

# THE CASE OF **The** **Reluctant Innkeeper**

**A CHRISTMAS MUSICAL FOR YOUNG VOICES**

By Ruth Elaine Schram and Mark Cabaniss

Orchestrations by John DeVries

<b>SONG TITLE</b>	<b>DIRECTOR</b>	<b>SINGER</b>
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All Because of Bethlehem	23	40
Joy to the World with Change Things Around (Reprise)	28	42

**Performance Length: Approx. 15-20 minutes**

Performance Kit	01426 0
(includes enhanced accompaniment CD* with performance poster and program)	
Listening CD Bulk	823220
CDs (10 pack) CD	748721
Preview Pack	547362

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M U S I C



## CAST

(in order of appearance)

The Choir:	They serve as the jury
Sam Shepherd:	Attorney at law and part-time shepherd
Judge Jody Justice:	No-nonsense judge who gets the job done
Heehaw A. Donkey:	The first witness...a donkey
Malachi Mutton:	The second witness...a sheep
Benjamin Holiday:	The Innkeeper...the final witness

## SET

No set is needed, other than two chairs, one for Judge Jody and one for each witness, used in succession. Or, you can make your production as elaborate as you desire and resources allow. For example, Judge Jody could have a podium behind which she sits (speaker's podiums are easily accessible from a Sunday School classroom, local high school or college). If a backdrop is possible, paint it to depict a Biblical period room with columns and archways. A "window" on the backdrop might reveal a starry sky and a Bethlehem horizon.

## COSTUMES

Sam Shepherd:	Shepherd's robe, necktie and briefcase
Judge Jody Justice:	Robe (a choir robe will suffice)
Heehaw A. Donkey:	Grey sweat suit with tail, pointed ears and mitten "hooves"*
Malachi Mutton:	White sweat suit with curly tail, ears and mitten "hooves"*
Benjamin Holiday:	Typical Biblical robe and headdress
The Choir:	Matching T-shirts (see back page of this book), dressy casual or Biblical attire

\* A simple Internet search for "donkey costume" and "sheep costume" will reveal detailed ideas and tips for creating these costumes.

## PROPS

Scroll for Judge Jody to present to Sam  
 Gavel\* for Judge Jody  
 Briefcase for Sam



\* If you can't easily find a gavel, simply have the Judge clap her hands to bring the court to order.

# No Vacancy

Chorus

Singer's page - 32

Words and Music by  
MARK CABANISS and  
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM

ACCOMP. 2/19 Slightly ominous (♩ = ca. 70)

*mf*

4 5 *mf*

Miles and miles we trav-eled a - long a dust - y road. I was

7

wit-ness to it all as I car-ried their load. Then at last we came up - on a

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10 *molto rit.*

place to lay our heads. The keep-er of the inn came out and this is what he said:

*molto rit.* **f**

**13** Emphatically (♩ = ca. 70) 3/20

*swing*

*mf*

17

“There’s no room for you to-night.— There’s not a sin - gle

20

room. Be - sides, you’re late, and check-out time— to -

# Angels in the Sky

Chorus

Singer's page - 35

Words and Music by  
MARK CABANISS and  
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM

Incorporating  
"Angels We Have Heard on High"  
"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"  
"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

**6/23** Fanfare-like (♩ = ca. 120)

*f* (spoken, with excitement)

What's that in the sky?

ACCOMP. *f*

4 *mf*

It's a bird! It's a plane! No, it's

7 *poco accel.* **9** Joyously (♩ = ca. 132)

\* *mf*

an - gels ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains! An - gels we have

*poco accel.* *mf*

\* Tune: GLORIA, Traditional French Carol  
Words: Traditional French Carol

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10

heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains, and the moun-tains

14

7/24

17

in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains. Glo -

18

- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis

22


De - o! Glo - ri - a

# Change Things Around


Chorus

Singer's page - 38

Words and Music by  
MARK CABANISS and  
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM

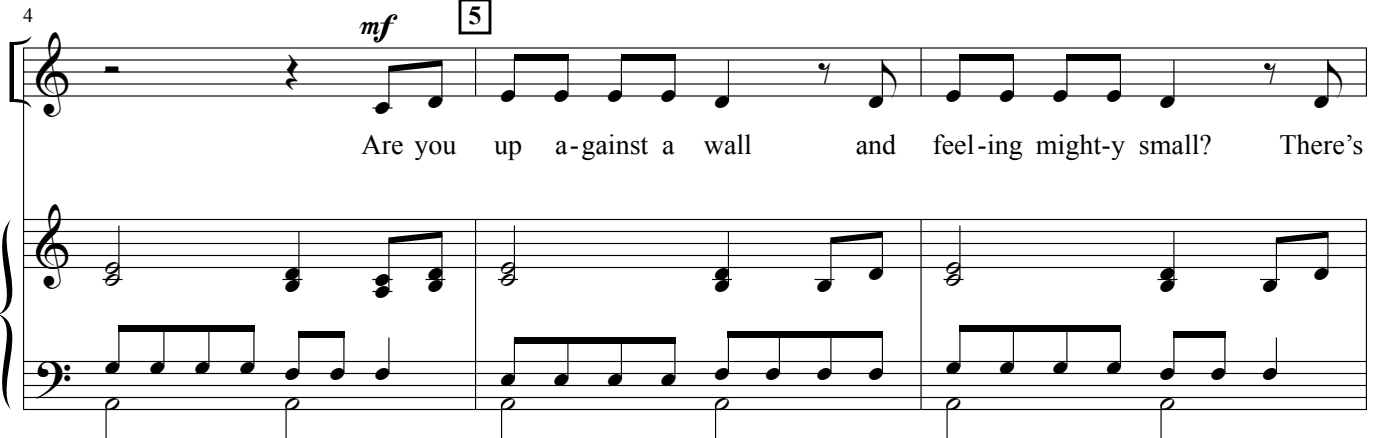
 Darkly (♩ = ca. 112)

ACCOMP. *mf*



4 *mf* 5

Are you up a-against a wall and feel-ing might-y small? There's



7

no room in the inn, and you need some - one to call.



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11/28

9

Don't call in - for - ma - tion, 'cause God has got the plan.

11

We don't have to wor - ry. Just pray and know He can

13

*f brightly*

change things a - round, change things a - round! God

*f*

15

sent His Son, the Ho - ly One, to change things a - round.



# All Because of Bethlehem

Chorus

Singer's page - 40

Words and Music by  
MARK CABANISS and  
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM  
Incorporating  
"Silent Night, Holy Night"

13/30 Tenderly (♩ = ca. 88)

ACCOMP. *mp*

5 *mp* 7

It's all be-cause of Beth-le-hem we

9

sing this song of joy, for God has come to us with-in this

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13 *mf* **15**

ho - ly Ba - by Boy. In - side a ti - ny sta - ble,

17

Hope was born that night. It's all be-cause of God's great love that

21 **14/31** *poco rall.* **24** *a tempo*  
\* *mp*

all was calm and bright. Si - lent

25

night, ho - ly night. Son of God,

# Joy to the World / Change Things Around (Reprise)

Chorus

Singer's page - 42

Words and Music by  
 MARK CABANISS and  
 RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM  
*Incorporating*  
 "Joy to the World"

ACCOMP. *mf* Joyfully (♩ = ca. 112)

4 *mf* Joy to the world, the Lord has come! Let

7 earth re-ceive her King. Let ev - 'ry heart pre -

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10

pare Him room, and heav'n and na - ture sing, and

12

heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.

15

Our God can change things a-round. Our God can

18

change things a-round! God sent His Son, the Ho - ly One to change things a-round.