A Nativity Play in a Poem

Inn Keeper (to audience)

Welcome to my stable, I’m the keeper of the inn,

Please settle down, our Christmas tale will very soon begin;

The greatest story ever told, or that we’ll ever tell,

Almighty God become a man, the child Emmanuel.

(to Joseph)

The only space that I have left is in this stable block,

Its warm and dry with straw for beds, but doesn’t have a lock;

If I could find you both a room, I’d do it in a flash,

Cos trade is trade, and what is more, I’d charge you far more cash.

Joseph

I’ll take it please, and thank you, for my wife thinks that she might

Give birth to a beloved son, upon this very night;

And if she does we’ll lie him in the manger on the hay,

I’ll fetch her - Mary come on in, its going to be okay.

Mary

O thank you Sir, you’re very kind to let us stay in here,

The journey’s been a long one and I feel my time is near;

So if I may I’ll just sit down and gave my feet a rest,

A quiet night in, just for two, is what I think is best.

Joseph (after a pause, holding the baby)

O Mary dear, he’s beautiful, a perfect baby boy,

And looking at his tiny face just fills my heart with joy;

Now you must be exhausted, so please try and rest your head,

To make sure you are not disturbed, I’ll sit up on the bed.

Shepherds

We’re sorry just to barge in but we simply couldn’t sleep,

We were sitting on the hillside singing songs, and watching sheep

When a host of angels singing “Glory be to God on high”

And dressed in flowing robes of white lit up the evening sky.

They told us, “Go to Bethlehem, to see the new born King”,

Lying in a manger, wrapped in bands of swaddling;

They finished by announcing, “Peace on earth, goodwill to men”,

Then just as quickly as they came, they floated off again.

Well we were so excited that we had to come to town,

To see the child the angels said was God from heaven come down;

We are not rich so we have brought a lamb to give the King,

So please just let us worship and give Him our offering.

Joseph (after a knocking noise)

I don’t believe it but I think somebody’s at the door,

This stable’s getting crowded now, there’s hardly room for more;

Excuse me please, I’m coming through, I’ve got to let them in,

The way this evening’s going, it’s probably a King.

Kings

Good evening Sir we are three Kings, who all of Orient are,

We’ve come to see the new born King, for we have seen his Star;

We’ve journeyed west for many days, the star showed us the way,

So please just let us worship Him, and we’ll be on our way.

We first went to Jerusalem and found King Herod’s court,

His wise men said in Bethlehem we’d find what we had sought;

And when we found the baby, what the king told us to do

Was tell him where, so he could come and pay his homage too.

We’ve brought a gift of gold to show your baby is a king,

And myrrh foretells the infant will know pain and suffering;

Frankincense, that noble scent, declares the child divine,

The Son of the Almighty God, now born of David’s line.

Innkeeper

So there you are, we’ve built you up a proper Christmas scene,

The stuff of many greetings cards, and how it might have been;

Before we go there’s one more thing we simply have to do,

To wish a Happy Christmas time to every one of you.