

NO ORDINARY NIGHT

Story by Eleanor Miller
Music by Roland A. Caire, Jr.



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No Ordinary Night

A Christmas musical adventure

story by Eleanor Miller
music by Roland A. Caire, Jr.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

NARRATOR

KNOW-IT-ALL TEEN ANGEL

TEEN ANGELS 1-8

LITTLE ANGELS 1-8

SHEPHERD 1

SHEPHERD 2

SINGING STAR
(Singing part only)

MARY
(Singing part only)

CHORUS
(Includes Joseph, wise men, shepherds, angels)

*NOTE: Cast list can be broadly adjusted to
accommodate size of performance group.*

PRODUCTION NOTES

Costumes

Costumes for all characters may be adapted from traditional patterns (i.e. gowns, smocks with garland halos for angels, blankets or shawls for the shepherds, more elaborate robes with crowns for the kings, etc.). We recommend not using wings for the angels since they make movement difficult for the children. There are many commercially available sewing patterns that may be used for reference. We found it best to have all Little Angels, Shepherds, and Chorus members dress in the same pattern and white fabric, then we used remnants of colored and printed fabrics to individualize the shepherds, wise men, Mary and Joseph.

Teen Angels may dress in more contemporary attire (white pants/turtlenecks) to reflect an adolescent fashion sense. We allowed the Teen Angels to select their own wardrobe with the stipulation that all costume pieces must be white.

The Singing Star costume may be made by cutting a large piece of foam insulation board (used for building/construction purposes) into a star shape, painting and decorating it appropriately, and fastening it to the child's back with ribbon ties or similar materials. The foam star may also be decorated with battery-powered "twinkle lights" for a more electrifying effect.

Sets

Backdrops may be painted on insulation foam board or plywood. One side should be painted with a blue sky/cloud pattern to represent heaven. The other side may be painted with a green hillside pattern and starry sky. The boards are placed upright for the heaven scene, and then may be turned quickly to change into the Bethlehem countryside scene. The boards should rest against the back wall of the stage or be propped up appropriately and securely.

Each performance group should build a stable/cave /manger according to their resources for the Nativity scene.

Additionally, it may be helpful to build short risers from plywood and wood 2x10 boards. This may make it easier to have all the children viewable in the Nativity scene.

Scene One

Heaven

*(The TEEN ANGELS and LITTLE ANGELS gather On-stage
as NARRATOR speaks over music intro.)*

NARRATOR:

As we open and peek behind heaven's great door,
Let's follow God's angels as they all explore
The stable, the baby, the star shining bright,
For this isn't just any old ordinary night.

SONG: "No Ordinary Night"

ALL: *(Singing)*

(Chorus)

This is no ordinary night,
You can feel there's something special,
Something really outta sight.
No ordinary night.
God is up to something ... wow!
What has God hidden up his sleeve?
What new miracle will he weave?
What's he got in store for us tonight?
There's an energy in the air,
Electricity everywhere,
Supercharging everything in sight. 'Cause this is ...
(Chorus, repeat)

Something wonderful's happening,
Making everyone wanna sing.
Allelus and glorias abound.
All the angels are in a craze,
Filled with happiness, filled with praise.
You can feel the magic all around! 'Cause this is ...
(Chorus, repeat)

LITTLE ANGEL 1: Just what is God up to?

LITTLE ANGEL 2: This is no ordinary night!

