

G.J. My, oh, my. It sure is lonely here in the stable. I do wish Joseph was here with us. I wonder where he could be. *(Louder.)* I said ... I wonder where he could be.

JUSTIN. *(He enters abruptly as Joseph.)* Sorry, Mary. I was ... uh, just double-checking to make sure there was no room in the inn. *(Beat.)* Full up.

G.J. *(She's surprised and whispers.)* Where's Wendall?

JUSTIN. *(Whispers.)* He's sick. *(Then, to the audience.)* So, here we

are in the stable and ... uh ... I'm sure the cattle are lowing ... and, uh ... why, look. The baby awakes. And isn't that interesting? The little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.

G.J. Yes, Joseph, we have been blessed on this very special night. And behold, a large, bright star hovereth over our humble stable.

JUSTIN. Uh ... Could we just hold off on that for a minute? I really can't wait any longer. Will you marry me?

G.J. *(She's horrified but covers.)* Why, Joseph. Don't be silly. We're already married. Remember our big wedding back in Galilee?

JUSTIN. *(He drops to one knee.)* Gina Jo Dubberly, before God and all these witnesses, I love you and want us to share our lives and be a family. So, I'm asking you, will you marry me?

G.J. No! Don't ask me. Because I can't! I just can't! *(She exits.)*

JUSTIN. *(He's aware of the audience and speaks to the doll in the manger.)* Uh ... well, son, *that* was pretty embarrassing.

DUB. *(In excruciating pain, he lurches across stage.)* I can't take this pain anymore! Kill me! Somebody shoot me in the head! *(He exits.)*

JUSTIN. *(He addresses the doll.)* But not as embarrassing as *that*. *(Blackout.)*