

COWS DON'T LOW; THEY MOO!

by JOHN R. PLASTOW

GENRE: Light Drama/Reader's Theatre

SYNOPSIS: A reader's theatre approach to the carol "Away in a Manger", as seen by children.

DIRECTOR'S TIP: If not played by actual children, the scene should still be performed simply, with child-like innocence.

TIME: 4 minutes

CAST BREAKDOWN: 4M or F

TOPIC: Christmas

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE: Luke 2:1-16; Philippians 4:5b-7

CHURCH YEAR SEASON: Christmas

SUGGESTED USE: Christmas Service

CHARACTERS:
4 CAROLERS

PROPS: None

COSTUMES: None

SOUND: Wireless microphones

LIGHTING: General stage

SETTING: None

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Lights up.

C: (*singing*) Away in a manger, no crib for a bed...

1: You mean the baby Jesus didn't even have a crib?

2: Nope, He had to be laid on the hay in a stable.

3: I bet that wasn't very comfortable.

4: Well, His mommy and daddy wrapped Him in cloth so it wouldn't be too bad.

1: Why didn't they just go to the hospital?

2: They didn't have hospitals back then.

3: They didn't?

2: No. Women had babies in their homes, or in tents, or wherever they were when it was time for the baby to come.

3: Oh.

C: (*singing*) The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head...

3: Why didn't they have baby Jesus in their home?

2: Jesus' parents were a long way from home, in a different city, and they couldn't find a place to stay, so they had to settle for a stable with all the animals.

1: Wow, Jesus got to be born with the animals!

4: I wish I could have been born with the animals.

C: (*singing*) The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

1: I bet it was cold.

2: But His mother took good care of Him.

C: (*singing*) The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes.

1: Hold it.

2: What's the matter?

1: Cows don't low; they moo!