1 LITTLE ANGEL 3: Something's happening!
 2 TEEN ANGEL 1: Something outta sight!
 3 KNOW-IT-ALL TEEN: Maybe it's *(Pause)*, noooo!
 4 LITTLE ANGEL 1: Maybe it's what?
 5 KNOW-IT-ALL-TEEN; Oh, don't you worry your little angel
 6 halo over it! It's time for you little angels to go to sleep!
 7 LITTLE ANGEL 3: Go to sleep with all this excitement
 8 happening?
 9 LITTLE ANGEL 2: I don't think we'll be able to sleep.
 10 LITTLE ANGEL 1: Will you promise to wake us if something
 11 wonderful happens?
 12 TEEN ANGEL 1: Oh sure. We will. *(The LITTLE ANGELS lay*
 13 *down on the stage floor and pantomime sleeping.)*
 14 KNOW-IT-ALL-TEEN: This is the magnificent night we've all
 15 been told about!
 16 TEEN ANGEL 2: Do you really think so?
 17 TEEN ANGEL 3: It's gotta be! Don't you feel the excitement
 18 in the air?
 19 KNOW-IT-ALL-TEEN: Yeah! This is the night. I just know it
 20 is!
 21 TEEN ANGEL 2: Then hurry, hurry. We've got lots to do!
 22 TEEN ANGEL 4: Lots to do? Like what?
 23 TEEN ANGEL 1: What could we possibly have to do?
 24 KNOW-IT-ALL-TEEN: The prophets did say that all the
 25 angels in heaven would sing of his glory.
 26 ALL TEENS: Well, hey, that's us!
 27
 28 SONG: "No Ordinary Night" *(Reprise)*
 29 *(Bridge)*
 30 KNOW-IT-ALL-TEEN: *(Singing)*
 31 The eyes of heaven are on Bethlehem,
 32 Upon a stable bleak and bare.
 33 If there is something special going on,
 34 It's prob'ly gonna go on there!
 35 *(Refrain)*
 36
 37 'Cause this is no ordinary night,
 38 You can feel there's something special,

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1 Something really outta sight!
 2 No ordinary night.
 3 God is up to something ... wow!

4

5 TEENS 5, 6, & 7: (*Look at each other curiously and ask*) Bethlehem?
 6 A stable?

7 TEEN ANGEL 5: Well, how do you know this is the night the
 8 prophets foretold?

9 TEEN ANGEL 6: And if this is the night for our Savior to
 10 come, just when will it be ... and where?

11 TEEN ANGEL 7: How will he come? As a baby? A shepherd?
 12 A mighty king? Just how will we know what to sing?

13

14 SONG: "How Will We Know?"

15

16 TEEN ANGELS: (*Singing*)

17 How will we know when God will send
 18 a Savior to earth?

19 How will we know the place he'll choose for
 20 Jesus' birth?

21 Safe within a castle wall, with guards alert nearby?
 22 Or within a cattle stall beneath an open sky?

23

24 How will we know the hour has come?

25 Will there be a sign?

26 Something to show the waiting world that
 27 this is the time?

28 Glowing stars across the sky, lighting up the night?

29 Songs of praise to greet the babe from

30 angel choirs in flight?

31

32 Will he come as rich or poor, commoner or king?

33 Will God show us who and where, what and
 34 when to sing?

35 How will we know if this is what the
 36 prophets foretold?

37 How will the kings know where to bring
 38 their incense and gold?

1 Though the answers that we seek aren't ours to know,
2 Still we hope that when it's time, God will let us go!

3

4 TEEN ANGEL 8: I think he'll be sent to us as a new
5 beginning. A newborn. A cute little bundle of joy!

6

7 SONG: "Bundle of Joy"

8

9 TEEN ANGEL(S): *(Singing. First verse may be used as a solo.)*

10 He'll have a little-baby face

11 With a little-baby nose,

12 And he'll look so cute

13 In his little-baby clothes.

14 Little-baby hands and

15 Little-baby feet, and

16 When he smiles he'll look

17 Little-baby sweet.

18 He'll gurgle and coo like

19 Little babies do, and

20 Have little eyes that are

21 Little-baby blue.

22 A little-baby boy that's a

23 Little-baby bundle of joy!

24

25 His life will be so legendary,

26 His thoughts will be so visionary,

27 He'll be so extraordinary,

28 Everyone will wanna follow him!

29

30 Years go by and the

31 Little baby grows,

32 Bigger and bigger from his

33 Head to his toes.

34 He listens to his mother and he

35 Learns from his dad, he's the

36 Best little boy that a

37 Parent ever had.

38 Then one day when the

1 Baby is a man, the
 2 World will look back
 3 Where it all began:
 4 A little-baby boy that's a
 5 Little-baby bundle of joy!

6

7 **KNOW-IT-ALL-TEEN:** Hurry! It's time! We've got to get to the
 8 King. All the heavens and earth are counting on us to
 9 sing!

10 **TEEN ANGEL 8:** We can't leave the little angels. Who will
 11 watch over them?

