

# HOLIDAY DELIGHTS

*By Lorelei Graybeal*

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## **BARNYARD CHRISTMAS**

**THEME:** Christmas.

**SETTING:** A barnyard with barn to the right.

**PROPS:** A chair, a knitted sweater, a piece of purple cloth, a doll for baby Jesus, a small bottle, and a nose ring. Cassandra wears a blue ribbon won at fair, Rob wears the nose ring. Mary and Joseph wear traditional Hebrew style clothing.

### **SYNOPSIS**

**Scene 1:** Barnyard

**Scene 2:** Same day, late afternoon

**Scene 3:** Later that evening

### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

**KATIE:** A nice cow who struggles with feeling inferior.

**CASSANDRA:** Conceited and pushy cow.

**LEROY:** Bossy cow who always has to be right.

**ROB:** Touchy, quick tempered cow.

**SAM:** Enthusiastic cow who dreams up crazy schemes.

**PAM:** Sam's twin.

**MARY:** A young, sweet Jewish woman.

**JOSEPH:** A kind Jewish man.

### **SCENE 1**

*(AT RISE: ALL COWS except SAM and PAM are in the barnyard.)*

CASSANDRA: All I'm saying, Katie, is that some of us come from high quality stock. I'm a cow, you're a cow, but not all cows are created equal.

KATIE: Look, Cassandra, I'm not jealous of your blue ribbon, okay?

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CASSANDRA: Oh, no, Katie, of course you're not! But I know how disappointed you must be that you didn't even win. I know how miserable you must be that you didn't win a red ribbon, either ... how crushed you are that you didn't even win an honorable mention.

KATIE: (*Unconvincingly.*) Really, Cassandra, I'm not at all disappointed.

CASSANDRA: But of course you are!

KATIE: No, really ...

CASSANDRA: (*Snaps.*) Yes, you are! I said you are and you are! (*Softer.*) And I really, really, do feel for you. And I mean that from the bottom of my hoof.

KATIE: How mooooooving. (*Enter SAM and PAM.*)

SAM: Hey, everybody! Come here!

PAM: We've got big news!

CASSANDRA: What big news?

PAM: There's a King coming! Right, Sam?

KATIE: Really? A real live King?

LEROY: What's this? Nobody informed me!

SAM: We just heard! Pam and I were in the marketplace when we ran into that herd of Jerseys from over the hill ...

LEROY: Jerseys? Hmmmph! "Over the hill" is a good way to describe those old bags of bones.

ROB: Yeah, those Jerseys are just a bunch of milk sops. (*LEROY and ROB snicker.*)

LEROY: Yeah, you'd better steer clear of them. Get it? "Steer clear?" (*THEY laugh.*)

ROB: We milked that one for all it was worth, didn't we?

PAM: No, listen! They were smoothing down their cowlicks and polishing their horns and acting all excited and ...

SAM: ... and we asked them what was going on, and they said they were getting ready for a King, a real King, and he's supposed to be coming tonight! Man, I about had a cow!

PAM: And that's not all! Everybody was dashing around to get a present ...

SAM: ... but they all got a head start on us. They all have their presents practically ready...

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PAM: ... and we've just got until tonight. Tonight! Oh, Sam!  
We've got to get started on our gift right away!

SAM: We need something really great. I mean REALLY  
great! *(SAM and PAM exit SL.)*

KATIE: A King? Coming here!?

ROB: Well, if that's true, we'd better get busy and figure out  
what we can do about getting our gifts. *(ROB exits to  
barn, CASSANDRA exits SL.)*

KATIE: What's all this about gifts?

LEROY: Katie, Katie, where have you been? Were you  
born in a barn?

KATIE: Actually, yes.

LEROY: Everyone knows you must have a gift to present to  
the King. He won't receive you without one. *(KATIE exits,  
ROB returns with knitting.)* Just out of curiosity, Rob, what  
are you doing there?

ROB: Oh, this knitting? This is my present for the King.

LEROY: *(Amused.)* You're making him a sweater?

ROB: Yes, a sweater! Have you got a problem with that?

LEROY: Rob, my boy, you've much to learn. We're talking  
about the King here, understand? A man's man ... the  
great one! *(SAM and PAM enter.)*

PAM: I told you it wouldn't work. I told you it was too big of  
a project.

SAM: But, Pam, what's better fitting for a King than a  
castle?

LEROY: A castle. What a joke!

PAM: It would have been great, but we really don't have the  
money ...

SAM: ... or the tools ...

PAM: ... or the time to do it. *(BOTH think for a moment.)*  
Hey, Sam! I've got it! Maybe we can't build a castle, but  
what King wouldn't want a chariot?

LEROY: You two think you're going to build a chariot?

KATIE: *(Entering.)* How are you going to do that?

SAM: I don't know, but we'll think of something, won't we,  
Pam? *(PAM nods. THEY exit.)*

LEROY: Those two have the craziest ideas.

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KATIE: At least they have some ideas. I can't think of anything to give the King!

ROB: I suppose you're going to wow the King with something really great, huh, Leroy?

LEROY: You know as well as I do those two can't build a chariot any more than they could build a castle. But a King needs something better than a sissy sweater.

ROB: My sweater's not sissy, I'll have you know!

LEROY: Oh, listen to him! (*Mimics ROB.*) "My sweater's not sissy."

ROB: Oh, yeah? Well, I don't see you making a gift. At least I'll have a gift by tonight, and the King will receive me!

LEROY: I'll have you know that I've got an idea for a gift and it's a pretty good one, if I do say so myself. Something that a real man can appreciate.

ROB: What gift could you possibly come up with that's fit for a King?

LEROY: Well, think of it. A King is a man, right? A man's man, right? He needs something manly, something that really says "macho."

ROB: So, what are you going to give him?

LEROY: You'll see! (*LEROY exits. CASSANDRA enters.*)

CASSANDRA: What do you think of this beautiful material? Won't it make a nice robe?

KATIE: Why, it's beautiful, Cassandra. Where did you get it?

CASSANDRA: Oh, I have my ways.

KATIE: Hey, this cloth looks familiar.

CASSANDRA: Don't touch it! It's mine!

KATIE: Hey, I've seen this cloth before. It was hanging on a clothesline at the neighbor's. Cassandra! Did you steal it?

CASSANDRA: No, I didn't steal it. I ... exchanged something for it. Yes, I took the cloth and in exchange I left them one of my famous pies.

KATIE: (*Dryly.*) You left them a cow pie?

ROB: Cassandra! Now this really is too much! I just have to put my hoof down!

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