

INT. CHURCH - SYDNEY – PRESENT DAY - DAY

(Modern. Bright. 50 PEOPLE in attendance.)

PASTOR RICHMOND, 35, arranges her notes on the lectern.)

1.1 PASTOR RICHMOND

PASTOR RICHMOND

Happy Easter. Welcome to all the regular faces and those who are here for the first time. Later, in today's sermon, I want to talk about the man who ran away naked in the Garden of Gethsemane. Gethsemane is a garden outside Jerusalem that was quiet and where Jesus was arrested. For centuries no one knew who this man was, and why he was included in Mark's Gospel. Scholars thought it was Mark himself, others thought it was a metaphor for being without Jesus for three days. We now believe he was called Nadi, however, not all scholars agree on this. What an amazing story that speaks to all of us throughout the ages. Nadi wrote many journals, and we are lucky that they were recently discovered in caves near Qumran. Nadi worked with Jesus in the carpentry workshop. Josephus, an early Jewish historian wrote that Nadi and Chloe told Mark firsthand their accounts of Jesus's death, around forty years after it happened. That would explain why Mark's account feels so authentic. I'm really looking forward to exploring more about Nadi and Chloe.

Let's travel back in time two thousand years to Nadi's carpentry workshop in Nazareth in 30 AD. Take a deep breath and smell the wood carvings on the floor. "Some things are universal, death, taxes, and persecution," wrote Nadi. Then he quotes the Psalms: "Satisfy me in the morning with your unfailing love." He dreams about becoming a Zealot like his brother. He writes "One day I'm going to be the mightiest warrior Israel has ever seen. Everyone will know my name, Nadi of Nazareth."

EXT. HILLSIDE – NAZARETH – DAY – 30AD

(NADI, 18, slightly chubby with messy hair, does some stretches. He twirls a large piece of wood, a makeshift spear.)

1.2 This is our calling

NADI

One day I'm going to be the mightiest warrior Israel has ever seen. Everyone will know my name, Nadi of Nazareth. We wait in hope for the Lord; He is our help and our shield. In Him, our hearts rejoice, for we trust in His holy name.

YOU CAN BE A MIGHTY WARRIOR
SHE CAN BE A MIGHTY WARRIOR
WILL YOU BE A MIGHTY WARRIOR?

YOU CAN BE THE STRONGEST SOLDIER
SHE CAN BE THE STRONGEST SOLDIER
WILL YOU BE THE STRONGEST SOLDIER?

LISTEN TO THE VOICES CRACKLING
LISTEN TO THE VOICES DARKEN.
WATCHING ALL THE EMBERS FLYING
WATCHING ALL THE FLAMES IGNITING.

YOU CAN BE A FIRESTARTER, HE CAN BE A FIRESTARTER
WILL YOU BE A FIRESTARTER?
EVERYONE AND ANYONE WILL SOON BE GETTING WARM BESIDE OUR FIRE.
YOU CAN BE AS STRONG AS DAVID
SHE CAN BE AS STRONG AS DAVID
WILL YOU BE AS STRONG AS DAVID?
EVERYONE AND ANYONE MAKE ISRAEL BE NUMBER ONE AND.

THIS IS OUR CALLING
OUR TRUTH AND OUR REDEMPTION
I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR EYES WHEN WE SING.
COME AND JOIN US, OUR PATH IS LAID BEFORE US
WE CAN WALK IT IN THE LIGHT.

YOU CAN BE A MIGHTY WARRIOR
SHE CAN BE A MIGHTY WARRIOR
WILL YOU BE A MIGHTY WARRIOR?
EVERYONE AND ANYONE LET'S RISE UP,
STRIKE THE ROMAN EMPIRE DOWN.

YOU CAN BE THE STRONGEST SOLDIER
SHE CAN BE THE STRONGEST SOLDIER
WILL YOU BE THE STRONGEST SOLDIER?

LISTEN TO THE VOICES CRACKLING
 LISTEN TO THE VOICES DARKEN
 WATCHING ALL THE EMBERS FLYING
 WATCHING ALL THE FLAMES IGNITING.

THIS IS OUR CALLING
 OUR TRUTH AND OUR REDEMPTION
 I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR EYES WHEN WE SING.
 COME AND JOIN US. OUR PATH IS LAID BEFORE US
 WE CAN WALK IT IN THE LIGHT.
 THIS IS OUR CALLING
 OUR TRUTH AND OUR REDEMPTION
 I CAN SEE IT IN YOUR EYES WHEN WE SING.
 COME AND JOIN US, OUR PATH IS LAID BEFORE US
 WE CAN WALK IT IN THE LIGHT BECAUSE.

YOU CAN BE THE STRONGEST ZEALOT, SHE CAN BE THE STRONGEST ZEALOT
 WILL YOU BE THE STRONGEST ZEALOT?
 EVERYONE AND ANYONE LET'S RIDE ON
 THROUGH THE PROMISED LAND AND.
 YOU CALL ON THE PROPHET MOSES, I CALL ON THE PROPHET MOSES
 WE CALL ON THE PROPHET MOSES.
 EVERYONE AND ANYONE SHOULD SHARPEN
 ALL THEIR SWORDS AND SPEARS AND.
 EVERYONE AND ANYONE SHOULD PRACTICE HOW TO KILL A MAN AND
 EVERYONE AND ANYONE, TOMORROW IS THE DAY WE MAKE OUR STAND.

(NADI takes a writing quill, dips it in ink and starts to write on a piece of papyrus.)

DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS TODAY
 ABOUT A CARPENTER FROM GALILEE,
 THE GREATEST WARRIOR EVER
 A JEW WITH DAVIDIC ANCESTRY?

HE FOUGHT ALL THE ROMANS
 ALL THE GUARDS WE LOVE TO HATE.
 NOW ISRAEL WILL RISE UP AGAIN
 AND IT'S ALL THANKS TO KING NADI
 THE MOST EXCELLENT, THE MOST GREAT.

NADI'S MUM

Nadi. Nadi. Time for supper.

NADI

I'll be five minutes. I'm just going to finish writing in my journal.

(NADI balances his spear on his leg as he continues to write.)

INT. CARPENTRY WORKSHOP – DAY

(Wood carvings on the floor. JESUS, 30, long hair and beard, lifts a large piece of wood. NADI struggles lifting a chair. JESUS helps him.)

1.3 Simply pray

JESUS

Shalom Nadi.

NADI

Shalom Jesus. We've got a busy day ahead of us.

TIME TO FIX THE TABLES, THE LEGS ARE STILL TOO LONG,
HELP ME LIFT IT JESUS, COME ON. I KNOW YOU'RE REALLY STRONG.
THEN IT'S ON TO THE OAKEN CHEST. THE CUSTOMER IS ON HIS WAY
THEN WE'LL FIX THE SEATS; WE CAN GET IT ALL DONE TODAY.

LOOK, THE RABBIS'S BEING HIT BY ROMAN GUARDS.
WHY CAN'T THE ROMANS JUST LEAVE, THEY'RE GETTING ME DOWN?
WE CAN'T PAY OUR TAXES AND WE'RE NOT THE ONLY ONES.

I LOOK TO THE HILLS, BUT WHERE DOES MY HELP COME FROM?
MY HELP COMES FROM GOD ABOVE, WHO MADE EVERYTHING FOR US.
WE ARE MEANT TO BE FREE, BE A PROUD ISRAEL.
THERE MUST BE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS.

JESUS

You should ask Chloe to go for a walk. She likes you.

NADI

Has she said anything to you?

JESUS

No, just a hunch. Nadi, you must always follow your heart.

NADI

That's easier said than done.

I LOVE THE LORD BECAUSE HE LISTENS TO MY PRAYERS FOR HELP,
HE PAYS ATTENTION TO ME, SO I CALL ON HIM FOR HELP.
AND ALL MY DAYS WERE WRITTEN IN YOUR BOOK AND PLANNED,
BEFORE A SINGLE ONE OF THEM ACTUALLY BEGAN.

INT. CARPENTRY WORKSHOP – NIGHT

NADI

I should forget about Chloe. She's way out of my league. Back to reality, Dad told me last week that one day this business will be mine.

JESUS

Everyone needs a carpenter and it's a good job. Is this the life you want?

NADI

It could be.

JESUS

Never worry about food to eat and clothes to wear.

NADI

Tell that to the tax collectors. You've got the moves, you're a great dancer Jesus.

JESUS

Dancing is good. I encourage that.

NADI

Can you cover for me? I think I just saw Chloe walk by, and she was crying.

JESUS

Go. Make sure she is OK.

(NADI looks out the window. He fixes his hair.)

NADI

CLAP YOUR HANDS, ALL YOU PEOPLE SHOUT TO GOD WITH JOY,
THE LORD IS SO WONDERFUL, THE GREAT KING OVER EARTH.
GOD HAS RISEN WITH A SHOUT OF A MASSIVE JOY,
HE HAS RISEN AS THE TRUMPETS SOUND, SING PRAISES TO THE LORD.

EXT. SHORE – NIGHT

1.4 Sometimes

CHLOE

SOMETIMES, I PRAY TO YAHWAY
AND GIVE HIM THANKS FOR ALL THAT HE HAS DONE.
LATELY, I FEEL LIKE TOMORROW IS NOT MY FRIEND,
BUT I MUST CARRY ON.

THE FIRE WARMING ME, THE FLAMES THEY DANCE FOR ME
IF ONLY I CAN MAKE A CHANGE.
IF GOD CAN COMFORT ME, THEN LET HIM HEAR MY PLEA,
AM I WHO I AM SUPPOSED TO BE?

SOMETIMES, I PRAY TO YAHWAY.

NADI

Hi Chloe. Why are you crying? Can I sit down beside you?

CHLOE

Hi Nadi, of course, please sit down. Father and I have fallen out. He wants us to move back to Jerusalem. But I want to stay, I like it here in Nazareth. But there's nothing I can do.

NADI

Would you like to go for a walk?

CHLOE

Of course, I would. I thought you'd never ask.

NADI

Great, see you tomorrow.

CHLOE

It's a date.

NADI

I can't wait.

CHLOE

Until tomorrow. See you then.

(CHLOE exits.)

NADI

BUT THE LORD'S LOVE FOR THOSE WHO RESPECT HIM,
CONTINUES FOREVER AND EVER.
AND HIS GOODNESS CONTINUES TO THEIR GRANDCHILDREN
AND TO THOSE WHO KEEP HIS AGREEMENTS.

INT. NADI'S HOUSE – NIGHT

(A pile of clothes lies at NADI'S feet.

He squeezes into a shirt by taking a deep breath in.)

1.5 Getting ready

NADI

I WILL COME IN THE NAME OF THE LORD,
IT'S BLESSED TO COME IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.
THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE
WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT.

I can't believe that Chloe told me yes.
But what to wear, my clothes are such a mess.
Is my hair too long? I should have had it cut.
And eating all the bread has given me a gut.

(NADI takes off his shirt and looks for an alternative. He places a finished journal on a shelf next to 10 others. He takes a writing quill and a brand-new journal.)

