



## DUDE, YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

### *A Christmas Musical for Kids*

Created by Steve Moore • Rob Howard • David Guthrie

*(As music begins, lights up on the interior store set, a large superstore named Mondo-Mart. Our Campers are playing "hide-and-peek" in the middle of the crowded store. Our mannequin characters are scattered around the set. Mr. Ebenezer and Mrs. Jones are doing their regular work. Christmas shoppers are frantically working on completing their Christmas lists.)*

### SONG: "DUDE, YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?"

## DUDE, YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR?

Words and Music by Rob Howard

### chorus

Dude, you hear what I hear?  
Christmas is near  
This is my favorite season  
Dude, you hear what I hear?  
It's the best time of year  
And there is a really good reason  
Hear the story loud and clear  
It's everywhere  
Dude, you hear what I hear?

### verse 1

Hark the herald angels sing  
Oh, oh, oh, oh  
Glory to the newborn King  
Oh, oh, oh, oh  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
Oh, oh, oh, oh  
God and sinners reconciled  
Oh, oh, oh, oh  
The good news is ringing out  
If you can hear it let me hear you shout

### chorus

Dude, you hear what I hear?  
Christmas is near  
This is my favorite season  
Dude, you hear what I hear?  
It's the best time of year  
And there is a really good reason  
Hear the story loud and clear  
It's everywhere





Dude, you hear what I hear?

**verse 2**

Joyful all ye nations rise  
Oh, oh, oh, oh  
Join the triumph of the skies  
Oh, oh, oh, oh  
With angelic hosts proclaim  
Oh, oh, oh, oh  
Christ is born in Bethlehem  
Oh, oh, oh, oh  
The good news is ringing out  
If you can hear it let me hear you shout

**chorus**

Dude, you hear what I hear?  
Christmas is near  
This is my favorite season  
Dude, you hear what I hear?  
It's the best time of year  
And there is a really good reason  
Hear the story loud and clear  
It's everywhere  
Dude, you hear what I hear?

**chorus**

Dude, you hear what I hear?  
Christmas is near  
This is my favorite season  
Dude, you hear what I hear?  
It's the best time of year  
And there is a really good reason  
Hear the story loud and clear  
It's everywhere  
Dude, you hear what I hear?  
You hear what I hear?

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**SCENE 1**

*(As the song ends, we hear a P.A. announcement.)*

**EBENEZER:** *(over P.A.) Ladies and gentlemen, your Forest Creek Mondo-Mart will be closing in 15 minutes. We're open seven days a week for your Christmas shopping convenience, and as always, we want to thank you for shopping right here, at Mondo-Mart!*





*(As the announcement ends, our campers run almost simultaneous back to a display of merchandise they are using as “base.” As each one reaches “base,” they yell ...)*

CAMPERS: *(ad lib.)* **On base! Not it! Base! Beat ya!**

*(As others walk toward base from stage right, apparently smug in the knowledge that they have returned undetected, we see Taylor sneaking stealthily in from stage left. Like a lion, she springs out at the others tagging them.)*

TAYLOR: **Gotcha!**

JOEY: **Oh, nooooooo, she got me!**

BROOKE: **Where’d you come from, Taylor?!**

MRS. JONES: *(A good-natured store clerk who just happened to see the action and is amused, walking up to Kim.)* **Are all these kids yours?**

KIM: **Oh no! I’m just their counselor! We’re on our way to Christmas camp for a couple of days and ran out of snacks, so we stopped just to keep the natives from getting restless.**

MRS. JONES: **Been there! *(referring to Taylor)* That one’s a little tiger!**

KIM: **Yes, I’m afraid even a quick shopping trip can turn into a game of hide and seek when Taylor’s around!**

KIM: **I’m so sorry. I hope we’re not disrupting things in your store.**

MRS. JONES: **Oh, no!**

KIM: **Good.**

*(Taylor runs up to Kim.)*

TAYLOR: **Do we have time for another game of hide-and-seek before we go? Please?!**





**KIM:** Taylor, the store's closing. Besides, I really don't think ...

**MRS. JONES:** My goodness, you are quite the hide-and-seek player!

*(Taylor just stares at her like a deer in headlights.)*

*(Taylor sprints away and Mrs. Jones is surprised.)*

**KIM:** I'm sorry. She's really shy. She really doesn't talk at all unless she knows you.

*(Madison runs up.)*

**MADISON:** One more game?!

**MRS. JONES:** Well, you've got your hands full, and I have to get ready to close the store. You all have fun "shopping"!

**KIM:** We'll sure try! Okay, kids, time to get back on the bus!

**CAMPERS:** *(ad lib.)* Awwwwww!

**KIM:** We've got a long way to drive, and it's getting late! *(looking around)* Everybody here? Where's Taylor?

**JOEY:** She got shy and ran back to the bus ... I saw her heading that direction. She's probably back on the last row asleep already.

