

NAOMI:

Goodbye Orpah. See Ruth, your sister-in-law has turned back to her people, and to her gods. You go also.

RUTH:

Oh Naomi, do not beg me to leave you. Where you go, I will go. Where you stay, I will stay.

Your people will be my people, and your Elohim my Elohim. Where you die, I will die, and there I will be buried.

May YAHWEH do to me, and more so, if anything but death part you and me.

**EXIT NAOMI and RUTH**

**CLOSE CURTAIN**

**SCENE CHANGE – #2 Barley Fields Daytime with Reapers**

**OPEN CURTAIN**

**SOUND EFFECT: REAPERS IN FIELD**

**ENTER Narrator, NAOMI and RUTH and Reapers**

**(Narrator on far left, Naomi/Ruth left, Reapers far right with backs to Naomi/Ruth & pretend to be working in field)**

NARRATOR 2:

Naomi and Ruth returned to Bethlehem at the beginning of the barley harvest. Naomi has a kinsman redeemer named Boaz. He has fields of barley that are ready to be harvested and his workers, the reapers, are busy in the field gathering the barley into sheaves. Ruth wants to gather the barley left over from the reapers.

**EXIT Narrator**

RUTH:

**(Turn to Naomi)**

Naomi, let me now go to the field and glean among the grain after him in whose sight I shall find favor.

NAOMI:

Okay Go, my daughter. **(EXIT NAOMI)**

**Ruth walk a few steps toward reapers, but stay distance and pretend to glean edge of field**

**ENTER BOAZ – pop up near your Reapers**

**BOAZ:**

**(To Reapers)**

Shalom! YAHWEH be with you.

**REAPERS:**

**(Look up to Boaz)**

Shalom! YAHWEH bless you.

**BOAZ:**

**(Look over to Ruth and say Hmmm, Say To Reapers)**

Whose is this young woman?

**Man REAPER:**

She is a young woman from Moab who came with Naomi.

**RUTH:**

**(Look up and over at Boaz)**

Please let me glean, and I will gather among the sheaves of barley after the reapers.

**Man REAPER:**

**(say to Boaz)**

She has been here since this morning.

**BOAZ:**

**(To Ruth)**

Daughter, do not go to glean another field, and do not pass through this one. Stay close to my young women. You reap the field they reap in. I have commanded my men not to touch you. When you are thirsty, you may go to the vessels and drink.

**RUTH:**

**(Fall on face and bow to earth toward Boaz)**

Why have I found grace in your eyes, that you notice me? I am a foreigner.

**BOAZ:**

**(To Ruth)**

I have heard about everything you have done for your mother-in-law after the death of your husband. You left your father and your mother, and the land of your birth, and came to a people you did not know.

May YAHWEH repay your work, and your wages will be complete from YAHWEH the Elohim of Israel, under whose wings you have come to take refuge.

RUTH:

**(To Boaz)**

Let me find grace in your eyes, my master. You have brought me comfort.

BOAZ:

**(To Ruth)**

At mealtime come here, and you eat with us.

**EXIT RUTH, BOAZ and REAPERS**

**ENTER Narrators**

NARRATOR 1:

Well, everything is going great for Ruth! She enjoyed a meal with Boaz and the reapers and after eating she went back into the field to glean more. When evening came, she had gleaned enough to take home and share with Naomi.

Narrator 2:

In the meantime, Boaz told his young men that Ruth could glean between the sheaves and they were not to make her ashamed.

**EXIT NARRATORS**

**CLOSE CURTAIN**

**CHANGE SCENE – #3 Naomi's Home with Table Prop – SIGN: In Naomi's home**

**OPEN CURTAIN**

**ENTER NAOMI and RUTH**

NAOMI:

Ruth, where have you gleaned today? May he who noticed you be blessed.

RUTH:

The name of the man I have worked with today is Boaz.

NAOMI:

Oh Blessed is he of YAHWEH. He has not forgotten to be kind. Ruth, Boaz is one of our kinsmen redeemers.

RUTH:

Naomi, He told me to stay close to his young men until they have completed his whole harvest.

NAOMI:

It is good my daughter, that you go out with his young women, so the men in other fields cannot attack you.

**CLOSE CURTAIN – HOLD UP SIGN and say "END OF BARLEY and WHEAT HARVEST"**

**MUSIC: HAPPY MUSIC Symmetry (Hopes & Dreams)**

**SAME SCENE: Naomi and Ruth in Naomi's home – NO TABLE**

**OPEN CURTAIN**

**NAOMI:**

My daughter, Boaz is of our kindred, with whose young women you have been working with. He is winnowing the threshing floor of barley tonight.

**Go** down to the threshing floor, but do not let yourself be known to the man until he has finished eating and drinking.

**When** he lies down, go to him, uncover his feet, and lie down.

**RUTH:**

All that you say, I will do.

