

WEE THREE KINGS

by Robert A. Allen



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We Three Kings

A Christmas play with lines for many children

by Robert A. Allen

CAST OF CHARACTERS

CYMBAL
the Christinas Angel (girl)

MEL KING
(boy)

KAS KING
(girl)

BALTHY KING
(boy)

MIRIAM SHEPHERD
(girl)

MARY
(girl)

JOSEPH
(boy)

OTHER CHILDREN
(as many as desired)

PRODUCTION NOTES

Synopsis

The angel Cymbal, sent by Gabriel to help bring the wise men to Bethlehem, gets her time frame wrong and ends up in the twenty-first century. She does arrive at the home of three Kings, however: Mel, Balthy and Kas. Determined to follow Gabriel's orders, she leads the three King children to the manger, teaching them about the Christ child as they make their journey.

Costumes

Party hats for all the children. White robe and cardboard wings covered with foil for Cymbal. Biblical-style robes for Mary and Joseph. The three King children (and the other children) should be dressed in Sunday clothes. Mel should wear an easily removable sweater.

Props

A star made of Christmas lights that is attached to a pole. A tiny wrapped present (empty). Other presents of varying sizes, brightly wrapped — for underneath the King kids' Christmas tree and for the second entrance of the children. Christmas goodies: candy canes, sugar cookie Santas, chocolate reindeer, popcorn balls, a gingerbread house, almond bark-covered pretzels, gummy treats, and miscellaneous goodies decorating the Christmas tree, including candy canes, Hershey Kisses, and Christmas cookies. A manger with straw inside. A doll for the baby Jesus. A candy cane and money in Balthy's pockets.

Songs

Three songs are suggested: "Jingle Bells," "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" and "Frosty the Snowman." These songs were chosen because most children already know them. You may substitute any secular Christmas songs, however — e.g., "Jolly Old Saint Nicholas," "O Christmas Tree," "Deck the Halls," "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus," "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," etc. — depending on your particular group of children and your available music sources.

Set

The play takes place in the living room of the King home which is decorated for the Christmas season. A Christmas tree sits in one corner with gifts underneath. On the top of the tree is a lighted star. The star is attached to a pole hanging down the back of the tree. It can be moved by someone behind the tree at the appropriate times. Christmas music plays in the background.

Time

Christmas Eve.

All Scripture taken from the King James Version.

- 1 (MEL, KAS, and BALTHY are looking through the gifts under
2 the tree.)
- 3 **MEL:** (*Shaking a gift*) I know what this one is. It's that new
4 Game Boy I've been wanting.
- 5 **BALTHY:** Really? But I wanted a Game Boy. That's not fair.
- 6 **MEL:** What do you mean it's not fair? Why should you get
7 everything just 'cause you're the oldest?
- 8 **BALTHY:** I don't get everything.
- 9 **KAS:** Yes you do. There must be a hundred gifts for you
10 under this tree, and nothing for me.
- 11 **BALTHY:** Here's one. (*He hands her a tiny box.*)
- 12 **KAS:** Sure, from Mom and Dad. They have to give me
13 something. But I don't have any gifts from friends like
14 you two do.
- 15 **MEL:** That's because you don't have any friends. (*He takes the*
16 *box from her and shakes it.*) Listen to that!
- 17 **KAS:** I don't hear anything.
- 18 **MEL:** Right! Because there's nothing to hear. It's empty.
19 Mom and Dad gave you an empty box. (*KAS stomps off to*
20 *the other side of the room to pout.*)
- 21 **BALTHY:** Why don't you just run away, Kas? Then there will
22 be more Christmas goodies for the rest of us tomorrow.
23 (*KAS makes a face at her brothers and then stares at the top of*
24 *the tree in amazement.*)
- 25 **KAS:** Did you see that?
- 26 **MEL:** What?
- 27 **KAS:** The star, at the top of the tree. It moved!
- 28 **BALTHY:** On second thought, maybe you should stay
29 around. You're always good for a laugh.
- 30 **KAS:** No, there it goes again.
- 31 **MEL:** No wonder she doesn't have any friends. She's not only
32 a pest, she's crazy, too. (*KAS runs toward MEL to attack.*)
- 33 **KAS:** You take that back. (*MEL runs around the back of the tree.*)
- 34 **MEL:** Crazy! Crazy! Crazy! (*As KAS follows him, the lights blink*
35 *and go out.*)
- 36 **BALTHY:** Now look what you've done.
- 37 **KAS:** What I've done?! It was Mel's fault. (*During the blackout,*
38 *the star starts to move and glides down to the floor. Then the*

