



THE LIONS, THE SWITCH AND THE WARM ROBES

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Running Time: 37:00

(music begins to “Treasure of Babylon”)

(We hear multiple phone rings on the track. The four game players are separated across the front of the stage, as if they’re in their own homes.)

DAISY: Guys! Who’s on the phone?

EMMA: I’m here.

DAISY: Hey, Emma, this is Daisy!

EMMA: Poppy’s on, too.

POPPY: Hi everybody!

DAISY & EMMA: Hey, Poppy!

DAISY: Do you guys have your virtual reality headsets?

EMMA & POPPY: Yes!

DAISY: Hey, where are Jay and Harry?

JAY: I’m here. Harry’s having trouble with his download, something with his computer update. I’m sure he’ll meet us in the game.

POPPY: Let’s go, I can’t wait!

EMMA: Treasure of Babylon, here we come ... in 4k, 16 gig, movement-sensing-headset, 360 degree ...

ALL: Virtual reality! *(ad lib cheers, “This is gonna be awesome!” “Yes!” “I can’t wait!”)*

(The four game players stay in their spots down front, and mime playing with a gaming remote control as they sing.)



SONG: "TREASURE OF BABYLON"

chorus

Treasure of Babylon
Treasure of Babylon
The next big thing in virtual reality
Comes with a money back guarantee
Treasure of Babylon
Treasure of Babylon
This game is the center of our social scene
And tonight we all will play on and on and on and on and on
Treasure of Babylon

verse

With the upgraded headset
We're in the game like never before
With the online community
We can all play together indoors
That's what video games are for

chorus

Treasure of Babylon
Treasure of Babylon
With a city to explore and a treasure to seek
We are adventurer wannabes
Treasure of Babylon
Treasure of Babylon
This game is the center of our social scene
And tonight we all will play on and on and on and on and on
Treasure of Babylon

(dialog at measure 76)

JAY: **So did anybody read the directions?**

ALL: **Seriously?!**

DAISY: **The website says there's a riddle we have to solve on the first level.**

EMMA: **A riddle? I thought this was an adventure game.**

DAISY: **The riddle is ... "the lions, the switch, and the warm robes ... who is on the throne?"**



JAY: **That doesn't make any sense!**

POPPY: **Exactly. It's a riddle. We solve that and we're on to the next adventure!**

ALL: *(ad lib cheering, "Let's go!" "Alright!" etc.)*

(The four characters exit the stage and get ready for their entrance—put on their jumpsuits and accessories, put down their remotes—as the song finishes.)

bridge

There's a treasure we all seek
We place our hope upon
Together we can do anything
With faith we believe and carry on
To find the treasure of Babylon

chorus tag

Treasure of Babylon
Treasure of Babylon
Tonight is a gaming marathon
And we will all play on and on and on and on and on
Treasure of Babylon
Treasure of Babylon

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SCENE 1

(The game players appear in Babylon one at a time. They're wearing adventurer costumes, jumpsuits with backpacks, each character slightly modified for personality. All look around in amazement and wonder.)

DAISY: **It worked! We're really here!**

POPPY: **We are, Daisy, and this game is incredible! It's like the *real* Babylon!**

JAY: **You said it, Poppy. This is the Best. Game. Ever!**

EMMA: **I don't see Harry anywhere.**



JAY: **I'm sure he'll be here soon. Let's start looking for the treasure!**

(Emma sees something in the direction of the audience and starts tiptoeing downstage. She stops at the edge and looks to the audience.)

DAISY: **Yeah, we probably need to collect some type of currency, so we'd better get started.**

(Excitedly, Emma waves everyone over.)

EMMA: *(whisper-yells)* **Hey! Hey!**

ALL: *(As they approach on tiptoe, they ad lib, "What?" "What do you see?" etc.)*

EMMA: **Shhh!**

(They're all looking into the audience.)

JAY: *(regular voice)* **Who are they?**

ALL: **Shhh!**

POPPY: *(whisper in amazed realization)* **They must be Babylonians!**

EMMA: *(whispers)* **You think they see us?**

JAY: *(regular)* **Are you kidding? They're starin' right at us!**

ALL: **Shhh!**

EMMA: *(whispers)* **If they're supposed to be people, they're not very realistic!**

(As they talk, Abdi, dressed in impeccable genie-style clothing slowly walks onto the stage. She is confident and obviously watching the characters, but they don't see her.)

