

***Room for One More***

***CAST***

GRANDPARENT  
 GRANDCHILD  
 INNKEEPER  
 ANGEL OF THE LORD  
 ANGELS (can be one part in unison or divided)  
 2 SHEPHERDS  
 SHEEP  
 LAMB  
 The Holy Family (non-speaking roles)  
     MARY  
     JOSEPH  
     JESUS

Props Needed:

Bed with bedding

Large book made out of poster board titled CHRISTMAS STORIES

Setting:

*Time: Present*

*Place: Children's Bedroom, and ancient Bethlehem.*

*In a separate area from the stage, a bed is made up, with the GRANDCHILD tucked in bed. Next to the bed is a chair with the GRANDPARENT, reading a large book titled CHRISTMAS STORIES.*

*The stage is set to represent the scenes from Bethlehem taking place in the story.*

**Scene 1**

GRANDPARENT

*(reading from CHRISTMAS STORIES book, reading the end of A Visit from Saint Nicholas.)*

And I heard him exclaim, as he rode out of sight, "Happy Christmas to all, and to all a good night." *(closes the book)*

GRANDCHILD

Aw, can't we read just one more?

GRANDPARENT

It's your bedtime, and it's Christmas Eve.

GRANDCHILD

Just one more story, please?

## GRANDPARENT

Well, I guess there is time for just one more. *(Opens the book)* Ah, how could I have forgotten? This is the most important Christmas story of all, because it's the story of how Christmas came to be:

*(an INNKEEPER enters one side of the stage, Joseph and a pregnant Mary enter from the other side)*

## GRANDPARENT

A long time ago, in a place far away  
 Many were gathering in Bethlehem to stay  
 The Emperor declared a Census be taken  
 All the people were counted, so none would be mistaken

There were so many people but not enough room  
 For one man and woman, a child coming soon  
 Finally at last they knocked on the door  
 And the innkeeper said,

## INNKEEPER

*(quickly after GRANDPARENT)*  
 There's room for one more

You've come a long way, you need your rest  
 The baby is coming, so come be my guest  
 I don't have a bed, not a space on the floor  
 But out with the animals, we'll make room for one more

*(INNKEEPER, MARY and JOSEPH exit the stage)*

## GRANDPARENT

The innkeeper showed them the stables and hay  
 And the birth of the baby took place in this way:  
 Out among the animals, in the dark of the night  
 All was calm, and all was bright.

*(Musical interlude; EVERYONE sings the first verse of Silent Night)*  
*(During the singing, SHEPHERDS enter the stage. ANGEL OF THE LORD also enters the stage, and ANGELS appear on the balcony)*

**Scene 2**

## GRANDPARENT

Not very far away there were shepherds that night

Watching over their flocks under the star light  
 And an angel of the Lord came to them to speak  
 And the shepherds trembled and their knees felt weak

But the angel said,

ANGEL OF THE LORD

*(quickly after GRANDPARENT)*

Fear not! I bring you good news  
 Do not run away—you've got nothing to lose!  
 For in the city of David a Savior has been born  
 To save us all, the lost and forlorn

The sign you will know what I say is true  
 Lying in a manger will be a baby so new  
 Wrapped in bands of swaddling cloth it will lay  
 Among the cows and the sheep and dirt and hay

GRANDPARENT

And the shepherds were amazed, for now in the sky  
 Appeared a multitude of the heavenly host up high  
 The shepherds wondered what all this might mean  
 The words they had heard and the sights they had seen

The angels praised God and said,

ANGELS

*(quickly after GRANDPARENT)*

Peace be to all!  
 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth big and small  
 The Messiah has come bringing good news to be heard  
 Glory to God in the highest, who has given us The Word!  
*(ALL ANGELS depart from the room)*

GRANDPARENT

The shepherds saw the angels leave from the sky  
 They looked to each other, they couldn't believe their eyes,  
 They said,

SHEPHERD #1

*(quickly after GRANDPARENT)*

Who'd have thought such a thing would take place?

SHEPHERD #2

*(quickly after SHEPHERD #1)*

Let us go into Bethlehem and see God's miracle of grace!

## GRANDPARENT

So now on to Bethlehem the shepherds made haste  
 Quickly they went, there was no time to waste!  
 Into the City of David, crowded as before  
 With all the people there, God made room for one more

*(Musical Interlude; EVERYONE sings the first verse of “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”)  
 (During the singing, the SHEPHERDS pull back the curtain to reveal MARY, JOSEPH  
 and JESUS, and the LAMB and SHEEP. SHEEP stands near baby JESUS)*

## Scene 3

## GRANDPARENT

The shepherds went swiftly and found the family at rest  
 Baby Jesus was fast asleep on his mother’s chest  
 They told Mary and Joseph all the angels had shared  
 Everyone was amazed at the words that they dared

To proclaim to the world! Christ the Savior has come!  
 Emmanuel, God with us! It would seem our story is done.  
 Yet there is one more part of this tale to give  
 Christ came so that we on earth might now live

And have eternal life, the greatest gift is this love  
 That God sent his son Jesus down from above  
 To dwell in our world, to dwell in our heart  
 Do not forget this, it is the most important part

But there’s just one more point of view to share  
 What of those many creatures who were able to care  
 For the wee baby Jesus when a few hours old  
 Had to stay in a stable, where it was damp and cold?

We don’t know for sure, but our imagination might say,  
 A sheep might have gone

## SHEEP

*(quickly after GRANDPARENT)*  
 Baa! I’ll keep him warm this way  
 My wool is cozy, I’ll just huddle around there  
 And keep him safe from the chill in the air

## GRANDPARENT

It was probably crowded in that very place  
 With all those animals it was a tight space

Maybe a little lamb saw the swaddling cloths that he wore  
And said in his own way,

LAMB

There is room for one more!

GRANDPARENT

So remember there is nothing that our God cannot do  
But someone may be in need of your help, too  
Whether big or small, whether rich or poor  
Remember it may be God knocking at the door

Light shines in the darkness and the angel sings true  
And maybe some animals share in the praises too  
This is the story of the Christ child we adore  
And in our hearts God made room for one more!

*(GRANDPARENT closes book)*

GRANDCHILD

I think we should sing one last carol—it's Christmas Eve!

GRANDPARENT

What song would you like to sing before I leave?

GRANDCHILD

“Joy to the world, the Lord is come, let earth receive her king”

GRANDPARENT

“Let every heart prepare him room,”

ALL CAST

“And heaven and nature sing!”

*(EVERYONE sings Joy to the World! The Lord is Come)*