Scene 1: Mary's Introduction and Reflection with Family, and Unexpected Encounter with Humor

[SHEPHERD 1 and SHEPHERD 2 stand at the side of the stage.]

SHEPHERD 1: "In a small corner of the vast Roman Empire—"

SHEPHERD 2: "-vaster than our sheep pasture, that is-"

SHEPHERD 1: "—lies Nazareth, a village where life flows like—"

SHEPHERD 2: "-like the quiet waters we hope our sheep don't wander into.

SHEPHERD 1: "Here, we find Mary, a young maiden not just filled with dreams, but also wrestling with doubts and fears. As she faces a life chosen for her by tradition, her heart is a whirlpool of emotions."

SHEPHERD 2: "Look, here she comes now!"

[The stage lights illuminate Mary's home, where she is with her family.]

MARY [sitting pensively, her voice tinged with frustration]: "In this big world, right here in Nazareth, it feels like everyone else is making decisions for me. I'm supposed to marry Joseph, but no one asked me what I want. I dream of doing so much more than just what's expected of me."

MOTHER [gentle, yet firm]: "Mary, my dear, tradition shapes our lives. Joseph will be a good husband. This match is a blessing, though you may not see it now."

FATHER [with a hint of sympathy]: "It's a stable life, Mary. I know you dream of more, but sometimes we must accept the paths laid out for us."

LEAH [encouraging]: "Mary, even within these traditions, you can find small ways to be yourself, to share your wisdom."

ESTHER [supportive]: "And whatever path you walk, your dreams are important to us. You're not alone in this."

*** SONG: Mary's Getting Married ***

Lyrics:

Mary, you're getting married It's about to be the best day of your life Scary 'cause maybe married Means that I am kissing all my dreams goodbye

Divine institution
A holy union
One sure sign that you are blessed
Or a life sentence
Of daily dependence
Bickering and, yes, dear-ing
Until death

Mary, Mary married is something you do That's very, very, very, very good for you Mary, Mary married makes two hearts into One happy life

Engagement then the invitations
Ceremony, celebration
Dreams are coming true
Mary, Mary, Mary, Mary, married is good for you

It's good for you It's good for you, you (Married!) It's good for you It's good for you

So holy matrimony
Is marrying the wedding, not the man?
Oh, Mary, you're so contrary
Love is secondary
Everyone knows that

It's constant attention In someone else's direction Your husband will have eyes for only you It's so romantic Or just traumatic Being showered with so many precious jewels

Mary, Mary, married is something you do That's very, very, very, very good for you Mary, Mary, married makes two hearts into One happy life Keeping house and making babies Going shopping, all the daily Chores are all I'll do Mary, Mary, Mary, Mary, married Is good for you

It's good for you It's good for you, you (Married!) It's good for you It's good for you

It's not my decision
But this is tradition
Trusting that my family knows best
Is this what I'm chosen for?
I thought I was meant for more
At least you'll look so pretty
In your predicament

Mary, Mary, married is something you do (You sure?)
That's very, very, very, very good for you (Hope you're right)
Mary, Mary, married makes two hearts into
One happy life (does it, though?)
He may be short, he may be hairy
Getting fat, but Mary, dear, He's chosen just for you
And Mary, Mary, Mary, Mary, married Is good for you

it's good for you It's good for you (maybe?) You (Mary!) It's good for you It's good for you You may be nervous, may be scared Your head is spinning everywhere 'Cause I have to believe That Mary, Mary, Mary, married Is good for me

[The family shares a moment of quiet understanding after the song.]

SHEPHERD 1: [soberly] "Mary, caught between what she must do and what she dreams of-"

SHEPHERD 2: "-like a sheep deciding between grass and sleep-"

SHEPHERD 1: "–takes her first steps of the day. Her life, tied up in old traditions, begins anew in busy Nazareth."

[Transition to the bustling market scene.]

SHEPHERD 1: "In Nazareth's bustling heart, right in the noisy middle of town-"

SHEPHERD 2: "—a chance encounter unfolds, tinged with destiny and a sprinkle of humor."

