

**SUPERBOOK**  
**"JONAH: TOUGH LOVE"**  
**Episode #201P**

Written by Cory Edwards  
REV. Anicon Draft 4-7-12

CBN APPROVED TAKE-AWAY: "Be obedient to God - even when you don't want to obey. God has a plan that includes mercy, love and forgiveness for all people."

LOG LINE: Joy witnesses the theft of a bike by a school bully. To Joy's surprise, the principal offers mercy to the thief instead of justice. Joy, Chris and Gizmo join Jonah on his journey, from inside the whale to saving the sinful Ninevites. Joy relates to Jonah's frustrations, but is also convicted to live out God's forgiveness, even with someone she doesn't like.

SUPERBOOK

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Written by Cory Edwards  
Animatic Conformed Draft 12-15-11

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FADE IN:

**EXT. STREET - (POSSIBLE REUSE/REDRESS MAIN STREET FROM #106 -  
OR ANANIAS' HIDE-OUT STREET #112)) - NIGHT**

JONAH walk towards a modest dwelling.... stops ... fumbles  
with the latch but the door doesn't open.

1 JONAH  
(effort shouldering door)

\*

Jonah shoulders the door lightly. But it is still stuck.

2 GOD (V.O.)  
Jonah...

HIGH ANGLE ON JONAH: he SPINS around, looking for the voice  
he backs into the door and it opens as he FALLS inside.

3 JONAH  
Huh?! - Whoa! (Falling grunt)...

\*

Jonah sits up and looks around.

4 JONAH (CONT'D)  
Who's there? Who calls my name?

5 GOD (V.O.)  
It is I.

TILTED ANGLE: Jonah rises to his knees looking around.

6 JONAH  
Lord?

7 VOICE OF GOD (O.S.) (NLT - JONAH 1:2)  
Get up and go to the great city of  
Nineveh. Announce my judgment  
against it because I have seen how  
wicked its people are.

\*

Jonah rises.

\*

8 JONAH  
Lord, that place is home to enemies  
who have who attacked and killed  
your people. They deserve your  
wrath. They curse your name, Lord,  
and do not deserve even a chance  
for forgiveness!

\*

\*

9 VOICE OF GOD (O.S.)  
Jonah...

\*

**EXT. JONAH'S DOOR - STREET - NIGHT**

10 JONAH (O.C.)  
No! I cannot! I will not go  
there!

Jonah bursts out, clutching the sack. TRACKING CLOSE ON JONAH  
- Jonah hurries along - close to the building - he looks back  
in a panic and runs into some hanging pots. <LOUD CLANGING>.

11 JONAH (CONT'D)  
(grunt on hit- then gasps)

\*

12 GOD (V.O.)  
Jonah...

\*

Jonah takes off again.

\*

13 JONAH  
(pushing off and running effort)

TILTED, GROUND-LEVEL ANGLE: Jonah runs.

\*

14 JONAH (CONT'D)  
(breathless and intense)  
Destroy the city, Lord. Bury it.  
But I beg you, leave me out of it!

\*

WIDE, TILTED ANGLE of open street. IN SILHOUETTE, Jonah runs  
into the night. <MUSIC RISES> as we--

FADE OUT:

END OF PROLOGUE - SHOW OPEN

ACT ONE

**EXT. STREET (PRESENT DAY) - DAY**

TWO SHOT OF A COUPLE KIDS (RE-USED EXTRAS). They LEAP BACK as  
GIZMO flies by like a hovercraft. <SWISH!>

15 JOY (O.C.)  
Careful, Gizmo!

\*

WIDE FOLLOW SHOT: flying Gizmo. JOY rides atop Gizmo in the Plexiglass cab. CHRIS is being towed behind on a skateboard as he holds a cable that runs from Gizmo's chest.

16 GIZMO  
It is all under control, Joy!

CLOSE ON GIZMO. He dodges a street sign.

CLOSE ON CHRIS. He barely follows.

17 CHRIS  
Ahh! Too close!!

18 JOY  
Can't you steer on that thing?

FOLLOW SHOT: Chris hops a curb, back onto the sidewalk.

19 CHRIS  
That's Gizmo's job.

TWO SHOT: Gizmo and Joy.

20 JOY  
Oh, gimme a break.

21 GIZMO  
Brake?

CLOSE ON CHRIS - panicked.

22 CHRIS  
No! She didn't mean--

**EXT. HIGH SCHOOL - DAY**

WIDE ANGLE OF SCHOOL: Gizmo careens to a STOP. Chris zips past and the line goes taut.

23 CHRIS  
WHAAAAA!!!!

\*

24 GIZMO  
(OOOFFFF)

CLOSE ON JOY as she leaps clear and lands deftly.

\*

CLOSE UP: Chris glares.

NEW ANGLE ON JOY as she waves goodbye.

25 JOY  
(chuckle) I'll WALK to my first  
class, thank you. I'm in charge of  
the recycling program today.

\*

\*

Joy leaves shot... Chris and Gizmo climb out of the bushes.  
Chris calls out:

26 CHRIS  
(rising effort) Recycling, huh?

Chris steps over to Gizmo and knocks on his head.

27 CHRIS (CONT'D)  
Is this aluminum?

28 GIZMO  
Do not get any ideas.

**EXT. SCHOOL DUMPSTERS - DAY**

ANGLE DOOR: Joy exits with a box of cans. She hears...