- 1 *light of the star blinks and goes out. As the other lights come*
 2 *up, CYMBAL appears where the star had been.)*
- 3 **BALTHY:** Wow!
- 4 **KAS:** I told you the star was moving.
- 5 **CYMBAL:** Hello there. Could one of you mortals please tell
 6 me where I am?
- 7 **BALTHY:** Well, sure. This is the King residence on East
 8 Avenue.
- 9 **CYMBAL:** The Kings? Oh, good. Then I've come to the right
 10 place.
- 11 **KAS:** Are you really an angel?
- 12 **CYMBAL:** Well, actually, I'm a cherubim. Cymbal by name.
- 13 **KAS:** I'm Kas. Kas King.
- 14 **BALTHY:** Balthy here, and that's our brother Mel.
- 15 **CYMBAL:** The three Kings. Perfect. And Gabriel didn't think
 16 I could find you. Let's get going.
- 17 **MEL:** Find us? What are you talking about?
- 18 **CYMBAL:** I'll tell you as we travel. We have to go find the
 19 baby.
- 20 **KAS:** The baby?
- 21 **CYMBAL:** Sure. You know. I'm the star, we're in the East and
 22 you're the three Kings — so let's get going.
- 23 **MEL:** Amazing! Someone who is as crazy as Kas.
- 24 **BALTHY:** Wait just a minute. We can't go anywhere tonight.
 25 It's Christmas Eve. We'll be opening our presents any
 26 time now.
- 27 **CYMBAL:** Christmas? Did you say Christmas?
- 28 **MEL:** That's what he said.
- 29 **CYMBAL:** If it's Christmas, then the baby must be here
 30 already.
- 31 **KAS:** Sorry, Cymbal, but we don't know what you're talking
 32 about. We've celebrated Christmas for years, but we've
 33 never heard anything about a baby.
- 34 **BALTHY:** Christmas is trees and presents ...
- 35 **MEL:** And candy canes and popcorn balls ...
- 36 **KAS:** Singing and sleigh rides ...
- 37 **ALL THREE:** *(Together)* And parties! *(A group of CHILDREN*
 38 *enter wearing party hats and sit in a semicircle. Although only*

1 *four CHILDREN have lines, a larger number could be used.*
 2 *The lines could be divided among them, or they could simply*
 3 *react to what is being said.)*

4 **FIRST CHILD:** This is my seventeenth Christmas party this
 5 week.

6 **SECOND CHILD:** I went to a party yesterday that lasted all
 7 night.

8 **THIRD CHILD:** Last week I got a ride in Santa's sleigh.

9 **FOURTH CHILD:** Well, I got to drive Santa's sleigh.

10 **FIRST CHILD:** I got to ride on Rudolph.

11 **SECOND CHILD:** My parents are taking me to Disney World
 12 for Christmas.

13 **THIRD CHILD:** I went there last year. This year we're going
 14 to Hawaii.

15 **FOURTH CHILD:** What are we going to do at this party?

16 **KAS:** Well, we thought maybe we'd start with Pin the Tail on
 17 the Donkey.

18 **FIRST CHILD:** Ugh!

19 **MEL:** We could play Super Mario Brothers.

20 **SECOND CHILD:** Again?

21 **BALTHY:** Let's go out and have a snowball fight.

22 **THIRD CHILD:** Sure — without any snow?

23 **FOURTH CHILD:** What kind of party is this anyway?

24 **CYMBAL:** I think it's the baby's birthday party.

25 **FIRST CHILD:** Baby? What baby?

26 **SECOND CHILD:** Birthday party? This isn't a birthday
 27 party. It's Christmas.

28 **THIRD CHILD:** We get the presents.

29 **FOURTH CHILD:** We have the parties.

30 **ALL:** *(Together)* And we're bored!

31 **CYMBAL:** You wouldn't be bored if you saw the baby.

32 **FIRST CHILD:** Forget it. I need another party.

33 **SECOND CHILD:** I hear Charlie's having one.

34 **THIRD CHILD:** Charlie's having a party? Let's go!

35 **FOURTH CHILD:** We're outta here. *(All the CHILDREN exit,*
 36 *leaving CYMBAL with the three KINGS.)*

37 **MEL:** See what you've done, Kas? You scared them all away.

