

A script from



“Two Kings?”

by
Rebecca Wimmer

- What** King Herod knew the birth of another king, Jesus, would mean his life would have to change. Do we recognize the same thing and that there cannot be two kings? Themes: Sovereign, Lord, Savior, Christmas, Baby Jesus, Bible, Master
- Who** Herod (male)
King’s Guard (male or female)
Magi (3 people male people)
- When** Bible times; during the time of the birth of Jesus
- Wear (Props)** You can go simple with jeans and plain t-shirts for all, Herod dressed in black t-shirt, the Magi in 3 primary color shirts, the Guard in gray. Or go over the top and wear long flowing robes and a crown, with the Magi carrying their gold, frankincense and myrrh, Herod “blinged” out in jewels, a beard and a crown on an opulent throne.
- Why** Matthew 2:1-18
- How** This script is not supposed to be performed “realistically” but rather as a heightened version of lofty acting. Stylized. Think over the top Shakespeare acting. Big movements, large sweeping strides, sharp actions.
- Time** Approximately 3 minutes

Herod sits on his "throne" with the King's Guard standing at attention beside him. The Magi are 3 men, but only one of them speaks for all or they can all speak the lines in unison.

Magi: *(Entering and "knocking" on an invisible door)* Knock knock.

Herod: Who's there?

Magi: We are wise men who've come from afar following a star that will lead us to a king to worship.

Herod: *(Opening the invisible door expectantly)* You're in luck! Your king is here! So worship me now if you will!

Magi: *(Looking each other in confused stares)* Herod, great king on the earth, you are great in an earthly way, but we're seeking a heavenly throne come to earth many times greater than your worth.

Herod: A king not me? This is earthly blasphemy. *(He motions to the King's Aid to come forward who raises his sword above his head)* I should have your lives dispatched! *(Then quickly stopping the sword of the King's Guard, the King's Aid, and the Magi freeze, sword lifted high, Magi cowering while Herod moves off to the side in soliloquy fashion speaking to himself and the audience)* But if I kill them now then how will I find this betraying king? I'll let them lead me to him so I can kill him. After all, there cannot be two kings. *(Moving back to the Magi and putting his hand back on the sword where he stopped it he has changed his tune...he now speaks almost sugary sweet. On his speaking, they all unfreeze.)* A king not me?! Look how happy am I! Go search for this little usurper with my most earnest desire that you find him. And when you do, listen careful you... *(Spoken harshly and with evil intent)* I command you to bring back word! *(Realizing he may have just alarmed them and given up his true intentions, he speaks sweetly again)* so, I may worship him too.

Exit Magi and the King's Aid who is ushering them out.

Herod: Another king? Ha! What sort of thing is this? It's a death kiss to everything I've known, everything I've worked for on my own. Two kings? It can't be so! I cannot rule and this King also! No. There will be but one king in this country and that king will be me. Because if I let this heavenly King take the reins what remains of my rule? I will not be made a fool. This king must die so I can live just how I always have. With me in charge.

Guard: *(Rushing in breathing hard and kneeling down on one knee before him, head down)* Great king Herod, I fear those Magi, the wise men, who just

a short while ago traveled here have met this heavenly king from on high and on their way back home they have passed us by!

Herod: *(Moving slowly toward the King's Guard over the next line he draws the sword the King's Guard is holding) Someone must have warned them that I would kill this little lamb (raising the sword he strikes the King's Guard with a fatal blow when he speaks the word "hands") with my own bare hands! I'll kill every boy under two and more if I have to. There cannot be two kings! And yet, there is. No, there can be only one. So is it me or is it him? Because there cannot be two kings on the throne.*

Exit.

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