ANGEL VISION

By Virgil Mochel

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DEDICATION

To Dad, Mom, Mary Jane and Marian,
who have provided unending inspiration, encouragement and love.

The Playwright,
Virgil Mochel

STORY OF THE PLAY

A group of young angels are singing their rousing "Angel Flight Song" as the play opens. Some of the angels have questioned the wisdom of making their announcement of Christ's birth to some lowly shepherds rather than to somebody "important." Through the miracle of "Angel Vision," however, they are able to observe firsthand how four potentates, King Herod, the Roman Governor, a high priest, and a wealthy businessman, would react if their announcement were made to each of them. The angels gratefully announce Jesus' birth to the shepherds as originally planned by God and take part in the other events of the Christmas story as it unfolds.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(Large, flexible cast. Doubling possible.)

Scene1 and other scenes
ANGELS (10 to 12 or more if space permits)
EMILY
GABRIEL

Scene 2
HEROD
COURTIERS
SERVANT
LEVI
NATHAN

Scene 3
GAIUS
OCTAVIUS
FLAVIUS
JUSTIN

Scene 4
ELI
TWO SCRIBES

Scene 5
RACHEL
JOSHUA
MICAH
SARAH

Scene 6
THREE SHEPHERDS

Scene 7
JOSEPH
MARY
THREE WISE MEN

PROPS
Angels: Wings, halos.
Herod: Robe, crown, cup.
Servant: Pitcher, tray
Wise men - Gifts for Jesus (gold, frankincense and myrrh).
Gaius: Scroll.
Octavius: Sword
Mary: Wrapped baby doll

SCENE 1

(AT RISE: In heaven. ANGELS are grouped in a choir. EMILY leads them in singing "The Angel Flight Song." They should have wings and halos.)

ANGELS: (Sung to the tune "Onward, Christian Soldiers.")
We are all God's angels
Messengers for the Lord
Thanks to all our training,
We are never bored!

We are loyal to our flock
Angles 'round the clock
From our duty we won't shirk
Doing angel work.

Onward, angel messengers
Striving day and night
We are always ready
And never miss a flight!

EMILY: Very good! You are starting to sound like you are singing our "Angel Flight Song" from the heart. *(ANGELS respond with pleased looks.)* And now, General Gabriel wants to have a few words with you.

GABRIEL: *(Steps forward.)* First of all, I want to say that I agree with Captain Emily that your singing sounds great! Keep up the good work! *(Pause.)* Now, I have been told by Captain Emily that some of you have been asking why God chose to have us announce the birth of the world's Savior to a group of not-too-bright shepherds out on a hill overlooking Bethlehem. Is that correct?

ALL: *(Look at EACH OTHER for support and nod their heads.)* Yes. Uh, huh.

GABRIEL: Okay. I also understand that some of you think you should be making this greatest announcement of all time to somebody of more importance, such as a king or the high priest. *(Looks somewhat glaringly at THEM.)* Is that correct?

ALL: *(More reluctantly than before.)* Well ... yes.

ANGEL 1: *(Timidly.)* General Gabriel, sir. It does seem like more people would pay attention if the announcement were made to someone in authority.

GABRIEL: Oh, does it now? Well, Lieutenant, I thank you for stepping forward and voicing that opinion, which is apparently on most of your minds. *(Scans the GROUP with HIS eyes.)* First of all, need I point out to you that this is God's plan? If this were my idea, or Captain Emily's plan, you might have some reason to question it ... *(Stabs air with HIS finger.)* ... but I hope you understand, you would still be expected to follow orders. *(ALL nod their heads in agreement.)* Since you have raised this question, however, we will show you what would happen if we made our announcement to someone in authority.

ANGEL 2: How can we do that, sir?

GABRIEL: Through the miracle of a new development called Angel Vision.

ALL: Angel Vision? *(THEY look puzzled.)*

GABRIEL: Yes, Angel Vision. It creates a virtual reality which allows you to place yourself right into a possible real-life situation. Then you can see what would happen if you were really there in the midst of it all.

ANGEL 3: *(Walks over to HIM and tugs on his sleeve.)* How does it work?

GABRIEL: How does it work? *(Clears throat, stalling.)* Uh, I will let Captain Emily explain it to you.

EMILY: Well, we set up the scene with the characters we want, and then I will lead you in making our announcement just like we will be doing it for the shepherds. We will be there to watch what happens after we break our news.

(EVERYONE is excited now and eager to start.)

ANGEL 4: Who will be in our first scene?

GABRIEL: Let me see ... I guess most of you thought we should break our news to a king, so we will go to the court of King Herod, the King of the Jews. *(When HE finishes, the LIGHTS dim and the ANGELS exit.)*

End of Freeview

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