

A black, scribbled, and textured mass representing Samson's long hair, located at the top left of the image.A blue silhouette of a muscular man, Samson, shown from the back. He is wearing a yellow singlet and has a black chain with a padlock around his waist.

MUSCLE-BOUND

THE SAMSON SAGA

SEPTEMBER 2021

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THE
QUEEN'S
GAMBIT



“They shouldn’t play chess, you know. They’re like beginners. They lose every single game against a man. There isn’t a woman player in the world I can’t give knight-odds to and still beat.”

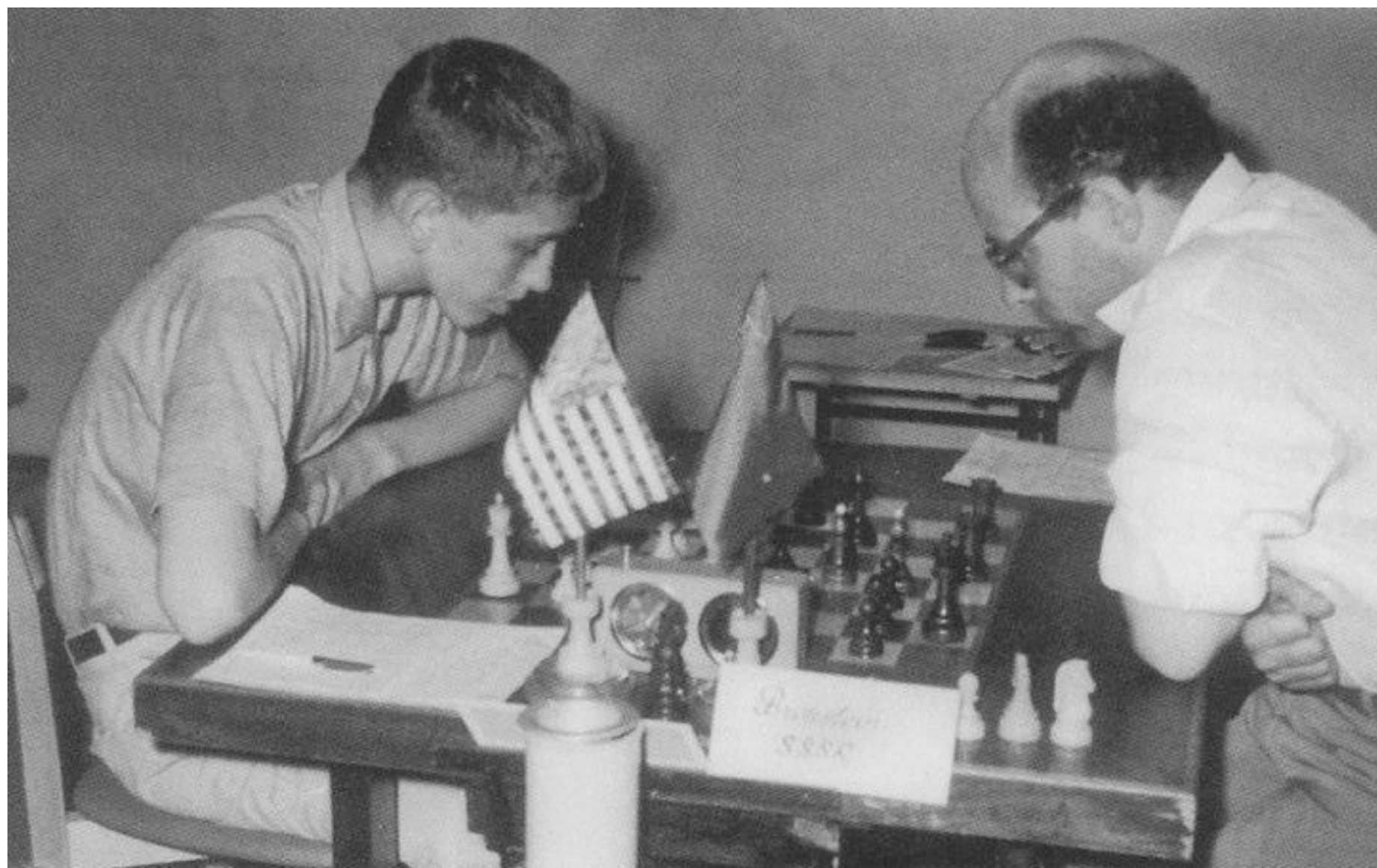
(Bobby Fischer, as quoted in Ralph Ginzburg’s article *Portrait of a Genius as a Young Chess Master*, harpers.org, January 1962)











