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## **SCREENPLAY BEAT SHEET**

**PAGES:** 100

**TITLE:** Alfie's Christmas Gift by Robert C. Powers

**GENRE:** Faith Based Drama

**CHARACTERS:** 5 Lead, 25 Other

**LOCATIONS:** 16

**COVERAGE.** An intriguing premise, sympathetic characters and fun action sequences. "Wizard of Oz" meets the Christmas story as the protagonist is thrust back in time to save the infant Jesus from evil King Herod, and to discover the truth of Christmas. (rated "CONSIDER" by Screenplay Readers)

**LOG LINE:** A rebellious teenage boy rejects Christmas wrecks his snowmobile and is thrust back into biblical times where his presence may change history; he must save Baby Jesus from King Herod, and only faith can return him home.

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### **ACT 1**

#### **Opening Image**

It's Christmas and Alfie (14) isn't sure he believes the Christmas story. He does believe that Anna (14) is attractive. He discovers his Christmas present hidden in the barn, a snowmobile, and decides to ride into the forest. Caught in a snowstorm, he wrecks the snowmobile.

#### **Theme**

if you are lost, faith will bring you home.

#### **Set-Up**

Alfie is in a sand storm in a strange desert world of long ago. A shepherd boy, Nathan (14), rescues him. Nathan doesn't believe Alfie about him coming from a future time. Lost, they come upon the caravan of the Three Kings (Magi). They are forced to become servants to the Magi.

#### **Inciting Incident**

Alfie becomes convinced that he is living the Christmas story.

#### **Debate**

An event takes place in which Alfie's presence causes the Magi to turn back before they visit the Christ child. Alfie realizes that history may be changed because of him. He must decide to warn Joseph and Mary about King Herod in place of the Magi.

### **ACT 2A**

#### **B Story**

Alfie and Nathan escape the Magi and make their way toward Jerusalem. There, they are saved from Herod's Guards by Hannah (14), daughter of a shepherd murdered by Herod's Guards. She seeks revenge and joins them in their search for Jesus. She and Alfie have a mutual attraction. He tells her he is "from a future time". She tells him, "only faith will take you home".

### **Fun & Games**

Alfie, Hannah and Nathan set out to find Mary, Joseph and Jesus. They get into Herod's castle and hear King Herod instruct his Guards to kill all the baby boys under two years of age including Jesus, he who pretends to be king. Nathan finally believes Alfie that he has come from the future.

### **Mid-Point**

Alfie warns Mary and Joseph about King Herod. Mary and Joseph ask Alfie to help them get to Egypt. They tell him to go west and seek a big fisherman they know who has a boat.

## **ACT 2B**

### **Bad Guys Close In**

Many obstacles lie in their path as they battle Herod's guards, thieves and bandits along the way to the boat that will take them and the Christ child to Egypt.

### **All Is Lost**

They get to their boat. Herod's Guards are close behind.

### **Dark Night**

They escape in their boat, but Herod's fearsome Guards are in a boat that overtakes them. Flaming arrows set their boat afire.

## **ACT 3**

### **Finale**

A storm overtakes them. Rain quenches the fires. A bolt of lightning destroys the Guard's boat. Guards swim to Alfie's boat, try to board. Alfie and Nathan fight them off. Hannah is lost overboard. Alfie dives in after her – down, down – she's gone.

### **Final Image**

Alfie is in a snowbank, back in his own time. Anna finds him, takes him home. His faith has brought him home and given Hannah back to him (Anna). He's back with his parents and friends and understands the true meaning of Christmas better than ever!

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