

Keeping Mr Inn In The Inn

By Stuart Ross



'Keeping Mr Inn In The Inn': SCRIPT SAMPLE

Written by Stuart Ross © 2021 Learn2soar Ltd.

SYNOPSIS

This funny, tongue-twisting nativity tells the story of two Bethlehem innkeepers, who own competing inns. Firstly, there's our hero, kind-hearted Mr. Inn, and then there's his greedy, mean rival, Mr. Out. But one inn must close! Only one can survive!

*'Will Inn be in, or Out be out?
Or Out be in, and Inn be out?
We do not know, but we have no doubt,
We'll find out soon enough!'*

With themes of care, kindness, charity, and friendship, this humorous musical with catchy songs and ingenious scripts will keep your cast and audience completely enthralled.

TIMING

Very flexible! Your performance can be anything from 25 to 50 minutes, depending on which script version you use, and how many songs you perform.

CAST SIZE

All three script versions are very flexible and can be performed with any number of cast members, from just a few to 100+.

SCRIPT DIFFERENCES

This musical comes with THREE main scripts:

FULL PLAY SCRIPT

This script has been designed for older children. If you use it word-for-word, with all the songs included, then it will take approximately 40-50 minutes to perform. It has spoken parts for a large number of children, including up to fourteen main acting roles.

SIMPLE PLAY SCRIPT

This script is for younger children, (or older children on a tight rehearsal schedule). It is very similar to the above full play script but cuts around 5-10 minutes off the running time. The biggest difference is in the number of lines that actors must learn. In this script no actor has any more than half-a-dozen lines at most.

NARRATORS ONLY SCRIPT

The simplest way to perform. No acting necessary. No need to learn lines. In this script variation, the whole story is simply read out by narrators. Easy!

CAST LIST

<i>Part</i>	<i>Details</i>
NARRATORS	There are around thirty sections in each of the two play script versions that are marked for narrators. However, many of these sections contain several sentences and could be split up further between more narrators, if required.
MR INN	Mr. Inn has around 16 parts/lines in the full play script and just half-a-dozen or so in the simple version. Mr. Inn also has a few optional solos in both scripts.
MR OUT	Mr. Out has around 11 parts/lines in the full play script and just half-a-dozen or so in the simple version. Mr. Out also has a few optional solos in both scripts.
ROMAN SOLDIER	Reads out one small section.
TWO TOWN OFFICIALS	Each ‘town official’ reads out one small section and has one optional solo.
INN GUESTS	Optional walk-on part only with no spoken lines. Ideally, a large number of ‘guests’ need to suddenly enter the two innkeeper’s doors.
MARY & JOSEPH	Mary and Joseph have around 10 parts/lines each in the full play script and just half-a-dozen or so in the simple version.
ANGEL GABRIEL	The angel Gabriel has four parts/lines in the full play script and has just one part in the simple version.
ANGELS	A group of angels have one small, shared part that is equal in all scripts.
SHEPHERDS	There are three shepherds. Each shepherd has a few lines each in both scripts.
KINGS	There are three kings. Each king has four to six lines in the full script, and just one or two lines in the simple script.
Optional Extras	The ‘Production Notes’ document included in your purchase, provides further ideas for ways to give small roles to dozens of extra cast members.

Keeping Mr. Inn In The Inn

FULL PLAY SCRIPT

NARRATOR: Two thousand years ago, in a small town called Bethlehem, there lived two very different innkeepers, who ran two very different inns. They were Mr. Inn...

MR. INN: (Cheerfully) Hello!

NARRATOR: ...and Mr. Out...

MR. OUT: Grrrrr!

NARRATOR: ...This is their story.

SONG 1: Come With Us To Bethlehem

NARRATOR: It was yet another hot, humid high noon, in the baking heat of Bethlehem town. Despite the searing conditions, good old Mr. Inn had been up since the crack of dawn keeping himself ever so busy.

