

SCRIPT

SCENE 1

Finding a superstar *(suitable for the oldest children)*

The musical opens with the stars dressed in their star costumes, rehearsing their audition piece/ warming up etc.

STAR 1 *(Excitedly waving an A4 sheet)* Have you seen this notice about today's audition? Now everyone knows that one of *us* is getting the title role in the play.

STAR 2 What does it actually say?

STAR 1 *(Reading)* It says: 'Extra audition. All children from the Celestial Choir must attend a special audition for the title role of Superstar in this year's nativity play. All members must be in costume and have an audition piece prepared.'

STAR 2 *(Reading over Star 1's shoulder)* It ends with: 'This is your chance to shine! signed Gabriel, also known as Mr Marrz, Head of Music.'

STAR 3 Wow, he really is going to do it then – you know, dress up as Gabriel! He said he would if the choir agreed to wear these star costumes for the play. I thought he was joking!

STAR 4 It seems that our Mr Marrz is really 'getting into character' as he calls it. *(Indicates inverted commas with fingers)* I can't wait to see this!

STAR 5 Hey, what if he comes to the audition today wearing his Angel Gabriel outfit?

STAR 6 He probably will – my Mum says he's a complete showman.

STAR 7 Does she mean a show-off?

STAR 8 No, I think she means that he revs us up so that we do our best. You know, really PERFORM! *(Jazz hands!)*

STAR 9 Yes, and that's exactly why we've prepared this song-and-dance routine for him today.

STAR 10 I hope he likes it!

STAR 11 Let's run through it once more before he gets here.

STAR 12 Have you decided on your star names?

ALL STARS Yes!

STAR 5 Right, take your places! I'll count to keep us together.

The stars walk across the stage to their places, calling out in turn their star names. This can include as many children as required (but at least twelve: three rows of four) either singly or in small groups. They can add suitable props to their costumes if desired. One girl called Stella lags behind in just about everything. She is very bubbly and keen, but not an outstanding performer.

1st	Pop star(s)!
2nd	Film star(s)!
3rd	Celebrity star(s)!
4th	Co-star(s)!
5th	Mega star(s)!
6th	Rising star(s)!
7th	Rock star(s)!
8th	Wishing star(s)!
9th	Shooting star(s)!
10th	Football star(s)!
11th	TV star(s)!
12th	Lucky star(s)!

Stella hesitates and dithers.

STAR 5 Come on Stella!

STELLA Sorry. Um... shining star! *(She twirls awkwardly into place)*

ALL STARS *(Tutting good-humouredly)* Oh Stella!

The stars should now be positioned in three rows, with the 'dancers' in the front row, the 'singers' in the second row and the 'smilers' in the back row. Stella joins the 'smilers' in the back row, with two stars either side of her, and desperately tries to copy what they're doing throughout the song. Each row moves to the back when they have sung their part so that a new row is at the front for each verse. Star 5 counts '5, 6, 7, 8' during the song and shouts out the dance moves. Stella finds it all tricky to do. Mr Marrz, dressed as Angel Gabriel, enters at the start of the song and stands watching until they finish.

Song 1. SUPERSTAR!

CD track 1/11

MR MARRZ *(Clapping enthusiastically)* Excellent! That's really imaginative. Well done, I'm proud of you all! If you put as much effort into the singing for this musical, it will be a roaring success!

The stars crowd round Mr Marrz.

STAR 1 Oh Mr Marrz, you weren't supposed to see it yet!

STAR 2 That was just the practice!

MR MARRZ Sorry, I flew in early. I'm finding these wings very useful!

Mr Marrz gives a twirl to show off his tiny wings. The stars point and giggle.

STAR 3 Can we do it again for you?

STAR 4 Did you like the choreography?

STAR 5 I was the one keeping us all together.

STAR 6 And I got the routine completely right for once.

STAR 7 I reckon I was the best though!

ALL STARS Ooh, get you!

STARS 8/9 We've been working on our radiant 'superstar' smiles.

STELLA *(With cheerful resignation)* Did you see me make a complete mess of it as usual? I know I'm rubbish at all this, but I do enjoy it!

STARS 10/11 And of course, EVERYONE wants to be the Superstar!

STAR 12 Mr Marrz, what will this Superstar have to do in the play?

MR MARRZ Shine! Shine like a true superstar and herald the birth of the King of Kings! Think about it: *(He counts the points on his fingers)*

- An amazing star showed up in the night sky.
- The star led the wise men to Bethlehem.
- The star shone over the stable where Jesus was born.
- The shepherds found the stable lit by starlight.

And that is why our nativity musical this year is called *Superstar*.

STELLA *(With sudden understanding)* Oh I see! I thought it was called *Superstar* because Jesus is the Superstar of the Christmas story!

ALL STARS *(Fondly mocking)* Oh Stella!

MR MARRZ No, she's hit on something really important. Stella, you might not always get things right on stage, but you have certainly got the Christmas message exactly right! *(He pauses and looks at Stella)* Would you like to try for the part?