I won't be nervous, I'll hold my head up high,
I could wear this purple tunic, thanks, brother Levi.

I'll start a new journal. I'm about to meet Chloe. I'm so excited. I hope she is too. I'll need to make a good impression with her father. Perhaps we can get married, and Chloe can stay in Nazareth with me. I'm jumping ahead here. One thing at a time. I hope my next entry is good news. It's time to go.

EXT. CHLOE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

NADI

Hi Chloe, you are dressed just like a queen.

CHLOE

That's the best tunic this queen has ever seen.

NADI

Shall we go? Lead the way.

EXT. SHORE – NIGHT

(NADI carries a journal. CHLOE picks up a shiny rock.)

1.6 The walk

CHLOE

I like your journal. What do you write in it?

NADI

Anything that comes to mind. Mostly God and the Scriptures. However, today I wrote some thoughts about the wind.

The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from, or where it is going.

CHLOE

You know your scriptures. I've always wondered, do the Psalms just talk about love?

NADI

No, they're all different. Some say the Messiah will bring down the Romans.

CHLOE

Quote me a Psalm as the sunsets.

(CHLOE gives NADI her shiny rock.)

1.7 The sunset

(NADI finds a large piece of wood and twirls it like a spear.)

NADI

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD; I HAVE EVERYTHING I NEED.
 HE LETS ME REST IN GREEN PASTURES; HE LEADS ME TO CALM WATER.
 HE GIVES ME NEW STRENGTH, LEADS ME ON PATHS THAT ARE RIGHT
 FOR THE GOOD OF HIS NAME.
 EVEN IF I WALK THROUGH A VERY DARK VALLEY,
 I WILL NOT BE AFRAID. BECAUSE YOU ARE WITH ME,
 YOUR ROD AND YOUR STAFF WILL COMFORT ME.
 YOU PREPARE A MEAL FOR ME IN FRONT OF MY ENEMIES,
 YOU POUR OIL ON MY HEAD; YOU FILL MY CUP TO OVERFLOWING.
 SURELY YOUR GOODNESS AND LOVE
 WILL ALWAYS BE WITH ME ALL MY LIFE,
 I WILL LIVE IN THE HOUSE OF THE LORD.

CHLOE

Nadi, sit a little closer. And hold me tight.

*(CHLOE cuddles NADI.
 A beat. NADI relaxes into CHLOE.)*

CHLOE

Look to the west, the sun's starting to set. It is so beautiful. God's creation is amazing. I need to go now, Nadi. I'll see you tomorrow.

(NADI exits.)

EXT. ROAD – NIGHT

(CENTURION MIKE, 55, and five GUARDS march with full armour.)

CENTURION MIKE

Are you sure Levi lives here? Good. We'll wait for him to come home. He'll pay for his crimes.

EXT. SHORE – NIGHT

CHLOE

SEND US OUR MESSIAH.

EXT. ROAD – NIGHT

CENTURION MIKE

His whole family will pay for his crimes.

GUARD

Yes, Centurion.

EXT. SHORE – NIGHT

CHLOE

OUR KING OF THE JEWS.

INT. WORKSHOP – NIGHT*(NADI finishes working on a chair.)*

NADI

Maybe Chloe isn't out of my league after all. She could be the one. I'm going to kiss her tomorrow night after the Passover meal.

EXT. SHORE – NIGHT*(CHLOE collects more stones under the moonlight. JESUS meets her.)*

CHLOE

SEND US, OUR MESSIAH, OUR KING OF THE JEWS.
REJOICE GREATLY, O DAUGHTER OF ZION!
SHOUT IN TRIUMPH, O DAUGHTER OF JERUSALEM!
BEHOLD, YOUR KING IS COMING TO YOU;
HE IS JUST AND ENDOWED WITH SALVATION.
HUMBLE, AND MOUNTED ON A DONKEY,
HE WILL SPEAK TO THE NATIONS; HIS DOMINION WILL BE,
FROM SEA TO SEA, BUT WE CAN'T WAIT.

INT. NADI'S PARENT'S HOUSE – DINING AREA - NIGHT

(The table is set for the PASSOVER meal including a large SEDER plate.)

1.8 Come to me

CHLOE

I'm glad I can share this Passover meal with you. Father says we will be leaving in a few weeks.

NADI

I wish you didn't have to go.

CHLOE

Me too. Father says I can visit the Temple any time I want to. It will be a brand-new experience.

NADI

But this is your home.

CHLOE

You could come and visit me.

NADI

All the time.

CHLOE

Nadi, why are there so many Roman Guards outside?

NADI

They are just on patrol. They'll pass by soon.

CHLOE

Just like the original Passover.

NADI

I'm going to miss your jokes. Dad, can Chloe say the Passover prayer for us?

CHLOE

SEND US OUR MESSIAH. OUR KING OF THE JEWS.
COME TO ME NOW, LET YOUR ARMS CRADLE ME.
FEELING HAPPY INSIDE, FILL MY HEART FULL OF JOY
I WILL BE FREE COME, COME TO ME. I WILL BE FREE COME, COME TO ME.
ADONAI OUR GOD, CREATOR OF THE FRUIT AND VINE,
YOU HAVE CHOSEN US FROM ALL THE WORLDLY TRIBES.
YOU HAVE GIVEN US THIS PASSOVER MEAL
YOU HAVE SHOWN US A GREAT WEALTH OF HOPE AND JOY.
I WILL BE FREE COME, COME TO ME.
BLESSED ARE YOU ADONAI, SANCTIFY US NOW, AND ALL YOUR FESTIVALS.
YOU ARE GREAT, OH GOD, THE RULER OF THE WORLD.

I WILL BE FREE COME, COME TO ME. LET YOUR ARMS CRADLE ME.
FEELING HAPPY INSIDE, COME, COME TO ME.
FEELING HAPPY INSIDE, COME, COME TO ME,
SO I CAN LIVE AND KEEP THE FAITH.

NADI

Chloe, can we go for a walk this evening? There's something I wanted to ask you.

CHLOE

I'm sure the answer will be yes.

(CHLOE cuddles into NADI who checks to see if anyone is looking.)

1.9 Romans

(CENTURION MIKE with the GUARDS barge in. The table is knocked over and the Seder plate is smashed.)

CENTURION MIKE

Everyone. Get out. Drag them all out. Where is your son Levi? Tell me now. Speak, or I will crucify you.

NADI

We'll defeat you like David beat Goliath.

(NADI'S MUM, 44, is thrown to the ground. A GUARD holds NADI back.)

CENTURION MIKE

I am ten times the soldier he was. Why can't you accept you live under Roman rule? Get back.

NADI

Levi is not here. Get out. Get out. We're enjoying our Passover meal.

CENTURION MIKE

Take a step back. Remember your place. Did you not listen to a word I said?

NADI

God is our only ruler, our only King. Not some mortal weak man.

CENTURION MIKE

You're not worth the effort. Let's go.

(The GUARD lets go of NADI who picks his mum up from the ground.)

NADI

Mum, are you OK? Let me help you up. I'm going to follow them and make sure they leave Nazareth.

CHLOE

Nadi. Please be careful.

(CHLOE exits.)

NADI

I'll be back soon. One day I'll take on all the Roman Guards and win. Then Israel will rise up again and it's all thanks to King Nadi, the Most Excellent, the Most Great. I'll be big and strong just like Levi, the Zealots, and our warrior messiah. Isaiah said it best: I will put my Spirit on him, and he will bring justice to the nations. He will not shout or cry out or raise his voice in the streets. He will bring forth justice, he will not falter or be discouraged until he establishes Justice on earth. The Lord will march out like a champion, like a warrior he will stir up his zeal. With a shout, he will raise his battle cry and will triumph over his enemies. I will come in the name of the Lord. It's blessed to come in the name of the Lord.

EXT. STREET – NIGHT

1.10 Nadi swears

(Dark. Quiet. A FIGURE lurks in the shadows.)

NADI

Hello, who's there? Hello, please show yourself.

(LEVI, 27, tall and well-built steps into the light.)

LEVI

It's only me, dear Nadi. It's good to see you brother.

NADI

Levi! You can't be here. The Romans are looking for you. They burst into our house, it's all because of you.

LEVI

Calm down, take a breath little brother.

NADI

Don't tell me to calm down. I felt so helpless watching Mum on the ground. The Romans must die. That will never ever happen again. I hate them all. They'll pay for all this. I'm going to be as strong as David when he fought Goliath.

(NADI twirls his imaginary spear.)

LEVI

You should join the uprising. The Zealots believe we can bring about the coming of the warrior messiah by attacking the Roman leaders. If this is the case, we will be free very soon. Can you imagine, you and I side by side with our Messiah taking back our land?

(LEVI shows off his skills with NADI'S spear.)

THEY SAY THAT I STOLE FROM A TAX COLLECTOR'S WIFE,
THEY MADE IT ALL UP I LIVE AN HONEST LIFE.

THEY WANT TO ARREST ME AND TORTURE ME UNTIL,
I TELL THEM WHERE THE ZEALOTS ARE IN THE MASADA HILLS.

WE'LL TAKE A STAND THEY SAY WE'RE FALSE NEWS
THEY'LL DESTROY THE TEMPLE AND WIPE OUT THE JEWS.

WE NEED TO GO NOW THE GUARDS ARE CLOSE BY,
NOW IS THE TIME ALL THE ROMANS MUST DIE.

YOU AND ME BROTHER WE'LL RAISE OUR FISTS HIGHER,
WE'LL PRAY FOR YAHWAY TO SEND US OUR MESSIAH.

NADI

Jesus told me to always follow my heart. But Chloe is moving to Jerusalem with her Father and I have to stay in Nazareth. But she could come back in a few months, and we could get married. Although, if we don't stand up to the Romans now, they will continue to bully us, what sort of life would that be for my family?

But if we fought the Romans and won, we could live in a free world as God intended. I could look my son in the eye and tell him I fought for our freedom.

Mum and Dad would understand. They could find carpenters to take over the business very easily.

I have so many questions. Do I follow my heart or my head? Do I follow Chloe, or do I follow Levi?

1.11 Questions

(ROMAN GUARDS march by.)

NADI

COULD IT BE THAT ALL WE ARE, IS WRITTEN UPON THE STARS?
 THE ROMANS HAVE SO MANY GODS, APPOLLO, VENUS, MARS,
 ARE THEY UP THERE IN THE STARS?
 WHEN HUMANS FAIL TO GET ALONG, BROTHERS BECOME THE ENEMY
 TO KILL A MAN IS FORBIDDEN LIKE SABBATH FISHING ON THE SEA,
 WE MUST LOVE OUR ENEMIES.

TAKE A BREATH AND PRAY TO YAHWAY
 KEEP THE FAITH FOR ONE MORE DAY.
 EVERYTHING IS HAPPENING TO ME
 EVERYTHING IS WHAT ITS MEANT TO BE.

(He watches a MOTHER walk with her two young CHILDREN. Two ROMAN GUARDS order them to stop.)