38 **KAS:** What do you mean, I scared them away?

- 1 **BALTHY:** (*Mocking*) Let's play Pin the Tail on the Donkey. No
 2 one plays Pin the Tail on the Donkey anymore.
- 3 **KAS:** Well, your suggestion of a snowball fight didn't exactly
 4 knock their socks off.
- 5 **CYMBAL:** Gabriel told me there would be days like this.
 6 Listen, Kings. I know it's natural for kings to fight with
 7 each other, but if you could stop for just a short time,
 8 we really need to get started on our journey.
- 9 **MEL:** I know. To see the baby.
- 10 **CYMBAL:** Right! And don't forget to bring a gift.
- 11 **BALTHY:** A gift? Why should we bring a gift for a baby?
- 12 **CYMBAL:** You'll want to when you see him.
- 13 **MEL:** I'll bet. I don't want to give a gift to Kas, and I see her
 14 all the time.
- 15 **BALTHY:** Is this baby going to give us something?
- 16 **CYMBAL:** Is that the only reason you give gifts? So you can
 17 get something in return?
- 18 **BALTHY:** Well ...
- 19 **MEL:** Sure! Why should I give something to someone who
 20 never gives me anything?
- 21 **CYMBAL:** Where I come from, we call that love. (*CHILDREN*
 22 *enter carrying brightly wrapped packages. Any number of*
 23 *CHILDREN can be used by dividing the lines among them or*
 24 *having four CHILDREN speak for all.)*
- 25 **FIRST CHILD:** I'm getting a doll for Christmas. Mother says
 26 the doll wears clothes that are more expensive than
 27 hers.
- 28 **SECOND CHILD:** Well, my new puppy is a purebred and has
 29 the papers to prove it. He has fourteen names.
- 30 **THIRD CHILD:** My uncle's sending me an interactive virtual
 31 reality helmet so I can get right inside the action of my
 32 video game.
- 33 **FOURTH CHILD:** What are you getting, Mel?
- 34 **MEL:** I'm not sure. I think it's a new Game Boy.
- 35 **FOURTH CHILD:** Oh, I got a Game Boy last year. This year I
 36 asked for new skis and a trip to Vail.
- 37 **CYMBAL:** But what are you all giving to others?
- 38 **FIRST CHILD:** A candy kiss for Mom.

- 1 SECOND CHILD: A tie for Dad.
- 2 THIRD CHILD: I'll send my uncle a thank you note if I'm not
3 too busy.
- 4 MEL: Nothing for Kas.
- 5 KAS: Well, I'm not giving you your gift either then.
- 6 BALTHY: You can give it to me instead, Kas.
- 7 KAS: Can not! I think I'll just keep it.
- 8 FOURTH CHILD: Good for you, Kas. I'm going to keep the
9 gifts I got for everyone until I see if I get my trip to Vail.
- 10 CYMBAL: Say — why don't you all just keep the gifts you
11 bought and let the people who bought gifts for you keep
12 them?
- 13 FIRST CHILD: No way.
- 14 SECOND CHILD: Let my uncle keep the virtual reality
15 helmet? You've got to be kidding me.
- 16 THIRD CHILD: The gifts I get are always better than what I
17 can afford to buy.
- 18 FOURTH CHILD: Let's get out of here before what's-her-
19 name comes up with some other crazy idea. (*CHILDREN*
20 *exit leaving the KINGs alone with CYMBAL.*)
- 21 MEL: Cymbal, why did you say that? About keeping our own
22 gifts?
- 23 CYMBAL: What do you think?
- 24 KAS: I think that if Mel didn't get anything for me, it would
25 serve him right if he had to keep it.
- 26 CYMBAL: And if you didn't get anything for him?
- 27 KAS: (*Pause*) Oh, I see what you mean.
- 28 BALTHY: What kind of gifts would you suggest for this baby,
29 Cymbal?
- 30 CYMBAL: From Mel, the gift of kindness. From Kas, the gift
31 of friendship. And from you, Balthy, the gift of
32 unselfishness.
- 33 MEL: I haven't seen any of those in the catalogs.
- 34 CYMBAL: You're right. You won't find them for sale
35 anywhere.
- 36 KAS: So where do we get them?
- 37 CYMBAL: You have to find them. Maybe you could watch for
38 them as we travel. It would be terrible if I weren't there



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