



THE HEART OF A CHRISTIAN PLAYWRIGHT

Written by us, inspired by Jesus

THE DAY JESUS WAS BORN

An Original Stage play

By

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Tele: 1 (876) 352-2650

THE CHARACTERS.

MARY OF NAZARETH
JOSEPH
WISE MAN
SHEPHERD
HEROD
ELIZABETH
INN KEEPER

SETTING

The stage can be bare with maybe a few palm trees and a rock (can be sit on)

The Characters should enter from different parts of the stage.

THE SCRIPT

SCENE I

LIGHTS UP

DANCE – “Mary Did You Know”

ANGELS VOICE: Therefore, the Lord Himself shall give you a sign;
Behold, a virgin shall conceive, and bear a son, and shall call his name
Immanuel.

Mary enters, pacing back and forth on the stage.

MARY: This has to be a dream. Who am I that I should bear Gods son? How am I going to tell Joseph without him assuming that I have been with someone else? I did not expect this at all. I had my day all planned out. I would get up, do some washing and cleaning and

(excited)

take a long walk into Jerusalem to find that perfect wedding dress...and shoes...and

(her excitement fades)

now I hear that I will conceive and bear a son. Me...a simple old fashioned village girl highly favored of God above all women.

(pause)

Me.

(finds a place to sit)

I am not worthy. I dont even know how to think about this. I mean, how many women get a chance to see an angel...to see God...

(touches her stomach)

To be the mother of the savior..the redeemer...the one who will come and set captives free, give liberty to the oppressed...save us.

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(pause)

I must go and see Elizabeth. If she is pregnant as the angel says...then that means this is not a dream and if this is not a dream...(starts to get excited) Then I am going to be the mother of Gods son.

(pause) – Mary exits.

DANCE – “Who Could Imagine”

Joseph enters.

JOSEPH: Pregnant!!! Does Mary take me for a fool.

(To audience)

Do I look like a fool?

(Pause)

Unlike all the men I know...I have preserved myself for the right woman. I do not deserve this...I know I'm not perfect...but I don't deserve this...

(starts to cry)

I don't deserve to be hurt like this. And that's not even the worst part. Mary wants me to believe that she hasn't been with anyone...that somehow...miraculously...she has conceived. And I am supposed to believe that. It's the worst breakup line I've ever heard in my life...and after all this, she wants me to still marry her and raise a child that is not mine. How do I do that? How?

(Pause)

I know that God can do the impossible...but this is just too ridiculous. And what of these reoccurring dreams that I have. Last night I dreamt I was visited by an angel who told me not to be afraid to take Mary as my wife....the child she now carries is of the Holy Spirit....but that was just a dream...wasn't it. We all have dreams that have nothing to do with reality, don't we? So what do I do with all this. I feel so confused I can't even tell my right hand from my left. I honestly don't know what to do...but my choices are limited to only two....believe what Mary says and continue with the wedding...or don't believe and find myself a new wife.

(pause)

Option 'B' seems the logical choice...but there is just one problem...

(Long pause)

I love her.

(pause)

(Joseph exits)

DANCE – “I Love the Lord”

Elizabeth is at CS holding her stomach.

ELIZABETH:

Look what the Lord has done!

(looks up at the audience)

That's all I've been saying for six months. Look what God has done. What else can I say. I am an old woman. Nature says a woman cannot have a child when she has passed menopause...but God said I can. There was so much doubt between me and my husband...poor man. He has been dumb for six months...but I really don't mind the break.

(looking around to make sure he's not there)

He talks too much anyway, so it has been a peaceful six months I must add.

(pause)

I'm still waiting to wake up from the dream...but with each passing day, I realize that it is real. I am pregnant. In my body a little baby is growing...one that will help to make the way for my Lord...a voice, crying in the wilderness.

(there are tears in her eyes)

I cannot forget the feeling I had when Mary came to look for me. This baby actually leaped in my stomach. I believed that if I had listened closely enough I may have heard him even preaching. My own cousin. Bringing the Messiah into

this world. I am so happy for her...but also so very sad. According to the Prophets the road the messiah has to walk will not be easy. He will be wounded for our transgressions...bruised for our iniquities...the chastisement of his peace will be upon us...but by his stripes, we will be healed.

(pause)

I will pray for my cousin...for where much is given, much is required.

DANCE – “Joy to the World”

A wise man is onstage looking into the heavens through a telescope. He stops momentarily to make some notes in his notebook.

He looks out at the audience as if acknowledging their presence.

WISE MAN: I know. Human beings are by nature very inquisitive and you want to know what I'm doing. I will tell you in a moment.

