

No Ordinary Child

Drama Script

Written by Shushannah Anderson

Overview

This piece is written in the style of 'Readers Theatre'. Readers Theatre is a performance of a script to an audience, where the focus is on vocal expression (pacing, pitch, volume, character, etc.) rather than on props, sets or costumes. This piece is based on the theme of 'No Ordinary Child', to tie into the suite of resources produced by the Mission Resource Team, Australia Territory, 2025.

Notes

This script can be memorised or read from folders (although if reading, we encourage actors to be familiar with the script so they can look up at the audience frequently). In terms of staging, the actors can simply stand in a line spread across the stage and deliver their lines. Or it can be in a different formation if you choose. This script is originally written for four actors, however it can be adapted for more or less actors depending on how many people you have available to you. The piece progresses from an initial reflection that the birth of Jesus seems ordinary, to the realisation that the birth of Jesus was quite extraordinary. As the actors remember different facts about the Christmas Story, it challenges their initial conclusion that this story is nothing out of the ordinary. The piece should start out at a slow tempo as the actors set the scene. As more realisations occur, the piece should increase in pace.

To view this script in action, please visit: <https://youtu.be/D6aYcu88aq0>



ACTOR 1: A small country town.

ACTOR 2: A starry night.

ACTOR 3: A baby is born.

ACTOR 4: That seems...

ACTOR 3: Seems straight forward.

ACTOR 4: Nothing out of the ordinary.

All seem satisfied with this conclusion

Pause

ACTOR 1: Well actually... that small town - Bethlehem - had a pretty important history. It's the place where King David came from.

ACTOR 2: And some people travelled a long way to come and visit the baby.

ACTOR 3: And that baby's name was Jesus. Which means 'God Saves'.

ACTOR 4: Ok... well that's a little strange but still not crazy...

ACTOR 2: Yeah exactly.

Increasing in pace

ACTOR 1: Although, the prophet, Micah, had foretold that out of Bethlehem would come the ruler over Israel.

ACTOR 3: Now that you mention it, there were other prophecies that foretold the Messiah's lineage, which became true through Mary and Joseph - Jesus' mum and dad.

ACTOR 4: Surely that is just a coincidence...

Ignoring Actor 4

Getting faster and overlapping each other

ACTOR 2: In fact, did you know Jesus' mum was a virgin-

ACTOR 1: -And an angel appeared to her-

ACTOR 3: -And Joseph!-

ACTOR 2: -And some shepherds in the field the night he was born! Telling them to go visit Jesus!-

ACTOR 3: -The Magi also visited Jesus. They came with gifts and worshipped this baby as the new King!-

ACTOR 1: -The Son of God who had come in human flesh!-

ACTOR 2: -The place where Heaven and Earth collided!

ACTOR 4: *(Slowly - taking all the info in)* Right... Wow... That does seem... miraculous.

Pause

ACTOR 1: And ever since...

ACTOR 3: A baby was born,

ACTOR 2: On a starry night,

ACTOR 1: In a small country town,

ACTOR 3: The course of history changed.

ACTOR 4: Seems pretty extraordinary to me.