

GONE WITH THE SPIRIT

by Ken Bradbury



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(DURATION: 10 – 12 minutes)

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Laura
Ford
Foster
Chase
Mary
Stallone
Crystal
Roseanne
Clint
Whoopie

Laura: *(looking around)* Well, here I am. Forced to be at the try-outs for the Sunday School Christmas Pageant. Bore – ing! Every Christmas we read the same ol’ ... “Yes, Mrs. Bile I’ll be pleased to read now. ‘And a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.’” There. That oughta hold ‘em. Every Christmas, the same old story. Mary gets pregnant, has a baby, the shepherds and wisemen come then there’s a thirty-year gap ‘til some really exciting happens again. Wish they’d let me re-write this stupid pageant. Maybe ... maybe ... Harrison Ford and Jodie Foster in ... “The Raiders of the Lost Manger!”

Ford: Come on, Mary! Could ya hurry up? We gotta make Bethlehem by midnight!

Foster: You know Joe, sometimes you’re pain in the donkey. I’m nine months pregnant, okay? Gimme a break!

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Ford: Whoa! Look in the sky! It's movin'! Mary! Close your eyes! Don't look, Mary! Don't look!

Foster: Put away the bullwhip, Joe. It's an angel of the Lord.

Ford: Don't look, Mary! Don't look!

Foster: Too late, Joe. How do you think I got this way?

Ford: It's the Force, Mary! It's the Force! Don't look! Don't look! Quick, we gotta find a place to hide. Look! It's a manger! Oh, no! Snakes in there! I hate snakes!

Laura: Uh-Oh. Listen to this. Joey Fentworth, in his father's old bathrobe, is reading the part about Mary and Joseph looking for shelter. *(smiles sweetly, then to herself)* No use, lookin' for shelter, Joe. We've been down this road before. Of course now, if you were Chevy Chase ... "Galilean Vacation, Part One!"

Chase: *(riding his donkey)* Hey kids, here we are in the Holy Land! I mean is this great or what?

Mary: Stop the donkey, Joe!

Chase: *(pointing)* Look kids! The Mount of Olives! Come on, Mary ... just a few more miles!

Mary: *(screaming)* Joe, I'm gonna pop! Stop this stupid donkey right now.

Girl: You better pull over, Pop. Mom's got that immaculate look in her eye again.

Chase: In this jerk-water little down?

Mary: *(groaning)* Don't mention water.

Chase: Look kids! The Mount of Olives! I wonder if they sell T-shirts?

Mary: That's in Jerusalem, Joe. Get me a hotel ... a truck stop ... a convenience store parking lot ... anything!

Chase: Look! There's a sign: The No-Room Inn! Mangers Available! I don't know, Mary ... no pool, no cable ... I don't even see an ice machine.

Mary: *(screams)* Stop this donkey now!

Laura: Now, that would make a Christmas pageant! What's next? *(reading)* "And there were at that same time shepherds in the fields watching their flocks by night." Hey, how about Sylvester Stallone for a shephard... and for the angel ... uh ... Billy Crystal!

Stallone: (*sheep noises, then*) Yo! Sheep! Shut up, why don't cha?

Crystal: (*chewing gum rapidly*) Like ... Behold.

Stallone: Whoa! Who are you? Yo! Sheep! Shaddup already! Can't chu see I'm talkin' to somebody?

Crystal: I'm like ... an angel of the Lord, you know? ... you wanna get your sheep off my wings? I. ... like ... bring you good tidings of great joy. It's a baby, man. A baby ... born this night in the city of Bethlehem. He's gonna be the next champ.

Stallone: Ya think he'd give me a break? (*begins shadow-boxing*) I still got the moves! I'm tellin' ya, I still got the moves! Here ... watch this ... Come here, sheepy! (*picks up and punches a sheep*)

Crystal: Hey! Hey! Easy with the mutton, Jeff. This guy's gonna give everybody a break! Get a match with this guy and you could be a contender.

Stallone: (*to the audience as Rocky begins running in place and punching the air*) "Getting Strong Now." I can do it! I can do it!

Crystal: I coulda been hostin' the awards in Jerusalem tonight, but no ... I had to come see this jerk.

Stallone: Yo! I can feel it already! I gotta go tell my wife. (*shouting*) Adrienne!!!!

Laura: Uhhh ... no, Ma'am. I didn't knock Nathan to floor ... he sorta slipped off his chair. Yes, M'am. I'll read. "And there was no room for them in the Inn." Shoulda called ahead Joe. I'll bet Clint Eastwood could get outa this. And maybe ... Roseanne! Oh! And wouldn't Whoopie Goldberg make a cool angel!

Roseanne: (*screaming*) Joe, you big ugly carpenter! Get your butt over here!

Clint: Mary, Mary, Mary. How many times have I gotta tell ya? Keep it down.

Roseanne: (*shouting*) You wanna help, Joe? Move the cow off me so's I can have this kid. At least when the other kids ask



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