

#### SCENE 4 - MARKETPLACE MISCHIEF

*ENTER, MARKET PEOPLE - group can include FOLKS dressed to look different than they did in previous scenes. As music plays, they bring out baskets and set up shop quickly. If using tables, frames or booths, they set those up first, then bring on baskets of wares. Marketplace is at the sea shore, so they could display fish, fishing nets, oars, bread, flowers, fabrics, etc.*

NARRATOR 1

(Speaking over music)

So, Ness took the money and ran. He knew he had to run fast and far - probably to another country – to enjoy his freedom. Ness was happy as a lark, footloose and fancy free. As far as he knew, life was going to be great now - no work, no master, and no worries!

NARRATOR 2

No, he never gave a second thought to the punishment he would receive should he be caught as a run-a-way slave and thief.

(Pantomimes slicing through throat)

He didn't think about what would happen if he returned, for he had no intention of doing so.

NARRATOR 1

On his way he went, heading west along the coastal cities, blending into the crowds of people. Most folks thought he was a servant on an errand for his master.

NARRATOR 2

But it takes one to know one, and soon he crossed the path of another run-a-way who could spot that wild look in Ness's eyes.

***Track NE #5 ends.***

*ENTER, ONESIMUS, looking around the marketplace, obviously a little nervous. ENTER, KATHODIGA and GOTCHA GANG. They wear worn out clothing with lots of layers including scarves or capes they can use to conceal things. KATHODIGA crosses to Onesimus.*

KATHODIGA

Hey, there, buddy. Movin' kind quick, aren't ya? Little scared?

ONESIMUS

(Startled)

I...uh....No, I...ummm....

KATHODIGA

It's okay. I know the feelin'. Freedom for the first time to just do what you want, when you want, how you want, and on somebody else's money! Wahoo! So, how did you get the moneybag out without your master finding out?

ONESIMUS

Shhh! How do you know I stole it? And how did you know I was a servant?

GOTCHA GANG

(Snickering laughs)

*KATHODIGA pulls the towel off Onesimus' belt back and shows it to him.*

KATHODIGA

Dead giveaway. And no master rich and smart enough to buy these fancy towels would give you that much money to carry around. This must be your first time.

ONESIMUS

Guess I'm not too good at this...

KATHODIGA

Oh, you just gotta know the ropes, right guys? You gotta name, kid?

ONESIMUS

Onesimus.

KATHODIGA

Hmm... I'll call you, "Ness." For a few drachma, *Ness*, my friends and I will show you how to make a quick get-way. You interested?

**PLAY TRACK.** NE #6 - Gotcha

ONESIMUS

Do I have a choice?

*As music plays quietly, KATHODIGA and GOTCHA GANG physically pass Onesimus along to each other, grabbing him at the shoulders, each saying a line and taking turns “convincing” him to trust them. (Divide up lines among Gotcha Gang as desired.)*

GOTCHA GANG

Of course you have a choice!  
 You’re not a SLAVE anymore.  
 You’re FREE to do whatever you want whenever you want to do it!  
 You’re the MASTER of your own destiny.  
 The only thing you answer to is your own desires.  
 And we just want to help you.  
 You’ll just owe us a little MONEY, that’s all.

ONESIMUS

Money! Why should I pay you? I’m fine on my own!

KATHODIGA

Really? How’s your way working so far?

ONESIMUS

Uh.....

KATHODIGA

Face it. You can’t make it without our help!

**PLAY TRACK.** NE #7- Run, Ness, Run Accomp.

*Choreography can match the action words in the song. GOTCHA GANG can use their capes, long shawls, or fabrics for sale at the marketplace to trap or tease Onesimus. KATHODIGA can take the strong lead as GOTCHA GANG sings with her.*

SONG - RUN, NESS, RUN!

KATHODIGA AND GOTCHA GANG

RUN, RUN, RUN!  
 GET OUT OF THE CITY, GET OUT WHERE IT’S PRETTY RUN, RUN, RUN!  
 WHERE NO BODY KNOWS YOU OR TRIES TO CONTROL YOU  
 RUN...YES, NESS, RUN!

HIDE, HIDE, HIDE!  
 YOUR PAST IS BEHIND YOU, WE WON’T LET ’EM FIND YOU  
 HIDE, HIDE, HIDE!  
 YOUR LIFE IS YOUR OWN NOW, YOU’RE OUT ON YOUR OWN NOW

HIDE...YES, NESS, HIDE!

