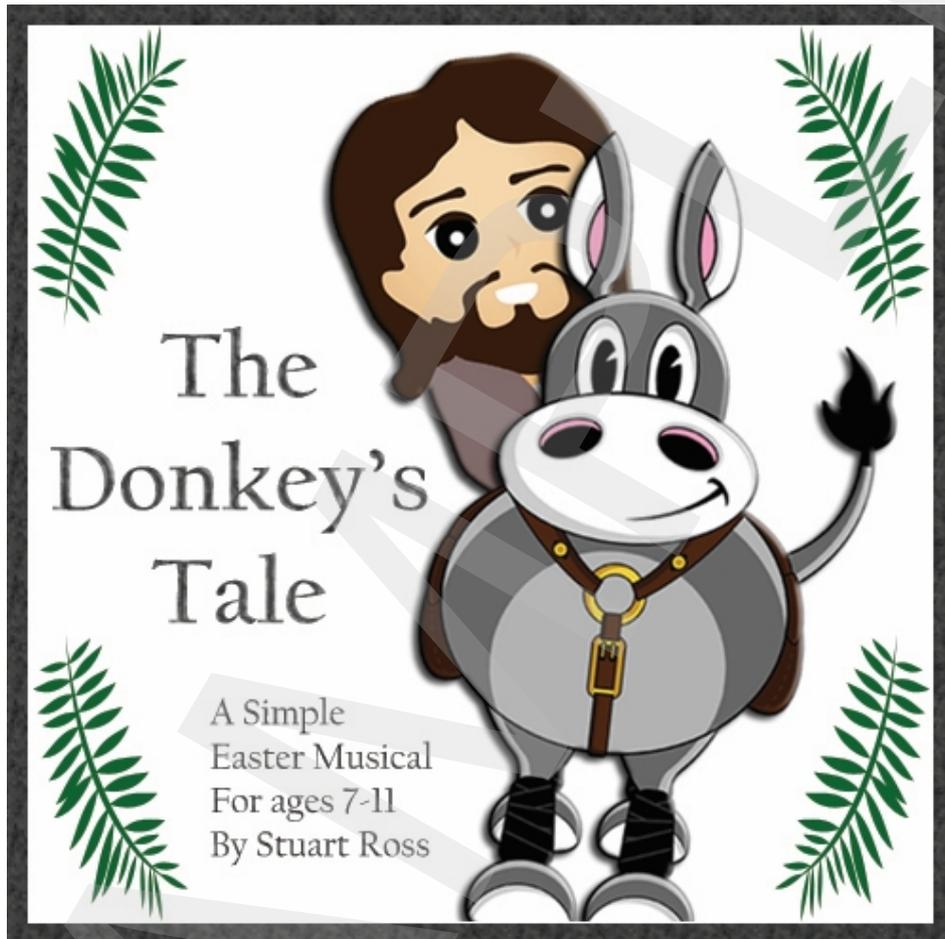


The Donkey's Tale

BY STUART ROSS



Learn2soar
Music



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Helping Children Soar To New Heights Of Musical Excellence!

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for looking at this sample from 'The Donkeys Tale'. Please note that for copyright protection whole scripts are NOT included below, just the first few pages. Similarly, only partial song lyrics have been included.

SCRIPTS & PARTS: There are two different EDITABLE scripts included with this product...

- **PLAY SCRIPT VERSION:** The play script version has speaking /acting parts for around 40 children, though it's flexible enough to accommodate any number of children from 30 to 80+. Printable animal masks are included for the donkeys, so there's one less thing to worry about if arranging costumes.
- **NARRATORS ONLY VERSION:** In this version there are no acting parts, just a straightforward retelling of the story through 38 narrators' passages. However, as each of these passages contains at least 2 or 3 sentences, you could split them up further so that as many as 120 children have a line each.