[The scene opens with Mary in the marketplace. Joseph, holding his wooden dove, accidentally bumps into her.]

JOSEPH [startled and apologetic, holding up his wooden dove]: "Oh no! I'm sorry, I was so caught up in... well, carving this dove here. It's a work in progress, as you can see."

MARY [taken aback, then with a hint of amusement]: "Dove contemplation? That's a new one."

[Joseph, wanting to smooth over his blunder, offers the dove.]

JOSEPH: "As an apology, please accept this. It's a dove, in the broadest sense of the word. I'm not the best carver, admittedly."

MARY [examining the carving with a playful eye]: "Thank you, but as someone who's betrothed, I don't think my fiancé would appreciate me accepting doves from other men, even broadly defined ones."

JOSEPH [with a light chuckle, self-deprecating]: "Understood. The last thing I want is a betrothal dove controversy. I'm Joseph, by the way."

MARY [smiling politely but with a hint of distance]: "I'm Mary. Thank you for the, uh, dove experience, Joseph. It's... unique."

[Joseph nods, sensing the underlying tension. They part ways, each lost in their own thoughts.]

SHEPHERD 1: [thoughtfully] "And so, with smiles still on their faces, Mary and Joseph go their separate ways. But deep down, something else is starting to grow."

SHEPHERD 2: "Yep, just like when my sheep get that "I'm about to do something silly" look. You know troubles are coming!"

SHEPHERD 1: [soberly] "Inside, they're both feeling a storm brewing–filled with hopes and worries, dreams and fears."

SHEPHERD 2: "It's like stepping out into a foggy field without a map, hoping you don't bump into a tree!"

[The scene gradually fades, the mood introspective and filled with unspoken questions.]

*** SONG: Can We Make This Work ***

Lyrics

How could I be
Oh, so naive?
Foolishly thinking there's more to this life for me
Two broken hearts
Right from the start
Watching the dreams that we have as they fall apart

This will never work

Even trying feels insane This will only hurt Don't you feel the same?

I feel it too But what can I do? I'm just the stranger they say is the man for you Maybe with time something will change Making the best of this might be the only way

Can we make this work? Even trying feels insane Maybe when it hurts We'll be worth the pain

There are too many questions, too little time Too much to ask for the rest of my life It's a mountain too high to climb Too many voices filling me with doubt Can you hear them now?

It's hard to have faith
It's hard to believe
Our future holds more than what we can see
We have to trust what we don't understand
It could be a part of God's plan

Can we (can we) make this (make this) work? I know trying feels insane Maybe (maybe) when it (when it) hurts We'll be worth the pain Can we make this work? Can we make this work?

Scene 2: Mary's Pregnancy and the Aftermath, Joseph's Ongoing Conflict and Dream

[SHEPHERD 1 and SHEPHERD 2 enter.]

SHEPHERD 1: "Under a starlit Nazareth sky, a tale of wonder unfolds - where the divine touches the earthly, and hearts are tested."

SHEPHERD 2: "Yep, a big night indeed - kinda like when my old sheep Betsy first saw a fox. Panic everywhere!"

[The stage is dim. MARY is alone when GABRIEL appears.]

GABRIEL [muttering to himself]: "I am Gabriel... No, that's not right. Mary, God has chosen you... too formal?"

MARY [startled, rubs her eyes as if she's dreaming]: "Am I dreaming? An angel in my room?"

GABRIEL [clears throat, now speaking directly to Mary]: "Mary, you are not dreaming. You have been chosen to bear a son, the Son of the Almighty God."

MARY [in disbelief, a nervous chuckle escaping her]: "That's impossible. I'm not even married yet. And you expect me to believe I'll have the... Son of God?"

GABRIEL [with calm assurance]: "Nothing is impossible with God. Even your cousin Elizabeth is expecting a child in her old age."

MARY [half to herself, half to Gabriel]: "Elizabeth? But... how will I explain this to Joseph? 'Hey, I'm pregnant with God's child'? He'll think I've lost my mind."

