

PROOF OF FAITH

Written by

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Current Revisions by

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INT. ALLAN PENZIAS'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

ALLAN PENZIAS, a well-trimmed bearded man (30s), eyes heavy, stares at the flickering TV screen in a barren apartment decorated only with the chaos of his scientific endeavors - whiteboards, notes, models.

One lone picture, hung perfectly, disrupts the chaos. A teenager holds a blue ribbon with his proud mother and father at a school science fair.

Visual and verbal STATIC intrude on the TV from the well-worn VHS tape. Fresh notes are splayed in front of the TV like an offering.

On the TV ARNOLD PENZIAS, a well-trimmed bearded man (30s), eyes bright with excitement, stands in front of a whiteboard scribbling simple visuals that match his words.

ARNOLD (ON TV)
...see time as a constant line,
while others see it as a loop, and
still others see it as folds. But I
look at time like a never-ending
bicycle wheel with all points
connected to a hub by spokes.
So the reason no one has cracked
time travel is because they are
trying to go from one point on the
timeline directly to another point.
When you really need to figure out
how to get to the hub. Then, from
there, you can go to any point you
wish to go.

Happy 13 year old Allan from the photo comes to the board.

ALLEN (ON TV)
And God lives at the hub?

ARNOLD (ON TV)
(laughs, happily surprised
at the insight)
No. But this is His design.
Everywhere you look you can see the
divine architecture. None of this
is random. It is all part of a
wonderful plan.

DEBORAH PENZIAS (OC)
If God planned for you to travel
through time you'd just be able to
do it.

Arnold picks up the camera and reveals DEBORAH PENZIAS, a handsome, modestly dressed woman (30s) wearing a silver cross necklace. Virgin Mary swaddling Jesus art on the wall.

Arnold turns off the AC unit and aims the camera at Deborah.

ARNOLD (ON TV)
And if God planned for you to be
cool. You'd just be cool.

Deborah gets up and turns the AC back on.

DEBORAH (ON TV)
Never get between me and God.

Arnold embraces Deborah. Allan laughs and joins in.

ARNOLD (ON TV)
Can you see God in science? He put
it all there for us to discover.

Arnold looks straight into the camera. Allan leans forward and stares into his father's eyes languishing.

ARNOLD (ON TV) (CONT'D)
Have you eyes, but do not see?

Allan pauses the video on the close-up.

A LOUD PHONE RINGS. RING!

RING!

RING!

Allen resumes play. He answers a land line.

ALLAN
You feeling okay today, ma?

INT. DEBORAH PENZIAS'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

A neat, clean home stuck in the seventies. At least one cross per room. "Lord's prayer" on wall by dinner table.

DEBORAH
How do you always...

ALLAN (ON PHONE)
No one uses land lines anymore.

DEBORAH
I sat with that nice Priscilla
Deeds today. You know her. The
smart one who leads bible study.
She mentioned you, but we didn't
see you. You must have sat in the
back again.

Cut between Allan and Deborah. Each shot of her with a cross or religious relic behind her. Each shot of him with a large blank wall or scientific notations behind him.

ALLAN

I don't have the time, ma.

DEBORAH

Your father would be proud of how you've advanced his work. But he'd also want you to advance your family. He always said making time for a family was a choice. He was glad he made it.

ALLAN

(ignoring)
Want me to bring dinner?

DEBORAH

No. I can still make my special roast for my son whom I love.

Allan rolls his eyes. A slight pause.

DEBORAH (CONT'D)

Bring the tape.

ALLAN

Still need it.

DEBORAH

Allan Wiseman Penzias, If Jesus was sitting beside you right now, would what you're doing make him smile or frown?

ALLAN

I think my imaginary friend would smile and say something supportive like, "Thou shalt keepeth it as long as thou needeth it. Amen."

She looks up at the Serenity Prayer stained glass hanging in her window and sighs.

DEBORAH

You need to watch the part...

ALLAN

Gotta go, ma. It's getting to the good part.

DEBORAH

Where he shushes me?

ALLAN
See you later.

DEBORAH
5:30. Love you.

ALLAN
(sincere)
Love you, ma.

Allan hangs up and turns the volume up.

DEBORAH (ON TV)
Tell him about...

ARNOLD (ON TV)
Shush, dear. He gets the idea.

The tape focuses in on Arnold.

ARNOLD (ON TV) (CONT'D)
You do, don't you, Allan? This is
not opinion. Not superstition. Not
misplaced doctrine. THIS is
science. Given to us to discover if
we so choose.
Love you, my son.

The tape ends in HISSING STATIC. Allan clicks it off.

ALLAN
Love you, dad.

Allan begins to gather his notes and stops on one sheet of paper. He crosses to one of the boards full of papers and pulls an older paper down and puts the two together.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
How do you solve misplaced
doctrine? Get a new doctrine.

INT. MIA (MAGNUS INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATES) BREAK ROOM - LUNCH

A small, curved room with a large window on one side looking out over a 50 foot concave copper floored room with a tall round frame work in the center holding a suspended harness. Larger rooms can be seen ringing the center room filled with advanced scientific equipment.

The small room is sparse and clean. The usual breakroom staples - fridge, coffee machine, microwave, table, chairs - are all made from shiny metal and are bolted in place.

Allan stands in front of a WHIRRING microwave. His phone beeps. Like a conductor he swipes left, right, up, down.

ALLAN
What ya got 'puter?

He looks down and sighs.

Suddenly, he types in a flurry of fingers. He pauses. Staring at the text. He taps the screen one last time.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Come on, 'puter. You can do it.

The research team sits at the lunch table. ROBERT WILSON, (late 70s) heavy-set, bespectacled man, wide wiry mustache, consumes fast food. ERNST PRETORIOUS, (40s) large, thick man with a square jaw and heavy, dark brows, takes measured bites of meticulously laid out portions of meat and vegetables. ISRA INGVAR, (mid 30s) short, robust, long glossy black hair, self-consciously enjoys soup.

ROBERT
We have to be careful. If the military ever got hold of this technology...

ERNST
What technology? We have nothing.

ISRA
Yet. But when we do.

ERNST
Let the government come. No one controls Ernst Pretorius. I decide what I do and who I do it for. Regardless of who's in charge.

ALLAN
Yes, Ernst. We all know you think you should be in charge. Of everything.

ROBERT
In my day we were all just scientists. We worked together to reach our common goals. When we succeeded, we all succeeded.

ALLAN
Can't we all just get along?

ERNST
Always joking. Never funny.

ISRA
Why are you even here? If you hate working with us and you're so much better than us. Why be here?

ALLAN

He's here because he serves a purpose. He has a great head on his shoulders. Even if it is swollen. And bitter. And...

ERNST

I accept your apology.

ALLAN

Good. Now, like Jesus says to the Pharisees, "You guys need to stop."

ERNST

If Jesus ever met you, he'd spit in your face.

ALLAN

Ernst. Enough. Done?

ERNST

For now.

A BEEPING starts. Allan whips out his phone, then notices the microwave is beeping. Allan pulls roast leftovers from the microwave and joins his colleagues.

ROBERT

Seems like forever since I came over for your mom's special roast.

ISRA

I love roast. It smells heavenly.

ERNST

Probably as bland as your theories.

Allan stares at Ernst like a Great Dane at a yippy Chihuahua.

ALLAN

She's not really up to making enough for guests. I try to get her to stop making it for me, but...

ISRA

Maybe we could come over one Sunday and help her. It'd be nice to get together outside work. Besides I'd love to meet your mother.

ALLAN

Not really a good idea right now.

ROBERT

Then when?

ALLAN
(ignoring)
Last night my mother asked how "my father's" work was coming along.

ERNST
Did you tell her the truth?

ALLAN
Which truth? Your truth?

ERNST
That, even though your father got you put in charge of this team, without his help you can't lead us over this last hurdle.

Allan rises to his full height over Ernst.

Ernst rises to meet him.

Isra puts her hand on Allan's.

Allan opens his mouth and a BEEPING is heard.

Allan hurriedly pulls out his phone and accesses it.

His eyes probe the information as his fingers fly across the screen. He smiles as he looks at Isra and Arnold.

Allen slides the roast and his phone across to Ernst.

ALLAN
Here. Eat this.

Allan practically dances out.

Ernst inspects the information. His eyes and mouth grow wide.

ROBERT
What?

Ernst slides down into his seat. He lays the phone down.

ERNST
(softly)
Damn.

Isra grabs the phone and scans it with Arnold.

Wide-eyed and mouth still open Ernst unthinkingly takes a bite of the roast. He blinks and looks down at the plate.

ERNST (CONT'D)
Damn.

ROBERT
I told you he'd do it.

ERNST
It's not done yet.

Isra and Robert deadpan Ernst. They share an excited look and then race each other out of the room.

Ernst takes another bite of roast as he dials on his phone.

ERNST (TO PHONE) (CONT'D)
He did it.
Because I pushed him.
One... maybe two months.

INT. MIA MAIN RESEARCH LAB - MORNING

A large room full of filled white boards and computer stations. Several tables hold complex physical components.

The constant SOFT HUMMING of the machinery is broken by a LOUD BEEPING. The door releases and Robert and Isra enter.

ISRA
I can't say that I understand his
plans, but I trust he knows what
he's doing.

ROBERT
He has that affect on people. His
father was the same way.

ALLAN
Thank you.

Allan sits up on the couch in the back of the room. His hair and beard are a little longer and unkempt.

ISRA
Our fearless leader.

ROBERT
Another all-nighter?

ALLAN
No. Just figured I'd get more sleep
if I cut out the commute. Progress?

ISRA
All of the hardware components have
been tested.

ROBERT
I finished the circuitry last
night. Just a few more tests. The
power source?

Allan crosses to a locked cabinet and unlocks it.

ALLAN
The cooling system is the key.
Refrigerant won't work because it
will cause condensation in the
core. But Neither air nor water
cooling is enough.

ROBERT
Maybe if...

Allan turns holding the completed unit.

ALLAN
That's why I stayed up all night
and combined the two. It works.

ISRA
Cut out the commute, huh?

ALLAN
I can't tell you everything. You
worry too much.

ROBERT
A drink to celebrate!

ALLAN
Coffee.

ISRA
I think there's cake left.

They gather round the table and dig in.

ALLAN
We need to begin calculations for
the trip. The planetary alignments,
geographical location and
mathematical computations will be
easy compared to deciding...

ROBERT
When?

RING!

They all check their phones. Allan answers his.

ALLAN
Dr. Allan Penzias.

NURSE (OVER PHONE)
Dr. Penzias. This is Faith Memorial
Hospital. Your mother...

ALLAN
I'll be right there.

Allan hangs up and rushes out. The others follow.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
You stay here. Test the circuits.
Then assemble it. Run preliminary
tests, quietly. Watch for Ernst.
I'll be back.

INT. FAITH MEMORIAL HOSPITAL HALL - DAY

Allan and DR. DOLORES, frail looking woman with a strong
stance (60s), stand outside Allan's mother's ICU room.

DR. DOLORES
...goes in and out of coherency. As
her med POA we need you to sign
this "withdrawal of life-sustaining
treatment" form and a do not
resuscitate.

She pushes the form and pen towards Allan.

ALLAN
I... She...

DR. DOLORES
We knew this was coming, Dr.
Penzias. She fought the good fight.
She got seven more months than I
would have thought. But it is time.

ALLAN
Who are we to decide when she dies?

DR. DOLORES
We are not taking her life. We are
just removing the equipment that is
forcing her to live.

Allan looks at the form. Then he turns from it and looks at
his mother, Deborah, RASPING for breath.

DR. DOLORES (CONT'D)
She is not living. She is dying.
And we are stopping her from doing
that. DR. Penzias, she is ready.

ALLAN
I can't...

Deborah takes a deep breath and a CHOKING COUGH racks her body. Allan sobs as he puts his head down on her chest.

Deborah's eyes flutter open. A light enters them as she recognizes Allan. She strokes his hair.

DEBORAH
It's going to be okay, son. I'll be glad to see your father again.

Allan embraces his mother and looks into her eyes.

DEBORAH (CONT'D)
Promise me we'll see you in heaven.

ALLAN
That's not up to me.

DEBORAH
It most certainly is.

She kisses his head.

DEBORAH (CONT'D)
Sing that song with me one more time. You know the one. I so love to hear you sing.
(beat)
I'll start.

Jesus loves me this I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to Him belong,
they are weak, but He is strong.
Please, son.

ALLAN & DEBORAH
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus Loves me!
Yes, Jesus Loves me!
The Bible tells me so.
Jesus loves me He who died
heaven's gate to open wide.
He will wash away my sin,
let His little child come in.

Allan trails off.

Deborah pushes the nurses call button and waves to her.

The nurse brings an old, tattered notebook in and gives it to Allan. He opens it and starts to page through it.

DEBORAH
Your father wanted you to have this when you finished the machine.
(MORE)

DEBORAH (CONT'D)
It's his journey and his
calculations for the time travel.

ALLAN
This is amazing. But the
calculations take you to 27 A.D..

DEBORAH
His baptism.

ALLAN
Then it brings you back to... just
before he died.

DEBORAH
This is what your father wanted.
What I want. We believe it's what
God wants. But the decision is
yours.

ALLAN
I'd be ridiculed.

DEBORAH
You always worry too much about
what others think. That doesn't
matter. Only what you think and
what God thinks.

ALLAN
Wait a minute. I could...

DEBORAH
Find your faith.

Deborah pulls Allan closer and whispers in his ear.

He pulls back with tears flooding his eyes.

DEBORAH (CONT'D)
(whispering)
Finish it.

She kisses his forehead one more time and then she fades away. Allan Clutches the notebook and his mother to him.

INT. MIA LARGE ROUND LAUNCH ROOM - NIGHT

Robert and Isra stand in the middle of the convex field of brass. Allan rushes in still clutching his father's notebook.

ROBERT
Everything tests out.

ISRA

Just need the calculations. In 2 or
3 days you'll be who knows when.

ROBERT

Yes, Allan. When?

Allan drops his head clutching tightly to the notebook.

ISRA

Oh, Allan. Your mother.

Allan nods his head. Isra starts to hug him but he thrusts the notebook into her hands.

ALLAN

These are my father's calculations.

ROBERT

There are calculations for years of windows. Including... tonight.

ISRA

But they all take you back to the time of Christ.

ALLAN

Yes, but look when the only return calculation brings you back.

Allan flips through the pages and hands the book back.

ROBERT

Just before he died.

ALLAN

I could prevent the accident.

ISRA

Allan...

ALLAN

And make sure mom's disease was caught in time.

ISRA

We've always talked about the implications of...
You were planning this all along.

ALLAN

No. Yes. I don't know. But my dad's calculations...

ROBERT
Your father loved you, but he
didn't work on this science to
serve himself. Or his family. He...

"Hit the Road Jack" by Ray Charles ring tone plays. Isra
whips her phone out.

ISRA
Shit! We're not ready.

ON THE PHONE: In the parking lot Ernst leads MEN IN BLACK
towards the front door.

Isra runs a well-rehearsed combination on her phone.

ON THE PHONE: Ernst pulls the door, but it will not open. He
struggles. He curses. He tries again. He kicks it.

ISRA (CONT'D)
We have maybe... ten minutes?

Allan hands the book to Robert.

ALLAN
A sign from God.

ROBERT
You don't believe that.

ALLAN
I believe anything that works. And
gets me out of here in less than
ten minutes. It's then or never.

Robert hesitates, gripping the book to his forehead.

ROBERT
Damn it.

Robert rushes to put in the calculations. Isra gets Allan
into the harness that suspends him above the ground.

"What'd I Say?" by Ray Charles ring tone plays. Isra looks at
her phone. The song plays over the rest of the scene.

ON THE PHONE: From inside the lobby the doors are forced
inward. Ernst and the Men In Black pour in.

