

THE PERSONAL SOCIAL SERVICE BUREAU
ELMA, WASHINGTON

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No. J.D. 10

"O Holy Night"
by Lola Lamoreux

PREPARATION:

A large, white, lighted candle is at the station of the Guide. The Bible is removed from the Altar. Each messenger has a spray of some kind of greenery. As she says her part she places this greenery around the candle in such a way that when all five messengers have spoken there will be a garland of green surrounding the candle. If possible secure a triangle or a sweet sounding bell to be played or rung as the song "I Heard the Bells On Christmas Day" is being sung. This will be very effective. Each choir member has a small candle.

MUSIC:

"O Holy Night", "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day", "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem", and "Joy To The World".

CHARACTERS:

Honored Queen, Guide, Five Messengers and a choir.

PROGRAM

The lights in the Bethel are lowered. The choir enters carrying lighted candles as a soloist sings "O Holy Night", or the choir may enter singing the song. At the completion of the song the choir is seated and the candles are snuffed out with as little ado as possible.

The Honored Queen speaks:

Nearly two thousand years ago a tiny babe was born in the little town of Bethlehem. A beautiful Star marked the place where the small child lay. Shepherds came to worship Him. Wise men from afar came to kneel before Him and to offer precious gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. It was the birthday of a King.

The Honored Queen is seated and the choir sings one verse of "Oh Little Town of Bethlehem". The music continues as the Guide takes the candle from her station and places it upon the Altar. She bows and retires to her station.

The Honored Queen speaks:

On that first birthday the Light of Love was brought into the World. It was the first birthday candle and it was the first Christmas. From that small candle lit so many, many years ago, light has spread throughout the whole world and today we have Christmas everywhere.

The Honored Queen is seated. The five messengers stand. Each says her part in turn, places her green on the Altar. All the girls remain standing and are seated together.

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"O Holy Night"

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- 1- Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight
Christmas in lands of fir and pine
Christmas in lands of palm tree and vine,
Christmas where snow peaks stand solemn and white
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight.
- 2- Christmas where children are hopeful and gay,
Christmas where old men are patient and gray,
Christmas where peace like a dove is in flight,
Broods o'er brave men in the heart of the fight,
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight.
- 3- For the Christ-Child who comes is the Master of all,
No palace too great, no cottage too small;
The angels who welcome Him sing from the night
"In the city of David, a King in His Might"
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight.
- 4- Then let every heart keep its Christmas within
Christ's pity for sorrow, Christ's hatred for sin,
Christ's care for the weakest, Christ's courage for right,
Everywhere, everywhere, Christmas tonight.
- 5- So the stars of the midnight, which compass us around
Shall see a strange glory, and hear a sweet sound,
And cry, "Look, the earth is aglow with delight,
Oh, sons of the morning, rejoice at the sight."
Everywhere, everywhere Christmas tonight.

The girls are seated and the lights in the Bethel are brightened. The Honored Queen speaks:

And so today, we have Christmas with its happiness, its gifts and its good will. Bells rings out the glad tidings everywhere.

The Honored Queen is seated. The choir sings "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day".

Honored Queen speaks:

So the years come and go. The little light which reflected the Star of Bethlehem still shines forth amid war and peace, storm and strife, No matter what may come, men of good will still live and still keep the true spirit of Christmas alive in the world. They always will.

Choir sings "Joy to the World".

At the close of the song the Honored Queen says:

A merry Christmas to all and to all a goodnight.

This ends the program.