[The scene transitions to Mary meeting Joseph to share the news.]

MARY [anxiously]: "Joseph, I have something incredible to tell you. I'm going to have a child. An angel said it's the Son of God."

JOSEPH [shocked and troubled]: "A child? Mary, how? We're not yet married. This... how can I believe this?"

MARY [pleading]: "Joseph, please, you must believe me. It's a miracle. An angel came to me."

JOSEPH [torn]: "An angel? Mary, what will people say? This is hard to grasp."

[Joseph exits, visibly conflicted. Mary is left alone, her face a mixture of fear and resolve.]

*** SONG: Mother to a Savior and King ***

Lyrics

I don't understand the words you've spoken And my heart is still trying to believe When you're looking down on me Where do you see a mother to a savior and king?

There's nothing in my life I have to offer Nothing in my blood of royalty I am just a poor and simple virgin I am not a mother to a savior and king

I need you more than ever God, can you hear me now? Your stars are full of answers Hiding behind the clouds

Give me eyes to see Just how I can be Carrying your son when I need You To carry me

Should a miracle feel like an anchor Bringing shame upon my family This burden is too heavy I need strength to be A mother to a savior and king

Oh, God, please light the shadows 'Cause I can't see where to go
This road that I must travel
Is too dark to walk alone

You said, "Do not fear"
So Lord, if you are here
Help me have the faith you have in me
Give me eyes to see just how I can be
Mother to a savior
When I need saving

SHEPHERD 1: "In the quiet of the night, Mary's heart is torn between doubt and faith, facing a future she can't even imagine."

SHEPHERD 2: "Joseph's got his work cut out for him too, trying to make sense of all this like finding a path in a dark forest."

[The stage shows JOSEPH in his room, deep in thought. He falls asleep, and the lighting shifts.]

GABRIEL [appearing in Joseph's dream]: "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife. What is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. He will be a savior, Jesus."

JOSEPH [in the dream, awed yet questioning]: "An angel in my dream? Can this be real? Can I embrace this path?"

[Joseph wakes up, still grappling with the dream's message.]

SHEPHERD 1: "As dawn approaches, Joseph's heart wrestles with a vision both divine and perplexing. A decision looms at the horizon of his soul."

SHEPHERD 2: "It's a journey of the heart, where the path is not clear, and the answers are as elusive as goat on a mountain path."

*** SONG: The Ultimate Deception ***

Lyrics

Something 'bout this girl makes me believe her Even when the world wants me to leave her It's out of my control, I can't let her go now Something 'bout this girl, says she's a liar She brought this on herself with her desires Your family will be stained, gotta walk away now

Don't make concessions for her transgressions She's made a mess, a fool of you I don't see deception in her confession I just see the truth

Don't make concessions for her transgression She's made a mess, a fool of you I don't see deception in her confession I just see the truth

I'm completely torn in two Half of me believes her While the other half needs proof

This was no immaculate conception
Only just the ultimate deception
Guilty to the bone, we should have her stoned now
(Wait)

Don't you throw your stones
No, don't you judge her
I look into her eyes and think I love her
Innocent and pure
How can you be sure now (ultimate deception)
No, you've gotta let her go
Why can't someone show me how? (Ultimate deception)

Oh, the only thing I know Is I just want to go to her now

SHEPHERD 1: [as the scene fades] "With songs of longing and resolve filling the air, we leave Nazareth at the cusp of a journey filled with divine mysteries and human courage."

[The scene fades out, enveloping the audience in the emotional depth of both Mary and Joseph's experiences.]

Scene 3: The Magi's Discovery and Journey

[SHEPHERD 1 and SHEPHERD 2 enter, setting the stage for a tale of wonder.]

SHEPHERD 1: "Our tale now turns to the East, where under starlit skies, wise men contemplate a celestial mystery."

SHEPHERD 2: "Yep, they're up there in their fancy star-gazing tower, probably tripping over old scrolls and star maps!"

[The stage reveals BALTHAZAR, GASPAR, and MELCHIOR in their observatory, their faces reflecting solemn contemplation as they study the sky.]

