



Film Script

Who leads the flock?

Number of Main Characters: 2

- **The Dark-Colored Ibex:** A young ibex who begins questioning himself, yet seeks an answer without finding one.
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- **The Sparrow:** Attempts to awaken the herd but fails in conveying its message and gaining attention.
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Number of Secondary Characters: 4

- **The Light-Colored Ibex:** An ibex of a similar age to the black ibex, but is content following the herd without questioning, believing what everyone else believes.
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- **The One-Horned Ibex:** Slightly older, who receives the same question and shares it with his neighbor.
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- **The Two-Horned Ibex:** Slightly older still, does not bother himself with the question, so long as the herd continues to move.
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- **The Blond-Bearded Ibex:** Sharp-witted, tries to ask questions and make decisions.
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- **The White-Bearded Ibex:** Older, with wisdom on his face, contemplates the consequences of the situation—whether stopping or continuing, it all leads to disaster.
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- **The Hyenas:** The ones who benefit the most at the end of every journey.
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Dialect Used in the Episode: Simple Modern Standard Arabic.

Region: Al-Lawz Mountains, Tabuk | 1360 BC

Number of Locations in the Story: 11

Scene 1: Morning – Al-Lawz Mountain – External

A falcon soars over the snow-covered Al-Lawz mountains in Tabuk during winter, with snowflakes falling to the rhythm of **the northern "Dahha" (A Saudi Dance & song)**... Ants march in a circle on a tree trunk... A massive herd of ibexes, endless in number, moves in one direction, creating a majestic scene... The sound of their running blends with the breathy chants of the unseen Dahha performers, their cries echoing powerfully.

A sentence appears on screen;

"The question... is more important than the answer."

Scene 2: Morning – The Valley – External

The herd charges forward, ibexes' faces focused as they run swiftly, their hooves stirring up a dust storm. It almost appears as though an external force is controlling them, with their hooves piercing the snow-covered ground, leaving noticeable impressions. The echo of **Al-Daha** grows louder, the sound of their steps intensifying as dust clouds envelop the scene, shaking a lone tree at the mountain's edge.

Scene 3: Morning – Tree's Edge, Mountain – External

The vibrations from the herd reach a bird snugly wrapped in a thick blanket in its nest. The bird's eyes twitch open with each tremor, a branch snaps, waking the bird, which stirs from its sleep, annoyed by the commotion around. It takes flight, feeling the cold in the air.

Scene 4: Morning – The Valley – External

The bird flies over the herd of ibexes... The ibexes marching on... At the back of the herd, a female ibex and her young move along behind. The bird, as if trying to deliver an unknown message, flies towards the front of the herd, surpassing them, and eventually reaches the middle.

Scene 5: Morning – Middle of the Flock – External

The bird, hovering above the middle of the herd, keeps gesturing with its wings, signaling them to stop, but none of the ibexes look up. It pulls out a red whistle from its pocket and blows it as loudly as possible. (The whistle may be removed) **The Dark-Colored Ibex**, standing next to a bright **Light-Colored Ibex**, notices and raises his head towards the bird.

Scene 6: Morning – Among the Ibexes in the Herd – External

The dark-colored ibex begins to wonder, turning to his neighbor, the light-colored ibex behind him in the herd, and asks:

The Dark-Colored Ibex: *with uncertainty:* "Do you think we are heading in the right direction?"

The Light-Colored Ibex: *mockingly:* "You see the biggest herd on earth in front of you, and yet you still ask such a stupid question? How foolish!"

The Light-Colored Ibex tries to push past **The Dark-Colored Ibex**, headbutting him with his horns. **The Dark-Colored Ibex** struggles for a moment, kicking the ground in an attempt to stop him, but he eventually stumbles and falls, allowing **The Light-Colored Ibex** to overtake him. The rest of the herd moves forward, while **The Dark-Colored Ibex** stares after them, eyes filled with confusion, doubt, and fear for their fate.

Scene 7: Morning – Front of the Herd – External

The dark-colored ibex lags behind the herd... A female ibex and her young move at the rear of the group... The bird flies towards the herd and reaches the middle... It searches among the herd for an ibex that will look at it and understand its warnings, but to no avail. The ibexes keep moving without lifting their heads, not paying attention. Some ibexes start to raise their heads, but with bored expressions, resuming their march without interest or focus. The bird approaches an ibex with large horns... It draws closer and dares to perch on one of his horns.

Scene 8: Morning – Among the Ibexes in the Herd – External

The Two-Horned Ibex with the large horns notices the bird, lowers his head, then jerks it powerfully upward. The bird is thrown into the air, landing on the horns of other ibexes, and is tossed around by the herd, as they play with it, bouncing it between their horns. Eventually, the bird falls onto the head of a **one-horned ibex** running beside the two-horned one, the bird exhausted and clinging to the single horn. The one-horned ibex jumps, trying to peer ahead past the herd, attempting to see something, but without success. He then turns to the two-horned ibex and asks:

One-Horned Ibex

with uncertainty

"Do you think we're heading in the right direction?"