29 SHARON (O.S.)  
What is this??

Panic races across Joy's face.

30 JOY  
(GASP!)

Joy hides behind a dumpster to watch.

CLOSE ON SHARON MYERS (NEW CHARACTER #2), standing over two smaller kids (RE-USED EXTRAS). Her hair is dyed pink and she wears too much eyeliner. She holds a brown bag in her hand.

31 SHARON  
I'm after lunch *money*, not your  
lunch!  
(lowering and looking in  
bag)  
Tuna fish??!

REVERSE ON THE COWERING KIDS - INCLUDING SHARON.

32 SHARON (CONT'D)  
Next time I see you, I want two  
dollars each, got it?  
(turns to exit - pauses  
and turns back)  
Oh... and a cookie!

33 KIDS  
(frightened sounds)

CLOSE ON JOY, ducking lower, out of sight as the two younger kids run off.

ON SHARON - REVEAL A BIKE on a rack. The chain lock hangs open. Sharon smirks as she grabs the bike.

34 SHARON  
Cool bike --- Hmmm. Someone forgot  
to lock up!

RESUME CLOSE UP ON JOY. MOVE IN as she frowns.

**INT. PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE - DAY**

WIDE SHOT: PRINCIPAL TRAVIS (NEW CHARACTER #3), She sits at desk her patiently listening to Joy's "report."

35 PRINCIPAL TRAVIS  
And you're sure it was Sharon?

CLOSE ON JOY, standing at her desk, concerned. \*

36 JOY  
Definitely, Principal Travis. She  
pulls this stuff all the time. \*  
She's the one who threw my backpack  
into the pool last month!

CLOSE ON PRINCIPAL TRAVIS: She thinks a moment. \*

37 PRINCIPAL TRAVIS  
(sigh) She's been in and out of my  
office all year.

She rises and crosses, putting an arm around Joy.

38 PRINCIPAL TRAVIS (CONT'D)  
Maybe this time... we can help her  
make another choice. \*

39 JOY  
I..I don't understand. \*

40 PRINCIPAL TRAVIS  
What if you and I go talk to her  
and give her a chance to come  
clean. \*

41 JOY  
Come clean? Wha...she's a crook! \*

42 PRINCIPAL TRAVIS  
Punishment might just push her  
further down that path. Meet me  
after study school and let's try it  
my way first.

Principal Travis exits. CAMERA PUSHES IN ON JOY fuming.

**EXT. SCHOOL - DAY --- FIX FOR ANICON -----**

A group of students comes down the stairs in front of the school. They are smiling and laughing, and then the CAMERA PANS to reveal Joy at the foot of the stairs, leaning on a banister with her arms crossed and an angry, resentful look on her face. Chris and Gizmo enter from O.C.

43 CHRIS  
Hey, Joy. What's up?

44 JOY  
I can't believe it. This school is soft on crime! Sharon Myers stole a bike in broad daylight and Miss Travis just wants to let her slide by -- er, give her mercy or something. Hmgh! A girl like Sharon has to be taught a lesson.

<THE SUPERBOOK SOUND EFFECT> is heard.

CLOSE UP ON SUPERBOOK as it rises from Joy's backpack.

45 CHRIS, JOY & GIZMO (O.C.)  
Superbook!

WIDE SHOT: The kids are pulled into the light effect.

46 CHRIS, JOY & GIZMO (CONT'D)  
Whoaaa....

**INT. SUPERBOOK VORTEX - CONTINUOUS**

Chris, Joy and Gizmo fly along.

47 SUPERBOOK VOICE (O.S.)  
I am taking you to meet a man who is running from God -- someone who must be shown mercy *himself* before he can show it to others.

**EXT. SHIP DECK - STORMY DAY**

WIDE SHOT: The kids and Gizmo are dropped onto a swaying deck. A storm is blowing in. (NO rain yet but the wind is picking up) The kids cling to the rail.

48 CHRIS, JOY & GIZMO  
Whoaaa! (Landing grunts)

49 JOY  
Where are we now, Gizmo?

50 CHRIS  
(panicked)  
We don't need an info-scan to tell  
us we're on a ship, Joy!

The boat pitches sharply and they cling to the rail.

51 CHRIS, JOY & GIZMO  
Whoahhh...

52 CHRIS  
And it takes me a while to get my  
"sea legs!"

CLOSE ON GIZMO - He spins and stops wearing a pirate costume,  
with eye patch, a hook hand, and "sea legs" - bright BLUE  
with white CUFFS, and ANCHORS painted on the sides. He taps  
the legs...

53 GIZMO  
Argghh... I've got me own Sea Legs,  
mateys!  
(back to his own voice)  
See? Waterproof, made for  
floatation and they have these neat  
little anchors on them. Oh, and  
the best part...

\*

Chest plate opens and a metallic-robot PARROT vibrates on the  
extender arm <BOINNNGGG> then it flies up onto Gizmo's  
shoulder.

54 PARROT  
(SQUAWK)

\*

The extender arm retracts and the chest plate closes.

55 JONAH (O.S.)  
You there!

REVERSE ON THE KIDS as they turn to see--

CLOSE UP - JONAH, peeking up from below deck.

56 JONAH (CONT'D)  
Get below, before the waves knock  
you off the deck!

\*

\*

CLOSE ON GIZMO - His chest plate opens and the Parrot flies  
back inside.

