



The Book of Jonah

written in American Sign Language



Translated from the
New Living Translation
and written in
American Sign Language
by Nancy Fray Romero

The Book of Jonah

in Written American Sign Language

Romero Translation

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Nancy Fray Romero

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ASL Translator: Nancy Fray Romero

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The American Sign Language in this book was written by Nancy Romero in SignWriting directly on the web using SignPuddle Software by Stephen E. Slevinski Jr. Visit: <http://www.signpuddle.org>

Once the American Sign Language was written in SignPuddle, the columns of SignWriting were placed in another program, "SignWriting DocumentMaker Pro", to prepare the book for publishing. DocumentMaker Pro software is designed by Valerie Sutton and programmed by Todd Duell in FileMaker Pro 11. Visit: <http://www.signbank.org/DocumentMaker>

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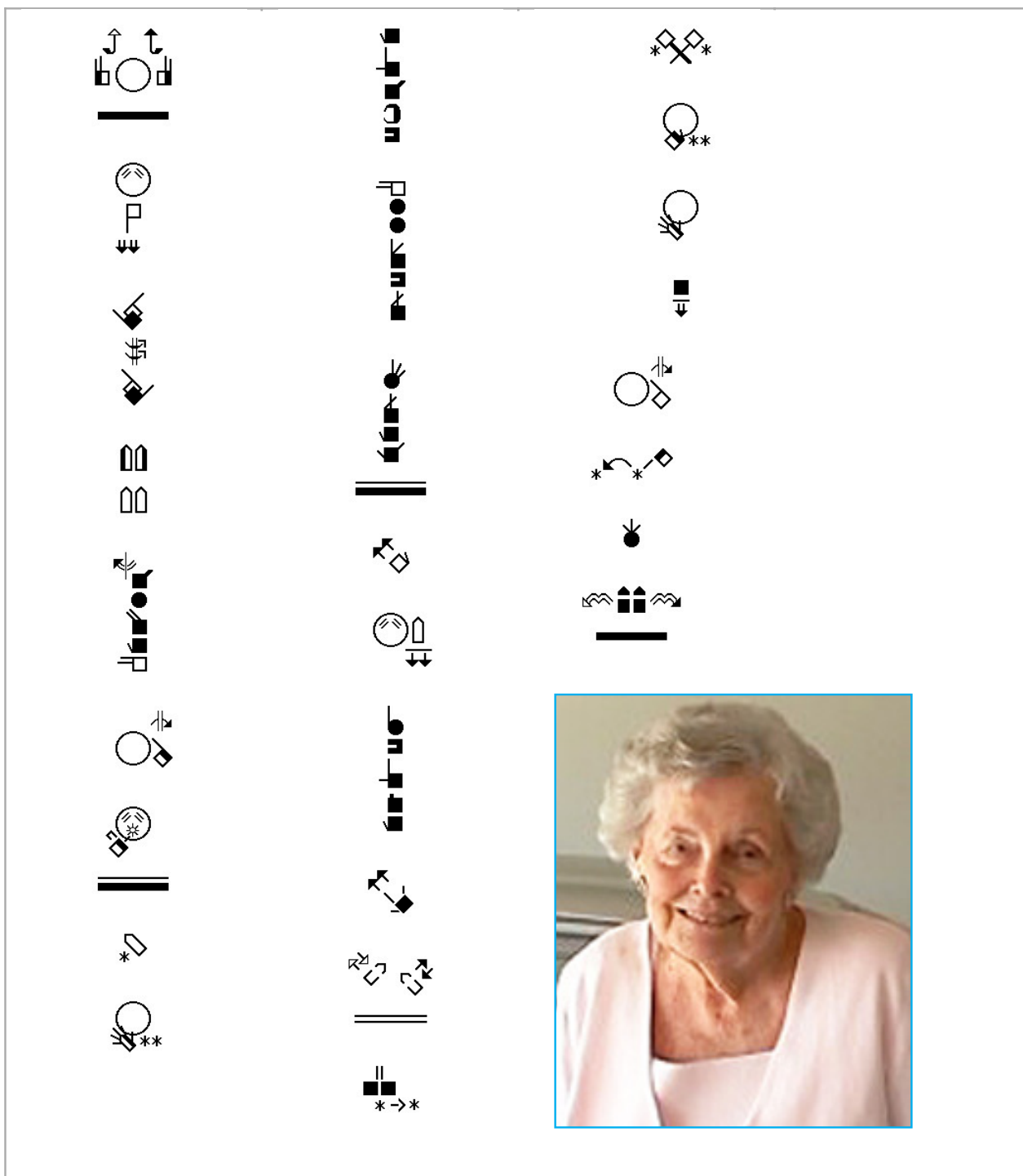
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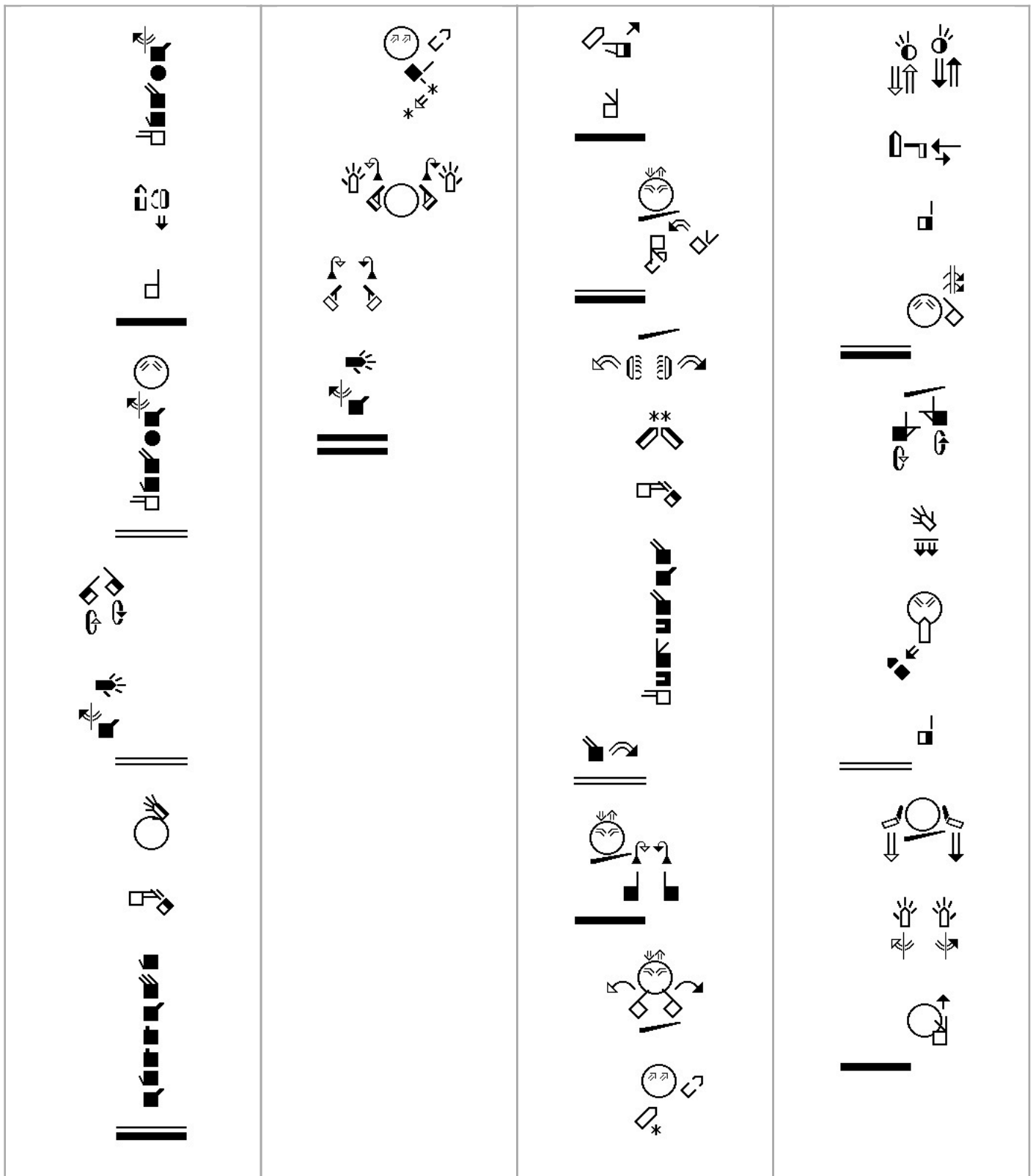
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Dedication