DAISY: *(whispers)* **They're probably a glitch in the software. They'll iron it out in the first update. Come on, you guys, we need to get on with the game!**

ABDI: *(in a strong voice)* **You look lost already.**



- ALL: **Ahhhh!**
- (All jump in fright, and swing around in surprise to face Abdi.)*
- DAISY: **Don't scare us like that!**
- ABDI: **My name is Abdi. It means "servant of God." I was born here in Babylon, and I am honored to serve you all.**
- JAY: **More like you were born in Silicon Valley, pal. You're not real. You're just part of the game.**
- DAISY: **I promised my mom I'd get my homework done before dinner. Can we just find the treasure?**
- ABDI: ***Ah ... I can help you unlock the mystery of the *Treasure of Babylon!****
- DAISY: **You can?! That would be awesome. Where is it?**
- ABDI: **If I told you, this wouldn't be much of a game. It's a riddle and *you* have to solve it. You don't have to solve it in any particular order, but you *must* solve it to move on to the next adventure.**
- JAY: **That riddle, yeah, it didn't make much sense to us ... "the lions, the switch, and the warm robes ... who is on the throne?"**
- ABDI: **That's it. Those three clues will lead you to the answer of the riddle, and then you will have completed the first level in *Treasure of Babylon!***
- JAY: **Let's don't get too excited, this is just a game in virtual reality!**
- ABDI: *(smiling knowingly)* **Just a game, Jay?**
- JAY: **Hey, how'd you know my name?**
- ABDI: **I know much more than your name. But tell me more about your *virtual reality.***
- POPPY: **What are you, thirty? How can you not know about virtual reality?!**



EMMA: **Virtual reality is something that looks real, but isn't. Like you. You're not real, you're just pixels in our VR headsets.**

ABDI: *(feigning amazement and chuckling)* **Really?**

DAISY: **We play this together, online, it's fun ... it's kinda hanging out for us.**

ABDI: **And you're not real?**

JAY: **We're real, you're not!**

ABDI: **Soooo ... you say I'm in a virtual reality with *you*, but I'm not real, you are!**

(music begins to "Virtual Reality")

ALL: **Yes!**

ABDI: **Well I'd *love* to hear more about this!**

SONG: "VIRTUAL REALITY"

chorus 1

We call it virtual reality
The more realistic the better
We can't wait for the action to start
The chase, the pace, the pressure
When we're in this other world with friends
There's nothing else that matters
'Til our thumbs start to hurt
Our eyes start to water
Then we are reminded we're in
Another world we call virtual reality

(dialog at measure 30)

ABDI: **So this virtual reality game is a new thing?**

JAY: **Yes! It's the newest video game in the world! We stood in line for hours and hours to get it!**

ABDI: **And what do you all have in your packs?**

EMMA: **We can bring along *any* virtual item we think will help us in the adventure!**



POPPY: **I brought a phone charger!**

DAISY: **Now all you need is an outlet!**

ALL: *(ad lib reaction, "Ah!" "Of course!" etc.)*

(song continues)

chorus 2

We call it virtual reality
The more players we have the better
It's best when everyone joins in
And we stay, and play forever
When we're in this other world with friends
There's nothing else that matters
'Til our stomachs growl
And we can't stop the hunger
Then we are reminded we're in
Another world we call virtual reality

(dialog at measure 66)

EMMA: **With virtual reality, we can go anywhere!**

DAISY: **We can jump from one time to another!**

ABDI: **Where have you gone?**

POPPY: **We've been *way* back in the past ... the wild west!**

ABDI: **The wild west?**

JAY: **Oops. That's actually the way future to you!**

ABDI: **In your future, is Babylon still the greatest city in the world?**

JAY: *(suddenly uncomfortable)* **So, uh, let me tell you about the wild west!**

(song finishes)

bridge

Now we know what's real and what isn't
There's a reason this is called a game
And sometimes this world feels better



Than the reality of every day
The pull to be someone else
Than who I'm created to be
The chance to win, to save the day
The opportunity to succeed
It blurs reality

chorus tag

When we're in this other world with friends
There's nothing else that matters
'Til our screen starts to dim
The game starts to lag
And finally our batteries die
We're in another world we call virtual reality
This other world we call virtual reality

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SCENE 2

(Harry finally arrives. He's dressed as an astronaut, complete with helmet, and he enters in the same bouncing, slow motion movement of astronauts on the moon.)

HARRY: Made it! Sorry I'm late!

DAISY: *(seeing the astronaut outfit)* **Uh oh.**

POPPY: Houston, we have a problem.

JAY: Earth to Harry! You missed Babylon by about twenty-six-hundred years.

