

ACT I

SCENE 1

Flashback (Dancing with The Super Stars)

PRESENT DAY: In a local parish that struggles with attendance, Sister Mary, a homebody who lacks self-confidence, spends most of her time in her room, binge watching the popular reality tv show, *Dancing with The Super Stars*. To break Sister Mary out of her introvert shell, the parish forces her out into the world to tell the gospel story. By midday, Mary reluctantly makes her way to a busy avenue where she locates a vacant spot to set up shop. Suddenly, she flashes back to the place where she would much rather be. Dancing on a reality TV show; having the time of her life.

SCENE 2

The Greatest Story

[Gospel According to St. Matthew]

Once organized, Sister Mary struggles nervously to find words that will get the attention of the self-indulged pedestrians storming past. Just after a crowd gathers, Mary notices in the distance several figures running out of a bank while the alarm is sounding. Trying to escape, they mingle among Mary's gathering. While still singing, Mary tries to alert nearby authorities while trying not to give herself away. One of the perpetrators gets suspicious. Pretending to be interested, he stares her up and down. By mid-message Mary's body language betrays her. The perpetrator whips out a gun, aims it at Mary, and pulls the trigger. The smoke from the gun clouds the scene, leaving Mary's fate unclear. *Is this the end?*

SCENE 3

Where Is He?

[Matthew 2:1-15]

3 BC: Suddenly, it's night-time. Mary wakes up in the middle of a desert. She frantically checks her torso for a bullet hole. Surprisingly, she doesn't find one. Dazed and confused, she stumbles to her feet. As the gusting wind blows sand that partially obstructs her view, Mary spots two travelers in the distance. She pursues them to find some answers. Little does she realize three mysterious figures (three female mystics of the Essence sect) monitoring the two travelers, have spotted her. Surprised, they fear Mary is about to ruin the cosmic plan. In a panic, they scurry to intersect Mary; prevent her from interrupting Joseph and Mary's journey to Bethlehem.

In a parallel plight, wisemen from the east in search of Joseph and Mary's child has followed a star that led them to Bethlehem. They assume the presiding king can direct the rest of their journey. But the king fears the wisemen have pointed out a threat to the family throne. *What will happen when these two parallels collide?*

SCENE 4

Faction

[Matthew 2:16-18]

King Herod discovers the wisemen secretly departed Bethlehem without returning to report their findings. In a fit of rage, the king storms throughout the court ranting and raving of the conspiracies that threaten his throne. This includes his underlying intentions to murder the star child, once he is discovered. But what the king does not realize is that the evil entity known as *The Dark Lord* has been orchestrating his every move. He is currently influencing the king to destroy the star child by any means necessary. *How far is king Herod willing to go?*

SCENE 5

The River Jordan

[Matthew 3:1-6]

30-YEARS LATER: Mary wakes up in the back of a clothing tent located in the marketplace district of Jordan city. Suddenly, *Martha* (her sister), comes calling. Excitement is brewing up the road. The revered preacher from the wilderness, *John the Baptist,* has arrived to the Jordan river. Martha invites Mary to see the Baptist. He may have the answers that Mary seeks.

It is not long before Mary recognizes the three female mystics (a.k.a. Trio) with the Baptist. As the people gather, the Baptist preaches the arrival of the soon to come Messiah. Mary keeps a close eye-out for the Messiah but the man she expects to appear never shows up. *Now what?*

SCENE 6

Beatitudes

[Matthew 5:1-12]

Mary's head is spinning. Nothing is as she expected. She doesn't recognize the man the Baptist introduced as the Messiah. His demeanor is insecure, unsure, cowardly, and it's obvious he doesn't like crowds. In essence, he reminds Mary of herself. After the Baptist departs, the Messiah realizes he (the Baptist) had the opposite effect on the people. Instead of preparing the way of the Lord, the Baptist (howbeit unintentional) prepared the way for himself. The people are obviously still devoted to the Baptist. *Can the Messiah's first public message break the Baptist's spell?*

SCENE 7

I Will Follow U

[John 1:35-42]

As dusk approaches, the people begin to leave the banks of the Jordan. Astonished, Mary recognized every word of the Messiah's message. She realizes this shadow of a man must be the Messiah. Suddenly, Mary has an epiphany that transforms her from the *insecure introvert* that her parish tried to fix, into a virtually fearless heroine. She takes it upon herself to fix the Messiah and help him become the brave and fearless version she expected to find.

