

Joseph: A Dream, A Sign

*Selected from the collection
"VOICES OF THE NATIVITY"*

By Jill Lamkin

Length: 3 pages of dialogue (959 words)

Performance time: About 6 minutes

The Story

Joseph becomes more devout as he realizes, through a dream, how important his support of Mary will be in the birth of Jesus.

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Joseph: A Dream, A Sign *A Monologue for Joseph*

My father calls me his dreamer. I tell him that he was named after one of the greatest dreamers of all. He just smiles and says, "Yes, Jacob was a dreamer, but his son, Joseph...he had a few dreams of his own." Then he says, "Tell me again about the angel." My father is a seeker. He says signs are everywhere, and God waits just around the bend in the road to surprise us. But this surprise was a little too much for him. I think his heart is still wrestling.

Not even in my own wildest dreams could I imagine how Mary's story could be true. I wanted to believe it. I wanted so much to believe. My Mary was pregnant, yet she said she had not been with a man. It would not be the first time for a betrayal in love, for an engagement to be broken, for a woman to bear the child of another man. But why couldn't she tell me? How could the truth hurt any more than the painful questions that prodded me?

No matter how I looked at it, I could no longer be a part of her life. She was carrying a child. It was not mine. She said that no man was the father, but that she had been visited by an angel who told her she would bear the child of God. Even if there was some way this ... this fantastic story was possible, there was still no future for us. If this was really a child of God, who was I to wed His mother and be a part of His life? Kings and those chosen by God require more than I am, more than I could ever provide. Could God's Son live in a carpenter's home?

Mary's life had taken a sudden turn. The path we'd traveled together had divided. I saw no other option than to quietly divorce her; put an end to our engagement...to the marriage we had waited so long for.

The thought of it made my heart feel numb. During our engagement, I had come to love her. She said she loved me. We felt fortunate. Engagements are not always so happy, and sometimes the marriages are only endured. But I had found a true friend...I thought.

I had no wish to embarrass her or shame her. I still loved her. But we'd come to the place where the hope for our future ended. I came to that conclusion after many sleepless nights.

End of Freeview

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