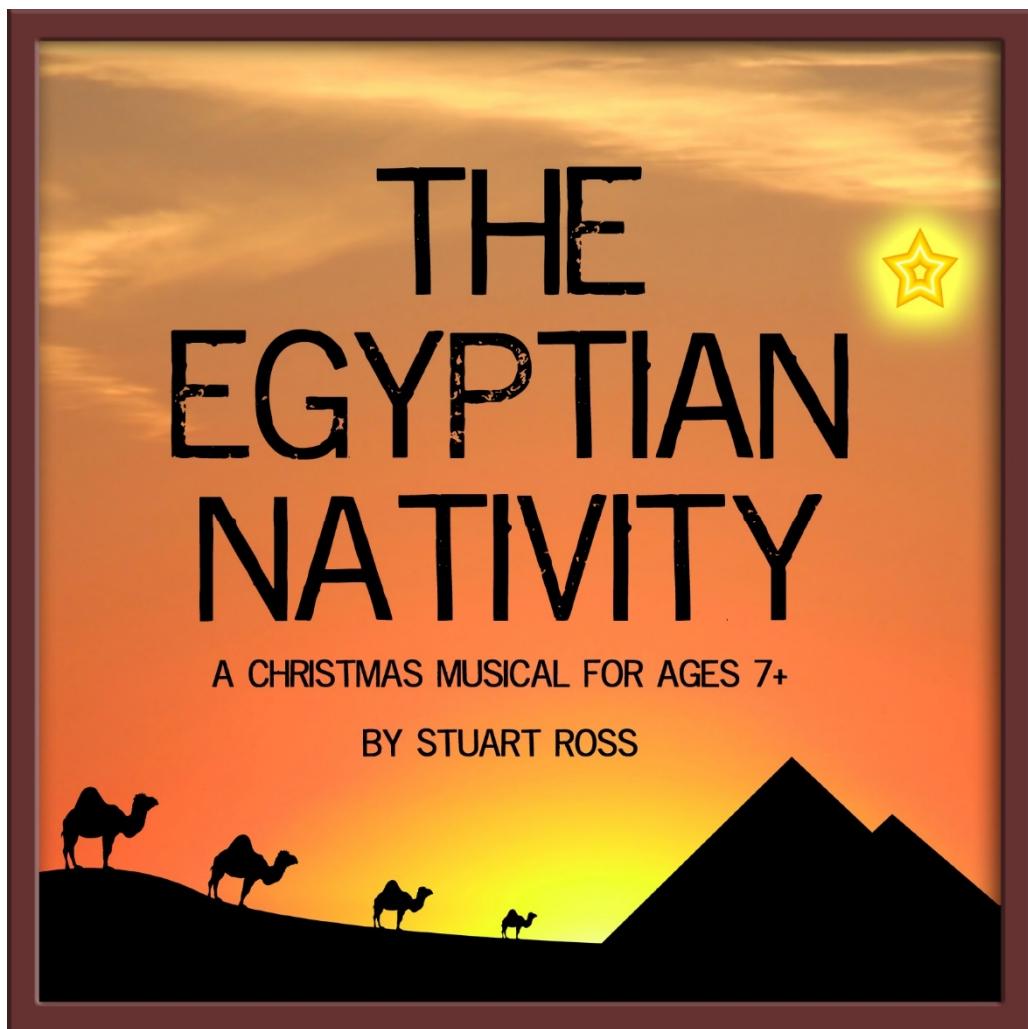


THE EGYPTIAN NATIVITY

BY STUART ROSS



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Helping Children Soar To New Heights Of Musical Excellence!



The Egyptian Nativity: SAMPLE DOCUMENT

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Thank you for looking at this sample from 'The Egyptian Nativity'. There are two different scripts that can be used to stage this musical. Both scripts are included in your purchase.

PLAY SCRIPT VERSION: This is a humorous script for up to thirty different actors plus dozens of narrators' parts, with around 75 parts altogether, though this number is very flexible – you can easily perform it with just a handful of children or a cast of well over a hundred).

SIMPLE SCRIPT VERSION: The simple script tells the story entirely through narrators. There are around eighty passages in the simple script marked for narrators. This script can be performed with or without costumes and scenery and can therefore be extremely easy to stage. For this reason, the following cast list deals mainly with the play script version.