PICK A SIDE, CHOOSE A LIE
 NEVER TURN YOUR BACK ON WHAT THE FUTURE CAN NOT HIDE.
 TAKE A TRIP, SEE THE SIGHTS
 NO ONE EVER QUESTIONS WHY THERE'S BLACK AND NEVER WHITE.

WHAT IF IN OUR DAILY LIVES,
 THE DECISIONS THAT WE MAKE,
 THE CLOTHES WE WEAR AND WHAT WE EAT,
 IS DETERMINED BY THE SNAKE
 IS IT ALL A BIG MISTAKE?

(One GUARD searches the children. Their mum cries. NADI clenches his fists.)

DO WE DO OUR OWN THING, DECIDE ON WHAT TO SAY
 OR IS OUR LIFE DETERMINED BY THE WAY IN WHICH WE PRAY?
 I NEED TO FIND OUT WHY, EVERYTHING IS HAPPENING TO ME
 EVERYTHING IS WHAT ITS MEANT TO BE.
 PICK A SIDE, CHOOSE A LIE
 NEVER TURN YOUR BACK ON WHAT THE FUTURE CAN NOT HIDE.
 TAKE A TRIP, SEE THE SIGHTS
 NO ONE EVER QUESTIONS WHY THERE'S BLACK AND NEVER WHITE.
 PICK A SIDE, CHOOSE A LIE
 NEVER TURN YOUR BACK ON WHAT THE FUTURE CAN NOT HIDE.

(The GUARDS march on. The MOTHER comforts her CHILDREN.)

TAKE A TRIP, SEE THE SIGHTS
 NO ONE EVER QUESTIONS WHY THERE'S BLACK AND NEVER WHITE.
 PICK A LIFE, FOLLOW YOUR HEART
 WILL YOU TELL ME WHEN THIS NEW LIFE IS GONNA START?

CLOSE THE DOOR, TURN AWAY
SOMETIMES ITS JUST EASIER TO LEAVE AND NOT TO STAY.
PICK A SIDE, CHOOSE A LIE
NEVER TURN YOUR BACK ON WHAT THE FUTURE CAN NOT HIDE.

TAKE A TRIP, SEE THE SIGHTS
NO ONE EVER QUESTIONS WHY THERE'S BLACK AND NEVER WHITE.

NADI

OK, I'll join you. So do not fear as I am with you. Do not be dismayed, for I am your God.

INT. CHURCH - SYDNEY – PRESENT DAY - DAY

(From the pulpit.)

1.12

PASTOR RICHMOND

Nadi writes that this Passover night was the night his life changed, the night he said goodbye to youthful innocence and became a man. I have a son Nadi's age and it has been a pleasure to watch him grow into a man. I would always encourage him to follow his heart. Any mother would. Nadi reflects how sad he is he can't say goodbye to his mum and dad, and Chloe. She will think the worst of him leaving like that. Nadi reckons he can return in a few months when things have calmed down. He has trusted Yahway all his life, he will continue to trust in the path that was opening out in front of him. The sun was bright when they started their journey. As I have said before a journey is the process of getting there, not the arrival.

EXT. ROAD TO JERUSALEM – DAY - 30AD

1.13 Heading north

LEVI

HEADING NORTH ON THE HIGHWAY, PAST EMMAUS OUT OF GALILEE
RIDING ON, RIDING ON.
100 MILES, WE'VE GOT A WAY TO GO,
100 MILES FROM NORTHERN JERICHO, RIDING ON, RIDING ON.

(NADI puts his quill and journal in his bag and ties it up.)

NOW'S THE TIME, OUR FATE IS IN OUR HANDS,
I'LL SEE BARABBAS, MAKE OUR FINAL PLANS,
RIDING ON, RIDING ON.
TAKE ME TO THE TOP, I 'LL NEVER LOOK BACK DOWN
MAKE ME FEEL ALIVE, I WANNA WEAR THE CROWN.
IS IT RIGHT OR WRONG TO KILL AND THEN TO RUN
NO ONE JUDGES ME IT'S JUST ME AND THE ROAD AND THE SUN.
I AM READY, NOW'S THE BIG TIME,
I'M A SOLDIER IN HIS PRIME, RIDING ON, RIDING ON.
WE WILL FIGHT HARD, TAKE OUR FREEDOM BACK
RAISE OUR SWORDS AND GO ON THE ATTACK
RIDING ON, RIDING ON.

*(THREE FEMALES carry water jugs, and LEVI waves at them, and they wave back.
NADI keeps his head down.)*

TAKE ME TO THE TOP, TOMORROW'S GONNA SHINE
LIVE BY MY OWN RULES, AND DRINK A LOT OF WINE.
IS IT RIGHT OR WRONG, OUR BATTLES JUST BEGUN
NO ONE JUDGES ME IT'S JUST ME AND THE ROAD AND THE SUN.
WE'VE GOT TO GO, NEED TO FOCUS,
ISRAEL WILL BE VICTORIOUS. NOW WATCH ME FLY.
TAKE ME TO THE TOP, NO WAY WE'RE BACKING DOWN.
MAKE ME FEEL ALIVE, WHEN I AM MARCHING DOWN.
WHO CARES IF IT'S WRONG, TO KILL AND THEN TO RUN?
NO ONE JUDGES ME IT'S JUST ME AND THE ROAD AND THE SUN.
CROWDS WILL SHOUT, DOWN WITH THEIR EMPIRE
WE WILL RAISE OUR NATION HIGHER. RIDING ON, RIDING ON.

INT. CARPENTRY WORKSHOP – NIGHT

(CHLOE cries. JESUS passes CHLOE a hammer. He holds a nail as CHLOE hits it with the hammer.)

1.14 Keep my secret

CHLOE

I can't believe it. He's gone and left tonight?
Did he go with Levi, somethings off, he wouldn't just leave me.
What if they catch him, he could end up in jail,
or even worse be punished, what if they crucify him?

JESUS

There's nothing I can do. Don't worry, he'll be fine. You'll see him soon. I'm sure of that.
The workshop is so empty without him.

CHLOE

Jesus, can you keep a secret?
SO, TONIGHT, I'LL SING A SONG ABOUT LOVE
HOW TWO HEARTS CAN BEAT AS ONE, FLY PEACEFULLY LIKE A DOVE.
CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET, PROMISE NOT TO TELL?
I AM IN LOVE WITH NADI, I FEEL LIKE RINGING BELLS.
NOW I LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE
I FEEL JUST LIKE A PRINCESS, I HOPE HE FEELS THE SAME WAY
OH, YAHWAY I FEEL SO STRESSED.

(They fix a broken table.)

SO, CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET, CROSS YOUR HEART, AND HOPE TO DIE,
MY CUP IS OVERFLOWING, MY LOVE WILL NEVER DRY.
HE IS THE PERFECT YANG FOR MY SOUL, HIS HEART IS LIKE A DIAMOND,
FOR HIM I'D WALK JUST BAREFOOT, OVER RED-HOT BURNING COALS.
THIS IS NOT THE BEST TIME, THE SUN CATCHES MY EYE,
FOR A MOMENT I CAN'T SEE, WHY DIDN'T YOU WAIT FOR ME?
MY WORLD IS OVER, THE STARS WILL LOSE THEIR SHINE.
I HOPE HE FEELS THE SAME WAY. CAN GOD GIVE ME A SIGN?
JESUS, CAN YOU KEEP A SECRET, I AM IN LOVE WITH HIM,
AND NOW HE'S GONE WITH LEVI, THE SUN'S STARTING TO DIM.
CAN YOU KEEP MY SECRET? KEEP IT CLOSE WITHIN.
I WILL ALWAYS MISS HIM, I DON'T THINK I CAN SING.

JESUS

Chloe, are you OK? Take a few deep breaths.

CHLOE

I feel strange. The room is getting dark. I can't keep my eyes open.

JESUS

Everything is going to be OK. I'll hold you to stop the shaking.

CHLOE

Thanks. I feel better now. It's been happening a lot more recently.

JESUS

Someone can have a look at you in Jerusalem.

CHLOE

KEEP MY SECRET.

(CHLOE lies down on a bed.)

1.15 What a life

JESUS

Why don't we go to Jerusalem to find him? He'll probably go straight to the Temple.

CHLOE

Are you being serious?

JESUS

I'm always serious. We'll need to make a few detours. I'm going to meet my cousin, John the Baptist first down by the river. My time has finally come. I'll arrange it all with your father. We can leave in the morning.

(JESUS stacks the tools neatly and tidies up the workshop.)

I AM LOOKING SKYWARD,
 LOOKING TO THE LIGHT,
 EVERYTHING IS SET NOW,
 THE SUN IN MY EYES IS JUST SO VERY BRIGHT.
 WE WILL TAKE OUR LAND BACK JUST WAIT A FEW MORE DAYS,
 THIS FESTIVAL IS DIFFERENT
 WE WILL RISE UP, ON OUR PASSOVER DAY.
 SING OUT LOUD, RAISE UP YOUR VOICE,
 THE TRUMPETS SOUND, THE DRUMS MAKE NOISE.

NOW I AM READY FOR THIS POSITION,
 THE CARPENTER FROM NAZARETH FULFILLS HIS AMBITION.
 HERE I COME!
 FIXING SHELVES TO FIGHTING, FROM NAZARETH TO JERUSALEM,
 BE PREPARED FOR THIS UPRISING SOON IT WILL BE, US VERSUS THEM. =
 I CAN BE A FIGHTER, I CAN START THE FIRE,
 HEAR MY VOICE O ISREAL
 LIFT UP YOUR FISTS, NOW RAISE THEM HIGHER.
 GIVE ME STRENGTH, GIVE ME LIFE,
 GIVE ME HOPE AND I'LL OBEY YOUR ORDERS.

NOW I AM READY FOR THIS POSITION,
 THE CARPENTER FROM NAZARETH FULFILLS HIS AMBITION.
 HERE I COME!
 NOT MY WILL BUT YOURS BE DONE,
 LIVE YOUR LIFE, WALK THEN RUN.
 NOW I AM READY FOR THIS POSITION,
 THE CARPENTER FROM NAZARETH FULFILLS HIS AMBITION.

This is my body that will be given up for you. Trust in God and sing Hallelujah.

HERE I COME!

(JESUS closes the door and locks it.)

INT. CHURCH - SYDNEY – PRESENT DAY - DAY

1.16 PASTOR RICHMOND

PASTOR RICHMOND

Nadi lived in the caves at Masada for three years. During that time he trained to become a warrior. He didn't write much and some of the pages got lost. What scholars have managed to piece together is, he went back to Nazareth several times to check on his parents and Chloe. He would have known that Chloe left with Jesus but Chloe never returned home. Nadi wrote one entry where he wonders if she is married and if she still thinks about him.

After 3 years and after completing lots of trials, Nadi became a Zealot like Levi. The next entry describes Jerusalem as being very busy as people prepare for the Passover. Nadi reflects in a journal written 30 years later, that as he was preparing to attack Pontius Pilate, Chloe was with Jesus having their Last Supper.

EXT. MASADA HILLS – DAY – 33AD

(NADI has transformed into a well-built young man with short hair. He twirls his spear like a proper warrior.)