\*

\*

57 PARROT  
(Squawk)

\*

\*

RESUME ON KIDS: The ship TILTS as they slide toward Jonah.  
Lighting strikes above them. <THUNDER CLAP>



58 CHRIS, JOY & GIZMO  
(Whaoaaa...)

\*

They slide right into the hold and the door <SLAMS>

\*

DISSOLVE:

**INT. SHIP'S CARGO HOLD - STORMY DAY**

CLOSE ON A SWINGING OIL LAMP that swings from a beam. The room pitches and sways - more than gently.

59 JOY (O.C.)  
You actually heard God's voice?

ANGLE WIDENS TO INCLUDE Chris, Joy and Gizmo speaking with Jonah. He stands, with his back to the kids, leaning on a large clay vessel.

60 JONAH  
Yes. Telling me to go to Nineveh, a city filled with God's worst enemies. Killers of His people.

CLOSE ON JONAH

61 JONAH (CONT'D)  
God wanted me to warn them He was about to pass judgement.

Jonah whirls and ANGLE WIDENS TO INCLUDE THE KIDS

62 JONAH (CONT'D)  
But why warn them?! So they repent - say they are sorry - and then receive God's mercy? I say no! - If Nineveh is doomed then let it be doomed!

CLOSE ON CHRIS

63 CHRIS  
So you ran away from God?

Gizmo leans INTO SHOT

64 GIZMO  
Technically speaking, hiding from the all-knowing deity is statistically impossible.

\*

ON JONAH - he looks up and around as the room pitches in the storm. <THUNDER ROLLS>.

65 JONAH  
I am beginning to understand that.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. STORMY SEA - LATER THAT NIGHT

The ship is tossed. <THUNDER CRASHES> Lightning FLASHES.

INT. SHIP'S HOLD - STAIRS - NIGHT

The boat pitches. CLOSE on a rat as it scurries along the floor. The CAMERA pulls back to reveal Chris, Joy, & Gizmo curled up asleep. Suddenly, an O.C. noise startles them awake. They flee to underneath the stairs. The CAPTAIN descends the steps. \*

CREWMEN (O.C.) CAPTAIN  
(angry walla) Here he is! Below deck! \*

THREE-SHOT: Gizmo quakes next to Chris and Joy - all three sit hunched below the stairs - out of sight -as the Captain's legs bound down the stairs. \*

66 GIZMO  
Shiver me motherboard! \*

CLOSE on Jonah asleep in a hammock strung between two posts in the the hold. The two posts are about eight feet apart.

JONAH CAPTAIN (O.C.)  
(Snoring sounds) How can you sleep at a time like this?

The Captain's foot KICKS Jonah from the hammock.

67 CAPTAIN (O.C.)  
Get up and pray to your God!

Jonah falls from the hammock onto the pitching floor.

68 JONAH  
(impact grunt, huh?) \*

WIDER ANGLE

The Captain grabs one post as the boat pitches mightily.

69 CAPTAIN (O.C.)  
Maybe He will pay attention to us  
and spare our lives. (Jonah 1:6  
NLT) \*

Jonah clamors forward and hugs the other post at floor level.

70 JONAH  
(Efforts)

He hears the <CREW'S FOOTSTEPS> charging down the stairs.

71 CREWMAN #1 (O.S.)  
Let's ask our God to show who  
caused all this trouble.

CLOSE ANGLE ON THE KIDS NEAR HE STAIRS - They watch the FEET  
of the three crewmen charging downstairs.

72 JOY  
What are they doing?

\*  
\*

73 CREWMEN 1, 2, 3 (O.S.)  
(angry walla)

CLOSE ON JONAH at the post. Crewmen's hands reach INTO FRAME  
and pull him up into a sitting position.

74 CREWMAN #2 (O.S.)  
We will cast lots!

\*

QUICK MONTAGE

Three crewmen's HANDS reach in the pouch - selecting lots

ON CHRIS, JOY & GIZMO

\*

75 CHRIS  
They must be trying to see if Jonah  
caused the storm.

\*  
\*  
\*

The pouch is tossed and lands at Jonah's feet. The CAMERA  
pans up his body to show his anxious face.

\*  
\*

The ship tosses in the storm LIGHTNING and <THUNDER>

CAMERA STARTS CLOSE ON A CREWMAN'S CLOSED FIST. IT OPENS,  
REVEALING STONE LOT, CAMERA MOVES LEFT, FINDING ANOTHER  
CREWMAN'S CLOSED FIST. IT OPENS. CAMERA PANS LEFT AND THE  
SAME ACTION HAPPENS ONCE MORE.

\*

JONAH OPENS HIS HAND REVEALING THE MARKED LOT.

\*

76 CREWMAN #1  
He's the culprit!

\*

ANGLE NEAR THE STAIRS - FAVOR CHRIS, JOY AND GIZMO

77 CREWMAN #1 (CONT'D)  
Why has this awful storm come down  
on us!

\*  
\*  
\*

ON JONAH AND CREW

78 CREWMAN #3  
Who are you? What is your line of  
work?

79 CREWMAN #2 (O.C.)  
What country are you from? Who are  
your people?

Jonah rises and shouts in a clear voice.