CAST LIST FOR PLAY SCRIPT VERSION

<i>Part</i>	<i>Details</i>
Narrator/s 1 - 70	In total there are 23 narrators' passages in the play script version. Each part has at least 2 or 3 sentences. Therefore, it's possible to split these parts up further, to potentially give speaking roles to around seventy children
Little Donkey	Little Donkey is on stage the whole time. He speaks on a number of occasions and has around ten lines to learn in total.
Mother Donkey	Mother Donkey is also on stage the whole time and again has around ten lines to learn in total.
James & John	These two disciples appear just before song three and remain on stage to the end. They have around three lines each.
The other 10 Disciples	The other 10 disciples appear just after song 3 and remain on stage until song 5. They have one line each.
Owner	The donkey's owner only appears briefly on stage after song three. He has two lines.
Jesus	Jesus is on stage between songs 3 and 5. He has two parts, about five lines in total.
Crowd	Ideally there should be a crowd to welcome Jesus into Jerusalem shouting 'Hosanna' and waving palm branches. The crowd can be any size you want. Please note that printable palm branches are included in this material.

TIMING: If you stick to the scripts exactly, then this performance should take about 25 minutes. However, you can very easily shorten or lengthen the production as appropriate by anything from 5-20 minutes either way. Suggestions of ways to achieve this are included in the 'Production Notes' document that you will receive as part of your purchase.

POWERPOINT: A PowerPoint Scenery presentation is also included to be used as a backdrop for each section of the story.

The Donkey's Tale!

(Play Script Version)

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NARRATOR 1: *Welcome to our performance, which is all about the very first Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday always comes one week before Easter Sunday. It is when Christians remember how Jesus rode into Jerusalem on a donkey.*

NARRATOR 2: *As Jesus travelled along the road that day, a large crowd of people welcomed him by waving palm branches in the air and shouting 'hosanna', which means 'save us'.*

NARRATOR 3: *If you don't know the story of how Jesus rode into Jerusalem on the first Palm Sunday, listen now as we tell it to you. But listen carefully, because our version tells the story from a different viewpoint... this is 'The Donkey's Tale!'*

SONG 1 **This Is The Story Of Little Donkey**

VERSE 1: This is the story,
Of Little Donkey... etc...

NARRATOR 4: *It was a hot day in Bethany, which was a small village on the way to Jerusalem. On the road by the market stood a mother donkey, and next to her was her young son, who was simply called Little Donkey.*

NARRATOR 5: *Little Donkey was a colt who was close to his first birthday. He liked to play with the children who ran around the market. He liked to trot around and around in circles. And he loved it when passers-by ruffled his head, patted him and gave him nice things to eat, saying things like, 'what a cute donkey'. He'd smile back and give them a loud 'EE-AW', which always seemed to make people chuckle.*

L. DONKEY: *EE-AW!*

NARRATOR 6: *But now that Little Donkey was nearly one, he was starting to feel very nervous. The problem was that very soon Little Donkey would have to let a person ride on him for the very first time.*

L. DONKEY: *Mummy? Soon I'm going to carry someone for the first time. What if I'm not strong enough?*

M. DONKEY: *Don't worry Little Donkey. You're already strong enough.*

L. DONKEY: *[Getting upset] But what if I get scared?*

M. DONKEY: *There, there Little Donkey. The first time you carry someone, I'll be there to help you. That's the donkey way.*

L. DONKEY: *Mummy, can you remember the first time you carried a passenger?*

M.DONKEY: *I can indeed, and I can remember being scared and talking to my mother about it, just like we're talking now. Your grandmother told me how when she was young, she took a young lady called Mary all the way from Nazareth to Bethlehem. That's around eighty miles!*

L.DONKEY: *WOW! What a long way! And who was the first person you carried?*

M.DONKEY: *It was Mary's son, Jesus, when he was eleven. We travelled all the way from Nazareth to Jerusalem. It was fantastic!*

SONG 2 **Donkeys Do What Donkeys Do**

CHORUS: Donkeys do what donkeys do,
Ee-aw, ee-aw, do-be-do-be-do... etc...