Isra joins Robert at the control panel on the room's edge.

ISRA
Gotta go faster.

ROBERT
Almost... THERE!

Isra types in "Unchain My Heart." Time shimmers and begins to swirl around Allan. He smiles at Isra and Robert.

ALLAN
Better not mess this up, 'puter.

Robert gets flustered and rushes to the edge of the copper flooring. He holds up Allan's father's notebook. Allan reaches out. Robert pulls his arm back to throw.

Isra snatches the book just in time. She throws Robert a "bad idea" look and then throws the notebook. It hits Allan right in the chest. He clutches it and smiles at Isra.

Ernst bursts into the room. Allan smiles and waves. And vanishes.

The Men in Black rush in too late. The machine hums down. Ernst rushes to the harness. The Men in Black surround him.

EZRA
It worked! He was right there! I
saw him... and then...

The entire facility shakes. A LOUD TRUMPET from nowhere and everywhere rings out.

OUTSIDE THE FACILITY: The TRUMPET RINGS OUT.

THE CITY: The TRUMPET RINGS OUT.

THE COUNTRY: The TRUMPET RINGS OUT.

THE WORLD: The TRUMPET RINGS OUT.

DARKNESS: The TRUMPET RINGS OUT.

EXT. THE FERTILE JEZREEL VALLEY 27AD - MORNING

Allan lies in a lush grove of trees. It is green and overgrowing, nestled amongst the hills. The sun peeks over the far mountains to gently wake him.

Allan rises and surveys the natural beauty. He suddenly searches frantically. He finds a small, armored, computer.

The readout shows, "June 10, 27 A.D. - Jezreel."

ALLAN
You're wrong 'puter. Look around.
This isn't the land of Jesus. It's
a forest. I can't even guess what
time it is. Look!

Allan holds the machine up and spins around. He shakes his head and goes through the machine's menu.

He chooses, "Trip Calculation: Start." The readout shows, "April 3, 33 A.D. - Jerusalem." Allan works through menus and commands.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 Great! You're convinced you're right. And I've got six years to figure out where and when I am and change your mind. If not, I'm either stuck here, or I take a chance you'll get me back some time close to my own and not just dump me into open space.

I'll probably get run over by Musk's Roadster. Stupid 'puter!

Allan gives up. He heads for a rough trail in the distance.

EXT. A WELL IN THE JEZREEL VALLEY - DAY

A small, plain well sits beside the trail. Weary travelers sit about in small groups resting.

The sun beats down on the trail. Allan appears through a haze of heat waves rising from the ground. Allan finally rushes up to the well. He collapses against it's side, spent.

Allan grabs a rope hanging in the well and begins to pull it up as fast as he can. It finally gets to the top. No water. The old bucket has no bottom. Allan drops back down.

A hand comes down out of the sun and touches Allan's shoulder. Allan looks up. The silhouette holds a ladle of water out. Allan smiles and pours the water down his throat.

The silhouette helps Allan up and refills the ladle. Allan rubs water across his face and then drinks deep again.

As Allan wipes the excess water from his eyes the silhouette comes into focus. YESHUA BEN-YOSEF, (early 30s) five foot five, muscular, solid frame, a friendly face and purple cloth in his robes, smiles at Allan. Allan stands. At five foot ten Allan towers over Yeshua. Over everyone there.

Yeshua grabs Allan by both shoulders and brings him in for a kiss on the cheek.

YESHUA
 Shlama 'alakh

Allan is surprised and pats Yeshua's shoulders in response.

ALLAN
 Ummmm.. Thank you. Not really used to kissing on the first date.

Yeshua crinkles his forehead and cocks his head at Allan.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Just a joke.

YESHUA
Ata midber muzar, yedidi.

ALLAN
You're not going to be able to help
me are you?

Yeshua looks confused and shakes his head with a warm smile.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Any chance you can at least tell me
where we are?

Allan motions with his arms in a circling motion to show he's asking about the area they are in.

YESHUA
Ham ata rotza led'a'at ifa anachanu?
Zeu be'er Jezreel.

Allan looks confused, but then gets excited.

ALLAN
Did you say, "Jezreel?" I know
Jezreel. This is Jezreel?

YESHUA
Jezreel? Ze Jezreel.

Yeshua motions with his arms in a circling motion.

Allan gets so excited he grabs Yeshua and kisses him on his cheek. Then he straightens up.

ALLAN
Sorry. But that means that maybe
the 'puter is right. I may not be
able to figure out the time, but
Jesus would have went through
Jezreel to get to Bethany.

YESHUA
Bethany? Anachanu holchim Bethany.

ALLAN
YES! Bethany. You take me to
Bethany? To Bethany.

Allan points at Yeshua and then himself. Then he mimics Yeshua taking him down the trail. Yeshua nods, excited.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Okay, I'm going full Tarzan here.

YESHUA
Tar-zan?

Allan wipes that out with his hands as he shakes his head.

ALLAN
No, no. I'M ALLAN. Al-Lan. AL-LAN

Allan speaks slowly as he points to himself.

YESHUA
Al. Lan.

ALLAN
Yes! Now is there any possible
chance that one of you is Jesus?
Je-Sus. Jeeee. Sussss.

Allan points to Yeshua and then the others. Yeshua is taken aback by the word. Yeshua points to Allan and then himself.

YESHUA
Allan. Yeshua. Ye-shu-a.

ALLAN
(to himself)
I guess you saw Tarzan too.
(to Yeshua)
Ye. Shu. A. Yeshua.

Yeshua smiles and pats Allan's shoulders.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Yeshua take Allan to Bethany.

Allan mimes it the best he can. Yeshua nods in agreement. Yeshua grabs his things and they head off down the trail.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
I guess we're off to see the
wizard.

EXT. THE JORDAN RIVER NEAR BETHANY - DAY

Allan and Yeshua walk the trail sharing a loaf of bread. The Jordan River is ahead of them as they enter a nice area of shade with trees.

As they get close to the river Allan notices YOHANAN SHEL BETH HAKEREM, (late 20s) skinny, sun-weathered, rugged, five foot five, sitting on a rock eating. His over garment is different than everyone else's. Rougher and darker.

YESHUA
Yohanan!

Yohanan turns and Allan sees his bowl is full of honey and bugs. Yohanan smiles with some stray legs sticking out of his teeth. He chews and swallows before exchanging cheek kisses with Yeshua.

They speak quickly as they catch up. Allan picks up a location name he knows here and there - Nazareth... Jesreel... Bethany... Jordan...

Allan looks at the bowl. Then he pensively feels Yohanan's dark garment.

ALLAN
(to himself)
Camel hair?

Mouth gaping Allan stares at Yeshua far too long for comfort. Yeshua notices and turns with Yohanan.

YESHUA
Ze hachaver hachadsh shli. Metzeti
uto lid habar shel Jezreel. Al-lan.

YOHANAN
Al-lan. Broch haba lechaver
hachadsh shli Allan.

Allan still stares at Yeshua, mouth agape. Yohanan moves in for a cheek kiss. Allan snaps out of it and jerks back.

Allan composes himself, smiles and exchanges cheek kisses.

ALLAN
Yohanan. The Baptist.
And Yeshua of Nazareth I presume.

YESHUA
Nazareth. Yofi! Ani me Nazareth.

ALLAN
I thought you'd be taller.

EXT. BANK OF THE JORDAN RIVER - DAY

Allan and Yeshua sit on a log on the bank of the Jordan River. A CROWD OF PEOPLE stand on the banks waiting their turn as Yohanan baptizes an OLD MAN in the river.

ALLAN
(to himself)
Well, mom. Dad. I found Jesus.
(MORE)

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 Probably not what you were
 expecting. Just a guy. Short guy.
 Nice guy. But... just a guy.

Yeshua pulls out his last piece of bread. Breaks it and gives Allan half. Allan smiles as he stares into Yeshua's eyes.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 (to himself)
 Not even piercing blue eyes. But
 you probably knew that. You even
 knew about the name, didn't you?

Allan turns away as he takes a bite.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 (to himself)
 I can't even get Jesus right.

Allan takes another bite.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 (to himself)
 Six years. Hanging out with a nice
 guy and a Middle Eastern Hippie.
 Six years of bread, honey and bugs.

Allan turns back.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 You don't happen to know where I
 can get a Delorean do you?

Yeshua is gone. Allan sees him wading into the river.

MIDDLE OF THE JORDAN RIVER

Yeshua comes to Yohanan. The two share a warm smile as they hold each other's arms.

YOHANAN
 Ham ata mergish tsa'ar amiti al
 hateich?

YESHUA
 Ani osha.

YOHANAN
 Ham ata mitchayev linhog betzdak im
 shchnech?

YESHUA
 Ani osha.

YOHANAN
 Ham ata mitchayev lehifgin yeret
 kvod kalfi elohim lemshech sharit
 hayech?

Yeshua looks to the heavens and speaks softly.

YESHUA
 Ani osha.

Yeshua turns and leans back into Yohanan.

YOHANAN
 Ani mitbil otech, besamchot me'at
 hael hakel yechul, ka'adot lakech
 shenechret bebrit lisrato.

Yohanan brushes hair from Yeshua's face and then gently lowers him into the water.

A pure beam of light shines on Yeshua's heart.

Yeshua lifts from the water without Yohanan's aid.

The heavens open up and bathe Yeshua in light until He glows.

Allan stands at the river's edge wide-eyed, mouth agape.

The Spirit of God, like a glowing dove, softly descends upon Yeshua and the two become one.

A booming, but calm voice comes from nowhere and everywhere.

HEAVENLY VOICE
 You are my beloved Son. With you I
 am well pleased.

BANK OF THE RIVER JORDAN

Allan drops to his knees and bows his head.

Yeshua grabs his arms and brings Allan to standing.

At first Allan stiffens and looks away, but slowly he faces Yeshua's warm, smiling face with eyes that are now a flame of fire. Allan relaxes.

Yeshua places his fingers in Allan's ears.

YESHUA
 Ephphatha!

Allan shakes his head and fingers his ears in confusion.

YESHUA (CONT'D)
 Hold still.

Allan freezes at the sound of English coming from Yeshua.

ALLAN
Did you say, Hold...

Yeshua spits on his fingers and touches Allan's tongue. Allan jerks back and spits.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
What the hell did you do that for?

The crowd gasps. Yeshua laughs.

YESHUA
It is peculiar, is it not?

ALLAN
You said... You understood... How?

YESHUA
I healed you so you might
understand and be understood.

ALLAN
So, you are Jesus.

YESHUA
No. Well... yes. My name is Yeshua.
Over time, through curious
translations, it will become Jesus.
You may call me that. Others will
hear my proper name.
I am very glad you are here, Allan.

ALLAN
Over time? You know me? Do you
know...

JESUS
I know many things.

ALLAN
But... you didn't know me on the
trail.

JESUS
At that time I was separated from
my father in heaven. But now we
have... reconnected.

ALLAN
But what about...

JESUS
I know you have many questions, but
I have to be alone for a while.

Yohanan comes up and hugs Jesus.

YOHANAN
Must you go, Lord?

Jesus puts his hand on Yohanan and Allan's shoulder.

JESUS
Yes. Please watch over my friend
while I'm gone.
Allan. Please stay with Yohanan.
You may call him John. We have much
to do together, you and I.

Jesus' countenance becomes serious as he looks to the sky and strides towards the desert.

Allan and John watch him go.

JOHN
I wonder how long He will be gone.

ALLAN
40 days. Give or take.

JOHN
We will wait if it takes 40 years.

EXT. THE JORDAN RIVER NEAR BETHANY - MORNING

John leads Allan to a cleared spot under a huge tree. John begins to pile things on Allan as he rattles on.

JOHN
This is our tree. I get the top
branch. These leaves will keep you
warm and your clothes dry when...

John looks Allan up and down, turning him around.

JOHN (CONT'D)
What are you wearing? You will need
to get proper clothing. How do you
look in camel hair?

ALLAN
I...

JOHN
Listen.

Allan and John stay still. A low BUZZING sound can be heard. John gives Allan a jar of honey.

JOHN (CONT'D)
 You follow that to the honey tree
 when it's time for a refill.

ALLAN
 About the bugs...

JOHN
 Ah, yes!

John shoves different crickets from different containers into Allan's face as he speaks. Allan jerks back each time.

JOHN (CONT'D)
 These are for breakfast.
 These are for lunch.
 The big, juicy ones are for supper.
 Now these are the special ones we
 save as a treat for when we've had
 a really good day. You know. No
 accidental drownings.
 Any questions?

Allan stands dumbfounded.

JOHN (CONT'D)
 Well. Go on.
 Pick a limb.

Allan stares up at the tree, visually assessing each limb.
 His spell is broken by joyous guffawing.

Allan turns to SAPAK, (30s) five foot seven, broad, hairy, leaning against a Cheshire Cat smiling John.

SAPAK
 Which limb is yours?

Sapak bellows with laughter again causing John to snicker.

JOHN
 Allan. This is Sapak. A friend who
 happens to be a carpenter in need
 of an apprentice for a month or
 two. He has a spare room and will
 feed... and clothe you.

ALLAN
 What about all this?

JOHN
 Just amusing myself until Sapak
 arrived. You should see your face.
 You really need to have a little
 more faith.

Allan drops his load and vigorously shakes Sapak's hand.

ALLAN

Let's go.

JOHN

My crickets!

John scrambles to gather up his meals.

SAPAK

I did not expect a giant. But size is not a resume. Carpentry is hard work. Your back will ache and your limbs hang weary at the end of each day, but you will swell with the pride of the work we will accomplish together. Are you up to the task?

Allan looks in Sapak's eyes. Allan turns to John. John smiles with cricket legs sticking out of his smile.

ALLAN

No task is too great.

Sapak roarous laughter echoes as he leads Allan away.

EXT. BANK OF THE JORDAN RIVER - MORNING

Allan arrives at the Jordan. A little thinner. More muscular. Longer hair and beard. He wears robes with black in them. He perches on a rock watching John baptize the PENITENTS.

A twig whacks Allan on top of his head. He sees a CURIOUS ONLOOKER, (teen) nice clothes, climbing out on a limb over the river. Allan notices a VIPER snaking towards him.

ALLAN

Look out!

The boy sees the viper and backs away towards the end of the branch. CRACK. The boy, the branch and the viper KERPLUNK into the Jordan. The tide sweeps them toward John as the boy tries to swim away from the pursuing viper.

THE MAN John just baptized, (20s) modest clothing, strides bravely towards the viper.

MAN

God will protect me.

The man roadblocks the viper, hands raised to catch it. The viper twists into striking posture. It lunges at the man.

WHAP

John whips the snake senseless with a loose branch. With one deft move John twists the viper's head to a SNAP. John hands the viper to the man and joins Allan on the rock.

ALLAN

(cynical)

Why'd you do that? The man had
faith to protect him.

JOHN

Sometimes faith is enough.
Sometimes you need faith and a
stick.

ALLAN

Now I'll never read the miracle of
the man and the river viper.

JOHN

Isn't that part of the problem?
People seek miracles that will look
good in a story. When, in
actuality, they ignore the miracles
that surround them every day.
That man looked for a miracle from
God and he thought God would make
his skin impervious to the viper's
strike. I looked for a miracle from
God and I found a sturdy stick
floating right next to my hand.
God's work is smart and efficient.
Why rebuild the structure of an
entire man's flesh when a handy
stick would do the trick?
Have you eyes, but do not see?

They stare into each other's eyes. John kisses Allan on the
cheek and leaves.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I need a cricket.

EXT. TRAIL LEADING INTO WILDERNESS BY THE JORDAN - DAY

Sapak and Allan embrace. Sapak hands Allan a full satchel.