HARRY: What?!

EMMA: Harry! We're playing Treasure of Babylon. What game did you download?

HARRY: I *know* I downloaded Treasure of Babylon! This is weird. *(in his best Arnold Schwarzenegger impression)* I'll be back.

(Harry bounces off stage in slow motion like he entered.)



ABDI: **It looks like you all are ready for an adventure.** *(broad sweeping arm as she invites them on)* **Babylon awaits!**

 **SOUNDFX:** “*Game Begins*”

(As soon as she moves her arm, a crowd appears from one side of the stage moving toward the center, and as they pass Abdi she exits, disappearing. The crowd continues to the “market” scene of Babylon and begins interacting, buying and selling their wares, sometimes watching the game players as they interact.)

DAISY: **Where did Abdi go?** *(yelling after her)* **Hey, wait! We don’t have a map.**

JAY: **How are we gonna solve the riddle or find the treasure without a map!**

AHUNI: **Are you looking to purchase a map? I have maps, lamps, rugs ... take a look around, I’m sure you’ll find something.**

EMMA: **Do you have any lions?**

AHUNI: **Lions?!**

POPPY: **Or switches?**

JAY: **Or warm robes?**

DAISY: **I’m afraid we don’t have any game currency. We just started playing.**

AHUNI: **I’m sorry to hear that. Well, my name’s Ahuni. I run the *oldest* store in this market. And who are you?**

DAISY: **I’m Daisy, this is Emma, Poppy, and Jay.** *(they wave)*

(Herald enters and moves to center stage. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego enter too and linger together around the market.)

AHUNI: **Nice to meet you all. Listen, when you do have some currency to spend, come see *me*.** *(to the side)* **These other market vendors ... they take advantage of first-time gamers.**

(Herald opens a scroll and loudly reads a proclamation. As he reads, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego enter, hands bound, led



by two of the king's helpers. They walk toward center stage. The guards back away.)

HERALD: **A decree from King Nebuchadnezzar ... “Nations and peoples of every language, this is what you are commanded to do: As soon as you hear the sound of the horn, flute, zither, lyre, harp, pipe and all kinds of music, you must fall down and worship the image of gold that King Nebuchadnezzar has set up. Whoever does not fall down and worship will immediately be thrown into a blazing furnace.”** *(Daniel 3:4-6)*

DAISY: **Ahuni, who are those men and why are they all tied up?**

AHUNI: **These men are Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, and they are tied up because of the king's command you just heard. They are Hebrews ... worshippers of Jehovah, the one true God, and they refuse to worship the king as god!**

(Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego face the audience as Shadrach addresses the king.)

SHADRACH: **“If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it, and he will deliver us from Your Majesty's hand. But even if he does not, we want you to know, Your Majesty, that we will not serve your gods or worship the image of gold you have set up.”** *(Daniel 3:17-18)*

JAY: **Hey, that's no problem. In any game, if you die, you just get another life.**

(music begins to “Mighty Deliverer”)

AHUNI: **Ah, but this is not just a game, remember. It is virtual *reality*. This is real ... the virtual part is that you are here to see it.**

(As the music begins, the market vendors bow. Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego remain standing. During the song, Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego, King Nebuchadnezzar, and a few Babylonians act out the story center stage.)

SONG: “MIGHTY DELIVERER”



Acting out the story of “Mighty Deliverer” ...

Intro

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego remain standing as the other Babylonians bow down. To one side of the stage our game players remain standing and watch.

Verse 1

King Nebuchadnezzar (dressed in royal robes, a long big black beard, and crown) and two helpers enter and see the three boys standing back center. They approach them by the last line of the verse. When King Nebuchadnezzar “talks” he turns to the audience and with a cartoon-manner opens his mouth like he’s yelling, pumps his fists and one foot into the air.

Chorus

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego move down center stage. Your youngest choir kids enter dressed as “flames” (orange and red costumes, fanning their flowy arms). Entering with the “flames” is another person, dressed in all white, who joins the three boys standing in the furnace. All Babylonians, King Nebuchadnezzar, and the three boys do the choreography motions with the choir.

Verse 2

After the chorus, all the Babylonians bow again. As the verse begins, the king and his helpers parade around the 4 people center stage and the flames, watching in disbelief. When the king “talks” he turns to the audience and with a cartoon-manner opens his mouth like he’s yelling, pumps his fists and one foot into the air.

Chorus

During the chorus all Babylonians, the king and his helpers join the choreography.

