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General Guidelines

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- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.*
 - Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
 - Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.
- * **If you are performing outside of your school premises, for example in a local theatre, please contact us as further conditions apply. For more information, visit www.edgyproductions.com/licences**
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Audio and Video Recordings

If you wish to make an audio or video recording of the performance of any of our musicals, you will need an additional **recording and duplication licence** from Edgy Productions. This will also allow you to make and sell copies of your recordings if you wish to do so. We no longer request that you pay a commission to us on the money you raise from the sale of recordings.

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You are not permitted to share any of our copyrighted material, either in printed form, on disc or in digital file format, with anyone who is not a pupil or teacher within your school or organisation. We will take immediate action should an incident of illegal file-sharing be reported or discovered.

You can, of course, phone or email us for advice – we are more than happy to discuss all your licensing needs.

Tel: 01858 288081
Email: info@edgyproductions.com

PERFORMANCE LICENCE APPLICATION FORM

For any performance of any part of ‘Stargazers’ to an audience other than staff and children (eg. to parents), a valid performance licence from Edgy Productions must be held. Please note, your PRS, MCPS, CCLI or similar local authority-issued licence does not cover you for this. **Unless you purchased an instant performance licence and/or a recording & duplication licence when you bought this production pack, please ensure you complete and return this form at least 28 days before your first performance:**

- by post – Edgy Productions, 8 Roman Way, Market Harborough, Leicestershire LE16 7PQ
- by FAX – 0845 833 33 49
- by email – info@edgyproductions.com

The performance licence will permit the holder to do the following:

- Perform a musical up to 5 times in one academic year, to a public audience, within your school.*
- Reproduce song lyrics on paper or for display on interactive whiteboards or similar screens.
- Photocopy the script and score for the cast to learn lines, and musicians to play the songs.

Contact name:

Name of school / organisation:

Address:

..... **Postcode:**

Tel: **email:**

Number of performances: **Performances Dates: from** **to**

By ticking, select one of the performance licence options below:

Standard Performance Licence ☐ **£30.00** (including VAT)
(no admission charged and no tickets sold)

or

Performance Licence with charges ☐ **£36.00** (including VAT)
(admission **is** charged and/or tickets **are** sold)

☐

* Tick if you are performing outside your school premises, for example in a local theatre, as further conditions apply – see www.edgyproductions.com/licences

If you are recording any performance, and/or selling copies of the recording, you will **also** need a recording and duplication licence.

Recording and Duplication Licence ☐ **£30.00** (including VAT)

By ticking, select one of the payment options below:

☐

I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to Edgy Productions Ltd

☐

Please send me an invoice for £..... (payment terms 30 days)

**Writers rely on payments from public performances for their livelihoods.
Please ensure they receive their dues.**

Scene 1

*(As the backing track to the opening song plays (**track 10**) the cast take their seats. The main stage is strewn with exotic cushions and silks. The three wise men, Balthazar, Melchior (these two looking impatient) and Caspar, lounge around. They occasionally glance up at the sky through elaborate hand-held telescopes, rubbing their sore necks. Three servants stand in attendance. On a separate smaller stage to one side is a stable, typical of the usual school nativity set-up – see staging suggestions/ scenery. Three narrators stand on the other side of the main stage – they read their lines. Fade the music when ready.)*

Narrator 1 Long ago, there lived three wise men; Balthazar, Melchior and Caspar.

Narrator 2 They spent their time looking at the patterns the stars made in the night sky.

Narrator 3 They had been waiting many years for a sign that something special was to happen. But now, two of them had grown impatient.

Balthazar *(looking up through his telescope, rubbing his neck)* Will we ever see anything, Melchior? How long has it been?

Melchior Well, since we started watching the stars, Balthazar, I've grown a grey beard!

Caspar Oh, life's not so bad. We lie around just stargazing. It's a fine way to pass the time!

Song 1 – Stargazing *(track 10, lyrics p13)* *(Wise men, supported by whole cast)*



(As the song finishes, the servants collect up the cushions and exit after the wise men. The main stage is clear.)

Narrator 1 After another unexciting evening, they went to bed.

Narrator 2 But soon, exciting things **would** happen! For far away, in a town called Nazareth, a young woman called Mary had a visitor.

(Mary enters and sits on a stool centre-stage. Gabriel then enters and stands at her side.)

Narrator 3 And the news he brought her would be the start of something wonderful!

Gabriel Don't be afraid, Mary. I am Gabriel, and I have a message for you from God.