SAPAK

A sad day my friend. When I met you
in that ridiculous garb I thought I
had made a mistake agreeing to help
John by taking you in. Now I see
that he preaches true when he says
that God wraps blessings in
unexpected cloth.

ALLAN

I was just as hesitant, but you spoke true when you said I would swell with pride at what we would build together.

They embrace again.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

I'm grateful for everything you've taught me. Besides, you saved me from the feast of the crickets.

Sapak's thunderous laughter fills the air.

SAPAK

I too am grateful for the knowledge and skills you shared. I will be forever enriched by this union. May the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you.

ALLAN

He already has. You too, my friend.

Allan watches Sapak bound off. Sapak meets up with John and they embrace. Then one last time Sapak makes the world merrier with an explosion of joyous laughter as he goes on.

John walks up to Allan.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

What did you say to him?

John just smiles with cricket legs sticking out in every direction. Allan laughs.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

You have a problem, you know.

JOHN

Yes, but he's about to leave.

John offers Allan some honey. Allan pulls out some bread to dip as he sits upon a large rock. John stares down the trail.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Are you sure?

ALLAN

Today is the 40th day.

Allan sees the crowd of people waiting on the other bank for John to return.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

What brings them all here?

JOHN

They want better lives. They think they will get them by being better people. They believe they will get better by being closer to God. So they leave their old ways and come here looking for a new one.

Allan turns away from them and looks down the trail.

JOHN (CONT'D)

You know, there's still time to go for a little dip.

ALLAN

(ignoring)

You're different than I thought you'd be.

JOHN

What did you think I'd be?

ALLAN

A wild man stalking the wilderness eating bugs and screaming at passing Pharisees and Sadducees about being thrown into fire.

JOHN

And what is the different part?

ALLAN

I have seen you in some of your more passionate moments, but I have also seen a calm wisdom and serene compassion that truly cares for all these people who come to you.

JOHN

You have seen my faith.
In both circumstances.

They share a laugh that ends with deep smiles. They rise.

A silhouette approaches them from the wilderness.

Jesus nears. He has the sun worn visage of wisdom like a man returning from war. A war He won.

ALLAN

Do you want some water or bread?

JOHN

Cricket?

Jesus walks past them to the crowd. John joins Him.

JOHN (CONT'D)
 Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes
 away the sin of the world! This is
 He who baptizes with the Holy
 Spirit. This is the Son of God

A FRAGILE ELDERLY WOMAN shuffles forward.

ELDERLY WOMAN
 What should I do, Lord?

Jesus embraces the old woman and looks into her eyes.

JESUS
 Repent, for the kingdom of heaven
 is at hand.

Jesus kisses her forehead and she smiles. John leads her into
 the water. Jesus walks back past Allan.

JESUS (CONT'D)
 Come. We have much to do.

ALLAN
 What about John?

JESUS
 He has his role and I have mine.
 Just as you have yours.

ALLAN
 What's my role?

JESUS
 It will be revealed when you are
 ready.

EXT. SAME WELL IN THE JEZREEL VALLEY - DAY

Jesus and Allan refill their water skins at the well.

JESUS
 Your mother and father will be well
 pleased that you made this journey.
 As am I.

ALLAN
 So, now we have time for questions?
 You know who I am and where I come
 from? Why I'm here?

JESUS
 I know who you were, who you are,
 and who you will be. And who you
 will be after that. I do know why
 you're here.

ALLAN

How?

JESUS

I was here at the beginning. I am here now. And I will be here at the end. Your story is but a small part of that journey.

ALLAN

Was it safe to leave me for so long with John and Sapak? I mean, I kept interactions to a minimum, but...

JESUS

You worry about the "timeline?" Worry not. You cannot change the future through your actions or create an "alternate timeline." You are not an outside anomaly. This is where you were always meant to be. Right here. Right now.

ALLAN

Because I have a role? A role you won't reveal to me at this time?

JESUS

It will be revealed when you are ready. Without true faith you will not be able to fulfill it.

Allan turns away from Jesus.

ALLAN

Your father killed my faith when He killed my father.

JESUS

A thief stole your father's life.

ALLAN

My father walked alone at night because he had faith that your father would protect him. If that's true faith. I will never have it.

Allan jerks his water skin and it falls and bursts open.

EXT WEDDING VENUE AT CANA - MORNING

The wedding venue, a stone building with a small enclosed courtyard is being decorated with flowers and ribbons.

Jesus and Allan stand outside with MARY, Jesus' mother (late 40s) a short, strong woman with bright eyes.

MARY
Isn't it beautiful, my son?

JESUS
Very beautiful, mother.

ALLAN
What are you going to do with them?

A SMALL CROWD OF YOUNG MEN all wait and watch Jesus.

MARY
Did they come all the way from
Bethany?

ALLAN
Yes, ma'am. They always stay a
respectful distance and only move
when your son does.

MARY
You may invite them to the wedding.
Just get me a count for the cook.

JESUS
Yes, mother.

INT. WEDDING VENUE IN CANA - NIGHT

It is indeed beautiful, lit by candles and torches. A band plays as THE GUESTS and the disciples enjoy the festivities. Jesus and Allan sit off by themselves.

JESUS
Free will.

ALLAN
Free will?

JESUS
Yes. It is the greatest gift that
my father gave man. And the
greatest curse. But without it
there would be no point. A world of
automatons programmed to do what
they're told. That is not living.

ALLAN
How much have you had to drink?

JESUS
Contemplate what free will means.
If you can do anything you want to
and still you decide to do the
right thing. With no one watching.
No one pressuring you to.

(MORE)

JESUS (CONT'D)
 Then truly you are a child of God.
 But if you choose instead to do
 harm. To rob. To abuse. To kill.
 That is the curse.

ALLAN
 So free will killed my father?

JESUS
 My father could have struck down
 that thief, but then what if that
 thief would have decided to repent?
 My father would have taken that
 from him.

ALLAN
 He could have had my father leave
 earlier. Or later. Or gave him
 extra eggs so he didn't need to go
 to the store that night.

JESUS
 Would you want God to manipulate
 you? Make you do whatever He wants.
 Whenever He wants.
 Have you never made mistakes? Have
 you never given in to temptation
 and sinned?

ALLAN
 No! ...not to that level.

The NEWLY MARRIED COUPLE share a joyful dance.

JESUS
 These two found each other and fell
 in love. Now, they've vowed to
 spend the rest of their lives
 together. Without free will that
 would not have happened. They would
 be bred by God's choice. They plan
 to build a small bakery in Tiberias
 and raise a family. Free will gives
 them the chance to try.

ALLAN
 It also lets that young boy try to
 peak up that young lady's dress.

A YOUNG BOY (9) lays on the floor trying to peak up a YOUNG
 LADY's dress on the level above him. An older woman sees him
 and drags him off to the back room.

JESUS
 You have to take the good with the
 bad. Even though the bad can be
 painful. You either chain everyone.
 Or you free everyone.

(MORE)

JESUS (CONT'D)
God Did not orchestrate your
father's death. Nor did He
interfere with it.

ALLAN
He interferes when it suits Him.

JESUS
God has a plan. Certain important
things must happen.

ALLAN
My father wasn't important enough?

JESUS
That's not true. I know it's
extremely difficult to understand,
but this flesh is not us. We are
the spirit that controls the flesh.
This body is our soul in it's
infancy. When that flesh is gone
our soul matures into the next
level of our existence.
God is the only one who can truly
understand the whole process, and
that is why just because God did
not prevent someone from dying, it
doesn't mean He didn't love that
person. Or that person wasn't
important to Him.
You can not fathom that because
from your point of view they are
gone and you are left behind. Alone
with your grief.

ALLAN
Is my being here part of the plan?

Beat.

JESUS
Yes.

ALLAN
What part?

JESUS AND ALLAN
It will be revealed when you are
ready.

ALLAN
Easy for you to say.

JESUS
Easy? You look at me through the
filter of history. You see what I
will become.

(MORE)

JESUS (CONT'D)
But right now I'm just a man.
Struggling with what's going on
around me. Struggling with what is
to come. Just like you.

Mary rushes over to Jesus.

MARY
There you are. Come quickly. We
need you. They have no wine.

JESUS
Mother, why do you involve me? My
hour has not yet come.

MARY
Come. The servants will do whatever
you say.

JESUS
Have them fill the large water jars
with water.

Mary leaves and Jesus gets up to follow.

ALLAN
I get to see a part of the plan.
Your first miracle.

JESUS
You were my first miracle.

EXT. THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM - DAY

Jesus and Allan stand before a small water reservoir. The disciples lined up behind them. The temple rises up in the distance. A massive, opulent complex constructed of white marble and gold. Built on a monumental plaza known as the Temple Mount.

JESUS
Are you ready?

ALLAN
Why do you want me to?

JESUS
It is a sign of faith. A commitment
to God.

ALLAN
I'm still here. Isn't that
commitment enough? Besides, I'm
still not sure I want to be a part
of His plan. Whatever that may be.

Allan leaves. Jesus hangs his head and then looks to heaven with tears in his eyes.

INT. THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM - DAY

The vast courtyard is teeming with PILGRIMS. MERCHANTS hustle cattle, sheep and doves while MONEY CHANGERS ply their trade at tables throughout. It is more flea market than temple.

Allan stands in the entryway.

ALLAN
Is this the kind of commitment
you're looking for?

Jesus storms past Allan to the first table. FELIX, (50s) bloated disgust wrapped in opulence and shimmering silks.

FELIX
Shalom aleichem.

The man awaits a reply, but Jesus just breathes heavily. Felix goes into his used car salesman spiel.

FELIX (CONT'D)
Perhaps you need to exchange for a
half-shekel to pay your temple tax?
Well, Friendly Felix has the most
reasonable rates in the whole
temple.

Jesus looks down as his shoulders begin to heave.

FELIX (CONT'D)
You seem upset, my friend. Not to
worry. Many arrive without animals
for sacrifice. Friendly Felix can
also help you with a variety of
very affordable animals and...
Friendly Felix guarantees purity.

Jesus grasps the edge of the table white knuckled.

FELIX (CONT'D)
(nervous)
Hungry? Friendly Felix Fishes are
the finest fishes...

Without looking up Jesus speaks low.

JESUS
Is it not written: 'My house will
be called a house of prayer for all
nations'?

FELIX
 Of course, my friend. Friendly
 Felix does not discriminate.
 Everyone's money is good here.

Jesus looks up with flaming eyes. Felix stumbles back. Jesus
 flips the table, sending coins, and Felix CLATTERING.

JESUS
 (raging)
 You have made it a den of robbers!

Jesus smashes cages open and rips tethers free. Doves and
 sheep and oxen roam free.

Jesus looks about. No one has noticed. The pilgrims and money
 changers go about their dealings.

Jesus flings everything off the next table and jumps on it.

JESUS (CONT'D)
 Thieves. Robbers. No more will the
 tainted voices of bartering fill
 this house of prayer. Get out.

Jesus jumps down. He smashes a stack of dove cages. He jerks
 the leads from a VENDOR'S hands and pulls them from the oxen.

JESUS (CONT'D)
 Take your beasts and go! Stop using
 my Father's house as a market!

Jesus fastens the three cords into a whip and drives the
 merchants from the temple. As he scatters the coins of
 another money changer the rest frantically grab up their
 profits and flee.

Allan and the other disciples are herded out with the people
 and animals.

EXT. THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM - CONTINUOUS

Allan watches the crowds pour from the temple. CRASHING and
 WHIPPING can be heard from inside, along with the occasional
 WHELP of a defiant sinner.

The LAST MONEY CHANGER runs from the temple.

Allan inches his way back in.

INT. THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM - CONTINUOUS

Allan sees Jesus in the middle of the debris heaving from the
 effort. Bent over and weeping.

Allan puts his hand on Jesus' shoulder. Jesus whips around. Allan's penitent face meets Him and He collapses into Allan's arms. Allan holds Him as he gently weeps.

ALLAN
(softly)
I'm sorry.

EXT. RIVER IN THE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE - MORNING

Allan rests on a shady hill by the river. A CROWD waits below on the banks while JESUS' DISCIPLES baptize in the river.

Jesus sits beside Allan.

ALLAN
I miss John.

JESUS
Would you...

ALLAN
Nope.

Jesus sighs.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Why? Why is it so important?

JESUS
If I told you that if you walked that path you would come to a large machine. It is poisoning people and they don't even know it. Soon it will engulf the whole area, infecting and killing everyone. You are the only one who can shut it down.

You know the path will be hard. You will suffer greatly. Those who run the machine will try to stop you and even kill you. But, if you shut that machine down, everyone can be saved. Even the most infected can have the sickness washed from them. You just have to willingly sacrifice yourself to stop it.

Would you walk down that path?

Allan sits up and looks at Jesus who stares forward.

ALLAN
I know...

JESUS
You've read. That is not knowing.

Jesus turns to Allan.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Now what if I told you, even though
at the end of the path you must
face the torture and death alone,
you don't have to walk it alone.

ALLAN
I don't know what you want from me.

JESUS
Don't make me walk the path alone.

Allan stands and gestures to the disciples in the river.

ALLAN
You're not alone. I thought there
were just twelve, but you have a
small army.

JESUS
Who don't know. Who don't
understand. Who can't stand by my
side and just be... a friend.

Allan sits back down.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Do you believe I am the one who
must walk that path?

ALLAN
I didn't come here for this.

JESUS
I know you loved your father, but
you need to follow the advice your
mother gave you. The last advice
she ever gave you.

Tears well up in Allan's eyes.

ALLAN
What? What did she say?

JESUS
You can't waste your life sitting
around watching dead people talk to
the person you used to be, hoping
to find some forgiveness for the
person you have become.

Allan staggers as his legs go weak. Jesus catches him and embraces him.

JESUS (CONT'D)
(softly)
I'm sorry.

Allan straightens up. He kisses Jesus' cheek. Then he strides down to the river to the closest disciple and leans his back into him. The disciple blesses him and immerses him.

EXT. RIVER IN THE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE - LATER

Allan towels off as he sits with Jesus sharing bread. Scattered across the hillside the disciples and penitent sit in small groups laughing and breaking bread. The weight of the past few days has lifted.

JESUS
I am very pleased that you have
agreed to be my companion.

ALLAN
(looking out the side of
his eye)
How could I say, "No?" After all,
you are the son of God. One third
of the Holy Trinity. The reason for
the season.

Jesus furrows his brow. Allan looks down. Jesus' face softens and he smiles. They share a laugh.

JESUS
I would ask that you not say such
things in front of the others. They
will be confused enough.

Allan notices MIRIAM, (30's) handsome woman in a light blue dress, giving out water to the people on the hillside.

ALLAN
Right now, you're basically just a
man? With all the strengths and
weaknesses of a man?

JESUS
Yes.

ALLAN
As Friendly Felix found out.

JESUS
I should not...

ALLAN

(cutting Him off)

If you hadn't how could we see that
you are just that, a man. Like us.
Prone to anger and, yes, even
letting off some steam.

JESUS

I have to be better. How can I ask
you to make the right decisions if
I can not?

ALLAN

And what decisions would you make
about a pretty girl?

Allan nods towards Miriam. Jesus smiles.

JESUS

Miriam is quite a handsome woman,
but that is not a part of my path.
Though she would make a good man a
very agreeable wife.

ALLAN

A good man? Still working on that.

A shadow falls across them. They look up to see ELON, (16) a
very large young man.

ELON

Jesus?

JESUS

Yes?

ELON

Sapak sent me. John has been
arrested.

Allan gets up.

ALLAN

Where?

Jesus gets up.

JESUS

Take Sapak our thanks and tell him
the Lord is with him.

Elon leaves.

ALLAN

Aren't we...

JESUS

We each have a path to follow. My path and John's crossed for a time. They are not to cross again until this is over.

Jesus strides towards the disciples. Allan grabs his arm.