Reading

The king acts out the narration, shouting into the “furnace.” The three boys walk over to the king and his helpers, and the fourth person exits. The king and his helpers inspect the robes, motioning with their arms to take a big whiff, amazed that they don’t even smell like smoke. All the Babylonians look on to see what will happen.

Final Choruses

The three boys, the king, his helpers, all the Babylonians, the flames, and the game players all join in the choreography. During the final chorus, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego remove their robes and stack them nearby.

verse 1

*Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego
Wouldn’t bow down to another god*



King Nebuchadnezzar let his anger show
Saying into the fiery furnace you go

chorus

We have a Mighty Deliverer
He's able to set us free
Our God will walk through the fire with us
He's a Mighty Deliverer

verse 2

King Nebuchadnezzar couldn't believe
What he saw in the fiery flames
To everyone around he began to scream
Why are there four when I threw in three?

chorus

We have a Mighty Deliverer
He's able to set us free
Our God will walk through the fire with us
He's a Mighty Deliverer

reader

“King Nebuchadnezzar then approached the opening of the blazing furnace and shouted, ‘Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!’ (When they came out) they saw that the fire had not harmed their bodies, nor was a hair of their heads singed; their robes were not scorched, and there was no smell of fire on them.” Daniel 3:26-27

chorus

We have a Mighty Deliverer
He's able to set us free
Our God will walk through the fire with us
He's a Mighty Deliverer
Oh, yeah!

chorus

We have a Mighty Deliverer
He's able to set us free
Our God will walk through the fire with us
He's a Mighty Deliverer
Oh, He's a Mighty Deliverer

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SCENE 3

(As the song ends, everyone is gathered around King Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, cheering.)

KING NEBUCHADNEZZAR: “Praise be to the God of Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego, who has sent his angel and rescued his servants! They trusted in him and defied the king’s command and were willing to give up their lives rather than serve or worship any god except their own God.” *(Daniel 3:28)*

ALL: *(all cheer)*

(King Nebuchadnezzar, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, and the flames exit. The market vendors get back to work. The game players gather center stage.)

DAISY: **Ahuni, you’re right! This is real! That story is in the Bible!**

EMMA: **Yeah, I think I’ve heard it too.**

AHUNI: *(joining the game players center stage)* **Just as they said, their God was able to deliver them from the fire. Not a hair of their heads was singed. Their robes were not scorched.** *(winking)*

(Emma picks up the robes and smells them.)

EMMA: **They don’t even smell like smoke!**

(Jay takes one of the robes from Emma.)

JAY: **They’re not even hot! They’re just warm!** *(gears turning in his head)* **Warm? Warm robes!**

 **SOUNDFX:** “Game Currency”

POPPY: **Hey! We got some money!**

(They grab ahold of Ahuni and all run over to her store.)

DAISY: **We solved the clue ... *with* your help, Ahuni! Thanks.**

AHUNI: **You’re welcome! Now, how about a map?**

DAISY: **That sounds great. Here you go.**



(They trade money and a scroll then walk back toward center stage, leaving Ahuni at his shop.)

HARRY: *(off stage)* **I'm here! I made it! Wait for me!**

(Harry walks onstage. He is dressed as Steve from Minecraft.)

DAISY: *(confused)* **Uh, Harry ... I don't think you mean to be dressed like that in here.**

HARRY: **I can't figure it out, something's glitching with my computer. But I'm here now!**

POPPY: **Are you?**

HARRY: *(looking at "himself," frustrated)* **Aw ... I don't get it!**

(Harry walks off stage dejectedly. Abdi appears behind them unnoticed and clears her throat to get their attention.)

ABDI: **Ahem. I think you're holding something important.**

POPPY: **Hey, Abdi. Guess what, we solved the first clue!**

ABDI: **I can see that. And you found the map.**

DAISY: *(opening the scroll)* **We did! Umm ...**

JAY: *(trying to look at the scroll)* **What's the matter?**

DAISY: **I think this is a foreign language!**

JAY: **It's all Babylon words!**

AHUNI: **Actually, it is a language known as Aramaic.**

EMMA: **Great! Then the map we just bought isn't going to help.**

DAISY: **We've been virtually ripped off!**

POPPY: **This game's *really* realistic!**

ABDI: **One step at a time, Emma. I think I can help.**

JAY: **Can you read Aramaic?**



- ABDI: **It's not my original language, but I have learned to read and write it. Let me see ...** *(looking through the scroll)* **here it is. Yes ... this might help you with the clue about "the switch."**
(reading from the scroll, dramatically) **King Belshazzar gave a great banquet for a thousand of his nobles, when suddenly the fingers of a human hand appeared and wrote on the wall, near the lampstand in the royal palace.**
- JAY: **Wait. Like just a hand? Floating in the air?**
- ABDI: **Yes. Exactly.**
- EMMA: **Ew!**
- POPPY: **Creepy!**
- ABDI: **The king watched the hand as it wrote. His face turned pale and he was so frightened that his legs became weak and his knees were knocking.**