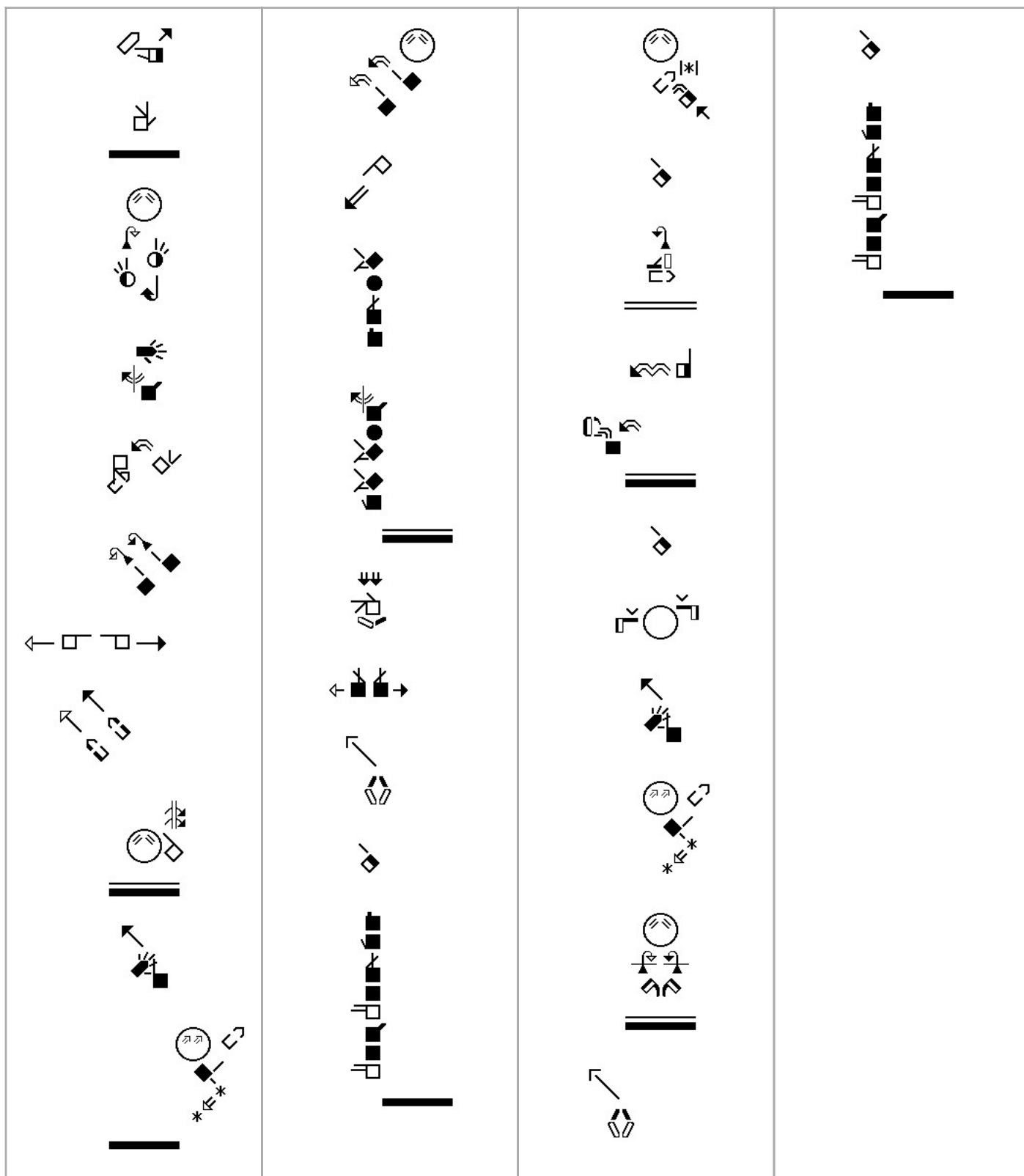


This translation of the Book of Jonah is for my mother, Alice Hoover Fray, a former Delta Airline Stewardess, and loving, patient mother to us six children.