JESUS (CONT'D)

I love John more than anyone. He freely chose his path. He would not want me to alter mine just for him.

Allan lets go.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Come. We have much to do.

EXT. SHORE OF THE SEA OF GALILEE - DAY

A beautiful sky over a calm sea surrounding by rolling hills. Fishing boats line the shore. FISHERMEN wash their nets.

A LARGE CROWD fills the shore as Jesus speaks to them from the stern of a fishing boat. Allan sits with PETROS/PETER, (late 20s) a dead ringer for a young Ernst wearing dull red robes, and ANDRAUS/ANDREW, (20s) small, wiry, blue robes. Allan looks sideways at Petros.

JESUS

The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.

Jesus turns from the crowd to the wide-eyed wonder in the two fishermen's eye. He looks at Allan. Allan shrugs. Jesus looks around at the empty boat. Then at the motionless men. Jesus smiles and strides to the bow.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Put out into deep water, and let down the nets for a catch.

Andrew stutters as he pulls Petros up to do as Jesus bade.

ANDRAUS/ANDREW

Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net.

The brothers head to deeper water and drop their nets. After a moment Andrew picks up one end of the net.

ANDRAUS/ANDREW (CONT'D)

It is as I said, Lor.....

Andrew is jerked downward. Peter barely saves him from being drug into the water. The water boils with fish.

The two grab the nets and strain to pull them in. The nets start to tear from the weight. Andrew whistles loudly to another boat.

YA'AQOV/JAMES, (late 20s) tall, slender, stern eyes and orange robes, and YOCHANAN/JOHN, (20s) small, boyish face with kind eyes and light blue robes, launch their boat.

The two boats flank the nets. The men struggle to land their catch. The boats sink deeper into the water as they fill with fish. Allan climbs up the mast. Jesus chuckles at him.

The nets are finally in the boats. The boats barely above water. Peter drops to his knees with bowed head and clenched hands. Fish up to his chest flopping about.

PETROS/PETER
Depart from me, O Lord, for I am a
sinful man!

Jesus steps down from the bow and the fish move from his path. Jesus lifts Peter up by his arms.

JESUS
You are Shimon son of Yochanan. You
will be called Petros. And upon
this rock I will build my Church.

The other men drop to their knees.

JESUS (CONT'D)
And you are Andraus, Petros'
brother. You two are the sons of
Zebedee, Ya'aqov and Yochanan.

Allan gets down on his knees smiling. Jesus motions to him.

JESUS (CONT'D)
And this is Yehudah.

Allan furrows his brow. Jesus smiles at him.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Follow Me, and I will make you
become fishers of men.

EXT. CAPERNAUM, FISHING VILLAGE - EVENING

Jesus strides through the small, modest fishing village. The four fishermen follow Him. Allan leaves the four and increases his pace to catch up to Jesus.

ALLAN

Let me guess. Petros is Peter. And
Andraus is Andrew.

Jesus smiles and nods.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

I know Yochanan is John. I'm a
little stuck on Ya'akov.

JESUS

You would call him James.

ALLAN

That's a stretch.

Allan shuffles a little and clears his throat.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

You didn't introduce me as Allan.
You gave me a "bibly" name. What
was it again?

Jesus stops walking at a doorway to a modest home.

JESUS

Yehudah.

ALLAN

That ones a little tricky too.

The four fishermen catch up and enter the home.

JESUS

Very tricky I am afraid.

ALLAN

Who is it?

JESUS

In your time, Yehuda...
will be known as "Judas."

ALLAN

What?!

JESUS

I told you. You have always been
here. This is your role.

ALLAN

To be the most hated man in
history?

JESUS

You say you believe I am the Christ. So you know what is at stake. Your role must be fulfilled.

ALLAN

I agreed to go with you on your path. Not end it.

JESUS

If you truly believe than you know it is just the beginning.

ALLAN

I can't...

Jesus grabs Allan's arms and looks into his eyes.

JESUS

The fact that you are here is undeniable proof that it is all worth it. I need you.

Peter bursts from the home.

PETROS/PETER

Lord! You are needed.

Jesus goes into the house. Allan slumps against the wall and slides down to the ground. He pulls the time machine from his robes and begins to type frantically on the screen.

INT. PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW'S HOUSE - EVENING

Allan slides into the modest, but large room with white-washed stucco walls. Jesus sits on a built-in bench with the four fishermen around a wooden chest being used as a table. MADRONA, (40s) strong woman but looking a little worn, serves them bread, lentil soup, legumes, fish and wine.

Jesus and Allan lock eyes. Jesus smiles. Allan gives a crooked grin as he joins them.

Peter raises his glass.

PETER

We give praise for Madrona's healing that we might enjoy this wonderful meal.

They all drink. Then Jesus bows his head. They all follow suit.

Beat.

Jesus peaks around at the others. They all wait motionless. Jesus chuckles to himself.

JESUS
Judas, please, bless us with a
prayer of thanks.

Allan peaks up at Jesus. Jesus smiles. Allan motions, "Me?" Jesus nods. Allan shrugs and shakes his head, mouthing, "What? I don't know any." Jesus furrows his brow and nods again with a smile. Jesus bows his head.

Allan chews his fingernail. His eyes dart back and forth as he tries to access any memory of a meal prayer.

ALLAN
Our father...

Jesus snaps his head up and wiggles his finger mouthing, "No." Jesus bows his head again. Allan's eyes light up.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
(singing the Johnny
Appleseed doxology)
Oh the Lord's been good to me
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me
the things I need
The sun and the rain
and the apple seed
The Lord's been good to me
Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Jesus smiles wide with a chuckle. All the others look about confused. Madrona drops a plate.

JESUS
Amen.

Allan picks up the plate for Madrona and sits back down to eat, ignoring the glares of the four men.

ALLAN
You've never been to summer camp?

EXT. PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW'S HOUSE - MORNING

Peter, Andrew, James and John exit the house. Peter motions into the door for someone to join them. Allan steps out and is immediately panned against the wall by the four.

PETER
Why, when the Lord asked for prayer
last night, did you break into
inane song?

ALLAN
It was a psalm.

PETER
None that we have heard of.

ALLAN
Goes to show you don't know
everything. Besides it made Him
smile. And don't you think He needs
a little happiness when He can find
it with the task before Him?

The four soften.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
We all do.

JOHN
But to speak to the Lord the way
you do...

ALLAN
Jesus has many great tasks before
Him. We need Him. But He also needs
us. Each of you are here for a
specific reason. Part of God's
greater plan. We all have our tasks
to perform.

PETER
And what is yours?

Allan looks down at the ground. He sighs. He looks up and his
eyes get wide.

ALLAN
First thing is to get ready for His
guests.

Allan rushes into the home. The four turn to see a LARGE
CROWD heading straight for them. Many faces from the previous
day's speech. The four rush into the home.

INT. PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jesus sits at the head of the room facing the door. Allan
rushes to his left. The fishermen rush to his right. There's
a KNOCK at the door.

ALLAN
It's for you.

JESUS
A closed door can not stop those
who seek salvation.

John opens the door. Happy and awe-filled people pour in.

EXT. PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

The house is enveloped by PEOPLE. Every possible space is filled and the wrap goes several people deep.

FOUR MEN hoist a PARALYTIC MAN up onto the roof.

INT. PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jesus stands before the overflowing room. SARAPH, (50s) tall, lithe Pharisee with a long forked beard, SEVERAL OTHER PHARISEES and TEACHERS OF THE LAW command the spaces beside Him. The fishermen sit lower in reverence. Allan wedges himself between the annoyed Sarah and a teacher, sipping wine with false "airs."

JESUS

The teachers of the law and the Pharisees sit in Moses' seat. So you must be careful to do everything they tell you. But do not do what they do, for they do not practice what they preach. They tie up heavy, cumbersome loads and put them on other people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to lift a finger to move them.

Allan nudges the teacher beside him and winks.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You clean the outside of the cup and dish, but inside they are full of greed and self-indulgence.

Dirt begins to sprinkle down from the roof in front of Jesus. More and more streams down.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Blind Pharisee! First clean the inside of the cup and dish, and then the outside also will be clean.

Allan nudges Sarah and holds his cup up to him.

ALLAN

I like my cup clean on the outside AND the inside.

Suddenly a chunk of roof collapses to the floor and a wave of dirt covers Allan, the teachers and the law-keepers. Jesus remains unblemished. Allan takes another sip.

The four men from outside lower the paralytic man down in front of Jesus. Jesus looks upon the man and up at the four men with a smile. The teachers and law-keepers look with disdain. Jesus caresses the man's head, speaking softly.

JESUS
Take heart, my son, your sins are
forgiven.

The Pharisees and teachers glare at Jesus. Jesus faces them.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Why do you question this in your hearts? Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk'? So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins.

Jesus turns back to the man and commands.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!

The man immediately jumps up and secures his mat. The men above shout with glee. The Man strides with an occasional two-step out the door. The crowd celebrates the miracle.

ALLAN
(to the Pharisees)
And so endeth the lesson.

EXT. SHORE OF THE SEA OF GALILEE - DAY

Jesus walks with Alan and the four followed by a CROWD.

JESUS
...love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, that you may be children of your Father in heaven. He causes his sun to rise on the evil and the good, and sends rain on the righteous and the unrighteous. If you love those who love you, what reward will you get? Are not even the tax collectors doing that?

(MORE)

JESUS (CONT'D)
 And if you greet only your own
 people, what are you doing more
 than others? Do not even pagans do
 that?

Jesus notices MATTITYAHU/MATTHEW, (late 20s) well-fed and adorned in gold colored cloth, listening intently from his tax collector's booth. Jesus calls to him.

JESUS (CONT'D)
 Mattityahu. Follow me and be my
 disciple.

Mattityahu/Matthew looks into Jesus' gleaming eyes. He rises and leaves everything. He walks up to Jesus and bows his head. Jesus lifts Matthew's head and embraces him.

INT. MATTHEW'S HOME - EVENING

Jesus sits eating with Matthew, OTHER TAX COLLECTORS and PEOPLE CONSIDERED "LESS-THAN" by the Pharisees.

The Pharisees hover outside the door. Saraph stops Allan as he tries to enter.

SARAPH
 Why do you eat and drink with tax
 collectors and sinners?

ALLAN
 It's either that or eat with a
 brood of vipers.

Allan pushes past and joins the table.

JESUS
 Those who are well have no need of
 a physician, but those who are
 sick. I have not come to call the
 righteous, but sinners, to
 repentance.

Saraph throws daggers with his eyes. Allan throws him a cross-eyed look that takes him off-guard. Allan turns to Matthew.

ALLAN
 So, Matthew is it? I'm glad you've
 joined our merry little band. It
 just keeps growing and growing.

Saraph steams. He whips around and storms off.

EXT. MARKETPLACE BY SARAPH'S SYNAGOGUE - MORNING

Jesus makes His way through a small marketplace filled with various booths. Jesus greets THE PEOPLE as He goes.

Allan is talking with a BOOTH OWNER, (40s) well-dressed man, who sells copper wares. James grabs Allan and pulls him off to the side where Peter, Andrew and John are waiting.

ALLAN

I'm being honored by an audience
with the Fab Four?

ANDREW

Why do you say such strange things?

PETER

And why do you insist on saying
them to the Pharisees?

Allan looks into their eyes in silence.

JOHN

Please, Allan. We just want to
serve Jesus.

ALLAN

(softening)

That's all I want.

Peter backs Allan against a wall.

PETER

How does it serve him to disrespect
the Pharisees? You're going to turn
them against us.

ALLAN

I feel like Charlie Brown. I wanted
something good and I got a rock.

Peter looks perplexed. Andrew and James pull Peter back.

ANDREW

Give him room to speak.

ALLAN

They are going to be against us no
matter what.

PETER

We don't need to push them to it.

ALLAN

The other day you thought you didn't need to cast your nets again. Now they need to be cast constantly.

JOHN

But, we no longer fish.

ALLAN

You are now fishers of men. And the Pharisees seek to cut up your nets and sink your boats.

The four look confused as they semi-circle him.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

Don't you get it? The Pharisees don't matter. They are the past. Only what lies ahead matters now. Only Jesus matters. If you keep looking back you might stumble. And that would cost a lot more people than just us.

ANDREW

Not all of what you say makes sense to me, but this does.

PETER

But we can't just ignore the Pharisees and Sadducees.

ALLAN

Let me ask you something. Did you feel uncomfortable at Matthew's last night. Surrounded by people you would normally have nothing to do with?

They exchange glances.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

The hardest thing you will have to do is see people, not for who they were, but who they are now. Who they're trying to be. I'd think fishermen who are trying to be disciples would understand that.

JOHN

It is not an easy path we have chosen. But we all have dedicated our lives to it.

ALLAN

Then we need to work together and support Jesus as he faces that nest of vipers. Yes, the Pharisees.

Andrew hugs Allan. John, James and finally Peter joins.

INT. SARAPH'S SYNAGOGUE - MORNING

Jesus enters the ornate synagogue. Sarah and his cronies watch Him enter with His own CROWD. Then they see how PEOPLE leave their TEACHERS to go to Him.

SARAPH

We must keep a close eye on this.

The Pharisees gather near Jesus just as Allan and the disciples arrive forming a face-off. Allan and Sarah eye each other as Jesus speaks to the crowd.

JESUS

Judge not, that you be not judged. For with what judgment you judge, you will be judged; and with the measure you use, it will be measured back to you. And why do you look at the speck in your brother's eye, but do not consider the plank in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me remove the speck from your eye'; and look, a plank is in your own eye? Hypocrite! First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother's eye.

A MASON, (30s) large, strong man, pushes through the crowd.

MASON

Teacher!

SARAPH

Yes?

The mason goes past Sarah to Jesus. The mason holds up both his hands- one strong, one withered.

MASON

Teacher. I was a mason, making a living with my hands. I beseech Thee, Lord, to restore me to soundness, that I may work again and not be forced to beg my bread.

Sarah steps forward with feigned concern.

SARAPH

Yes, Lord. This is a good man and deserves your help. But, is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?

Jesus addresses the crowd.

JESUS

If any of you has a sheep and it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will you not take hold of it and lift it out?

Jesus looks straight at Saraph.

JESUS (CONT'D)

How much more valuable is a man than a sheep? Therefore it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.

Allan gets Saraph's attention and rubs his finger by his eye.

ALLAN

You've got something right there.

Saraph scowls. Jesus approaches the mason.

JESUS

Stretch out your hand.

The mason stretches out his hand and it is restored as whole as the other. He holds it high to the crowd as he leaves.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Beware of false prophets, who come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravenous wolves. You will know them by their fruits. Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Therefore by their fruits you will know them.

Saraph strides out stiffly, trying to hide his rage.

EXT. SARAPH'S SYNAGOGUE - CONTINUOUS

Saraph kicks over planters and rips down a banner. PASEAH, (early 20s) small & thin, and BALAK (late teen) tall & thick, hold the other Pharisees back until Saraph is spent.

SARAPH

He enters MY house and paints me the enemy. Worse. The fool!

PASEAH

His words twist things to where we can not argue against Him.

NICODEMUS, (40s) tall, clean shaven, steps to Saraph.

NICODEMUS

Perhaps there is some truth in what
He speaks?

SARAPH

Truth? The only truth I see is that
He may draw the people from the
synagogues and out from under
our... guidance. Then our positions
risk losing their power and so risk
no longer being acknowledged by the
Romans. Things must remain as they
are if our nation is to endure.

NICODEMUS

But we know our system is not
perfect. You've personally seen the
miracles He has performed. Perhaps
he could help us guide them...

SARAPH

He seeks only to guide them from
the safety that we provide. No. He
must be stopped. I will send what
we know of Him to Caiaphas. Even
you, Nicodemus, can not argue with
the decision of the High Priest.

