

## Jonah and the whale.

### 4 The One That Got Away!

Cast: Jonah  
Fish 1  
Fish 2  
God, (Voice over sound system)  
Whale. (Voice over sound system)

*(Jonah is sitting centre stage in a large cardboard whale)  
(Fish swim on to music 'Under the sea')*

Fish 1           What is he doing in here?  
Fish 2           Isn't he one of them land things?  
Fish 1           What? A human?  
Fish 2           That's it! You ever seen one down here before?  
Fish 1           Come to think of it, No.  
Fish 2           Wonder why he's here? I didn't think humans could be under for too long.  
Fish 1           But he's not really in the water is he. I mean, he's stuck in this  
                    enormous great whale.  
Fish 2           Doesn't look too happy does he?

*(Fish swim around )*

Jonah           Pugh! Pugh! (*Holding his nose*) What a smell.  
Whale          Oh thank you, thank you very much.  
Jonah          Who was that?  
Whale          It's me, who do you think it is? Mickey Mouse?  
Jonah          Who's me?  
Whale          It's me, Wally, Wally the Whale. You're inside me.  
Jonah          I'm inside a Whale!!  
Whale          Yes, I go to all the trouble of rescuing you from certain death and all  
                    you can do is tell me I have bad breath. If you don't like it in there you  
                    know I can always spit you out!  
Jonah          No! No! It's all right! No it's really not that bad, in fact (*holds*  
                    *nose*) it's quite pleasant really.  
Whale          What was that, I didn't understand a word you said. You weren't  
                    holding your nose were you?  
Jonah          Oh no, no err... I've just got a bit of a cold.  
Whale          Oh great, I suppose I'll catch that as well now! What were you doing in the  
                    water anyway?  
Jonah          Well I've been very stupid, very stupid indeed. You see I've tried to run  
                    away.  
Fish 1          Hey d'you hear that? He's been running away.  
Fish 2          Ssh, let's hear why.

4.1

Whale          Oh I see. Tried to run away. Was it... was it.... (Whispers) Was

it girl trouble?  
 Jonah Oh no, nothing like that. If only it were that simple?  
 Whale Dearie me, it must be bad then. So who were you trying to run away from?  
 Jonah You'll laugh if I tell you.  
 Whale No I won't.  
 Jonah Yes you will,  
 Whale No I promise, try me.  
 Jonah Oh well, I've got nothing to lose, You see I was running away from .... From God.  
 Whale (*Trying not to laugh*) Running away from .... (*Chuckles*) From God!...  
 (*Laughs out loud*)  
 Fish 2 What an idiot!  
 Fish 1 Not very clever these humans are they.  
 Jonah See, I told you you would laugh at me.  
 Whale Well you've got to admit it's a bit ridiculous isn't it!  
 Whatever made you think you could run away from God? I mean God even knows where I am when I'm at the bottom of the deepest sea. He knows where all of us are all of the time. You can't run away from him.  
 Jonah (*Depressed*) I know that now, but it's too late. I've blown my chance and now I'm stuck in here, inside you, it's too late.  
 Whale You know Jonah, it's never too late with God. All you have to do is to say sorry and God gives you a second chance, and a third chance, and a fourth chance and so on and so on and so on.  
 Jonah Do you think so?  
 Whale I know so!  
 Jonah (*Stands up, and shouts*) God, Oh God, can you hear me?  
 God Cor Jonah, turn the volume down a bit, there's no need to shout you know. Of course I can hear you. I can see you as well you know. Are you comfortable in there?  
 Jonah Well.... actually it's a bit (*whispers*) smelly.  
 Whale I heard that you know.  
 God I know, it's not a five star hotel, but its the best I could do in the circumstances. Anyway, do you have something to say to me Jonah, after shouting so loudly?  
 Jonah Sorry God.  
 God Sorry for what? For shouting so loudly.  
 Jonah Well yes, but sorry for everything else as well. I've been stupid, a first class idiot, and I'm sorry.  
 God Ok Jonah that's good enough. But I'm afraid you'll just have to hang on in there for another day and then Wally here will drop you off somewhere close to Nineveh. OK?  
 Jonah Nineveh! You mean ..  
 God That's right Jonah, same job as I told you about before. Just tell them I'm not so pleased with them. And, Oh yes by the way, I'd find somewhere to have a bath before you start if I were you. Otherwise they might think there's something Fishy about you! (*Laughs*)  
 Meanwhile you can do a bit of thinking OK?

4.2

(Jonah holds a think bubble saying "Thinking" above his head for a few seconds.)

*(Fish swim back round Jonah)*

Fish 1        What is he doing now?  
Fish 2        Strange things these humans aren't they?  
Whale        Oh dear, Oh dear.  
Jonah        What's up?  
Whale        I think I have caught your cold, I've got this terrible tickle in my  
              nose! I .. I .. I .. think I'm going to sneeze. Hold on tight.  
              A A A.. A... A... Choooooooooooo !!!!!

*(Jonah leaps from the back of the stage to the front)*

*(Fish continue to swim around the whale)*

Jonah        Wow! Wow! I'm.. I'm.... on dry land. *(Turns behind)* Thanks Wally.  
Whale        *(In distance)* Don't mention it Jonah.  
Fish 1        Now where did he go?  
Fish 2        P'raps he didn't like it here after all!  
Fish 1        Smelt a bit odd didn't he.

*(Fish swim off)*

Jonah        What shall I do now?  
God        Ahem!  
Jonah        Oh yes. Find somewhere to have a bath.

*(Walks off stage)*

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