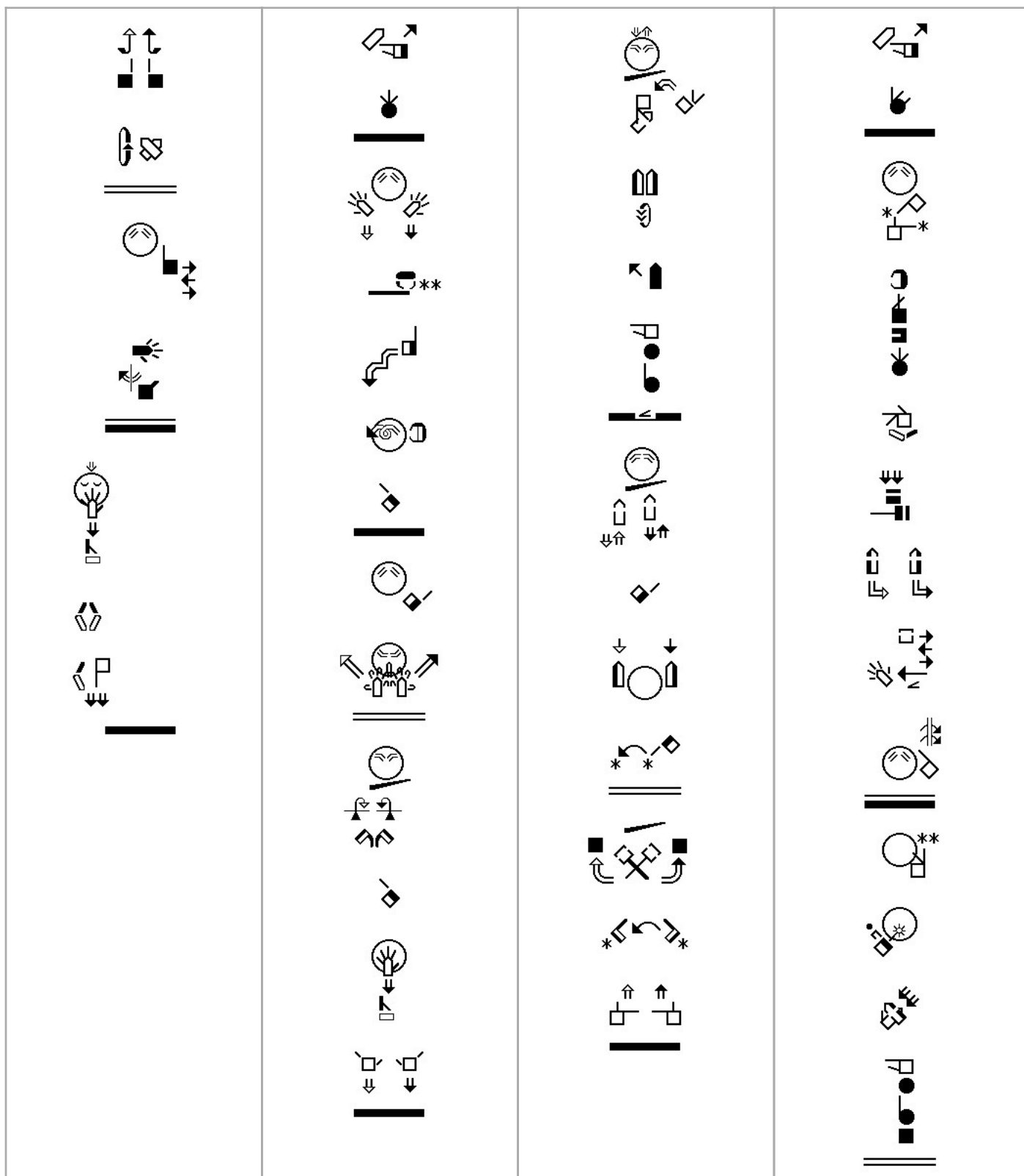
Jonah Chapter 1. The LORD gave this message to Jonah son of Amittai: Verse 2. "Get up and go to the great city of Nineveh. Announce my judgment against it because I have seen how wicked its people are."
NLT



Verse 3. But Jonah got up and went in the opposite direction to get away from the LORD. He went down to the port of Joppa, where he found a ship leaving for Tarshish. He bought a ticket and went on board, hoping to escape from the LORD by sailing to Tarshish.

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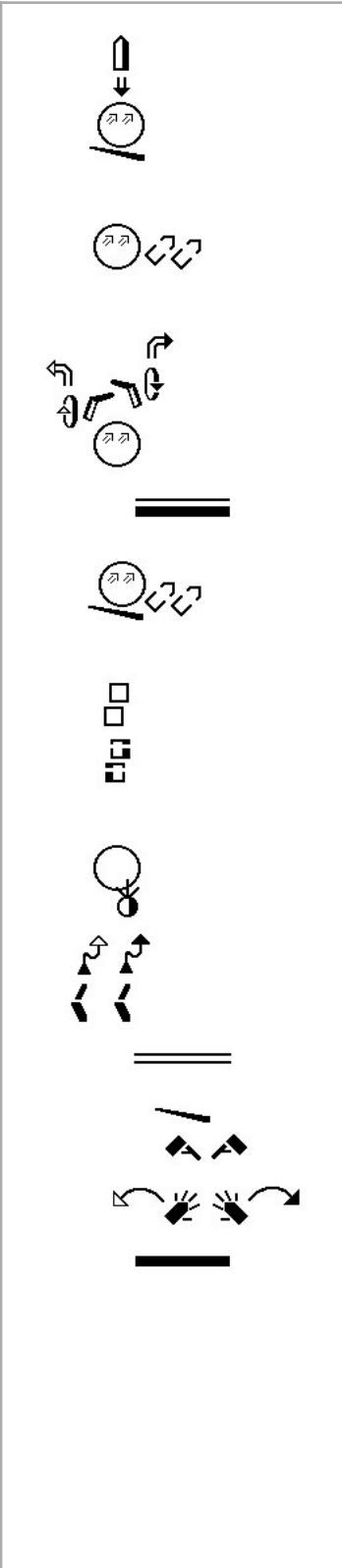
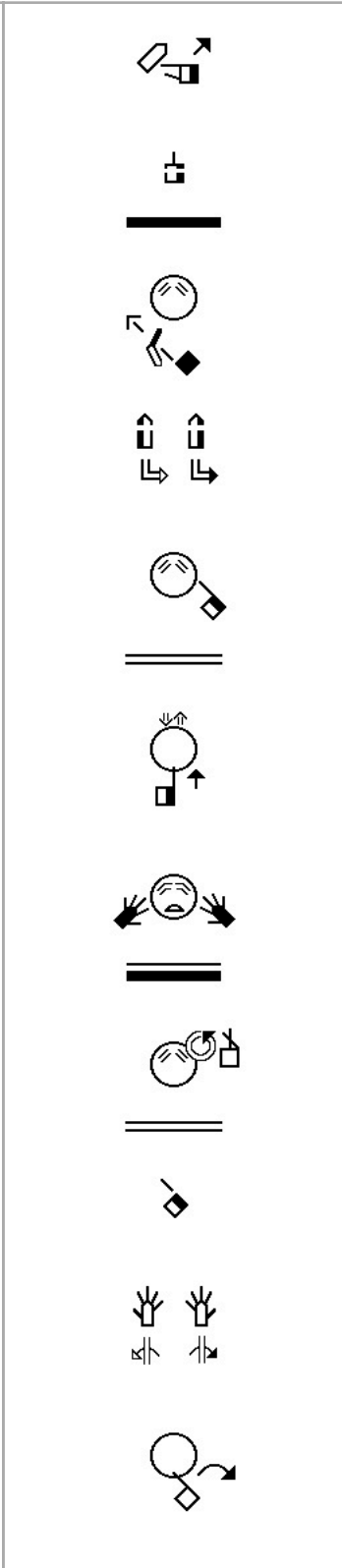
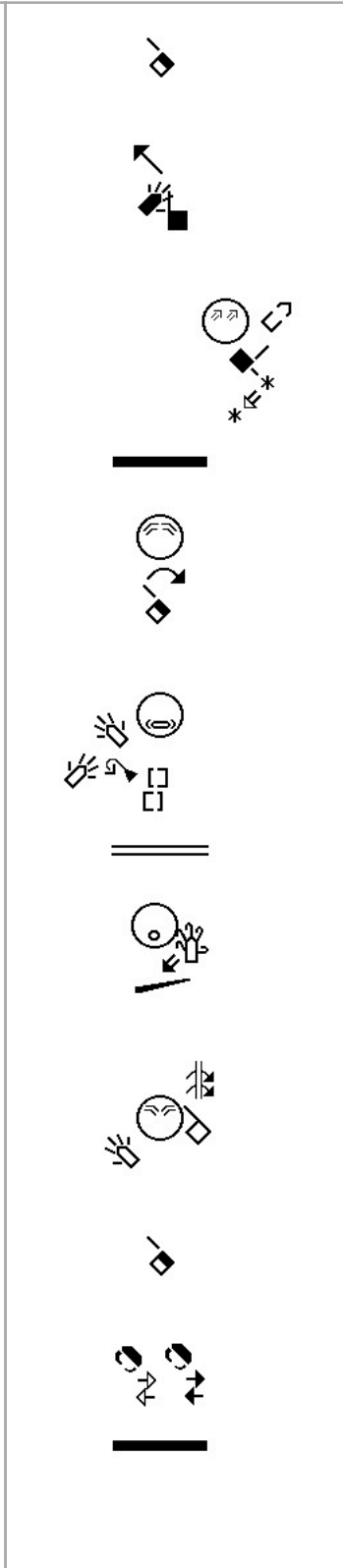
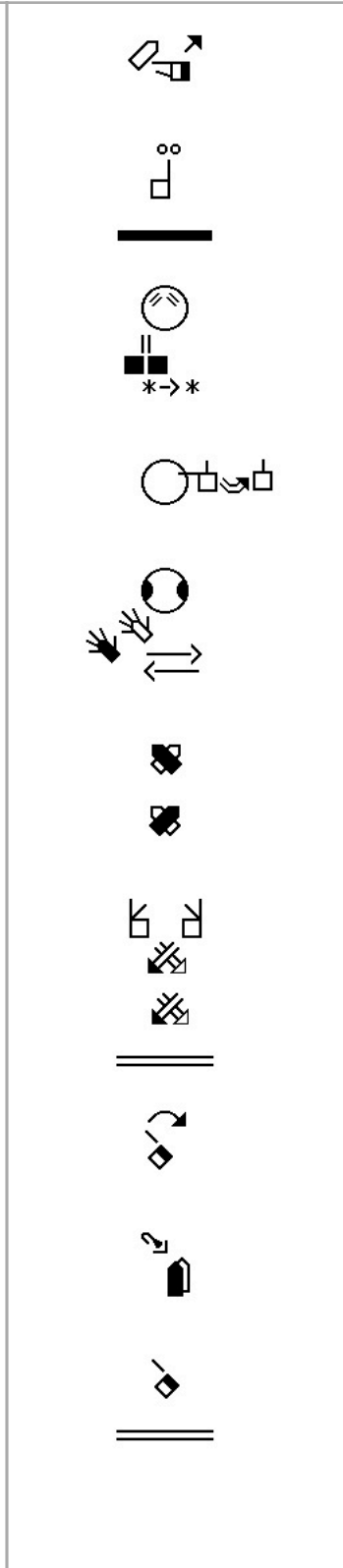