(All notice that Poppy is so alarmed that her knees are literally knocking.)
- AHUNI: **Uh, Poppy?**
- POPPY: *(embarrassed)* **Well, it's terrifying!**

(Daniel enters during the next line to make his interpretation.)
- AHUNI: *(her knees start shaking too)* **I know, right?!**
- ABDI: **The king summoned the wise men of Babylon to interpret what it said. If they could, he told them that he would make them the third highest ruler in the kingdom. But none could interpret the writing, so the king called upon Daniel, another Hebrew young man, who worshipped Jehovah, the one true God. Daniel told the king what the handwriting meant, just like this ...**

(All the kids turn to watch Daniel. He speaks toward the audience.)
- DANIEL: **"God has numbered the days of your reign and brought it to an end. You have been weighed on the scales and found wanting. Your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."** *(Daniel 5:26-28)*



(Daniel exits.)

ABDI: **That very night King Belshazzar was slain and Darius the Mede took over the kingdom.** *(Abdi finishes reading the scroll.)*

JAY: **The switch!**

DAISY: **The who what?**

JAY: **The riddle!**

POPPY: **What are you talking about?**

JAY: **The switch ... King Belshazzar was out and Darius was in.**

 *SOUNDFX: "Game Currency"*

EMMA: **Wow! You found the next clue, Jay!**

POPPY: **Now we've got the switch and the warm robes!**

DAISY: **Wait! What happened to Daniel?**

ABDI: **He stayed on with King Darius and helped administer his kingdom.**

AHUNI: **You know, Babylon wasn't his home. He was brought here along with many others from Judah to serve the Babylonians when they conquered Judah, and destroyed the temple of our God.**

DAISY: **Oh, that sounds awful.**

AHUNI: **Just like Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego in the furnace, Daniel put all his hope and trust in the one true God.**

(music begins to "Our God Is Faithful")

ABDI: **Powerful kings come and go, but God is always faithful.**

(Abdi exits and Ahuni goes back to tend her store.)

SONG: "OUR GOD IS FAITHFUL"



chorus

We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful
We can trust when we cannot see Him
'Cause our God is faithful
Let your voice be strong and courageous
The Lord will never leave or forsake us
We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful

verse

Our God is a promise keeper
Who never forgets
His love is never-ending
His mercy won't quit
And day after day after day
He stays right beside us
Always working all things
For the good of those who love Him

chorus

We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful
We can trust when we cannot see Him
'Cause our God is faithful
Let your voice be strong and courageous
The Lord will never leave or forsake us
We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful

bridge

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for
And assurance about what we do not see
Hebrews 11:1

chorus

We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful
We can trust when we cannot see Him
'Cause our God is faithful
Let your voice be strong and courageous
The Lord will never leave or forsake us
We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful



chorus

We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful
We can trust when we cannot see Him
'Cause our God is faithful
Let your voice be strong and courageous
The Lord will never leave or forsake us
We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful
Our God is faithful

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SCENE 4

(The game players walk back to the market vendors and Ahuni's store.)

DAISY: **Hello, Ahuni.**

AHUNI: **Hello, my friends. How may I help you?**

EMMA: **Have you seen Abdi?**

AHUNI: **I'm sorry I have not.**

JAY: **We still have a little problem with the map you sold us. Can *you* read it?**

AHUNI: **I'm afraid I cannot.**

DAISY: **So is there something you have that can help us with that?**

AHUNI: **I do have this book *(pulls out a regular-looking book)* written in *your* language. It will help you learn Aramaic in three easy steps ...**

