

Playstage

Junior

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THE LOST NATIVITY



The manger's ready but the cast have gone missing!



Written by
Helen Nelson

Cast in order of appearance

Choir (6)
Director
Costume Director
Casting Director
Runner
Mary Poppins*
Bert*
Michael*
Jane*
Joseph (Technicolour Dream Coat)*
Donkey
Bathing Belles (4)*
Sheep (3)
Voice Offstage (microphone)
Elvis (5)*
Narrators (2)
Angel Gabriel
Mary
Joseph
Caesar
Inn Keeper
Inn Keeper's Wife
Pig
Cow
Chicken
Shepherds (2)
Kings (3)

*44 speaking/singing parts in total but 14 of the characters (marked *) in the first half of the play can double as characters in the real nativity, which means it could easily be performed by 30 children.*

Running time 30 – 40 minutes.

MUSIC

Backing tracks can be purchased and downloaded for a modest fee from various sources, as shown below. Or, you could source the original artiste's recording from amongst parents/grandparents and just have the children sing along to it, as many schools do. If you cannot source them from amongst the school community, then Amazon sell very cheap downloadable MP3 tracks for hundreds of thousands of songs. These can be purchased, downloaded on to a computer and then burnt on to a CD for performance. Below we give the song title and source of backing tracks. Where it says "Traditional" or "Disney", this means there is no backing track we know of, but it may be in sheet music form in your school or on a children's school music compilation CD.

Suggested songs:

1/ SILENT NIGHT (*brief beginning of song*)

2/ SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPIALIDOCIOUS

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious

3/ ANY DREAM WILL DO

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=Any+Dream+Will+Do

4/ OH I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=I+Do+Like+To+Be+Beside+The+Seaside

5/ SHIRPY, SHIRPY, SHEEP, SHEEP

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=Chirpy+Chirpy+Cheep+Cheep

6/ I'M ALL SHOOK UP

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=All+Shook+Up

7/ SILENT NIGHT

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=Silent+Night

8/ LITTLE DONKEY <http://www.amazon.co.uk/Little-Donkey-Professional-Backing-Track/dp/B001NOHJMY>

9/ AWAY IN A MANGER (*Instrumental only*)

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=Away+In+a+Manger

10/ WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED (*instrumental only*)

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=While+Shepherds+Watched

11/ WE THREE KINGS (*instrumental only*)

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=We+Three+Kings+of+Orient+Are

12/ OH COME ALL YE FAITHFUL

http://www.ameritz.co.uk/search_backing_tracks.asp?search=O+Come+All+Ye+Faithful

THE LOST NATIVITY

Stable set up in the far left corner of the stage 'stable stage' (SEE PRODUCTION NOTES) Backdrop of stars (one big star) on a dark blue background)

Choir boys/girls walk onto main stage holding Christingles (not lit).

First note of music starts up, all heads up, and start singing 'Silent night' after 4/5 words...production team runs in and choir comes to startled halt.

Production team includes CASTING DIRECTOR (carries clipboard), DIRECTOR (carries clapper board with big Director written on his back), COSTUME DIRECTOR (tape measure around neck) and RUNNER.

DIRECTOR

No No No – Stop, Stop! We can't start yet, we've lost half the cast !

CASTING DIRECTOR

We've lost half the cast? How is that possible? They were all sitting in the class room only five minutes ago, what have you done with them?

(Turns to accuse the COSTUME DIRECTOR)

COSTUME DIRECTOR

Don't you blame me! It's your fault for telling them that the Santa Parade was due to come past, I bet they've dashed out to look at it!

DIRECTOR

I don't care whose fault it is, we have a room full of parents and friends coming to watch this show and without any cast, we can't possibly put on a show!

(RUNNER taps the DIRECTOR on the shoulder and points out the fact the whole audience is actually already seated)

DIRECTOR

Ah yes, yes...erm...yes....right everyone's here already. Just find the cast, ok? Just find them!

(DIRECTOR exits in a dramatic 'flap')

RUNNER *(taking charge)*

Right, so we have lost Mary, Joseph, the donkey, the shepherds and the kings.

Anyone else?

COSTUME DESIGNER

Really? So many of the cast? We had really better find them, and quickly!

(RUNNER/COSTUME DESIGNER and CASTING DIRECTOR stay on stage, as the DIRECTOR storms back on shouting.)

DIRECTOR

Right ok team, have we found them yet?

(CASTING DIRECTOR runs to edge of stage, and brings on MARY POPPINS, BERT and JANE and MICHAEL to a backing music of Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious. Production team move to side of stage.)

CASTING DIRECTOR

Yes, Yes look everyone, I've found Mary...

(MARY POPPINS clicks fingers. BERT, JANE and MICHAEL stand to attention. MARY clears throat)

SONG 2. SUPERCALIFRAGILISTICEXPALIDOCIOUS *(All four sing)*

(MARY/BERT/JANE/MICHAEL dance on their own for most of the song, but towards the end all the production team except the DIRECTOR are doing a wheel of 3, or wheel of 6 with MARY and team joining in and dancing.)

