EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD – DUSK

SFX: TINY PAWS SCAMPERING. CHITTERING SQUIRRELS UP TREES.

K'NOOT (bright, excited)

Squirrels! Wait up! Church Dog incoming!

K'NOOT (laughing)

Two up the tree—I'm joining the game!

SFX: A GENTLE FLUTTER. A BUTTERFLY DRIFTS PAST.

K'NOOT (distracted-soft, awed)

Whoa... butterfly. Pretty wings. I'm following you now.

SFX: FOOTSTEPS THROUGH BUSHES, TREES AND ALLEYS. THEN QUIET.

K'NOOT (confused, small)

Lost it. Where'd you go? Uh-oh... where am I?

K'NOOT (trying to be brave)

I don't recognize anything. Focus... courage... wag... snacks later.

SFX: WIND. CREAKY FENCE. MEAN CAT HISS

K'NOOT (startled)

Yipe! Nope, nope, nope! Not friendly at all.

SFX: TRASH CAN CLATTER. SEWER LID SCRAPE.

K'NOOT (nervous humor)

Raccoon ninja? And a possum? Okay—breathe.

SFX: SLOW FOOTSTEPS APPROACHING. SHADOWS STRETCH.

K'NOOT (whisper)

Shadows moving. Tail, don't fail me now.

K'NOOT (heartfelt, prayerful)

Dear God... please help me find my way home.

PASTOR WILLIAM (O.S., warm)

K'noot! Here you are!

K'NOOT (flood of relief)

Pastor William!

PASTOR'S WIFE (gentle)

We were so worried.

K'NOOT (small, honest, then bright)

I got lost. I was brave... and scc-cared. I'm so glad you're here.

PASTOR WILLIAM (reassuring)

Let's get you home, buddy.

K'NOOT (joyful, looks up at Heaven)

Home. Best word ever. Thank you God!