

**Starlight**  
Infant Script  
by  
Dave Corbett

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**CAST LIST**

***N.B. In the following list, the bracketed number shows the number of spoken lines each role has.***

***An asterisk (\*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.***

Announcer	(5)	* Wise Man 1	(5)
		* Wise Man 2	(4)
Narrator 1	(5)	* Wise Man 3	(6)
Narrator 2	(5)		
Narrator 3	(6)	Innkeeper	(4)
		Innkeeper's Wife	(7)
* Mary	(13)		
Joseph	(11)	Passer-by 1	(2)
King Herod	(8)	Passer-by 2	(1)
Chief Priest	(2)		
		Angel Gabriel	(2)
Traveller 1	(4)		
Traveller 2	(2)	Angels	(0)
		Guards	(0)
Shepherd 1	(6)	6 Market Traders	(0)
Shepherd 2	(6)		
Shepherd 3	(3)	General Public	(0)
Shepherd 4	(5)	Stars	(0)
Shepherd 5	(7)	Additional Travellers	(0)
		Attendants	(0)

***N.B. The Shepherds, Wise Men and Angels sing as small groups.***

***Have as many Angels, Guards, General Public, Additional Travellers, Attendants and Stars as you like. Along with the Market Traders, these are non-speaking roles.***

**SPEAKING ROLES BY NUMBER OF LINES**

***N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (\*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.***

* Mary .....	13
Joseph .....	11
King Herod .....	8
Innkeeper's Wife .....	7
Shepherd 5 .....	7
Narrator 3 .....	6
Shepherd 1 .....	6
Shepherd 2 .....	6
* Wise Man 3 .....	6
Announcer .....	5
Narrator 1 .....	5
Narrator 2 .....	5
Shepherd 4 .....	5
* Wise Man 1 .....	5
Innkeeper .....	4
Traveller 1 .....	4
* Wise Man 2 .....	4
Shepherd 3 .....	3
Angel Gabriel .....	2
Chief Priest .....	2
Passer-By 1 .....	2
Traveller 2 .....	2
Passer-By 2 .....	1

### SUGGESTED CAST LIST FOR 29 ACTORS

***N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (\*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.***

* Mary .....	13
Joseph .....	11
King Herod .....	8
Narrator 1..... also covers Narrator 3's lines (with Narrator 2) .....	8
Narrator 2..... also covers Narrator 3's lines (with Narrator 1) .....	8
Innkeeper's Wife ..... also plays additional Traveller (Scene one).....	7
Shepherd 5 ..... also plays Member of General Public (Scene three) .....	7
Shepherd 1 ..... also plays Member of General Public (Scene three) .....	6
Shepherd 2 ..... also plays Member of General Public (Scene three) .....	6
* Wise Man 3 .....	6
Announcer .....	5
Shepherd 4 ..... also plays Member of General Public (Scene three) .....	5
* Wise Man 1 .....	5
Shepherd 3 ..... also plays Chief Priest .....	5
Innkeeper..... also plays additional Traveller (Scene one).....	4
Traveller 1..... also plays Member of General Public (Scene three) .....	4
* Wise Man 2 .....	4
Angel Gabriel .....	2
Passer-By 1 ..... also plays Market Trader (Scene three) .....	2
Traveller 2..... also plays Member of General Public (Scene three) .....	2
Passer-By 2 ..... also plays Market Trader (Scene three) .....	1

***Non speaking roles: four Stars (Scene one) who also play Angels (Scene four); two Guards (Scene two); and two additional Market Traders (Scene three). (No Attendants required.)***

**LIST OF CHARACTERS IN EACH SCENE****Scene One**

Additional Travellers (optional)  
 Announcer  
 Joseph  
 Mary  
 Narrator 1  
 Narrator 2  
 Narrator 3  
 Traveller 1  
 Traveller 2

**Scene Two**

Additional Travellers (optional)  
 Announcer  
 Attendants  
 Chief Priest  
 Guards  
 King Herod  
 Narrator 1  
 Narrator 2  
 Narrator 3  
 Passer-by 1  
 Passer-by 2  
 Wise Man 1  
 Wise Man 2  
 Wise Man 3

**Scene Three**

Announcer  
 6 Market Traders  
 General Public  
 Innkeeper  
 Innkeeper's Wife  
 Joseph  
 Mary