Mary But what does God want with me?

Gabriel Listen.....

(The other Angels enter/stand, to join Gabriel in the next song.)

Song 2 – The King Of All Kings *(track 11, lyrics p14)*
(Angels, supported by the whole cast)

(The backing track is played again as Mary and the angels exit.)

Scene 2

(The servants enter and replace the cushions. The three wise men then enter and lie on them, asleep. The servants then exit. Fade the music when ready.)

Narrator 1 Now, some months later, in the middle of the night,
Balthazar suddenly woke up.

(Balthazar awakes, sits up and rubs his eyes. He picks up his telescope and looks to the skies.)

Narrator 2 What he saw took his breath away!

Balthazar You two, wake up! It's happened at last!

Melchior *(sitting up abruptly)* What? It's really happened?

(As Melchior fumbles for his telescope, Caspar wakes up annoyed.)

Caspar Oh, I was dreaming about eating a lovely big meal!
This better be worth it!

Balthazar It is, Caspar! There's a brand new star in the sky!

(Caspar looks through his telescope, as the stars assemble at the front of the stage – see staging suggestions/costumes. One star is larger and differently costumed, and stands centrally.)

Song 3 – A Brand New Star *(track 12, lyrics p15)*
(Whole cast led by the Stars)

(As the song finishes the 'smaller' stars exit. The larger star remains. One of the servants hands Melchior a scroll. He opens it and the wise men look at it.)

Narrator 3 The wise men looked at the scriptures, to find the
meaning of this new star.

Melchior Yes! Here it is! *(reading)* 'A new light in the heavens
foretells of a....a new-born king!'

Narrator 1 Then the star began to move slowly across the sky, heading towards the west.

Narrator 2 They knew they must follow the star, to where this new king would be born.

Balthazar *(to the servants)* Saddle-up the camels! We’re leaving!

Caspar But I wanted a snack first. Must we leave now?

Balthazar & Melchior Yes, Caspar! Right away!

(As the next song starts the servants bring on three camels, and proceed to hang bags off them – see staging suggestions/costumes/props.)

Song 4 – Saddle-Up (part 1) *(track 13, lyrics p16)*
(Wise men, camels and servants, supported by the whole cast)

(After one verse and chorus there is a long instrumental section in the song, during which the following narration and action happens – practice to get the timing right! After the narration the song will continue.)

Narrator 3 So the three wise men began their journey, not knowing what lay ahead.

(The wise men, camels, servants (carrying the cushions), and star all exit. Mary enters, followed by Joseph. They stand in front of the stage.)

Narrator 1 Meanwhile, back in Nazareth, Mary’s new husband, Joseph, had something important to tell her.

Joseph Mary, we must travel to Bethlehem where I’m from, to sign a new register.

Mary But Joseph, the baby will be born any day now.

Joseph I’m sorry Mary, we must leave right away.

Song 4 continued Saddle-Up (part 2)
(Whole cast)

(As this narration finishes, Joseph fetches a donkey over which he hangs bags. During the repeated chorus Mary and Joseph, leading the donkey, slowly walk along the front of the stage, towards the ‘stable stage’, though they don’t enter it yet. Also during this final chorus the Star enters, leading the wise men and camels across the stage, all exiting at the other side. All should be clear of the stage when the song finishes. The backing track is played again as the stage is made ready for the next scene. Fade the music when ready.)

Scene 3

(An ornate throne stands centre stage, and a banqueting table to one side.)

Narrator 2 The wise men followed the star by night, and rested by day. Eventually they reached Jerusalem, and the palace of Herod the king.

(Herod enters, sitting ‘slobbishly’ on the throne. His wife drapes herself on the arm. An ensemble of party guests gathers around. They all drink from goblets and pick at the food on the table.)

Narrator 3 Herod was a cruel and selfish man, who wasted his wealth on drinking and feasting.

Herod’s Wife *(adoringly)* What a generous king you are, my dear husband. You always look after your guests!

Herod Well, I do like a good party!

Song 5 – One Big Party! *(track 14, lyrics p17)* *(Herod and guests, supported by the whole cast)*

(As the song finishes, Herod and his wife collapse exhausted on the throne, while the guests sit down to catch their breath.)

Party Guest 1 Phew! I’m having a great time!

Party Guest 2 Oh yes! Nobody throws a party like King Herod!

Narrator 1 Now, the wise men thought such a palace would be a good place to find out about a new king. They were taken to Herod.

(The wise men enter and bow before the king. Caspar notices the banquet.)

