

Audition Instructions - Journey to Bethlehem

Mary should prepare the song *"Mother to a Savior and a King"* and the lines:

JOSEPH: "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: "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 should prepare the song *"Ultimate Deception"* and the lines:

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: "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: "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."

Herod should prepare the song "*Good to be King*" and the lines:

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." [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 should prepare the song "*In My Blood*" and the lines:

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..."

Gabriel should prepare the lines:

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

MARY: "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: "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."

Shepherd 2 should prepare the lines:

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."

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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!"

All other roles (such as shepherds, wise men, family, soldiers, etc) should prepare these lines, IF they have not auditioned for one of the above roles:

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

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

3 [curiously]: "A farmer?"

2 [with a grin]: "Indeed, he wanted to reign over the crops!" [The Magi share a hearty laugh at the pun.]

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

2: "Really?"

3: "Yes! Because he is a ruler!" [The Magi enjoy another round of laughter.]

3 [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?"

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