Manger Mania II

a children's Christmas Musical by Ray Lombardi

produced by:



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Manger Mania II

Cast of Characters:

Emily - owner of the nativity

Julia - friend of Emily

Claire - friend of Emily

Tyler - friend of Emily

Ryan - Friend of Emily

Mary - mother of Jesus

Joseph - engaged to Mary

Mordecai - Shepherd

Aaron - Shepherd

Herod - King of Israel

Servant 1 - non-speaking role

Servant 2 - non-speaking role

Gaspar - wise man from the east

Balthasar - wise man from the east

Melchior - wise man from the east

Manger Mania II

Song 1

Manger Mania

lyrics & music by Ray Lombardi

Chorus:

Manger Manger Ma Ma Mania

Manger Manger Ma Ma Mania

Manger Manger Ma Ma Mania

Ma Ma Ma Mania, Ma Ma Ma Mania, Ma Ma Mania!

Verse 1:

It's a story, an adventure, a tale of hope and love It's exciting, it's amazing, it was sent from God above Supernatural, entertaining, and all of it is true Now we'll share it and we predict that it will warm you through and through

To Chorus

Verse 2:

Take a mother, and a baby, put them in a manger stall

with some cattle and a few sheep and a father straight and tall All together, on a clear night, when the stars shone in the sky God changed the course of history Hear the tiny baby cry!

To Chorus

Verse 3:

There were shepherds, there were angels, There were wise men from the east How astounding, how surprising, to every man and every beast that the God of all creation would visit us this way To a humble manger God came to us that day!

To Chorus

Bridge
We're going to tell you this story,
We're going to sing of the savior's birth
We want to make sure this story
is told throughout the earth!

To Chorus

Scene 1: When the scene opens Emily is on stage with a cardboard box, packing sticking out, removing and setting up pieces to a nativity on a small end table. Enter Julia, Claire, Ryan and Tyler, friends of Emily.

Julia: "Hey Emily, whatcha doin'?"

Emily: "Hi guys. I'm helping my mom set up the creche."

Ryan: "You're cookin' Quiche?"

Tyler: "Uuck! I hate quiche, that's chick food!"

Claire: "Here we go again. Like boys never eat egg pie."

Emily: "Guys, guys! I'm not cookin' anything! I'm arranging the Nativity."

Julia: "The what?"

Emily: "The nativity."

Tyler: "Looks like dolls to me"

Ryan: "Yeah, looks like she's playing house with those weird lookin' Barbie and Ken dolls! And what kind of pet is this? [Ryan picks up a sheep and examines it, Emily snatches it back out of his hands]

Emily: "Those aren't dolls! Why are boys such idiots? Those are figurines."

Claire: "You don't play with 'em?"

Emily: "Nah, they're just to look at."

Julia: "BOR - ING!"

[Ryan and Tyler pretend to snore at this remark]

Emily: "Not at all. Not when you know the story that goes with each of these pieces."

Claire: "There's a story? I like stories."

Tyler: "Yeah, me too - scary stories, like around the campfire when my dad uses the flashlight to make his face look all eerie!"

Emily: "Not a scary story, but there is a scary part in the story."

Julia: "A love story? Like a true romance? I love a good love story!"

Ryan, aside to Tyler: "Figures. That's all girls think about these days."

Emily: "Julia, there's definitely a romance in this story, but it's not all about that, either."

Tyler: "Adventure?" Like superman, or spiderman, or Ironman, or. . . "

Emily, interrupting: "OK, we get the idea. It's definitely an adventure story."

Claire: "So we have a little bit of everything in this story?"

Emily: "You could say that."

Ryan: "Well, what are you waiting for, tell us the story!"

Tyler: "Yeah, let's hear it!

Emily: "Well. . . OK, then, if you really want to hear it. . . "

Claire: "Yes, Emily, we ALL want to hear it [giving the boys a reprimanding look]

Emily, picking up the figurines of Mary and Joseph: "I suppose I should start with these two."

Julia: "Who are they supposed to be?"