12 **TEEN ANGEL 1:** They're too little to come. They won't even
 13 understand what's happening. Besides, they're in
 14 heaven. What could possibly happen to them?

15 **ALL TEENS:** Let's go! *(The TEEN ANGELS exit excitedly. As they*
 16 *leave, LITTLE ANGEL 4 wakes up.)*

17 **LITTLE ANGEL 4:** *(To the TEEN ANGELS)* Hey! Hey! Where
 18 are you going? *(To the LITTLE ANGELS)* Get up! Get up!
 19 The Teen Angels are gone!

20 **LITTLE ANGEL 5:** Gone? Why would they leave us?

21 **LITTLE ANGEL 4:** I don't know. I saw them running off, and
 22 I heard someone say something about a party!

23 **LITTLE ANGEL 6:** A party! Wait a minute. Those Teen Angels
 24 are supposed to be here watching us!

25 **LITTLE ANGEL 7:** Irresponsible!

26

27 **SONG: 'Teen Angels Are Teenaged Fools'**

28

29 **LITTLE ANGELS:** *(Singing)*

30 *(Chorus)*

31 Oh, woh, woh, we can't explain
 32 Why they just use half a brain.
 33 Somehow they break all the rules.
 34 Teen Angels are teenaged fools!

35

36 Someone's got to keep them straight,
 37 They can't differentiate
 38 Between reality and things that cannot be.

1 They forget and disobey,
 2 Get confused and lose their way,
 3 They can't be left alone until they're fully grown.
 4 *(Chorus, repeat)*

5
 6 When they've got a job to do,
 7 We're the ones who pull them through,
 8 They're always running late, they just can't concentrate.
 9

10 Seems we're always laborin',
 11 Trying to fix the mess they're in.
 12 It's good that we're around to keep them heaven-bound!
 13 *(Chorus, repeat)*

14
 15 LITTLE ANGEL 5: Hurry! We'd better find them and bring
 16 them back! *(LITTLE ANGELS exit.)*
 17

18 Scene Two
 19 The Bethlehem Countryside

20
 21 *(As NARRATOR speaks, LITTLE ANGELS re-enter stage.*
 22 *SINGING STAR enters from opposite side.)*

23 NARRATOR:

24 The angels rejoiced at the tales of a King.
 25 They wanted to find him, to praise him and sing.
 26 They hoped for a sign to point out the way
 27 To the manger where Jesus, the Christ child, lay.
 28

29 LITTLE ANGEL 5: I think we've already lost them!

30 LITTLE ANGEL 1: It's so dark.

31 LITTLE ANGEL 2: And so cold.

32 LITTLE ANGEL 3: I can't see a thing!

33 LITTLE ANGEL 4: Hey! Look at that star! It's shining so
 34 bright! *(SINGING STAR waves animatedly.)*

35 LITTLE ANGEL 5: I think it's — talking?

36 LITTLE ANGEL 6: I think that star is talking to us!
 37
 38

1 SONG: "I Think That Star Is Talkin' to Us!"

2

3 LITTLE ANGELS: (*Singing*)

4 See that star up in the sky?

5 That star's not just passin' by.

6 You might think I'm goin' nuts, but

7 I think that star is talkin' to us!

8

9 Doo-lee-ah-dop, doo-lee-ah-dop, doop-doo-wah!

10 Doo-lee-ah-dop, doo-lee-ah-dop, doop-doo-wah!

11

12 See that star that's shinin' bright?

13 That star's got the scoop tonight.

14 You might think it's curious, but

15 I think that star is talkin' to us!

16

17 Doo-lee-ah-dop, doo-lee-ah-dop, doop-doo-wah!

18

19 Now he's headin' over here,

20 We might want to lend an ear,

21 See what news he's got to share,

22 Find out if he's hip or square!

23

24 See that star there? See it glow?

25 That star might be in the know.

26 It might seem preposterous, but

27 I think that star is talkin' to us!

28

29 Doo-lee-ah-dop, doo-lee-ah-dop, doop-doo-wah!

30

31 SINGING STAR:

32 See those folks in Bethlehem?

33 God has sent his Son to them.

34 Jesus Christ is born at last,

35 You might want to get there fast!

36 (*SINGING STAR goes to far side of stage.*)

37

38

1 LITTLE ANGELS:

2 You sure had a lot to say.

3 Go ahead and light the way.

4 We're sure glad we listened up, 'cause

5 It's true that star was talkin' to us!

6

7 Doo-lee-ah-dop, doo-lee-ah-dop, doop-doo-wah!

8 *(Spoken)* Yeah!