ALL: *(all react positively)*

AHUNI: **... in thirty days.**

ALL: *(all groan)*



- AHUNI: *(opens the book and pulls out several cassette tapes, as she reads the book.)* **It says it even comes with helpful cassette tapes.**
- POPPY: **Cassette tapes? What are those?**
- AHUNI: **I don't know. But I'm sure they're older than Babylon.**
- DAISY: **Thirty days?! I only have a few minutes before I have to have my homework finished!**
- AHUNI: **Tell me how you're doing on your riddle and I'll see how I can help.**
- EMMA: **We've solved the warm robes and the switch.**
- POPPY: **So all we have left are the lions.**
- AHUNI: **Oh! Then this could come in handy.** *(pulls out a whip)*
- JAY: **Whoa, seriously, a whip? Finally, a little danger!**
(Jay takes the whip and hands her some money.)
- DAISY: **Thanks, Ahuni.**
- AHUNI: **You are very welcome. Good luck!**
(The game players walk back to center stage.)
- POPPY: **What are we supposed to do with this?!**
- JAY: **Fight the lions, I guess.**
(Abdi has walked up behind Jay. As Jay is about to swing the whip, Abdi grabs his arm.)
- ABDI: **Careful, my friend. That could be dangerous.**
- JAY: **That's what I'm hoping!**
- ALL: **Hey, Abdi.**
- EMMA: **Abdi, I think we're stuck again. Maybe you can help.**
- DAISY: **Wait a minute, I think I've got this ... *duh* ... the lions!**



- POPPY: **What?!**
- DAISY: **Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego ... the Fiery Furnace. That story is in the book of Daniel ... so is the writing on the wall. If we're talking about lions, it *has* to be Daniel in the Lions' Den. Hang on, guys, I'll be right back.**
- (Daisy runs off stage, as Herald enters to center stage.)*
- JAY: *(calling after Daisy, holding up the whip)* **Wait, what?! You can't just run off when it gets a little dangerous!**
- ABDI: *(pointing out Herald)* **Look, my friends ... and listen.**
- HERALD: *(opening a scroll and reading loudly)* **A decree from King Darius ... "Anyone who prays to any god or human being during the next thirty days, except to our majesty, King Darius, shall be thrown into the lions' den. The king has put this decree in writing so that it cannot be altered, in accordance with the law of the Medes and Persians, which cannot be repealed."**
- (Herald exits. Daniel enters walking with a cane like an old man. He's led around the stage by two men.)*
- EMMA: **Hold it ... is that ... *Daniel*? But he looks *way* older!**
- ABDI: **Some *very wise person* once told me that in virtual reality, you can jump from one time to another. This is now many years later, and Daniel is over 90 years old.**
- JAY: **What's happening to him?**
- ABDI: **Daniel has been found guilty according to the decree of King Darius. He will be thrown into the lions' den.**
- (music begins to "The Lions' Den")*
- ALL: *(ad lib, "Oh no!" "What?!" etc.)*
- POPPY: **What we can we do?**
- JAY: *(holding out the whip)* **Will this help?!**
- ABDI: **At this point, only the one true God can save Daniel's life. If He chooses, He can shut the mouths of the lions.**



(During the song, Daniel, two of the king's helpers, and King Darius act out the story of Daniel in the Lions' Den.)

SONG: "THE LIONS' DEN"

Acting out the story of "The Lions' Den" ...

Intro

Daniel is being led around the stage by two king's helpers. They lead him around the other characters, who move out of the center of the stage. The game players and Abdi move to the side of the stage to watch. Daniel is led to the center of the stage and left alone with his hands bound.

Verse 1 and Reading

While Daniel stands alone, the youngest choir kids enter as a parade of "lions." They make their way to Daniel and surround him, standing still, growling and pawing the air.

Verse 2

Daniel remains center stage as the lions begin to slowly circle him, growling and pawing the air. The Babylonians gather more closely around Daniel and the lions to watch.

Bridge

King Darius enters. Can be the same kingly robes but a different beard. Instead of a crown he wears a night cap and carries a teddy bear under one arm. He paces the side of the stage, back and forth, ringing his hands and yawning.

Reading

During the reading King Darius approaches Daniel and the lions. He mimes shouting to Daniel with hands cupped around his mouth, and Daniel mimes shouting back. The lions have stopped prowling, but continue to growl and paw at the air.

Chorus, Bridge, and Final Chorus

Daniel, the lions, the king, his helpers, all the Babylonians, and the game players and Abdi join in the choreography.

