

# Evangeline, the Reluctant Christmas Angel

*Selected from the collection  
"HOW FAR IS IT TO BETHLEHEM?"*

By Judith Clough

**Cast:** *Evangeline, Messenger, and any number for Angel chorus*

**Length:** *3 pages of dialogue (622 words)*

**Performance time:** *About 4 minutes*

## The Story

The Angels in Heaven are excited that Evangeline has been chosen to announce the great joy of Baby Jesus' birth. Evangeline is doubtful the world will care or that the shepherds will even understand. The Angels respond that the shepherds will love Him in their own humble way, and they will know why He is to be born in a manger.

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# **Evangeline, the Reluctant Christmas Angel**

*(AT RISE: ANGELS enter and take their places as a choir. This is Heaven on the night of Christ's birth and the Angels are very excited. After they are in place, they perform the following routine in synchronization: straighten halo, dust off wings, [which may be the tops of their shoulders] straighten their clothes, and fold their hands in prayer form. They speak as a chorus at all times. Sitting by herself to one side is EVANGELINE, the picture of gloom. Every time the Angels start to sing, she cuts them off. Suggested song: "Glory to God in the Highest" with words by Franny Crosby and music by William B. Bradbury.)*

ANGELS: Gloria, glory!

We get to tell the story!

Tonight's the night the baby's born

Into a world that's all forlorn.

We get to bend on hovering wing

And to the shepherds God's love sing.

*(Start to sing.)*

EVANGELINE: *(Cutting THEM off.)* Why are you all so excited? What's the big deal? So a baby is being born. What difference does it make?

ANGELS: *(Shocked.)*

Oh, my heavens, oh, my stars!

Your attitude has started wars!

This baby is special, yes, indeed,

He fills a very special need.

He'll tell all people of God's love

And help them to a home above.

*(Start to sing.)*

EVANGELINE: *(Cutting THEM off.)* It won't work. People don't understand about love at all. They only care about themselves.

ANGELS: (*More shocked.*)

Not true, not true,  
And shame on you!  
Lots of people love their friends,  
Families, children -- it never ends,  
People need to love God, too,  
And soon they'll know just what to do.

(*Start to sing.*)

EVANGELINE: (*Cutting THEM off.*) Not enough people love others or love God. This baby is supposed to teach others about God's love. But you know what? Only a few will love Him or even listen to Him. And the rest will put Him to death. (*ANGELS gasp in unison.*) I can't go. I just can't go and tell some stupid shepherds who won't understand anyway about this baby.

MESSENGER: (*Enters on the run.*) Evangeline, Evangeline! He's picked you. He's picked you!

EVANGELINE: What!

MESSENGER: He's picked you to be the one to announce the glad tidings to the shepherds. (*ANGELS gasp in unison again.*)

EVANGELINE: Me! Me! Oh, no. I can't!

MESSENGER: (*With great meaning.*) But you have to!

EVANGELINE: But ... but ... what am I suppose to say?

MESSENGER: Be not afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of a great joy which will come to all the people; for to you is born this day in the City of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a babe wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger.

EVANGELINE: A manger! Nobody will believe that!

MESSENGER: Yes, they will. Do you think God would pick just anybody to announce the news? All of those shepherds love Him in their own humble way, and all of them will love the baby. They are simple people. They will understand God's son being born in a stable and lying in a manger.

ANGELS: Yes, yes, you'll see,

That's the way it has to be:  
God loves and people love,  
People love and God loves.

## **End of Freeview**

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