

NAME ROLE

KS1 - I'M GONNA SHINE SCRIPT

SCENE 1 HEAVEN

STORYTELLER 1 I expect that once upon a time you've all been on a long journey, or at least a journey that felt long.

CHILDREN (POPPING HEADS ROUND SIDE OF STAGE) Are we there yet?

STORYTELLER 2 We'd like to tell you a story now about some people who made journeys that weren't easy. But they knew that at the end of their journeys, they'd find something that made it all worthwhile.

STORYTELLER 3 Our story begins 'once upon a starry night' when a plan begins to unfold. It's a plan that had been made long ago and this is just the right time for it to be put into action!

STORYTELLER 1 A sign is about to be placed high in the blue velvet sky to guide those who are willing to look up and see, especially some very wise men who've been waiting for this night for a very long time.

STORYTELLER 2 As you might have guessed, it being a starry night, the sign is a star, bigger and brighter than any before, ready to link heaven and earth with her golden beams.

STORYTELLER 3 Her name is Gloria, but I think we'll let the other stars introduce her.

The stars enter in pairs, speak, then separate so that they go to each side of the stage, with the first couple forming the widest point of a 'V' shape, with each subsequent pair being less far apart, thus forming the 'V'. They should move gracefully and with style. The whole sequence should flow smoothly, with lines being spoken as the previous stars move into place.

ALL STARS We twinkle, twinkle in the night.
Guiding you with our gentle light.
In the sky above, we lead the way.
Coming out at the end of day.
There's one lovely star who outshines the rest,
Our wonderful Gloria, the brightest and best!

GLORIA TA-DA! (Bowing) Thank you so much! This is such a privilege. I promise I'm gonna shine like no other star before!

SONG 1 I'M GONNA SHINE!

At the end of the song, Gloria exits. The other stars wave her off/blow kisses and then exit.

STORYTELLER 1 Now that the starry scene is set, let's take a trip to one of the roads leading into Bethlehem.

Storyteller 1 signals on Joe, Maudie, customers 1-4 and the seller, who set up the scene, uncovering side screens if applicable.

SCENE 2 OASIS RETAIL PARK

There are signs reading 'Oasis Retail Park', 'Joe's One-Stop Camel Shop' and 'Maudie's Bargain Bitz'. Joe and Maudie stand near their shops. Customers 1-4 mime window shopping/chatting to Joe or Maudie. The seller stands at the side of the stage, looking shifty. If there is a central aisle, the wise men could enter that way.

STORYTELLER 2 On this hot and dusty road, a colourful procession from the East has been winding its weary way along.

STORYTELLER 3 *(Very animated)* They had set off, rippling with excitement as soon as they had seen Gloria, the star they'd been looking for. She was a glowing signpost for them; she was going to lead them to a very special person, a newborn King.

STORYTELLER 1 *(Slow and weary)* But now they have blisters on their blisters and the camels don't even have the energy to spit any more!

The wise men enter, along with the camels and any optional attendants, looking very weary. When they reach the stage, the camels and attendants could sit at the front of the stage.

STORYTELLER 2 Desperately tired, they arrive at the rather grandly named Oasis Retail Park.

JOE *(Market-trader style)* 'Ello, 'ello, 'ello, welcome to Joe's One-Stop Camel Shop. We've got it all here! State-of-the-art camels: four-feet drive, turbo spit, spare hump.

CASPAR *(Tempted)* Ooh! *(Camel nudges him)* Perhaps not!

CUSTOMER 1 Where are you off to?

MELCHIOR Bethlehem. But we're not sure exactly where yet.

BALTHASAR We're following a star that is lighting the way for us.

CUSTOMER 2 What are you going *there* for?

CASPAR We're going to meet a King!

MELCHIOR The Anointed One!

BALTHASAR The VIP-est of all VIPs!

CASPAR We're going to take Him some precious gifts.

CUSTOMER 3 I'm not sure you'll get what you want in Maudie's shop then! It's more Primark than Chanel.

CUSTOMER 4 And the only 'precious' thing in there is her silly dog!

MAUDIE *(Cuddling her dog)* Don't you talk about my little Chutchykins like that!

