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**“Shepherds”**

by  
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**What** Seen as one of society’s lowest, God chose the unlikely men watching sheep on a hillside to be part the Christmas story. A depiction of the shepherds’ story as conveyed in the Gospel of Luke, this scene is part of the full play, “One Chaotic Still Night.”

Themes: Shepherds, Christmas, Hope, Savior’s Birth, Ensemble

**Who** Shepherd 1: Male, 40’s+  
Shepherd 2: Male, 40’s+  
Shepherd 3: Male 20’s or younger  
Shepherd 4: Male 20’s or young

**When** Bible Times

**Wear (Props)** Staffs for the Shepherds  
Stones for the Shepherds on which to sit  
Wood for the campfire  
Hat or Scarf

**Why** Luke 2

**How** Stones for the shepherds to sit on are optional. However, this prop can simply be made by covering large, durable boxes with gray fabric.

The older Shepherds are grumpy and jaded. The younger are stoic.

**Time** Approximately 3 minutes

*Centerstage there is a pile of wood, staged as if it is a campfire. **Shepherd 2, 3, 4** are warming themselves by the fire and stoking it. There are large stones (or props that look like stones) around the campfire. The **Shepherds** are sitting or lying on the stones as they settle in for a long night.*

***Shepherd 1** stands upstage right, looking offstage, as if he's counting sheep.*

**Shepherd 1:** Fifty-three. Fifty-four. Fifty-five.

**Shepherd 2:** All that to say, I asked her father and he said no.

**Shepherd 3:** Again.

**Shepherd 2:** He said no...again. But this time he wasn't—

**Shepherd 4:** Yelling at you?

**Shepherd 3:** Throwing things?

**Shepherd 4:** Screaming?

**Shepherd 2:** He wasn't so sure.

**Shepherd 3:** You said that last time.

**Shepherd 2:** But this time I think he wanted to say yes.

**Shepherd 3:** *(as if he wants **Shepherd 2** to stop talking)* He probably wanted to say anything that would make you stop talking.

**Shepherd 4:** I don't know why you keep asking.

**Shepherd 3:** We're shepherds.

**Shepherd 4:** We're not exactly every woman's dream.

**Shepherd 3:** Or every father's for that matter.

**Shepherd 2:** You make it sound so hopeless.

**Shepherd 3:** It is. He's got one daughter. He's not going to choose you.

**Shepherd 1:** Sixty-five. Sixty-six.

**Shepherd 4:** *(to **Shepherd 1**)* Stop. You're making my head hurt. They're all here.

**Shepherd 1:** How can you tell? They all look the same.

*As he says this next line, **Shepherd 4** lays down and puts a hat or scarf over his eyes, as if he is going to sleep.*

Shepherd 4: *(annoyed)* Do this job for another 30 years. They won't all look the same by then.

*Shepherd 1 sits.*

Shepherd 1: *(sarcastically)* You're in a good mood.

Shepherd 4: What's there to be in a good mood about?

Shepherd 3: Kid, we're shepherds. *(to Shepherd 2)* We don't get the girls.

Shepherd 4: No father dreams of choosing a shepherd as a son-in-law.

Shepherd 3: Most people don't even make eye contact with us.

Shepherd 1: *(teasingly to Shepherd 2)* Afraid if they got too close, they'd smell you.

Shepherd 2: I don't smell.

Shepherd 4: I can smell you from here.

*Shepherds freeze.*

*A bright light shines above the Shepherds. Shepherds shrink back.*

Voice: *(offstage)* Do not be afraid! Listen carefully, for I proclaim to you good news that brings great joy to all the people: Today your Savior is born in the city of David. He is Christ the Lord. This will be a sign for you: You will find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

*Bright light down. Pause. Shepherds begin to laugh with joy and amazement.*

*All Shepherds Ad lib excitedly as they exit down the stage right aisle.*

Shepherd 1,3,4: Did you hear that? He was talking to us. Let's go. Let's go. Hurry!

Shepherd 2: *(as he exits)* He chose us! God chose to tell us!

*Lights down.*