

PHILIP I won't fall asleep. I never sleep when the stars are out.

SHEPHERD 1 That's very good news!

ALL SHEPHERDS *(big cheesy grins)* We like good news! *(thumbs up)*

SHEPHERD 1 So will you give it a try?

PHILIP OK.

SHEPHERD 1 Good man! *(shakes PHILIP's hand)*

SHEPHERD 2 *(behind hand to audience)* I bet he does fall asleep!

[SHEPHERDS sit. PHILIP stands aside to count SHEEP, who move about 'grazing', bleating, etc.]

OPTION:
for comic effect a triangle could be pinged to coincide with thumbs up.

ONE SHEEP, TWO SHEEP...

(Track 6 / 19)

Philip

ONE SHEEP, TWO SHEEP, THREE SHEEP, FOUR,
FIVE SHEEP, SIX SHEEP, SEVEN SHEEP, MORE.
EIGHT SHEEP, NINE SHEEP, TEN SHEEP, MORE! *(sigh...)*

Counts off
on fingers

SHEEP KEEP MOVING!
THEY WON'T STAY STILL!
I KEEP LOSING COUNT
AND IT'S BACK TO NIL.

← Open hands out
← Hands on hips
← Open hands, shrug
← Fold arms

Philip & Chorus

ONE SHEEP, TWO SHEEP, THREE SHEEP, FOUR,
FIVE SHEEP, SIX SHEEP, SEVEN SHEEP, MORE.
EIGHT SHEEP, NINE SHEEP, TEN SHEEP, MORE! *(yawn...)*

As before

SHEEP KEEP MOVING!
THEY WON'T STAY STILL!
HE KEEPS LOSING COUNT
AND IT'S BACK TO NIL. *(yawn...)*

[Slower, yawning as they count.]

ONE SHEEP, TWO SHEEP, THREE SHEEP, FOUR,
FIVE SHEEP, SIX SHEEP, SEVEN SHEEP, MORE.
EIGHT SHEEP, NINE SHEEP, TEN SHEEP... *(big yawn...)*

[PHILIP & CHORUS 'go to sleep', and snore twice. SHEEP make quiet bleating noises and move about randomly.]

SHEPHERD 2 *(pointing at PHILIP)* See? I told you he'd fall asleep!

SHEPHERD 3 We'll never get the sheep counted...

[ANGELS begin to enter quietly, SHEEP react with much more noise and movement. CHORUS 'wake up' gradually.]

SHEPHERD 1 What's up with the sheep? They're all over the place!

[SHEPHERDS try to gather SHEEP back to centre. When all ANGELS are on, SHEPHERD 1 suddenly 'notices' them.]

SHEPHERD 1 *(shocked, pointing at ANGELS)* Argh! What are they?

SHEPHERDS *(long gasped intake of breath)* Angels!
[SHEPHERDS & SHEEP act terrified - cower, knock knees, etc.]

ANGEL 1 *(to ANGELS)* We've found them at last!

ANGELS *(clapping excitedly)* Hurray!
[ANGEL 1 approaches SHEPHERDS, who edge away from them.]

ANGEL 1 It's a good job you're awake! We've got news for you!

SHEPHERDS *(still afraid)* Good news or bad news?

ANGELS We'll tell you.
[PHILIP remains asleep.]

DON'T BE AFRAID

(Track 7 / 20)

<p>Angel 1 DON'T BE AFRAID! DON'T BE AFRAID! I'M HERE TO BRING YOU GOOD NEWS. JOY TO THE WORLD! JOY TO THE WORLD! CHRIST IS BORN TO SAVE YOU.</p>	<p>←</p> <p>←</p>	<p>SHEPHERDS listen intently, mime reaction SHEPHERDS put thumbs up, nodding.</p>
<p>All GLORY TO GOD IN HEAVEN, GLORY TO GOD ABOVE! PEACE TO THE WORLD, PEACE TO THE WORLD. CHRIST IS THE KING OF LOVE.</p>	<p>←</p> <p>←</p>	<p>Jazz hands Praying hands</p>
<p>Angels YOU'LL FIND THE BABE IN A MANGER LAID, WRAPPED IN A BLANKET NEATLY. HE IS THE KING! HE IS THE KING! SLEEPING THERE SO SWEETLY.</p>	<p>←</p> <p>←</p>	<p>SHEPHERDS listen as before SHEPHERDS make 'sleeping' hands under chins, then stand to sing</p>
<p>All GLORY TO GOD IN HEAVEN... <i>(etc.)</i></p>		
<p>Shepherds LET'S FIND THE BOY! LET'S FIND THE BOY! HE'S IN THE TOWN OF DAVID. LET'S GET THE JOY! LET'S GET THE JOY! LET NO TIME BE WASTED.</p>		
<p>All GLORY TO GOD IN HEAVEN... <i>(etc.) (x2)</i></p>		

[ANGELS exit after the song. PHILIP is still asleep.]

SHEPHERD 1 That really was good news. OPTION: comic effect triangle as before.

ALL SHEPHERDS *(big cheesy grins)* We like good news! *(thumbs up)*

SHEPHERD 1 We must go to Bethlehem and see the baby right away.

ALL SHEPHERDS Come on sheep!

SHEEP *(ad lib, as they exit)* Baa! Baa! Baa!

[All but PHILIP exit. If needed, cover noise with Chase music.]

CHASE MUSIC (incidental - optional)

(Track 2 / 15)