**BROOKE:** Miss Kim?

**KIM:** Yes?

**BROOKE:** Why do you think Taylor is so shy?

**KIM:** Well, her mom says that when she was little, she said some words funny and people used to make fun of her. Now she talks just fine, but she's still too afraid to speak in front of anybody she doesn't know.

**MADISON:** That's too bad. She's really nice when you get to know her.





*(Joey runs up with a toy truck in a box.)*

JOEY: *(to kids around him)* **Look at this!**

BROOKE: **What is it?!**

JOEY: **It's a truck ... I think ... I'm not sure. But it's *so cool!***

MADISON: **You don't know what it is and you want it? It's just a funny-looking truck.**

JOEY: *(mesmerized by the toy)* **No! I think it's one of those trucks that turns into a robot.**

BROOKE: **It looks like a robot that turns into different robot.**

MADISON: **It looks like a robot that turns into a pile of broken plastic!**

JOEY: **I have *got* to have this! I mean ... I know somebody who would love this!**

MADISON: *(pointing at something not identified)* **Brooke! I can't believe it! Looooook!**

*(Brooke and Madison scream and run towards another toy.)*

KIM: **Kids we *have* to leave! Get to the bus!**

*(music begins to "I've Gotta Get It")*

*DIALOG 1 - begins at the start of the song*

MADISON: **I *have* to text my mom and tell her they still have these at Mondo-Mart!**

*(Madison begins texting.)*

JOEY: **Miss Kim! Miss Kim! I wanna get this! I'll use my own camp money!**

KIM: **Joey, Christmas is in a week!**

JOEY: **I know! It's not for me! It's for my mom!**





**SONG: "I'VE GOTTA GET IT"**

**I'VE GOTTA GET IT**

Words and Music by Rob Howard

**chorus**

I've gotta get it  
You know I've gotta get it  
I've really gotta get it for Christmas  
I've never seen it  
You know I've never seen it  
I've never seen anything like it before  
I've gotta get it  
You know I gotta get it  
I've really gotta get it for Christmas  
I couldn't find it anywhere else  
I know it's gotta be in this store

*DIALOG 2 - begins measure 33*

*(Madison comes running up with a box she found on a counter during the song.)*

MADISON: **Miss Kim! It's here!**

KIM: **What's here?**

MADISON: **The "Justin Heartthrob Book of Tweets!" It's all his Tweets for the whole last year!**

BROOKE: **No!**

MADISON: *(looking at the box)* **Yes! Look at this one: "I just sneezed!"**

BROOKE: *(dramatically)* **Gesundheit, Justin! Gesundheit!**

*(Both girls swoon.)*

**chorus**

I've gotta get it  
You know I've gotta get it  
I've really gotta get it for Christmas  
I've never seen it  
You know I've never seen it  
I've never seen anything like it before





I've gotta get it  
You know I gotta get it  
I've really gotta get it for Christmas  
I couldn't find it anywhere else  
I know it's gotta be in this store

*DIALOG 3 - begins measure 64*

*(Joey appears with a large box.)*

**BROOKE: Is that what I think it is?!**

**JOEY: *(shows her the box)* Yep!**

**MADISON: I want!**

**KIM: *(curiosity piqued)* What is it?**

**JOEY: It's called "A Thousand Random Pieces and a Megaphone!"**

**KIM: Sounds horrible. How does it work?**

**MADISON: You throw the pieces up in the air and megaphone your brother to clean it up!**

**KIM: We are *outta* here!**

**chorus**

I've gotta get it  
You know I've gotta get it  
I've really gotta get it for Christmas  
I've never seen it  
You know I've never seen it  
I've never seen anything like it before  
I've gotta get it  
You know I gotta get it  
I've really gotta get it for Christmas  
I couldn't find it anywhere else  
I know it's gotta be in this store

**bridge**

You've never seen anything quite like this  
It's a one-of-a-kind piece of plastic  
This is something everyone'll get  
You know I know the difference between wants and needs





Come on mom, buy it please

**chorus**

I've gotta get it  
 You know I've gotta get it  
 I've really gotta get it for Christmas  
 I've never seen it  
 You know I've never seen it  
 I've never seen anything like it before  
 I've gotta get it  
 You know I gotta get it  
 I've really gotta get it for Christmas  
 I couldn't find it anywhere else  
 I know it's gotta be in this store  
 I've gotta get it, I've gotta get, I've gotta get it, I've gotta get it  
 I know it's gotta be in this store

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**SCENE 2**

*(At the conclusion of the song, the rest of the customers look at their watches, realize what time it is, and hurry out of the store. While this is occurring behind them, Kim gets the kids attention by whistling, yelling or blowing a whistle.)*

*(The campers march off toward the bus, and Mr. Ebenezer waves goodbye to the shoppers, and he is left with only Mrs. Jones.)*