BALTHAZAR [intently]: "Brothers, behold the sky. This new star, it aligns with the prophecies. A king is to be born, one foretold to change the course of history."

GASPAR [with reverence]: "The scriptures speak of a star heralding a great leader. This must be our guide to find him."

MELCHIOR [nodding]: "A journey of great import. We must prepare to meet this promised king."

[BALTHAZAR reflects on recent news.]

BALTHAZAR: "I have heard rumors of a ruthless king, ruling the Roman province with an iron fist."

GASPAR [pondering]: "Oh, yes. I hear the king used to be a farmer."

MELCHIOR [curiously]: "A farmer?"

GASPAR [with a grin]: "Indeed, he wanted to reign over the crops!"

[The Magi share a hearty laugh at the pun.]

BALTHAZAR: "I hear he is only one foot tall..."

GASPAR: "Really?"

MELCHIOR: "Yes! Because he is a ruler!"

[The Magi enjoy another round of laughter.]

MELCHIOR [looking at their camels]: "Enough of this. We must be on our way. I hope our camels are ready for such a long journey. Remember the last time we had that camel with no humps?"

BALTHAZAR [chuckling]: "Ah, yes, Humphrey! The only camel who could sneak under the lowest of palm branches."

[The Magi prepare their provisions and gifts, their mood lightened by their jokes.]

SHEPHERD 1: "With laughter in their hearts and curiosity in their minds, our wise men are set to follow the star."

SHEPHERD 2: "A journey of faith, led by a celestial guide, and maybe a few chuckles along the way!"

Scene 4: Herod's Plot and Antipater, Magi's Encounter with Herod and Continuation of Journey

[SHEPHERD 1 and SHEPHERD 2 enter, setting the stage for a dramatic turn of events.]

SHEPHERD 1: "Meanwhile, back in King Herod's palace, shadows of intrigue and power play are cast."

SHEPHERD 2: "Yep, and Herod's cooking up a storm of trouble, like a chef who only knows how to make spicy disaster stew! Trouble's brewing, and it ain't tea!"

[The stage reveals HEROD in his court. ANTIPATER stands beside him.]

*** SONG: It's Good to be King ***

Lyrics

It's good to be king
And have the absolute authority
All the attributes of divinity
I'm a religion
Look how they all worship me

Don't have to be good
To be a good king
Just gotta look
Like you've got sympathy
Then keep 'em rooked and suffering
To maximize your profiting

Look how the peasants work down to the bone As I sit up high on my velvety throne Pulling the strings on the people below It's so stinking good to be king

Mine is the kingdom Mine is the power Mine is the glory Forever More Kiss the ring, babies, kiss the ring Everybody hates me Ha, ha, ha!

It's good to be king
And be the one who screams
"Off with his head!"
Or be the one who's deemed
Savior instead
It's delicious
To watch a man begging for his death

I put in a knife and then give it a twist A smile opens up on my sinister lips The joy of the crown is too much to resist It's so stinking good to be king (I just love it!)

Mine is the kingdom Mine is the power Mine is the glory, forever more Forever more Forever more

It's so stinking good to be king!

[As the song ends, the Magi enter HEROD's court.]

BALTHAZAR [to Herod]: "Great King, we follow a star, signaling the birth of a new ruler."

HEROD [feigning curiosity]: "A new ruler, born under a star? This is most intriguing. What do the prophecies say?"

MELCHIOR: "The texts foretell a leader, born to bring great change. We believe the star guides us to him."

GASPAR: "Our journey is to honor him, as indicated by the signs in the heavens."

HEROD [with a feigned enthusiasm]: "Wonderful! This news fills my heart with joy. You must find this new king and return to me with the news, so that I, too, may bow before him and honor him."

[The Magi, reassured by Herod's words, agree to his request, unaware of his true intentions.]

[As the Magi exit, HEROD turns to ANTIPATER.]

HEROD [to ANTIPATER, urgently]: "Antipater, you heard them. A king, born under a star. This cannot be allowed. We must act."