NARRATOR 7: *Little Donkey continued to ask his mother all about her time with Jesus. Mother Donkey said that after they'd returned to Nazareth, she had helped Jesus and his father, Joseph, all the time. They were carpenters and she often had to carry heavy pieces of wood for them.*

NARRATOR 8: *Then when Jesus was a lot older, he stopped being a carpenter and started teaching people about God. Jesus gave Mother Donkey to a new master, but told the man that one day, when the donkey had a child of her own, that he might need her help again.*

NARRATOR 9: *Little Donkey was amazed. He'd heard about Jesus. Everyone in the market always talked about him. People said that he'd done some amazing things, like walking on water, healing people, calming storms and even turning water into wine!*

L. DONKEY: *Did Jesus say when he'd come for you, or what he'd need you for?*

M.DONKEY: *No, the master didn't say. However, I've got a feeling it will be very soon.*

NARRATOR 10: *As Little Donkey considered all that he'd just been told, two strangers suddenly approached them.*

JAMES: *Look John, the two donkeys are here, just like Jesus said they would be!*

JOHN: *You're right, James. It's amazing. Hello donkeys. You two are going to come with us. Jesus needs your help.*

SONG 3 **Please Little Donkey**

JAMES
& JOHN: Please Little Donkey,
Good Little Donkey... etc...

NARRATOR 11: *James and John started to untie the two donkeys. As they did so, the donkey's new master came running over.*

OWNER: [Looking cross] *HEY! What's going on? Those donkeys belong to me!*

JAMES: *The Lord needs them now.*

OWNER: [Suddenly looking happily surprised] *Oh... of course... anything for Jesus. I am very glad to be of service to him.* [He bows. James and John bow in return]

JOHN: *The Lord bless you for your kindness.*

NARRATOR 12: *James and John started to lead the donkeys away. Little Donkey looked nervously at his mother who was following the men without a problem. Little Donkey didn't want to move though. He'd lived there all his life and had never been more than a stone's throw away from the market area. He brayed loudly and stamped one of his hooves.*

JAMES: *Shush. It's okay little one. We're your friends. We won't hurt you.*

NARRATOR 13: *As he patted Little Donkey and shushed him again, Little Donkey saw his mother smiling at him as if to say, 'it's okay, I'm here with you'. Little Donkey started to trot gently.*

JAMES: *Good donkey!*

NARRATOR 14: [Enter Jesus and his disciples] *James and John led the animals a short distance down the road to a small, grass covered clearing. There they found a jolly sounding crowd of eleven other men, who started to put cloaks on Little Donkey's back!*

L. DONKEY: *Ee-Aw! Mummy! What are they doing?*

DISCIPLE 1: *Good Little Donkey. Stay calm. You have absolutely nothing to worry about.*

DISCIPLE 2: *We're only putting cloaks on you to act as a saddle, so that someone can ride on you.*

NARRATOR 15: *Little Donkey obediently stood still, but he still felt very worried. Then a tall, kind faced man walked over and stood in front of Little Donkey.*

M. DONKEY: *That's Jesus! Little Donkey, that's Jesus!*

JESUS: [Speaking first to Mother Donkey] *Hello again. Is it alright if I go for a ride on Little Donkey today?* [Mother Donkey nods her head in agreement and EE-AW's] *Thank you very much.* [Speaking now to Little Donkey] *Hello, Little Donkey. I know you've never carried anyone before, but if it's okay, I'm going to take you on a little journey.*

The Donkey's Tale

(Narrators Only Version)

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NARRATOR 6: *But now that Little Donkey was nearly one, he was starting to feel very nervous. The problem was that very soon Little Donkey would have to let a person ride on him for the very first time.*

"Mummy?" asked Little Donkey.

"Yes?" his mother replied.

NARRATOR 7: *"Very soon I'm going to have to carry a person on my back for the first time, but what if I'm not strong enough?" Little Donkey asked nervously.*

"Don't worry, dear," she replied comfortingly, "you're already strong enough to carry someone."

"But what if I don't like it? What if I get scared?" Little Donkey had a small tear in his eye.

NARRATOR 8: *“There, there Little Donkey,” his mother said gently. “The first time you carry someone, I’ll be there to help you. That’s the donkey way. That’s how it’s been done for centuries.”*

Little Donkey still felt unsure, but he was starting to feel a little better. “Mummy, can you remember the first time you carried a passenger?”