NARRATOR: He'd cooked the guests' breakfasts, scrubbed the kitchen, washed the linen, cleaned the rooms, mopped the floors and polished the sign outside his lovely inn.

NARRATOR: Meanwhile, Mr. Out had just got up. You see, Mr. Out was incredibly lazy. The unfortunate guests in Mr. Out's overpriced inn had had to make their own breakfasts, before vacating their dirty, smelly rooms, which hadn't been cleaned in years. Yuck!

MR. OUT: Good morning, Mr. Inn.

MR. INN: Good afternoon, Mr. Out.

NARRATOR: Just then, two important people from Bethlehem's town council appeared. They had come to visit the two innkeepers and had brought a letter which contained some worrying news for them.

TOWN OFFICIAL 1: (*Reading from the letter*) Dear Mr. Inn and Mr. Out, we regret to inform you that Bethlehem's town council has decided to demolish one of your inns...

(Everyone gasps)

...to make way for a new multi-storey camel park! So, to decide which of your inns remains open and which will be closed, there will be a competition!

TOWN OFFICIAL 2: (*Reading from letter*) The innkeeper who makes the most money in the next week will be crowned the winner. They will be allowed to keep their inn open. Meanwhile, the innkeeper who makes the least money will have their inn knocked down!

MR. INN: I am Mr. Inn, and my incredible inn - Mr. Inn's Inn - will indeed be the inn that wins. Phew! What a tongue-twister. Try saying that without your teeth in!

MR. OUT: That's outrageous! I'm Mr. Out and I've no doubt that my outstanding inn, Mr. Out's Inn, will be the inn that wins! That's a bit of a tongue-twister too. Try saying that backwards!

MR. INN: That backwards.

TOWN OFFICIALS: LET THE COMPETITION BEGIN!

SONG 2: Will Inn Be In Or Out Be Out

MR. OUT: So Mr. Inn, your inn will soon be demolished to make way for a multi-storey camel park. I bet that news has really given you the hump.

MR. INN: Whatever will be, will be Mr. Out. I'm trying to stay positive. And if you want to make camel jokes, what do you call a frozen camel?

MR. OUT: I don't know, what do you call a frozen camel?

MR. INN: Lost!

NARRATOR: Then, as if that wasn't enough excitement for one day, a Roman soldier arrived and read out yet another important announcement.

ROMAN SOLDIER: BY ORDER OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, THERE IS TO BE A CENSUS THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE LAND. EVERYONE MUST GO BACK TO THE TOWN WHERE THEY WERE BORN, TO BE COUNTED.

NARRATOR: Mr. Inn and Mr. Out were very happy with this news because it meant that their inns would quickly be full of visitors!

(Lots of 'visitors' suddenly rush through the two innkeeper's doors)

NARRATOR: Sure enough, very soon both inns were full to overflowing! But there was a problem. Kind Mr. Inn had been charging very low prices for his beautiful, clean and spacious rooms. As a result, Mr. Inn's inn was full of delighted guests, but he hadn't made much money at all.

MR. INN: At least I'll get great reviews on Trip Advisor.

NARRATOR: Meanwhile, dishonest Mr. Out had been charging extortionate prices for tiny, filthy, stinky rooms. Mr. Out's inn was crammed full of very unhappy guests, but Mr. Out had made an absolute fortune!

MR. OUT: (*Rubbing his hands in a villainous way*)
Ha-ha-ha! Hee-hee-hee!
Lots and lots of money for me,
I am feeling so greedy,
This competition is too easy.

NARRATOR: This meant that the scheming Mr. Out would probably win the contest.

ALL: OH-NO!

SONG 3: I'm Mr. Out And I'm The Winner

MR. OUT: (*Knocking on Mr. Inn's door*) Knock, knock!

MR. INN: Who's there?

MR. OUT: The innkeeper.

MR. INN: The innkeeper who?

MR. OUT: The innkeeper who has already won this competition. You have no chance now. You might as well give up.