NICODEMUS

I shall take it myself.

Saraph points to Paseah.

SARAPH

You shall deliver my message. But
you may accompany him, of course.

Nicodemus bows to Saraph and leaves with Paseah. Saraph
gathers the other Pharisees to him.

SARAPH (CONT'D)

I know Caiaphas will agree with me
and there is no time to waste.
Ready a tribute. I will go speak
with the Herodians.

BALAK

You seek out our enemies?

SARAPH

There will be plenty of time to be
enemies later. Right now we both
need allies if we are to kill this
overly popular "messiah."

EXT. MOUNTAIN NEAR CAPERNAUM - NIGHT

Jesus sits alone on top of a grassy mountain. The clear night sky shining down on his meditations. His Face shows sadness and concern.

Allan steals up behind Jesus. He makes no noise. He just shares the moment with Him, staring up at the stars.

JESUS
Judas?

ALLAN
Please don't call me that.

JESUS
It is who you must be.

ALLAN
I'm not that strong. Not like the others.

JESUS
You are wrong. None of them could do it. Only you can.

ALLAN
I know...

JESUS
Yes. You do. You've seen the miracles. You've seen the corruption. You know that this is what the world needs.

ALLAN
There has to be another way.

JESUS
If there was would I not take it?

Jesus gets eye to eye with Allan.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Tomorrow I will call my apostles to me. Will you be one of them? Allan Wiseman Penzias, will you stand by my side as my essential disciple?

Tears fill Allan's eyes. Pain in his face.

ALLAN
Judas, it is.

EXT. BASE OF THE MOUNTAIN NEAR CAPERNAUM - MORNING

The sky is painted with the glory of God celebrating this important day. Jesus stands on an outcropping overlooking a crowd of His disciples.

JESUS

I am well pleased with all of you and your works, but we still have much to do. I have chosen twelve from among you who will be my apostles. I shall send them forth to spread the word and do works so the people may have hope in their salvation.

Each Apostle joins Jesus on the outcropping as He calls them so the disciples may see them.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Peter.
Andrew.
James.
John.
Philip.

PHILIP, (mid teen) well-groomed black goatee and brown robes.

Bartholomew.

BARTHOLOMEW, (late teen) long dark beard and hair with yellow stripe robes.

Thomas.

THOMAS, (late teen) square-trimmed orange-ish beard with yellow robes.

Matthew.
James, son of Alphaeus.

JAMES II, (early 20s) light brown curly hair with light green robes.

Thaddeus.

THADDEUS, (late teen) chubby with thin beard and moustache in blue striped robes.

Simon.

SIMON, (mid 20s) wild reddish hair with green robes.

And Judas.

Jesus stands flanked by his apostles.

JESUS (CONT'D)
 Stand by their side and aid in
 their work. For their work is my
 work. And my work is God's work.

EXT. PATH ALONG THE ROLLING HILLS OF LOWER GALILEE - DAY

Jesus and Allan walk along a lightly forested path. Behind them the disciples congratulate the apostles as the apostles settle into their new leadership roles.

ALLAN
 You know you do so much more than
 what's written about.

JESUS
 Some books are lost. Some are
 hidden. Enough makes it to the
 people. Besides, some people are
 pained by the chore of reading so
 much. You rarely even made it
 through the begats.

ALLAN
 And with all that you have done.
 All that they have seen. Not just
 read about, but actually witnessed
 first hand, the Pharisees still
 plot against you.

JESUS
 The ones who are most lost are the
 ones who have stopped searching
 because they believe they are
 already there.

ALLAN
 And you remind them that they're
 still lost.

JESUS
 The Pharisees do not seek the will
 of God, because they have decided
 that they already know it. Someone
 told them. They wrote it down. And
 now they can not see that their own
 wills have been written over God's.

ALLAN
 I should write my own book, "The
 Fallacies of the Pharisees."

Jesus smiles.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 Though I don't get a book, do I?

JESUS

Your deeds shall be written in the
most important book.

ALLAN

Can't wait to read that one.

They walk along in silence for a while.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

So. As you said, my reading is not
that thorough. We are the twelve
apostles. What's next? Softball
team to take on the Pharisees?

JESUS

Were you not listening? I shall
send you forth to spread the word
and do works so the people may have
hope in their salvation. Gather the
eleven and meet me under that tree.

EXT. UNDER THAT TREE - MOMENTS LATER

The twelve apostles stand with heads bowed in prayer. Jesus
blesses each one as He walks along them.

JESUS

To each of you I give power. Power
to heal the sick. Power to cleanse
the lepers. To cast out demons. To
raise the dead. What you have seen
me do, you shall do as well.

The twelve raise their heads.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Go forth to the lost sheep of the
house of Israel. And as you go,
preach, saying, 'The kingdom of
heaven is at hand.' Freely you have
received, freely give.

Provide neither gold nor silver nor
copper in your money belts, nor bag
for your journey, nor two tunics,
nor sandals, nor staffs; for a
worker is worthy of his food. There
is nothing to prepare. Go now.

Eleven of the apostles head off. Allan does not move.

ALLAN

I can now heal and cleanse and cast
out and even possibly resurrect?

Jesus holds Allan by his shoulders and looks in to his eyes.

JESUS
No.

ALLAN
(relaxing)
Thank God.

JESUS
God shall perform these miracles
through you.

Allan drops his head.

JESUS (CONT'D)
This part of your path is very
important. You have to experience
first hand how important this is.

Allan sits down against the tree. He looks at the ground and doodles with a stick. Jesus sits beside him.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Words will not suffice. Watch the
small boy over there.

Allan looks up. A SMALL BOY, (10) skinny, well dressed, swings his sling as he eyes up a pot on a wall. The boy lets the pebble fly. The pot shatters. He dances with glee.

The boy reloads and eyes up a smaller cup on the wall. The boy lets the pebble fly. The cup shatters. He dances more.

The boy reloads and looks about. A BIRD'S SONG wafts by. The boy spots a small, pretty bird in a tree. The boy eyes it up. He lets the pebble fly. The song abruptly stops. The bird falls to the ground. The boy freezes, eyes wide.

He tiptoes up to the bird.

He nudges it with a stick.

He gets closer and kneels beside it. He begins to weep.

He jumps up and tears the sling apart as he runs away.

Jesus gets up and crosses to the bird. Allan follows him.

JESUS (CONT'D)
There is a lonely old woman named
Zilpah who lives not far from here.
She is blind. Family takes care of
her, but hope is hard for her.

Jesus picks up the bird in his hands.

JESUS (CONT'D)

So God sent her this bird to sing
by her window everyday. It is the
song that lets her know that God
has not forgotten her. It is the
song that keeps her hope alive.

ALLAN

And yet, you let the boy kill it.

JESUS

This was allowed to kill three
birds with one stone, so to speak.
First, so that the boy may learn
the lesson he did this day.

Jesus lifts Allan's hands up and puts the bird in it.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Second, so you may heal the bird
and know that you are worthy to do
God's work. And third, so you know
that you have sent it to Zilpah to
bring her the hope she needs.

Allan's hands start to drop.

ALLAN

But...

Jesus catches his hands and lifts them back up.

JESUS

You have faith in me and I have
faith in you. Look at the miracle
you already performed. The first
man to ever do it.

ALLAN

Getting here? That was science.
This is...

JESUS

Magic? That is why you must do it.
So you can see it is not magic. It
is faith. And love. And caring.

Jesus holds Allan's hands closed around the bird.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Believe. Care. Above all this,
love. Let that go into the bird.

Allan looks down at his hands. He closes his eyes. He furrows
his brow. He begins to sing softly and slowly.

ALLAN
 Jesus loves me this I know,
 for the Bible tells me so.

Allan opens his eyes and sings into his hands.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 Little ones to Him belong,
 they are weak, but He is...

Allan opens his hands. The bird pops up shaking it's wings.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 ...strong.

The bird flies off into the sun. It's song on the wind.

Allan begins to weep openly.

JESUS
 Go forth, my friend. There is much
 to be done.

EXT. THE AREA NEAR HASOR - DAY

Allan wanders along a creek in the foothills of Galilee
 staring at his time travel device.

The screen shows a centered black dot with circles radiating out from it. "Cu 29" is in the top right corner in red. Small red dots are sparsely scattered in the direction Allan is travelling, Northwest.

ALLAN
 Don't look at me like that 'puter.
 I know I lied, but I can't kill
 Him. I need to find a way to leave
 before that time comes. Just help
 me find the copper we need and
 we'll calculate an escape route.
 God can work out His plan with
 someone else.

Allan hears a RASPY YELPING and SPLASHING around the bend. He stashes his device and rushes to the sound. A MAN (20s) stands in the middle of the creek clutching a small, lame dog by it's nape. A YOUNG BOY (7) is being drug from him by HIS MOTHER (20s). A SMALL CROWD watches from the nearby bridge.

YOUNG BOY
 No, poppa, no.

The man ignores the boy and plunges the dog into the water.

ALLAN
 HEY! What are you doing?

The man pulls the dog from the water.

MAN

It is a runt and lame. I am doing
what needs to be done.

ALLAN

In front of the boy?

MAN

He got away from his mother and
sought me out.

A shaft of light bursts through the clouds and lights on the
dog. Allan wades to the man.

ALLAN

May I see the dog?

MAN

I am not a monster. If I let it
live it will only suffer.

ALLAN

Then give me the dog, so the boy
won't think of his father this way.

The man looks at the crying boy. Then his wife's pleading
face. He gives Allan the dog.

Allan holds the dog up to the light. He rubs the dog's legs
as he submerges it. The little boy gasps and hides his head.
Allan washes it's neck as he sings softly to himself.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

Jesus loves me this I know,
for the Bible tells me so.

The dog goes limp. Allan rubs faster. Sings louder.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

Little ones to Him belong,
they are weak, but He is...

The dog stretches it's legs out and they are whole.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

...strong.

The dog barks and kicks it's legs. The man's eyes are wide as
Allan hands the dog to him. He takes the dog to his son. The
Family hugs the dog together. The man mouths "Thank You" to
Allan. Allan nods.

EXT. CREEK BETWEEN HASOR AND GABARA - LATER

Allan has a lighter step as he makes his way along the creek wringing his clothes out the best he can. He smiles at the sun and begins to whistle. He is slammed from the side and plunged into the creek.

Allan struggles to get out from under a POSSESSED MAN (late 20s) filthy and unkempt. Allan suddenly flips the man across the water and pops up, breathing heavy. The possessed man jumps up and freezes in fear when he sees Allan.

POSSESSED MAN
We know of you Christ Killer.

Allan's mouth drops open and his eyes grow sad. He drops his head. The possessed man backs away.

POSSESSED MAN (CONT'D)
Why do you come here? The Christ is not with us.

Allan takes a deep breath and then stares into the possessed man with fury in his eyes.

ALLAN
Leave that man, evil spirit.

The evil spirit dunks the man in the creek. Allan dashes to his side, pulling his head from the water.

POSSESSED MAN
Why does the Christ's killer do his bidding?

ALLAN
In the name of Jesus, I command you to come out of him!

The man shakes and spits and then falls limp.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Set this man free!

The man rises up suddenly with a gasp. Allan holds him. The man coughs violently and then begins to cry as he sinks into Allan's arms.

MAN
Thank you. I have been a prisoner for so long.

ALLAN
The Lord has freed you.

Allan looks to heaven with tears in his eyes.

EXT. THE TOWN OF GABARA - DAY

Allan helps the man walk into town. PEOPLE OF THE TOWN gasp and point as they recognize the man. One BOY (13) runs off.

A WOMAN (20s) brings the man some bread. He eats it smiling at her. Others gather round.

The crowd parts and AN OLDER COUPLE (early 40s) make their way to the man. He struggles to stand and collapses into their arms. They help him down the street.

WOMAN

They're his parents. He's been gone over nine years. They thought he was lost to them forever.

Allan watches them go off, but is startled by a loud yell.

LYDIA

YOU!

Allan turns to LYDIA (20s) weary.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

You were with Jesus. You banished the demon. Just like He did. Can you heal like Him too? Come!

Lydia drags Allan down the street. Allan looks to the sky.

ALLAN

You're really going to machine gun me like this right now?

INT. LYDIA'S HOME: BAANAH'S ROOM - DAY

BAANAH, (15) gaunt, pale boy, clasps his cover to his neck in a fetal position on his bed mat on the floor. His body heaves with labored breathing. His eyes are crusted closed.

Lydia drags Allan into the room.

LYDIA

...killed his father. Baanah did not lose hope. He pushed forward with his father's carpentry work, teaching himself whatever he had not yet learned from his father.

Allan inches towards Baanah, but jumps back as he convulses with coughing.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

You must help him. He is all that I have.

She pushes Allan towards Baanah. Allan looks at his hands.

ALLAN
I don't...

LYDIA
If you must take my life to save
his, please do not hesitate.

Allan gets down next to Baanah. He furrows his brow at the yellow discharge around his eyes.

ALLAN
A wet rag.

Allan breaks the hair free that is cemented to Baanah's eyes and brushes it back from his face. Baanah seems to breathe a little better as Allan touches him, but goes back to rasping when he stops. Allan strokes Baanah's hair again and notices the change. The boy's eyes move under his eyelids.

Lydia drops down with a small cloth and bowl of water. Allan gently caresses the gunk from around Baanah's eyes. Baanah opens pleading eyes to Allan.

Allan mouths the words to the song silently, "Jesus loves me this I know..."

Allan wipes the crust from Baanah's dry mouth. Baanah's breath becomes easier and more regular. Baanah's eyes never leave Allan's eyes. Lydia weeps and raises her hands, but stops herself from reaching out to her son.

Allan lifts Baanah's head and squeezes some water from the rag into his mouth. Baanah swallows and breathes normally.

Allan rubs Baanah's arms and strength returns to them. Baanah pushes himself up. His mother falls back in awe.

Allan stands and helps Baanah up. Color returns to his face and his legs straighten out. Allan gives him the bowl of water and he drinks it down.

Allan kisses Baanah on his forehead.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Rise and rejoice for the Kingdom of
Heaven is near.

Lydia explodes up into her son, wrapping him in her love.

Allan stumbles backwards into the wall. Allan turns slowly and drags himself out the door.

EXT. LYDIA'S HOME - CONTINUOUS

Allan shields his eyes from the sudden glare of the sun. He bows his head.

ALLAN
Thank you.

He opens his eyes to something glinting in the sun. He spies a woman carrying several copper pitchers standing at a shop front with SEVERAL OTHER PATRONS. He makes his way to her.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Excuse me.

Miriam, the woman he pointed out to Jesus, turns to face him. He is caught in the pools of her eyes.

MIRIAM
Do I know you?

Beat.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)
Perhaps you have mistaken me for
someone else.

Miriam turns to leave.

ALLAN
No. You don't know me. I was just
noticing your pitchers.

MIRIAM
These are not for sale. I am a
shepherd, not a merchant.

ALLAN
No. I don't need... I'm just
looking for someone who can sell me
a large amount of copper.

MIRIAM
Are you a copper smith?

ALLAN
No... but I am interested in
learning the craft.

MIRIAM
So you think you can just get the
copper and the smithing will
follow?

ALLAN
Did you learn shepherding before or
after you got the sheep?

Miriam smiles which forces a smile on Allan's face.

MIRIAM

I suppose that is true. I don't know anyone who has large amounts of copper. I can ask around. Are you going to be here long...

Lydia comes out of her house with Baanah scanning the area.

ALLAN

No. I... have much to do.

Allan smiles sadly and mixes in with the crowd as he heads to the back of the building.

MIRIAM

Peace be upon you in your works.

ALLAN

There can be no peace in my works.

Balak steps from the shadows of the shop and watches Allan go. Balak rushes off.