EDITABLE SCRIPTS: You will receive editable versions of both scripts so you can make any changes you feel necessary, to make the script more suited to your circumstances.

TIMING: If you stick exactly to either script, this performance should take about 40 - 50 minutes. If this is too long or too short for you, suggestions are included as part of the material you receive, which should help you easily shorten or lengthen the production by 20-25 minutes either way.

CAST LIST: Recommended cast list for the PLAY-SCRIPT version

<i>Part</i>	<i>Details</i>
Narrator/s	There are 40 passages in the script that are marked for narrators. Each passage varies in length from a single line to several sentences. Therefore, many of these narrated parts could be split up further if required, allowing many more children to have speaking roles.
Mary	Mary is on stage for most of the performance. There are around 30 passages for her to learn. Most are a single line or so. The longest is about 5 lines in length. She can also sing parts of songs 1, 2 and 6 as solos if required. If there are too many lines for your situation, don't worry. Many of Mary's lines can easily be cut with the surrounding script still making sense, or with some lines given to narrators instead.
Joseph	Joseph is on stage for nearly the whole performance. There are around 40 different passages for him to learn. Most are a single line or so. The longest is about 4 lines in length. Joseph can also sing parts of songs 1, 5, 6 and 9 as solos if required. If there are too many lines for your situation, don't worry. Many of Joseph's lines can easily be cut with the surrounding script still making sense, or with some lines given to narrators instead.
Herod	Herod has several lines near the start of the play.
Angel	An angel has one passage to deliver near the start of the play. This angel can also sing part of song 6 as a solo if required.

Passers-by	In scene 3, Mary and Joseph talk to two 'passers-by' on the road to Hermopolis. These two passers-by have a couple of lines each.
4 Innkeepers	Four innkeepers with a line or two each.
Estate Agent	Has a large part in scene 4, with around 16 passages to deliver, plus a small part near the end of the play. This person can also sing most of song 4 as a solo if required.
Estate Agent's servant	A walk-on role only with no spoken lines.
Town Official	Has 4 passages in the fifth scene, plus several lines near the end of the play. The longest passage is five lines in length.
13 Town Councillors	The 13 town council members have one or two passages each. Most have around 3 or 4 lines each.
Quizmaster	Has six spoken passages during the sixth scene. However, most of these lines don't have to be learnt but can be read out from the quiz cards he or she will be holding.
Optional nativity scene walk-on parts.	While the nativity story is being told through songs 6, 7 and 8, you can have shepherds, wise men, a choir of angels and an alternative Mary, Joseph and Herod, all miming out the story which is being told. This therefore could be a chance to include a significant amount of additional cast members if required.
Optional Extras	Ideas for dozens of extra optional roles are detailed in the 'production notes' document, included in your purchase.

THE EGYPTIAN NATIVITY – PLAY SCRIPT

A nativity performance by Stuart Ross © 2009 Learn2soar Limited

SCENE 1

Bethlehem's stable. The stage can be largely empty apart from a manger in the centre.

- NARRATOR 1 Welcome to our Christmas performance. This is a nativity story with a bit of a difference. At Christmas we are usually reminded of the story of Jesus' birth.
- NARRATOR 2 We remember how Mary was visited by an angel, how she travelled with Joseph to Bethlehem, how Jesus was born in a stable, how they were visited by the shepherds and wise men and so on.
- NARRATOR 3 However, we don't often hear about what happened after that. The bible says that shortly after Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph had to quickly escape from the land of Israel because of an evil king called Herod who was trying to get Jesus!
- ALL GASP!
- HEROD (*King Herod enters and stands at the front of the stage looking angry*) I'M KING HEROD!
- ALL Boo – Hiss!
- HEROD Oh be quiet! It's not my fault. Those three wise men came to see me and had the nerve to say that the baby Jesus would grow up to be King of the Jews. The cheek of it! Well, I'm not having anyone stopping me from being king. (*He removes his crown and strokes it in the style of Gollum from the Lord of the Rings*) This is MY crown! My precious! No thieves will steal it, will they? Soldiers, I order you to find this baby Jesus and get him NOW!
- ALL Boo – Hiss! (*Herod exits. Joseph and Mary enter holding the baby Jesus. They place Jesus in the manger and lie down to sleep*)
- NARRATOR 4 But God was watching over Joseph's family, and he sent an angel to warn Joseph in a dream.
- ANGEL (*Angel enters and speaks over Joseph who keeps his eyes closed but moves restlessly as if he's having a bad dream*) Joseph, Joseph, Joseph, you must go now. King Herod's soldiers are on the way here. They're coming now! There's no time to lose. Take Mary and Jesus and run away to Egypt. You'll be safe there and God will tell you when it's safe to return to Israel. Now wake up Joseph, sleep no more and RUN! (*The angel immediately exits as Joseph wakes up*)