MELCHIOR Don't worry, we've already packed our gifts: gold, frankincense and myrrh.

SELLER *(Moving forward in a shifty manner)* That all sounds a bit odd.

The seller opens his raincoat to reveal lots of little boxes.

SELLER Are you sure you wouldn't like some *(Name of head teacher/current celebrity)* aftershave? 110% genuine. All the rage among your upper classes, you know! Or a nice little sundial?

BALTHASAR Thank you, but I think we just need to freshen up. Are there facilities here?

SELLER Afraid not, but there's a little pond over there and some handy bushes that way!

CASPAR Then I suppose we'd better just keep going.

MELCHIOR *(Pointing up)* Our star seems to be getting even brighter!

BALTHASAR Then that probably means we're getting close!

CASPAR Come on everybody; we can do this thing!

MELCHIOR It'll be worth it in the end.

SONG 2 WISE MEN, WISE MEN

Wise men, camels and entourage sing this song. They all exit the stage singing as the track fades.

SCENE 3 HEROD'S PALACE

The palace is set. Herod's throne is placed to one side of the stage on a slight diagonal to allow room for the dancers to dance without having their backs to the audience. The dancers enter and look around, shrugging and looking bemused. They are dressed in classical ballet outfits. Two guards stand one either side of the throne.

STORYTELLER 3 Following their disappointment at the Oasis Retail Park, the wise men from the East *did* find facilities – very pleasant ones in fact – at King Herod's palace.

STORYTELLER 1 In their excitement, they told Herod all about the newborn King and promised to let him know when they found out exactly where the baby was.

STORYTELLER 2 They thought Herod would be as thrilled as they were about this new King...

STORYTELLER 3 But that wasn't quite the case!

Herod and the servant enter followed by a nervous-looking jester and any extra guards. Herod paces angrily across the stage. The jester stands at the opposite side of the stage to the dancers.

HEROD (Furious) New King? New King?

SERVANT Your Majesty! Please don't upset yourself. (Gesturing towards throne) Why not sit here and be entertained?

He points to the dancers, who could now be warming up and stretching in a balletic way.

SERVANT We have a visiting troupe of dancers from a faraway land!

Herod sits on his throne reluctantly.

SERVANT (To dancers) Dance for His Majesty!

The dancers look around, turn towards the jester (mistaking him for the king) and bow. The servant quickly turns one of them round to face Herod and says the following:

SERVANT This way!

Everyone's expecting some ballet to be performed, but instead the dancers complete a short rock dance sequence, e.g. 'Pogo' or general head-banging style, to appropriate rock music, for instance 'Eye Of The Tiger'.

HEROD (Putting his hands over his ears) Enough!

The dancers move back to the side of the stage, shrugging.

SERVANT Perhaps a joke or two to cheer you up?

The servant summons the jester.

JESTER Why was the cat afraid of the tree? Because of its bark!

The others begin to laugh, but stop when they see Herod looking grim.

JESTER Did you hear about the calendar thief? He got twelve months!

Herod remains stony-faced.

The servant signals to the jester to leave quickly, which he does.

SERVANT Shall I fetch your pet vulture, sire? You could feed him some live rats. Forget about those visitors from the East and their talk of a new baby King.

HEROD *(Standing up suddenly)* They were idiots! *(In a mocking voice)* Talking about 'hope and promise'. Ha! *(Moving stealthily around the stage)* Don't they know that being a king means having to have eyes in the back of your head? To be always *(turning suddenly, making everyone jump)* looking over your shoulder! Trusting no one! You have to be ruthless!

SERVANT I've never known anyone with less ruth than you, sire!

HEROD I need to make a plan to get rid of this new King. There's not room for two kings here and *I* was here first.

SONG 3 I'M THE KING!

During the instrumental, Herod could walk menacingly around the stage in an agitated state and suddenly turn on groups of people to make them jump and then huddle together looking scared.

HEROD We need to find out exactly where this new King is. When those silly Eastern fools come back this way to tell me, then we'll see who's in charge!

SERVANT Excellent plan, Your Majesty! Now, shall we go and feed your vulture?

HEROD Good idea.