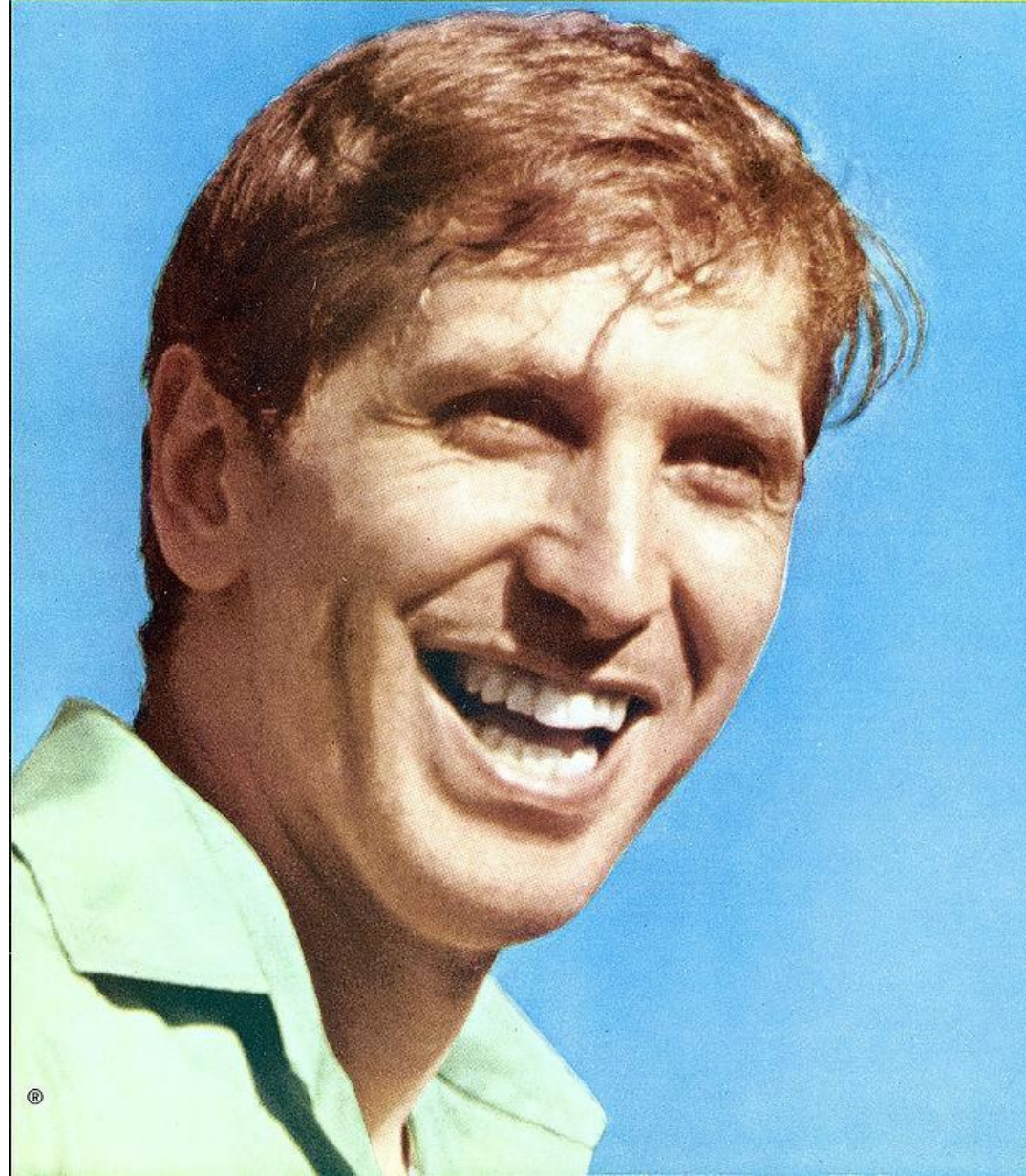


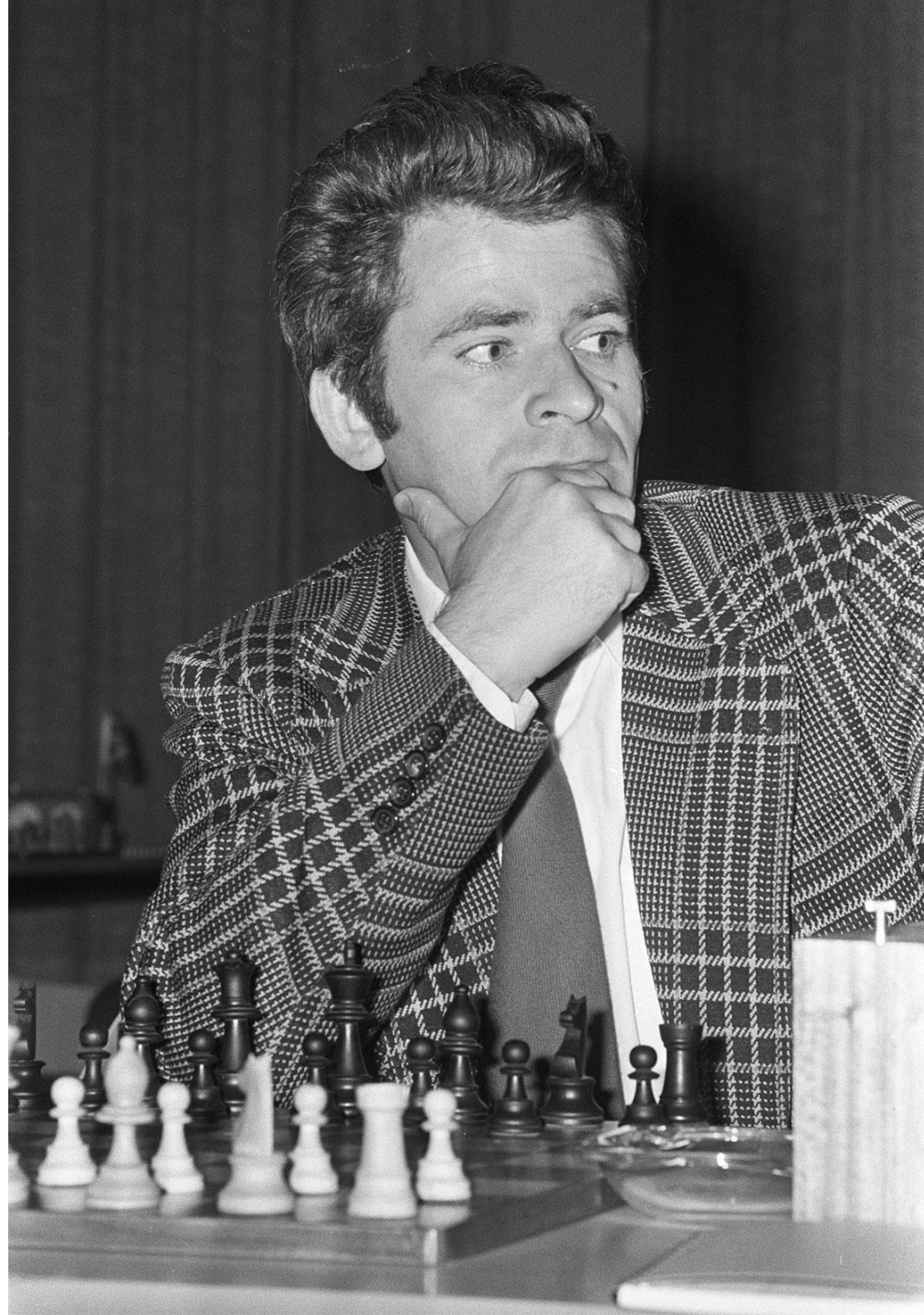


Sports Illustrated

AUGUST 14, 1972 60 CENTS

BOBBY'S CHESSBOARD MASTERY















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THE SAMSON SAGA

SEPTEMBER 2021

BOUND BY FATE

JUDGES 13
SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



Judges 13:1 (ESV): “And the people of Israel again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, so the LORD gave them into the hand of the Philistines for forty years.”

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Judges 17:6 (ESV): “In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”

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Judges 13:2-23 (ESV): “There was a certain man of Zorah, of the tribe of the Danites, whose name was Manoah. And his wife was barren and had no children. **3** And the angel of the LORD appeared to the woman and said to her, ‘Behold, you are barren and have not borne children, but you shall conceive and bear a son. **4** Therefore be careful and drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, **5** for behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. No razor shall come upon his head, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb, and he shall begin to save Israel from the hand of the Philistines.’...”

BQUND BY FATE



“...6 Then the woman came and told her husband, ‘A man of God came to me, and his appearance was like the appearance of the angel of God, very awesome. I did not ask him where he was from, and he did not tell me his name, 7 but he said to me, “Behold, you shall conceive and bear a son. So then drink no wine or strong drink, and eat nothing unclean, for the child shall be a Nazirite to God from the womb to the day of his death.”’ 8 Then Manoah prayed to the LORD and said, ‘O Lord, please let the man of God whom you sent come again to us and teach us what we are to do with the child who will be born.’...”