ANTIPATER [troubled, hesitating]: "Act, Father? But the prophecy speaks of a Messiah... Is it wise to..."

HEROD [interrupting, firmly]: "Wise? Wisdom lies in preserving our reign. I will not let superstition unseat us. You will find this child. Do what must be done."

[ANTIPATER looks conflicted, torn between loyalty to his father and his own moral compass. HEROD exits, leaving ANTIPATER alone on stage.]

[ANTIPATER sings, expressing his deep internal struggle between loyalty to his father and his own moral doubts.]

*** SONG: In My Blood ***

When I was a boy You were like a god I worshiped Father

I could hear your voice Echo in the halls like thunder Father

On a mission to prove I was Worthy of approval from you Father

I've been brave, feared, and fearless Ruthless and relentless Just like you So am I just like you No

What kind of king is in my blood (my blood) I don't know, eh
What kind of man have I become (become)

I am stuck with this darkness That runs through my veins Am I a prisoner or can I change What What I've become

When it's in my blood (my blood), oh-oh-oh When it's in my blood (my blood), oh-oh-oh When it's in my blood (my blood), oh-oh-oh My blood (my blood), oh-oh-oh When it's in my blood

Never been anything
But your loyal son
Been a good soldier
Followed your orders
Never questioning you once

You're all I wanted to be But now it's all unraveling There's blood on my hands Don't know if I am A monster or the son of a king

Just like you No

What kind of king is in my blood (my blood)
I don't know
What kind of man have I become (become)

I am stuck with this darkness That runs through my veins Am I a prisoner Or can I change What I've become

When it's in my blood (my blood)
My blood (my blood), oh-oh-oh, my blood
When it's in my blood (my blood), oh-oh-oh
(My blood)
When it's in my blood

SHEPHERD 1: "In the palace's shadow, Antipater's heart echoes with turmoil."

SHEPHERD 2: "It's like he's caught in a tug-of-war, and both teams are his own thoughts. Which will pull harder?"

[The scene fades to black, echoing the sentiment of Antipater's internal battle.]

Scene 5: Joseph's Dream and The Impromptu Wedding at Elizabeth's

[SHEPHERD 1 and SHEPHERD 2 enter, setting a scene of both anticipation and joy.]

SHEPHERD 1: "As the stars twinkle over Nazareth, Joseph, troubled and uncertain, seeks answers in the world of dreams."

SHEPHERD 2: "And trust me, dreams can be quite the eye-openers!"

[The stage shows JOSEPH in a restless slumber. The lighting dims, and GABRIEL appears in the dream.]

GABRIEL [rehearsing]: "OK, this time I'll get it right... Remember confidence... Humans are scared of angels, not the other way around..."

JOSEPH [stirring]: "Who... what's happening?"

GABRIEL: "Joseph, son of David, fear not. Your betrothed, Mary, will bear a son, and you shall name him Jesus."

JOSEPH [awakening with purpose]: "The path is clear. Fear gives way to faith. I must stand with Mary, united in this divine purpose."

[Transition to Elizabeth's home, where MARY and ELIZABETH share a moment.]

ELIZABETH: "Be strong, Mary. Zechariah would speak up too, if only he could..."

[SOLDIERS led by ANTIPATER burst in.]

ANTIPATER: "We seek Mary of Nazareth. A child of prophecy..."

ELIZABETH: "You'll find little here but prayers and hopes."

[MARY and JOSEPH confront the soldiers.]

JOSEPH: "I am Joseph, her betrothed. Why do soldiers concern themselves with a child?"

ELIZABETH: "And here I thought Zechariah's silence was the day's only wonder."

[The soldiers exit after a tense exchange.]

ELIZABETH: "Perhaps Zechariah's silence is a blessing – at least for today."

JOSEPH: "Whatever comes, we face it together. Our faith is our guide."

MARY: "We must leave soon, for the child's safety."

ELIZABETH: "Where will you go?."

JOSEPH: "We will journey to Egypt, away from Herod's reach."

[Suddenly, the mood shifts as MARY'S FAMILY enters, bringing tidings of joy.]