They all exit.

STORYTELLER 1 Thankfully, the wise men's journey never did take them back to Herod's palace.

STORYTELLER 2 They were warned by an angel in a dream not to go and, being wise, they took a different route home.

SCENE 4 ON THE ROAD AGAIN

STORYTELLER 3 Meanwhile, a far cry from the luxury of Herod's palace, a young couple travel on a long and dusty road.

STORYTELLER 1 Some months earlier, a beautiful, bright, golden-haloed angel called Gabriel had been to visit a young girl called Mary to ask her to be the mother of God's son.

STORYTELLER 2 Mary agreed, and she and her husband Joseph started to make their long, hard journey to Bethlehem. On the way, Mary, now nine months pregnant, remembered the angel's visit.

A group of angels, including Gabriel, enter and stand at the back of the stage. Mary, Joseph and Donkey enter.

MARY I'm so tired! And you and Donkey must be too!

JOSEPH It's not too much further now. Keep your chin up! You too Donkey!

MARY I know we can do it. I think Gabriel knew it wasn't going to be easy. He was so encouraging. *(The angels salute Gabriel)* And we're not alone, God is with us every step of the way!

JOSEPH Then I expect *He's* got sore feet too!

MARY Oh Joseph, what are you like?

SONG 4 DON'T BE AFRAID

During the instrumental verse of Song 4, Gabriel says the following:

GABRIEL Do not be afraid, Mary, you have found favour with God. You will give birth to a son, and you are to call Him Jesus. He will be great and He will be called the Son of the Most High and His kingdom will never end!

Gabriel and the other angels exit at the end of the song.

MARY Don't worry, Donkey, our journey is almost over.

DONKEY *(To audience)* I'd say it's just about to begin!

They exit.

SCENE 5 BETHLEHEM

The stage starts to fill up with Innkeepers 1-3 and the Innkeepers' Partners 1-3 (PARTNER).

STORYTELLER 3 Over in Bethlehem, the local innkeepers and their partners are not letting the census get them down.

STORYTELLER 1 In fact, they are pulling out all the stops to make their visitors feel at home.

INNKEEPER 1 Good morning!

INNKEEPER 2 Hello everyone!

INNKEEPER 3 Welcome to Bethlehem! Have a nice day!

PARTNER 1 We're filling up fast!

PARTNER 2 Only one room left!

Visitors 1 & 2 enter looking confused.

VISITOR 1 Excuse me, do you happen to have...

PARTNER 3 *(Grabbing them and leading them off with Innkeeper 3)* Right, no more vacancies at ours now!

Visitors 3 & 4 enter.

VISITOR 3 Pardon me, I wonder if...

INNKEEPER 2 *(Grabbing them and leading them off with his partner)* Full house for us too!

Two posh visitors (PV) enter, looking around.

PV 1 What ho! I say old chap...

INNKEEPER 1 *(Grabbing them and leading them off)* Deluxe room with an ensuite?

The posh visitors look very happy, nod and exit with Innkeeper 1.

PARTNER 1 *(To audience)* Ensuite? An ensuite bucket!

She begins to exit as Mary, Joseph and Donkey arrive.

JOSEPH Excuse me, do you know where we could get a room? My wife's about to have a baby!

PARTNER 1 I'm sorry, my love, but we're completely full. Everyone is.

MARY Oh Joseph, I don't want to have the baby out on the street!

JOSEPH Remember what Gabriel said: everything will be alright.

PARTNER 1 If you're happy with just a bit of privacy, we do have a stable.

JOSEPH I'm sure it will be perfect. Thank you!

MARY Come on, Donkey. At last you can have a lie down!

They exit.

SCENE 6 IN THE FIELDS

The sheep and the six shepherds enter and sit on the ground, the sheep looking bored and tired. The shepherds are gathered around a fire.

STORYTELLER 2 *(Taking a deep breath and then speaking in a poetic way)* Don't you love the scent of the fresh, green grass?

STORYTELLER 3 *(Continuing in a poetic way, wafting 'fragrance' towards his/her nostrils)* And enjoy the fragrance of burning embers in your nostrils?