*(He locks the door from the inside. Mrs. Jones walks out, and he takes one last look at the store, turns off the "Open" sign and leaves, closing the door behind him. Once he has left, the stage is silent and still and the only presence in the store are the mannequins. Without moving their bodies, the mannequins begin to speak to each other!)*

**MOONDOG:** **Psssst! Is the coast clear? Any mannequins in the area speak up!**

**TATIANA:** **Are you speaking to me? Before speaking to a princess, I believe it is customary to bow or curtsy.**

**MOONDOG:** *(sarcastically)* **Oh excuse me, Princess! (he bows deeply) I forgot for a moment we had mannequins from girls' costumes and clothing on the center aisle today.**





TATIANA: *(regally)* **I accept your apology.**

BIFF: **Uh, hey! Dis is Biff from over in hardware and tools!**

MOONDOG: **Biff! Dude! Long time, no see!**

BIFF: **Moondog! Where have you been?**

MOONDOG: **Jus' chillin, sha! Big season over in sporting goods!**

TATIANA: *(unimpressed with "commoners")* **You two "gentlemen" know each other?**

MOONDOG: **Know each other? Dude, we're tight!**

TATIANA: **I'm not a "dude," Mr. Moon—dog *(exaggeratedly)*.**

COOKIE: **I think they've locked up!**

TATIANA: **Oh no, it's Cookie. *(sarcastically)* I mean, greetings, Cookie!**

MOONDOG: **Cookie! They said you had a nervous breakdown over in cookware!**

COOKIE: **No, they sent me to the shop. Turned out I had a screw loose.**

BIFF: **Boy, did you ever. You still afraid of your own shadow?**

COOKIE: **No, Biff! I'm a new mannequin! Nothing scares me anymore!**

TAYLOR: *(off stage)* **Hello?**

COOKIE: **Ahhh!**

MOONDOG: **Shhhh! Dude, you hear what I hear?!**

BIFF: **A customer!**

COOKIE: **A customer?!**

MOONDOG: **A customer! Freeze!**

*(Taylor enters, slightly bewildered. She is looking around, not realizing that the store is closed.)*





- TAYLOR: *(calling for her missing choir friends)* **Hey you guys! Aren't you gonna come look for me? You guys! This isn't fair. I found a really good hiding place this time. You guys?**
- COOKIE: *(without moving her body)* **You guys! What do we do?!**
- TAYLOR: **Who said that?!**
- BIFF: **Cookie! Shhhh!**
- COOKIE: *(breaks her freeze in a panic)* **This is horrible!**
- TAYLOR: *(reacting to everything she's seeing)* **Wow! You're mannequins. And you're talking!**
- COOKIE: **Ohhhh! We're in *big* trouble!**
- TATIANA: *(to Taylor)* **I know this seems *quite* unusual, young person, but ... are you frightened?**
- TAYLOR: **No ...**
- TATIANA: **Why not?**
- TAYLOR: **Because I'm not here. This is obviously a dream. I'll wake up soon. I'm in the back of the bus asleep. I'm only seeing this because I should never go to sleep after I eat barbeque potato chips and grape soda.**
- COOKIE: **Tatiana, are we just a dream?**
- TATIANA: **No, we are real. Young lady, I am Tatiana, princess of costumes. This is Biff, who does wonderful work for us in ...**
- BIFF: **Hardware. Moondog is from sporting goods, and Cookie is from cookware. And you are?**
- TAYLOR: **My name is Taylor.**
- BIFF: **What department are you from?**





TAYLOR: Department? Uh ... human kids?

COOKIE: We don't sell those.

MOONDOG: This is *epic!* We *never* get to meet people from "Outer Space!"

TAYLOR: I'm not from Outer Space!

COOKIE: (*freaked out*) Everything outside of the store is Ouuuttteerrrr Spaaaaaaacce ...

TATIANA: Well, I guess Christmas is the best time of year to be locked in a store!

TAYLOR: So mannequins know all about Christmas?

MANNEQUINS: (*ad lib.*) Shuh! Duh! Yeah!

(*music begins to "We've Been Waiting All Year"*)

TATIANA: Oh yes, Taylor! There is no season like Christmas. We look forward to it *all year long!*

TAYLOR: Me too!

**SONG: "WE'VE BEEN WAITING ALL YEAR"**

**WE'VE BEEN WAITING ALL YEAR**

Words and Music by Rob Howard

**chorus**

We've been waiting all year  
Waiting all year for Christmas  
We've been waiting all year  
Waiting all year for Christmas to come

**verse 1**

Tis the season, every year, when music fills the air  
Shoppers rushing, children laughing, smiles are everywhere  
Kids and grown-ups make their lists of toys they hope they'll find  
Decorations everywhere, you can't beat Christmas time

**chorus**





We've been waiting all year  
Waiting all year for Christmas  
We've been waiting all year  
Waiting all year for Christmas to come

**verse 2**

We know that it's easy this time of year  
To forget the true meaning once the presents appear  
But forget about all the gifts wrapped under our tree  
It's all about the baby Jesus born for you and me