STELLA *(Nervously)* M... m... me?

Stella looks nervously excited and shrugs her shoulders uncertainly. All the stars start to call out to her encouragingly.

ALL STARS You can do it / Go on Stella / We'll help you / Give it a try / You'll be brilliant / Don't be shy! etc.

STELLA Do you REALLY think I can do it?

**ALL STARS/
MR MARRZ** YES!

The stars gather round Stella to help her get ready for her role as they sing the last verse of 'Superstar!'

During the song, various stars run off to get tinsel bracelets, a tinsel belt, a tinsel headband and a sparkly star wand for Stella. On the last word of the song, Stella takes the star wand and holds it aloft. Then she addresses the audience.

STELLA Ladies and gentlemen, the rehearsals are over. Welcome to this special performance of our Christmas musical – *Superstar*.

Music from 'Star Chorus Instrumental' (CD Track 13) plays as everyone leaves the stage. The stars and Mr Marrz form a Celestial Choir that supports all the singing throughout the play. Children from Scene 2 take their places.

SCENE 2

The wise men's journey (suitable for older children)

The three wise men and their apprentices are on a stage block to one side of the stage; Herod, his guards and his courtiers (optional) are on the stage with their backs to the audience. Dimmed stage lights here would be very effective. Stella stands to one side of the stage. Narrator 1 steps forward from the Celestial Choir to stand beside Stella, smiling encouragingly.

NARRATOR 1 Over 2000 years ago a strange phenomenon appeared in the night sky. A new bright star was seen moving steadily through the darkness. People pointed and wondered what this super star meant. Wise men and astronomers knew that it was a sign that a new king had been born. Three wise men set off from the East with their apprentices. They wanted to be the first to kneel before this new and important baby. They took with them gifts that were fit for royalty.

STELLA (To audience) That's my cue. Oops, stay in character Stella! I'd better start shining brightly now to get them to follow me. Wish me luck!

Narrator 1 gives her the thumbs up and goes back to the choir. Stella moves with simple, 'twirling' dance moves to a centre-back position on the stage as the Celestial Choir sing 'Star Chorus', conducted by Mr Marrz, which could include instruments such as triangles, glocks and Chinese bells.

Song 2. STAR CHORUS

CD track 3/14

APPRENTICE 1 This isn't what I signed up for when I became an apprentice to a 'wise man'. (Indicates inverted commas with fingers)

APPRENTICE 2 Nor me.

APPRENTICE 3 Nor me.

APPRENTICE 1 (Pointing to the wise men) I don't think they even have a clue where we are!

APPRENTICE 2 I know they're very wise, but they have no sense of direction.

APPRENTICE 3 We've been over the same bit of ground at least five times now.

APPRENTICE 1 Round and round and round in circles.

APPRENTICE 2 I tried to tell my master, but he just said 'Foolish boy' and carried on.

APPRENTICE 3 Still, what do we know? We're just *training* to be wise!

MELCHIOR (*Waving a chart at Apprentice 1*) Come here boy and hold this.
(*Apprentice 1 takes it and shakes violently*) Stop shaking lad! I'm trying to see where we are.

APPRENTICE 1 I'm s... s... sorry sire. I'm a bit wobbly after all that walking. Are we nearly there yet?

MELCHIOR It can't be far. (*Pointing to his chart*) Look, this must be Jerusalem here in the gap in the hills.

APPRENTICE 1 But how do we know that the new king is in Jerusalem?

MELCHIOR Trust me lad, I'm a doctor... (*to audience*) of astronomy you understand!

BALTHASAR (*Holding up a strange tube*) I wish I could be of more help, but this navigation device I invented seems to be pointing back the way we came. (*To Apprentice 2*) Give it a shake, boy, and try to find west.

APPRENTICE 2 I can do that by looking at the sun, sire.

BALTHASAR (*With exaggerated patience*) The sun's gone down though. Have you learnt nothing from me?

Apprentice 2 dejectedly takes the device from his master and shakes it around. It rattles. He gives it back to Balthasar.

APPRENTICE 2 I think it's got a screw loose, sire. It will be all that bumping about in the saddle bag that did it. Shall I see if the jar of my-ra-ha is still intact?

BALTHASAR My-ra-ha?

Apprentice 2 takes a bottle out of his bag with 'Myrrh' written on the side of it. He points to the letters and spells it out carefully.

APPRENTICE 2 MY-RA-HA!

BALTHASAR Foolish boy! It's MYRRH and it's my gift for this new baby king.

CASPAR Now that night has fallen, that super star is catching my attention again. Look, it's up there over the shadow of the city walls.

APPRENTICE 3 It seems to be hanging in the sky now rather than moving.

CASPAR (*Nodding, pretending he'd noticed*) Excellent observation my good fellow. I was watching to see if you'd notice! Check out its position everyone.

APPRENTICE 1 It's stopped over that palace.

ALL Follow that star!