SHEPHERD 2: "But lo! In times of uncertainty, life brings moments of joy and union."

SHEPHERD 1: "Yes. Yes. (coughs, as to start over) Mary's family arrives, hearts filled with celebration."

SHEPHERD 2: "That cough's just clapping from the inside!"

[LEAH and ESTHER enter, excited.]

LEAH: "Is it true? You and Joseph are to wed?"

ESTHER: "Oh, Mary, that's wonderful! Tell us everything!"

MARY [laughing]: "Yes, it's happening! God gave us a nudge... Let's just say multiple angels were involved!"

MARY'S FATHER: "Let's have a feast! What's a wedding without good food and wine?"

MARY'S MOTHER: "It's been too long, Elizabeth. Today, we celebrate joy in our families."

ELIZABETH: "What better way to lift our spirits than a wedding? This is a joyous day indeed."

JOSEPH: "To be surrounded by family and love at a time like this... it's more than I could have asked for."

*** Song: We Become We ***

Lyrics

Can we become we No longer known as just you and me Two separate lives now in unity Stuck here together but Will this always be just an arrangement?

Can we become more
Than half of a union we're chosen for?
Where I am your best half
And I am yours
Stuck here forever
And hopefully not ending in estrangement

It's the step of faith
We have to take sometimes (if I'm with you, I can take it)
But if we are one
What happens to you and I? (If I'm with you, I will make it)

Will this always be just an arrangement We'll find out in time if we don't break it

Can mine become yours
Combining our dreams
Without keeping score?
Always together, but never bored
No choice in the matter but
This will never work without each other

Can we become we? (Can we become we?)
Start a new line on this family tree
Two hearts connected by one beat
Your hand in mine and
I could never choose to love another
Maybe one day I can learn to love you, too

[The scene transitions into a celebration of Mary and Joseph's union.]

SHEPHERD 1: "And so, amid laughter and love, Mary and Joseph's hearts intertwine, ready to embark on a journey marked by faith."

SHEPHERD 2: "Off they go, on a road dusted with hope and sparkle—aiming for miracles and maybe a touch of the divine along the way."

[The scene fades, signaling the end of this chapter and the beginning of their journey.]

Scene 6: The Birth of Jesus and Visitors

[Setting: Bethlehem, a stable under a canopy of stars]

[SHEPHERD 1 and SHEPHERD 2 set the stage, blending a tone of solemnity with gentle warmth.]

SHEPHERD 1: "In Bethlehem, under a canopy of stars, a tale of humility and hope begins to unfold."

SHEPHERD 2: "And there they go, two hopeful hearts in the night, looking for a cozy corner in a world booked solid."

[Scene transitions to MARY and JOSEPH arriving in Bethlehem. They approach several inns, only to be turned away.]

INNKEEPER 1 [apologetically]: "I'm sorry, there's no room here. Try further down the road."

INNKEEPER 2 [hurriedly]: "We're full up, can't help you. Maybe the stable out back, if you're desperate."

[MARY and JOSEPH, weary and disheartened, make their way to the stable.]

JOSEPH [comforting Mary]: "Mary, though this isn't what we hoped for, perhaps it's where we're meant to be."

MARY [with quiet strength]: "In humility, great things can find their beginning. This child, our hope, will know the love of simple beginnings."

[They settle in the stable. The mood is one of quiet anticipation.]

[Scene shifts as the SHEPHERDS, guided by a celestial sign, arrive.]

FIRST SHEPHERD [softly]: "This is the place. A king, born not in palaces, but among the lowliest."

SECOND SHEPHERD [with wonder]: "A child who will uplift the downtrodden and bring hope to the hopeless."

[The SHEPHERDS approach, their faces reflecting awe and reverence.]

MARY [gazing at Jesus, then to the SHEPHERDS]: "Welcome, bearers of hope. In his eyes, we see a new dawn for all."

[The stable is filled with a profound sense of peace. MARY begins to sing, her voice echoing the night's serenity.]