all this time Jonah was sound asleep down in the hold. Verse 6. So the captain went down after him. "How can you sleep at a time like this?" he shouted. "Get up and pray to your god! Maybe he will pay attention to us and spare our lives." Verse 7. Then the crew cast lots to see which of them had offended the gods

NLT

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and caused the terrible storm. When they did this, the lots identified Jonah as the culprit. Verse 8. "Why has this awful storm come down on us?" they demanded. "Who are you? What is your line of work? What country are you from? What is your nationality?" Verse 9. Jonah answered, "I am a Hebrew, and I worship the LORD,

			
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the God of heaven, who made the sea and the land." Verse 10. The sailors were terrified when they heard this, for he had already told them he was running away from the LORD. "Oh, why did you do it?" they groaned. Verse 11. And since the storm was getting worse all the time, they asked him,

"What should we do to you to stop this storm?" Verse 12. "Throw me into the sea,"
 Jonah said, "and it will become calm again. I know that this terrible storm is all my fault."
 Verse 13. Instead, the sailors rowed even harder to

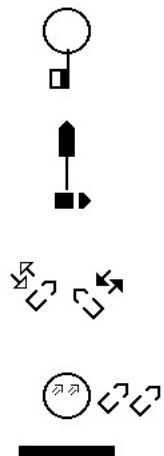
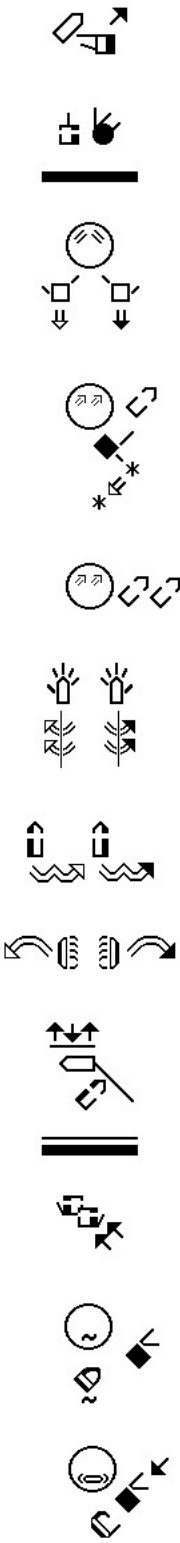
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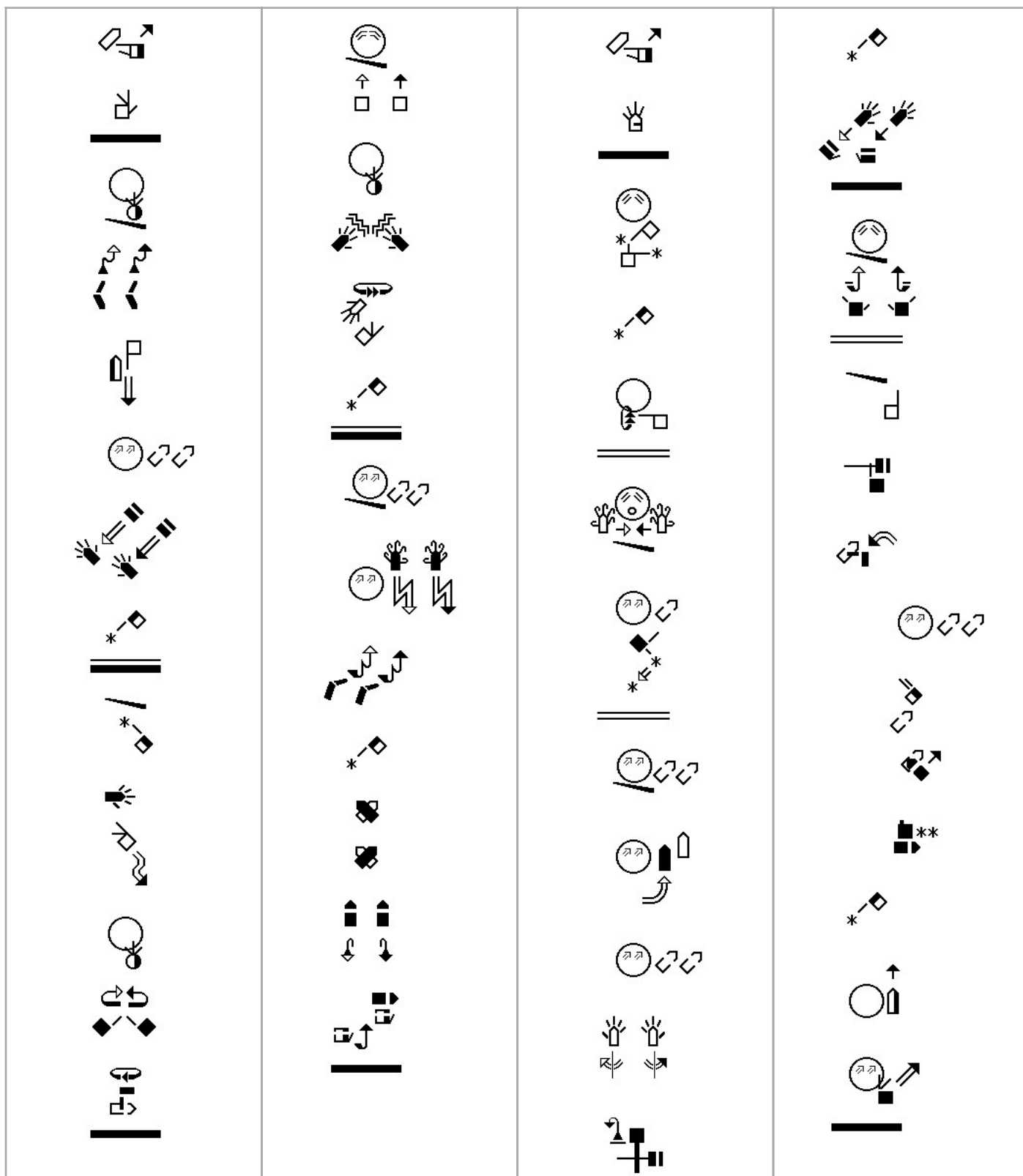
get the ship to the land. But the stormy sea was too violent for them, and they couldn't make it. Verse 14. Then they cried out to the LORD, Jonah's God. "O LORD," they pleaded, "don't make us die for this man's sin. And don't hold us responsible for his death.

