# NOT Such A Silent Night!

by Nick Perrin & Ruth Kenward

[ANIMALS are offstage. Nativity cast in position on benches apart from MARY, JOSEPH, MOTHER DONKEY, JACK, LUCKY & SAM, who are offstage.]

## SILENT NIGHT (Incidental)

( • Track 1 / 17 )

[ALL put fingers to lips and sway very gently in time to the music. Towards the end of the track fade music so that BETHLEHEM NARRATOR 1 can speak with gentle music under.]

BETH. NARR. 1 It's a cold, silent night in Bethlehem. All is calm. All is bright.

[INNKEEPER moves onto the stage block, hand to brow as if looking for his animals.]

BETH. NARR. 2 (*pointing*) Look! The innkeeper is calling his animals into the stable. It won't be quiet for long!

### NIGHT IS COMING

#### ( • Track 2 / 18 )

[CHORUS stand. INNKEEPER beckons ANIMALS ad lib, who enter as the song is sung and go to positions on benches.]

All	NIGHT IS COMING.
	CALL THE ANIMALS:
	THEY MUST GET INDOORS!
	NIGHT IS COMING.
	CALL THE ANIMALS:
	THEY MUST GET INDOORS!
	CALL THE HORSES IN!
Horses	NEIGH!
All	CALL THE DONKEYS TOO!
Donkeys	EE-ORE!
All	CALL THE SHEEP,
	CALL THE LAMBS,
	CALL THE COWS IN TOO!
Cows	MOO!
All	NIGHT IS COMING (etc. as before)

INNKEEPER: beckoning gestures ad lib. CHORUS: beckoning gestures on 'call'

ANIMALS wave both hands as they make their own sounds



[ANIMALS make their noises simultaneously as they sit. When all are sitting, LARRY LAMB moves to Downstage Centre.]

LARRY LAMB	(shouting, with hands to ears) It's too noisy in here!
	[ANIMALS continue making noises. LARRY LAMB runs to 'Lost' area, where he keeps running on the spot.]
BETH. NARR. 1 & 2	(shouting loudly) Be <u>quiet</u> !
	[ANIMALS suddenly stop making noises.]
CHEEKY DONKEY	(shoulders shaking) Hee, hee, hee - Eee-ore!
ALL	(fingers on lips) Ssh!
	[LARRY LAMB is still running on the spot.]
MOTHER SHEEP	( <i>in a panic</i> ) Baa! My lamb's gone! Where is he?
	[As NARRATOR speaks, MOTHER SHEEP runs round the stage searching, then runs to stand by INNKEEPER.]
LAMB NARR. 1	Larry Lamb has run away. He's scared by the noise. ( <i>points</i> ) Look! He's running and running, as fast as his legs will carry him!
LARRY LAMB	Baa! Baa! (stops running, stands panting.)
LAMB NARR. 2	Larry's happy to have got away from all that noise, but he's run too far! He's lost!
LARRY LAMB	(loudly) I'm <u>lost</u> ! (rubbing eyes) Baa!
ALL	(wagging fingers) He should have stayed with his mummy!
	[LARRY sits down and rubs eyes as if crying.]
BETH. NARR. 1	Meanwhile, back at the stable, his mummy is very worried.
MOTHER SHEEP	(rubbing eyes) Baa! I told him to stay with me!
INNKEEPER	Don't worry. He'll come back.
	[MOTHER SHEEP joins SHEPHERDS. Knocking sound.]
BETH. NARR. 1	Who's that knocking at the door?
	[INNKEEPER steps off block to greet MARY, JOSEPH & MOTHER DONKEY as they enter Stage Right.]
	It's Mary and Joseph, and Mary is about to have a baby!
BETH. NARR. 2	They can't find a place to stay because all the inns are full. But ( <i>pointing</i> ) that innkeeper has a stable.

INNKEEPER	You can stay in my stable.
MARY & JOSEPH	(to INNKEEPER) Thank you!
	[INNKEEPER goes to sit with chorus. MARY sits on stool next to the manger, JOSEPH & MOTHER DONKEY stand each side.]
LAMB NARR. 1	Meanwhile, Larry Lamb is lost and all alone.
LARRY LAMB	( <i>rubbing eyes</i> ) Baa! I'm lost.