NARRATOR: Poor Mr. Inn felt extremely upset. He adored his lovely inn, and he didn't want to see it demolished. But there didn't seem to be any way he could now make enough money in time to win the competition. All he could do was pray.

SONG 4: Please God

NARRATOR: At that moment, a man called Joseph came along the road with his pregnant wife, Mary. They'd travelled a huge distance from a town called Nazareth. They were incredibly tired and desperate for a place to stay.

MARY: Help me down off this donkey Joseph. I'll tell you what, I can't wait until this baby is born. I feel so uncomfortable.

JOSEPH: (*Reading the inn signs*) Hmm.... 'Inn', or 'Out'?

MARY: Well out of course. I want the baby out ASAP. My back's killing me!

JOSEPH: No, not the baby. I mean which inn? Mr. Inn's inn, or Mr. Out's inn! 'Inn', or 'Out'?

MARY: Oh! Well, as long as we're inside and not outside, I really don't care. I just want to lie down and put my feet up. Then tomorrow, you can go and sort this census nonsense out.

JOSEPH: Fair enough. Well, Mr. Inn's inn sounds interesting, but Mr. Out's inn sounds outstanding, so I think we'll try getting in Out's inn first.

MARY: Sorry, can you say that again?

JOSEPH: Absolutely not!

SONG 5: Knock, Knock / Only A Stable

Keeping Mr. Inn In The Inn

SIMPLE PLAY SCRIPT

NARRATOR: A long time ago in a town called Bethlehem, there lived two very different innkeepers, with two very different inns. They were Mr. Inn...

MR. INN: (Cheerfully) Hello!

NARRATOR: ...and Mr. Out...

MR. OUT: Grrrrr!

NARRATOR: ...This is their story.

SONG 1: Come With Us To Bethlehem

NARRATOR: It was a typical day in Bethlehem. Mr. Inn had been up since the crack of dawn. He'd cooked the guests' breakfasts, scrubbed the kitchen, washed the linen, cleaned the rooms and mopped the floors.

NARRATOR: Meanwhile, even though it was now midday, Mr. Out had only just got up. You see, Mr. Out was lazy. The poor guests in Mr. Out's inn had to make their own breakfasts! They'd also had to stay in dirty, smelly rooms which hadn't been cleaned in years. Yuck!

MR. OUT: Good morning, Mr. Inn.

MR. INN: Good afternoon, Mr. Out.

NARRATOR: Just then, two people from Bethlehem's town council came to visit Mr. Inn and Mr. Out. They brought a letter with them, which contained some worrying news.

TOWN OFFICIAL 1: (Reading from letter) I'm sorry to say that Bethlehem's town council has decided to demolish one of your inns, to make way for a new multi-storey camel park! To decide which of your inns remains open and which will close, there will be a competition!

TOWN OFFICIAL 2: (Reading from letter) The innkeeper who makes the most money in the next week will be the winner and will be allowed to stay open. The other innkeeper will have their inn knocked down! LET THE COMPETITION BEGIN!

SONG 2: Will Inn Be In Or Out Be Out

NARRATOR: Then, as if that wasn't enough excitement for one day, a Roman soldier arrived and read out yet another important announcement.

ROMAN SOLDIER: BY ORDER OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, THERE IS TO BE A CENSUS THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE LAND. EVERYONE MUST GO BACK TO THE TOWN WHERE THEY WERE BORN, TO BE COUNTED.

NARRATOR: Mr. Inn and Mr. Out were very happy with this news because it meant that their inns would quickly be full of visitors!

(Lots of 'visitors' suddenly rush through the two innkeeper's doors)

NARRATOR: Sure enough, both inns were soon overflowing! But there was a problem. Kind Mr. Inn had been charging very low prices for his lovely rooms. As a result, his inn was full of delighted guests, but he hadn't made much money at all.

MR. INN: At least I'll get great reviews on Trip Advisor.

NARRATOR: Meanwhile, unfair Mr. Out had been charging his customers a lot of money for tiny, filthy, stinky rooms. His inn was full of unhappy guests, but Mr. Out had made an absolute fortune!