JOSEPH Mary quick! (*He jumps up*) We've got to go to Egypt right now!

MARY (*Sits up stretching and yawning*) Egypt? It's the middle of the night. Have you got a last-minute holiday deal?

JOSEPH Herod's soldiers are on their way here to get Jesus. We need to run away right now! (*Mary jumps up and picks up Jesus. Joseph grabs a bag of their belongings, and they begin their journey to Egypt*)

NARRATOR 5 The bible doesn't tell us exactly what happened to Mary and Joseph next, though many legends have been written about the few years they lived in Egypt. But one thing is certain, Mary and Joseph would have had a very long, hard, tiring, dangerous journey to Egypt. This is the Egyptian nativity.

SONG 1 **We're On The Run**

SCENE 2

Mary, Joseph and Jesus are travelling near the banks of the river Nile.

MARY Please Joseph, I'm exhausted, we really need to stop soon. The baby needs feeding and his nappy needs changing. It's your turn this time!

JOSEPH (*Joseph takes the baby from Mary and sniffs. Then speaks in a childlike way towards the baby*) Yes, it's my turn to change the nappy, because it's a smelly one, isn't it? Yes, it is! (*He turns to look at Mary*) Fair enough. Or should I say pharaoh enough? We'll stop here for a bit. You rest while I get some water from the river. I'll get some firewood on the way back, then I'll change the nappy and cook some food.

MARY (*Speaking towards the baby*) Wow! Did you hear that baby Jesus? Your dad's a super dad! Aren't I blessed to have such a wonderful husband? (*Speaking towards Joseph*) Don't worry Joseph; I'll do the nappy while you do the rest.

JOSEPH Okay. I'll be back as quick as I can. (*Joseph starts to exit the stage*)

MARY Joseph... (*Joseph stops and turns back*) ... how long is it going to be like this? We need to find a town we can live in for a while. Somewhere away from the river and those creepy, scary crocodiles.

JOSEPH I know, I've been thinking the same. I'll tell you what, after we've eaten and rested a bit, we'll head west and try and find somewhere to stay at the first town we come to.

MARY Do you think we'll be safe? If we go in the wrong direction, we could end up lost in the desert and we've only got enough food for a few more days.

JOSEPH Don't worry, we'll never starve in the desert.

MARY Eh?

JOSEPH We'll never starve in the desert because of all the sand – which is there! (*Speaking to the audience*) Sandwiches, sand-which-is there, get it? Come on they don't get much better than that! (*Speaking to Mary again*) Look, seriously Mary, don't worry, God's looking after us. I'm sure there's a whole army of angels watching over us! (*Joseph exits*)

MARY (*Speaking to the baby again as she starts to change his nappy*) Did you hear that baby Jesus? We're going to find a nice Egyptian town! Yes, we are! And soon you'll be toddling around there, won't you? Making friends with all the Egyptian children? (*She turns to Joseph as he exits the stage*) Joseph, be quick! And watch out for the crocodiles!