9

10 LITTLE ANGEL 7: Oh, this is great! Here we are in the
11 middle of nowhere, following a talking star!

12 LITTLE ANGEL 8: And what was that he was talking about?
13 God's Son? Bethlehem?

14 LITTLE ANGEL 6: It doesn't matter. We've got to find those
15 Teen Angels and bring them back! *(SHEPHERDS enter*
16 *from side by SINGING STAR.)*

17 LITTLE ANGEL 5: Shhhh! There they are. I can hear them
18 stirring. *(LITTLE ANGEL 5 moves toward SHEPHERDS*
19 *while squinting and bumps into SHEPHERD 1.)* Oh, excuse
20 me. I thought you were a Teen Angel.

21 SHEPHERD 1: Oh no. I'm just a shepherd on my way to
22 Bethlehem.

23 LITTLE ANGEL 5: I'm a little angel

24 And I've come so far.

25 I'm not used to darkness,

26 And I'm frightened by that star.

27 SHEPHERD 1: There's no need to feel such fright,

28 Even on this cold, dark night.

29 Please little angel, please don't cry.

30 Come, and I'll sing you a lullaby.

31

32 SONG: "Shepherd's Lullaby"

33

34 SHEPHERD 1: *(Singing)*

35 Hush now my little one, don't make a sound,

36 And I'll tell you a story that's been handed down.

37 A Savior is promised to come from above,

38 A baby who'll conquer the world with his love.

1 Deep in a starry night, quiet and calm,
 2 His mother will rock him as cattle look on,
 3 And up in the sky, God will place a great star,
 4 To guide all the faithful who'll come from afar.

5
 6 Shepherds and wise men will gather around,
 7 Watching in wonder at what they have found,
 8 Bringing him gifts that are fit for a king,
 9 While overhead all the angels will sing.

10
 11 His father will guard and protect him from harm,
 12 His mother will cradle him, keeping him warm,
 13 And as she sits counting his fingers and toes,
 14 She'll pray for the guidance she'll need as he grows.

15
 16 For she knows her child will grow into a man.
 17 His life won't be easy, fulfilling God's plan.
 18 She knows in her heart that he's not hers to keep,
 19 But for now she can hold him and sing him to sleep.

20
 21 Hush now my little one, lay down your head.
 22 I'll sing till you're slumbering safe in your bed.
 23 Your dreams will be waiting to take you away,
 24 And soon you will wake up to start a new day.

25
 26 *(LITTLE ANGEL 5 bolts upright.)*

27 LITTLE ANGEL 5: So that's where they're going!

28 OTHER LITTLE ANGELS: Who? Where?

29 LITTLE ANGEL 5: The Teen Angels. They're going to see the
 30 baby! Our promised Savior, the newborn King!

31 LITTLE ANGEL 8: *(To SHEPHERDS)* We've got to hurry! Can
 32 you take us there?

33 SHEPHERD 2: We're going that way, but we have our sheep,
 34 And they still haven't gotten all of their sleep.

35 SHEPHERD 1: Just follow that star that's shining so bright,
 36 And don't be afraid of this incredible night! *(LITTLE*
 37 *ANGELS exit following SINGING STAR. SHEPHERDS exit.*
 38 *TEEN ANGELS enter, SINGING STAR reappears On-stage.)*

1 TEEN ANGEL 4: It's all so unusual!
 2 TEEN ANGEL 3: So mysterious!
 3 TEEN ANGEL 2: Are you sure about this?
 4 KNOW-IT-ALL-TEEN: Definitely ... for sure this is the night!
 5 Just follow me, we're almost there!
 6 TEEN ANGEL 5: We must be getting close. That star has such
 7 a glow!
 8 TEEN ANGEL 6: And look at all the people gathering. Surely
 9 they must know!
 10 TEEN ANGEL 3: From the east, a caravan is traveling with
 11 three kings!
 12 TEEN ANGEL 8: Hurry! Let's get going so we can tell the
 13 world and sing!