*** Song: The Nativity Song ***

Lyrics:

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin, mother and child
Holy infant, so tender and mild
Jesus, Lord at thy birth
Jesus, Lord at thy birth

(Behold, they shall call him Immanuel God with us)

Fall on your knees (fall on your knees)
Oh, hear the angel voices
Oh, night divine
Oh, night! Oh night! When Christ was born (When Christ was born)
(Oh night) Oh night divine
Oh, night, oh, night divine

Now I understand the words You told me I'm holding all the answers in my arms Looking down upon this brand new life, I see Immanuel, our Savior and King

Fall on your knees
Oh, hear the angel voices
Fall on your knees
And hear the angel voices

Thine is the kingdom
Thine is the power

SHEPHERD 1: "In the gentle glow of the stable, a moment of divine grace touches each soul present."

SHEPHERD 2: "And now, from afar, our star-chasing wise men journey, drawn by the light of a singular star."

[The MAGI enter, each bearing gifts, signifying a meeting of earthly journeys and heavenly destinies.]

BALTHAZAR [presenting his gift of gold]: "For a king, whose reign shall be not of power, but of love."

GASPAR [offering frankincense]: "For the divine connection, a bridge between heaven and earth."

MELCHIOR [with myrrh]: "And myrrh, symbolizing sacrifice and redemption. Gifts for a king like no other."

[The MAGI, having presented their gifts, step back, joining the tableau of humble adoration.]

SHEPHERD 1: "In this unassuming stable, under the blanket of night, a convergence of earthly journeys and heavenly purpose."

SHEPHERD 2: "From shepherds to kings, hearts are drawn to this beacon of hope, this promise of peace."

[The stable scene is one of unity and reverence, with MARY and JOSEPH at the center, holding Jesus.]

MARY [to all present]: "In this child, every hope, every dream, every longing finds its answer. He is the light in our darkness."

JOSEPH [with quiet conviction]: "Here, in the stillness of Bethlehem, a new chapter for all humankind begins."

[The scene slowly transitions, the characters exiting quietly, leaving MARY, JOSEPH, and Jesus in a moment of peaceful reflection.]

SHEPHERD 1: "As our tale nears its close, we leave this holy night, where heaven touched earth, and hope was born in a manger."

SHEPHERD 2: "A story of beginnings, of love and light. A story for all times, for all people."

***Final Song: Brand New Life ***

Lyrics

I never knew a star could shine so bright
I never saw the sky so full of light
I never felt my heart
Could ever beat like this
So wild and so free

I know a miracle's happening
'Cause hear a choir of angel sing
Hallelujah

So let's pour the wine and dance together What we start tonight will last forever If you believe
Then join with me and celebrate (celebrate)
Whoa

It's a brand new life, a gift from Heaven
Showing hope will rise, and all's forgiven
If you believe, then join with me and celebrate (celebrate)
Celebrate this brand new life

All of creation on this silent night (silent light)
Is being covered in a holy light (holy light)
Now nothing looks the same
The sound of Jesus' name
Brings me to my knees (my knees)
A new life a true life's awakening (awakening)
It's calling me so I am answering (answering)
Hallelujah

So let's pour (so let's pour) the wine (the wine)
And dance together
What we start tonight will last forever
If you believe
Then join with me and celebrate (celebrate)
Whoa

It's a brand new life, a gift from Heaven Showing hope will rise, and all's forgiven If you believe (if you believe), then join with me And celebrate (celebrate) Celebrate this brand new life

Hallelujah (yeah) Hallelujah (woo) (Hallelujah) let Heaven and nature sing (Hallelujah) let Heaven and nature sing

So let's pour (pour) the wine and dance together What we start tonight will last forever (last forever) If you believe (oh yeah)
Then join with me and celebrate (celebrate)
Whoa

It's a brand new life, a gift from Heaven (gift from Heaven)
Showing hope will rise
And all's forgiven (and all's forgiven)
If you believe (you believe)
Then join with me and celebrate (celebrate)
Celebrate this brand new life

Hallelujah Hallelujah (celebrate this brand new life) Hallelujah (life)