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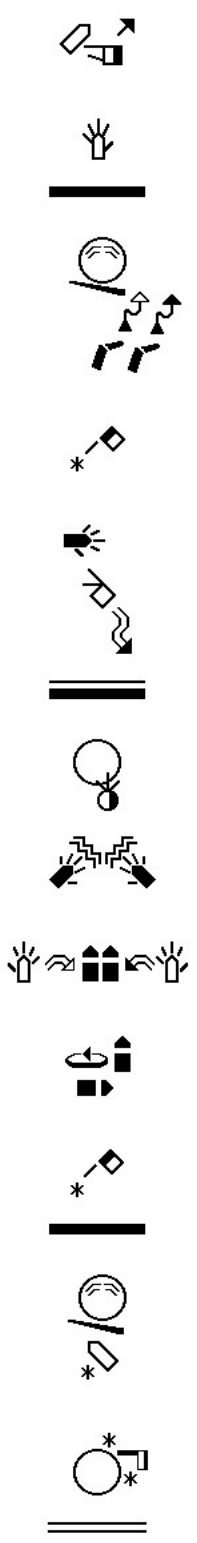
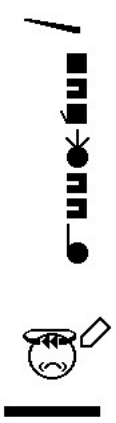
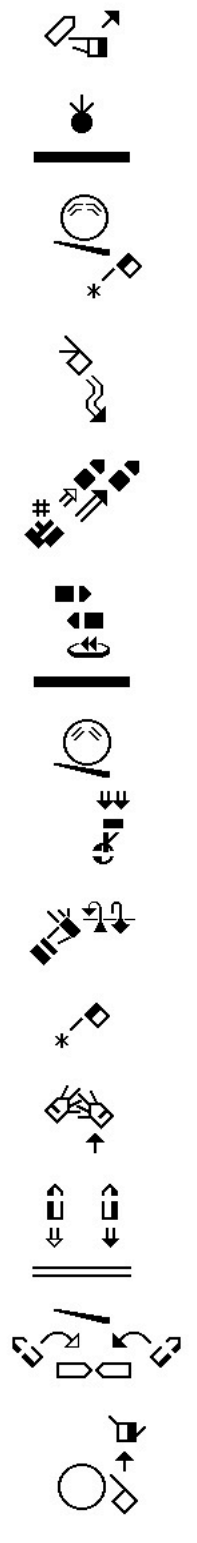
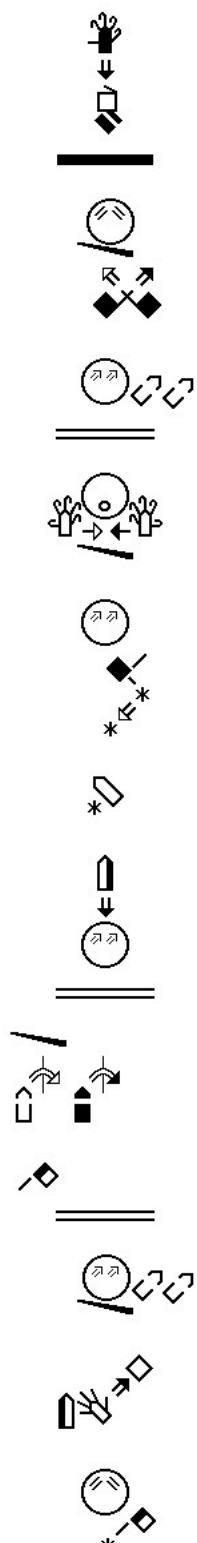
			