verse 1

Down, down, down in the middle of the lions' den
The lions waited for Daniel
Outside a crowd was there to watch
As Daniel walked
Down, down, down in the middle of the lions' den
Down in the lions' den



reader 1

“So the king gave the order, and they brought Daniel and threw him into the lions’ den. The king said to Daniel, ‘May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you.’” Daniel 6:16

verse 2

Down, down, down in the middle of the lions’ den
The lions prowled around Daniel
Outside a stone was rolled in place
As Daniel stayed
Down, down, down in the middle of the lions’ den
Down in the lions’ den

bridge 1

All night, no sleep
What will happen to Daniel?
No chance, we all think
Surely this is Daniel’s grave

reader 2

“At the first light of dawn, the king got up and hurried to the lions’ den. When he came near the den, he called to Daniel in an anguished voice, ‘Daniel, servant of the living God, has your God, whom you serve continually, been able to rescue you from the lions?’ Daniel answered, ‘May the king live forever! My God sent his angel, and he shut the mouths of the lions!’” Daniel 6:19-22

chorus

Praise be to the One True God
Who shut the mouths of the lions
Praise be to the One True God
Who delivers us from death
Our Rescuer our Redeemer
In You we find we’re safe
Praise be to the One True God
The only One who saves
Praise be to the One True God
The only One who saves

bridge 2

All night, no sleep
Nothing happened to Daniel
No chance, you might think
But our God is the One who saves
Our God is the One who saves



chorus

Praise be to the One True God
Who shut the mouths of the lions
Praise be to the One True God
Who delivers us from death
Our Rescuer our Redeemer
In You we find we're safe
Praise be to the One True God
The only One who saves
Praise be to the One True God
The only One who saves

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SCENE 5

(As the song ends, everyone is gathered around King Darius, Daniel, and the lions, cheering.)

KING DARIUS: “I issue a decree that in every part of my kingdom people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end. He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.”
(Daniel 6:26-27)

ALL: *(all cheer)*

(King Darius, Daniel, and the king's helpers exit as Abdi enters and walks to the game players, center stage.)

JAY: **Abdi, guess what?! We solved the riddle ... the lions have to do with the story of Daniel in the lions' den!**

 **SOUNDFX:** “Game Currency”

ABDI: **Congratulations!**

(Harry enters, dressed as the rest of them, finally.)

EMMA: **Harry! You made it!**



HARRY: **I made it! Finally!**

POPPY: **You look ... right.**

HARRY: **It took me forever to figure out that when I downloaded the update I also downloaded a *glitch*. I was switching games right and left.**

ALL: **We know!**

HARRY: **Crazy! I don't know how it happened.**

JAY: **Harry! We solved the riddle, collected all the currency, and are about to level up.**

ABDI: *(jumping in quickly)* **As soon as you solve the rest of the riddle ... who is on the throne?**

EMMA: *(thinking)* **Well, there were three kings ... King Nebuchadnezzar ...**

JAY: **King Belshazzar and King Darius! We did it!**

ABDI: **But the riddle says, *who* is on the throne.**

POPPY: **Ah! You mean like only one king? Which one would it be?**

(Daisy runs in waving a Bible.)

DAISY: **Guys! I've got it!**

JAY: **Where'd you go, Daisy? We had to solve the last clue without you. The lions ... they're from the story of Daniel in the Lions' Den.**

DAISY: *(says the last line of Jay's line with him)* **Daniel in the Lions' Den. I know! It's in here!**

POPPY: *(dumbfounded)* **How'd you get a Bible in Treasure of Babylon?!**

DAISY: **Duh! I downloaded an app to my computer and dragged it into my character's backpack. It just looks like a book in the game ... virtual reality!**

HARRY: **So what's *that* going to do?**



DAISY: Oh hey, Harry! You look ... right.

HARRY: Thanks ... took a while.

DAISY: This is gonna help us solve the riddle.

ABDI: Can you tell us who is on the throne?

DAISY: *(looking at her Bible)* Uh ...

AHUNI: *(whispering)* I'll give you a hint, it's what King Darius just said while you were out of the game. Read Daniel 6:26.

DAISY: *(flipping quickly)* Here it is, "... people must fear and reverence the God of Daniel. For he is the living God and he endures forever; his kingdom will not be destroyed, his dominion will never end." *(figuring it out)* God was on the throne ... *is on the throne!*



SOUNDFX: "Level Up"

ABDI: That is correct, Daisy! You did it!

ALL: *(all cheer)*

JAY: Wait. I'm not sure I get it!

DAISY: *(opening the Bible as she explains)* In the story of the Fiery Furnace, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego didn't burn up. God sent an angel and rescued those guys. *(flipping a page)* In the writing on the wall, God was faithful to Daniel and His people as He removed an evil king and replaced him with someone with a softer heart. *(flipping a page)* Then in the Lions' Den, He saved Daniel from the hungry lions. God was always on the throne ... always in control.

ABDI: Well done, Daisy!