EXT. KING HEROD'S PALACE-FORTRESS OF MACHAERUS - MORNING

A large palace/fortress dominates the landscape on top of a tall rocky hill overlooking the dead sea.

A YOUNG BOY (10) leads Allan along the wall on the shaded side of the fortress to a barred window. The boy stacks the two wood crates he carries against the wall as a step to see inside. The boy runs off and Allan climbs the crates.

Allan peers into the dark, stone cell. Allan calls.

ALLAN

John? John. It's Allan.

John pops up at the window startling Allan.

JOHN

Allan!

Allan tumbles backwards onto the ground. He looks up at John's smiling face pressed up against the bars. He laughs and gets back up to the window.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I had heard someone was travelling this way healing and driving out demons. I knew it wasn't Jesus, but I had no idea it was the giant.

ALLAN
How are you?

JOHN
Well, they don't have the quality
of cricket I am used to, but I am
surviving.

ALLAN
You're certainly in good spirits.

JOHN
I faltered once. I even sent two of
my followers to ask Jesus if He was
truly the one we were waiting for.
He showed them He is. He made the
blind see, the lame walk, the deaf
hear. He even cleansed the lepers
and raised the dead. But, most
importantly, he preached the gospel
to the poor.

ALLAN
Yes, I have seen all this and more

JOHN
You yourself has even done this.
And still you stumble on your path?

ALLAN
How did you...

JOHN
You have traveled far to be here
when you should be spreading the
word. You have come for something
more important than visiting me.

Allan pulls a large metal staff from his robes and puts it
between the bars in the window.

ALLAN
Yes. I have come to free you.

John grabs the staff and pushes it out.

JOHN
I am already free. It is you who
you must free.

ALLAN
You don't understand. If you stay
here they will kill you. I thought
if I killed the daughter, maybe
they wouldn't kill you. But I
couldn't do it.

JOHN

No. You could not. You are a good man. Good men can not fight bad men by becoming bad men.

Tears roll from Allan's eyes as he jams the staff back in and strains against the bars. John pulls at the staff and shoves Allan back. Allan falls to the ground and begins to weep.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Stop this. I intend to fulfill my role no matter what the cost.

ALLAN

I can't let you die. I can't let Him die.

JOHN

When I am lost. Unsure. I ask myself, 'Am I doing this for me? For them? Or for God?' This is not for me. And it's not for God. It is only for you.

Allan stands. He drops the staff. He climbs back up.

ALLAN

I can't do what He wants me to do.

JOHN

You are the only one stopping you from doing it. It is what God wants. So you must do it for God. And in so doing you are doing it for me. For you. For everyone. Then you will be whole.

John kisses Allan's forehead through the bars.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Then you will find peace.

EXT. ROAD FROM MACHAERUS - DAY

Allan plods along lost in thought. He looks up at the sun.

ALLAN

Please God. Give me a sign. Is...

The world goes dark.

INT. TIBERIAS SYNAGOGUE - DAY

The hood is pulled from Allan's head. His eyes adjust to see he is in a small, well adorned office. Saraph sits behind the desk in front of him. Balak and Paseah flank him.

SARAPH

Have a nice visit with the heretic?

ALLAN

He's not the heretic?

SARAPH

That is not for you to say. But I did not invite you here to argue.

Allan stands. The Pharisees move forward, but Saraph raises his hand.

ALLAN

Then I'm free to leave.

SARAPH

Yes. After I have had my say.

ALLAN

By all means. Speak quickly.

Balak picks up a staff. Saraph grabs his hand. Saraph stands and puts the staff back. Saraph crosses to a map on the wall.

SARAPH

What if I could help you find what you are looking for?

ALLAN

You couldn't begin to fathom what I'm looking for.

SARAPH

Perhaps not. But I do know a man who owns about 4 acres of land in Akeldama. Just outside Jerusalem.

Saraph points out the spot on the map.

ALLAN

I'm not into real estate.

SARAPH

This is very unique real estate. You see the land is completely covered in pieces of copper. Great for a budding coppersmith.

Saraph motions and Paseah dumps Allan's bag full of copper pieces onto the desk.

ALLAN

What would that cost me?

SARAPH

He only asks 30 shekels for it. If you do not have that much we might be convinced to help you.

ALLAN

Do I have to ask again?

SARAPH

We need someone who finds 'no peace in his works' to help us find someone.

ALLAN

He's easy to find.

SARAPH

But we need to find Him when He is away from the crowds.

ALLAN

Serpents have trouble striking out in the open?

Balak rushes forward. Saraph restrains him. Allan meets Balak eye-to-eye.

SARAPH

We simply do not wish to upset the common people. These matters are too complicated for their understanding.

ALLAN

And, if I do help you, what are your intentions?

SARAPH

We simply wish to remove Him from the public eye. Send Him somewhere He won't be able to disrupt the natural order of things within the Jewish nation.

ALLAN

Your natural order. And if I don't?

SARAPH

We will do it anyway. But it will be more public and more... violent.

Allan drops his head and chuckles at the deceit. Allan grabs his copper and walks to the door

ALLAN
I will consider it.

SARAPH
Do so quickly. He will not be allowed to disrupt things much longer.

INT. PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW'S HOUSE - DAY

Jesus sits at the table with the other eleven apostles. The door opens and Allan stands in the doorway.

JESUS
The last to leave and the last to return. How goes it Judas?

ALLAN
You know; healing, casting, cleansing. It's all good.

Jesus rises laughing and hugs Allan. The others scowl.

JESUS
Let's get some sun.

EXT. SHORE OF THE SEA OF GALILEE - DAY

The sun glistens off the sea as the waves create a soothing rhythm. Allan notices the sun creating a halo around Jesus' head. He smiles to himself.

JESUS
How is our friend?

ALLAN
Steadfast. Certain of his role.

JESUS
I wish I could give you that peace.

ALLAN
You could.

Jesus grabs Allan on both sides of the head and stares wide-eyed into Allan's eyes.

JESUS
You will no longer resist. You will obey my voice. You will do as I wish you to do. And you will do it with peace in your heart.

Jesus lets him go and strolls off. Allan stands frozen, mouth open and eyes wide.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Better?

Allan shakes it off and jogs to catch up.

ALLAN
No.

JESUS
Do you want me to actually make all
that take effect?

ALLAN
No.

JESUS
Sometimes that whole free will
thing is a heavy burden.

ALLAN
You don't have to do that to free
John. You can just let him walk out
of there.

JESUS
He wouldn't if I did. He knows what
I know. What you know deep down
inside that you struggle against.

ALLAN
Not my will, but God's.

JESUS
And John does it without your
advantage. You've not only seen
what is now, but what will be.

ALLAN
A world still run by Pharisees and
Sadducees and Romans. You think
they do harm in your father's name
now. Give them time. See what
they'll do in YOUR name.

JESUS
Enough to make you lose your faith.

ALLAN
Many times over.

JESUS
But think about how much worse it
would be if these events do not
unfold as they must.

ALLAN

They've already made their offer.
30 shekels if I help them relocate
you to a place where you can't
interfere in the 'natural order of
things.' They're coming soon.

JESUS

Of course they are. The Pharisees
and Sadducees have a great business
going. I'm bad for that business.

ALLAN

It's not personal. It's just
business.

JESUS

They've convinced themselves that
an earthly excuse will free them
from the cost of their sin.

ALLAN

Everything you do here will be
filtered to their designs.
Teachings will be suppressed.
Miracles erased. Events "mis-
remembered." And they won't be
limited by geography, so they will
suffocate the entire world.

JESUS

Then in nineteen thousand nine
hundred and sixty seven years your
mother will come along and make up
for all of it.

ALLAN

Well, Lord knows she'll try.

JESUS

Yes, I do.

Jesus looks sideways at Allan. They share a warm laugh.

ALLAN

I enjoy our time, but the others
make me uncomfortable. I don't
think they like me.

JESUS

They just don't understand. They
are living this now and learning as
they go. Unsure of what will happen
from moment to moment. You were
taught all this from books and
bright posters on walls. They don't
realize the burden you are
struggling with.

ALLAN

I didn't think about that. But they seem extra upset with how I talk to you.

Jesus laughs and puts his arm around Allan.

JESUS

You don't even realize what you do, do you?

ALLAN

Yes I do. What do I do?

JESUS

You speak to them in their language. But when you speak to me you speak in English.

ALLAN

What are you talking about?

JESUS

It's like someone who knows more than one language. They speak the common language to most people, but will slip into their native language when they talk to their family without realizing it.

ALLAN

So we're family now? Wait till I tell, mom.

JESUS

So they think you are hiding things from them.

ALLAN

I am. But I'll tell them if you want me to.

JESUS

Yes. Let us go do that now.

Jesus heads back. Allan chases.

ALLAN

I was just kidding.

Jesus laughs.

INT. PETER'S MOTHER-IN-LAW'S HOUSE - DAY

The apostles sit around sharing stories. Jesus flings the door open and strides to the center of the room. Allan rushes in behind Him.

JESUS

Judas wishes to clear some things up with all of you.

Jesus kisses Allan's cheek and rushes out, shutting the door behind Him. Allan stands slack-jawed as the apostles lean in.

Beat. Allan pours himself a drink and sits down. Peter rises.

PETER

Why are you here?

Thomas joins him.

THOMAS

And where are you from? I've never heard an accent like yours.

Bartholomew joins them.

BARTHOLOMEW

This is true. I have travelled much and have never met anyone quite like you.

ALLAN

Didn't you say, 'Nothing good ever came from Nazareth?'

PETER

You are not from Nazareth.

All the apostles surround Allan.

ALLAN

Did you ever think maybe I'm from beyond the lands you know?

SIMON

There are no Jews beyond these lands.

ALLAN

I'm not a Jew. I'm...

Allan looks around at their shocked faces.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

I'm an apostle. Just like you.

PHILIP

But you are not like us. We all see
this Judas. You do not follow
Jewish tradition or Roman
tradition. Or even pagan tradition.

THOMAS

I ask again, where are you from?

ALLAN

It doesn't matter. It doesn't
matter that you were fishermen. Or
that Matthew was a tax collector.
What matters is that we help Jesus.

PETER

But, do you help Jesus? You move in
secret. You speak to Jesus in
secret. You do not always do as He
asks. You often are the cause of
His worries.

ALLAN

You've been the cause of my worries
since you joined up. What is it
with you?

Peter and Allan face-off.

ANDREW

Perhaps if you explained to us your
part in all of this we would be
more accepting.

Allan considers and then burns his stare into Peter.

ALLAN

I'm not here to be accepted. I'm
not here to be loved. And I'm not
here to explain myself to you.

PETER

That's not...

The door bursts open. Elon, Sapak's messenger, fills the
doorway heaving his breaths with tear-filled eyes.

ELON

John is dead.

EXT. MOUNTAIN OVERLOOKING SEA OF GALILEE - EVENING

Jesus sits by Himself on a stone overlooking the sea. The
moon glistens on the soothing rhythm of the waves.

Allan crosses to in front of Jesus and they look into each other's eyes, both weeping. At the sight of Jesus' tears Allan weeps harder and clenches his eyes in pain.

Jesus touches Allan's hand. Allan wraps his cloak around the two of them as he sits next to Jesus and the two stare into the starless sky.

CROSS DISSOLVE:

EXT. MOUNTAIN OVERLOOKING SEA OF GALILEE - DAWN

Allan and Jesus are in the same spot still looking out over the sea. Jesus finally drops His head. Allan drops his.

The first ray of the sun caresses Jesus' face. Jesus looks up as the sun comes up faster than it should.

The sky and water are painted with breathtaking beauty. A love letter from God. A promise that everything will be okay.

Jesus pops up. Allan rises slowly. Jesus smiles and they share a long hug. Jesus grabs Allan by his shoulders.

JESUS

Come. There is much work to be done.

Jesus strides off. Allan stumbles up to match his pace.

ALLAN

So you saw?

JESUS

Saw what?

ALLAN

John. In heaven. You know he's okay.

JESUS

No. But when the sun came up I knew it was so.

ALLAN

You didn't see anything?

JESUS

No. If I did, I'd be spared that which you must work through. Loss. Pain. Suffering. Uncertainty. But, even when I doubt, I will still serve God without fail, so you see it can be done.

Allan's head drops and his pace slows. He looks up at Jesus with pain in his eyes.

JESUS (CONT'D)
This cup can not be taken from me.

ALLAN
There must be...

JESUS
This is their last chance.

ALLAN
Last chance?

JESUS
So that you might know.

Jesus puts his hands on both sides of Allan's head and Allan stares into Jesus' eyes as an image forms.

A MAN and A WOMAN walk through paradise. The woman holds up a fig with a bite taken. The man takes a bite of the fig.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Adam and Eve failed to obey God in
the garden.

Darkness and storms fill the sky. They are driven out of the garden into the rocky area beyond.

JESUS (CONT'D)
They were cast out.

A storm rages over a huge ark riding an endless sea. The sun breaks through and the ark settles onto a mountain top. The large door in the ark's side opens and animals pour out followed by NOAH AND HIS FAMILY.

JESUS (CONT'D)
When evil became too wide spread
God cleansed the earth and
restarted with Noah.

TWO MEN build a barn together. The first man puts a bridle around the finest horse. The second man grabs the bridle and shoves him. The man shoves back. The second man hits the first with a hammer. The first hits the ground. The second leaps upon him. He swings the hammer down again and again.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Man back slid.

MOSES leads the JEWISH PEOPLE out of Egypt.

Moses comes down the mountain with the ten commandments.

A tabernacle (large tent) is surrounded by the Jewish people in the desert. Moses enters the tent and divine light bathes the people.

JESUS (CONT'D)
 Moses led the people. God gave them written commandments. He even dwelt with them, providing guidance.

A GROUP OF PEOPLE dance in the darkness with torches around a golden calf. They drink and intertwine their flesh on the ground around the idol as stray fights break out.

JESUS (CONT'D)
 They still went astray.

Jesus' eyes return to normal. Tears stream down Allan's face.

JESUS (CONT'D)
 Now He has sent me. An example on earth to follow. Someone who willingly makes the ultimate sacrifice for God and His children. And, for those who accept, a part of the Holy Spirit shall descend upon them and live in their hearts to help them. Man will have time to work it out and find his way. But this is his last chance to do so.

Jesus wipes the tears from Allan's face.

JESUS (CONT'D)
 You see? There is no other way, my friend.

EXT. SHORE OF THE SEA OF GALILEE - MORNING

The apostles sit in groups talking. Peter, Andrew, James and John. Thomas, Philip, Bartholomew and Simon. Matthew, James and Thaddeus.

Allan sits off by himself. He fiddles with his time machine. The screen reads, "Calculating new launch time."

Jesus arrives and they all gather round.

JESUS
 Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?

JOHN
 Some say John the Baptist.

BARTHOLOMEW
Some Elijah.

THOMAS
Others say you are Jeremiah or one
of the prophets.

JESUS
But who do you say that I am?

PETER
You are the Christ, the Son of the
living God.

JESUS
Blessed are you for flesh and blood
has not revealed this to you, but
My Father who is in heaven. And I
also say to you that you are Peter,
and on this rock I will build My
church, and the gates of Hades
shall not prevail against it.

JOHN
What are we to do next, Lord?

JESUS
There is much still to do, but
eventually we will have to go to
Jerusalem. O Jerusalem, the city
that kills the prophets and stones
those who are sent to it!

PETER
Far be it from You, Lord; this
shall not happen to You!

Jesus turns from Peter and looks into Allan's eyes.

JESUS
Get behind Me, Satan! You are an
offense to Me, for you are not
mindful of the things of God, but
the things of men.

Allan holds Jesus' gaze for a moment and then storms off.

EXT. DERELECT BOAT BY THE SEA OF GALILEE - CONTINUOUS

Allan climbs into an old boat with a broken hull. He pulls
out his time travel device and works some dials.

