

# PERUSAL SCRIPT



Newport, Maine

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## **THE CHRISTMAS SWEET**

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## **CHARACTERS -- 7M 5W 1TB 1TG 2B 1G**

### LeDuc Family

James/Dad  
Nicole/Mom  
Michael/17 years old  
Tara/15 years old  
Sidney/9 years old  
Joe/8 Years old

### In Bethlehem

Joseph  
Mary  
Baby Jesus  
Shepherd  
Shepherd's son  
Shepherd's wife  
Angel  
Wise Man 1  
Wise Man 2  
Wise Man 3  
Innkeeper  
Innkeeper's  
Wife

## **Synopsis of Scenes**

Scene One - Le'Duc Family living room; Evening

- [Carol of the Bells]

Scene Two - Bethlehem; Afternoon

- [Oh, little town of Bethlehem]

Scene Three - Bethlehem; Evening

- [Angles we have heard on high]

\*Note: A few measures of each song should be played between the scene changes. It can be any version of the song.

**J. Derrick Hibbard** was born in Salt Lake City, Utah. He started writing when he was only fifteen and has been writing ever since. He enjoys running, acting and directing on stage and on film, and reading. He currently resides in North Carolina with his family.

**THE CHRISTMAS SWEET** by J. Derrick Hibbard. 7M 5W 1TB 1TG 2B 1G 2 simple setting. About 25 minutes. The Christmas Sweet opens in a present-day family room where a family sits down together for their special Christmas Eve family night. They enjoy this tradition by acting out the story of Christ's birth. Later that night, one of the children has a dream in which he is able to experience the nativity scene first hand. **ORDER #2053**

For the Monroe Ward, and those who all those have inspired my writing  
(Sister Edwards, Bishop and Sister Hibbard, and Sister Rust to name a few).

*For unto you is born this day  
In the city of David a Savior;  
Which Is Christ the Lord*  
Luke II

(Perusal Pages Script) -- THE CHRISTMAS SWEET by J. Derrick Hibbard

**SCENE 1** -- All is dark on the stage as the curtains open. DAD lights a candle. When his candle is fully lit and the match is out. Another candle is lit by MOM. TARA turns the Christmas tree lights on, only then do the main lights fade in dimly. The set is a living room on Christmas Eve. There is a fire in the hearth and stockings hang on the mantle. The Christmas tree is set in the UR corner of the living room; there are gifts placed around the tree. A nativity scene is on the floor, with MOM, DAD, and TARA standing around it.

**DAD:** (quietly) Tara, please go get your brothers and sister.

**TARA:** Sure dad...

*[TARA stands and walks to the end of the stage and yells]*

**TARA:** Mike! Joe! Sidney! Time for family night!

**DAD:** I could have done that.

**MOM:** Your father wanted to set the mood for our special family home evening.

**TARA:** Sorry dad, I'm just a little excited ...

*[SIDNEY and JOE run in screaming and yelling.]*

**SIDNEY/JOE:** I'm Joseph! I'm Joseph!

**SIDNEY:** Every year you're Joseph; I want to be him this year.

**JOE:** (Shaking his head) No, I'm Joseph; you can be Mary.

**SIDNEY:** But I don't want to be Mary! Joseph is the best one! I want to be Joseph!

**JOE:** Sidney, Joseph is a boy, and am a boy. Now, since I'm a boy, don't you think it would be better if I was Joseph?

**SIDNEY:** Mom, dad, tell Joe I'm Joseph! Please!

**DAD:** We will talk about it in a minute.

**SIDNEY:** But dad...

**MOM:** Sidney, and Joe please be quiet. Can you sit on the couch, we are about ready to start.

**JOE:** Okay mom. I'm still Joseph, right?

**SIDNEY:** (prolonged whine) No, mom...

**DAD:** (quickly stopping the commotion) Let's get started.

**MOM:** Hang on, where is Michael??

**TARA:** He's in his room; I don't think he heard me.

**DAD:** Your kidding. Joe, will you go get your brother?

**JOE:** Sure.

*[JOE walks to the end of the stage and prepares himself to yell.]*

**DAD:** Don't yell please; just go get your brother.

**JOE:** Okay dad.

*[He exits CR. SIDNEY goes to DAD.]*

**SIDNEY:** Can I please, please, be Joseph?

**DAD:** Well-

*[JOE and MICHAEL enter CR.]*

**JOE:** Sorry Sidney, but I'm Joseph.

**MICHAEL:** (slightly annoyed) Why don't we pick numbers?

**MOM:** (attempting to prevent contention) Hi Michael. That's a good idea, don't you agree Sidney and Joseph?

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**DAD:** It's getting kinda late and-

*[He glances at MOM with a wink.]*

**DAD:** Santa still needs to come.

**JOE:** Oh yeah, let's hurry!

**DAD:** Okay, we'd like to welcome everyone to the Le'Duc family night. As all of you know, this is a very special time of year. It is the season of giving, of joy and happiness, and eggnog.

*[Everyone chuckles a bit.]*

**DAD:** Tonight is Christmas Eve, the evening when we gather together for our very special family night. Nicole will you hand me those scriptures?