DAISY: *(flipping toward the back of the book)* And, God, the Mighty Deliverer, was faithful to save when He sent Jesus, the *true Redeemer*, to rescue us from the penalty for our sin. *(music begins to "You Are")* This is from Romans 5, verse 8 ... "But God demonstrated his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."



SONG: "YOU ARE"

verse 1

Because of God's great love for us
He sent His Son to save
Because of His perfect sacrifice
The price for sin is paid
And the gift is ours to receive
When we believe, we believe

chorus

You are the True Redeemer
You are the Faithful Deliverer
And we say Jesus we trust
In You to save
You are Eternal Savior
You are our Mediator
And we say You alone
Are full of grace
You are

verse 2

Because of God's great love for us
There's forgiveness for our sin
Because of His perfect sacrifice
Relationship with Him
And the gift is ours to receive
When we believe, we believe

chorus

You are the True Redeemer
You are the Faithful Deliverer
And we say Jesus we trust
In You to save
You are Eternal Savior
You are our Mediator
And we say You alone
Are full of grace

bridge

You are righteous and holy
You are the Way, the Truth, the Life
We need You and You only
To be our sacrifice, and You are



chorus

You are the True Redeemer
You are the Faithful Deliverer
And we say Jesus we trust
In You to save
You are Eternal Savior
You are our Mediator
And we say You alone
Are full of grace
You are, You are

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SCENE 6

HARRY: **I guess it's back to reality for us.**

ALL: *(all groan)*

HARRY: **At least we don't have to face lions and furnaces!**

JAY: **Yeah, but tomorrow at lunch, I'm not sure where I'll sit ...**

EMMA: **And so-called friends that don't act like friends ...**

DAISY: **And the pressure about my grades ...**

POPPY: **Yeah, reality's not so great sometimes.**

AHUNI: **But remember the treasure you received ... the same God who was there to save Daniel, and Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego is always there to save you. You can trust God just like they trusted God, because you know *who* is on the throne! Abdi, what if you gave them a little glimpse into the future?**

ABDI: **May I borrow your Bible, Daisy?**

DAISY: **Sure.** *(She hands her the Bible.)*

AHUNI: **There was another worshipper of the one true God who got a glimpse into the future ... I don't think it involved a VR headset, but somehow God allowed the Apostle John to see the new heavens and the new earth ... the eternal future and *ultimate* reality.**



- ABDI: **This is from Revelation 21 ... John saw the resurrected Jesus on the throne, saying, “Look! God’s dwelling place is now among the people, and he will dwell with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”**
- JAY: **I can’t *wait* to get to that level!**
- DAISY: **I guess the next level of *this* journey will have to wait until tomorrow after school ... I gotta go get my homework done!**
- POPPY: **Are you going with us to the next level, Abdi?**
- ABDI: **My instructions were to get you through *this* level. (*as she heads off stage*) But ... we’ll see, maybe there’s a *glitch* I can find to get me to another level where we can see each other again.**
- HARRY: **Better be careful with *that*!**
- ABDI: **I will, Harry. Thanks for the warning. Goodbye, friends.**
(Abdi and Ahuni exit, waving.)
- ALL: *(ad lib, “Thanks, Abdi.” “Bye, Ahuni.” etc.)*
- EMMA: **I guess we should all go. See you tomorrow night for the next level?**
- ALL: *(ad lib, “Yes!” “of course,” “you bet,” etc.)*
(music begins to “The Lions, the Switch, and the Warm Robes Curtain Calls”)

SONG: “THE LIONS, THE SWITCH AND THE WARM ROBES
CURTAIN CALLS”

“Our God Is Faithful”

bridge

Now faith is confidence in what we hope for
And assurance about what we do not see
Hebrews 11:1



chorus

We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful
We can trust when we cannot see Him
'Cause our God is faithful
Let your voice be strong and courageous
The Lord will never leave or forsake us
We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful

chorus

We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful
We can trust when we cannot see Him
'Cause our God is faithful
Let your voice be strong and courageous
The Lord will never leave or forsake us
We can hold fast to hope without shaking
'Cause our God is faithful
Our God is faithful

“Mighty Deliverer”

chorus

We have a Mighty Deliverer
He's able to set us free
Our God will walk through the fire with us
He's a Mighty Deliverer

chorus

We have a Mighty Deliverer
He's able to set us free
Our God will walk through the fire with us
He's a Mighty Deliverer
Oh, yeah!

chorus

We have a Mighty Deliverer
He's able to set us free
Our God will walk through the fire with us
He's a Mighty Deliverer
Oh, He's a Mighty Deliverer

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