80 JONAH  
I am a Hebrew, and I worship the  
Lord, the God of Heaven, who made  
the sea and the land.

81 CREWMAN #1  
You see?! It *is* his fault!

82 CREWMAN #3  
He told us before that he was  
trying to flee from his God!

83 CREWMAN #1 (O.S.)  
Why did you do it?!

The boat pitches wildly. The men tumble.

84 CREWMEN (O.C.)  
(falling walla)

85 CAPTAIN  
What should we do to you to stop  
this storm?!

ON JONAH - The boat lurches and Jonah clings to the post. He  
looks around in fear at the wildly pitching hold. Items  
<BANG> around and roll past. The oil lamp swings wildly.

86 JONAH  
Throw me into the sea and it will  
become calm again.

CLOSE UP ON JOY

87 JOY  
No!

ON JONAH

88 JONAH  
I know that this terrible storm is  
all my fault. (Jonah 1:12 NLT)

Joy races over and grabs Jonah's arm.

89 JOY  
There's got to be another way! \*

90 CREWMEN (O.S.)  
That's right! Take him. Throw him \*  
over. Get him off this ship! (Ad- \*  
lib, etc.)

91 JOY  
No! Wait! \*

WIDER ANGLE: CREWMAN #1 bounds INTO FRAME and drags Jonah away from Joy.

92 CREWMEN (O.S.)  
(angry walla - Give him to the \*  
sea!) \*

TIGHT TWO-SHOT of Gizmo as he leans in to Chris.

93 GIZMO  
Guess we need to pick better  
friends.

CLOSE UP on the Captain -- he raises an eyebrow.

94 CAPTAIN  
You are friends with the Hebrew?

THREE-SHOT of the kids and Gizmo, over the Captain's shoulder. The Captain TURNS TO CAMERA, shouting up to crew.

95 CAPTAIN (CONT'D)  
Take these three as well!

Back to the kids and Gizmo. Chris and Joy furiously glare at \*  
Gizmo. He smiles sheepishly. \*

**EXT. SHIP DECK - STORMY DAY** \*

TRACKING SHOT, MOVING BACKWARD - CREWMAN #1 pushes Jonah towards the rail. <SPLINTERING WOOD - SAIL TEARING SFX>

96 CREWMAN #2 (O.C.)  
Look out! The mast is coming down! \*

They both look up in horror.

POV - MAIN MAST

The foretop mast breaks away, tearing a section of the sail with it. It falls INTO CAMERA.

ANGLE BACK ON CREWMAN #1 AND JONAH

They are at the rail and watch the section of mast plummet to the sea. Crewman #1 looks heavenward, pleading.

97 CREWMAN #1  
O Lord, do not make us die for this \*  
man's sin.

PUSH IN ON JONAH as Crewman #1 continues to speak O.C.

98 CREWMAN #1 (O.C.) (CONT'D)  
And don't hold us responsible for \*  
his death. You have sent this storm  
upon him for your own good reasons.

ANGLE ON CHRIS, JOY AND GIZMO

They are shoved along by CREWMEN #2 AND #3

99 CREWMAN #1 (O.C.) (CONT'D) \*  
Overboard with all of them!

Jonah, Chris, Joy and Gizmo are tossed into the raging sea. \*

100 JONAH/CHRIS/JOY/GIZMO \*  
(falling screams) \*

ANGLE ON THE SURFACE OF THE SEA - STORMY \*

The four hit the roiling waves with <SPLASHES>

BENEATH THE SEA

Sudden silence - we see Jonah descending SLO-MO PAST CAMERA. - \*

EXT. SURFACE OF THE SEA - NEAR THE BROKEN FOREMAST - OR GAFFE \*  
- AND TOP SAIL - DAY

Jonah, Chris and Joy surface and grab the floating mast. \*

101 JONAH/CHRIS/JOY (O.C.) \*  
(coughing and sputtering) \*

The water calms around the floating mast and sail. \*

ANGLE ON THE SKY - The clouds part and the SUN streams down. \*  
The boat sails away into a sunny sea. \*

102 CREWMEN \*  
(cheering) \*

CAMERA ANGLES DOWNWARD TO FIND... \*

Jonah, Chris and Joy clinging to the floating mast and sail.  
The SHIP is seen departing in the distance. GIZMO buzzes up  
to them effortlessly, like a speed boat. <BZZZZZ>

103 GIZMO  
(Giggle) Sea legs, with outboard  
propellers!

\*

Gizmo pulls up beside Chris, Joy and Jonah at the mast.

\*

104 JONAH  
I am so sorry, my friends.

\*

105 CHRIS  
Don't worry about it. Er... See,  
even the storm's cleared now.  
All's well that ends well, I always  
say.

\*

\*

\*

CLOSE UP on Gizmo. A device inside him starts <BEEPING>.

106 GIZMO  
Ah... Chris... I am detecting a  
very large creature just three  
fathoms below us.

There is a large shadow passing beneath them.

\*

107 CHRIS/JOY/JONAH  
(fearful questioning "huh"?)

\*

\*

Then a massive fish surfaces briefly 20 Yards ahead. It  
submerges again.

\*

\*

ANGLE ON THE KIDS - THEY HAVE NERVOUS EXPRESSIONS. Gizmo's  
chest plate opens and the parrot comes out on the arm. It  
looks around and squawks with a flapping-frightened  
expression.

108 PARROT  
(SQUAWK)

The frightened Parrott flies straight upward like a shot.  
CAMERA TRACKS with him until CAMERA is about 50 feet above  
the water. CAMERA slows, and Parrott gains OFF-CAMERA.