**chorus**

We've been waiting all year  
Waiting all year for Christmas  
We've been waiting all year  
Waiting all year for Christmas to come

**chorus**

We've been waiting all year  
Waiting all year for Christmas  
We've been waiting all year  
Waiting all year for Christmas to come

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**SCENE 3**

**TAYLOR:**           **So, if you look forward to Christmas all year long, you know all about Jesus then, right? (blank stares from Mannequins) Right?**

**BIFF:**               **Never heard of no Jesus, but we sure know Christmas!**

**TAYLOR:**           **I don't understand ... Christmas without Jesus? How is that possible?**

**COOKIE:**           **Tatiana, tell her about Christmas!**

**TATIANA:**          **Okay, everyone gather round, and I'll tell you the story of Christmas, as we've learned it over the years from the all-wise public-address system.**

**TAYLOR:**           **You mean you learned it from Christmas songs in a store?!**

*(All sit down, excited to hear the story once again.)*





TATIANA: **Okay. Christmas, as well all know, lasts for 12 days in December, even though it starts just after Halloween now. It was started by a man named Felix Navidad and his wife Mary Kalikimaka. They lived in a place called “Who-ville.” They wore red-rose rain gear and they each had five golden wings. Every Christmas they went on a picnic with their friend Sandy Kloss at a boulder called Jingle Bell Rock, where they feasted on partridges, French hens and green soup called “Grinch.”**

TAYLOR: *(sarcastic)* **Sounds fun.**

TATIANA: **Well, it was until ...**

BIFF: **I don’t even like to think about it ...**

ALL MANNEQUINS: *(sadly)* **Grandma got run over by a reindeer.**

COOKIE: *(happily)* **But now, everything is great because Mondo-Mart invented “savings up to 40% throughout the store for the entire Christmas season,” and everyone is happy!**

MOONDOG: **Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!**

TAYLOR: **Oh, brother. That’s. Not. Christmas!**

COOKIE: **It isn’t?!**

TAYLOR: **Really?! Okay, that’s it ...**

*(Taylor looks over at a display filled with books. She shuffles through the books quickly, looking for something. She triumphantly holds up a Bible.)*

TAYLOR: **Ah, here it is. You *do* have one!**

BIFF: **A what?**

TAYLOR: **A Bible.**

MOONDOG: **Bibles? “Aisle 23!”**

COOKIE: **“Leather or hardback? It’s a great gift idea! Buy one today!”**





TAYLOR: You guys! It's not just something you sell. The Bible is God's story. It's a message from the creator of the world, and it all points to Jesus! His birth and His death and resurrection.

BIFF: Resa-what?

TAYLOR: Well, that's later. But it may be the most important thing in the Bible. For right now, you just need to know that Christmas is about Jesus! And when He came to live on earth with the people He created!

MOONDOG: So, like, are you gonna tell us what happened in that Bible from aisle 23? Don't be holdin' out on us, Taylor!

TAYLOR: *(excited now to tell the story)* Okay, it starts a long, long time ago. Like I said, God created the whole world, and He wanted everyone to know Him. But people turned their backs on God. Yet He still wanted to save them and bring them back to Himself. He promised He would do it. Just when everyone thought that God had forgotten them, something amazing started to happen ...

*(music begins to "Come, O Come, Emmanuel")*

**SONG: "COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"**

**COME, O COME, EMMANUEL**

Words and Music by Rob Howard

**chorus**

Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Son of God and Son of Man  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Prince of Peace, the Great I AM  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
King of kings and Lord of lords  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Come, Salvation, for the world

**verse 1**

The prophets had foretold it, a King would come to save  
Four hundred years of silence, they waited for that day  
Faithfully, they watched for His coming, they listened for the word  
When that announcement would bring the best news ever heard





**chorus**

Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Son of God and Son of Man  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Prince of Peace, the Great I AM  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
King of kings and Lord of lords  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Come, Salvation, for the world

**verse 2**

The days of waiting are over, we can embrace the One  
The Living God, Jesus Christ, God's only Son  
Open your eyes to see Him, open your ears to hear  
Invite the Savior of the world to come near

**chorus**

Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Son of God and Son of Man  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Prince of Peace, the Great I AM  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
King of kings and Lord of lords  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Come, Salvation, for the world

**bridge**

Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel

**chorus**

Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Son of God and Son of Man  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Prince of Peace, the Great I AM  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
King of kings and Lord of lords  
Come, O come, Emmanuel  
Come, Salvation, for the world  
Come, Salvation, for the world  
Come, Salvation, for the world

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**SCENE 4**

*(At stage right, two police officers arrive at the door to the store. They are somewhat good-natured bumbler. They are excited at their chance to really*





*work a big crime. Inside the store set is dimly lit, and we see the mannequins and Taylor, mime a conversation.)*