ALLAN
You and me 'puter.

Jesus appears behind him and Allan hides the device.

JESUS
There is no escape. For either of
us.

Allan pulls the device back out and makes adjustments.

JESUS (CONT'D)
It is not your fault you were not
there for your father.

ALLAN
Now I can fix it.

JESUS
No. You can not go back.

ALLAN
Are you going to stop me?

JESUS
Do you recall any of the writings
about the end times? About seals
being broken and trumpets sounding?
A trumpet sounded after you left.

Allan puts the time machine down and stands.

JESUS (CONT'D)
One of those seals, the most
important one, is the seal of time.

ALLAN
I broke one of the seven seals?

JESUS
That put into motion something that
can not be stopped. One by one the
other seals broke. There is nothing
to go back to.

Allan drops back into the boat and caresses his time machine.

ALLAN
But I'm going back to years before
I left. Right before...

JESUS
In breaking the seal you rendered
your machine useless. I am not
going to stop you from returning.
You have already done that.

Allan slumps into a haze.

ALLAN
Why didn't you tell me?

Allan jumps up into Jesus' face, growling.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Why didn't you tell me?

Jesus' face fills with sadness and pain.

JESUS
Would you have believed me? Even
now, you doubt.

Allan collapses into Jesus' arms.

ALLAN
It just can't be.

JESUS
This is your path. You can not run
from it. The end that you initiated
will mean eternal damnation for so
many of these people if you don't
finish your journey. And their
children. And their children. All
the way to Deborah and Arnold
Penzias' child.

Allan pulls away from Jesus.

ALLAN
So I don't just help kill you. I
help kill them all.

JESUS
You help save them all.

Allan picks up his time machine.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Finish this journey with me.

ALLAN
I will consider it.

Allan hides his machine and trudges away.

EXT. PATH ALONG THE ROLLING HILLS OF LOWER GALILEE - DAY

Jesus walks along the path with heavy steps. John rushes up.

JOHN
We can not find Judas, Lord.

JESUS
He needs some time.

JOHN

He took all the money with him.

JESUS

The money is of no concern. It is not enough anyway.

JOHN

Enough for what, Lord?

JESUS

To buy a new path.

EXT. SAME WELL IN THE JEZREEL VALLEY - DAY

Allan walks up to the well and fills his skins.

A GROUP OF TRAVELERS are gathering their stuff to move on. Allan recognizes some of them, including the mason that Jesus healed in the synagogue. He is speaking to a SMALL GROUP OF SHEPHERDS.

MASON

...but He healed more than just my hand. He renewed my spirit. Surely you can see how the Sadducees and the Pharisees no longer speak for God. They only serve themselves.

The HEAD SHEPHERD (40s) a regal, stern-faced, pushes his underlings to their camels.

HEAD SHEPHERD

It is not right to speak against the leaders of the synagogue. Does this man teach rebellion?

MASON

Not at all. He says we should obey our leaders, but we should not do as they do for they do not practice what they preach. He called out their hypocrisy to their faces and they could not refute Him.

HEAD SHEPHERD

If you can stay a while more, I would like to hear more about this man who seeks to heal our people.

Allan smiles to himself as he heads down the trail.

EXT. BETHANY - DAY

Allan stands on the main street of the picturesque little city of Bethany. Modestly decorated buildings line the streets. A large building that is the plainest has it's yard full of ornate woodwork.

A wood cart hitched to a camel sits in front of it with Nicodemus in the driver seat. He is paying Sapak.

SAPAK

No problem at all. Loose rocks and deep ditches are a carpenter's best friend.

Nicodemus smiles as Sapak roars with laughter.

SAPAK (CONT'D)

I reinforced the entire wheel base so you should have no troubles on your way to Jerusalem. And back.

Sapak bellows again.

NICODEMUS

It is good to see joy again.

SAPAK

How can anyone not be joyous? The Christ has finally come.

NICODEMUS

You speak of Jesus? He does speak with authority and wisdom.

SAPAK

I often sat by the Jordan to listen to John preach of His coming. I was not disappointed when He did.

NICODEMUS

I was surprised. A simple man heals all manner of ailments, cleanses lepers and sends demons fleeing.

SAPAK

They even say he raises the dead.

NICODEMUS

I have not seen that. But, despite his power and growing influence with the people, he does not seek to lift Himself up. Instead He seeks to lift the lowest up. He even ministers to the tax collectors and gentiles.

SAPAK
Are you traveling to Jerusalem to
join Him?

NICODEMUS
No. I seek an audience with
Caiaphas. I believe Saraph is
seeking to kill Jesus and wish
Caiphas to intervene. Perhaps even
meet with Jesus himself so he can
see and hear what I have.

SAPAK
Then stop wasting time with me.

Sapak fills the streets with his laughter. Nicodemus smiles
as he drives off.

NICODEMUS
Peace be with you.

Allan smiles and hides until Sapak goes back in.

EXT. BANK OF THE JORDAN RIVER - DAY

Allan sits on his favorite rock and listens to the river.

LYDIA
YOU!

Allan is startled by the loud voice. He jumps up to see Lydia
and Baanah there with a loaded-up donkey. Baanah looks very
healthy. Lydia rushes over and hugs Allan.

LYDIA (CONT'D)
I bring Baanah to be baptized and
find you here to do it.

ALLAN
I don't really baptize...

Lydia grabs Baanah and Allan by their arms and drags them
into the water.

LYDIA
Baanah first.

Allan stares mouth hanging at Lydia as Baanah backs up to him
and leans in. Allan almost misses him.

Allan looks up at the sky and back at the beaming Lydia.
Allan drops his head. He sees his reflection in the water and
he sees John in it. Tears drop down as Allan smiles.

Allan gently dips Baanah into the water.

ALLAN

Repent, and be baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Allan helped Baanah up and Lydia jumps into his spot. Allan gently dips Lydia into the water.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

Repent, and be baptized, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Allan and Baanah help Lydia back up to the donkey. They both dry off with cloth hung over the donkey. Lydia hugs and kisses Baanah as they go off.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

Go with God.

LIGHT SPLASHING can be heard from the river. Allan sneaks up behind a tree overlooking the river. Jesus stands in the middle of the river baptizing Miriam.

Miriam heads off down the road. Jesus crosses to where Allan is "hiding." They kiss each other on the cheek.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

I thought I was running from you,
but I was running to you.

A MAN (30s) short and spry, rushes to Jesus.

MAN

Lord, my son has fallen ill.

Allan smiles at Jesus and then follows Him as the man leads him back to the road where the man's cart is. Jesus goes to the SICK BOY (mid teen) in the cart. Allan stands off to the side with his OLDER BROTHER (early 20s).

OLDER BROTHER

Are you with Jesus? What is your name?

Allan smiles as his eyes never leave Jesus.

ALLAN

Judas.

Jesus turns and smiles at Allan.

EXT. THE LAVISH HOME OF CAIAPHAS - NIGHT

SADDUCEES and PHARISEES come from every direction to enter the lavish home of Caiaphas. Balak and Paseah stand outside.

Allan walks up, looks at each of them, then strides inside. They rush to beat him in.

INT. THE LAVISH HOME OF CAIAPHAS - CONTINUOUS

CAIAPHAS, (50s) caesar-esque statue of self-importance, sits on his little "throne" at the head of the room. The importance of the Saducees and Pharisees is reflected by how high and ornate their seat is. Saraph sits at a mid-level. Nicodemus sits slightly higher on the opposite side.

Paseah crosses behind and whispers into Saraph's ear. Saraph nods at Allan. Allan nods back.

NICODEMUS

I suggest that you meet with the man and see for yourself how He speaks and the works He does.

SARAPH

I have met with him. Heard him speak. Saw his works. And I say we must work quickly. For this Man works many signs. If we let Him alone like this, everyone will believe in Him, and the Romans will come and take away both our place and nation.

NICODEMUS

Does our law judge a man before it hears him and knows what he is doing?

CAIAPHAS

You know nothing at all, nor do you consider that it is expedient for us that one man should die for the people, and not that the whole nation should perish.

SARAPH

I agree and have already been working to that end. One of his own twelve closest disciples has seen the error in choosing Him over this council and has agreed to aid us in our task.

CAIAPHAS

Let him come forward.

Saraph nods at Balak. Balak shoves Allan into the center of the group.

CAIAPHAS (CONT'D)
Your name.

ALLAN
I am Judas.

CAIAPHAS
Why would you betray Him?

ALLAN
I have been with Jesus since the beginning and have seen how He has gotten more and more brazen. I now realize that to best serve the nation I must serve this council.

Saraph "loud whispers" to Caiaphas.

SARAPH
For 30 pieces of silver.

CAIAPHAS
I understand. When shall you deliver this man to us?

ALLAN
For all our best interests it has to happen when he is away from the crowds. When I find such an opportunity I shall get word to Sarah with a time and place.

Allan turns to leave.

CAIAPHAS
Do not test my patience. Or you shall share his fate.

Allan shakes his head and laughs to himself.

ALLAN
If I were you I'd soften the people to the idea of His fall. He struts around your synagogues like the cock of the roost. You should have your men ready to trick Him into betraying Himself in front of the smaller crowds and the news of His faults will travel as swiftly as the news of his so called miracles.

CAIAPHAS
This does not earn you a bonus.

ALLAN
30 silver pieces. Keep it handy.

Caiaphas spreads a sickening grin.

INT. SHORE OF THE SEA OF GALILEE - DAY

Jesus sits with the apostles in the shade of a large tree near the water. They are relaxing and sharing bread.

Allan walks up and looks into Jesus' eyes. Allan gives a slight nod. Jesus saddens a bit as He nods back. Allan saddens as he sits next to Jesus.

Jesus draws in the sand. Allan opens his mouth to speak, but stops. Allan pulls some figs from his robes and offers one to Jesus. Jesus slowly shakes his head.

Allan becomes very animated. He pops up and tosses the figs to John. Jesus looks up at him curiously.

ALLAN
You know you are the very best at telling parables, but I know a really good one I bet you don't.

The apostles frown and look at each other and give Allan the stink eye. Jesus goes back to doodling.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Why yes, I'd be glad to share it.
Thanks for asking Peter.

Peter furrows his brow and starts to get up. Andrew grabs Peter's arm as Allan waves him back, shaking his head. Jesus doesn't look up but a small smile forms on His lips.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
So, Peter, there was an old man who lived alone in his house next to a large river. One day a great storm came that lasted for days. On the first day the river overflowed it's banks and flooded the first floor of the man's house. Someone came along in a boat and offered to take him to safety, but do you know what he said?

The apostles look at each other and shrug.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
He said, "No. I have faith that God will save me."

The apostles all smile at this and lean forward.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
By that night the water had risen
to the second floor of his house.
Another boat with several people
came along. They said they had
enough room to take him to safety,
but do you know what the man said?

Beat.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Not even a guess?

Jesus smiles to himself.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
He said, "No. I have faith that God
will save me."
A very stubborn man. Probably a
fisherman.

Jesus chuckles and looks at Allan through the side of his eye. Peter puffs out his chest.

PETER
With faith like that of course he's
a fisherman.

ALLAN
So by noon the next day the water
had risen to cover his home. The
man perched upon his chimney. Then
a helicopter came...

THOMAS
What is a helicopter?

Jesus smiles wide.

ALLAN
Um... a bigger boat. They offered
to take the fisherman to safety,
but do you know what he said?

John slowly raises his hand. Allan nods to him.

JOHN
No. God will save me?

ALLAN
Exactly! See? That's why you're the
favorite.

John smiles and sits straighter. The others scowl at him. He shrinks a little. Jesus is now smiling and leaning forward.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 Do you know what happened next? The
 waters kept rising... and the man
 drowned.

THADDEUS
 If he was a fisherman, why didn't
 he have his own boat?

ALLAN
 He was retired. But that doesn't
 matter. The old fisherman stood
 before God and asked, "Lord, I had
 faith in you. Why didn't you save
 me?" God replied, "I sent you two
 boats and a... I mean three boats.
 What more do you want?"

Allan laughs. The apostles all look confused. They look to
 Jesus. Jesus glares for a moment, then bursts out laughing.

JESUS
 That is not a parable.

ALLAN
 You didn't need a parable. You
 needed a laugh.

The apostles faces soften. Allan sits next to Jesus.

JESUS
 Thank you, my friend.

ALLAN
 I have also sowed some seeds which
 I hope will bring you some comfort
 as well. Let's just say, somehow
 the Pharisees got the idea that
 it's a good idea to challenge you
 in public.

The apostles jump up.

PETER
 What? You have brought the
 Pharisees out against us?

ALLAN
 You misunderstand. In order for
 someone to get a great hit, someone
 else must first throw a ball at
 them. They seek to bring Jesus
 down, but my plan is to have them
 lift him up without even realizing
 they're doing it. You'll see.

PASEAH (O.C.)
 Jesus? Jesus of Nazareth?

Paseah marches towards Jesus with a SMALL CROWD OF PEOPLE.
 Peter blocks his path.

ALLAN
 (whispers to Jesus)
 And so it begins.

PASEAH
 Does your Teacher not pay the
 temple tax?

PETER
 We just arrived. We haven't...

JESUS
 What do you think, Peter? From whom
 do the kings of the earth take
 taxes? Their sons? Or strangers?

Peter bucks up to Paseah. Paseah shrinks a bit.

PETER
 From strangers.

Jesus turns to Allan with a small smile.

JESUS
 Then the sons are free.
 Nevertheless, lest we offend them,
 go to the sea, cast in a hook. Open
 the mouth of the first fish you
 catch. Take the coin you find there
 and give it to them for Me and you.

ALLAN
 (whispers to Jesus)
 Now you're just showing off.

Jesus smiles.

Paseah follows Peter to the water. Peter casts and immediately
 brings in a tiny fish. Paseah laughs, but chokes on it as
 Peter pulls a coin as big as the fish from inside its mouth.

Peter hands the gunk encrusted coin to Paseah. As the
 apostles leave Allan leans into Paseah.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 Nice try. Mine's in the camel.

Paseah turns to a buck-toothed camel who spits green slime
 and sneezes.

EXT. MOUNT OF OLIVES SYNAGOGUE - MORNING

Smaller than Sarah's synagogue, but still filled with the tainted decorations of the self-righteous. Balak forces a DISHEVELED WOMAN (30s) comely, through THE CROWD. He slings her across the ground to Jesus' feet. The crowd draws back.

BALAK

Teacher, this woman was caught in adultery, in the very act. Moses commanded us that she be stoned. But what do You say?

Jesus stoops and doodles in the sand.

BALAK (CONT'D)

Teacher? Jesus? What say you... about stoning ...the harlot.

Jesus doodles on. The crowd relaxes and moves back in.

BALAK (CONT'D)

Ahem! Jesus? Um... I'm thinking, maybe stoning?... Right?... Jesus?

Jesus stands and catches each person's eye in the crowd.

JESUS

He who is without sin among you, let him throw the first stone.

Jesus goes back to doodling. One by one the crowd retreats. Finally, Balak drops his head and slumps off.

The woman struggles to get up. A gentle hand grasps her arm. She looks up to Jesus as he helps her rise.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Woman, where are those accusers of yours? Has no one condemned you?

She avoids His gaze.

DISHEVELED WOMAN

No one, Lord

Jesus raises her chin and his eyes smile into hers.

JESUS

Neither do I condemn you. Go and sin no more.

EXT. RIVER IN THE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

A LARGER CROWD, youth to elders with garments from rags to riches, is gathered around Jesus.

Saraph and his minions watch as Allan and three men restrain a MUTE WRACKED BY A DEMON. The mute stretches his mouth to obscene angles attempting to curse Jesus, but makes no noise.