The two-horned ibex glances mockingly at the one-horned ibex, then looks back at the massive herd behind him. He turns to the front and sees the huge herd ahead of him. He looks at the one-horned ibex, raises his shoulders, and smiles confidently without needing to speak—his expression says it all. He resumes running, accelerating, pushing through the crowd with his horns, leaving the one-horned ibex behind, caught in the middle of the group.

Seeing the bird on the one-horned ibex's head, the other ibexes start to headbutt from all sides. The one-horned ibex struggles to fend them off, trying to protect the bird until it jumps and flies up into the sky.

Scene 9: Morning – Above the Herd – External

The bird flies above the herd as they continue moving forward. The bird is torn—should it leave them alone, or fulfill its duty to a herd that doesn't pay attention to it? Finally, it decides to head towards the front row of the herd. Perhaps the answer lies with those leading the way. It flies towards the front and spots an old ibex, whose face reflects the wisdom of years. The bird feels a glimmer of hope at the sight, signaling to the old ibex. Remembering the whistle in its pocket, it blows it, trying to warn him. At that moment, the bird notices the horned ibex from afar, pushing through the crowd, looking directly at it.

Scene 10: Morning – Among the Front Ibexes – External

The **Blond-Bearded Ibex** turns to his right and asks the old ibex with the white beard:

Blond-Bearded Ibex

wisely

"Do you think we're heading in the right direction?"

A moment of awareness and reflection... The bird above feels joyful, as if it understands the meaning. The **White-Bearded Ibex** turns without answering. The **Blond-Bearded Ibex** continues:

Blond-Bearded Ibex

in panic

"I think we're doomed!"

The **White-Bearded Ibex**, in a state of dismay, looks back at those behind him.

White-Bearded Ibex

helplessly

"My son... we're doomed either way."

The **Blond-Bearded Ibex** looks at him in amazement and disbelief. The old ibex then turns to the other side, towards the right, just as the the **Two-Horned Ibex** arrives at the front, head and chest held high with confidence. He leaps with his large horns and headbutts the bird, striking it. The bird flees upwards. The **Two-Horned Ibex** lands on the ground, looking proudly at the old ibex, but at that moment, the old ibex extends his right leg and barely touches the **Two-Horned Ibex's** leg. The **Two-Horned Ibex** stumbles, his speed slowing down, colliding with a massive ibex behind him. The **Two-Horned Ibex** falls to the ground, trampled by one ibex after another. The bird flies higher above the herd.

Scene 11: Morning – Above the Herd – External

The bird flies above the herd as they move forward... An overhead shot captures the ibexes running at full speed, dust rising from under their hooves, covering the horizon and blinding their view. To the rhythm of their steps on the ground, a powerful, epic soundtrack rises, blended with the sound of the Dahha, reminiscent of a symphony of entering paradise. The melody carries whispers of a death call, like cries of warning that no one seems to hear.

Scene 12: Morning – Cliff Edge, Mountain – External

The ibexes approach the edge of the cliff, some of them falling over. Others try to regain their footing, only to be trampled and pushed by those behind them, causing all to tumble. Some leap, surrendering to their fate. A female ibex and her young, at the back of the herd, reach the edge... The mother desperately tries to save her young, but it's in vain. Some of the young try to cling to the ledge, holding on with every ounce of strength, but to no avail, in a massive, tragic, and painful massacre.

Scene 13: Morning – Above the Herd – External

The bird flies above the herd, saddened by the fate that has befallen them. Powerless, it slowly flies back with its injured wing, struggling

until it finally reaches **The Dark-Colored Ibex**, who had stopped following the herd from the start.

Scene 14: Morning – Valley, Middle – External

The bird approaches **the dark-colored ibex**, seeing him still standing in the same spot, watching from a distance as his companions fall. His eyes glisten, holding back tears of sorrow for them. The bird perches on his horn, also gazing at the scene, its eyes shining as well. The scene of the falling herd, the dust, and the cries are reflected in the eyes of the dark ibex, tears welling up and streaming down his cheek as he watches his companions plummet from the cliff.

Suddenly, the bird jumps down from his horn and onto his head, but **the dark-colored ibex** stands still like a statue, his eyes wide, frozen in shock. The bird keeps jumping and pecking, trying to warn the ibex of an approaching danger, but there is no response, no sign of life. Finally, the bird takes off, flying upwards.

Scene 15: Morning – Above the Valley – External

The bird flies upwards, escaping, without us knowing what is happening... The falcon circles as well, prompting the bird to flee to the nearest tree... An overhead shot shows **the dark-colored ibex**, surrounded by a circle of hyenas slowly closing in on him... The Dahha continues in the background. The ants complete their circle, falling one by one.

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