TESS: **A silent alarm?!**

BARNEY: **Yep! Goes off if there's a lot of movement in the store after closing.**

TESS: **Burglars, you think?**

BARNEY: **There's one way to tell!**

*(Triumphantly, he pulls out a briefcase and opens it. Inside is a bunch of wires attached to a stethoscope.)*

TESS: *(in awe)* **What's that?!**

BARNEY: **It's a listening device. We just got it. Ordered it on-line! With this little baby, we can hear everything that's going on in the store!**

*(He puts the stethoscope cup against the door and starts listening through the earpieces.)*

TESS: **What do you hear ...**

BARNEY: **Shhhhh! Okay, there's some guy named Manuel. The guy must be a pretty bad hombre, because there are a bunch of people that need to be saved—and fast! Pretty sure I heard a little girl, and I heard some other people talking about how much “profit” they were gonna make ... something about profits, anyway!**

TESS: **It's a robbery alright! Should we bust in?!**

BARNEY: **Yeah, I think maybe we oughtta ... wait! There's a girl in there! If we bust in now, they might take her hostage!**

TESS: **Okay, no need to hurry. Let's just take this nice and slow.**

*(Lights up on the Interior Store set. Taylor is reading to an enrapt group of mannequins sitting on the floor.)*

MOONDOG: **So this Jesus person, He came from heaven?**





TAYLOR: **He's more than a person! He's the Son of God, the creator of everything. And He came to earth to be with us and to save us.**

COOKIE: **Save?! (P.A.-speak again) "After Christmas you can save a bunch!"**

BIFF: **"Forty percent off!"**

MOONDOG: **"Man, we're giving the stuff away!"**

TATIANA: *(dramatically)* **"We must be crazy!"**

BIFF: **"Savings in every department!"**

TAYLOR: **Not that kind of saving! Jesus not only saved us, He created us!**

MOONDOG: **Dudette! Maybe He created *you*, but my tag says my creator was "Ron" at Acme Mannequins of Carbondale, Illinois. I've never met "Ron." I'd love it if I could meet that dude.**

TAYLOR: **I *do* know my creator. He's Jesus, and He came to earth because He loves people. He came to earth to save us. *(trying to explain)* Moondog, what if the store was on fire and you were trapped, and "Ron" from Acme Mannequins of Carbondale, Illinois ran in and saved you?**

MOONDOG: *(laughs)* **Why would he do that? He's probably made a million mannequins!**

TAYLOR: **But if someone told you that "Ron" was coming to save you ...**

MOONDOG: *(solemnly)* **That would be the most awesome news ever.**

TAYLOR: **Well, that's what happened on the very first Christmas! On the night that Jesus was born, angels came from heaven to tell the people that the God who made us was sending His own Son to save us.**

BIFF: **That musta been quite a night!**

TAYLOR: **It sure was. Here's how the Bible tells it, in Luke chapter 2 ... *(music begins to "What a Night")* "And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the**





Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.’”

**SONG: “WHAT A NIGHT”**

**WHAT A NIGHT**

Words and Music by Rob Howard

**verse 1**

While shepherds watched their flocks by night  
All seated on the ground  
The angel of the Lord came down  
And glory shone around  
“Fear not,” he said for might dread  
Had seized their troubled minds  
“Glad tidings of great joy I bring  
To you and all mankind, to you and all mankind.”

**chorus**

What a night when the angels filled the sky  
I can hear them cry  
What a night with the star shining bright  
I can imagine the sight  
Good news, great joy, for all mankind  
When the praises of God rang out, what a night

**verse 2**

All glory be to God on high and to the earth be peace  
Goodwill for all from heav’n to men  
Begin and never cease, begin and never cease

**chorus**

What a night when the angels filled the sky  
I can hear them cry  
What a night with the star shining bright  
I can imagine the sight  
Good news, great joy, for all mankind  
When the praises of God rang out, what a night

**bridge**

(choir 1) Good news, great joy, for all mankind, in excelsis deo  
(choir 2) Gloria, in excelsis deo





**chorus**

What a night when the angels filled the sky  
I can hear them cry  
What a night with the star shining bright  
I can imagine the sight  
Good news, great joy, for all mankind  
When the praises of God rang out  
And the glory of God came down, what a night

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**SCENE 5**

TATIANA: **Taylor, would you provide some assistance?**

BIFF: **She means—could 'ya help us out with somethin'?**

TAYLOR: **Sure!**

TATIANA: **Due to our created function, we have difficulty in visualizing important things that we are not able to view.**

*(Taylor just looks at Biff, confused.)*

BIFF: **Tatiana means, we're all about displays. Mannequins *are* displays! It's hard for us to understand anything we can't see. Is there any way you could show us a display that would help us understand the story?**

