

Playstage

Junior

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GRANDMA'S MAGICAL CHRISTMAS CARDS



Grandma tells everyone the most famous Christmas story
of them all... the Nativity

Written by
Stewart Auty

GRANDMA'S MAGICAL CHRISTMAS CARDS

CAST

Narrator 1	Shepherd 4
Narrator 2	Shepherd 5
Mum	Angel 2
Dad	Angel 3
Sam	Adviser 1
Janet	King Herod
Grandma	Adviser 2
Mary	Melchior
Gabriel	Balthazar
Joseph	Gaspar
Officer	Innkeeper
Guard 1	Innkeeper's Wife
Guard 2	Soldiers 1, 2 and 3
Shepherd 1	
Shepherd 2	Guards/Soldiers parts could be
Shepherd 3	doubled up or added.

Running time of approximately 40 minutes

Number of performers is 31 but could easily be more or less.

NOTE: You could make use of a CHOIR in front of the stage.

SPECIAL NOTE: It would be nice to project on to a screen/interactive board the Christmas card scenes that are mentioned in this play We give some examples in the PRODUCTION NOTES or you could just source your own Christmas cards.

MUSIC

Below are suggestions for music for this play. Where possible we have given links to YouTube videos for rehearsal purposes and links to backing tracks for those schools who do not have access to a pianist or other musical accompanist.

1/ THERE'S NO ONE QUITE LIKE GRANDMA

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tjzhTAM9vtQ>

Backing track: <https://www.musicbackingtracks.co.uk/tracks/detail/2187>

2/ CHRISTMAS ALPHABET

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wLUrcUyQKY8>

Backing track: <https://www.karaoke-version.co.uk/instrumental-mp3/dickie-valentine/christmas-alphabet.html>

3/ THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1rimCxZzrgI>

Backing track: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B9Hx8Xqshs4>

4/ WHILE SHEPHERDS WATCHED THEIR FLOCKS BY NIGHT

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eSyUvOUZwxQ>

Backing track: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KDyTSV0NIIM>

5/ RIDING OUT ACROSS THE DESERT

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HpGDsn81r0Q>

Backing track: <https://www.shazam.com/track/161253809/riding-out-across-the-desert>

6/ THE CALYPSO CAROL

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W1UI5Ko34XQ>

Backing track: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RbovJWcZJWg>

7/ I HAD A DREAM

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P1hTZcwYCIU>

Backing track: <https://www.karaoke-version.co.uk/instrumental-mp3/abba/i-have-a-dream.html>

8/ ALL YOU NEED IS LOVE

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WWP80rXP4cM>

Backing track: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YC8l6OKqV18>

GRANDMA'S MAGICAL CHRISTMAS CARDS

When the play opens, the stage is either bare, or this opening piece can be performed in front of the curtains. The opening song could either be sung by the whole cast, temporarily on stage or by a choir in front of the stage.

1/ OPENING SONG—THERE'S NO ONE QUITE LIKE GRANDMA

Grandma, we love you

Grandma, we do

Though you may be far away

We think of you

There's no one quite like Grandma

And I know you will agree

That she always is a friend to you

And she's a friend to me

There's no one quite like Grandma

She's there in times of need

Before it's bedtime, on her knee

To us a book she'll read

Grandma, we love you

Grandma, we do

Though you may be far away

We think of you

And one day when we're older

We'll look back and say

There's no one quite like Grandma

She has helped us on our way

Grandma, we love you

Grandma, we do

Grandma, we love you

Grandma, we do

There's no one quite like Grandma
A love we always share
At party time and Christmas too
We know that she'll be there
There's no one quite like Grandma
She always has a smile
She never hurries us along
Just stays a little while
Grandma, we love you
Grandma, we do
Though you may be far away
We think of you
And one day when we're older
We'll look back and say
There's no one quite like Grandma
She has helped us on our way
Grandma, we love you
Grandma, we do
Grandma, we love you
And we know you love us too

(Enter the two NARRATORS)

NARRATOR 1

Welcome to our Christmas Production.

NARRATOR 2

Our story features the Evelyn family. Let's introduce them....

NARRATOR 1

Here's Mum, Mrs Evelyn.

(Enter MUM, who bows)

NARRATOR 2

...And Dad, Mr Evelyn.

(Enter DAD dressed in trilby, over long tie and oversize raincoat. He nods to audience)

NARRATOR 1

And their two children

(Enter SAM and JANET)

NARRATOR 2

Sam and Janet.

NARRATOR 2

Let's make a start, shall we?

NARRATOR 1

OK! Here we go! T'was the night before Christmas...