\*

ANOTHER ANGLE - The MASSIVE FISH breaks the surface with a  
<THUNDERING SPLASH>! Its face is bigger than a city bus  
coming towards them.

\*

\*

\*

109 CHRIS, JOY, GIZMO & JONAH  
(Yelling, sounds of fear)

CLOSE ON JOY, CHRIS AND GIZMO

110 JOY  
What do we do?

111 GIZMO  
Try to taste disgusting!

<FOOOOOM!> -- the fish's mouth closes over the whole group.

WIDER HIGH SHOT: the beast's huge tail flips up as the fish dives. It disappears down into the dark water.

**EXT. UNDERWATER, OCEAN - DAY**

LOW ANGLE, LOOKING UP at the fish -- it dives toward camera, down into the murky depths. FADE TO BLACK.

END ACT ONE

\*

ACT TWO

\*

FADE IN:

\*

**INT. INSIDE THE FISH**

DARKNESS and <DRIPPING SOUNDS>, as if from inside a cave.

REVEAL A WIDE SHOT as Gizmo's FACEPLATE glows to life. It illuminates a fleshy cavern.

112 CHRIS

Ewww... and I thought fish were  
slimey on the outside.

\*

\*

113 JONAH

This is unbelievable. Disaster  
follows me at every turn! I will  
not live through this.

\*

CLOSE UP -- Joy and Chris share a look - Joy turns to Jonah.

114 JOY

Jonah... I think if God wanted you  
dead... you'd be dead. I almost  
think He wants to save you.

115 CHRIS

Next time He should just send some  
life preservers.

\*

116 JOY

You ran in the opposite direction  
from where God wanted you to go -  
and it seems like He's done one  
thing after another to pull you  
back to Him.

CLOSE UP on Jonah. He looks around A LONG TIME, thinking.



117 JONAH  
(amazed)  
He pursues me, even now.

WIDER SHOT: Jonah looks up as the camera moves around him. He \*  
drops to his knees and begins slowly...

118 JONAH (CONT'D)  
I cried out to you in my great  
trouble, Lord, and He answered me.

TWO-SHOT: Chris and Joy watch Jonah with encouragement.

119 JONAH (CONT'D)  
I called to you from the land of  
the dead, and Lord, you heard me!

CLOSE UP: Gizmo listens with fascination. The whole FISH  
lurches.

120 GIZMO  
Feels like we're moving in a new  
direction.

CLOSE UP on Joy -- savoring the meaning of this.

121 JOY  
It sure does.

WIDE SHOT, MOVING OUT. Both kids bow their heads with Jonah.

122 JONAH  
You threw me into the ocean depths,  
and I sank to the heart of the sea. \*

Jonah's voice fade and cross fades as the prayer continues \*  
MONTAGE OF TIME PASSING AS... \*

123 JONAH (CONT'D)  
The mighty waters engulfed me; I \*  
was buried beneath your wild and  
stormy waves. But you, O Lord my \*  
God, snatched me from the jaws of  
death! As my life was slipping  
away, I remembered the Lord. And my  
earnest prayer went out to you in  
your holy Temple. Those who worship  
false gods turn their backs on all  
God's mercies. But I will offer  
sacrifices to you with songs of  
praise, and I will fulfill all my  
vows. For my salvation comes from  
the Lord alone.

CROSS FADE:

THE FISH SWIMS TROUGH THE DEEP SEA \*

THE FISH SURFACES. \*

124 JONAH/CHRIS/JOY/GIZMO  
(screams and panic into impact  
grunts hitting the beach) \*

Chris, Joy, Gizmo and Jonah are spit from his mouth. They arc  
across the sky towards shore. \*

The fish disappears into the sea with a mighty SPLASH. \*

ANGLE ON SHORE - CHRIS, JOY and GIZMO sit up.

125 GIZMO  
Amazing. "Full terrestrial  
expectoration."

126 CHRIS  
You mean we just got barfed up.

CLOSE ON JONAH: He raises his head - almost dead.

127 GOD (O.C.) (NKJV - JONAH 3:2)  
Arise, go to Nineveh, that great  
city, and preach to it the message  
that I tell you.

128 JONAH  
(breath) \*

Jonah rises. He looks at the sun and then gets his bearings.

129 JONAH (CONT'D)  
And now to Nineveh. Though they do  
not deserve the warning I bring.

He starts off. Chris and Joy follow. \*

DISSOLVE TO:

**EXT. GATES OF THE GREAT CITY OF NINEVEH - DAY** \*

CLOSE ON - Jonah, Chris, Joy and Gizmo as they approach the  
city gate and stop with mouths agape... \*

The sun hangs low. CAMERA PANS OVER TO the city ENTRANCE: The  
gate is forty feet high. The city stretching beyond it would  
take three days to pass through. A forboding sight, iron  
spikes jut down from the entrance gate and armed guards stand  
along the top turret. \*

DISSOLVE TO:

**EXT. NINEVEH, MARKET STREET - NIGHT**

(POSSIBLE RE-USE - MARKETPLACE STREET AND WALL FROM #110)

CLOSE TRACKING-SHOT on Jonah, Chris, Joy and Gizmo, walking though a dense street of market decor. ROUGH-CITIZENS - SEEN ONLY FROM THE NECK DOWN - perhaps a camel - a donkey etc, pass close by - forcing our foursome out of the way.