1.17 The Zealots

NADI

I'VE BEEN TRAINING SO HARD
FOR THREE YEARS IN BETHLEHEM.
NOW'S THE TIME TO ATTACK
WE'RE RIDING INTO JERUSALEM.

I MADE A BLOOD PACT
WITH THE ZEALOTS BY THE TREE.
WE'LL KILL PONTIUS PILATE
AND ISRAEL WILL BE FREE.

I HOPE CHLOE'S OK
THAT SHE'S LEADING A GOOD LIFE
SHE'LL MAKE SOMEONE SO HAPPY
SHE'LL BE AN AMAZING WIFE.

I NEED TO STAY FOCUSED
KEEP MY EYES ON THE PRIZE.
TAKE ON ALL MY ENEMIES
REGARDLESS OF THEIR SIZE.

THIS HAS BEEN A GREAT TIME
WE'VE FORGED OUR SWORDS IN THE FIRE
WE'LL CALL ON THE MESSIAH
AND SHOUT DOWN WITH THEIR EMPIRE.

(NADI kneels and prays.)

Part your heavens, O Lord and come down;
Touch the mountains, so that they smoke.
Send forth your lightning and scatter the enemy;
Shoot your arrows straight through their hearts.
From the deadly sword deliver us now.

MY GOD IS YOUR GOD
AND YOUR GOD'S FOR ME,
SEND THE MESSIAH
SO WE CAN ALL BE FREE.

(LEVI enters and they practice their fighting.)

INT. UPPER ROOM - JERUSALEM – DAY

(CHLOE'S clothes are poor looking and her hair is clean but untidy. She prepares the table for the "Last Supper.")

1.18 Miracles

CHLOE

WHERE HAS ALL THE TIME GONE
3 YEARS HAVE PASSED IN A BLINK OF AN EYE,
THERE'S BEEN SOME LAUGHTER AND A FEW TENSE MOMENTS
I'VE BEEN CLOSE, BUT I'VE NEVER CRIED.

TODAY JESUS CALMED STORMS
AND HEALED A POOR MAN BORN DEAF AND BLIND
AND CHANGED SOME WATER INTO FINE RED WINE,
HIS MIRACLES ARE BLOWING MY MIND.

(JESUS, 33, and the DISCIPLES enter and take their seats. JUDAS, 35, sits beside JESUS.)

JESUS CAUSED A RIOT
THE JEWISH LEADERS ARE GETTING ALL TENSE
THEY FIND IT HARD TO HEAR JESUS' MESSAGE
AND ALL THEY DO IS TAKE OFFENCE.

JESUS PREACHED TO THOUSANDS
ANOTHER TWENTY MIRACLES IN A DAY,
NOW'S THE TIME WE'RE GOING TO JERUSALEM
WE'RE GOING FOR A JEWISH HOLIDAY.

JESUS, INVITE US TO YOUR BANQUET,
COME SHOW US ALL A NEW HEAVEN.

TELL US WHAT THE REAL TRUTH IS
SHOW US THE REAL WAY.
AND WE WILL BE FREE AGAIN.

JESUS

I'M GLAD YOU'RE ALL HERE.
YOU ALL HAVE A PLACE IN MY HEART,
TONIGHT THIS FOOD WILL BE SOMETHING DIFFERENT,
COME JUDAS, LET'S MAKE A START.

THIS BREAD IS MY BODY
THAT IS BROKEN UP JUST FOR YOU.
TRUST IN GOD, IN MY SACRIFICE
AND CELEBRATE THIS PASSOVER NEW.

CHLOE

I THOUGHT I SAW NADI
HE WAS WITH SOME SHADY-LOOKING MEN,
HE LOOKED RIGHT UP AND THEN TURNED AWAY
IT WOULD BE GOOD TO SEE HIM AGAIN.

JESUS, I'M GOING TO GO OUT AND SEE NADI,
I WON'T BE TOO LONG, JUST A MINUTE.

(CHLOE exits.)

JESUS

THIS IS MY BLOOD TO BE POURED OUT
DO THIS IN MEMORY OF ME.
TRUST IN GOD AND SING THIS HALLELUJAH.

SINGING AMEN HALLY HALLELUJAH.
SINGING AMEN HALLELUJAH.
GLORY, GLORY HALLELUJAH.
SINGING HALLY HALLELUJAH.
HALLELUJAH HALLEJUAH.
SINGING AMEN HALLELUJAH.
TRUST IN GOD AND SING HALLELUJAH.

EXT. BACK STREET – DAY

(Busy. Bustling. LEVI sharpens his knife. NADI practicing clicking two stones together to make a spark.)

1.19 The Plan

NADI

Levi, it's good to be back in Jerusalem. I've never seen it so busy. Today has finally come. After months of planning, we will finally attack Pontius Pilate, the Roman Governor. When we kill Pilate, Emperor Tiberius will have to take notice. Some of the Jewish leaders believe an assault like this could bring about the coming of our Messiah. They could never officially support us. We are on our own. Other Jews say the Messiah is already here living amongst us and is waiting for the right time. I pray we get to meet him.

The plan is, I will lie in wait and set fire to the cart causing a diversion. The sentry guards will then take Pontius Pilate to the south side of the courtyard. You, Barabbas, and the others will then attack. I hope that Centurion who pushed my mum to the ground three years ago is there. He'll pay for that. We have organized a safe exit out of Jerusalem back out to the hills in Masada. God will be on our side.

(LEVI exits.)

Now I am ready, for this position, Nadi the Zealot fulfills his mission.

(CHLOE walks by.)

Is that Chloe? She looks so different.

1.20 The reunion

(NADI hides his face.)

CHLOE

Nadi? Nadi, is that you? It is you. How have you been?

NADI

Hi Chloe. Now isn't a good time. I'm right in the middle of something important.

CHLOE

I haven't seen you in over three years and you won't stop to talk to me?

NADI

I'm sorry. I can't.

CHLOE

Is that Levi? What have you gotten into? Your brother is nothing but trouble.

NADI

We have to make a stand. We have to fight back.

(CHLOE touches NADI'S arm but he pulls back.)

CHLOE

Whatever you've planned, you can still walk away. Jesus said that we should forgive and give a second chance. Yes, Jesus was right. You must always follow your heart.

EXT. MARKET PLACE – DAY

(TRADERS work hard. CHLOE searches for linen cloaks. NADI looks around nervously.)

1.21 Shiny stars

CHLOE

NADI THIS IS ME, WITH MY HEART UPON MY SLEEVE
 SAYING THAT I LOVE YOU, THAT I DON'T WANT YOU TO LEAVE.
 CAN'T YOU SEE, IT'S ME WHO PAINTS THE SKY AT NIGHT;
 WITHOUT ME, THE ROOM IS BARE.
 ALWAYS FELT THAT WE COULD CLIMB THAT MOUNTAIN
 I'LL ALWAYS PROMISE TO DO WHAT I SAY.
 CAN'T YOU SEE, IT'S ME
 THAT YOU'VE BEEN LOOKING FOR
 WITHOUT ME, THE ROOM IS BARE.

YES, I'VE BEEN BELIEVING
 I'VE BEEN WISHING UPON THOSE SHINY STARS
 YES, I'VE BEEN BELIEVING
 DREAMING TO VENUS, AND TO MARS.
 HEAR ME NOW, TO THESE SPECIAL WORDS I SAY
 YOU AND ME FOREVER, WE'LL NEVER FADE AWAY
 CAN'T YOU SEE, IT'S ME WHO PAINTS THE SKY AT NIGHT;
 I LOVE YOU; NOW TAKE MY HAND.

YES, I'VE BEEN BELIEVING
 I'VE BEEN WISHING UPON THOSE SHINY STARS
 YES, I'VE BEEN BELIEVING DREAMING TO VENUS, AND TO MARS.

CAN'T YOU SEE, IT'S ME
 WHO PAINTS THE SKY AT NIGHT;
 CAN'T YOU SEE IT'S ME? DON'T ASK WHY?
 IT WILL ALWAYS BE ME, I WILL ALWAYS BE THERE.
 HERE I AM, HERE'S MY CUP
 WE'LL FILL IT FULL OF HONEY AND NEVER LET IT DRY UP.
 CAN'T YOU SEE, NADI, THAT YOU ARE MEANT FOR ME
 WITHOUT YOU, THE ROOM IS BARE.

(CHLOE goes to kiss NADI but he pulls away. CHLOE walks away.)

YES, I'VE BEEN BELIEVING
 I'VE BEEN WISHING UPON THOSE SHINY STARS
 DREAMING OF YOU, DREAMING OUR LOVE
 WILL OUTSHINE ALL THE STARS HIGH ABOVE.

(Without looking back, CHLOE exits.)

1.22 Give me a sign

NADI

I watched Chloe walk away. She never turned back.
 Five Roman Guards marched past. I kept a watchful eye and stayed at my post.
 As the time to attack quickly approached, I thought, "Here is the most beautiful girl.
 She says that she loves me, and over there, my brother is counting on me.
 I looked to the heavens. "I can't kill. The plan could still work. The messiah could come
 regardless of what we do here today."

(NADI kneels and prays.)

AS THE SKIES CLEARED, I PLEADED TO GOD: "PLEASE GIVE ME A SIGN AND
 LET ME KNOW WHAT TO DO."

(JESUS trashes the TRADER'S stalls.)

JESUS

YOU HAVE MADE MY FATHER'S HOUSE INTO A DEN OF THIEVES.
 HYPOCRITES, FRAUDSTERS. GOD'S CURSE BE UPON YOU.

THE SANHEDRIN LIKE TO THINK THAT THEY ARE ALL ABOVE THE LAW
 I'VE COME, TO TELL YOU, THAT YOU MUST BE LIKE LITTLE CHILDREN.

(GUARDS usher PONTIUS PILATE away.)

NADI

I looked to Levi who said about the attack. The guards took Pontius Pilate to the West away
 from Jesus and the commotion. I stood there with my head in my hands.

THAT WAS ONE YEAR'S WORTH OF PLANNING
 WIPED OUT ALL BECAUSE OF JESUS,
 WE WON'T GET TO ATTACK NOW
 WHY WAS GOD NOT ON OUR SIDE?
 SEND US OUR MESSIAH, SEND US OUR MESSIAH, SEND US OUR MESSIAH OUR
 KING OF THE JEWS.

WHAT DID JESUS MEAN WHEN HE SAID, THE TEMPLE IS HIS FATHER'S?
 WHAT IS HE DOING, WHY WON'T THEY STOP HIM?
 HAVE YOU BEEN WITH JESUS ALL THIS TIME?
 HE ALWAYS SEEMED SO CALM.

JESUS WILL GET ARRESTED; THE ROMANS ARE LINING UP FOR HIM.

(CHLOE stands in front of NADI.)

NADI

THE WIND BLOWS WHEREVER IT PLEASES. YOU HEAR ITS SOUND,
 BUT YOU CANNOT TELL WHERE IT COMES FROM, OR WHERE IT IS GOING.

Levi is heading back to Nazareth to be with Mum and Dad. I felt God standing beside me, pulling me away. I can't explain it. I gripped Chloe's hand tightly.