Emily: "This is Mary and Joseph. They're in love."

Tyler: "Good, let's get the sappy romance part out of the way first." [Ryan nods head in agreement]

Emily, ignoring the boys: "As I was saying, a long time ago, in a far away land, a man named Joseph was in love with a young girl named Mary. . . "

Scene 2: Mary and Joseph, walking along together, chatting. . .

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Joseph: "So, Mary, I've been meaning to talk to you."
Mary: "Go on."
Joseph: "Well it's like this, I've been thinking. . . you know, about us. . . "
Mary, getting a little impatient: "AND?"
Joseph: "And I was hoping, you know, maybe that you and I, possibly, in the near future. . .
Mary: "Just spit it out, will ya!"
Joseph: "I THINK WE SHOULD GET ENGAGED TO BE MARRIED."
[silence as they stop and look at each other]
Mary: "You do?"
Joseph, now more boldly: "Yes, I do. Get engaged, that is. The marriage can wait a few
months, years, maybe. . . "
Mary, emphatically: "Joseph."
Joseph, ignoring her: "Of course, I'll have to talk to your father about all this, and you know
how he is. . ."
Mary, now loudly: "JOSEPH!"
Joseph, startled: "Sorry. Just getting a little carried away there."
Mary: "There's something I have to tell you."
Joseph: "Oh no."
Mary: "I'm not sure how to say this. . . "
Joseph: "You're dumping me aren't you. . ."
Mary: "But now I really need to tell you. . . "
Joseph: "It's that Jacob fellow, isn't it? I knew I couldn't trust him. Stealing my girl!!"
Mary: "I'M HAVING A BABY"
Joseph, oblivious: "Sure, sure, we'll have several I hope. . . "
Mary: "This year."
Joseph: "Huh?"
Mary: "You heard me. I'm having a baby. Soon."
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Joseph: "Ah, I don't get it. . . I thought you had to be, you know, married first?"

Mary: "Joseph, this baby is special"

Joseph: "I'd say!"

Mary: "He is the son of God."

Joseph: "Now I'm really confused. And just when I thought I had it all figured out!"

Mary: "Calm down, calm down, and let me explain. You see, a angel came to me a few months ago and told me that God had a special plan for me. I was to bear a son, and call him Jesus. It would be a miracle baby - it would be the very son of God. And now it's happened. And you, Joseph, are going to be his father when he's born. God has a special plan for you, too. He chose us! Isn't that amazing? We're going to raise the son of God!"

Joseph: "Um, does this mean you're still going to marry me?"

Mary: "Yes, Joseph, I will marry you, but not until after the child is born."

Joseph: "And it's really true that God chose us?"

Mary: It's really true. . . "

Song 2: **God Chose Us** (Mary and Joseph's duet)

God Chose Us

lyrics & music by Ray Lombardi

Joseph: I'm just a carpenter, I work with my hands Mary: I'm just a maiden girl, with dreams and with plans

Both: But both of us now truly understands, we are God's chosen ones:

CHORUS:

God chose us

To raise this holy baby

God chose us

He didn't say "Well Maybe"

He said "You're going to be the parents of this precious little boy

Take good care of Him and he'll bring you lots of joy

Guide him and protect him 'til he grows to be a man

For I chose you, yes I chose you, for I chose you and that's my plan!"

Joseph: I'll teach him how to use a hammer and nails

Mary: I'll teach him how to find the very best sales

Both: We'll both of us remember all the childhood tales, 'cause we're God's chosen

ones!

TO CHORUS

BRIDGE:

Parenting has many responsibilities

That's why we'll both be down on our knees

Asking God the Father to help us raise his son Until our task in parenting is done!

TO CHORUS

Scene 3, Emily's Living Room

Emily, picking up where she left off: "...and that's really how the whole story begins."

Claire: "I bet Joseph was a great catch!"

Julia, dreamily: "It's almost like Romeo and Julia."

Ryan: "Don't you mean 'Romeo and JuliET?"