Jesus lunges in and grabs the mute by his head. The demon snaps at Jesus, who does not flinch. Jesus locks eyes with the mute. The demon flails the mute's body spastically, but he can not remove his eyes from Jesus'.

JESUS
(Calmly. Softly.)
Come out of him.

The mute melts to the ground. Free from the mute the demon screams past Saraph knocking him on his ass (donkey).

Allan helps the mute up. He reaches out to Jesus.

MUTE
(raspy)
Thank you.

The crowd cheers. Saraph jumps up and rushes forward.

SARAPH
Clearly, this man casts out demons
by Beelzebub, ruler of the demons.

Allan rolls his eyes and helps the man off to HIS FAMILY.

JESUS
Any house divided against itself
will fall. If Satan is divided
against himself, how can his
kingdom stand? If I cast out demons
by Beelzebub, by whom do your
followers drive them out? So then,
they will be your judges.
But if I drive out demons by the
finger of God, then the kingdom of
God has come upon you.

Saraph stares dumbfounded, mouth hanging open.

MATCH CUT TO:

EXT. THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM - DAY

Jesus stands outside the temple because THE CROWD is too big to fit inside.

Saraph stands in the same pose. A GROUP OF HERODIANS push through the crowd aided by LARGE, WELL ARMED ROMAN CENTURIONS. Saraph advances, emboldened.

SARAPH

Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?

Jesus regards the Herodians. The Centurions. Then Saraph.

JESUS

Show Me the tax money.

Saraph motions and Balak holds out a denarius.

JESUS (CONT'D)

(not even looking at it)
Whose image and inscription is this?

BALAK

Caesar's

Jesus looks at the head Centurion.

JESUS

Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.

The main Centurion half smiles and nods. He motions and he and his men leave the Herodians standing alone.

EXT. SHADY SPOT IN THE JUDEAN COUNTRYSIDE - CLOSE TO DUSK

Jesus and Judas sit alone breaking bread in a tucked away dip between two hills. The soothing sound of a BABBLING RIVER is interrupted only by the accompaniment of sailing SONG BIRDS.

JESUS

...and he will stumble even more before he finally gets his feet underneath him. And, even though I know he will be strong, it still upset me when he could not stay up on the water with me.

ALLAN

Well, you were the one who named him, "Rock."

Jesus drops His head and chuckles, despite Himself.

Allan reaches to the basket for more bread. The two pieces form a rough cross. He slaps one down and grabs the other.

JESUS
Passover is upon us.

ALLAN
You know, we make a great team. I set 'em up and you knock 'em down.

JESUS
I am not here to fight them. I am here to pave the way to salvation. For everyone. Including them. There's only one way to do that.

ALLAN
I'm really trying to...

JESUS
The strength of your faith will get you through this. Just as the strength of mine will get me through it. And you know we will meet again on the other side.

Allan leans into Jesus. Jesus kisses Allan on the head.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Come now. We have much to do. It is time to gather.

ALLAN
Gather? Shit!

Allan stands up and looks into Jesus' eyes.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
The last supper.

Jesus nods slightly. The world stops and there is only two men locked in each other's gaze.

JESUS
Thank you... Allan. You have made this journey much more bearable than it should have been. You are the greatest blessing my father has given me. I know the hardest part of your path is just ahead. And I'm sorry that you will have to face it alone. I wish I could be with you.

ALLAN
The hardest part of my path pales to the easiest part of yours and yet you reach out to comfort me. That is what will carry me through this. Thank you... Lord.

The two men embrace and then steel themselves to what lies ahead. The world resumes as does their paths.

Jesus picks up the basket and leads Allan down the path towards Jerusalem in the distance.

JESUS

Please try not to slip and call it
"The Last Supper" in front of the
others.

ALLAN

Can I at least arrange everyone
like in the painting?

The two share one last laugh.

INT. SARAPH'S OFFICE IN HIS SYNAGOGUE - DAY

Saraph sits upon his throne in his well-adorned office. Paseah and Balak sit to either side reviewing writings he is showing them. Allan bursts through the door.

Balak starts to stand, but Allan catches him off-balance and pushes him backwards over his chair. Saraph scrambles to back away, but Allan scoops him up by his robes and folds him into the arms of the ornate statue of Moses. A venomous look puts Paseah in his place.

ALLAN

30 pieces of silver.

Saraph nods to Paseah. Paseah places a small bag of coins on the desk.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

Have your men gather outside the
main temple tonight. I'll take them
to Jesus.

SARAPH

In the dark amongst his apostles,
how will my men know who to arrest?

Allan releases his hold on Saraph and looks away.

ALLAN

I will kiss him on the cheek.

Allan snatches the money from the desk.

ALLAN (CONT'D)

God help you if you don't show.

Allan gives Saraph one last hate-filled glare.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
God help you if you do.

INT. THE UPPER ROOM (THE CENACLE) - SUPPER TIME

It does not look like the painting. It is darker and much less ornate. The apostles recline on couches (triclinia) around a U-shaped table with Jesus in the center of them.

Everyone is enjoying the meal together except Allan. Who stares down in somber reflection. His eyes dart like he's still trying to find a way out. Jesus watches him for a while and then sits up straight.

JESUS
(firm but soft)
I am not referring to all of you; I
know those I have chosen. But this
is to fulfill this passage of
Scripture: 'He who shared my bread
has turned against me.
Assuredly, I say to you, one of you
who eats with Me will betray Me.

The apostles all sit up and look to each other. Peter nudges John. John reclines on Jesus.

JOHN
Lord, who is it?

Judas has still not moved. Jesus watches with compassion.

JESUS
(asking Allan to do it)
It is the one to whom I will give
this piece of bread when I have
dipped it in the dish.

Jesus dips a piece of bread and holds it out to Allan. Allan looks up with red swollen eyes.

Then, what we have always read with anger and disdain is actually spoken with love and compassion.

JESUS (CONT'D)
(pleading)
What you are about to do, do
quickly.

Jesus' hand hangs in the air before Allan as he looks into his best friend's eyes for the extra strength to reach out.

Without Breaking eye contact, Allan takes the bread. He lingers for a moment and then flees into the night.

EXT. THE TEMPLE IN JERUSALEM - NIGHT

Paseah, Balak and SEVERAL PHARISEES share bread together on the steps. A SMALL GROUP OF ROMAN SOLDIERS throw dice against the wall. SEVERAL TEMPLE GUARDS huddle telling stories. Each group ignores the others.

Allan flies in from the dark. Balak and Paseah rush to him.

BALAK
We tire of waiting.

Allan grabs a torch from the wall and examines Balak's right ear. Balak jerks away and covers his ear.

ALLAN
Just wandering what the odds are.

Balak's confusion angers him and he lunges, but is held at bay by Allan holding the torch up at him.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
If you're going with me, then now
is the time. Hurry, before I change
my mind.

Allan whips around and strides off into the night.

A member of each group disappears in different directions. The rest of the groups mingle together as they rush after Allan. The three strays soon re-appear followed by MANY MORE.

EXT. GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE - NIGHT

Jesus kneels alone in the dark with his hands folded in front of him and his face to the ground. Sweat pours from him as he prays earnestly.

JESUS
Abba, Father, all things are
possible for You. Take this cup
away from Me.

Jesus takes a deep breath and calms himself.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Yet not my will, but yours be done.

Jesus returns to find the apostles sleeping.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Could you not watch with Me one
hour? The spirit indeed is
willing, but the flesh is weak.
Rise. The hour has come.

Jesus helps Peter up and they join the other apostles. The group gathers around Jesus in a clearing as Allan marches in. He stops and softens as he sees Jesus.

ALLAN
Rabbi.

JESUS
My friend, you have come.

A great multitude with torches, swords and clubs pours into the clearing.

ALLAN
Rabbi. Rabbi.

Allan shakes his head as he slowly approaches Jesus.

The two lock eyes.

Jesus nods slightly.

Tears pour from Allan' eyes.

Jesus nods again.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
(softly)
Thy will be done.

Allan leans in and softly kisses Jesus on the cheek.

JESUS
(whispers)
Go in peace, my friend. Your faith
has saved you.

Allan pulls back.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Saved us all.

Jesus smiles. Allan forces one back.

Jesus nods.

Allan backs away into the crowd.

JESUS (CONT'D)
If you seek Me, let these go their
way.

MALCHUS (20s) tall and dark, pushes past Balak with TWO SOLDIERS and grabs Jesus' arm.

Peter steps forward and draws a sword from his robes. He yells as the blade slices the air and Malchus' right ear.

Allan turns back at the yell. He sees Malchus drop to the ground holding his head with blood pouring down. Balak steps forward, whole. Allan looks to the heavens and shrugs.

Jesus steps between the apostles and the crowd.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Put your sword in its place, for
all who take the sword will perish
by the sword. Permit even this.

Jesus reaches down and holds His hand over Malchus' ear. He helps Malchus up and as He removes his hand Malchus' ear is healed.

Malchus feels his ear and backs away in wonder. The soldiers give Jesus some room.

JESUS (CONT'D)
Sadducees. Pharisees. Have you come
out, as against a robber, with
swords and clubs to take Me? I was
daily with you in the temple
teaching, and you did not seize Me.
But this is your appointed hour,
and all this was done that the
Scriptures of the prophets might be
fulfilled.

Allan locks eyes with Jesus one last time. Jesus nods slightly. Allan nods and turns away.

Allan disappears into the crowd.

EXT. A COPPER RICH 4 ACRE PLOT IN AKELDAMA - DAY

In the countryside outside of Jerusalem Allan stands before a plot of land. It is not night, but an ominous darkness covers the land.

Allan kicks up dirt along the over-all concave ground. His sandals reveal layers of copper throughout. Allan pushes on a tall tree in the center. He hangs on the limb and bounces a little before dropping back down.

Allan trudges up to the LAND OWNER (40s) scruffy and gruff, finishing counting the thirty shekels back into the bag.

ALLAN
As advertised.

The Land Owner sneers at Allan.

LAND OWNER
There's only thirty.

ALLAN
Fair price.

LAND OWNER
For a Pharisee. You're no Pharisee.

ALLAN
Thank you. I try.

The Land Owner is confused.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
How much?

LAND OWNER
5 more.

Allan checks his robes. He has three more coins. Allan looks at the land owner sideways. The land owner grunts at him.

Allan stands as tall as he can till he looms over the man, leaning into him while shoving the bag into the man's hand. Then he presses the three coins into the man's other hand. Allan whispers in the man's ear.

ALLAN
Let's call it three and you and I can keep the little secret about how you lied to Sarah's official representative concerning a land deal in his town.

Allan stares into the man's eyes.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
You know how he is. He'd look at it as if you lied directly to HIS face. You should leave now.

The man backs away wide-eyed. He tosses the three coins back to Allan and flees.

Allan tosses the coins in the dirt.

A COMMOTION rises. Allan looks towards Golgotha. CROWDS are barely visible at the top. As are three crosses.

Allan pulls a harness from his robes and slings it over the main limb. He stacks two small wooden crates under it.

Allan pulls out his time machine.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Almost time 'puter. The journey's ended. I don't want to be here anymore. I'll either return home to die. Or die here and now.

(MORE)

ALLAN (CONT'D)
 God's will be done.
 Either way, it will be finished.

The CROWD GETS LOUDER in the distance.

Allan balances on the two crates. He pulls the harness around his arm. The crates wobble and Allan almost falls. He stabilizes and quickly jams both arms into the harness.

He stands firm as he checks the machine. The readout shows, "2:59." Allan looks to the sky.

Jesus cries out in the distance.

JESUS
 My God, my God, why have you
 forsaken me?

A LOW RUMBLING rolls from Golgotha to a THUNDEROUS ROAR engulfing Allan. It is followed by a violent quake that splits the very rocks open. Allan is knocked from the crates and whips back and forth.

The harness breaks just as his machine activates. He falls headlong and seems to explode on impact.

The land owner stares, horrified.

EXT. A PATH BY MOUNT HERMON (NORTH OF GALILEE) - MORNING

Allan wakes, but his vision is blurry. He can only make out large blurry shapes, dark and light. Some very tall. He hears a SMALL PLANE engine rumble overhead. He looks up and can make out a silhouette gliding across the blue sky.

ALLAN
 We made it 'puter.

Allan gets up on his knees. The plane seems to be getting closer. He rubs his eyes and looks up just in time to roll out of the way of an OLD FARMER'S cart. He yells.

OLD FARMER
 Go back to Capernaum.

Allan lays on his back in the stream next to the road.

ALLAN
 Not a plane.

Allan sits up and looks around with clear vision. He is on a country path that winds between tall hills. A huge snow-capped mountain rises up in front of him. Allan slowly stands up and looks about in amazement.

Suddenly, he starts to pat himself down.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
Rest in peace, 'puter.

He looks back and forth at the path in the direction the cart came from and went to. He shrugs and heads after the cart.

CROSS DISSOLVE:

EXT. A PATH BY MOUNT HERMON (NORTH OF GALILEE) - AFTERNOON

The path is almost indiscernible having turned to grass. Allan looks up at the hot sun and bends down to drink from the stream. He sits under a tree, resting against the trunk.

A SOFT PLEASING HUM is barely audible. Allan looks around. He gets up and looks further. Allan looks up the hill and starts to climb. The HUM gets louder as he goes.

Allan crests the hill to a large tent surrounded by sheep. A woman works outside the tent. As she crosses to water the sheep Allan can see it's Miriam.

JESUS
She will make a good man a good wife.

Allan turns to Jesus. His mouth drops open. Tears stream down his face. Jesus smiles.

ALLAN
I'm glad you came.

JESUS
Is there surprise upon your face?

ALLAN
Relief. Faith rewarded.

JESUS
Yours is the greatest faith.

ALLAN
Didn't make it back.

JESUS
I knew you would try. Great faith in science as well.

ALLAN
Only one of them panned out.

Jesus laughs a little . Then thinks and laughs a little more. Allan laughs with him, but stops, confused when Jesus goes into a full belly laugh.

ALLAN (CONT'D)
What?

JESUS
Your mother will be over the moon
when she gets to heaven.

Allan joins the laughter.

ALLAN
There will be no living with her.
Or "after-living" with her.

Jesus puts His arm around Allan. Puffed with pride.

JESUS
My son, Jesus' personal friend.

Allan turns to Jesus weeping openly.

ALLAN
I am.

JESUS
I know.

Jesus hugs Allan.

ALLAN
Forgive me, Lord.

JESUS
I can not.

Allan looks up with pain on his face.

JESUS (CONT'D)
How can I forgive you for ignoring
your will to do my father's. At
great personal injury.

Allan hugs Jesus.

JESUS (CONT'D)
I love you, my friend.

Allan steps back wiping the tears from his eyes.

ALLAN
What now?

JESUS
You've fulfilled your roll. Reclaim
your name and your new life, Allan.

ALLAN
New life?

Jesus turns Allan towards Miriam.

JESUS

She would make you a fine wife and
you would make her a fine husband.

ALLAN

So not here from free will. A
little bit of guidance.

JESUS

Just a little. We got you here, now
it's up to you to convince her.

ALLAN

You mean you can't just get her to
love me?

JESUS

It doesn't work that way. Free will
and all.

ALLAN

You mean after all we've been
through you're going to pull out
the genie rules on me?

JESUS

Genie rules?

Jesus looks confused and then gets it. He laughs even harder.

Jesus looks deep into Allan's eyes with a smile. Jesus hugs
Allan and whispers in his ear.

JESUS (CONT'D)

Thank you, my friend.

ALLAN

Will we be happy?

JESUS

That's entirely up to you.

When He releases the hug, He is gone.

Allan looks at the heavens and smiles.

Allan turns to look at Miriam who now sees him and is staring
at him with one eyebrow raised.

Allan sighs.

Allan smiles broadly as he strides towards his new life.