CHLOE

Everything is going to be OK.

NADI

Did you ever wonder what our life could have been if I just said no and walked away that night?

CHLOE

Yes, I gave it some thought. But we can't change the past as it's set in stone. Keep looking forward, and never look back; nothing ever changes there.

NADI

I'm so glad we met again. You still look so amazing.

CHLOE

You look well, and so grown up. Those muscles really suit you.

NADI

It's been a strange day, so much has happened.

CHLOE

Can we go somewhere and go for a walk? I'll tell you what has happened. Jesus is now a great rabbi. Let's go away from here. I know a quiet garden called Gethsemane.

(NADI takes CHLOE'S hand and they exit.)

INT. CHURCH - SYDNEY – PRESENT DAY - DAY

1.23 Pastor Richmond

PASTOR RICHMOND

The Garden of Gethsemane was on the Mount of Olives where King David once worshipped. There was a cave where Jesus imparted secret revelations to his disciples that Nadi wrote about in his journal and which was also confirmed by the historian, Eusebias. It has been suggested that Gethsemane was the place of Jesus's greatest agony. We merely imagine that scourges and crucifixion must have hurt more, than the act of simply praying in a garden. Only Jesus didn't express His agony, nor sweat blood, during the crucifixion.

ACT TWO

EXT. GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE - THURSDAY EVENING – 33AD

(Cold. Dark. A small fire burns.)

2.1 I will come

JESUS

Will no one stay awake with me? Peter, Simon, or James?

JUST LATELY, I FEEL SO SCARED, SO ALONE.
JUST LATELY, I DON'T KNOW WHERE IS MY THRONE?
IN THREE DAYS, I'LL BECOME A KING,
I'LL BECOME THE SON AND MAKE YOU PROUD OF ME.
I WILL COME, IN THE NAME OF THE LORD,
WITH MY FAITH AND HOPE INTACT,
NO NEED FOR A SWORD.

(JESUS kneels and prays.)

MY MOTHER SAID THAT I WAS TRULY BLESSED.
BUT WHY ME, I AM A NO ONE,
CAN I BE BRAVE, I'M SUCH A MESS?
TELL ME, LORD, ARE YOU THERE FOR ME
WILL YOU CALM MY NERVES, LIKE THE STORMY SEA?
WHEN I DIE, FATHER PROTECT ME,
LET THE TRUTH BE KNOWN FOR ALL TO SEE.
CAN IT BE, THAT THIS IS FOR REAL,
I'VE DREAMT OF THIS BEAUTIFUL PLACE, FAR FROM BETRAYAL.

(JESUS stretches out his arms.)

THE SPARROWS HAVE FOUND THEMSELVES A HOME,
THE SWALLOWS HAVE NESTS,
THE BIRDS RAISE THEIR YOUNG AT YOUR ALTAR,
BECAUSE THEY ARE YOUR WELCOME GUESTS.

GOD WILL GIVE THE LONELY A HOME,
HE LEADS THE PRISONERS OUT WITH JOY WHILE SINGING,
THE HYMN OF YOUR UNENDING GLORY.

(JESUS checks on the sleeping disciples.)

I WILL COME, IN THE NAME OF THE LORD,
NOT MY WILL BUT YOURS BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN.
I WILL COME, IN THE NAME OF THE LORD,
AND EVERY SOUL WILL KNOW MY NAME,
EVERYONE WILL SOON APPLAUD.
LORD COME NOW; LORD COME NOW.
LORD COME NOW; LORD DIE NOW.

2.2 Judas kisses Jesus

*(JUDAS enters with CENTURION MIKE and 5 GUARDS.
One GUARD approaches JESUS.)*

GUARD

JESUS CHRIST
ARE YOU THE MAN OF OUR TIMES,
CAN YOU STILL
CHANGE WATER INTO WINE?

JESUS CHRIST
ARE YOU THE MAN OF OUR DAY,
WHAT WAS THE FEE
WHAT NEW TAXES WERE PAID?

JUDAS, IS THIS THE MAN,
WHOM YOU BETRAY WITH A KISS?

TIE HIM UP, AND TAKE HIM AWAY FROM HERE.
THE JEWISH LEADERS HAVE A FEW THINGS TO ASK.

(CENTURION MIKE grabs JESUS.)

CENTURION MIKE

STAND UP I SAY,
STAND UP TO ATTENTION JESUS OF NAZARETH!

WE HAVE TO KILL THOSE
WHO SPREAD THIS FALSE LIE,
ANYONE WHO KNOWS JESUS
WILL, SURELY DIE.

(The DISCIPLES start to wake up.

*NADI and CHLOE enter. NADI stands in front of CHLOE. He draws his dagger from
its pouch and stands ready to attack. One GUARD faces up to NADI.*

CHLOE joins the DISCIPLES.)

2.3 The Naked Disciple

PASTOR RICHMOND

Today's Gospel reading is from Mark 14, verses forty-three to fifty-five. "Just as he was speaking, Judas, one of the Twelve, appeared. With him was a crowd armed with swords and clubs, sent from the chief priests, the teachers of the law, and the elders. Now the betrayer had arranged a signal with them: "The one I kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." Going at once to Jesus, Judas said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. The men seized Jesus and arrested him. Then one of those standing near drew his sword and struck the servant of the high priest, cutting off his ear. "Am I leading a rebellion," said Jesus, "that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled." Then everyone deserted him and fled. A young man, wearing nothing but a purple tunic, was following Jesus."

(NADI fights the GUARD and quickly has the advantage. Other GUARDS join in the fight. NADI is surrounded. The GUARDS grab onto NADI.)

NADI

DAVID SAID TO THE GIANT GOLIATH
YOU COME AGAINST ME WITH A SWORD AND A SPEAR.

(NADI wiggles out of his tunic and escapes with only his undergarments on. He protects CHLOE.)

PASTOR RICHMOND

"When they seized him, he fled naked, leaving his tunic behind."

NADI

I HAVE COME IN THE NAME OF THE LORD
IT'S BLESSED TO COME IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.
I KNOW HE IS THERE NO MATTER WHAT I DO
I GIVE HIM THANKS AND PRAISE WITH EVERYTHING I DO.

You are not going to bully us anymore. God is on our side.

(NADI runs in front of CENTURION MIKE.)

CENTURION MIKE

I remember you. You're Levi's brother. You've said that before. I didn't believe you then, and I don't believe you now.

(CENTURION MIKE hits JESUS. NADI joins CHLOE in the shadows.)

CHLOE

Nadi, there's something I need to tell you.

NADI

What?

CHLOE

First, take this spare tunic.

NADI

That was my brother's tunic. I wore it on our first date.

CHLOE

The best tunic this queen has ever seen. You will be so proud of me. I've learned all about the Scriptures. Nadi, the sky is setting like it did on our first date. Truly amazing. Quote me a Psalm like you did that night.

(NADI talks baby steps towards the ROMANS.)

NADI

I WILL COME IN THE NAME OF THE LORD,
IT'S BLESSED TO COME IN THE NAME OF THE LORD.
THIS IS THE DAY THAT THE LORD HAS MADE
WE WILL REJOICE AND BE GLAD IN IT.

CHLOE

I HAD SOME GREAT DREAMS AND GOD HAD HIS PLAN FOR ME.
IN MY HEART I HOPED THAT I'D ALWAYS FEEL HIS LOVE SHINING ON ME
FROM HIGH ABOVE.

NADI

YOUR WILL BE DONE AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. HALLELUJAH FOREVER AND EVER.

CHLOE

WE MUST KEEP HOPING THAT TOMORROW WILL BE OUR FRIEND
NEVER BE ANXIOUS ABOUT HOW MUCH YOU HAVE TO SPEND.
THERE'S A TIME FOR LIVING AND A TIME TO DIE
BUT IN THE MEANTIME I'LL EAT THE BREAD AND DRINK THE WINE AND
ALWAYS LOOK BACK AND QUESTION WHY.

NADI

You know your scriptures. Who taught you?

CHLOE

Nadi, you won't believe me, but Jesus did. Jesus is the....

(CENTURION MIKE confronts NADI.)

CENTURION MIKE

Run away or I'll arrest you all. Anyone who knows Jesus will with this sword surely die.

NADI

Stop. God will send our Messiah to destroy the Roman Empire. I'm not scared of you.

CENTURION MIKE

This man, Jesus, claims to be your Messiah. Look at him. He's a nobody.

NADI

That man there? There must be a mistake. He's a carpenter, not the Messiah. Our Messiah will be a great warrior. Arrest me instead. I'm the Messiah.

CHLOE

Nadi, come here. Walk away.

NADI

Did you hear, they think Jesus is the Messiah?

CHLOE

Have you not heard about Jesus? Have you been living under a rock?

NADI

I've been living in a cave, actually.

2.4 Jesus Reveals Himself

(CHLOE hands NADI her journal.)

CHLOE

Here Nadi, read this entry in my diary.

NADI

You had a shaking attack on the road to Jerusalem not long after I left that night. This can't be true.

CHLOE

Yes, it's true.

NADI

That's impossible.

(NADI throws her journal in the fire. CHLOE fishes it out, but some of the pages have been burnt.)

CHLOE

Jesus is the Messiah.

NADI

No way. How could you be brainwashed so easily? I thought you were stronger than that.

CHLOE

Nadi, today you will see. That Jesus is our Lord.

NADI

Why would you lie to me? Especially right here, right now. You know how much the Messiah means to Israel. You can't just say Jesus is the Messiah. You could be killed for saying that. I don't want anything to happen to you.

CHLOE

Nothing is going to happen to me. I've spent the last 3 years with Jesus. I know exactly how important the Messiah is. But he's not just important to Israel. He is going to change the whole world. Come closer. Breathe in with me. Open your eyes. The light shines so bright around Jesus.

NADI

I see the light.

(NADI falls down to the ground.)

HALLELUJAH JESUS CHRIST. HALLELUJAH.

(NADI jumps up.)

2.5 Never look back

NADI

Hold on. Hold on. That guard just hit Jesus. Leave our Messiah alone. What? Jesus is being arrested and is being dragged away. This isn't supposed to happen. Maybe I was wrong.

CHLOE

Everything I have told you about Jesus is true.

NADI

The Messiah wouldn't just give up like that.

I'M SURE I'M NOT ONLY THE ONE WHO HAS DOUBTS,
THE OTHERS KEEP QUIET, PRETEND THEY'RE DEVOUT.
BUT I'M NOT AFRAID TO QUESTION THESE ACTS,
LAZARUS AND THE WISE MEN, IT'S JUST ALL TOO ABSTRACT.

SO, JESUS I DOUBT YOU, PLEASE TELL ME THE TRUTH,
CHLOE'S TOLD ME ALL ABOUT YOU, BUT I NEED SOLID PROOF.

(JESUS turns to face NADI.)

JESUS

NADI, MY BROTHER, ALL WILL MAKE SENSE SOON.
I WILL ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS THAT YOU MAY HAVE.
THERE WILL BE SOME TROUBLE, DON'T LET IT GET YOU DOWN,
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, WAIT UNTIL YOU SEE MY CROWN.