TAYLOR: **Ohhhh! I get it! A display ... hmmm. Wait! A manger scene!**

MOONDOG: **Is that anything like a nativity scene?**

TAYLOR: **Yes! It's the same thing! Does the store have one?**

COOKIE: **No. We heard there was such a thing a few years ago, but they got rid of it because some people didn't like it. Put a lot of good mannequins out of work.**

TAYLOR: **That shouldn't stop us! We could build a manger scene right here!**





BIFF:               **With what stuff?**

TAYLOR:           **Anything! This store is full of things we can use. Let's look at what we need.** *(opening the Bible and reading)* **“While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.”**

COOKIE:           **Who is “she”?**

TAYLOR:           **That's Mary. She's the woman God chose to give birth to Jesus. And Joseph was the man who had promised to be her husband.**

TATIANA:          **We need a baby!** *(Tatiana hurries off)*

MOONDOG:         **And cloths for the baby!** *(Moondog hurries off)*

COOKIE:           **And a manger! I'll go get a manger!** *(She runs several feet then stops and turns around.)* **Uh, what's a manger?**

TAYLOR:           **A manger is a feeding trough ... kind of a place to put hay for the donkeys and the sheep that were in the stable with them.**

BIFF:               **I can make ya one of those!**

*(As he trots off, Moondog returns holding towels and a large decorative angel. The larger the better.)*

MOONDOG:         **Check this out! I found cloths and an angel!**

TAYLOR:           **Wow! An angel!**

*(Cookie tries to communicate with the angel as if she's speaking a foreign language. She says her words carefully and deliberately.)*

COOKIE:           **Hello, angel. My name is Cookie! We are all mannequins. We are glad to have you with us!**

TATIANA:          **She's a decoration, not a mannequin, Cookie. She can't speak.**

COOKIE:           *(sheepishly)* **I knew that.**





MOONDOG: **Everybody knows that. Mannequins talk, decorations do not. Get your head on straight.**

COOKIE: *(puts her hands on her head and moves it around)* **Is it crooked again?**

*(Tatiana returns with a baby doll, and Biff with a basket on a small table, or something similar, which he has filled with shredded paper.)*

TATIANA: **Here! A newborn child!**

*(as Taylor wraps the baby in Moondog's towels)*

BIFF: **Here's da' manger! I even put shredded paper in it to look like hay!**

TAYLOR: **What are we gonna do for Mary? For Joseph? For the shepherds?**

MOONDOG: **I've got a cousin over in men's clothing!**

TATIANA: **My sister Alexa is employed in sportswear. We can get other mannequins to help.**

TAYLOR: *(As she gently places the baby in the "manger")* **This is going to be wonderful.**

*(Tatiana and the others are staring at the baby, somewhat amazed.)*

TATIANA: **It seems amazing that God came to earth as such a little baby. He must love people very much ...**

*(music begins to "God Is Here with Us")*

TAYLOR: **Well, God didn't just come to save people. He became one of us. When Jesus was born in Bethlehem as a little baby, the creator of the world, and the creator of all people, became a person. God ... with ... us.**

**SONG: "GOD IS HERE WITH US"**

## **GOD IS HERE WITH US**

Words and Music by Rob Howard





**chorus**

God is here with us  
God is here with us  
Peace has come to Bethlehem and to the world  
God is here with us  
God is here with us  
Love is now among us like never before  
Let the earth rejoice  
God is here with us

**verse**

All around the manger gathered  
Angels and shepherds come bow down  
Mary and Joseph hold Him closely  
Through the night His praise rings out

**chorus**

God is here with us  
God is here with us  
Peace has come to Bethlehem and to the world  
God is here with us  
God is here with us  
Love is now among us like never before  
Let the earth rejoice  
God is here with us

**bridge**

O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord

**chorus**

God is here with us  
God is here with us  
Peace has come to Bethlehem and to the world  
God is here with us  
God is here with us  
Love is now among us like never before  
Let the earth rejoice  
God is here with us  
Let the earth rejoice  
God is here with us

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## SCENE 6

*(The scene begins outside the entrance to the store. Lights are out on the interior set. It is a scene with lots of activity. Mr. Ebenezer has returned to the store. The campers are back with the counselor, Kim, Joey, Madison, and Brooke. A BigStuff News Network reporter, Candy Little, is reporting “from the scene.” She faces the audience directly, as if on camera.)*

CANDY: **For BigStuff News Network, this is Candy Little reporting! A huge police standoff is underway at the Mondo-Mart store in Forest Creek. With me is Deputy Tess Andrews. Deputy Andrews, can you tell me what’s going on?**

TESS: *(trying to act “too cool.”)* **Well, Candy, it appears that we have a burglary in progress. We suspect that there might be as many as one hundred dangerous burglars inside the store. We’ve used high-tech listening devices and believe we know exactly what’s going on.**

*(Barney stands nearby as Tess goes over to listen through the door again.)*

CANDY: **Thank you, Deputy. We now have the store manager, Tom Ebenezer. Mr. Ebenezer, we’ve been told that the Deputies have heard discussions about *(referring to a pad)* angels, Jesus, and Emmanuel coming from the store.**