MR. OUT: Ha-ha-ha! Hee-hee-hee! This competition is too easy.

NARRATOR: This meant that Mr. Out would probably win the competition.

ALL: OH-NO!

SONG 3: I'm Mr. Out And I'm The Winner

MR. OUT: Knock, knock!

MR. INN: Who's there?

MR. OUT: The innkeeper.

MR. INN: The innkeeper who?

MR. OUT: The innkeeper who has already won this competition. You have no chance now. You might as well give up.

NARRATOR: Poor Mr. Inn felt so upset. He didn't want to see his lovely inn demolished. But there didn't seem to be any way he could win now. All he could do was pray.

SONG 4: Please God

NARRATOR: At that moment, a man called Joseph arrived with his pregnant wife, Mary. They had travelled a long way and needed a place to stay.

MARY: Look Joseph, there are two inns. Mr. Inn's inn and Mr. Out's inn! Which one should we choose?

JOSEPH: Well, Inn's inn sounds interesting, but Out's inn sounds outstanding, so I think we'll try getting in Out's inn first.

MARY: Sorry, can you say that again?

JOSEPH: Absolutely not!

SONG 5: Knock, Knock / Only A Stable

Keeping Mr. Inn In The Inn

NARRATORS ONLY SCRIPT

NARRATOR: Two thousand years ago, in a small town called Bethlehem, there lived two very different innkeepers, who ran two very different inns. They were Mr. Inn and Mr. Out. This is their story.

SONG 1: Come With Us To Bethlehem

NARRATOR: One day, Mr. Inn and Mr. Out both received a letter from Bethlehem town council. The letter contained some worrying news for the two innkeepers. It read:

NARRATOR: "Dear Mr. Inn and Mr. Out, we're sorry to inform you that Bethlehem's town council has decided to demolish one of your inns to make way for a new multi-storey camel park! So, to decide which of your inns remains open and which will be closed, there will be a competition..."

NARRATOR: ... The innkeeper who makes the most money in the next week will be crowned the winner. They will be allowed to keep their inn open. Meanwhile, the innkeeper who makes the least money will have their inn knocked down! LET THE COMPETITION BEGIN!"

SONG 2: Will Inn Be In Or Out Be Out

NARRATOR: Then, as if that wasn't enough excitement for one day, a Roman soldier arrived and read out yet another important announcement. He said:

NARRATOR: BY ORDER OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE, THERE IS TO BE A CENSUS THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE LAND. EVERYONE MUST GO BACK TO THE TOWN WHERE THEY WERE BORN, TO BE COUNTED.

NARRATOR: Mr. Inn and Mr. Out were very happy with this news because it meant that their inns would quickly be full of visitors!

(Lots of 'visitors' suddenly rush through the two innkeeper's doors)

NARRATOR: Sure enough, very soon both inns were full to overflowing! But there was a problem. Kind Mr. Inn had been charging very low prices, for his beautiful, clean and spacious rooms. As a result, Mr. Inn's inn was full of delighted guests, but he hadn't made much money at all.

NARRATOR: Meanwhile, dishonest Mr. Out had been charging his customers extortionate sums of money for tiny, dirty, smelly rooms. Mr. Out's inn was crammed full of very unhappy guests, but Mr. Out had made an absolute fortune! This meant that the scheming Mr. Out would probably win the competition.

SONG 3: I'm Mr. Out And I'm The Winner

NARRATOR: Poor Mr. Inn felt extremely upset. He adored his lovely inn, and he didn't want to see it demolished. But there didn't seem to be any way he could now make enough money in time to win the competition. All he could do was pray.

SONG 4: Please God

NARRATOR: At that moment, a man called Joseph came along the road with his pregnant wife, Mary. They had travelled a long, long way from a town called Nazareth. They were incredibly tired and were desperate to find somewhere to stay.

SONG 5: Knock, Knock / Only A Stable
