

## ADAM'S RIB

**Amanda:** Adam, don't you want to talk to me? Well, what is it? Did I go too far? If you think I did, then I'm sorry. Well, can't I apologize. Didn't you ever go too far?

**Adam:** Once.

**Amanda:** Now Adam, if I'm in the wrong, I want to make it right, but you're making a mountain out of something that isn't even an anthill, let alone a molehill. A hill of beans...

**Adam:** Excuse me, may I say just one thing?

**Amanda:** Of course.

**Adam:** Save your eloquence for the jury.

**Amanda:** Adam, please, forgive me.

**Adam:** What for?

**Amanda:** For whatever it is that's upset you.

**Adam:** Oh, you don't know what it is?

**Amanda:** Not exactly, no.

**Adam:** That's just my point.

**Amanda:** What point?

**Adam:** We've been close, but we've never been this close, and I want to tell you I see something in you I've never seen before, and I don't like it. As a matter of fact, I hate it.

**Amanda:** Go ahead.

**Adam:** Contempt for the law, that's what you've got. It's a spreading disease. You think the law is something you can get over or get under or get around or just plain flaunt. You start with that, and you wind up in the...well, look at us. The law is the law, whether it's good or bad! If it's bad, change it, don't bust it wide open. You start with one law. Then pretty soon it's all laws. Pretty soon it's everything. Then it's me. You got no respect for me, have you?

**Amanda:** Not at the moment, no.

**Adam:** Answer me one question, will you? What is marriage? Tell me that.

**Amanda:** You tell me.

**Adam:** I will tell you. It's a contract. It's the law. Are you going to outsmart that the way you've outsmarted all other laws? That's very clever. You've outsmarted yourself, you've outsmarted me and everything. You get yourself set on some dimwitted cause and you go ahead regardless! You don't care what it does to me or to you or to anybody and you don't care what people watching think of us. I'll tell you what they think of us. They think we're uncivilized nuts! Uncivilized! Just what blow you struck for women's rights or what have you I am sure I don't know, but you certainly have fouled us up beyond all recognition. You've split us right down the middle.

**Amanda:** How? Just how?

**Adam:** I've done it all the way I said I would. I'm sick of this health, richer, poorer, better or worse. This is too worse. This is basic. I'm old fashioned. I like two sexes! And another thing, I don't like being married to what is known as a "new woman." I want a wife, not a competitor. Competitor! If you wanna be a big he-woman, go and be it, but not with me.

**Amanda:** You're not gonna solve anything by running away! Where are you going? Why don't you stand still and have it out? Where are you going?

**Adam:** Because I don't want to.

**Amanda:** Adam, please. I've said all the wrong things. I don't know what's the matter with me. But you've said...

**Adam:** No, I haven't. I've said everything I meant.

**Amanda:** Adam.

**Adam:** What?

**Amanda:** Don't you dare slam that door.

**Adam:**  
All right.

**ADAM'S RIB (2)**

Adam  
What is it?

Amanda  
I was just remembering when you were in law school...how you always piled up in bed to study.

Adam  
We didn't have any chairs.

Amanda  
True. We were a little short on furniture.

Adam  
As I remember, we started married life with a stereo and a bed.

Amanda  
It was enough.

Adam  
Mm. You smell good, Counselor.

Adam  
I know what you're up to.

Amanda  
Do you?

Adam  
You want to weaken me, so I won't be any good in court.

Amanda  
A regular Delilah.

Adam  
Weaken away.

Amanda  
Sure you want to risk it?

Adam  
I've got hair to spare.

Amanda  
We'll see.