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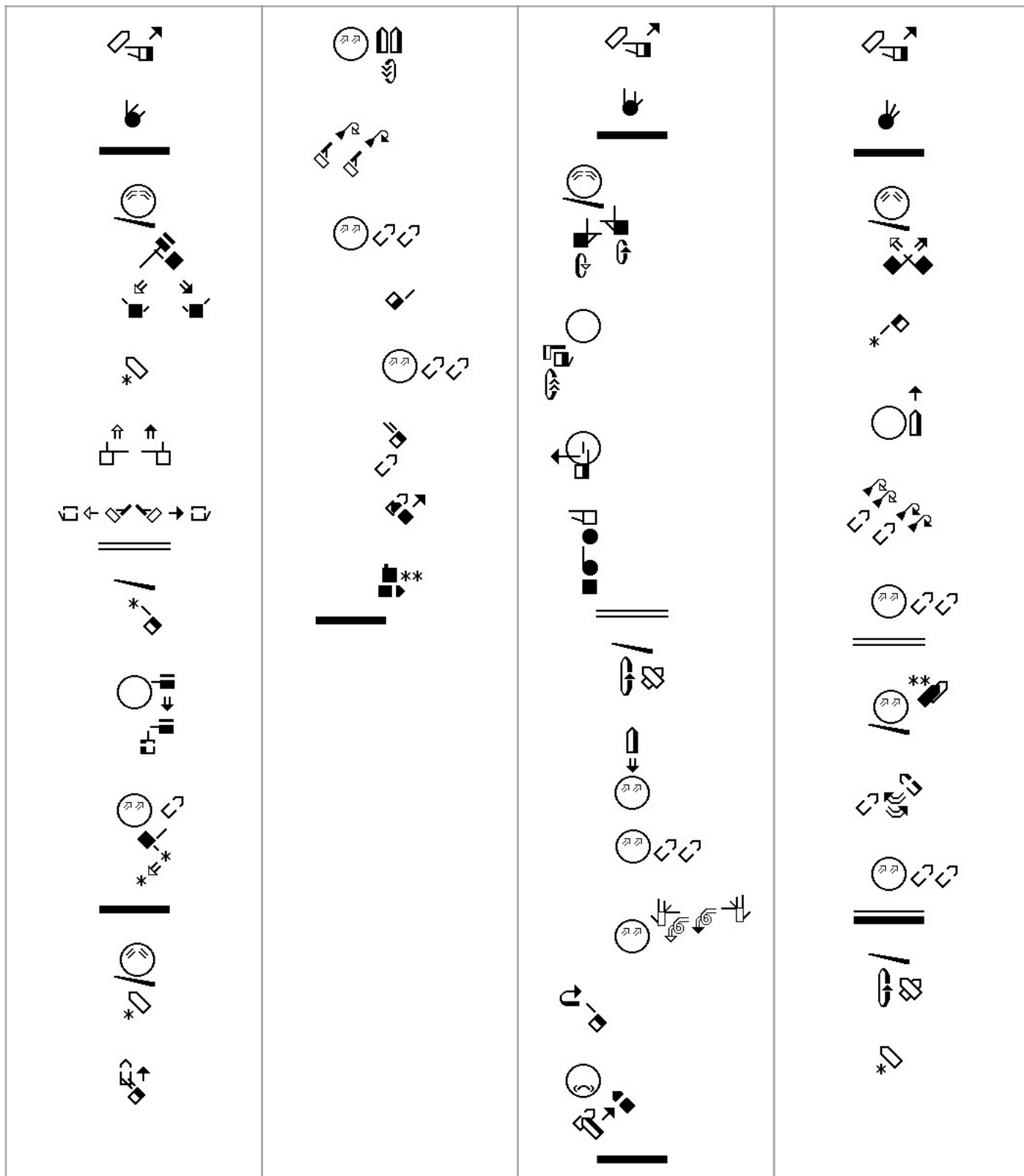
Verse 3. You threw me into the ocean depths, and I sank down to the heart of the sea. The mighty waters engulfed me; I was buried beneath your wild and stormy waves. Verse 4. Then I said, 'O LORD, you have driven me from your presence. Yet I will look once more toward your holy Temple.'

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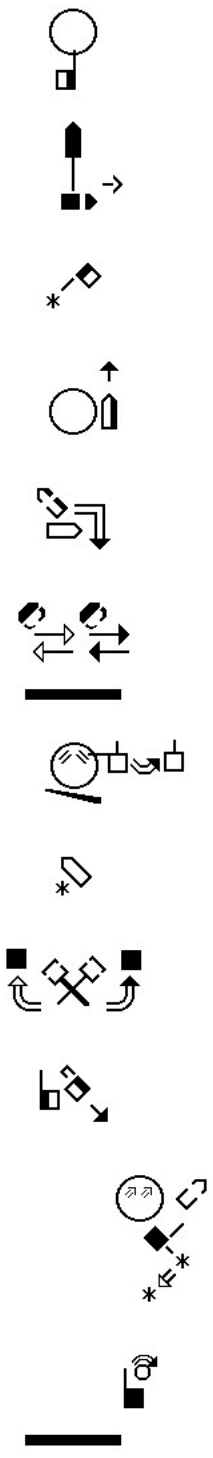
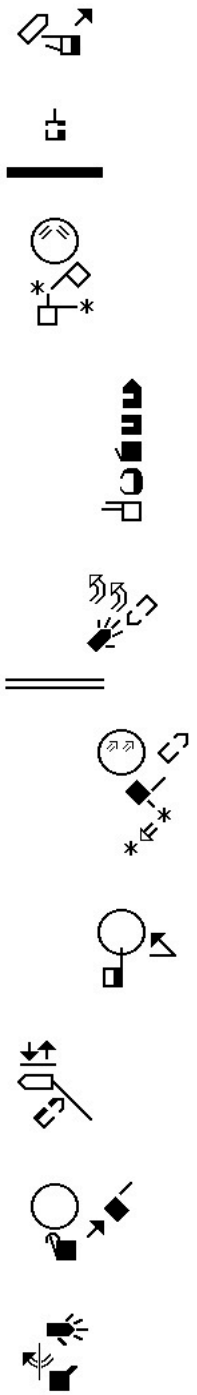
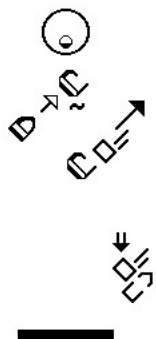
			
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Verse 5. "I sank beneath the waves, and the waters closed over me. Seaweed wrapped itself around my head. Verse 6. I sank down to the very roots of the mountains. I was imprisoned in the earth, whose gates lock shut forever. But you, O LORD my God, snatched me from the jaws of death!

NLT



Verse 7. As my life was slipping away, I remembered the LORD. And my earnest prayer went out to you in your holy Temple. Verse 8. Those who worship false gods turn their backs on all God's mercies. Verse 9. But I will offer sacrifices to you with songs of praise, and

			
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I will fulfill all my vows. For my salvation comes from the LORD alone." Verse 10. Then the LORD ordered the fish to spit Jonah out onto the beach.