(JESUS is led away by the GUARDS.)

NADI

I'm going to find Levi and Barabbas. We can fight the guards and free Jesus.

CHLOE

No. You made your decision, and you chose me. Jesus will free himself. Just you wait and see.

NADI

I can't take that risk. Our Messiah must be protected at all costs. I'm getting reinforcements.

CHLOE

Even if that means you walking away from me?

NADI

Wait for me.

CHLOE

I can't promise you that.

(CHLOE joins the DISCIPLES.

NADI stands alone next to the fire.)

NADI

ARE YOU SOMEONE IMPORTANT, WHAT IS YOUR BIG SURPRISE?

THE GUARDS ARE STANDING BY RIGHT OUTSIDE THE YARD,
THE TEMPERATURE IS RISING AND I'M FINDING IT REAL HARD.
IT SEEMS THAT EVERYWHERE I LOOK, YOU'RE STANDING THERE.
BUT YOU'LL FIGHT, RETALIATE, THEY'LL NEVER BRING YOU DOWN.
IF YOU MAKE THE TIME, IF YOU MAKE THE TIME,
MAKE THE TIME, THE TIME.

TIME WILL BE, NOW OR NEVER, I CAN'T WAIT FOR FOREVER,
YOU SAY NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO SEVER,
BUT I CAN'T WAIT, FOREVER, FOR YOU.
JESUS, PLEASE HEAR ME.

EXT. JERUSALEM STREETS - FRIDAY – DAY

(Busy. Bustling.)

2.6 Nadi meets Levi

NADI

Thanks for meeting me, Levi.

LEVI

I've just heard back from Nazareth. Mum and Dad are doing well. You're not going to believe it. The attack is back on. The guards are spread thin because of some uprising in the city, so Pilate is vulnerable. He's going to Judea in the next few days, so we can ambush him on the road to Emmaus. They say it is a Jewish Rabbi causing all the trouble. We should find him and say thanks for making our mission easier.

NADI

He isn't just a rabbi. He's our Messiah. And it's Jesus.

LEVI

What? No way. Jesus the carpenter? No, that can't be right. Our Messiah is going to be a mighty warrior. Who told you those lies?

(JESUS is led chained through the streets. CROWDS BOO.)

NADI

JESUS IS OUR SAVIOUR, COME TO TAKE US BACK HOME.
HE WAS A CARPENTER, I TOLD HIM WHAT TO DO
WE FIXED THE OAKEN CHESTS, MADE THEM LOOK LIKE NEW.
BUT NOW HE IS A SOMEONE, THE JEWS ARE SCARED OF HIM,
WHAT CAN BE HIS CRIME, WHY PAY SUCH A COST?

NADI

HALLELUJAH JESUS CHRIST. HALLELUJAH.

LEVI

I CRY UNTO THE HEAVENS, AND I ASK IF HE CAN HEAR MY PRAYER.
AND EVERYONE WILL KNOW THAT I WILL
CALL ON HIM TO SAVE MY SOUL.
WHEN I AM IN THE TEMPLE, I WILL ALWAYS TELL HIM MY TROUBLES.
WHEN MY SPIRIT IS SO FAINT
I FIND IT HARD TO TAKE A DEEP LONG BREATH.
IN THE DARKEST LANDS, YOU CAN SEE ME
AND YOU WILL WALK RIGHT BESIDE ME.

I AM NOT RELIGIOUS. I HAVE SINNED SO MANY TIMES IT HURTS,
NADI WAS THE BETTER MAN,
AND HE WOULD ALWAYS MAKE OUR MOTHER PROUD.
HERE I AM, BELIEVING THAT THERE'S
MAYBE JUST A LITTLE CHANCE FOR ME,

WILL YOU MAKE TOMORROW EASIER IF I CAN JUST SHOUT OUT YOUR NAME?

SET ME FREE TODAY FROM MY PRISON, AND I WILL SING YOU MY PRAISES.
JESUS, ARE YOU EVERYTHING THAT EVERYONE HAS SAID YOU ARE,
TELL ME ALL YOUR SECRETS, TELL ME ALL YOUR WISDOM
SO THAT I MAY GROW.

IS IT REALLY TRUE THAT YOU WOULD EAT,
WITH MEN AND NEVER ASK THEIR NAMES?
TAX COLLECTORS, SINNERS, AND ALL THE REST?
JESUS, TOUCH ME BEFORE YOU GO,
REMEMBER ME. I'M LEVI, YOU KNOW.
I WANT TO BE THERE. I'LL CARRY YOUR CROSS,
LISTEN TO NADI. HE'S STILL A GOOD BOSS.

MY LIFE IS YOURS YOUR WILL I WILL DO,
WHEREVER YOU GO, I'LL FOLLOW YOU.
I SENSE YOUR PAIN IT HURTS ME AS WELL.
WHEN YOU'RE PIERCING THEIR SIDES,
WITH SPEARS STRAIGHT FROM HELL.

(NADI clicks two stones together. LEVI sharpens his knife.)

JESUS TOUCH ME BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE,
REMEMBER ME OUTSIDE HEAVEN'S GATES.

We can break Jesus out of jail. With our Messiah on our side, we will be unstoppable. They can't kill him. This is our time. You and me side by side with our Messiah, at last.

MY GOD IS YOUR GOD AND YOUR GOD'S FOR ME,
WITH THE MESSIAH HERE, WE CAN ALL BE FREE.

(NADI sets fire to the hay with a spark from two stones.)

2.7 Part your heavens

NADI

PRAISE TO THE LORD, WHO TRAINS MY HANDS FOR WAR.
 HE'S MY LOVING GOD IN WHOM I TAKE REFUGE.
 WHAT ARE HUMAN BEINGS THAT YOU CARE SO WELL FOR THEM,
 MERE MORTALS, THAT YOU THINK SO WELL OF THEM?

PART YOUR HEAVENS, O LORD, AND COME DOWN;
 TOUCH THE MOUNTAINS, SO THAT THEY SMOKE.
 SEND FORTH YOUR LIGHTNING AND SCATTER THE ENEMY;
 SHOOT YOUR ARROWS STRAIGHT THROUGH THEIR HEARTS.
 FROM THE DEADLY SWORD DELIVER US NOW.
 REACH DOWN YOUR HAND, DELIVER AND RESCUE ME
 FROM THE WATERS, AND THE HANDS OF FOREIGNERS
 THEIR MOUTHS ARE FULL OF LIES, THEIR HANDS DECEITFUL
 BLESSED ARE THE PEOPLE WHOSE GOD IS THE LORD.

PART YOUR HEAVENS, O LORD, AND COME DOWN;
 TOUCH THE MOUNTAINS, SO THAT THEY SMOKE.
 SEND FORTH YOUR LIGHTNING AND SCATTER THE ENEMY;
 SHOOT YOUR ARROWS STRAIGHT THROUGH THEIR HEARTS.
 FROM THE DEADLY SWORD DELIVER US NOW.

THEN OUR SONS IN THEIR YOUTH WILL BE LIKE WELL-NURTURED PLANTS.
 AND OUR DAUGHTERS WILL BE LIKE PILLARS
 CARVED TO ADORN A GREAT AND WONDERFUL PALACE.
 OUR BARNs WILL BE FILLED WITH EVERY KIND OF PROVISION.
 BLESSED ARE YOU, O LORD.

CHLOE

Thomas said he saw you here. Don't give up on God. Don't give up on me. Trust in God.
 Nadi, take my hand. I know there's a lot going on, but I know we are meant to be. This isn't
 the end. Only the beginning.

NADI

I shouldn't have listened to you. Filling my head with Messiah talk. Barabbas is out of jail.
 He has come up with a new plan. We are going to attack tonight. It's too dangerous for you.
 Don't follow me. It's too late. I need to do what I should have done at the beginning. We
 need to take down Goliath once and for all.

PART YOUR HEAVENS, O LORD, AND COME DOWN,
 TOUCH THE MOUNTAINS, SO THAT THEY SMOKE.

CHLOE

Come with me to Golgotha and be there for Jesus. He would love to look down and see you.

NADI

I can't. The Romans will pay for what they're doing. There's still time to save Jesus. The
 Romans are having him flogged. We have a couple of hours.

CHLOE

We? There is no we. Forget about fighting the Romans. Be here with me and be here for Jesus.

(CHLOE puts her hands through NADI'S hair.)

NADI

OK. I'll stay for a bit.

EXT. ROMAN HOLDING AREA – DAY

(JESUS stands in his under garments. CENTURION MIKE prepares his torture tools.)

CENTURION MIKE

JESUS CHRIST, ARE YOU THE MAN OF OUR DAY,
I WANT HIS SANDALS, I WANT HIS ROBE,
JESUS, TELL ME HOW TO PRAY.
STAND UP NOW, WE ARE GOING TO HAVE SOME FUN,
THIS IS MY FAVOURITE DIRTY DEADLY SCOURGE.
WHEN I HAVE FINISHED, WE WILL SEE
YOUR BONES THROUGH YOUR FLESH.

I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU NOW, CRUCIFIXION IS THE ONLY WAY
TO MAKE SURE THAT EVERYONE WILL
SEE YOUR BROKEN BODY ON DISPLAY.

STAND UP I SAY, STAND UP TO ATTENTION!

WE HAVE TO KILL EVERYONE WHO SPREADS YOUR LIES.
ANYONE WHO SAYS THAT THEY HAVE KNOWN YOU, SURELY HAS TO DIE.

JESUS

WHY ARE MEN, SO OBSESSED WITH KNIVES AND SWORDS?
YOU WILL NOT KILL ANYONE IN MY NAME.

(CENTURION MIKE strikes his first blow. JESUS flinches.)

EXT. ROAD TO GOLGOTHA – DAY

(JESUS carries his cross.)

2.8 time

NADI

Barabbas has called off the attack. Levi is going to head back to Nazareth. He doesn't believe Jesus can save himself. I admit, it's hard to see Jesus like this. The cross he is carrying is huge. He can still save himself. Although, he's cutting it fine.

JESUS

THE TIME IT PASSES BY, AND I DON'T SAY A WORD
THE FEELINGS COME AND GO, BUT IT'S NATURAL I HEARD.
TIME HEALS ALL THESE WOUNDS BUT I NEED STITCHING UP
CAUSE I'M TORN, RIPPED. I'M HANGING UPSIDE DOWN.
IF YOU MAKE THE TIME.
IF YOU MAKE THE TIME, MAKE THE TIME, THE TIME.

THE PAST IS HAUNTING ME IT KNOCKS UPON MY DOOR.
I CLOSE MY EYES SO I CAN SEE THIS TWISTED WORLD NO MORE
THE FLOWERS IN THE GARDEN SMELL OF FORGOTTEN TIMES
CAUSE I'M STRONG, FIGHTING, YOU'LL NEVER GET ME DOWN.
IF YOU MAKE THE TIME.
IF YOU MAKE THE TIME, MAKE THE TIME, THE TIME.
TIME WILL BE NOW OR NEVER
I CAN'T WAIT, FOR FOREVER.
YOU SAY NOW, YOU'RE GOING TO SEVER.

