

SCRIPT

There are several narrators dressed in bright colours. If possible, the angels should be on an upper level. The angels could have a distinctive way of moving from one level to the other, e.g. strike 'Superman' pose, then skip and jump to indicate arrival.

NARRATOR 1 Welcome to our story, it's one you just might know,
It happened once upon a time, two thousand years ago!

SONG 1. TWO THOUSAND YEARS AGO CD TRACK 1/10

NARRATOR 2 It happened in a stable, which wasn't very clean,
Who could guess that it would be the greatest party ever seen?

The Chief Angel and other angels enter along with the dove.

NARRATOR 3 One day a snow-white dove brought a golden note from God to
his chief angel, who cheered...

CHIEF ANGEL Yes!!!

NARRATOR 4 ...then cleared his throat.

The Chief Angel shows the long guest list.

CHIEF ANGEL There's going to be a party and we've got to sort out the
invitations!

The angels shout one after another.

ANGELS What sort of party? / Will we get cake? / Will there be presents? /
Can I have a party bag? etc.

The Chief Angel waits for silence – teacher style!

CHIEF ANGEL This party will be different, but really cool! Come here and
I'll tell you about it.

The angels gather round and they freeze.

NARRATOR 5 The party was a birthday one,
But a party like no other,
It was for Jesus, God's own son...

The angels unfreeze.

CHIEF ANGEL I must invite his mother!

Some angels put a sash saying 'Angel 1st Class' around the Chief Angel. Other angels fetch a large map with 'Galilee' marked on it and point out Mary's house to him. Mary enters on a lower stage level (if possible) with some sewing in her hand or a broom and the Chief Angel flies to her and jumps to indicate landing. They mime Mary being told God's plan.

NARRATOR 6 So he invited Mary to be mother of God's son,
She didn't worry what to wear, but said...

MARY God's will be done.

The Chief Angel goes back to the upper level and Mary calls offstage to Joseph.

MARY Joseph! Joseph!

Joseph enters carrying his carpenter's tool.

MARY You'll never guess what's happened!

Mary whispers, Joseph faints and Mary 'catches' him.

CHIEF ANGEL The party is to be in Bethlehem. How can we get them there?

All the angels freeze, thinking. Then the Chief Angel has an idea. The Child comes on carrying a light-bulb card. He/she claps and the Census Man appears.

CENSUS MAN *(Ringing a bell)* Hear ye! Hear ye! Census in Bethlehem! Your country needs YOU!

He gives a letter to Joseph.

JOSEPH *(Reading)* We'll have to go, Mary, but it won't be easy.

NARRATOR 7 They couldn't take a taxi, a car or bus or plane,
They only had a donkey, so the journey was a pain!

SONG 2.

BUMPY JOURNEY

CD TRACK 2/11

Please see the Out of the Ark website for suggested choreography for this song (www.outoftheark.com/IAPdances).

MARY & DONKEY Oh my poor back!

JOSEPH Never mind, I'm sure we'll soon find somewhere to stay.

The innkeepers and crowd flood the stage. During the next song Mary and Joseph mime going to various doors and knocking. The innkeepers shake their heads at them. During the last verse they settle in the stable.

A banner is hung that reads: 'CENSUS PARTY, TICKETS ONLY 100,000 SHEKELS. FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED'.

CHIEF ANGEL Phew! The first guests are in place! Who's next? Ah yes, the shepherds.

ANGEL 1 Should be easy peasy.

The sheep and shepherds enter.

NARRATOR 1 Oh no! It wouldn't be so simple, the shepherds were asleep.

NARRATOR 2 They snored so very loudly they gave earplugs to their sheep!

The shepherds sleep and snore.

SHEEP 1 I'm so tired! Even counting shepherds doesn't help!

CHIEF ANGEL I'm afraid this calls for a special talent. Call Foghorn Fred.

ANGEL 2 That's a good idea. He could even wake up!
(Insert name of teacher/caretaker)

Enter Angel Foghorn Fred, possibly carrying a megaphone. He takes the invitation from the Chief Angel and 'flies' to the shepherds, accompanied by lots of other angels.

FOGHORN FRED *(Very loudly)* Good evening Beth-le-hem! Wakey, wakey!
Have I got news for you!

He opens the invitation.

At the end of the song the shepherds get ready to leave happily.

NARRATOR 3 The snoring stopped, the sheep were glad
(Give each other high-fives)
Now they could get some sleep.
The shepherds ran off, full of joy,
They had a date to keep.

SHEPHERD 1 Come on lads!