130 CROWD(O.S.)  
(Raucous walla - some bawdy  
laughter - carry through scene -

\*

Shadows play on the walls of people squabbling -- oversized and distorted by firelight. A man whips a donkey.

\*

\*

131 DONKEY OWNER  
Come on! Move along, you lazy  
beast!

\*

\*

\*

Another man loses at a shell game.

\*

132 SHELL GAME VICTIM  
Huh? (grumble)

\*

\*

<BLOWING DONKEY> A man riding a bellowing camel charges through the crowd, scattering bystanders every which way.

\*

\*

133 NINEVITE #2 (O.C.)  
Cheat me again and I'll cut you  
down!

\*

\*

\*

134 NINEVITE #3  
You calling him a liar?

\*

\*

<CRASH!> A pot is hurled from OFF CAMERA shattering nearby

\*

135 JOY (O.S.)  
How do you even talk to these  
people, Jonah?

A LOW ANGLE reveals a VENDOR standing on a small raised platform by his stall. He LEAPS onto a THIEF

\*

136 VENDOR  
Steal from me, will you??

They struggle.

VENDOR/THIEF  
(fighting struggles)

CROWD (O.S.)  
Fight! Give him a good one!  
Look at 'em go! Get his  
beard, that's it!

\*

CLOSER ANGLE on Jonah. He leaps to the platform for safety. Now above the crowd, his courage swells.

137 JONAH  
People of Nineveh!!

REVERSE ANGLE - FROM BEHIND THE CROWD - Some of the crowd look up at him. Who is this crazy guy?

138 JONAH (CONT'D)  
The Lord, my God has sent me to announce His judgment against your city because He has seen your wickedness!

\*

CLOSE ON A GROUP IN THE CROWD - they stop their arguing and turn to look O.C.

139 CROWD (O.C.)  
(Murmuring ND walla - could be dangerous - could be interested)

CLOSE ON JONAH

140 JONAH (JONAH 3:4)  
Forty days from now, Nineveh will be destroyed!

ANGLE ON CHRIS, JOY AND GIZMO - Stand near a corner of a building. A side street runs off the market street.

141 CROWD (O.C.)  
(Murmuring ND walla - could be dangerous - could be interested)

142 CHRIS  
Oh man, Jonah's sure not gonna make any friends delivering that kind of message.

143 GIZMO  
I do not think "making friends" is the mission God has in mind for him.

Joy turns and notices something half way down the side street.

JOY'S POV - An everyday scene of neighbors and friends. CHILD# 1 holds a rope tethered to a GOAT. CHILD #2 rides on the goat as they go in a small circle. NINEVITE MAN and NINEVITE WOMAN stand holding a NINEVITE GIRL (6) The donkey stops and Child #2 hops off, offering up the next ride. Ninevite Man places the Ninevite Girl on the goat and the ride continue. ALL THIS ACTION PLAYS AS...

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

144 JOY  
Jonah says these people are his  
enemies... but... they're people  
too.

\*

BACK ON JOY - Chris and Gizmo ease INTO SHOT looking off in  
the same direction. They see the neighborhood scene and it  
makes them think too.

FADE OUT:

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

**EXT. EASTERN HILL OUTSIDE OF NINEVEH - LATE AFTERNOON**

CAMERA FINDS an "eastern" hill outside Nineveh - (EASTERN AND  
SUNSET DIRECTION IS BIBLICALLY SIGNIFICANT) - Chris, Joy and  
Gizmo sit together. Ten yards away: Jonah uses a stick to  
mark another day in the sand - hash marks.

\*

\*

145 JONAH  
Oh, heed me, Nineveh! Your days  
are drawing to a close!

\*

Jonah turns and approaches the kids at the campfire.

146 JONAH (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Nineveh will be destroyed by a  
heavenly force so mighty, the likes  
of which its citizens have never  
seen...

CLOSE ON JONAH

147 JONAH (CONT'D)  
... not in ALL the enemies Assyria  
has ever fought *combined*!

ON THE KIDS - They look at one another and then Chris asks...

\*

148 CHRIS  
Jonah... if God has shown you so  
much mercy...

149 GIZMO  
Yes, saving you from that storm...

150 JOY  
And then getting you out of the  
belly of that giant fish...

151 CHRIS  
Why wouldn't He show the same kind  
of mercy to the Ninevites...  
(MORE)

CHRIS (CONT'D)  
I mean, if they were willing to  
change?

CLOSE ON JONAH - angry

152 JONAH  
Do not even speak those words!  
These people do not deserve God's  
forgiveness.

A voice comes up from behind.

153 NINEVITE MAN (O.C)  
Even if we ask for it with all our  
hearts?

CAMERA SWEEPS AROUND TO A REVEAL - Jonah and the kids whirl.  
As they were speaking NINEVITE MAN, NINEVITE WOMAN and  
NINEVITE GIRL (same characters from the "goat riding scene")  
have approached from Nineveh. All three wear sack cloths of  
coarse dark goat hair, and ashes rubbed on themselves.

154 NINEVITE WOMAN  
Prophet, we have heard your words. \*

Jonah shoots Chris a look.