It's...

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

Even though the sound of it

Is something quite atrocious

If you say it loud enough

You'll always sound precocious

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

Um diddle diddle diddle um diddle ay

Um diddle diddle diddle um diddle ay!

BERT

Because I was afraid to speak

When I was just a lad

My father gave me nose a tweak

And told me I was bad

But then one day I learned a word

That saved me achin' nose

ALL

The biggest word I ever heard

And this is how it goes: Oh!

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

Even though the sound of it

Is something quite atrocious

If you say it loud enough

You'll always sound precocious

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

PRODUCTION TEAM

Um diddle diddle diddle um diddle ay

Um diddle diddle diddle um diddle ay!

MARY POPPINS

He traveled all around the world

And everywhere he went

He'd use his word and all would say

"There goes a clever gent"

BERT

When Dukes and maharajas

Pass the time of day with me

I say me special word and then

They ask me out to tea

ALL

Oh..

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

Even though the sound of it

Is something quite atrocious

If you say it loud enough

You'll always sound precocious

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

PRODUCTION TEAM

Um diddle diddle diddle um diddle ay

Um diddle diddle diddle um diddle ay!

MARY POPPINS

So when the cat has got your tongue

There's no need for dismay

Just summon up this word

And then you've got a lot to say

BERT

But better use it carefully

Or it could change your life

For example

One night I said it to me girl

And now me girl's my wife!

ALL

She's supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious

Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious

DIRECTOR

No, No, No, thats the wrong Mary!

MARY POPPINS

Spit Spot! *(to the DIRECTOR)* You deserve a spoonful of my medicine!

(MARY POPPINS walks off with BERT/JANE and MICHAEL, very unimpressed. Production team look sheepish. COSTUME DIRECTOR runs off and brings on JOSEPH.)

COSTUME DIRECTOR

Look, I've found Joseph! Will he do?

(COSTUME DIRECTOR brings JOSEPH on, tune of JOSEPH's "Any Dream Will Do" playing. JOSEPH sings and the COSTUME DESIGNER, RUNNER, CASTING DIRECTOR stand in a line behind JOSEPH and start singing the backing.)

SONG 3. ANY DREAM WILL DO.

I closed my eyes,

Drew back the curtain,

To see for certain,

What I thought I knew.

Far, far away

Someone was weeping,

But the world was sleeping,

Any dream will do

I wore my coat

(PRODUCTION TEAM: I wore my coat)

With golden lining,
(PRODUCTION TEAM : ahah)
Bright colours shining,
(PRODUCTION TEAM : ahah)
Wonderful and new,
And in the east,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: and in the east)
The dawn was breaking,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: ahah)
And the world was waking,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: ahah)
Any dream will do.

A crash of drums,
A flash of light,
My golden coat,
Flew out of sight,
Colours faded into darkness,
I was left alone.

May I return,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: may I return)
To the beginning,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: ahah)
The light is dimming,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: ahah)
And the dream is too.

The world and I
(PRODUCTION TEAM: the world and I)
We are still waiting,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: ahah)

Still hesitating,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: ahah)
Any dream will do.

Any dream will do

A crash of drums,
A flash of light,
My golden coat,
Flew out of sight,
Colours faded into darkness,
I was left alone.

May I return,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: may I return)
To the beginning,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: ahah)
The light is dimming,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: ahah)
And the dream is too.

The world and I
(PRODUCTION TEAM: the world and I)
We are still waiting,
(PRODUCTION TEAM: ahah)
Still hesitating,
ALL
Any dream will do.
Any dream, any dream, any dream, any dream will do.

DIRECTOR (*cutting him off*)

No, No, we can't have *that* Joseph! Please, someone, can you find the right character. How difficult is it really?

(JOSEPH exits stage, looking annoyed. RUNNER points off stage and says excitedly)

RUNNER

I've done it, I've found the donkey! Phew! We don't need to steal the horse from the end of the road to play the part now. I think I've found the donkey!

DIRECTOR

Thank goodness for that, there is no way that you could possibly get finding a donkey wrong.

(PRODUCTION TEAM move to the very corner of the stage as DONKEY enters. A few seconds later all BATHING BELLES run on very lively. Music starts up the sounds of 'I do like to be beside the seaside'. Girls start singing. DONKEY dances.)

SONG 4. OH I DO LIKE TO BE BESIDE THE SEASIDE (All the BATHING BELLES and the PRODUCTION TEAM)

BATHING BELLES

Oh I do like to be beside the seaside

I do like to be beside the sea

I do like to stroll along the prom prom prom

(PRODUCTION TEAM) Where the brass band plays tiddly-om-pom-pom

BATHING BELLES

So just let me be beside the seaside,

I'll be beside myself with glee

And theres lots of girls beside,

I should like to be beside

PRODUCTION TEAM AS WELL

Beside the seaside