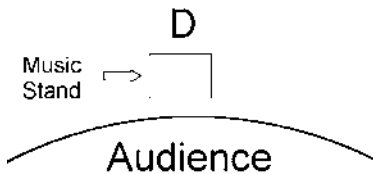


CROSSPOINT

S C R I P T S E R V I C E



Handbell Solos

- Synopsis:** A member of the handbell choir complains about the exclusiveness of the other members, and resolves to go it alone with just F#.
- Topics:** Unity, Teamwork, Body Life, Relationships, Church.
- Time:** 3 minutes.
- Characters:** Darlene- insecure, stuffy, and opinionated.
- Props:** Large Handbell, Small Handbell, White gloves, Music stand.

direction script

Author's Note: Scene opens on Darlene facing the crowd with a handbell and a music stand.

Blocking: Darlene moves toward the audience for her demonstration. She can even go right up close to people for this paragraph.

1 minute mark

Author's Note: This section marks a division. Up til now she's been trying to put a good face on things. But from now to the end, she grows increasingly cynical and frustrated.

Hi. I'm Darlene. And I'm in the handbell choir. I'm F#, at least most of the time. I also cover the high G, but we don't often have songs that go up that high.

I've been in the handbell choir for almost a year now. Took me a long time to get the hang of it. Sure, it looks easy from out there. But there's a lot of technique to a good stroke. See when I first started, it sounded like this. (Demonstrates the sound). But now, after a lot of work, it sounds like this. (Sounds exactly the same) See what I mean?

So I hope to be able to work up to getting a 3rd bell. You get a third bell when you've been around a long time. A few even have 4 bells to their name. I just have this F#. (Demonstrates again) It has a very nice tone, though don't you think? I love being in the choir. Everyone has their place, and each person does their part. Me, I'm F#. That's my job. And everybody counts on me to be F#. If I'm not there, you should see the hole it leaves...

Actually, it's not that big of a hole because... well, F#s don't come along as often as some of the other notes like C or maybe E. Those are the prime notes that are really hard to get. You know, come to think of it, I think maybe our director is avoiding F#. Seems like she always picks songs without F#s. I wonder if she isn't intentionally

Handbell Solos

direction script



Musical Idea:

“Now let me say I’m the kind of guy who wants to do it all myself...”

So goes Steven Curtis Chapman’s “Declaration of Dependence” from his Declaration CD (Sparrow, 2001). It would be a great match with this sketch.



Blocking: Darlene moves around the stage actively as she muses. She’s rambling back and forth in agitation.

2 minute mark



Author’s Note: *If you ever saw the old Steve Martin movie, “The Jerk” this should sound familiar. She can even begin to gather up her few things and start moving off-stage as she finishes the last paragraph.*

Devotional Thought:

The point of this sketch should be clear without ever having to say it. It really needs no explanation. But it’s hard to put into practice. Many times it would seem easier to just do everything ourselves and not rely on or need others. What are some of the signs of being a team player vs. being a loner? In which role are you most comfortable? Why do think that’s the case? What would it take for you to change?

avoiding me... That would be just like her. And she probably thinks I don’t notice.

You know, to tell you the truth, I’m a bit fed up with the handbell choir. As hard as I try, I can’t seem to break into the inner circle. It’s a very subtle thing, but I think they’re keeping me out on purpose. I don’t think they want to give up any of the prime bells. So they leave me with F#.

Which is fine, really. I happen to really like F#. In fact, I’ve never heard a nicer F# than this bell right here. So as far as I’m concerned, I’ll just stick with it. I mean, who really needs the rest of ‘em anyway? After all, if you want a note played right, sometimes you just have to play it yourself.

Wait, I’ve got it! Of course! Handbell Solos! I could do Handbell Solos. It could be a whole new thing. I could travel to other churches. Do concerts in the park. Actually it would be sort of duet. Cause I do have 2 notes.

All I need is this F#. That’s all I need. And this high G. The F# and the high G. That’s all I need. And this music stand. The F#, the high G, and the music stand. That’s all I need. And maybe these gloves. That’s all I need. Why, I could do a lot with these. I bet I could find a lot of songs with these 2 notes. And if I practiced and worked hard, who knows what could happen? That way I’ll never have to wait for other people to come in at the right time. I’ll never have to cover for other people’s mistakes. I’ll just do my own thing. Yep. Just me and F#. That’s all I need.

Lights Out

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Date Performed: _____

Actors Used: _____