Julia, slightly insulted: "Well I prefer to think of her as a Julia."

Tyler: "Can we get on with the story? I want to know what the deal is with these animals. . sheep, cows, goats."

Claire: "Yeah, what do they have to do with this story?"

Ryan: "If I were telling the story, it would be cool animals, like a sabertooth tiger, or an African elephant."

Emily: "These animals were domesticated animals."

Tyler: "Domesti-what? I never heard of that before."

Julia: "Yeah, what's a di-mist-i-crated animal anyway?"

Emily: "They are DOMESTICATED. That means they're tame and used to being around people a lot. You know, like cats and dogs."

Tyler: "I love dogs."

Ryan: "Me too. We used to have a hound dog but he made too much noise and we had to send him to a farm somewhere upstate."

Emily: "Boys, FOCUS! And let me tell you about these domesticated animals . . . "

Song 3: Domesticated Animals Blues

The Domesticated Animal Blues

We work all day
We sleep all night
We come to the barn
When there's no more light
We eat the same thing
day after day

A little of corn and a lot of hay We're so tired what should we do? we got the domesticated animal blues

We're taken for granted
We're mostly ignored
When we're not workin'
We're really bored
Nothing exciting
ever happens 'round here
day after day
and year after year
There ain't much to look at
There ain't much to do
we got the domesticated animal blues

Then one day a man a woman Came and stayed in our stall She was pretty and havin' a baby He was nervous and really tall

Then we heard a loud commotion Angels shoutin' and singing a song What a night Oh, what a party We celebrated all night long

When it's all over
When things have calmed down
We'll remember this night
in this sleepy town
That we got to see the
baby Jesus be born
On that very
first christmas morn
So we are sayin'
Here is the news
We lost the domesticated animal blues!!!!!

Scene 4: Emily's Living Room

Tyler: "Let me see if I got this straight. If it weren't for the animals having a barn, Mary and Joseph wouldn't have had a place to stay, right?"

Emily: "That's right. Mary and Joseph had to travel to Bethlehem. But by the time they got there, Mary was ready to have her baby. And there wasn't any room in the inn, so the innkeeper told them they had to go stay out in the barn."

Claire: "Yuuck! Bad enough to have to sleep in a barn, but to have a baby there? Poor Mary!"

Julia: "You think Joseph should have made reservations ahead of time?"

Ryan: "Duh, what do you think they had back then, the Sheep Express? How was he supposed to do that?"

Julia: "Oh yeah. . . I guess you're right. . . "

Ryan: "I think it'd be kinda cool to stay in a barn."

Claire, sarcastically: "Sure, if you're a cow."

Julia, sensing her chance to get back at Ryan: "He's got the brains of one. . . "

Ryan, insulted: "Very funny, verrry funny. You guys are **SO** clever!"

Emily: "Should we get back to the story, guys?"

Tyler: "Please do, before this turns into a brawl."

Emily, picking up a shepherd figurine: "OK, someone had to be in charge of the animals. Back then, shepherds were responsible for the flocks of sheep that stayed out on the fields, even at night."

Claire: "Weren't they scared?"

Emily: "No, they were used to it. They watched over the flocks, making sure that they kept the sheep safe from predators."

Ryan: "I thought the Predators were a hockey team out of Nashville. What were they doing in Bethlehem?"

Tyler: "They're not as good as the Philadelphia Flyers!"

Emily: "Guys, FOCUS! Not the predators hockey team, predators like lions and bears and wolves."

Tyler and Ryan: "Oh."

Emily: "Anyway, when the predators came around, the shepherds would scare them off. They'd shout and use their wooden sticks to keep them away from the sheep.

Julia: "So they were the shoutin' shepherds?"

Emily "I guess you could say that. . . "

Claire: "But what do shepherds have to do with the story?"

Emily: "I'm getting to that. You see, after the baby was born, angels appeared to the shepherds that night. And no, boys, not the LA Angels baseball team! These were real angels."

Claire: "What did they want with the shepherds?"