BACK ON NINEVITE FAMILY

155 NINEVITE MAN  
We are fasting and have put on this  
sack cloth...

156 NINEVITE WOMAN  
We have sat in ashes to show all  
that we are asking forgiveness.

157 NINEVITE WOMAN (CONT'D)  
It is amazing.  
(looking at Jonah)  
Your words have been heard by all  
of Nineveh, from the greatest to  
the least of us. \*

ON JONAH - Jonah looks dismayed and then distraught.

158 JONAH  
This cannot be.

ON NINEVITE FAMILY

159 NINEVITE MAN  
Even the king has heard your words.

ON CHRIS JOY AND GIZMO - absorbing this with wonderment.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. KING'S DWELLING - SLOW PUSH IN - MORNING

\*

**EXT. KING'S THRONE ROOM - MORNING**

\*

The KING looks out a window onto his city, lost in consideration. He turns - CAMERA REVEALS THE KING'S AIDE, who is holding a sack cloth garment draped over his arm. His expression shows that does not quite know what to do. He lowers his eyes, not wanting to confront the king as he admits...

The king ENTERS FRAME -the CAMERA EASES OVER ONTO THE KING AND PUSHES IN AS...

The king turns and crosses to the Aide. He turns his back to the Aide. The Aide reaches up, keeping the sack cloth draped on his arm, and begins to unclasp the cape.

160 KING (NLT- JONAH 3:7-9)(O.C.)  
This day, I proclaim to the city of  
Nineveh -...

DISSOLVE TO:

ANGLE NEAR WALL - FIREPLACE

The king - now wearing sack cloth - sits down into the ashes.

161 KING (V.O.)  
No one, not even the animals from  
your herds and flocks, may eat or  
drink anything at all. People and  
animals alike must wear garments of  
mourning...

DISSOLVE TO:

**EXT. NINEVEH MARKET PLACE - DAY**

MOVING WITH Jonah and the kids - DURING THE KING'S SPEECH - They pass several citizens in sackcloths sitting in ashes by the wall or on the platform Jonah spoke from - perhaps arms raised to heaven - praying etc.

162 KING (O.C.)(NLT- JONAH 3:7-9)  
... and everyone must pray  
earnestly to God.  
(MORE)

KING (O.C.)(NLT- JONAH 3:7-9) (CONT'D)  
They must turn from their evil ways  
and stop all their violence.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ENTRY GATE TO NINEVEH - DAY

Jonah is moving angrily out of the city gates.

163 KING (O.C.)  
Who can tell? Perhaps even yet God  
will change his mind and hold back  
his fierce anger from destroying  
us.

TRACKING - BEHIND - CLOSE ON CHRIS JOY AND GIZMO

164 JOY  
Jonah sure seems upset about  
something.

165 CHRIS  
Well, it's been forty days and  
everyone has repented.

\*

TRACKING ON JONAH (twenty yards ahead of the kids)

166 JONAH  
Didn't I say before I left home  
that you would do this, Lord? That  
is why I ran away to Tarshish!

PUSH IN CLOSER - CONTINUE TRACKING

167 JONAH (CONT'D)  
I knew that you are a merciful and  
compassionate God, slow to get  
angry and filled with unfailing  
love. You are eager to turn back  
from destroying people. Ugh! I  
would rather be dead than alive.

\*

\*

Jonah storms off up an EASTERN hill outside the city.

\*

God speaks to him. (The kids won't hear this.)

\*

168 GOD  
Is it right for you to be angry?

\*

\*

ON CHRIS JOY AND GIZMO. They look at each other, unsure of  
what to do.

\*

\*

DISSOLVE TO:

\*



**EXT. EASTERN HILL ENCAMPMENT OUTSIDE OF NINEVEH - DAY**

The sun hangs low, beyond the city.

169 JONAH (O.C.)  
I have done what the Lord asked of  
me!

\*

CAMERA FINDS JONAH - He sits, staring at the distant city. A tall, leafy PLANT gives him a bit of shade. Joy is with him. Chris and Gizmo sit a short distance away.

170 JONAH (CONT'D)  
And He gives me this plant to shade  
my head and provides me comfort -  
but then He shows the same mercy to  
all sinners of Nineveh. Where is  
the justice in that!

\*

171 JOY  
I always thought that when someone  
does something wrong, they should  
be punished.

CLOSE UP ON JOY.

172 JOY (CONT'D)  
But when I do the wrong thing, I'm  
pretty glad that God forgives.

TWO SHOT: Jonah scowls as he speaks to Joy.

173 JONAH  
But you and I live better lives  
than those people!

\*

CLOSER ANGLE ON JONAH AND JOY: After <A CRACKING SOUND>, the plant shadowing them breaks from its roots, FALLING on them.

174 JOY  
Oof! So much for shade. I'll look  
for some more cover.

MEDIUM SHOT: Joy leaves Jonah. CAMERA MOVES AROUND JONAH, becoming more intimate as he throws the plant aside.

175 JONAH  
(looking at the plant)  
Is it too much to save one little  
plant, Lord? The only thing that  
gave me comfort?

\*

HIGH AND WIDE SHOT, LOOKING DOWN ON JONAH.

176 VOICE OF GOD (O.S.)  
Is it right for you to be angry  
about a plant? (Jonah 4:9, NKJ)

CLOSE UP ON Joy, Chris and Gizmo at the fire. They hear the voice too.