NARRATOR 9: *“I can indeed, and I can remember being scared and talking to my mother about it, just like we’re talking now. Your grandmother told me how when she was young, she took a young lady called Mary all the way from Nazareth to Bethlehem. That’s around eighty miles!”*

NARRATOR 10: *“WOW! Eighty miles?” Little Donkey was amazed.*

“Then,” the mother continued, “she took Mary and her husband, Joseph and their new baby, Jesus, all the way to Egypt, and then all the way back to Nazareth again.”

NARRATOR 11: *“EGYPT? WOOOAAAH! That must be a thousand, million miles away?” said Little Donkey sounding really impressed. “I bet Grandma was very tired and sore after all that trotting?”*

NARRATOR 12: *“Well, that’s the important thing,” said his mother as she edged closer to Little Donkey, “your Grandmother said that she didn’t feel worn out or aching at all. In fact, she said she loved it. You see God made creatures like donkeys, horses and camels to be able to carry people without any problems.”*

NARRATOR 13: *“And who was the first person that you carried?” asked Little Donkey excitedly.*

“It was Jesus!” she answered. “He was about eleven years old and I was around your age. I carried him all the way from Nazareth to Jerusalem. That’s the big city along the road.”

SONG 2 Donkeys Do What Donkeys Do

CHORUS: Donkeys do what donkeys do,
Ee-aw, ee-aw, do-be-do-be-do... etc...

“Did you like carrying a person?” asked Little Donkey curiously.

NARRATOR 14: *“Absolutely!” replied Mother Donkey with a big smile. “Jesus was very kind to me. After we returned to Nazareth, I helped Jesus and his father all the time. They were carpenters and I often had to carry heavy pieces of wood for them. Then after many years, Jesus stopped being a carpenter and started teaching everyone about God. He gave me to our new master, but said that one day, when I had a child of my own, that he’d need me again.”*

NARRATOR 15: *Little Donkey gasped. He’d heard about Jesus. Everyone in the market always talked about him. People said he had done some amazing things like walking on water, healing people, calming storms and even turning water into wine! “Did Jesus say when he’d come for you, or what he’d need you for?” inquired Little Donkey.*

NARRATOR 16: *"No," she replied, "the master didn't say. But I've got a feeling it will be very soon."*

As Little Donkey thought about all that he'd just been told, two strangers suddenly walked up to them.

NARRATOR 17: *"Look, John," said one of them in amazement, "the two donkeys are here, just like Jesus said they would be!" Little Donkey and Mother Donkey's ears pricked up at the mention of the word 'Jesus'.*

NARRATOR 18: *"You're right, James," said the other man with a broad smile on his round face. Then he bent over and whispered to the donkeys in a kind voice, "It's time. You two are going to come with us. Jesus needs your help."*

SONG 3 **Please Little Donkey**

JAMES
& JOHN: Please Little Donkey,
 Good Little Donkey... etc...

NARRATOR 19: *As James and John started to untie the donkeys, the donkey's new master came running over.*

"HEY! What's going on?" he shouted angrily, thinking that his donkeys were being stolen. "They belong to me!"

NARRATOR 20: *The two strangers carried on untying the donkeys as the one called John looked up, smiled nicely and simply said, "The Lord needs them now."*

The donkey's new master stopped, and a sudden look of realisation washed over his face. He smiled, bowed, and politely said, "Anything for Jesus. I am very glad to be of service to him."

NARRATOR 21: *James and John bowed as well and said, "The Lord bless you for your kindness." Then they started to lead the donkeys away. Little Donkey looked nervously at his mother who was starting to follow the men without a problem. Little Donkey didn't want to move though. He'd lived there all his life and had never been more than a stone's throw away from the market area. He brayed loudly and stamped one of his hooves.*

NARRATOR 22: *"Shush. It's okay little one," said James. "We're your friends. We won't hurt you." As he patted Little Donkey and shushed him again, Little Donkey saw his mother smiling at him, as if to say, 'it's alright, I'm here with you'. Little Donkey started to trot gently. "Good donkey!" said James caringly.*