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they declared a fast and put on burlap to show their sorrow. Verse 6. When the king of Nineveh heard what Jonah was saying, he stepped down from his throne and took off his royal robes. He dressed himself in burlap and sat on a heap of ashes. Verse 7. Then the king and his nobles sent this decree throughout the city:

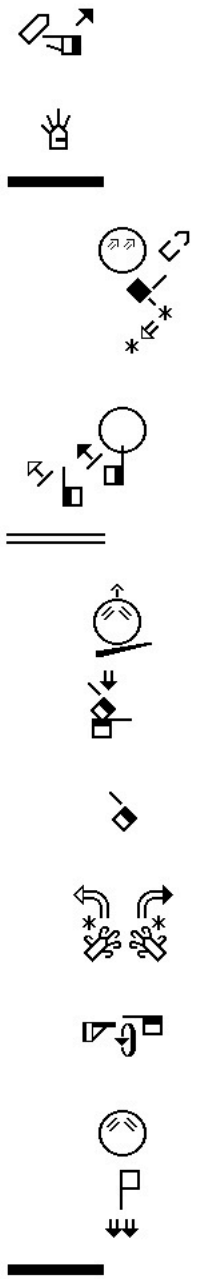
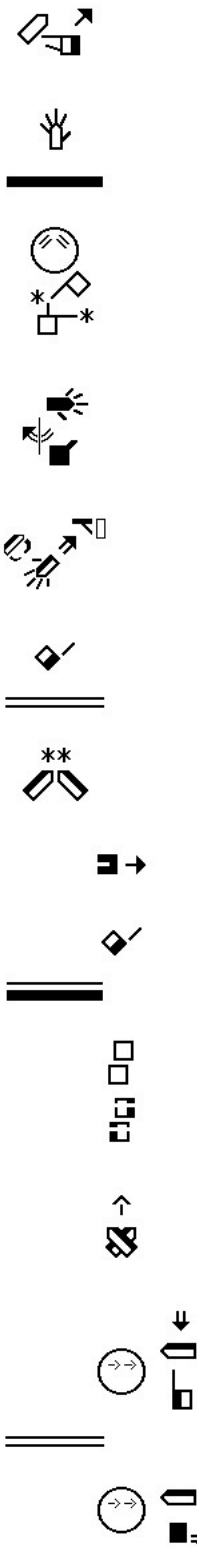
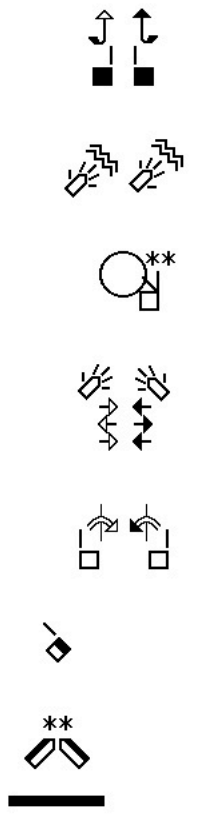
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I knew that you are a merciful and compassionate God, slow to get angry and filled with unfailing love. You are eager to turn back from destroying people. Verse 3. Just kill me now, LORD! I'd rather be dead than alive if what I predicted will not happen." NLT

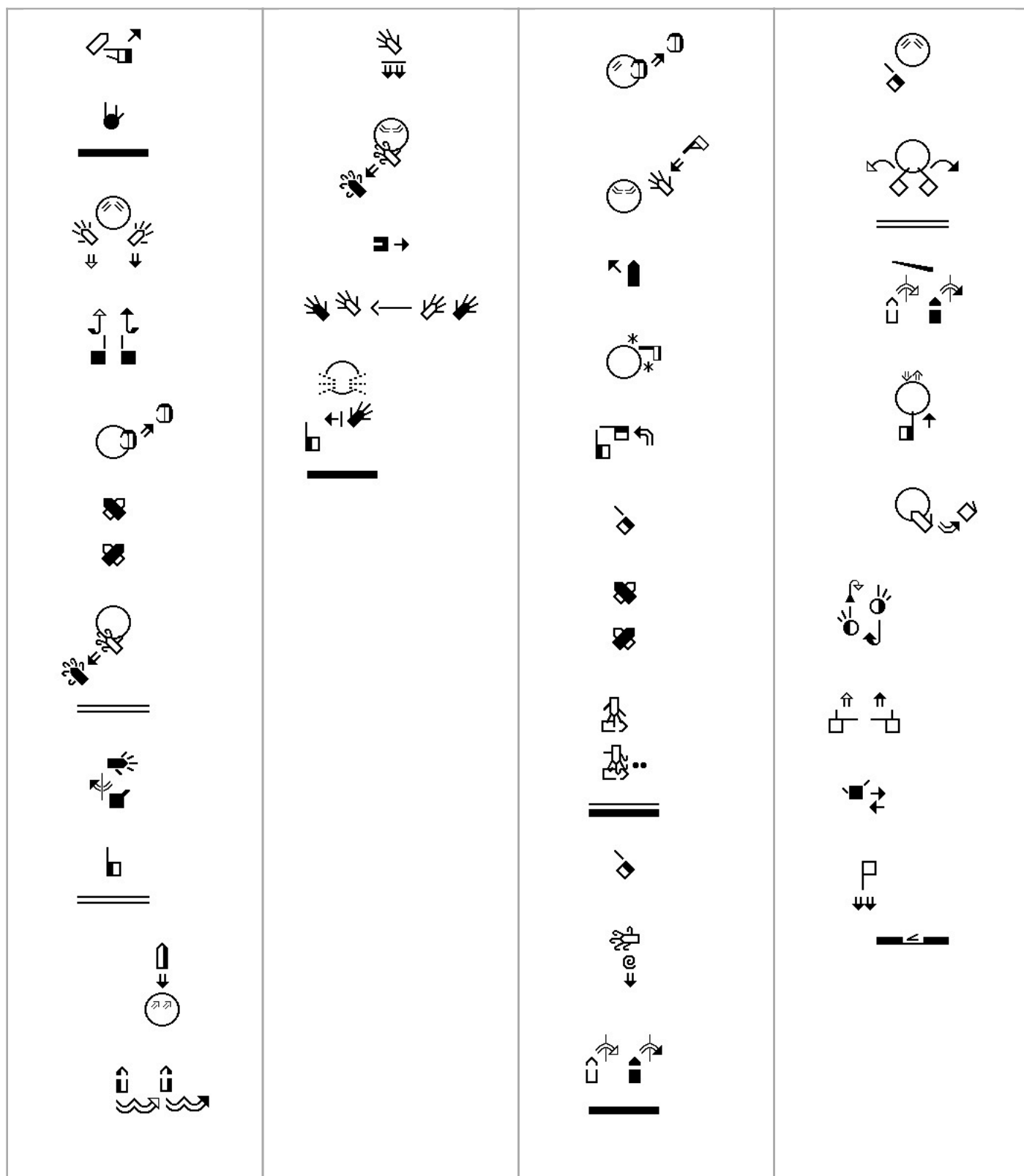
			
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Verse 4. The LORD replied, "Is it right for you to be angry about this?" Verse 5. Then Jonah went out to the east side of the city and made a shelter to sit under as he waited to see what would happen to the city. Verse 6. And the LORD God arranged for a leafy plant to grow there, and soon it spread its broad leaves

NLT

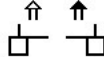
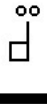
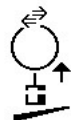
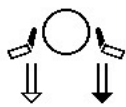
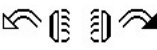
             	             	             	             
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over Jonah's head, shading him from the sun. This eased his discomfort, and Jonah was very grateful for the plant. Verse 7. But God also arranged for a worm! The next morning at dawn the worm ate through the stem of the plant so that it withered away. NLT



Verse 8. And as the sun grew hot, God arranged for a scorching east wind to blow on Jonah. The sun beat down on his head until he grew faint and wished to die. "Death is certainly better than living like this!" he exclaimed.