EBENEZER: **That’s impossible, Candy! We at Mondo-Mart are very careful to keep religion out of Christmas.**

BARNEY: *(blurts)* **Well, *that’s* a good trick. How do you do that?**

EBENEZER: **It’s not easy, but we’re committed to communicating the true meaning of the holidays, so people know that they *(looking directly into and pointing at the “camera”)* can save 40% throughout the store, here at Mondo-Mart—thru December 24th!**

CANDY: *(to Tess)* **What are you hearing inside the store now, Deputy?**

TESS: *(answers from the door)* **Lots of movement. Sounds like things are being moved around, or dragged. Not sure what’s happening.**

CANDY: *(to Barney)* **So what’s your next move, Deputy?**





BARNEY: Well, Candy, it seems like we're coming up on the time where we'll have to bust through the door and end this situation!

CANDY: *(faces the audience)* Well, there you have it ... a burglary gone wrong, and the Deputies are just about to end a tense standoff! Reporting from Creekside, This is Candy Little, BigStuff News Network.

*(Lights down on the exterior set, lights up on the interior set.)*

BIFF: *(proudly)* I made a donkey out of a stick-pony and a saw-horse.

TAYLOR: That's beautiful! Now all we need are Wise Men.

BIFF: Well, you've come to the wrong place!

TAYLOR: No! Wise Men! Magi! They were men who studied everything they could find about God and about science. They lived a long, long way away ... well, let's just listen to what the Bible says in Matthew: "After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews?'"

COOKIE: They knew He was going to be born? How did they find Him if they were from a long way away?

TAYLOR: God provided a star for them to follow that brought them to Jesus. Listen! *(reading again)* "The star ... went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh."

MOONDOG: Well Taylor, if you have enough money, you can buy the baby some mondo gifts here at Mondo-Mart!

TAYLOR: Moondog, I don't really have any cash, but that doesn't matter. I think I know just the thing I can bring to Jesus ...

*(music begins to "I Offer Him My Life")*

SONG: "I OFFER HIM MY LIFE"

**I OFFER HIM MY LIFE**





Words and Music by Rob Howard

**verse 1**

Jesus came from heaven to earth  
He left His throne for a humble birth  
No greater love ever seen  
No greater gift we've ever received

**channel**

What am I to bring?  
What's a gift fit for a King?

**chorus**

My alleluias and my praises ring  
His worship fills the sky  
No other gift is fit to bring the King  
So I offer Him my life  
I offer Him my life

**verse 2**

Wise men, traveling far  
On a journey, following a star  
Bearing gifts for a King  
Bowing down with their offering

**channel**

What am I to bring?  
What's a gift fit for a King?

**chorus**

My alleluias and my praises ring  
His worship fills the sky  
No other gift is fit to bring the King  
So I offer Him my life  
I offer Him my life

**bridge**

Come and worship  
Come and worship  
Worship Christ the newborn King

**chorus**

My alleluias and my praises ring  
His worship fills the sky  
No other gift is fit to bring the King  
So I offer Him my life  
I offer Him my life

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## SCENE 7

*(As the song ends, the front door bursts open, and in comes Tess, Barney, Mrs. Jones, Mr. Ebenezer, Candy Little, Kim and the campers. The mannequins instantly freeze. As the crowd enters, they stop almost immediately when they see only Taylor.)*

DEPUTIES: **Police! Freeze ...**

*(A moment of confusion where everybody just looks around.)*

BARNEY: *(to Taylor)* **Where are the burglars?**

TESS: **Are you okay, little girl?**

TAYLOR: **I'm fine!**

BARNEY: **Are you sure? Where did they go?**

TAYLOR: **Who?!**

BARNEY: **The burglars!**

TAYLOR: **Burglars? There weren't any burglars in here!**

TESS: **So much for mail-order listening devices.**

BARNEY: *(whiney)* **But I heard them!**

EBENEZER: *(spying the nativity scene)* **Who moved my mannequins?! And what's this?!**

MRS. JONES: **That looks ... like ... a nativity scene.**

CANDY: *(seeing the nativity scene and walking over)* **Mr. Ebenezer, this is the most beautiful nativity scene I've seen all season. Who thought of including mannequins to represent everyday people? It's brilliant! Not only do they have the traditional clothing, but underneath we see that people from every part of life worship Jesus now? What creativity! Would you mind if I did a story on it? Lots of publicity for your store.**





EBENEZER: **Well, Candy, uh ... we're ... very proud of our new nativity scene. Sure you can!**

*(Taylor just stands there as her friends crowd around her. She appears to have reverted to her overly shy self.)*

KIM: **Are you okay, Taylor?**

*(Taylor just looks at the now-frozen mannequins and at everyone else. Candy approaches her, sticks a microphone in her face and asks her question.)*