(JESUS is lifted onto the cross.)

MY MOODS ARE GETTING WORSE. THE DEVILS AT MY DOOR.
THE SUN IS GETTING BRIGHT. THERE'S STILL SO MUCH MORE IN STORE.
I'M HOPING TO GET OVER THE WAY I FEEL TONIGHT
CAUSE I'M TORN RIPPED, HANGING UPSIDE DOWN.
IF YOU MAKE THE TIME. IF YOU MAKE THE TIME, MAKE THE TIME.
IF YOU MAKE THE TIME, MAKE THE TIME. THE TIME.

EXT. GOLGOTHA – DAY

(JESUS struggles to breathe.)

2.9 Jesus dies

JESUS

Into your hands, I commit my spirit. Why have you forsaken me, in your eyes forsaken me, in your thoughts, and your heart forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from my cries of anguish? It is finished. TETELESTAI.

(JESUS DIES.)

CHLOE

SEND US OUR MESSIAH. OUR KING OF THE JEWS.

COME TO ME NOW, LET YOUR ARMS CRADLE ME.
FEELING HAPPY INSIDE, FILL MY HEART FULL OF JOY.
I WILL BE FREE COME, COME TO ME.
I WILL BE FREE, COME, COME TO ME.

ADONAI OUR GOD, CREATOR OF THE FRUIT AND VINE
YOU HAVE CHOSEN US FROM ALL THE WORLDLY TRIBES.
YOU HAVE GIVEN US THIS PASSOVER MEAL,
YOU HAVE SHOWN US A GREAT WEALTH OF HOPE AND JOY.

I WILL BE FREE, COME, COME TO ME.
BLESSED ARE YOU ADONAI.
SANCTIFY US NOW, AND ALL YOUR FESTIVALS.
YOU ARE GREAT OH GOD, THE RULER OF THE WORLD.

I WILL BE FREE COME, COME TO ME. LET YOUR ARMS CRADLE ME.
FEELING HAPPY INSIDE, COME, COME TO ME.
FEELING HAPPY INSIDE, COME, COME TO ME,
SO, I CAN LIVE AND KEEP THE FAITH.

(JESUS is taken down from the cross.)

INT. CHURCH - SYDNEY – PRESENT DAY - DAY

2.10 PASTOR RICHMOND

PASTOR RICHMOND

Nadi was one of the first people to doubt like this, and he needed faith more than ever. It is OK believing in God when times are good, but when times are bad it can feel like God has deserted you. You can feel totally on your own. This is a feeling we can all relate to.

EXT. GOLGOTHA – FRIDAY – 33AD

(CHLOE stands at the empty cross.)

2.11 Waiting for you

CHLOE

TELL ME, WHAT MORE CAN I GIVE
DID YOU REALLY DIE SO I COULD LIVE?
WITH YOUR LAST BREATH WHAT DID YOU PRAY
CAN YOUR DEATH TRULY PAVE THE WAY?
BUT I WILL BE READY, AND WAITING FOR YOU
JUST LIKE THE SERVANT WHOSE MASTER IS DUE.
DON'T KNOW THE HOUR, TODAY OR NEXT YEAR
BUT I WILL BE READY WITH NOTHING TO FEAR.
WHEN YOU LOOKED DOWN FROM THE BLOODY TREE
DID YOU LOOK DOWN AND CATCH SIGHT OF ME?
I SEE YOUR MOTHER CRYING AT YOUR FEET,
WITH THE OTHER WOMEN I WOULD HAVE LOVED TO MEET.

THEN THE GUARD PICKED UP HIS SPEAR,
I KNEW YOUR DEATH WAS SO NEAR.
ALL I CAN DO IS JUST STAND AND SEE
THAT MY SAVIOUR WAS GOING TO DIE FOR ME.
I WILL BE READY AND WAITING FOR YOU
JUST LIKE THE SERVANT WHOSE MASTER IS DUE.
DON'T KNOW THE HOUR, TODAY OR NEXT YEAR
BUT I WILL BE READY WITH NOTHING TO FEAR.
I WILL BE READY AND WAITING FOR YOU
WITH SIMON, ANDREW AND BARTHOLOMEW.
PETER, ANDREW, THOMAS, AND JOHN
MATTHEW AND PHILIP, WE'LL TRY TO BE STRONG.
I WILL BE READY, NOW FOLLOW YOUR HEART
TODAY IS THE DAY WHEN YOUR RELIGION STARTS.
TELL ALL OF THE GENTILES AND THE SINNERS TOO
THAT YOU ARE OUR SAVIOUR, THE KING OF THE JEWS.
JESUS MY SAVIOUR, THE KING OF THE JEWS.

EXT. JESUS'S TOMB – DAY

(GUARDS stand at JESUS'S tomb.)

2.12 Sir we remember – Centurion Mike

GUARD

SIR, WE REMEMBER THAT WHILE THAT LIAR WAS STILL ALIVE HE SAID,
"AFTER THREE DAYS I WILL RISE FROM THE DEAD."

GUARD 2

GO AND GUARD THE TOMB CLOSELY OTHERWISE HIS FOLLOWERS
MAY COME AND STEAL THE BODY, AND SAY HE HAS RISEN FROM THE DEAD.

CHLOE

JESUS, CAN YOU HEAR ME? JESUS HOW I MISS YOU.

GUARD 2

THAT LIE WOULD BE WORSE THAN THE FIRST ONE.

CHLOE

JESUS, CAN YOU HEAR ME? JESUS HOW I MISS YOU.

(GARDENER, 45, tends to the grass.)

GARDENER

JESUS CHRIST RISEN STAR.

NADI

I'll take you all on. Come on. Down with the Roman Empire.

CENTURION MIKE

You're still not worth the effort. Where was your God when you needed him? Go home.

NADI

What home? We won't have a home as long as you are here. One way or another, this is
going to end today.

CENTURION MIKE

If I see you again, I'll kill you, that lovely girl of yours, and all your family.

CHLOE

JESUS, CAN YOU HEAR ME? JESUS HOW I MISS YOU.

2.13 Nadi and Chloe fight

(NADI and CHLOE enters from different sides.)

CHLOE

Nadi, are you here?

NADI

Chloe? Is that you?

CHLOE

I can't believe it. Jesus died. But this can't be the end. I'm finding it hard to believe in him.

NADI

Jesus betrayed us all. He made fools out of us all. The Messiah I've been praying for all my life turned out to be Jesus. And now he's dead. We have to take matters into our own hands.

CHLOE

Jesus said that those who live by the sword die by the sword. I don't want you to die. I'm meeting up with the disciples. Come and join us for supper. It's time to walk away. We can go back to Nazareth and start a new life there.

NADI

No. I am not giving up. The Empire must be crushed. They killed one of us. They killed my friend.

They have to pay, and we'll send them back to Rome. Once and for all.

CHLOE

Will you tell me when this new life's gonna start? Close the door, turn away. It's time to leave and not to stay.

NADI

It's time to fight and not to run. Go. Go. Go. I want to be on my own.

(CHLOE stares at NADI before storming off.)

NADI places his head in his hands.)

EXT. JESUS'S TOMB – SUNDAY – DAY

(NADI approaches CHLOE who turns her back on him.)

2.14 Rabbi, Jesus Christ

NADI

Hi Chloe.

CHLOE

I don't want to speak to you.

NADI

Please. You'll never believe what happened. I was going to attack Centurion Mike while he was on patrol. I was hiding in the perfect spot, it was dark and I had a clear escape route. I was about to jump out with my knife when I could swear, I heard Jesus calling me. I turned around but no one was there. Then, something pulled me to come here. I can't explain it.

(CHLOE takes a step closer to NADI.)

CHLOE

That's the Spirit. The spirit blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound but you cannot tell where it comes from.

NADI

Or where it is going. I bought some oil to anoint his body.

CHLOE

So did I. You really hurt me when you spoke to me like that.

NADI

As soon as I raised my voice, I instantly regretted it. Please, can you forgive me?

CHLOE

Of course, I can. But Nadi, you only get to raise your voice at me once. Never twice.

NADI

I only need one more chance.

CHLOE

What was the question you wanted to ask me that night before the Roman guards barged in?

NADI

Can I kiss you?

CHLOE

I knew the answer would be yes.

(NADI kisses CHLOE.)

GARDENER

DID YOU HEAR THE NEWS TODAY
ABOUT A CARPENTER FROM GALILEE,
HE DIED THREE DAYS AGO
A JEW WITH DAVIDIC ANCESTRY?
NOW YOU'LL SEE HE'S BORN AGAIN
HE ROSE RIGHT UP, I DON'T KNOW WHEN,
SOME WILL SEE AND SOME WILL DOUBT
AND YOU SAID IT COULDN'T HAPPEN.

*(The GARDENER is JESUS.
CHLOE and NADI do not recognize him.)*

2.15 The Stranger

(CHLOE notices the stone has been moved. She slowly peers in.)

JESUS

I AM HERE, CHLOE, PLEASE DON'T CRY. I AM STILL CLOSE BY.

CHLOE

JESUS, CAN YOU HEAR ME? JESUS HOW I MISS YOU.

Nadi, where has the stone gone? Has someone broken in?
There's no body inside. Has Jesus risen from the dead? Is he alive again?

JESUS

I AM HERE, CHLOE PLEASE DON'T CRY. I AM STILL CLOSE BY.

CHLOE

JESUS, CAN YOU HEAR ME? JESUS HOW I MISS YOU.

NADI

Centurion, what are you doing here? We don't want any trouble.

CENTURION MIKE

It's OK. I'm a changed man. I left my sword behind. When Jesus was on the cross, he cured my sick wife. I was wrong about him. We all were.

NADI

He cured your wife?

CENTURION MIKE

Yes. I had a feeling you would be here.

CHLOE

Come, join us for supper.

NADI

No, it may be a trap.

(NADI draws his knife.)

CENTURION MIKE

I saw you waiting to attack me in the alley, but I let you escape. I'd love to join you.

NADI

Follow me, Centurion.

CENTURION MIKE

My name is Mike.

CHLOE

Nadi, if we are going to be together, you need to turn your back on the Zealots. I have to be your priority.

(CHLOE puts her hand out and NADI places his knife on it.)

NADI

I promise. You will come first. But you need to tell me the truth. What you wrote in your diary about what happened to you on the road to Jerusalem. Did that really happen?

CHLOE

Yes. It was scary. I remember Jesus smiling at me. Do you believe me?

NADI

Yes, I believe you. Are you good with a hammer?

CHLOE

I can learn. We're going to be partners in the business.

NADI

But you're really going to be in charge.

CHLOE

You're getting the hang of it. You'll make an excellent husband.

INT. WEDDING ROOM – DAY

(A SPECTACULAR wedding room. All CAST are present.)

2.16 I fell in love today

NADI

Today is a good day. We'll always pray to Yahway and give him thanks for all that he has done. Chloe, you look amazing.

CHLOE

Nadi, you scrub up OK also.