14
 15 SONG: "Sing!"

16
 17 TEEN ANGELS: *(Singing)*
 18 This is what we've waited for, what we were created for,
 19 This is what was promised long ago!
 20 All the longing, all the prayer, all the wondering
 21 when and where,
 22 Now the time has come to start the show!
 23
 24 *(Chorus)*
 25 Sing! Let the halls of heaven ring! To announce
 26 the newborn King!
 27 For the Lord has sent his Son to lead the way!
 28 Fly! All across the starlit sky, to give praise and glorify!
 29 Tell the sleeping world that Christ is born today!
 30
 31 See the star that's all aglow, see it light the place below.
 32 See the angels gathering around!
 33 See the Baby sleeping there, see the joy his
 34 parents share.
 35 See the shepherds falling to the ground!
 36 *(Chorus, repeat)*
 37 *(Bridge)*
 38

1 In the East the wise men recognize the sign,
 2 And begin their journey to the site divine!
 3 (*Chorus, repeat*)

4

5 (*TEEN ANGELS run off excitedly. LITTLE ANGELS enter.*)

6 LITTLE ANGEL 8: Did you hear that?

7 LITTLE ANGEL 9: Hear what?

8 LITTLE ANGEL 8: That singing! It's the Teen Angels. They
 9 must have found the baby!

10 LITTLE ANGEL 4: (*Pointing Off-stage*) Look, there they are.
 11 But look at that crowd! We'll never get close enough to
 12 see Jesus!

13

14 SONG: "I Wish I May ..."

15

16 LITTLE ANGELS: (*Singing*)

17 I wish I may, I wish I might,
 18 Get a little closer to Jesus tonight!
 19 I wish there weren't so many people in this crowd!
 20 I wish I may, I wish I might,
 21 Get a better look at this marvelous sight!
 22 The little angels always get the worst seats
 23 on the cloud!

24

25 Hey, Jesus, we're over here,
 26 Hopin' that our voices might catch your ear,
 27 Lookin' for a way to get even nearer to you!

28

29 I wish I may, I wish I might,
 30 Get these people over to the left or the right.
 31 I wish there was a way to get a better view!
 32 I wish I may, I wish I might,
 33 Grow a little taller, just for tonight.
 34 I wish the other angels would move and let us through!

35

36 Hey, Jesus, we gotta see,
 37 We got a problem with our visibility.
 38 Can't you either make us big or grow a tree we could

1 climb?

2

3 LITTLE ANGEL SOLOIST 1:

4 I gotta get a better look at that Holy Child!

5

6 LITTLE ANGEL SOLOIST 2:

7 I wish I had x-ray vision for a little while!

8

9 Hey, Jesus, we hope you know,

10 There's no other place that we'd rather go.

11 This is better than the best, even though we can't see!

12 It's simply heavenly!

13

14 *(Entire cast now assembles in traditional manger scene with*
 15 *MARY, JOSEPH, and the BABY JESUS at center, SINGING*
 16 *STAR behind and above them and ANGELS and*
 17 *SHEPHERDS gathered around them. Note that KINGS are not*
 18 *yet On-stage but will enter during "Shepherd's Lullaby*
 19 *Reprise" at appropriate time in lyric.)*

20 NARRATOR: And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them
 21 as the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they
 22 were afraid. The angel said to them, "Fear not, for I
 23 bring you good news of a great joy coming to all people.
 24 This day in the city of David, a Savior is born. In a
 25 manger you will find him, an infant wrapped in
 26 swaddling clothes." Suddenly there was with the angel
 27 a multitude of heavenly hosts praising God and
 28 proclaiming ... *(Luke 2:10-14, author's paraphrase.)*

29

30 SONG: "Gloria!"

31

32 ALL ANGELS: *(Singing)*

33 *(Chorus)*

34 Gloria! Gloria! Peace to all on earth!

35 Praise the Lord! Praise the news of the Savior's birth!

36

37 The world has longed,

38 Awaiting word of when his birth was nearing.

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