*[MOM reaches for them.]*

**MOM:** Are you going to read tonight?

**DAD:** Sure, unless you'd like to.

**MOM:** No, you go ahead honey.

**DAD:** Okay.

*[He glances warily at SIDNEY and JOE.]*

**DAD:** Now, which one of you wants to be Joseph?

*[SIDNEY and JOE raise their hands as quick as they can.]*

**SIDNEY/JOE:** Me! Me! Please!

**DAD:** I have an idea. Joseph, since you seem to be a Joseph all the time-

**JOE:** But dad! That's my name!

**DAD:** I realize that, don't forget I was one of the two that gave you that name.

**JOE:** I know, but-

*[DAD holds his hand up to quiet him.]*

**DAD:** Let's let Sidney be Joseph this year and you can be both the Shepherds and the wise men.

**JOE:** Wow... Okay!

**MICHAEL:** *(playfully)* I guess I'm Mary then.

**DAD:** Michael, you can be the angels too.

**MOM:** Tara, you'll be the baby Jesus?

**TARA:** And the star?

**MOM:** Sure, why not?

*[Pause as everyone gets ready. Both the parents hand out the little figurines that go with the Nativity scene. DAD finds the place where he will start reading in the bible.]*

**DAD:** "And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should deliver. And she brought forth her first born son and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn..."

**MOM:** *(reverently)* Sidney and Michael, it's your turn. Put Joseph and Mary in the stable.

*[They do as they are asked.]*

**TARA:** And here's the baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, the baby Jesus.

**DAD:** "And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night..." Joseph where are the shepherds?

**JOE:** *(pointing)* Right here in their field, dad.

(Perusal Pages Script) -- THE CHRISTMAS SWEET by J. Derrick Hibbard

**DAD:** Good, good... "And lo... the angel of the lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid."

**MICHAEL:** Here is the angel.

*[He holds the Angel near Joseph and his shepherds.]*

**DAD:** "And the angel said unto them: Fear not, for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; ye shall find a baby wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger... "And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of heavenly hosts praising God and saying: Glory to god in the highest on earth. Peace, good will toward men.

*[He takes a beat as he allows this to sink in.]*

"And it came to pass as the angels were gone away from them in to heaven, the shepherds said one to the other: Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste and found Mary, and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger..."

*[Pause as JOSEPH walks the SHEPHERDS to the manger.]*

**TARA:** Dad, mom is that it? What happened to the wise men?

**MOM:** Well, Tara, it's not here in this part of the scriptures, but I bet Michael will tell us what happened.

**MICHAEL:** Weren't they looking for the new star?

**MOM:** Yes, Isaiah prophesied this star. He said it would mark the coming of the Savior into the world.

**MICHAEL:** Hang on, how would these guys know about Isaiah?

**DAD:** These men were very righteous men, and they knew about Isaiah and his writings, as well as many other prophets and their books in the Old Testament.

**MICHAEL:** So, these guys saw the star, they knew that the star was a sign of the coming of Jesus. So they came to the manger and brought some gifts to the baby Jesus.

**DAD:** You are on the right path, except they didn't arrive at the manger that night.

**MOM:** They actually came months later, to Mary and Joseph's house.

**MICHAEL:** *(suddenly remembering)* Oh that's right, I remember you telling us that last year.

**MOM:** For the sake of the Nativity scene, though, Joe will you put the wise men in the stable.

*[He obeys and TARA holds the star over the manger.]*

**DAD:** And there you have it, the beautiful Nativity scene.

*[They all look at it silently and reverently.]*

**SIDNEY:** Dad, remember when Michael said that the wise men gave the gifts to Jesus? Is that why we get gifts?

**DAD:** Yes and no. The wise men gave gifts to the baby Jesus. Jesus in turn gave himself to us through the atonement. That is why we focus on giving instead of receiving gifts for Christmas.

**JOE:** But it's still fun to get gifts, right?

**DAD:** *(smiling)* Yes it is, but we need to remember to give of ourselves, and remember what the Savior gave us.

*[The FAMILY thinks about this for a moment.]*

**MOM:** Well, we'd better get off to bed and let Santa come!

**MICHAEL:** Sounds great! Love you mom and dad.

**MOM:** Love you to, son.

**(Perusal Pages Script) -- THE CHRISTMAS SWEET by J. Derrick Hibbard**

**DAD:** Good night Mike. Love you.

*[MICHAEL gives them each a hug and exits CR.]*

**TARA:** Good night mom and dad, I love you.

*[Before TARA can give them hugs and kisses, SIDNEY runs and jumps on her DAD's lap.]*

**SIDNEY:** I love you daddy!

**MOM:** *(jokingly)* At least you love one of us.

**SIDNEY:** I love you too, mommy. Can you tell Santa that I said 'hi'?

**MOM:** Sure Sidney.

*[The two GIRLS both give their parents hugs and kisses and they exit CL. JOE just looks at the manger as if deep in thought.]*

**DAD:** Joe, are you going to get to bed?

**JOE:** Can I sleep here on the rug tonight?

*[MOM and DAD look at each other in question.]*

**DAD:** Sure Joe, love you son. Have a wonderful night's sleep.

*[He exits CL. JOE lies down on he rug; MOM blows out all the candles but one and sets that down by JOE.]*

**MOM:** Sleep well, my dear.

**JOE:** *(mumbling)* Love you mom...

*[The lights fade out slowly. The candle blows out.]*

**TWO more pages in this SIX page script**