Caspar Look at all this food!

Narrator 2 They politely introduced themselves, but Herod was rude to them.

Herod Stargazers, eh? Such a waste of time. The stars tell you nothing!

Narrator 3 But everyone paid attention when they announced they were here to find a new baby king.

Herod’s Wife *(worried)* A **new** king? *(to Herod)* That would mean no more parties!

- Narrator 1** But Herod was clever, as well as cruel. He would find out where this baby was.....and kill him!
- Herod** *(slyly)* When you have found this king, come and tell me where he is, so I too can kneel before him. Now, Stargazers, a drink before you leave?
- Caspar** Oh yes please, we’d love.....
- Balthazar** *(interrupting)* I’m afraid we must be on our way.

(All exit. The stage is cleared. The wise men re-enter with camels and lie down.)

- Narrator 2** The wise men were visited in their dreams by angels, who warned them of Herod’s plans.
- (As the wise men sleep, the angels enter.)*

Song 6 – Keep It A Secret! *(track 15, lyrics p18)*
(Whole cast led by the Angels)

(As the song finishes the angels exit and the wise men wake up. They stand and look to the sky. The star enters and moves along the front of the stage.)

- Narrator 3** The star seemed to be travelling faster now, and the wise men knew they had to press on.
- (As the backing track is played again, the star exits and the wise men follow, leading their camels. Mary and Joseph take their positions in the stable. Fade the music when ready.)*

Scene 4

*(As **Soft music** plays (track 16) the star re-enters and positions itself near the stable. Alternatively, if possible, an identically-shaped star to the one on the costume could be placed above the stable where it will remain – see staging suggestions/ scenery. The soft music will continue under the following narration – fade it before the next song.)*

- Narrator 1** Mary and Joseph had now arrived in Bethlehem, but they hadn’t been able to find a room for the night as the town was full of visitors,
- Narrator 2** The only place to stay was a stable behind an inn. Still, it was clean and quiet. As the new star came to rest over the roof of that stable, Mary had her baby.
- Narrator 3** She called Him Jesus, just as the angel had told her to. She wrapped Him up and laid Him down in a manger filled with hay, then thanked God for this wonderful gift.

Song 7 – Heaven On Earth *(track 17, lyrics p19)* *(Whole cast)*

Narrator 1 Visitors soon began arriving at the stable. First, a group of shepherds, who had been looking after their sheep up in the hills.

Narrator 2 Angels had appeared to these shepherds, telling them to come to this stable and kneel at the manger where the new king lay.

(The angels enter and form a 'choir' on the main stage. The shepherds then enter main stage. Two of them approach the manger, one carrying a lamb.)

Shepherd 1 We have come to worship the new king

Shepherd 2 And we have brought him the gift of a lamb.

*(The two shepherds then re-join the others on the main stage. All the shepherds sit. **Soft music** begins again (**track 18**) - to be faded before the next song.)*

Narrator 3 And then, just as the baby Jesus woke up, the three wise men arrived. Their long journey, like that of the star which had led them, had finally ended in this simple yet beautiful place.

(The wise men enter, leaving their camels at the edge of the main stage. Carrying their gifts they approach the manger.)

Narrator 1 Each of them stepped forward and gave Jesus their special gifts – gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Song 8 – Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh *(track 19, lyrics p20)* *(Whole cast led by the wise men)*

Narrator 2 Balthazar, Melchior and Caspar, the three stargazers from afar, then silently bowed once more to the baby in the manger, and left the stable.

Narrator 3 Obeying the angels, they did not return to Herod, but set off on the long journey straight back to where they had come from.

Narrator 1 They had found the place where this special baby king was born, and welcomed him into the world with special gifts. Now, at last, it was time to go home.

(The angels, the shepherds, the stars, the party guests, Herod and his wife, the donkey and camels all sit in front of the main stage. The three servants enter with cushions and place them as in scene 1, then stand in attendance as the three wise men enter and sit down centrally.)

Balthazar *(relaxing)* At last, we're back where we belong.

Caspar I've missed my little comforts – especially my food!

Melchior It is good to be home, I agree, *(taking out his telescope and looking skywards)* but I can't help wondering what other adventures are on the horizon.....

Narrator 2 And as the night sky twinkled once more with the promise of wonderful things to come, the three old men lay back on their cushions, doing what they did best.....stargazing!

Song 9 – Stargazing (reprise) *(track 20, lyrics p21)*
(Whole cast)



THE END