

# STRANGE BUT TRUE

## Episode 6: *Unlikely Heroes*

**The Bible –  
Amazing chronicle of history?  
Or a screenplay for an outrageously  
unbelievable “B” movie?  
People have diverse opinions...**

I myself do not believe that the Torah is any more or less the revealed Word of God than are Dante’s *Commedia*, Shakespeare’s *King Lear*, or Tolstoy’s novels, all works of comparable literary sublimity.

~ *Harold Bloom*

God is no saint, strange to say. Much that the Bible says about him is rarely preached from the pulpit because, examined too closely, it becomes a scandal.

~ *Jack Miles*

I’m up for a scandal or two.

~ *Bruxy Cavey*

In the “world-turned-upside-down” theme employed in Judges, many customs or everyday actions are reversed – such as a woman offering a man hospitality when her husband is not around. And, of course, murdering a guest is never a part of the protocol of hospitality either.

~ *Craig S. Keener*

It is clear from the Hebrew text that Jael kills her guest by driving the tent peg through his mouth while he sleeps, severing his spinal column, leaving him to die a convulsive death.

~ *Women’s Bible Commentary*

Too much information?

~ *Bruxy Cavey*

The biblical authors understood that ordinary men and women are not plaster saints. Real life includes moments of passion and pain, sin and scandal, just like the ones that we find in the forbidden and forgotten texts of the Bible.

~ *Jonathan Kirsch*

**Perhaps the Bible is filled with stories that are...  
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