CANDY: **Candy Little, BSN News. Taylor, we heard so many things tonight and now we don't know what's true and what's not! Help us out! What's the scoop?**

*(Taylor just stares awkwardly at the audience/camera and looks at the microphone. She looks terrified. There is a long, awkward moment as Kim walks up to Candy and gently tries to explain.)*

KIM: **Candy, Taylor probably can't answer you. You see, she's very ...**

*(At this moment, Taylor grabs the microphone.)*

TAYLOR: **Lemme have that! (now, looking into "the camera" straight at the audience) Everybody thought they heard something tonight. The police thought they heard a bunch of burglars, but they were wrong. Some people thought they heard that the real story of Christmas comes from a store. That's not true either. And some people are just afraid to talk, because they're afraid people will make fun of them.**

KIM: **Taylor! You're talking!**

TAYLOR: **Yep. You know what, everybody needs to hear the true Christmas story. Lots of people think they've heard all about why we look forward to Christmas all year long, but they're missing it. Tonight, I'm hearing it all like it's the first time! And when we've got news this good, people gotta hear it!**

*(All are looking at Taylor, and behind her, you see the mannequins jumping up and down cheering her. Moondog jumps up and yells.)*

MOONDOG: **Dude, you hear what I hear?!**





*(Everybody turns around, and he freezes again. Confused, they turn and look back at Taylor.)*

BROOKE: **Dude, you hear what I hear?**

MADISON: **Shhhh!**

CANDY: *(proudly)* **People all over the world have been watching our coverage of this tense situation. What would you like to tell them?**

*(Taylor walks over to Moondog, who remains frozen. In the mannequin's hand is a Bible! She takes the Bible from his hand.)*

TAYLOR: *(holding up the Bible)* **It's all right in here! There is good news of great joy for all the people. A Savior has been born, and He is Christ the Lord. Give God the glory!**

CAMPERS: *(all agree, cheer, etc.)*

*(Taylor is mobbed and hugged by her friends.)*

CANDY: **Well, there you have it from Forest Creek. Burglars in a store? Obviously not. Voices? Just the public address system. A burglary in progress? I think not. A good reporter has a sixth sense about these kind of things. I knew it all the time. And if you can hear what I heard, it's that even a dummy can hear the Good News of Christmas!**

*(music begins to "Can You Hear It?")*

**SONG: "CAN YOU HEAR IT?"**

**CAN YOU HEAR IT?**

Words and Music by Rob Howard

**chorus 1**

Can you hear it?  
The sound of Christmas ringing  
Listen the whole earth's singing  
Christ is born  
Raise your voices  
Come on and join the chorus  
God has made a way for us  
Christ is born





**chorus 1**

Can you hear it?  
The sound of Christmas ringing  
Listen the whole earth's singing  
Christ is born  
Raise your voices  
Come on and join the chorus  
God has made a way for us  
Christ is born

**chorus 2**

Sing His praises  
Sing out the name of Jesus  
He has come to save us  
Shout it out for the world to hear  
Sing His praises  
Sing it out Our God is with us  
The God of the universe is near  
Shout it out for the world to hear

**bridge**

Oh, oh, oh  
Can you hear it?  
Oh, oh, oh  
The sound is rising up  
Oh, oh, oh  
Can you hear it?  
Oh, oh, oh  
It's the sound of God's great love

**chorus 1**

Can you hear it?  
The sound of Christmas ringing  
Listen the whole earth's singing  
Christ is born  
Raise your voices  
Come on and join the chorus  
God has made a way for us  
Christ is born

**chorus 2**

Sing His praises  
Sing out the name of Jesus  
He has come to save us  
Shout it out for the world to hear  
Sing His praises  
Sing it out Our God is with us  
The God of the universe is near





Shout it out for the world to hear

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**SONG: "DUDE, YOU HEAR WHAT I HEAR? CURTAIN CALLS"**

***What a Night***

**bridge**

(choir 1) Good news, great joy, for all mankind, in excelsis deo

(choir 2) Gloria, in excelsis deo

**chorus**

What a night when the angels filled the sky  
I can hear them cry  
What a night with the star shining bright  
I can imagine the sight  
Good news, great joy, for all mankind  
When the praises of God rang out  
And the glory of God came down, what a night

***Can You Hear It?***

**bridge**

Oh, oh, oh  
Can you hear it?  
Oh, oh, oh  
The sound is rising up  
Oh, oh, oh  
Can you hear it?  
Oh, oh, oh  
It's the sound of God's great love

**chorus 1**

Can you hear it?  
The sound of Christmas ringing  
Listen the whole earth's singing  
Christ is born  
Raise your voices  
Come on and join the chorus  
God has made a way for us  
Christ is born

**chorus 2**

Sing His praises  
Sing out the name of Jesus  
He has come to save us





Shout it out for the world to hear  
Sing His praises  
Sing it out Our God is with us  
The God of the universe is near  
Shout it out for the world to hear

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