

The Christmas Story

A musical by EPmusic

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Synopsis

'The Christmas Story' ties all your favourite Christmas carol classics into a heart-warming story that will leave the audience feeling the true spirit of Christmas. The musical can be easily taught in one school term and will allow each and every one of the students in your school to shine.

'The Christmas Story' is told in three parts and explores the true meaning of Christmas. The first story tells of Jesus' birth. The second is the story of Saint Nicholas. And the third story is a retelling of the William Dean Howells classic 'Christmas Every Day'.

Intertwined in these three tales are 10 classic Christmas carols including 'Away in a Manger', 'Jolly Old St Nicholas' and 'Deck the Halls' as well as an original opening number. You can easily add or subtract songs according to the number or size of your classes. Backing tracks and rehearsal tracks (with vocals) are included for each of these numbers and sheet music with the melody line and lyrics is also available.

So, what are you waiting for? Christmas?! Come and celebrate 'The Christmas Story'...

Characters

<i>Character</i>	<i>Number of lines</i>
<i>Narrators:</i>	
1. Elf 1 - wise, older elf	17
2. Elf 2 – new recruit	16
<i>Story 1:</i>	
3. Joseph	6
4. Mary	7
5. Innkeeper	2
6. Peasant	1
7. Shepherd 1	5
8. Shepherd 2	5
9. Shepherd 3	4
10. Angel 1	1
11. Angel 2	1
12. Angel 3	1
13. Wise man 1	1
14. Wise man 2	1
15. Wise man 3	1
<i>Story 2:</i>	
16. Grandpa Jim	11
17. Child 1	4
18. Child 2	3
19. Child 3	3
20. St. Nicholas	0 (mime only)
21. Daughter 1	0 (mime only)
22. Daughter 2	0 (mime only)
23. Daughter 3	0 (mime only)
<i>Story 3:</i>	
24. Dad	31
25. Daughter	11
26. Little girl	13
27. Fairy	0 (mime only)
28. Mother	3
29. Father	3
30. Sister	7

Musical Numbers

1. The Christmas Story
2. Away in a Manger
3. The First Noel
4. Go Tell It on the Mountain
5. We Three Kings
6. Jolly Old Saint Nicholas
7. Up on the Housetop
8. O Christmas Tree
9. Deck the Halls
10. O Holy Night
11. We Wish You a Merry Christmas

Script

The Christmas Story

By EPmusic

Elf 1: Welcome to our Christmas musical!

Elf 2: We hope that our stories and songs help you to get into the Christmas spirit.

Elf 1: And remind us all of the true meaning of Christmas...

Elf 2: Presents!

Elf 1: No, not presents!

Elf 2: Are you sure?

Elf 1: Yes I'm sure!

Elf 2: Well then, what is the true meaning of Christmas?

Elf 1: You'll just have to wait and see...

Elves skip off stage.

Opening Song: The Christmas Story

The Story of Jesus' Birth

Joseph and Mary are walking slowly with their donkey trailing behind them.

Joseph: Mary, this donkey is useless. I told you we should have got the horse.

Mary: Oh Joseph, leave him alone. There's no way he could carry me now – I'm as big as a house.

Joseph: Well it looks as though I'll be carrying *him* soon if we don't find somewhere to stay.

Mary: What about this place?

Joseph: It says 'No vacancies'.

Mary: Maybe they can find a place for us.

Joseph knocks on the door.

Inn Keeper: What do you want?!

Mary: We need a place to stay, I am about to have a baby.

Inn Keeper: Can't you read? We are full! Now go away!

The Inn Keeper slams the door.

Joseph: Well, I can't see him staying in business very long!

Peasant: Excuse me, I couldn't help but over hear. I have a place that you could stay. It isn't much, but it's warm and there's plenty of hay to lie on.

Mary: Thank you that sounds wonderful!

The peasant begins to lead Joseph and Mary to his barn.

Joseph: Hay? What do you mean, hay?

Elf 1: So Mary and Joseph found a place to rest for the night and shelter from the cold.

Elf 2: And what about the baby?

Elf 1: It was born in a manger that night. They named him Jesus.

Mary: Isn't he just beautiful, Joseph? I think he is really going to be someone special.

Joseph: I think you might be right, Mary.

Song: Away in a Manger

Three shepherds are watching their sheep.

Shepherd 1: I can't believe we're on the night shift again.

Shepherd 2: I know! You'd think there would be an easier way to protect these sheep.

Shepherd 3: Hey! Look at those stars – they seem to be getting brighter!

Three angels appear before the shepherds.

Shepherd 1: They're not stars – they're angels.

Angel 1: Don't be afraid.

Angel 2: We bring you good news.

Angel 3: Tonight in Bethlehem, a baby has been born.

Shepherd 2: Well, please pass on our congratulations to the parents. Unfortunately, we have sheep to watch.

Angel 1: You do not understand. This baby is the son of God.

Angel 2: He will be the one to save the world.

Shepherd 3: Oh wow. Well, in that case we better go and visit!

Angel 3: Follow the star – it will lead you to him.

Angel 2: You will know this baby because he will be wrapped in cloths and laying in a manger.

Angel 1: Glory to God and peace to all people here on earth.

The angels exit.

Song: The First Noel

Shepherd 1: Does everyone know the news?

Shepherd 2: I think it's just us.

Shepherd 3: We better go and spread the word!

Shepherd 1: What about the sheep?

Shepherd 2: Oh let's just leave them, what's the worst that could happen?

Song: Go Tell It on the Mountain

The three wise men, the shepherds and the angels are all gathered around Mary, Joseph and Jesus in the manger.

Shepherd 3: Look at the wise men - I told you we should have brought gifts!

Shepherd 1: Nothing was open at this hour of night. Just forget about it.

Wise man 1: We have brought gifts for the son of God. I have brought gold.

Wise man 2: I have brought Frankincense.

Wise man 3: And I have brought Myrrh.

Mary: Thank you for your lovely gifts.

Shepherd 2: (*quietly to Shepherd 3*) For wise men, you'd think they would bring more appropriate gifts for a baby...

Song: We Three Kings