(makes some more notes)

See that star...in the east. It's the only one of its kind. We may never see another like it for centuries to come...if ever. I am still trying to convince my brothers that it is worth checking out. I am known to be very persuasive, so I will be leaving you soon to prepare for our trip. There are many prophecies about the promise one. The Jews refer to him as the Messiah. A King who will come and proclaim liberty for the oppressed. Very good bedtime stories for your kids...but as a scientist, it is our duty to test the validity of any story before accepting it as fact or fiction.

(pause)

The truth is, my interest lies solely in that star. It represents something great...something new...something, well...liberating for a better choice of word. But if I know my brothers well, we will walk with many gifts.

(Looks into his telescope again)

I don't know what we will find...but wherever that star leads us, we will go. But this one thing I know. Whatever is there will change the course of history...will change us.

(pause)

(Wise man makes some more jottings in his notebook)

DANCE – “Hark the Herald Angels Sing – Gloria in Excelsius”

*A shepherd is sitting on a rock with staff in his hands.
He is still shaking.*

SHEPHERDS: Did you see what I saw? It was totally awesome. I mean, one minute we were minding sheep...the next, this huge guy appears out of nowhere. He was sparkling and it was just a beautiful sight. I don't even know if he was human....cause he was shining like the sun itself. And Then, out of the blue appeared more of them and man can they sing.

(breathes still trying to calm himself)

Awesome it was...but very scary too.

(holds out his shaking hands)

See I'm still shaking.

(pause to consider)

Who are we that God should be mindful of us. We are just shepherds...nothing more. What makes us, the lowest of all men, worthy of such a divine visit. I must admit that I have more questions than answers...but one thing is for sure. None of us will forget this day. My brothers have ran home to tell their families about this. They are all so excited...but I have no one to share it with but you. When they return, we will travel to Bethlehem to see this thing that has come to pass.

I have to be honest though...I thought the stories of a Messiah was just that....a story. A figment of someone's imagination. But its not just a story is it? Its real...and its happening now. Today...and guess what people...I will be a witness to it all...though I am unworthy...but if what the angels said is true...then I will see with my natural eyes the birth of a savior. Wow!

(pause to reflect)

This is too much. Anyway, I gotta go. I see my brothers coming up the hill...but remember this my friends. In a land of Kings and Princes God visited us....shepherds.

Shepherd exits.

DANCE – “Do You Hear What I Hear”

King Herod marches out and instantly points his finger at the audience.

HEROD: Did you hear what I heard? Huh! Speak up! Do you have any idea what I had to do to get this crown? You don't do you! Well, I'm gonna tell you simply because there is no one who can do anything about it.

(folds his hands behind him as he paces the stage)

The Jews never did like me. I had to defeat a nephew, marry a niece and banish my first wife and child to gain some favor. As if that wasn't enough, I had to orchestrate a few murders so I could become your king..so what is this I now hear of another king. No one is alive in Judea who could take this crown away from me. I made sure of that. I will make sure of that. As I live, I will wear this crown till I'm stone dead in my grave and anyone who threatens that will be executed.

(Pause)

Something is just not right though. Those three wise men who came here last year. They must have found that child by now. Jerusalem isn't such a big place. Why have I not gotten any word from them? Are they so wise as to discern my hearts intention to destroy this child? No! No man can read hearts and mind...but somehow, they have managed to trick me. They had no intention of returning, did they?

(pause)

No wise man can outwit the great King Herod. Guards...Guards. Send out a decree. I want every male child two years and under executed. Immediately!

(pause)

There will be no other king but me!

(Pause)

(King Herod exits)

DANCE – “Born This Day”

The innkeeper enters wiping sweat from his brow.

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INNKEEPER: I am an old man. I have been on this earth a long time and I have never seen anything like this. Who is this child that even animals are silent before him.

(pause to reflect)

My wife quarrels with me day and night but I am a business man. Its necessary for me to be cold sometimes or people will take advantage of me. It's a concept I have been trying to teach my dear wife. But she just doesn't get it. Typical woman, if you ask me. Took me six years to teach her to drive.

(to audience member)

A donkey my friend. We didn't have cars like you guys. We drove donkeys and we needed a license for that believe it or not. Anyway people, I'm not the talkative kind so if you expected a sermon...you will just have to wait till the pastor gets here. One thing is for sure. I've never been the religious nut, but I have to admit....and you did not hear this from me....there is something different about this child!

(pause to reflect)

(Innkeeper exits)

DANCE – “When You Believe”

ANGELS VOICE: For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

BLACKOUT