

# THE BIG FISH

## JONAH'S WHALE OF A TALE

BY **GRACE HAWTHORNE** AND **KEN MEDEMA**

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## THE BIG FISH

by Grace Hawthorne and Ken Medema

### CAST

In order of appearance

ANNOUNCER:	Adult or child*
CHOIR:	Acts as a spoken-word Choir to comment on the story.
NEIGHBORS:	Folks who realize Jonah is missing. (Double as Hannah and Ben)
JOSH:	Curious young man who searches for Jonah.
SARAH:	Josh's friend and partner in the investigation.
HANNAH:	Waitress in her family's inn.
BEN:	Cabin boy on ship to Tarshish.
JONAH:	A reluctant prophet.
THE BIG FISH:	Creature that swallows Jonah.
SENSA:	A small, elongated, non-hairy, soft-bodied animal (the worm)

*\* The Big Fish is told in the "film noir" style, like an old-fashioned detective movie. The Announcer should sound mysterious. The Listening Recording of this musical gives a clear sense of the style. The Announcer can be either an adult or child and can be on stage or off.*

### SET

The Big Fish requires only a minimum set. One microphone center stage and another stage left for the Announcer. Four tall stools. One for the announcer at his microphone, and three inconspicuously in front of the Choir for Josh and Sarah and other characters when they are not speaking.

### COSTUMES

ANNOUNCER:	Trench coat and felt hat.
CHOIR:	Bright, solid-color T-shirts and jeans.
NEIGHBORS:	Over-sized trench coats (rain coats) and felt hats.
JOSH:	White T-shirt and jeans.
SARAH:	White T-shirt and jeans.
HANNAH:	Large white chef's apron over T-shirt and jeans.
BEN:	White sailor's hat.
JONAH:	Rags and tatters.
THE BIG FISH:	Black T-shirt and black jeans.
SENSA:	Green T-shirt and green jeans.

### PROPS

The Big Fish does not require any props.

[The choir enters. Sarah and Josh enter stage right and sit on stools center stage near the Choir. The Announcer enters stage left and stands at his microphone.]

[“STORMY NIGHT THEME” music begins.]

**ANNOUNCER:** [during music] It was a dark and stormy night. The kind of night that makes you walk fast and keep looking over your shoulder. A night with secrets hiding in the shadows. Something fishy was going on, and the townspeople were talkin’. There was a mystery brewing, and it was going to take some detective work to figure out what had happened, and why a certain person was missing.

## STORMY NIGHT THEME

### Overture

Words by  
GRACE HAWTHORNE (ASCAP)

Music by  
KEN MEDEMA (ASCAP)  
Arranged by  
JOHN DEVRIES (ASCAP)

1/28 Sultry stormy night feel (♩ = ca. 64)

ACCOMP. *mf*

3 *rit.* *a tempo*

6

9

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# DEEP SEA BLUES

## Choir

Words by  
GRACE HAWTHORNE (ASCAP)

Music by  
KEN MEDEMA (ASCAP)  
Arranged by  
JOHN DEVRIES (ASCAP)

Moderate blues (♩ = ca. 106) 

ACCOMP. *f*

CHOIR *mf* 5

1. I woke up in the dark-ness,  
had the blues on Mon-day,

long way from my home. I  
blues on Tues - day, too. They

knew I was in trou - ble, knew that I'd done wrong.  
hung a - round till Wednes-day. Lord, I'm call - ing You.

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