#### POOR LITTLE LAMB

( • Track 3 / 19 )

Clasp hands	
together	
Wag finger	
in time	

POOR LITTLE LAMB, POOR LITTLE LAMB.
LOST AND ALL ALONE.
POOR LITTLE LAMB, POOR LITTLE LAMB.
SHOULD HAVE STAYED AT HOME.

Poor little lamb... But look! (*points*) Who's this coming along?

LAMB NARR. 1

LAMB NARR. 2

It's a baby donkey!

[Enter JACK, Stage Right, sets off immediately on journey round the hall to finish with LARRY LAMB by the end of the song. N.B. JACK should not cross the stage in front of the nativity scene. CHORUS stand.]

#### I'M A BABY DONKEY

 $(\odot \operatorname{Track} 4/20)$ 

Jack	I'M A BABY DONKEY, PEOPLE CALL ME JACK.	
	WHEN I'M BIG AND STRONG	Flex biceps!
	YOU RIDE UPON MY BACK	Point to back
Chorus	HE'S A BABY DONKEY FOLLOWING A STAR.	Point upward
	SINGING A SONG. EE-ORE! TROTTING ALONG, SINGING A SONG. (loudly) EE-ORE! HE'S A BABY DONKEY, PEOPLE CALL HIM JACK.	Chorus pump arms in time; on 'Ee-ore' raise and then lower hands
	WHEN HE'S BIG AND STRONG YOU RIDE UPON HIS BACK HE'S A BABY DONKEY (etc., as before)	Actions as above

[CHORUS sit. JACK arrives by LARRY LAMB.]

LAMB NARR. 1	Jack's mum carried Mary all the way to Bethlehem. Now he's following a star to find her.
JACK	(points) I'm following that star because my mum told me to.
LARRY LAMB	That's nice, but I'm lost. (rubbing eyes) Baa!
ALL	(wagging fingers) He should have stayed with his mummy!

LAMB NARR. 2	Jack would like to help Larry find his way home, but he doesn't know where he lives.
JACK	I'm <u>really</u> sorry, but I don't know where you live. ( <i>waving</i> ) Bye.
	[JACK travels to stand Downstage, facing the manger.]

## TRAVELLING MUSIC (Incidental) ( • Track 5 / 21 )

BETH. NARR. 1	Guess where Jack has found his mum?
ALL	In the stable!
JACK	(loudly, pointing) There's my mum! (waves)
	[MOTHER DONKEY runs to hug JACK, D/stage Centre and they dance round in a circle. CHORUS bounce where they are.]

**BOUNCY MUSIC** (Incidental)

 $(\odot \operatorname{Track} 6/22)$ 

ALL	(flinging arms up) Hooray!
MARY JOSEPH INNKEEPER	Ssh! Don't wake the baby!
ALL	(stage whisper) Sorry!
	[JACK & MOTHER DONKEY sit by MARY as NARR. speaks.]
BETH. NARR. 2	Mary's had a baby called Jesus. He's a very special baby.
LAMB NARR. 1	It's all happening in the stable, but Larry is still lost and alone.
LARRY LAMB	(rubs eyes) Baa!
LAMB NARR. 2	Poor little lamb. But look! (points) Who's this coming along?
LAMB NARR. 1	It's a puppy!
	[Enter LUCKY Stage R_sets off immediately on journey round

[Enter LUCK Y, Stage R., sets off immediately on journey round the hall to finish by LARRY LAMB at the end of the song. N.B. Avoid crossing in front of the nativity scene. CHORUS stand.]

#### HERE COMES A PUPPY

Chorus HERE COMES A PUPPY! LUCKY THE SHEEPDOG PUP! slight bounce BOUNCING! TAIL WAGGING! LUCKY THE SHEEPDOG PUP! ALL stand still... JUST GIVE A WHISTLE! (*mime whistling for a bar!*) JUST GIVE A WHISTLE! HE WILL SOON BE THERE.



Move up and down on the spot, with a

then mime whistling

LARRY LAMB beckons LUCKY, who bounds up to him