**Scene Four**

Angel Gabriel  
 Announcer  
 Narrator 1  
 Narrator 2  
 Narrator 3  
 Shepherd 1  
 Shepherd 2  
 Shepherd 3  
 Shepherd 4  
 Shepherd 5

**Scene Five**

Announcer  
 Innkeeper  
 Innkeeper's Wife  
 Joseph  
 Mary  
 Narrators 1-3  
 Shepherds 1-5  
 Wise Men 1-3  
 All (For Final Nativity Scene)

## LIST OF PROPERTIES

### Scene Two

Presents (Gold, Frankincense and Myrrh)..... Attendants  
 Scrolls or sheets printed with road maps..... Attendants  
 Larger and more impressive scroll..... Chief Priest

### Scene Three

Stalls or small tables with cloths ..... Scene Prop  
 Plastic fruit and vegetables in woven baskets ..... Innkeeper and Innkeeper's Wife  
 Plastic money (optional) ..... General Public

### Scene Four

Toy lamb ..... Scene Prop  
 Campfire (crumpled tissue paper) ..... Scene Prop  
 Four beer bottles..... Shepherds 1-4

***N.B. Glass bottles are great but obviously there are safety issues. Plastic is fine, but if you use plastic bottles paint them with an appropriate medium so they look like earthenware. Remember they will be very light and unstable, so a little water or plasticine at the bottom will give stability.***

### Scene Five

Crib ..... Scene Prop  
 Baby (doll)..... Mary  
 Basket of food (or empty basket covered with a cloth) ..... Innkeeper's Wife  
 Gold ..... Wise Man 1  
 Frankincense ..... Wise Man 2  
 Myrrh..... Wise Man 3  
 Toy lamb ..... Shepherd 3



## **HELPFUL HINTS AND TIPS**

Give your children their words to learn first – enlist the help of parents here. Set a date by which they should know them; you cannot hope to rehearse movement or introduce props until words and cues are learned.

If sending home words to learn, send cues (the preceding line or two) as well, so children not only know what to say but when to say it!

Songs are best learned separately (it helps to keep the blood pressure down for all concerned).

Once rehearsing begins on stage, introduce any flats (free standing scenery) as soon as possible, so that children have their positions correct from the start. And don't forget to have one or two rehearsals with props, microphones (and lights if using) before the official dress rehearsal to allow time for children to get used to them.

Finally – this may seem obvious but is often forgotten – don't forget to practise your cast bows (arms across tummies or not?) and the order in which they should lead off stage. All too often a super show ends in foot shuffling embarrassment because no one knows quite what to do when the applause ends.

## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

### **STAGING**

This show is set in and around Bethlehem. Depending on the facilities available it can be as simple or as complex as you want. Just remember, this is not supposed to be a West End production. All most parents want is to see their child on stage. All most teachers want is to survive unscathed. So feel free to add, subtract or completely change the ideas below. And don't forget to send your comments and pictures to: [kate@musicline-ltd.com](mailto:kate@musicline-ltd.com)

#### **Scene One: On The Road To Bethlehem**

This scene is simplicity itself. Don't worry about stars. Children can just point at the ceiling, or, if you are using scenery, a dark backdrop with stars glued or painted on it is remarkably effective and will work for the whole production.

(Incidentally, instant scenery is now available with our digital backdrops. **Project It!** provides a different backdrop for EVERY scene change and is supplied in both a PowerPoint presentation and as individual JPG files. See our website for details.)

If you have enough space, keep your star dancers on stage throughout this scene.

#### **Scene Two: Three Not-So-Wise-Men In Jerusalem**

Dead easy.

#### **Scene Three: The Streets Of Bethlehem**

Let the children mime the buying of food unless you have wonderfully helpful teaching assistants or Year 6 who can be asked to bring on the odd table draped with a cloth or market stall.

#### **Scene Four: Shepherds, Sheep and Angels**

If you have kept your star spangled backdrop there will be no problem here. Children can just point at this. Don't forget: at least one Shepherd, possibly Matthew, will need to grab a toy lamb as he exits.

#### **Scene Five: In the Stable**

Dead easy. Mary can walk to the front of the stage as she sings her solo, still holding and rocking Jesus.

## **COSTUMES**

All very traditional.