STORYTELLER 1 *(Wrinkling up his/her nose in a disgusted way)* And doesn't the pong of sheep poo get right up your nose?

SHEEP *(Offended)* Hey!

STORYTELLER 2 Out on the hillside some hard-working shepherds are thinking up ways to pass the time.

SHEPHERD 1 I spy with my little eye, something beginning with 'S'.

ALL *(Bored)* Sheep!

SHEPHERD 1 *(Disappointed)* Oh!

SHEPHERD 2 I spy with my little eye, something beginning with 'Gr'.

ALL *(Bored)* Grass!

SHEPHERD 2 *(Triumphant)* No!

ALL What then?

SHEPHERD 2 Grrrr! It's a wolf!

ALL *(Alarmed)* What?

SHEPHERD 2 Only joking!

SHEPHERD 3 Does anyone know a good story? I love a good story.

SHEPHERD 4 I like the one about David and Goliath the giant!

SHEPHERD 5 So do I, 'cause David was a shepherd before he killed Goliath and became king!

SHEPHERD 6 You tell the story and we'll act it out! *(Shepherds 3 and 6 stand up)*

SHEPHERD 1 Wait a minute, look up there! What's that bright light?

SHEPHERD 2 It's a really bright star and it's shining right over Bethlehem town.

SHEPHERD 1 No, not that one. Hey, I think it might be a meteorite. It's dropping out of the sky! Duck everyone!

ALL SHEPHERDS *(Ducking down quickly)* Aargh!

They all cover their heads with their arms as Gabriel and the other angels run on.

SHEPHERD 1 *(Looking up)* Phew! It's not a meteorite. *(They all look up)* It's angels!

ALL SHEPHERDS *(Ducking even further down)* Aargh!

GABRIEL Don't be afraid. We have good news! Today in Bethlehem a Saviour has been born! You will find Him in a stable, wrapped up and lying in a manger. He's come to save the whole world!

ANGELS Glory to God in the highest! And peace to all people on earth!

GABRIEL Go and find the baby, meet Him for yourselves. That journey will be the start of a very good story.

Gabriel and the other angels exit.

SHEPHERD 3 Wow! We'd best be off then!

SHEPHERD 4 Do you think it's OK to leave the sheep?

SHEPHERD 5 Yeah! *(Prodding Shepherd 2)* The fire will put off any big bad wolves.

SHEPHERD 6 They're so dopey, they probably won't even notice we've gone.

SONG 5 OFF WE GO

During this song, the shepherds could do a choreographed stick/staff dance. At the end of the song the shepherds exit, dancing. When they've gone, the sheep suddenly 'come to life'.

SHEEP 1 Wakey-wakey everyone! It's party time!

SHEEP 2 I'm gonna dance with ewe and ewe and ewe! *(Points at various sheep)*

SHEEP 3 Everyone go and get the secret supplies. Don't forget the baaarley water!

SHEEP 4 And then meet back here in ten.

SHEEP 5 This flock's gonna rock!

They all exit. As the stable is set, the wise men wander across the front of the stage, through the audience or down a central aisle. They look weary and confused.

CASPAR I rather hoped we'd be there by now.

MELCHIOR You *are* sure we're going the right way, aren't you?

BALTHASAR Those trees look a bit familiar...

Gloria enters.

CASPAR Hey, look! There's our star again and it's even brighter!

SONG 6 REPRISE: I'M GONNA SHINE!

MELCHIOR Guys, we are right on track!

BALTHASAR I didn't doubt it for a moment! We'll be there in a twinkkle.

They exit.

SCENE 7 THE STABLE

Once the stable scene is set, Mary, Joseph and Donkey enter. There is a manger with baby Jesus in. Gabriel and the other angels gather, together with stars 1-12, standing either side of the stage. Gloria enters and stands with the nearest stars.

STORYTELLER 3 In a tumbledown stable, amidst the smell of old hay and the creaking of a stable door, the light of the world has come!

STORYTELLER 1 And the humble stable, bathed in Gloria's golden glow, has a strange beauty and a sense of peace.

Pause for a couple of moments.

STAR 1 *(High-fiving Gloria)* Well done, Gloria! You really shone, girl.