I CAN SEE YOU IN MY DREAMS AND EVERY TIME I CLOSE MY EYES,
NADI, MY HUSBAND, I LOVE YOU,
I NEED TO HAVE YOU HERE RIGHT BY MY SIDE.

NADI

YOU AND I ARE A MATCH MADE UP IN HEAVEN,
NOW I CAN TELL YOU, JUST HOW MUCH YOU MEAN TO ME.
WE ARE SOUL MATES, THAT WILL NEVER CHANGE. I'LL NEVER BE ALONE,
MY HEART WILL ALWAYS BELONG TO YOU.
NOW THAT YOU HAVE MY HAND,
THIS PATH MAY JUST BE KIND, I PRAY THE ROAD IS STRAIGHT.

CHLOE

I'LL NEVER LET YOU GO; THIS IS OUR DESTINY.
NOW OUR CUP OVERFLOWS.

NADI

FROM THIS DAY FORWARD, OUR LOVE WILL ALWAYS GROW.

CHLOE

I HAD A SECRET, BUT NOW I SHOUT IT FROM THE HIGHEST HILLS,
ALL WE NEED IS RIGHT HERE, WITH YOU BESIDE ME,
I KNOW THERE'S NOTHING IN MY LIFE TO FEAR.

NADI

FROM OUR FIRST KISS I KNEW, WE WERE MEANT TO BE
YOU MAKE ME HAPPY, YOU MEAN EVERYTHING TO ME.
MY MOTHER KNEW THAT YOU WERE MADE FOR ME,
YOUR SMILE IS SO PRECIOUS WHAT ELSE WILL I EVER NEED?

DUET

I FELL IN LOVE TODAY, THE FLOWERS HAVE A SWEET BOUQUET,
THE TIME IS NOW HERE TO STAY, OUR END IS FAR AWAY,
AS WE FELL IN LOVE TODAY.

CHLOE

ALWAYS HOLD MY HAND.

NADI
MY FOOTPRINTS ARE NEXT TO YOURS IN THE SAND.
YOU AND I, LIKE SUN RISES IN THE EAST.

CHLOE
LIKE A BANQUET, A GIANT WEDDING FEAST.

NADI
ALWAYS REMEMBER.

CHLOE
I COULD NEVER FORGET.

DUET
HERE'S TO A LIFETIME, AN ALPHA AND OMEGA SILHOUETTE.
I FELL IN LOVE TODAY; I FELL IN LOVE TODAY.

NADI
TOGETHER FOREVER.

CHLOE
TOGETHER FOREVER.

DUET
CAUSE WE GOT MARRIED TODAY.

NADI
I guess you weren't out of my league after all.

(NADI and CHLOE walk into the sunset.)

EXT. ROAD TO JERUSALEM – DAY

(CROWDS follow NADI and CHLOE.)

2.17 Been Believing

NADI

I'm so excited, we get to preach the Good News all around Israel.

CHLOE

I'm so nervous. I don't know what to say.

NADI

Tell them what happened to you on the way to Jerusalem that day three years ago.

CHLOE

THEY TURNED YOUR BACK, YOU DIDN'T BELIEVE, WE SAID IT WAS TRUE,
OUR FAITH WAS ENOUGH, DO NOT BE A HYPOCRITE,
BE LIKE US, LET GOD BLESS YOU.
THE KINGDOM IS AT HAND NOW, THE NEW WORLD WILL APPEAR,
THIS OLD ONE, FAILED,
OVERTAKEN BY EVIL WILL BE GONE, SOON, I HEAR.
OH YES, WE'VE BEEN BELIEVING,
SINCE JESUS SHOWED US HIS SCARS ON HIS LEGS,
AND WE PRAY FOR THOSE, WHO NEVER DID BELIEVE
JESUS, YOU'RE MY GOD TO ME.

*(NADI kneels. The CROWD kneels beside him.
CHLOE breaks bread and hands it out.)*

JESUS SHOWED COMPASSION,
HE HELPED THE POOR, THE DESPISED, AND THE LEPER SEVEN,
BLESSED ARE THE MEEK, WHO MOURN AND SHOW MERCY,
FOR YOUR REWARD IS GREAT IN HEAVEN.
RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES, JESUS HAS RETURNED,
NOW IN GLORY, TO TAKE US WITH HIM BACK TO HIS HOME
AND WE HAVE TO TELL HIS STORY.
OH YES, WE'VE BEEN BELIEVING
SINCE JESUS SHOWED US HIS SCARS, ON HIS HANDS,
AND WE PRAY FOR THOSE, WHO NEVER DID BELIEVE
JESUS, YOU'RE MY GOD TO ME.

IT HAS BEEN WRITTEN SINCE WHEN THE WORLD FIRST STARTED TO BE,
WE WILL DIE FOR JESUS, AND TAKE UP OUR OWN CROSS,
WHEN JESUS SAID COME FOLLOW ME.

OH YES, WE'VE BEEN BELIEVING
SINCE JESUS SHOWED US HIS SCARS, ON HIS HEAD,
AND WE PRAY FOR THOSE, WHO NEVER DID BELIEVE
JESUS, YOU'RE MY GOD, YOU'RE MY GOD TO ME.

INT. CHURCH - SYDNEY – PRESENT DAY - DAY

(A collection is being taken.)

2.18 PASTOR RICHMOND

PASTOR RICHMOND

For me, Nadi is one of the most influential people in the New Testament. He struggled with his faith. He struggled to accept Jesus was the Messiah. He struggled with the meaning of his life. Jesus said one of the most important things was to love one another. That may be loving your wife, your children, your parents, but it also means loving one another. One of the last things Nadi writes is how much his life changed in the garden of Gethsemane. At that moment his life made sense and he was surrounded by love, even though suffering was all around him. We should strive to see the love in our lives, and try to alleviate any suffering in the lives around us.

Discovering new journals like this shines a new light on what life was like 2,000 years ago. Imagine hearing for the first time that your friend was the Messiah. We are so lucky that Nadi's journals were discovered.

I have just heard this week, that they have found part of Chloe's journal. She talks about witnessing the accounts of Jesus's ministry firsthand. Most scholars have accepted its authenticity and it is a separate document from the Gospel of Mary. I can't wait to read it and learn more about her.

Thank you all for coming today. Coffee and tea will be served in the hall afterwards. The Bible study is on Tuesday night at 7 pm. Stay safe everyone and see you all next Sunday.

INT. HARVARD UNIVERSITY – LAB. – DAY

(PROF. WEST handles the same scroll NADI threw into the fire.)

2.19 The Scrolls

PROF. WEST

Hi, Dr. Harrison. Anything revealing in Chloe's new scroll?

DR. HARRISON

Hi, Professor West. Yes. I can't believe my eyes. This scroll is her personal diary. I'm having trouble translating one section. It was written not long after she left Nazareth with Jesus. It looks like she had an epileptic episode on the road to Jerusalem. And she died. But Jesus brought her back to life.

PROF. WEST

If that can be verified that would be an amazing find. This could have been one of Jesus's first miracles. Did she mention heaven? How did she feel afterwards? So many questions.

DR. HARRISON

The pages have been heavily damaged. There is a passage where she talks about wanting to see Nadi again. I'm working around the clock. I'll keep you posted.

PROF. WEST

Anything you need is yours.

(CHLOE and NADI dance silhouetted against a brilliant sunset.)

CHLOE

YES, I'VE BEEN BELIEVING
I'VE BEEN WISHING UPON THOSE SHINY STARS.
DREAMING OF YOU, DREAMING OUR LOVE
WILL OUTSHINE ALL THE STARS HIGH ABOVE.

2.20 Hallelujah

(NADI is dressed in modern clothes. The CAST join him on stage.)

NADI

SO, THIS IS THE END, IT WAS NOVEMBER BY THE FIRESIDE
 WHEN JESUS PICKED UP THAT BOOK,
 NEVER REALLY REALISING, THE PRECIOUS STEPS THAT HE TOOK.
 AS I'M LOOKING BACK, IT IS VERY CLEAR TO ME,
 THAT I WAS MEANT TO BE, A SOMEONE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE,
 AND NOT A NOBODY.
 HOW QUIET STILL, HOW THOUGHTFUL, STAY,
 TO HIM YOU KNEW, NOW CAST AWAY.
 THE FUNNY TIMES, WE SHARED WITH HIM,
 ARE ALL TOO BLACK NOW, ALL TOO GRIM.

DO WE PRETEND TO KNOW WHAT IS TO BE DONE?
 OUR EYES WATER WHEN WE'RE SAD,
 LIFE ISN'T ALWAYS FUN, NOW, IT'S ALL BEEN DONE.
 THE MEMORIES OF OUR PAST, DO THEY REMAIN IN THE AIR?
 LIKE FOSSILS FOUND IN ROCK, IF THEY ARE FOUND, WHO WILL CARE?
 THE MUSIC IS SO DIVINE, CONNECTING US WITH OUR SOULS,
 PLAYING WITH OUR DEEP EMOTIONS, ONWARDS TO OUR GOALS.
 THIS IS ME, SINGING HALLELUJAH TO YOU
 THIS IS ME, SINGING HALLELUJAH.
 THIS IS ME TODAY. SINGING HALLELUJAH,
 SINGING HALLELUJAH, SINGING HALLELUJAH
 IT MAKES ME GREAT; IT MAKES ME FINE,
 ALL THE TIME SING IT LOUD, TODAY THIS DAY IS MINE.
 HOLDING ON TO NOTHING, I REALISED I WAS ALL ALONE,
 LOOKING AROUND FOR ANSWERS, BEHIND TREES, AND UNDER STONES.
 I CAUGHT A GLIMPSE OF SOMETHING, I HOPED THAT I COULD SEE,
 BUT TO MY SURPRISE THAT SOMETHING, WAS JUST REFLECTING ME.
 HOLD ON TO THOSE FADED HOPES, WITH EACH LONG BREATH AND SIGH;
 AS WHEN THE SUN RISES OVER THE PLACE, WHERE YOU,
 COULD NOT PUT HIM DOWN TO LIE.
 OUR LIFE IS BUT A BRIEF ONE, IT PASSES BEFORE YOUR EYES
 ONE DAY IT RAINS AND THEN ITS SUNNY, SUNSET SUNRISE.
 AT LEAST THE SUFFERING, THE HURT, THE PAIN, IS OVER NOW,
 BLOOD WASHED IN RAIN AND WITH YOUR FRIENDS,
 START UP A NEW, ALWAYS REMEMBER.

THIS IS ME, SINGING HALLELUJAH TO YOU
 NOTHING ON MY TONGUE BUT, SINGING HALLELUJAH.
 THIS IS ME TODAY.
 AMEN, HALLELUJAH, SINGING HALLELUJAH.
 AMEN, HALLELUJAH, REJOICE, REJOICE, OUR SAVIOR'S GONE
 HALLELUJAH, HALLELUJAH.

SINGING HALLELUJAH, SINGING HALLELUJAH,

SINGING HALLELUJAH, HALLELUJAH, HALLELUJAH,
HALLELUJAH, HALLELUJAH.