Stars should have star head dresses or stars sewn to their tops. The main star could have a sandwich board type star over her.

Note that in this production the Three Wise Men are not shown as Kings; this would detract from Herod. They can be traditionally and finely dressed but not in crowns.

Herod is your chance to do a King Thing. His Chief Priest can wear traditional robes.

The Innkeeper and his Wife should be in aprons (butcher type for the Innkeeper perhaps)

We do like to see our Angels in white and tinsel bling.

## **CHOREOGRAPHY**

### **Track One: Starlight**

This is an ideal song for all the cast to sing. Get them all on stage if you can, or on the floor in front of it. Only you know your children and the space you have to work with, but this works well with the cast on either side of the stage at 45 degrees to the audience with the stars in a line at the front, the main star in the centre, naturally.

Stars should twinkle their fingers and sway balletically.

### **Track Two: Do You Know?**

During this song the Wise Men should stop passers-by, showing them their map. Passers-by should shake their heads and one could reorientate the map.

Wise men should point in the directions indicated in the song and walk round vaguely in circles if you like.

### **Track Three: There's A Star**

Gentle swaying by those not singing should be enough.

### **Track Four: My Little One**

Mary rocks the baby whilst the audience sniff gently.

### **Track Five: First Ever**

No choreography needed; the building of the Ensemble should be enough.

**SCENE ONE:                    ON THE ROAD TO BETHLEHEM****TRACK 1:                            STARLIGHT**

*During the song, pupils in star costumes perform a suitable dance/movement routine. Costume suggestion: Tin foil stars attached to a white leotard or white T shirt and leggings.*

**ALL:**                    WAY UP HIGH IN THE BIG DARK SKY,  
TWINKLING IN THE NIGHT,  
WAY UP HIGH, SO VERY, VERY FAR.  
WAY UP HIGH IN THE BIG DARK SKY,  
TWINKLING OH SO BRIGHT,  
WAY UP HIGH, THOSE LOVELY TWINKLING STARS.

STARLIGHT, STARLIGHT,  
TWINKLING IN THE DARK NIGHT SKY.

WAY UP HIGH IN THE BIG DARK SKY,  
WE'RE SO FAR BELOW,  
WAY UP HIGH, SO VERY, VERY FAR.  
WAY UP HIGH IN THE BIG DARK SKY,  
WE CAN SEE THEM GLOW,  
WAY UP HIGH, WE WONDER WHAT YOU ARE.

STARLIGHT, STARLIGHT,  
TWINKLING IN THE DARK NIGHT SKY.

WAY UP HIGH IN THE BIG DARK SKY,  
SUCH A LOVELY SIGHT,  
WAY UP HIGH, SO VERY, VERY FAR.  
WAY UP HIGH IN THE BIG DARK SKY,  
DIAMOND STUDED NIGHT,  
WAY UP HIGH, THEY'RE WINKING FROM AFAR.

STARLIGHT, STARLIGHT,  
TWINKLING IN THE DARK NIGHT SKY.

**ANNOUNCER:**        Scene One: On The Road To Bethlehem.

**NARRATOR 1:**        Long, long ago... far, far away...

**NARRATOR 2:**        On a starlit night.

**NARRATOR 3:**        A group of friends were travelling to Bethlehem.

**Enter Mary, Joseph and a number of friends who are travelling to Bethlehem. Four or five travellers enter first. Mary, Joseph and Travellers 1 and 2 bring up the rear. As the first travellers leave the stage, Mary, Joseph and Travellers 1 and 2 stand centre stage.**

**MARY:** *(Stands still and gazes up at the stars)* Joseph, look at the beautiful sky. The stars seem extra bright tonight.

**JOSEPH:** *(Stands close to Mary. He puts his arm around her shoulder and gazes skywards).* Yes Mary the stars are very pretty.

**TRAVELLER 1:** *(Moves towards Mary and Joseph and joins in the stargazing. Traveller 1 points towards a large, bright star)* Look at that large, bright one over there.

