

A script from



“Naïve TV”

by
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- What** A naïve youth group rediscovers the meaning of Christmas while reenacting the Nativity. **Themes:** Comedy-Drama, Ensemble, Christmas, Selfishness, Selflessness, Jesus, Faith, Nativity
- Who** Brandon – A popular, self-absorbed food-a-holic
Makayla – Bored by church; into clothes, guys
Denny – Quirky, geeky; determined to be his own person
Note: Denny and Destiny (below) may be combined into a *single* character simply by assigning their lines to one (male or female) actor
Destiny – Denny’s female counterpart; Destiny and Denny habitually complete one another’s sentences, followed by a secret handshake of their own invention
Jasmine – Insecure, but sweet; the youth group’s “invisible” girl
Pastor Billy – Easy going youth pastor; committed to reaching his kids
Others – Pre-teen through late teens
- When** Present day
- Wear (Props)** Winter clothes
Flashlights, Table, Chairs, Cardboard box, Punch bowl, Large fishbowl
- Why** Luke 1:26-56; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 2:1-20
- How** The characters go from grumbling to engaged very quickly. To accomplish this, pinpoint the moments the Holy Spirit speaks to them.
A suggestion of darkness is all that’s needed for “in the dark” segment, with actors using flashlights as mini-spotlights.
- Time** Approximately 10 minutes

Table with empty punch bowl. Chairs scattered. Some teens, including **Destiny** and **Jasmine**, are already there. Grumbling.

Makayla: *(Entering)* What? Where's the volcano cake? Pastor Billy said there would be a volcano cake. That's like the only reason I came.

Destiny: Volcanoes never happen—

Denny: When it's raining.

Makayla: That doesn't make sense, Destiny, Denny. Nothing you guys say ever makes sense.

Brandon: *(Entering—referring to both Denny and Destiny)* Hey, what up, "Density?"
(Teasing) Hey, MaKAYla!

Makayla: Hey, BRANdon. *(Displaying her expensive sweater)* Nice, huh? This sweater cost me a bundle but, you know, I just had to have it and...*(pointing at Brandon)*...when I see what I want...

Brandon: *(Clueless)* Whoa. Where's the snacks? Where's the pizza? Where's Pastor Billy?

Destiny: Maybe there *is* no Pastor Billy.

Denny: Or maybe he *is* the snack table.

Jasmine giggles. **Billy** enters, carrying cardboard box, plops it on the table.

Billy: Hey, all! Merry joy! Happy Christmas-ness!

Brandon: Pastor B, you need help bringing in the stash?

Billy: Uh, yeah, about that—don't got it, dude. Sorry! *(To everyone)* My wife was supposed to pick everything up after work, including the pizza, but, well, she had to stay late and—

Brandon: Whoa! Are you serious? Christmas *is* food, dude! I ate a cheeseburger for lunch just so I wouldn't spoil my pizza appetite!

Denny and **Destiny** slip away.

Makayla: *(To Brandon)* Well, yeah: food and things I look great in.

Jasmine: But we still get to watch the Christmas movie on the new TV, right?

The lights suddenly go out. More grumbles.

Makayla: Are you kidding? Now the power's out?

Denny: *(Reenters, grabs flashlight from box, puts it under his chin)* Halloweeeeeeen!

Destiny: *(Grabs a flashlight and does likewise)* Oooooo!

Makayla: What? Where'd you get...no, it's Christmas, not—

Brandon: *(Grabs flashlight and fishbowl from the box)* Hey, the flashlights from the Halloween Bash! Remember? We told scary stories! *(Puts jar over his head)* "Where is my body? Ahhhhhhhhhh!"

Jasmine: That made me laugh so hard!

Makayla: *(Sarcastic)* Great! No volcano cake and no movie, but, hey, we've got flashlights!

Billy: So, guys, check it out: *We'll* be the TV! *(Ignoring groans)* And we'll tell ourselves the Christmas story! *(Before anyone can respond, he begins pointing at people)* Brandon, you're Joseph.

Brandon: Huh?

Billy: And Jasmine...

Jasmine: *(Panicking)* Me? No, please...

Billy: You be Mary.

Makayla: Wait! What?

Billy: *(Shining flashlight on his own face, indicating others should do same)* "In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to the town of Nazareth, to a young woman named Mary."