177 VOICE OF GOD (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
You have had pity on the plant for  
which you have not labored--

CLOSE ON THE BROKEN STALK of the plant, on the ground.

178 VOICE OF GOD (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
--Nor made it grow. It came up in a  
night and perished in a night.

EXTREME TIGHT OF JONAH, jaw clenched. He looks to the city.

179 VOICE OF GOD (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
(Jonah 4:10-11 NKJ)  
And should I not pity Nineveh, that  
great city, in which are more than  
one hundred and twenty thousand  
persons who cannot discern between  
their right hand and their left?

EXTREME CLOSE UP on Joy. She ponders these words. \*

180 JOY  
(to herself)  
If I accept mercy from God, I have  
to be willing to give it to others.

Chris steps into the background behind her.

181 CHRIS  
Even Sharon Myers?

As she thinks about this, the Superbook GLOW appears. \*

182 CHRIS, JOY & GIZMO  
Superbook! \*

The Parrot appears from out of nowhere (*SQUAWK!*). Gizmo's  
chest plate opens. The Parrot turns into a rocket and shoots  
toward Gizmo. Right before it reaches him, it turns back into  
a parrot and swoops inside. Gizmo's chestplate slams shut. \*  
They then disappear into the SUBERBOOK EFFECT. \*

EXTREME WIDE ON JONAH as he walks back toward the city. \*

#### **EXT. HIGH SCHOOL ENTRANCE - DAY**

WIDE SHOT: Joy, Chris and Gizmo appear.

NEW ANGLE ON PRINCIPAL TRAVIS and SHARON, exiting nearby.

CLOSE ON JOY --

183 JOY  
Excuse me, guys. I think I have an  
appointment to keep.

DISSOLVE TO:

**EXT. SCHOOL, FRONT STEPS - MOMENTS LATER**

TWO-SHOT OF JOY AND THE PRINCIPAL, talking with Sharon.

184 JOY  
So we wondered if you'd heard  
anything about a stolen bike.

CLOSE ON SHARON, a nervous look on her face.

185 SHARON  
Uh... You want my help?

\*

ANGLE ON PRINCIPAL TRAVIS --

186 PRINCIPAL TRAVIS  
Whoever took it may have just made  
a mistake. They still have time to  
do the right thing.

CLOSE ON SHARON, eyes down as she wrestles with her  
conscience. MOVE UP to include the Principal.

187 SHARON  
I... I took it.

CLOSE ON JOY -- surprised by this.

RESUME ON SHARON.

188 SHARON (CONT'D)  
I don't know why I did it. It was  
stupid. And... I'm sorry.

\*

WIDE SHOT as Principal Travis comforts Sharon.

189 PRINCIPAL TRAVIS  
That took guts, Sharon. I'm not  
going to punish you, if you can  
help us return the bike to its  
rightful owner.

Sharon looks from the Principal to Joy and back.

190 SHARON  
I guess I can do that.

Sharon hangs her head as we --

DISSOLVE TO:

**EXT. SCHOOL, FRONT SIDEWALK**

\*

MEDIUM SHOT OF GIZMO, waiting for them. Chris and Joy enter, making it a THREE-SHOT. Gizmo stores books in his torso.

191 JOY  
If God let a whole city off the  
hook, I think I can give Sharon  
Myers a second chance.

TWO-SHOT of Chris and Gizmo. Chris puts on a skate helmet.

Gizmo coverts into his ROBO-ROCKET MODE.

192 GIZMO  
Time to go home!

Joy heads off.

193 JOY  
I'll walk this time. I've got some  
thinking to do.

FAVOR CHRIS

He grabs the tow line.

194 CHRIS  
Suit yourself, Joy. But you don't  
know what you're missing!

Gizmo takes off with Chris towing behind on his skateboard as  
CAMERA MOVES UP AND OUT TO A WIDE SHOT. They zoom O.C.

\*

195 CHRIS & GIZMO  
Whooooa!

\*  
\*  
\*

CLOSE ON JOY

She watches the O.C. accident <CRASHING SFX> with alarm - and  
then softens to a smile when she sees everything is okay.

She saunters O.C.

\*

ANGLE ON GIZMO AND CHRIS

Chris and Gizmo are dazed from the crash at the bottom of a  
tree. Gizmo is laying on his back. The Parrot pops out of his  
chest.

\*  
\*  
\*

196 PARROT  
(Squawk!) That does it! I'm walking  
with Joy!

\*  
\*  
\*

The Parrot flies away.

\*

197 CHRIS  
Walking's good.

\*  
\*

198 GIZMO  
I like walking. Walking's good! I  
do it all the time! (under) Oh,  
walking, walking...

\*  
\*  
\*  
\*

CUT TO Joy as she observes this silly scene.

\*

199 JOY  
(giggle)

\*  
\*

She stops laughing and looks attentively at something further  
in the distance O.C.

\*  
\*

CUT TO JOY'S POV

\*

**EXT. SCHOOL, PARKING LOT - DAY**

\*

Sharon gives a kid back his bike. We can't hear the exchange,  
but Sharon's posture shows much humility.

\*  
\*

Principal Travis supervises this exchange, then turns to nod  
to Joy.

\*  
\*

CUT TO WIDE SHOT OF JOY. Chris, Gizmo, and the Parrot enter  
from O.C. and join her. They all turn and set off down the  
road.

\*  
\*  
\*

\*

FADE TO BLACK.

\*  
\*