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“...**9** And God listened to the voice of Manoah, and the angel of God came again to the woman as she sat in the field. But Manoah her husband was not with her. **10** So the woman ran quickly and told her husband, ‘Behold, the man who came to me the other day has appeared to me.’ **11** And Manoah arose and went after his wife and came to the man and said to him, ‘Are you the man who spoke to this woman?’ And he said, ‘I am.’ **12** And Manoah said, ‘Now when your words come true, what is to be the child’s manner of life, and what is his mission?’...”

BQUND BY FATE



“...**13** And the angel of the LORD said to Manoah, ‘Of all that I said to the woman let her be careful. **14** She may not eat of anything that comes from the vine, neither let her drink wine or strong drink, or eat any unclean thing. All that I commanded her let her observe.’ **15** Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, ‘Please let us detain you and prepare a young goat for you.’ **16** And the angel of the LORD said to Manoah, ‘If you detain me, I will not eat of your food. But if you prepare a burnt offering, then offer it to the LORD.’ (For Manoah did not know that he was the angel of the LORD.)...”

BOUND BY FATE



“...**17** And Manoah said to the angel of the LORD, ‘What is your name, so that, when your words come true, we may honor you?’ **18** And the angel of the LORD said to him, ‘Why do you ask my name, seeing it is wonderful?’ **19** So Manoah took the young goat with the grain offering, and offered it on the rock to the LORD, to the one who works wonders, and Manoah and his wife were watching. **20** And when the flame went up toward heaven from the altar, the angel of the LORD went up in the flame of the altar. Now Manoah and his wife were watching, and they fell on their faces to the ground....”

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“...**21** The angel of the LORD appeared no more to Manoah and to his wife. Then Manoah knew that he was the angel of the LORD. **22** And Manoah said to his wife, ‘We shall surely die, for we have seen God.’ **23** But his wife said to him, ‘If the LORD had meant to kill us, he would not have accepted a burnt offering and a grain offering at our hands, or shown us all these things, or now announced to us such things as these.’”

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Numbers 6:1-5 (ESV): “And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, **2** ‘Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, when either a man or a woman makes a special vow, the vow of a Nazirite, to separate himself to the LORD, **3** he shall separate himself from wine and strong drink. He shall drink no vinegar made from wine or strong drink and shall not drink any juice of grapes or eat grapes, fresh or dried...”

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“...4 All the days of his separation he shall eat nothing that is produced by the grapevine, not even the seeds or the skins. 5 All the days of his vow of separation, no razor shall touch his head. Until the time is completed for which he separates himself to the LORD, he shall be holy. He shall let the locks of hair of his head grow long.”

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JUDGES 13
SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



GOD CALLS US TO PLAY

CHECKERS

WHILE WE INSIST UPON PLAYING

CHESS.

MAIN POINT



Luke 1:31 (ESV): “Behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.”

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Acts 9:6 (ESV): “But rise and enter the city,
and you will be told what you are to do.”

BQUND BY FATE



Proverbs 3:5-6 (ESV): “In all your ways
acknowledge him, and he will make
straight your paths.”

BQUND BY FATE



1 Thessalonians 4:11 (ESV): “Now concerning brotherly love you have no need for anyone to write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, **10** for that indeed is what you are doing to all the brothers throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers, to do this more and more, **11** and to aspire to live quietly, and to mind your own affairs, and to work with your hands, as we instructed you.”

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Ephesians 6:4 (ESV): “Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord.”

BQUND BY FATE



Judges 13:24-25 (ESV): “And the woman bore a son and called his name Samson. And the young man grew, and the LORD blessed him. 25 And the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him in Mahaneh-dan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.”

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JUDGES 13
SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



LIVE

FAITHFULLY,

NOT

FATEFULLY.

APPLICATION



2 Thessalonians 1:11 (NIV): “With this in mind, we constantly pray for you, that our God may make you worthy of his calling, and that by his power he may bring to fruition your every desire for goodness and your every deed prompted by faith.”

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JUDGES 13
SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



A stylized illustration of a muscular man, Samson, in a blue silhouette. He has long, black, wavy hair and is wearing a yellow singlet. A thick black chain is wrapped around his waist with a padlock. The background is white.

MUSCLE-BOUND

THE SAMSON SAGA

NEXT WEEK: JUDGES 14