WE'LL BE YOUR PROTECTORS,  
YOUR GUARDIANS, YOUR SHIELD  
FOR JUST A LITTLE CASH, MAN  
WE'LL BE YOUR OWN FORCE FIELD....OH, YEAH!

LIE, LIE, LIE!  
SAY YOU'RE JUST SHOPPING, AND MARKETPLACE HOPPING  
LIE, LIE, LIE!  
SAY IT'S YOUR MONEY, IT CAME FROM YOUR HONEY  
LIE...YES, NESS, LIE!

WE'LL BE YOUR DEFENDER,  
TELL STORIES TO COVER YOU FOR JUST A FEW GOLD PIECES,  
WE'LL SAY YOUR LIES ARE TRUE.... OH, YEAH!

GO, GO, GO!  
WE'LL WATCH FOR YOUR MASTER, AVOID A DISASTER  
GO, GO, GO!  
'CUZ WE GOT YOUR BACK, MAN, DON'T EVER LOOK BACK, MAN  
GO...YES, NESS, GO!

JUST PAY US OUR DOUGH, BOY, THEN YOU BETTER GO, BOY  
YES, NESS, GO!.... GO!

*As they sing the last line, PHILEMON and APPHIA enter the marketplace, USL. Song ends.*

*ONESIMUS sees Philemon and APPHIA and panics.*

*Realizing who they must be, GOTCHA GANG takes turns grabbing coins out of Onesimus' money bag. It is almost empty by the time they are done. They shove Onesimus and Kathodiga DSR in the direction of the "sea shore" where they hide or turn their backs to Philemon, Apphia, and the Gotcha Gang.*

*GOTCHA GANG leads Philemon and Apphia off the other way, acting like sales people for the market place, talking separately and then all at once. (Distribute lines as desired.)*

GOTCHA GANG

Can I interest you in a small watercraft, my dear Dr. Phil?  
Before the prices stop sinking. Ha.  
You're looking lovely today, Madam.  
For a small fee I could sell you some fresh flowers.  
Just perfect for the church in your home.

*PHILEMON and APPHIA EXIT as they are prodded by Gotcha Gang.*

*ONESIMUS come out from hiding, with KATHODIGA.*

KATHODIGA

Whew! Close call.

ONESIMUS

Whew!

KATHODIGA

Protection worth every penny, wouldn't you say?

ONESIMUS

(Checking money bag)

Every penny is right! They took half my money!

KATHODIGA

Oh, what's money for if not to spend? You'd just be a slave to it anyway, Ha!

ONESIMUS

But...but...

KATHODIGA

Not to worry, your *HIGH* - *NESS* – you can still live high off the hog – OR sheep as the case may be. I've got a secret road that will take you straight to the border – where you'll finally be a free man! Right through that grazing field over there.

*KATHODIGA pulls a sheep skin robe out from behind a tree or marketplace booth and wraps it around Onesimus.*

Here - this will help you stay “incognito.”

ONESIMUS

Huh?

KATHODIGA

(Irritated)

It's a disguise. So you don't look like a RUN-AWAY SLAVE.

ONESIMUS

Shhhh. Okay, okay, I'll wear it.

KATHODIGA

(Holding out her hand)

That'll be half of what's in the bag.

ONESIMUS

What!?

KATHODIGA

Of course, if you think you can get out of here by yourself, ....Hey, isn't that your old master in the market place over there.

(Calling out sweetly)

Oh, Phi... leeeee... mon...

ONESIMUS

Shhhh. Okay, Okay. Here's your money.

KATHODIGA

(Smiling as she pockets the coins)

Good luck, kid. You're gonna need it. Now, Go!

SCENE 5 - SHEEP'S CLOTHING

IN THE GRAZING FIELD

**PLAY TRACK.** NE #8 - To Sheep

*While music plays, KATHODIGA and GOTCHA GANG "stealing" the items at the marketplace as part of changing the scenery to grazing field (stage cleared of all but trees) and exit.*

*ONESIMUS once again circles the audience along his "journey."*

NARRATOR 1

Onesimus may have been called "Your *High-Ness*" but he was beginning to realize he was not going to be able to live like a king. His will to run away had already cost him most of the money he stole.

## NARRATOR 2

Ness was also realizing that being the master of his own destiny could mean having to lie, steal, run, and hide even more than he had already. He wasn't feeling much more free and he was also starting to notice that he wasn't as good at hiding his true self as he thought...

Sample  
Only