

ELLIE: *(Loudly, but slightly nervous)* Hello everybody and welcome to your school play. My name is Raphael and I am an angel. I am here to tell you the story of the first Christmas and about a baby called Jesus. *(The lights rise on the rest of the stage. **BILLY** and **HARMONY** enter as Mary and Joseph. **HARMONY** still looks a little anxious about what went down earlier).* In a town called Nazareth there was a man called Joseph and a woman called Mary. They were very happy together but, one day, something strange happened. A beautiful angel called Gabrielle...

DAMIEN: *(Hissing offstage)* Gabriel!

ELLIE: *(Hissing back)* That's what I said!

DAMIEN: No you didn't. Gabrielle is a girl's name and I'm not some sissy girl.

ELLIE: I don't think you really get girl angels and boy angels.

DAMIEN: Just say it properly.

ELLIE: Fine! The angel *(emphasis)* Gabriel appeared in a dream to Mary.

(DAMIEN enters.)

DAMIEN: Be not afraid! *(HARMONY stands, staring at him, clearly afraid)* I said, be not afraid, you moron! *(She continues to stay silent. DAMIEN begins to lose his temper again and balls up his fists.)* Stop being afraid or I'll give you one of these! *(This seems to snap HARMONY out of her funk).*

HARMONY: Who are you?

DAMIEN: I am the Angel Gabriel and I bring you tidings of great joy! You're going to have a baby and his name is going to be Jesus.

HARMONY: But I don't like the name Jesus. Can't I call him Jeff or Alan? Something a bit more normal.

DAMIEN: No, you've got to call him Jesus.

HARMONY: What if it's a girl? Should I call him Jessie instead?

DAMIEN: Mary, just shut your gob and listen. You're gonna have a baby; it's gonna be a boy and his name is gonna be Jesus. Alright?

HARMONY: *(Thinks for a moment and then shrugs)* Alright.

DAMIEN: Good. *(He exits, briefly exclaiming)* Amateurs!

ELLIE: Mary woke up the next morning feeling very confused. She knew that she had to tell Joseph about her dream but she didn't know how. What if he didn't believe her? Joseph could see she was very upset.

(BILLY enters.)

BILLY: *(Shouting, ala HARMONY in act one.)* MARY IS EVERYTHING ALRIGHT? *(Whispering excitedly to HARMONY)* Hear that Harmony? I protected!

HARMONY: *(Wincing)* What?

BILLY: *(Slightly louder)* I protected!

ELLIE: Mary decided to tell him the truth.

HARMONY: I'm going to have a baby and his name is going to be Jesus.

ELLIE: Joseph was very excited, and a little bit confused, about the news, but he loved Mary and wanted to help her as much as he could.

BILLY: *(Still shouting)* I'LL STAY WITH YOU AND HELP YOU RAISE THE BABY.

ELLIE: They were happy for a little while, but then a man called Caesar Augustus said that everyone had to go home and pay their taxis.

(BILLY sticks his arm out as if hailing a cab).

BILLY: Oh no! That was the last taxi! Looks like we'll have to find another way to get to Bethlehem.

(A stuffed donkey is thrown onto the stage).

HARMONY: What about this donkey?

BILLY: Yes, that will do. Although Miss Amber said it's actually called an arse.

HARMONY: That's good. Because I heard Angus the caretaker say that Miss Amber has a really fit arse. That should get us to Bethlehem!