**TRAVELLER 2:** That's right over Bethlehem, just where we are going.

**JOSEPH:** Yes it is over Bethlehem, but we'll never get there if we don't stop stargazing.

**TRAVELLER 1:** *(To Mary and Joseph)* Have you come far?

**MARY:** Yes, we have travelled from Nazareth.

**JOSEPH:** It has been a long way especially for Mary and the baby. *(Pats Mary's tummy)*

**TRAVELLER 2:** We have only come from Jericho.

**TRAVELLER 1:** *(Exasperated)* We should have been in Bethlehem days ago but we've lost our way three times already!

**JOSEPH:** Stay with us; I know the way. Five more days and we'll see Bethlehem.

**MARY:** *(Exasperated)* Five more days! I hope the baby will wait that long.

**All exit.**

**SCENE TWO: THREE NOT-SO-WISE-MEN IN JERUSALEM**

**ANNOUNCER:** Scene Two: Three Not-So-Wise-Men In Jerusalem.

**NARRATOR 1:** Long, long ago... far, far away...

**NARRATOR 2:** On a starlit night.

**NARRATOR 3:** Three *NOT*-so-wise-men were lost in the middle of Jerusalem.

***Enter Three Wise Men and their Attendants to centre stage. The Attendants are carrying presents and road map scrolls.***

**WISE MAN 1:** (***Very cross***) I knew we should have taken that left turn at Palace Way.

**WISE MAN 2:** (***Irritated***) Well why didn't you say so!

**WISE MAN 1:** We'll never see the baby prince if we can't find the King's palace.

**WISE MAN 3:** Stop arguing you two. Let's face it, we are *lost!*

***Enter various Passers-By going about their business.***

**PASSER-BY 1:** Hello. Can I help you?

**TRACK 2:****DO YOU KNOW?**

***During the verses the Wise Men and Attendants could perform a simple movement/mime routine indicating the directions as they are sung.***

**WISE MEN:** DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO? HELP US PLEASE.  
DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO? WE DON'T.  
DON'T YOU SEE, WE COULD BE NEAR OR FAR?  
ARE WE HERE? NO! ARE WE THERE? NO!  
THEN WE REALLY DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE.

SHOULD WE GO LEFT? WHICH IS LEFT?  
THIS IS LEFT! (***Indicate***)  
SHOULD WE GO RIGHT? WHICH IS RIGHT?  
THIS IS RIGHT! (***Indicate***)  
OR SHOULD WE ALL JUST STAND STILL?

DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO? HELP US PLEASE.  
DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO? WE DON'T.  
DON'T YOU SEE, WE COULD BE NEAR OR FAR?  
ARE WE HERE? NO! ARE WE THERE? NO!  
THEN WE REALLY DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE.

SHOULD WE GO UP? WHICH IS UP?  
THIS IS UP! (***Indicate***)  
SHOULD WE GO DOWN? WHICH IS DOWN?  
THIS IS DOWN! (***Indicate***)  
OR SHOULD WE ALL JUST STAND STILL?

DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO? HELP US PLEASE.  
DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO? WE DON'T.  
DON'T YOU SEE, WE COULD BE NEAR OR FAR?  
ARE WE HERE? NO! ARE WE THERE? NO!  
THEN WE REALLY DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE.

SHOULD WE GO FORWARD? WHICH IS FORWARD?  
THIS IS FORWARD! (***Indicate***)  
SHOULD WE GO BACKWARD? WHICH IS BACKWARD?  
THIS IS BACKWARD! (***Indicate***)  
OR SHOULD WE ALL JUST STAND STILL?

DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO? HELP US PLEASE.  
DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO GO? WE DON'T.  
DON'T YOU SEE, WE COULD BE NEAR OR FAR?  
ARE WE HERE? NO! ARE WE THERE? NO!  
THEN WE REALLY DON'T KNOW WHERE WE ARE.

- WISE MAN 3:** *(Turning to the Passers-By)* We have brought some presents for the baby King, but we can't find the palace.
- PASSER-BY 2:** *(Thoughtfully, rubbing his chin)* Well, I've not heard about a baby King in Jerusalem.
- PASSER-BY 1:** *(Pointing)* Here comes Herod. He's the King. He'll know all about it.

**Enter King Herod with his guards and Chief Priest, who is carrying a huge scroll. Everybody bows very low.**

- WISE MAN 1:** Your majesty, we have come to see the baby King.
- WISE MAN 2:** We saw his star in the East.
- WISE MAN 3:** But now we are lost! *(Turning to the Passer-By)* And this man says there is no baby King in Jerusalem.
- HEROD:** *(Gesturing royally)* Men of wisdom, welcome. Welcome to Jerusalem. First you must go to my palace and rest after your long journey, then we will talk about the baby. Guards, show the Wise Men the way.
- WISE MEN:** *(Bowing)* Thank you your majesty.