GLORIA Thank you! I'm just glad it's all worked out so well.

STORYTELLER 2 Suddenly, the serene scene of contented parents cuddling their newborn baby is shattered, as all those drawn to the light begin to arrive and find their journey's end.

The shepherds run on breathlessly.

SHEPHERD 1 We've come to worship the baby.

SHEPHERD 2 Some angels told us about Him!

SHEPHERD 3 So we ran as fast as we could.

SHEPHERD 4 Phew! What a journey!

SHEPHERD 5 Through chilly streams and long, rough grass...

SHEPHERD 6 ... up hill and down dale...

SHEPHERD 1 ... over rocks...

SHEPHERD 2 ... and under branches.

SHEPHERD 3 Across lush, green meadows and through...

SHEPHERD 4 *(Sniffs his/her shoes)* ... cow pats. Sorry!

SHEPHERD 5 *(Looking into the manger with Shepherd 6)* But look what we've found!

SHEPHERD 6 Real treasure!

The wise men enter looking tired, but happy. They are walking as though their feet are really sore.

CASPAR Greetings one and all! We have travelled many miles to see this baby.

BALTHASAR To kneel before Him and offer gifts.

MELCHIOR *(Gesturing towards the other two and then himself)* Gold, frankincense and myrrh. *(Noticing that Mary and Joseph look confused)* That's what we've brought, I mean!

CASPAR Now what we're called!

BALTHASAR *(Gesturing towards Caspar and then himself)* Caspar, Balthasar...

MELCHIOR *(Bowing)* ...and Melchior, at your service!

MARY Thank you so much.

JOSEPH Welcome, everyone! What a night it's been! It seems like we've *all* been on quite a journey.

SONG 7 WE'VE ALL COME TOGETHER

The innkeepers and innkeepers' partners start to gather. Innkeeper 1 has a tray with a pitcher and cups. Innkeeper 3 has a bag of supplies.

INNKEEPER 1 *(Stepping forward)* Looks like our old stable is the best room in the house tonight!

PARTNER 1 We should think about developing it as a party venue! People love a bit of olde worlde charm! Think of it, weddings, birthdays, all sorts!

Visitors 1-4 enter along with Posh Visitors (PV) 1 & 2.

VISITOR 2 Good evening!

VISITOR 4 Gute nacht!

PV 2 Oh I say, what a terrific place. Such a fun vibe!

PARTNER 1 *(To Innkeeper 1)* See? I told you!

INNKEEPER 1 *(To visitors)* Welcome friends! Have some refreshment.

INNKEEPER 2 (To Innkeeper 1) Aren't you going to offer us a drink then?

PARTNER 2 (Nudging him) You've got a nerve!

INNKEEPER 1 Tonight, make yourself at home! We're all in this story together!

INNKEEPER 2 In that case, have you still got some of that delicious goat's cheese?

PARTNER 2 Oh, honestly!

INNKEEPER 3 Don't worry, we'll all chip in. We've brought some goodies!

He hands Innkeeper 1 the bag of goodies.

PARTNER 3 There's some of my homemade carrot cake in there.

Donkey rubs his tummy.

JOSEPH It looks like it's going to be a real night of celebration!

MARY Look! Baby Jesus is wagging His arms and legs. If He could, I reckon He'd be up dancing!

STORYTELLER 3 So on this starry night, the celebrations begin in honour of the birth of the baby Jesus, who had made the longest journey of all, from God to human, from heaven to earth, because He knew it would be a journey worth making.

STORYTELLER 1 We hope you've enjoyed our story and that all of your festive journeys will be peaceful and safe.

STORYTELLER 2 May the stars shine brightly to light your way.

The stars do 'jazz hands'.

STORYTELLER 3 And the angels' song fill your hearts with joy as you celebrate this special time.

It would be really effective if some of the angels could dance down the central aisle or in front of the stage and around the audience during the choruses of the next song, perhaps using white ribbons. If you would like to include the 'Woah oh' part but don't have time to learn it, we have provided a backing track with just the 'Woah oh' vocals.

SONG 8 **CAN YOU HEAR THE ANGELS SINGING?**

THE END