Emily: "They told the shepherds about Jesus being born in Bethlehem. They told them that it was great news! And then they told the shepherds to go and see the baby."

Tyler: "So what, the angels just show up at the campfire or something? That must've been spooky, like when my dad tells scary stories on our camping trips!"

Emily: "Not exactly... here's what happened..."

Scene 5, two shepherds (Mordecai and Aaron) on the hills near Bethlehem. . . Mordecai is sitting cross-legged on the ground, tossing pebbles into the campfire, while Aaron is standing, but leaning on his shepherd's crook as if almost asleep standing up. . .

Mordecai: "I'm bored."

[no response from Aaron]

Mordecai, a little louder: "I'M BORED!"

[still no response from Aaron, so Mordecai tosses a pebble at him, hits him in the arm]

Aaron: "Ouch! What'd you do that for?"

Mordecai: "You was sleeping again."

Aaron: "Was not!"

Mordecai: "Was too!"

Aaron: "NOT!"

Mordecai: "TOO!"

Aaron: "Aw, forget it. Isn't it your turn to keep watch yet?

Mordecai: "Not even close. You just took over a half hour ago."

Aaron: "It seems like it's been three hours. . . I'm getting very sleepy. . . "

Mordecai: "Nights are awfully long out here. . . "

The two sit quietly for a moment or two, as the "angels" (chorus, or group from chorus) prepare. In the now darkened room, the angels, each holding a flashlight at mid-chest height with beam pointing toward their face, all turn them on the leader's count. As soon as the lights come on Aaron and Mordecai act startled and scared. . .

Aaron: "And you said you were bored? What in heaven. . . "

Mordecai: "I think they're. . . could it possibly be. . . that they're angels?"

Aaron: "I think you're right. But what could they possibly want with us?"

Mordecai: "Well I think we're just about to find out. . . "

Music starts for Gloria to the Newborn Infant King

Gloria to the Newborn Infant King

Shepherds keeping their flocks On a cold, cold night long ago Suddenly they lifted their eyes Angels filled the sky with a glow

Singing "Gloria, Gloria" Glory to the newborn king Singing "Gloria, Gloria" Come and join us now as we sing Gloria, Gloria, Gloria,

"Do not be afraid For I bring good tidings of joy Unto you is born A holy infant boy"

Chorus

The sky was filled with a heavenly glow As the angels sang that night long ago The shepherds watched in fear and awe At what they heard and saw The chorus rang out so loud and clear That the angels seemed so very near It was a most amazing sight On that clear cold Christmas night!

Chorus

Scene 6: Emily's living room

Emily: "So the shepherds did go to Bethlehem. And this is what they went to see for themselves. [Emily holds up figurine of baby Jesus in the manger]

Claire: "Can I see it?"

Emily "Yes, but please be careful. This is the most important piece of the whole set." [Emily hands off the piece to Claire]

Ryan: "Why, did it cost more than the other pieces?"

Emily: "No. . .it's not that. It's just that the whole reason for the celebration of Christmas is because Jesus came to earth."

Tyler: "We don't ever talk about Jesus at our house. Every time I ask my parents about it they tell me to go look it up on Google."

Claire: "My parents too. And for some reason we aren't even allowed to talk about Christmas at school."

Emily: "That's too bad. But you can learn about it for yourself, it's all in the Bible."

Tyler: "I think we have one of those."

Claire: "We do, too."

Ryan: "Emily, tell us more about this."

Julia: "Yes, please continue. . . "

Emily, taking the piece back from Claire: "Well, after the angels sang to the shepherds, the shepherds came to the manger to see the baby Jesus. Somehow they knew that they were witnesses to the most amazing miracle God had ever done on earth. And they knew that it was all about the Baby. . . "

Jesus - It's All About the Baby

It's All About the Baby

It's all about the baby and why he came It's all about the baby Messiah is his name It's all about the purpose God had in mind To show his boundless love to all mankind

Chorus
Each and every Christmas
Through each and every year
Has been about this baby
This baby here.
Each and every Christmas
Through each and every year
It's all about the baby,
This baby, dear.