JOSEPH (*Calling from off stage*) Okay, I'll make it snappy! (*As the next song is sung, initially by Mary and then with everyone else joining in, Mary changes the nappy, while Joseph returns, makes a fire and breaks some bread for them to eat*)

SONG 2 **Hush Now Little One**

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE REMAINDER OF THE PLAY

- SCENE 3:** *Mary and Joseph arrive in the Egyptian town of Hermopolis and soon find that all the inns are full. They'll have to stay in a stable yet again!*
- SCENE 4:** *Joseph visits the Hermopolis estate agent to try and buy a house. However, the estate agent informs Joseph that he won't be able to buy a property without citizenship documents. To obtain them, he and Mary will have to appear before the town council and undergo a test on their Egyptian knowledge!*
- SCENE 5:** *Mary and Joseph swat up in the Hermopolis town library.*
- SCENE 6:** *Mary and Joseph undertake the test (which turns out to be a crazy Egyptian version of 'Who Wants To Be A Millionaire'). Then they tell the town council why they would like to live in Egypt. In doing so, they re-tell the story of Jesus' birth (cue shepherds / wise men / angels etc...)*
- ENDING:** *And in the end... Well, you'll have to buy the musical to find out!*

THE EGYPTIAN NATIVITY - SIMPLE SCRIPT

A nativity performance for ages 7+ By Stuart Ross © 2009 Learn2soar Limited

- NARRATOR 1 Welcome to our Christmas performance. This is a nativity story with a bit of a difference. At Christmas we are usually reminded of the story of Jesus' birth.
- NARRATOR 2 We remember how Mary was visited by an angel, how she travelled with Joseph to Bethlehem, how Jesus was born in a stable, how they were visited by the shepherds and wise men and so on. However, we don't often hear about what happened after that.
- NARRATOR 3 The bible says that shortly after Jesus was born, Mary and Joseph had to quickly escape with Jesus from the land of Israel because of an evil king called Herod who was trying to get Jesus!
- NARRATOR 4 But God was watching over Joseph's family, and he sent an angel to warn Joseph in a dream. The angel told Joseph that he should take Mary and Jesus and run away to Egypt. They were to hide there until it was safe to return.
- NARRATOR 5 The bible doesn't tell us exactly what happened to Mary and Joseph next, though many legends have been written about the few years that they lived in Egypt.
- NARRATOR 6 Therefore, this is the story of what might have happened as Mary, Joseph and Jesus escaped to Egypt. This is the Egyptian nativity.

SONG 1 We're On The Run

- NARRATOR 7 Mary and Joseph spent many days following the river Nile as they ran away to Egypt. The river provided for most of their needs. It gave them water...
- ALL GLUG, GLUG!
- NARRATOR 7 It gave them food...
- ALL YUM-YUM!
- NARRATOR 7 ... and the trees growing near the riverbank gave them firewood.
- ALL TIMBER!

NARRATOR 8	But the Nile was also a very dangerous place. It was teeming with huge, scary, dangerous crocodiles.
ALL	SCREAM!
NARRATOR 8	Mary and Joseph had to be very careful. If they wanted to get some water, they had to make it snappy!
NARRATOR 9	Eventually the day came when they had to leave the Nile and head westwards further into Egypt. But in some ways that was just as dangerous. Mary and Joseph knew that if they went in the wrong direction then they could have ended up lost in the scorching hot desert.
NARRATOR 10	Mary was a little worried about this, but Joseph reassured her by saying that they would never starve to death in the desert, because of all the sand-which-is-there! Sandwiches, sand-which-is-there? Get it? Oh, never mind.
NARRATOR 11	But deep down, Mary and Joseph weren't too worried because they knew that God was looking after them. So bravely, they left the Nile area and headed off deeper into Egypt.

SONG 2 **Hush Now Little One**

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE REMAINDER OF THE PLAY

- SCENE 3:** *Mary and Joseph arrive in the Egyptian town of Hermopolis and soon find that all the inns are full. They'll have to stay in a stable yet again!*
- SCENE 4:** *Joseph visits the Hermopolis estate agent to try and buy a house. However, the estate agent informs Joseph that he won't be able to buy a property without citizenship documents. To obtain them, he and Mary will have to appear before the town council and undergo a test on their Egyptian knowledge!*
- SCENE 5:** *Mary and Joseph swat up in the Hermopolis town library.*
- SCENE 6:** *Mary and Joseph undertake the test (which turns out to be a crazy Egyptian version of 'Who Wants To Be A Millionaire'). Then they tell the town council why they would like to live in Egypt. In doing so, they re-tell the story of Jesus' birth (cue shepherds / wise men / angels etc...)*
- ENDING:** *And in the end... Well, you'll have to buy the musical to find out!*