**Guards, Wise Men, Attendants and Passers-By exit.**

- HEROD:** *(Turning to his Chief Priest, shouting very angrily)* Baby King? Baby King? Here in Jerusalem? Why haven't I heard about this? I am the King! Consult the stars.
- CHIEF PRIEST:** *(Opens his huge scroll. Looks intently at it, very worried, then relieved.)* Your Majesty, don't worry, the stars say the baby will be born in Bethlehem *not* Jerusalem.
- HEROD:** *(Smugly, rubbing his chin in a thoughtful way)* Very well. I will tell the Wise Men to go and find the baby, then come back and let me know where he is. *(Aside, menacingly)* I'll show him who is the King around here!

**Exit King Herod with regal flourish. Chief Priest follows.**

- NARRATOR 1:** What a *horrible* King! *Fortunately* the Wise Men had a dream about the baby.
- NARRATOR 2:** In the dream an angel told them *not* to tell King Herod where the baby was.
- NARRATOR 3:** Meanwhile, back in Bethlehem, Mary and Joseph were having problems finding somewhere to stay.



**SCENE THREE:                    THE STREETS OF BETHLEHEM**

***The six Market Traders enter. They station themselves in a large semicircle around the stage. Enter general buying public who start to buy. Mary and Joseph enter, looking very tired and worried.***

**ANNOUNCER:**        Scene Three: The Streets Of Bethlehem.

**MARY:**                Joseph, this baby will be born on the street if we don't soon find somewhere to stay.

**JOSEPH:**             Sit down and rest Mary. I'm sure something will turn up.

***Enter Innkeeper and his Wife, carrying a basket full of food.***

**JOSEPH:**             Please could you tell us where to find a room? My wife is very tired and she is going to have a baby.

**INNKEEPER:**        ***(Looks thoughtful, rubs his chin and speaks slowly)*** Well now, let me see.

***Mary gets up and joins Joseph.***

**MARY:**                Joseph, I have a bad pain. I think the baby is coming.

**WIFE:**                ***(Turning to Mary, putting an arm around her)*** Don't worry my dear, we'll think of something.

**MARY:**                Well, we'd better be quick.

**INNKEEPER:**        ***(Sounding excited)*** I know! My inn is full, but there's plenty of room in the stable around the back.

**WIFE:**                That's a good idea. At least you'll have some shelter. I'll go on ahead quickly and make a place for you and the baby.

***Exit Wife.***

**JOSEPH:**             Thank you. You're very kind. Come on Mary. I knew something would turn up. A warm stable will be better than the street.

***All exit.***

**SCENE FOUR:                    SHEPHERDS, SHEEP AND ANGELS**

**ANNOUNCER:**            Scene Four: Shepherds, Sheep And Angels.

**NARRATOR 1:**            Long, long ago... far, far away...

**NARRATOR 2:**            On a starlit night.

**NARRATOR 3:**            Shepherds were guarding their sheep on the hills above Bethlehem.

*Enter several Shepherds. They sit around a fire eating their meal and chatting.*

**SHEPHERD 1:**            *(Drinking from bottle)* I wonder where Matthew has got to. He promised to take over my shift before dark.

**SHEPHERD 2:**            *(Drinking from bottle)* He's probably got stuck in the traffic. Bethlehem is so very busy at the moment with all the visitors being counted and paying their taxes.

**SHEPHERD 3:**            Yes, the shops and innkeepers must be doing a roaring trade. We're in the wrong job, friends. Guarding sheep will never make us rich!

**SHEPHERD 4:**            *(Looking up at the stars, drinking from bottle)* That may be so, but who wants to be in the middle of all that dust and noise? It is so peaceful and clear up here on the hills, *(enthusiastically)* and look at that beautiful sky.

**SHEPHERD 1:**            *(Pointing)* Have you noticed that huge star, over there, just above Bethlehem?

*All the Shepherds turn and look.*

**SHEPHERD 2:**            And look over there. What is that bright light?

**SHEPHERD 3:**            It looks as though it's getting closer.

**SHEPHERD 4:**            And what is that noise? It sounds like singing.