Phase one of her plan is to convince him to make her a disciple; a sure way to stay close. But before she can put her plan into motion, six men (in pairs of two) step out from the crowd to pledge their loyalty to the Messiah. One after the other, they push Mary aside. After all, in their eyes she is a mere female. *Will Mary be able to change their minds?*

SCENE 8

The Adulteress

[John 8:1-10]

Suddenly, the celebratory mood of the newly formed fellowship is interrupted by a local commotion storming down the street. Orchestrated by the Dark Lord, the prominent and feared Pharisee sect is harassing and bullying a young woman. The Pharisees accuse her of the heinous crime of adultery. *Will the Messiah fall prey to the Dark Lord's ploy?*

SCENE 9

Justify Why

[John 8:1-11]

The adulteress is astonished the Messiah came to her rescue, but she does not understand why. Little does she know, Mary, while remaining inconspicuous, was mainly responsible for making it look as though the Messiah appeared to fearlessly challenge the Pharisee sect. Be that as it may, no man has ever helped her without demanding something in return. As the Messiah and company take their leave, the woman walks the street in solitude (and is eventually joined by Trio). In her mind, the Messiah should want her in the same way that every other man wanted her. *Will she reveal the Messiah's secret desires?*

SCENE 10

The Mount

[Matthew 5:13-16; 21, 33-34; 6:1-13]

The Messiah and his entourage have journeyed to Jerusalem where they encounter a gathering just outside the city. As it turns out, Mary has convinced Martha to follow the merry band with her; like a couple of stray puppies. The two ladies immediately blend in with the crowd. The six disciples mingle, as well. The Messiah wanders further away and settles on a hill that towers above the crowd. When he speaks, everyone present begins to listen. *What does he say to them that is so mesmerizing?*

SCENE 11

The Sabbath

[Mark 3:1-6]

Led by the Dark Lord, a group of the Pharisees arrive towards the end of the Messiah's sermon. They wonder why the marketplace is near empty. As the Pharisees realize the people are under this new Messiah's spell, their fangs and claws come out for the attack. Mary's 21st century instincts kick in. She rushes to the Messiah's verbal defense against the Pharisees. Martha realizes how dangerous that is and struggles to stop her. *The Messiah takes notice*

SCENE 12

I'm Your Servant

[John 1:43-51]

After witnessing the unbelievable triumph of the Messiah over the Pharisees, six more men from the crowd step forward to devote their lives to him. But the previous six feel threatened. Asa result, they challenge the new-comers to a dance-off. Little do they know, the Messiah has other plans in mind that involve twelve disciples. *What might they be?*

SCENE 13

I Give

[John 4:5-30]

After the company of twelve is complete, the Messiah mysteriously departs. None of the twelve noticed him leave and are concerned of his whereabouts. Fortunately, Mary did notice and took off behind him. Searching for solitude, the Messiah encounters a *woman from Samaria* at Jacob's well. There is a rift between the Jews and the Samaritans. The Samaritans believe their religion is the *true Israelite religion* that existed *before* the Babylonian exile. In contrast, the current Jewish religion *has been altered (to survive in Babylonian society),* brought back by those who *returned* from Babylonian exile. Hence, the Jews typically have no dealings with the Samaritans. Regardless, this particular Samaritan woman (supported by Trio) has a secret message to deliver to the Messiah.
Can she break through the cultural barrier to deliver it?

SCENE 14

Come Un2 Me

[Matthew 19:13-15]

The Dark Lord leads the Pharisees to Jacob's well where they discover the Messiah. His only protection is a defenseless woman, Mary. They slowly and cautiously approach the Messiah to move in for the kill. Mary stands her ground, giving the impression the Messiah is standing his. But suddenly, Mary has a change of heart. She leaves the Messiah standing alone. Not seeing Mary as any kind of threat, the Pharisees let her pass. With Mary gone, the Pharisees move closer to the now alone Messiah. But before they can get within striking distance, the Twelve (and Martha) arrive.

In a standoff, the two groups stare each other down. Martha thinks there's going to be a rumble for sure and backs out of the way. Suddenly, before either side can make the next move, a large group of children led by Mary bursts onto the scene. They want to meet the Messiah. A little caught off-guard, the Twelve form a protective barrier around the Messiah, as the Pharisees back off and depart. But these kids are cunning. As they toy with the Twelve, they burst into song and dance.