**CLOSE CURTAIN – EXIT Ruth and Naomi**

**Change Scene – #4 Barley Heap Prop and Fields at Night**

**OPEN CURTAIN**

**ENTER BOAZ and Reapers**

**SOUND EFFECT: PEOPLE IN FESTIVITY**

**BOAZ:**

Oye! I have eaten and drank and now I will go and lie down.

**(GO lie down at end of Barley Heap – start snoring)**

**ENTER RUTH**

**SOUND EFFECT: SOMEONE TIPTOEING**

**(RUTH – Creep over slowly and quietly to Boaz and lie down at his feet)**

**BOAZ:**

**(Wake suddenly and sit up and look at Ruth at feet)**

Who are you?

**RUTH:**

I am your handmaid Ruth, spread your skirt over your handmaid, for you are a kinsman redeemer.

**BOAZ:**

Blessed be you of YAHWEH, my daughter. You have dealt more kindly at the latter end than at the beginning. You have not to go after the young men, either poor or rich.

Now, my daughter, do not fear. My people know that you are a woman of virtue and it is true that I am a kinsman redeemer.

There is another redeemer that is closer to you than I. Stay tonight, and in the morning, we will see if he redeems you. And if he does not want to redeem you, as YAHWEH lives, then I will redeem you. Lie down until the morning.

**CLOSE CURTAIN – Exit all Puppets**

**ENTER Narrators - NO SCENE but prepare next scene**

**NARRATOR 1:**

Now.... Ruth remained at Boaz' feet until morning. He took her covering and gave her some barley to take back to her mother-in-law, Naomi.

**NARRATOR 2:**

When Ruth arrived in the city she told Naomi all that Boaz had done for her. Naomi told Ruth to wait for Boaz, to see who will become her kinsman redeemer.

**Exit Narrators**

**CHANGE SCENE** – #5 Gate and City, Elders 10 (drawn)

**OPEN CURTAIN**

**ENTER BOAZ, KINSMAN**

**SOUND EFFECT: MEN IN MEETING**

**BOAZ:**

**(Go up to gate, enter through and go to Elders)**

**KINSMAN:**

**(To Boaz)**

Shalom, Boaz.

**BOAZ:**

**(To Kinsman)**

Shalom brother. Naomi, has returned from the fields of Moab and she is going to sell a portion of the field that belonged to our brother, Elimelech.

I say before the elders of my people, if you will redeem, redeem. But if you do not redeem, tell me. Because there is no one besides you to redeem, and I have the right after you.

**KINSMAN:**

Okay, I will redeem it.

**BOAZ:**

**(To Kinsman)**

Hold on there! If you buy the field from Naomi, you have also bought from Ruth.

**KINSMAN:**

**(To Boaz)**

Boaz, I cannot redeem for myself, or I will ruin my own inheritance. I give you the right to redeem for yourself.

**ENTER Narrator (pop up in corner)**

**NARRATOR 2:**

**(FACE AUDIENCE and speak in whisper tone)**

**Pssst...** In Israel, To confirm every matter for redemption, a man will draw off his sandal and give it to his neighbor.

**EXIT Narrator**

**KINSMAN:**

**(To Boaz)**

Boaz, buy it for yourself. I will remove my sandal.

**Boaz:**

**(Face the elders)**

Elders, You are witnesses today. I have bought all that belonged to my brother, Elimelech and his sons, from Naomi and Ruth. I have also bought myself a wife, to raise up the name of her husband who died over his inheritance.

**Elders: VOICE ON MICROPHONE**

We are witnesses. May YAHWEH make the woman who is coming into your house to be as Rachel and as Leah, who built the house of Israel. May you do worthily in Ephratah, and proclaim the Name in Bethlehem. **Let** your house be as the house of Pharez, whom Tamar bore to Judah, of the Seed which YAHWEH shall give to you of this young woman.

**EXIT ALL PUPPETS – CLOSE CURTAIN**

**NO SCENE**

**ENTER Narrators**

**NARRATOR 1:**

Well,..... now Boaz took Ruth and she became his wife and they had a son.

Naomi became the baby's nurse and the neighbor women gave him a name called Obed. He was the father of Jesse, who was the father of King David! Boaz and Ruth were the great grandparents of David.

Ruth was not selfish. She loved her mother-in-law so much and did not want to leave her all alone. Yahweh rewarded Ruth's loyalty to Naomi and gave her a strong husband and a son.

**NARRATOR 2:**

Oh, and do you know that their son is in the same family bloodline of Yahshua, our Messiah?! Wow! That is really neat!

So remember my friends, to always put Yahweh and others first before yourself and Yahweh will bring many blessings upon you!

Shalom,

EXIT EXIT MUSIC Airdance (Hopes & Dreams)