



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, far away in eastern lands, there lived three old wise men named Balthazar, Melchior and Caspar.

Narrator 2 Their time was spent in luxurious and comfortable surroundings, reading the ancient scriptures and studying the patterns made by constellations of stars in the night sky.

Narrator 3 They had been waiting many, many years for these stars to reveal a sign to them – a sign that something truly special was about to happen. But as time went on the stars still kept their secrets hidden, and two of the wise men had now grown bored and impatient.

Balthazar *(looking up through his telescope, rubbing his neck)* Not even a glimmer of anything new. Will we ever see anything up there? This can't go on, Melchior! We're no spring chickens.....and it's making my neck sore, looking upwards for hours on end!

Melchior I know, Balthazar. I'm beginning to think we've been wasting our time all these years. I was a young man when we started watching the stars. Now I have a long, grey beard!

Caspar Oh, come on you two – how bad can it be? We lie around on cushions for hours on end just stargazing, with our servants bringing us anything and everything we desire. It's a truly 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 So, after yet another evening gazing at the secretive stars, these three old men went to bed, wondering when, if ever, something exciting was going to happen.

Narrator 2 Now, although they didn’t know it yet, before too long exciting things **would** happen – things they could not have dreamed of! For far away, in a small town called Nazareth, a young woman called Mary received a visitor.

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

Narrator 3 The news this visitor brought Mary would be the start of a wonderful journey, for her and also the three wise men – a journey that would soon bring them all together!

Gabriel Don’t be afraid, Mary. I am Gabriel, an angel sent to you by God with a very important message.

Mary But what does God want with me? I’m just a simple girl. My life can be of no interest to Him.

Gabriel Mary, you are truly blessed. He has chosen you above all others to do something very special. 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 Some months later, in the middle of an unusually still and warm night, Balthazar suddenly woke up. He didn’t know why, but he felt the need to look at the night sky.

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

Narrator 2 And what he saw took completely took his breath away! He excitedly, if a little clumsily, woke up Melchior and Caspar, eager for them to see it too.

Balthazar *(shaking the others)* Wake up! Come on you two, wake up! It's happened! It's finally happened. It's what we've been waiting for all these years! WAKE UP!

Melchior *(sitting up abruptly)* What? It's really happened? Are you sure? Where's my telescope?

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

Caspar Oh, what is it? You do realise I was in the middle of dreaming about eating a lovely big meal, and they were just about to serve pudding! This had better be worth waking up for, Balthazar!

Balthazar Oh, believe me it is! Look up there Caspar! It's happened at last! 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 huddled together and looked at the old scriptures. They studied the text in great detail, trying to find the significance and meaning of this new star.

Melchior Yes! Here it is! *(reading)* 'A new light in the heavens foretells of a new light on Earth...a saviour...a new king born of God, destined for great things!'

Narrator 1 And as the three wise men gazed in awe and wonder at the new star, it began to move slowly across the night sky, heading towards the west.

Narrator 2 They knew immediately that they should follow, certain that it would lead them to where this new king would be born. It was their duty to seek Him out and kneel before Him.

Balthazar *(to the servants)* Saddle-up the camels! Load them with provisions for a long journey. We're leaving right away!

Caspar

But I was hoping for a snack first! It's not good to travel on an empty stomach. Do we really have to leave right away?

Balthazar
& Melchior

Yes, Caspar! Right away!

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