NARRATOR 2

Hang on a minute! Are you sure that's the correct opening?

NARRATOR 1

(Points to script) Look, that's what it says here. T'was the night before Christmas!

NARRATOR 2

Oh, yes, I see.

NARRATOR 1

The Evelyn family are about to set off to visit Grandma.

NARRATOR 2

They go every year.

NARRATOR 1

And the children are getting a bit fed up.

NARRATOR 2

We're having the vicar for Christmas.

NARRATOR 1

Makes a change from turkey, I suppose.

NARRATOR 2

Enough! Let's see how they get on.

MUM

Nearly ready, children? Clean hands, clean face? And you have both been to the toilet?

DAD

Yes, hurry up. We need to make a start soon, in order to beat the traffic.

SAM

(Sighs) It's the same every year. Christmas Day at Grandma's.

JANET

Boring or what?

SAM

It wasn't too bad when we were little.

JANET

And Granddad was still alive.

SAM

Yeah, he was good fun. Always played games with us. Showed me some magic tricks!

JANET

He made it interesting. He was a great storyteller. Do we have to go, Dad?

SAM

Can't we stay at home this year?

JANET

We're too big for visiting relatives.

SAM

We want to stay at home. Grandma could come to us!

DAD

Your grandma doesn't like travelling on her own these days, so it's down to us.

MUM

So, we go there. End of. No arguments!

DAD

Now listen, you two. We don't go to see Grandma for our benefit, we go for hers.

MUM

Hey, hang on! We haven't brought you two up to be selfish. Stop thinking about yourselves for a minute! It's more important than ever to see Grandma at Christmas. We are not leaving her on her own, and that's final!

JANET

But it's always the same. Grandma will be too busy cooking the Christmas dinner to spend any time with us.

SAM

And there's nothing for us to do.

MUM

Well, this year will be different. I've told Grandma that I'll do all the cooking, so she can have a rest, and spend time with her lovely grandchildren.

SAM

O.K. But can I take my iPad?

JANET

And can I take my MP3 player?

DAD

Yes, whatever you want.

MUM *(takes DAD to one side)*

Are you sure about that?

DAD *(loud whisper back)*

Trust me! There's no internet at Grandma's house!

MUM

Now hurry up, we need to set off soon.

DAD

It's a long drive to Grandma's house. The Satnav says it will take more than three hours to get there, so we need to get going!

MUM

Now have we got everything?

DAD

Food, drink, children?

SAM *(To JANET)*

I suppose we were a bit selfish.

JANET

A bit thoughtless too. There's no one quite like Grandma. We should remember that.

DAD

So, we're ready at last? Out to the car.

SAM

Can I sit in the front this time?

DAD

Every time we go out in the car, it's the same question. And it's always the same answer. I don't know why you keep asking.

SAM

There's always hope that one day you'll change your mind.

DAD

Well not today. In the back, both of you.

(EVERYONE gets in to a 'make believe' car. SEE PRODUCTION NOTES.)

(Children climb into the back seats. MUM and Dad in the front.)

DAD

Do you want to drive, dear, or shall I?

MUM

Oh, you can. We know the way, so there's no need for a map.

DAD

Fingers in ears, you two!

MUM

Why do you always say that?

DAD

If their fingers are in their ears, I know I'll not trap them when I shut the doors.

MUM

Then just say that. They're not babies anymore.

DAD

Fine. *(Picks up steering wheel from floor)*. Doors? Seatbelts? We have ignition and ... three, two one, we have lift off! *(Mimes gear changing etc)*

MUM

We're all set. As it's Sunday, it should be quite quiet on the roads. I hope you two can amuse yourselves, without falling out.

JANET

Falling out? What us? Shall we play I spy Sam?

SAM

No, I've a better idea. Let's do a Christmas alphabet.

(The rest of the cast could come on stage to help with the song, or they could sing offstage or you could use a CHOIR in front of the stage, as suggested before.)

SONG 2: CHRISTMAS ALPHABET**C-H-R-I-S-T-M-A-S****C is for the Candy trimmed around the Christmas tree****H is for the Happiness with all the family****R is for the Reindeer prancing by the window pane****I is for the Icing on the cake as sweet as sugar cane****S is for the Stocking on the chimney wall****T is for the Toys beneath the tree so tall****M is for the Mistletoe where everyone is kissed****A is for the Angels who make up the Christmas list****S is for old Santa who makes every kid his pet****Be good and he'll bring you everything in your Christmas Alphabet.***(Verse could be repeated and audience encouraged to sing along)*