It's not about the gifts or the lights all aglow
It's not about the parties or friends that we know
It's not about the stockings filled to the brim
And its not about the trees that we trim
To Chorus

Julia: "I think I'm beginning to understand what Christmas is really all about."

Claire: "Me too. Sometimes I hear these Christmas songs on the radio that talk about angels, and shepherds and mangers, but I didn't know what it all meant."

Ryan: "You got any more pieces to this nativity, or is that it? So far it hasn't really been all that much of an adventure story!"

Tyler: "Yeah, you said there was some adventure!"

Emily: "I'm getting to that part right now. [Emily takes out a wise man and a camel figurine.]

Julia: "What's that?"

Emily: "This is what the adventure part is all about. After Jesus was born, three kings from far away lands got together and discovered something very unusual going on in the night sky. They discovered a bright star and somehow learned that the star would lead them to Jesus." [Emily picks up a wise man figurine and camel] "These three kings travelled a long, long way to bring presents to the baby Jesus."

Ryan: "Like toys and games?"

Claire: "Or clothes and accessories?"

Emily: "No, nothing like that. These were special gifts, for a special baby. But even before they got to see Jesus, they had to meet the wicked king."

Tyler: "Finally. . . this sounds promising."

Emily: "Oh yeah, you want adventure. . . wait till you hear what happened when they met the king. . . "

Scene 7, Herod's Palace, the three wise men await the arrival of the king. Herod arrives in a bluster with two servants scurrying along to keep up with him.

Herod, pretending to be a gracious host: "Gentlemen, welcome! So glad you've come to visit me! I love getting visitors from around the world. What brings you to our humble land?"

Balthasar: We've come to see the infant king."

Herod. alarmed: "Infant king, you say? Why, you are a little late for that, my children are all grown."

Gaspar: "This infant king we seek was to be born in Bethlehem. of Judea."

Herod: "Bethlehem, you say? Interesting! Bethlehem's a sleepy little town, nothing much out there but a bunch of farmers and shepherds.. No kings that I know of."

Melchior: "We have seen his star in the east, and we have come to worship him."

Herod: "His star, you say? He has a star? Never knew that was possible. [Herod turns to one of his servants and continues in a demanding tone] I want to know why I don't have a star! Go ask the advisors immediately! Now GO!" [The servant scurries off stage, then turns back to the wise men.] "Now then, gentlemen, what can I do for you?"

Gaspar: "If you would be so kind as to tell us the best way to get to Bethlehem, we'll be on our way and won't take up any more of your time."

Herod: "Certainly! I'd be delighted to help. I'll have our travel advisor give you directions, in exchange for a small favor."

Melchior: "Anything you ask, your highness."

Herod: "I think I should go and worship this baby king myself! After you have found him, come back and tell me exactly where he is, so I can bring him a gift of my own. Now if you would just give me a moment here with my servant we'll assist you in a few minutes."

Balthasar: "Certainly, your highness."[The three kings exit]

Herod, to his remaining servant: "CAN YOU BELIEVE THIS! They should be coming to bring ME gifts and worship ME! I'm the only king around here and no baby is going to take my place! When they return with the location of the infant, send our troops to Bethlehem and tell them to kill all the infants that have been born in the last two years, just to be safe! Don't let anyone escape. I'll show them who's the king around here!" [Herod storms off stage with his servant meekly in tow]

Kings from the Orient

Kings, kings, kings from the orient WOW Kings, kings, kings from the orient HOW How did they know to go to Bethlehem? How did they know to follow that star? How did they know each other anyway? How did they find him from so far?

They were three orient kings
They were three manly guys
They were smart and they were savvy
They were really, really wise

Kings, kings, kings from the orient STRUT Kings, kings, kings from the orient WHAT What did they say to that wicked king What did they know about the murder thing Herod planned for God's little son When the kings journey was done

They were three orient kings
They were three manly guys
They were smart and they were savvy
They were really, really wise

Kings, kings, kings from the orient MEN Kings, kings, kings from the orient WHEN When did they finally meet the one? When did know it was God's own son? When did they leave on a different route? 'Cause the angel told them 'em to scoot.