Destiny: *(Hovering over **Jasmine**)* Mary, you have been chosen by the Creator of the universe, who is unlimited by space and time—

Denny: And we're not making this up, MaKAYla—to be the mother of the infinite Creator's human child!

Destiny: Through you he will invade space and time, and create *the* Big Bang, the Big Bang to end all Big Bangs!

Denny: Right here! *(Pokes **Jasmine** in the tummy and makes an explosion sound)*

Brandon: Whoa! That's in the Bible?

Everyone looks at **Jasmine**.

Jasmine: Please...I can't...

Billy whispers to her.

Jasmine: *(Continuing)* But I can't do this. It scares me when people look at me. I mean I've never even had a boyfriend. *(Opening up a little)* It's always been just me and my mom, all alone. *(Something clicks)* But, I mean...I mean, if God really did come to me...

Makayla: *(Under her breath)* Like God would pick—

Brandon: Shut up, Makayla. *(To Jasmine)* Go ahead.

Billy: Forget about us, Jas. Just talk to God.

Jasmine: Well, I mean, if He really came to me, I would...I mean, there's nothing I wouldn't do. *(Letting go of her fears, speaking to God)* I'm a total nobody, Lord. But if *You* think I can do this... *(Finding something within herself)* I want to praise *You* with my yeses, Lord, with *all* of my yeses forever! I mean, that *You* would pick me, that people would *bless* me for saying yes to *You*... But then, that's what *You* do, huh? *You* skip right over the cool people and pick the losers...just to show *You're* everybody's God. Everybody! Even me...especially me.

Makayla: Oh, please.

Everyone: Shut up, Makayla!

Billy: So Mary became pregnant by the Holy Spirit, knowing that no one would understand. How could they? They would accuse her and try to kill her!

Billy signals **Others** in group to taunt **Jasmine**, then whispers to **Destiny and Denny**.

Others: *(Surrounding Jasmine, shoving her, getting in her face)* So you cheated on your boyfriend, huh! You know, there's a name for people like you! *(Etc.)*

Billy: But Mary was willing to face anything so that God could save the world through her, through His own son.

Destiny: When Joseph found out, he decided to break up with her in secret so no one would hurt her.

Brandon: *(To God)* Because I'd still love her, Lord. Even if she totally wrecks my heart. I mean...

Billy: But then an angel came to him in a dream and said—

Denny: She didn't cheat on you, Joe. She's who you thought she was; even better than you thought she was.

Destiny: This is going to be tough, but you have to protect her and the baby.

Brandon: Yes! No matter what, Lord! I *will!*

Brandon runs to **Jasmine**, pulls **Others** away from her, puts his jacket over her. They begin moving around the room.

Billy: Meanwhile, there was a census in Israel and everyone had to return to the town they were from. Mary was about to give birth any minute, but when she and Joseph got to Bethlehem, there was—

Makayla: No room!

Each time **Jasmine** and **Brandon** move to a new position, **Makayla** steps in front of them and says:

Makayla: *(Continuing)* Oops! Sorry! Not here! Outta luck! Not here either!

Des/Den: *(In unison)* But they finally found a place—

Others: A stable! For animals! A cave! *(Etc.)*

Everyone but **Makayla** surrounds **Jasmine** and **Brandon**. **Jasmine** groans. **Brandon** hovers over her protectively.

Billy: Until she finally gave birth...

No baby. Awkward moment. **Makayla** slowly removes her sweater and bundles it up. She places it in **Jasmine's** arms.

Billy: *(Continuing)* ...to the savior of the world, who would die for us, for *all* of us.

Makayla: *(To herself)* Even though we don't deserve it.

Jasmine, assuming the scene is over, hands the bundled sweater to **Makayla**. **Makayla** starts to walk away... but then turns around gives it back to **Jasmine**—to keep. **Makayla** embraces **Jasmine**, awkwardly at first, but then in earnest.

Others stare, stunned, then begin to smile and even applaud.

Brandon: (To **Billy**) Dude, did you plan this?

Billy: Uh...a little...yeah...with help.

Destiny and Denny wave.

Jasmine: Is the power really out?

Billy: Until Destiny and Denny flip the breaker back on. (*Grins*) But I'd say the power's already on here. Big time.

Grins, hugs, "Yeahs!"

Billy: (*Continuing*) Come on, guys, help me get the food out of the van. (To **Makayla**, after others have left) No volcano cake, though. I don't even know what that is.

Makayla: Neither do I.

End of scene.