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Verse 11. But Nineveh has more than 120,000 people living in spiritual darkness, not to mention all the animals. Shouldn't I feel sorry for such a great city?" NLT

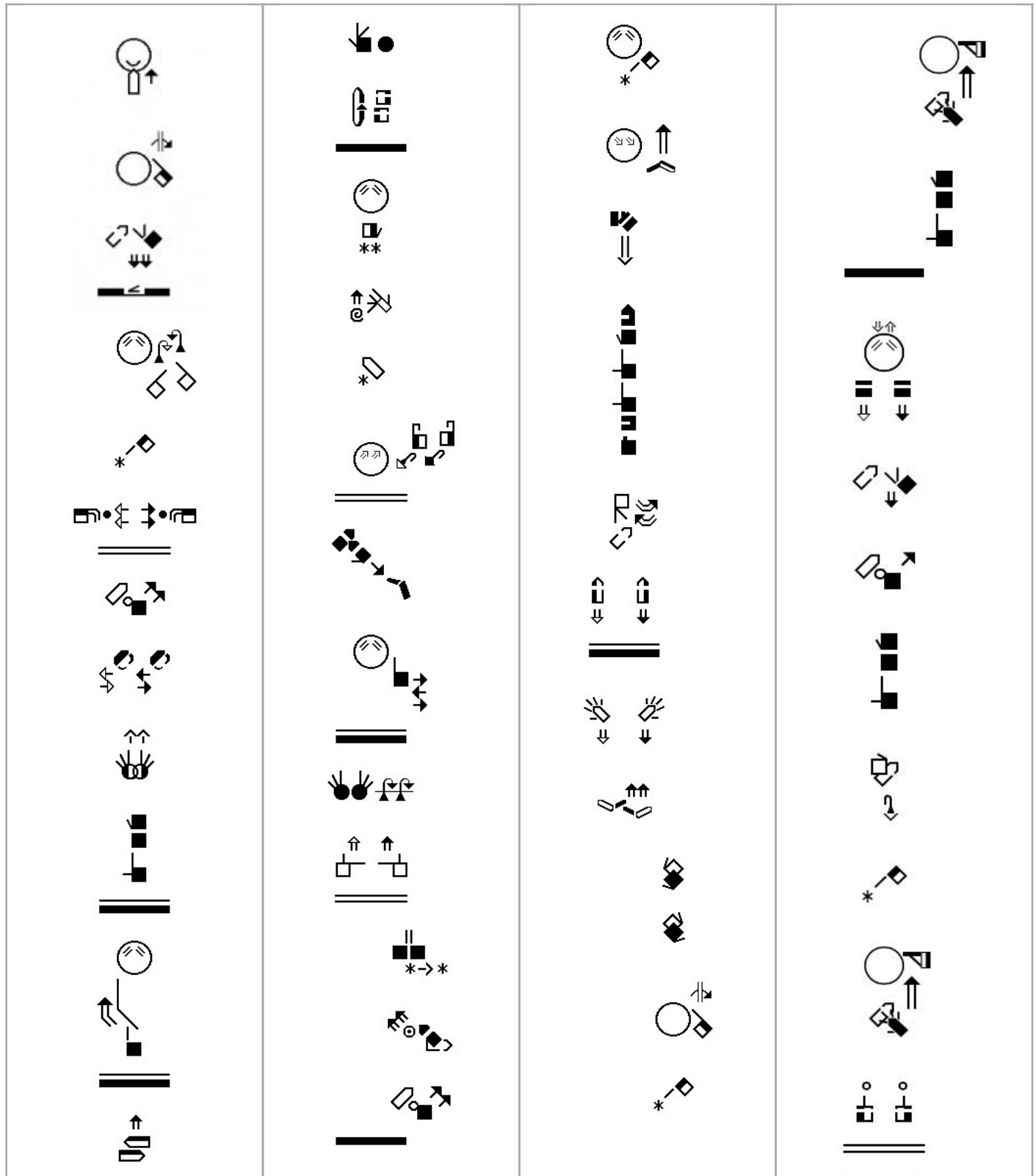


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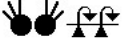
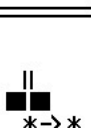
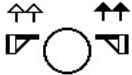
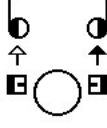
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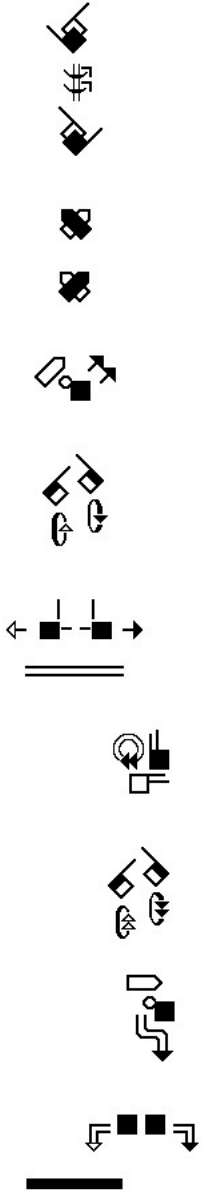
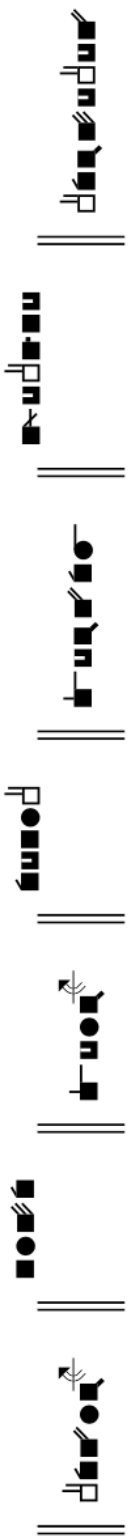
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Thank you for reading! I have been analyzing & writing the movements of American Sign Language for at least 30 years. I feel that my gift and calling are in interpreting live, and on the written page. Raised a classical ballet dancer, it was an easy transition for me to learn ASL. Being literate in sign language helped me to learn quickly,

         	           	       	              
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and also record & preserve the unique details of ASL. I have degrees in Interpreting for the Deaf, and in Dance, plus a CA Community Colleges Teaching Credential in Special Education. I especially love translating Scripture; after 11 years, the New Testament is completely

			
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translated into written sign language, using the SignWriting Script. Now there are 12 books translated from the Hebrew Scriptures: Ruth, Nehemiah, Esther, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Jonah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Haggai and Malachi.

I've known Valerie Sutton, the SignWriting system's inventor, for 40 years. We have worked together and stayed in touch over all these years. I have a varied work background, including commercial and corporate flight attendant, San Diego Safari Park Tour Guide,

		 Nancy and her son Garret
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professional Interpreter for the Deaf, and proud mother of my son Garret, a Firefighter/Paramedic.

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