Scene 8: Emily's Living Room

Claire: "So what happened? Did Herod actually do that? Did he slaughter all those innocent children?"

Emily: "He did. . . but God protected Mary and Joseph. They were warned by God to take the baby to Egypt, where they stayed until the king stopped killing the infants. Then Mary and Joseph took the baby Jesus back to Nazareth."

Julia: "Where he grew up and lived happily ever after?"

Emily: "Not quite. . . you see, God didn't just send his Son to earth to visit. He sent Him to die."

Tyler: "Why did God save Jesus from Herod then?"

Emily: "Because it wasn't the right time. Jesus had work to do. . . he came to tell everyone about God's love, and how by believing in Him they could be saved from their sins."

Ryan: "Did Jesus know He was going to die?"

Emily: "Yes, but He also knew that that He would rise up from the dead. That's the amazing ending to this story! Jesus came to save us from our sins by dying on a wooden cross. And that's why we celebrate Christmas - because Jesus came."

Julia: "And that's why you set up this nativity each year? Because Jesus came for us?"

Ryan: "And that's why Christmas is more than just toys and games and sports stuff, right?"

Emily: "That's right. . .

Tyler: "I'm going to ask my mom if we can put up a nativity scene in our house!"

Claire: "Me too!"

As the scene ends the children continue to pick up the pieces of the nativity scene and chat, while the music builds in for the finale reprise. . .

Reprise Manger Mania II

Song 1

Manger Mania

lyrics & music by Ray Lombardi

Chorus:

Manger Manger Ma Ma Ma Mania Manger Manger Ma Ma Ma Mania Manger Manger Ma Ma Ma Mania Ma Ma Ma Mania, Ma Ma Ma Mania, Ma Ma Ma Mania!

Verse 1:

It's a story, an adventure, a tale of hope and love It's exciting, it's amazing, it was sent from God above Supernatural, entertaining, and all of it is true Now we'll share it and we predict that it will warm you through and through

To Chorus

Verse 2:

Take a mother, and a baby, put them in a manger stall with some cattle and a few sheep and a father straight and tall All together, on a clear night, when the stars shone in the sky God changed the course of history Hear the tiny baby cry!

To Chorus

Verse 3:

There were shepherds, there were angels, There were wise men from the east How astounding, how surprising, to every man and every beast that the God of all creation would visit us this way To a humble manger God came to us that day!

To Chorus

Bridge

We're going to tell you this story, We're going to sing of the savior's birth We want to make sure this story is told throughout the earth!

To Chorus

The End

Manger Mania II Theme Song

From the Musical "Manger Mania II"







God Chose Us

from the musical "Manger Mania II



2 God Chose us



God Chose us 3



Domesticated Animal Blues

from the musical Manger Mania II





Gloria

from the musical Manger Mania II



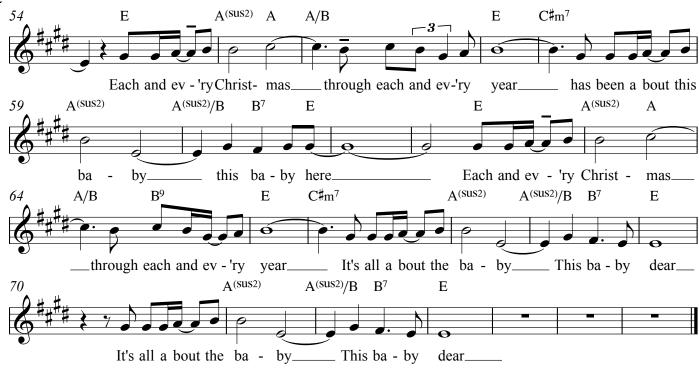
2 Gloria



It's All About the Baby







Kings from the Orient





