

(Thrive)Christmas With the Puppets

AUTHOR *Duane Halbert*

EDITOR *Dr. Jamie Halbert*

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Cast: TEAM 1

{WINTER} L36

{BRIAN} L32

{SAMANTHA} L22

PANDORA} L29

{DAISY} L01

{INFO:}. BRIAN AN WINTER ARE BROTHER AN SISTER

DAISY IS EDNA'S CAT

Cast: TEAM 2

{EDNA} L26

{DAISY} L 00

{LUCY} L23

PANDORA} L27

{MATT} L13

{INFO:}. ALL PUPPETS UP JUBILANT AND CHIT-CHATting INCLUDING CAT DO NOT READ YOUR PARTS TO FAST!

{SAMANTHA}. Hey, Winter, what do you want for Christmas this year?

{WINTER }. I want a new brother! Like the one in the manger.

{SAMANTHA}. What's wrong with the one you have? . . . I like your brother.

{WINTER }. No, I mean a new brother!

{BRIAN}. **{INFO:}**SARCASTICALLY. YEAH, WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE ONE YOU HAVE?

{WINTER }. Well.....

PANDORA}. She wants one that's sweet!

{SAMANTHA}. Sweet? He is sweet. . . . isn't he! I mean,. . . .I may be biased, but I think Brian is just fine.

{BRIAN}. Hey! I heard Mary and Joseph loves their new baby . . . maybe you could borrow theirs.

{PANDORA}. No way!

{WINTER }. Hummmm . . . I Don't. . . . Think. . . . That..... would work.

{BRIAN}. Well, it's perfect. That way you could have a little brother and give it back when it starts crying.

{PANDORA}. I think you have the perfect brother already.

{WINTER} }. Oh, my word!

{BRIAN}. Yeah, I don't see that working. You just can't give the baby back when they start crying!

{SAMANTHA} }. What's this all about anyway, Winter?

{WINTER} }. Well, I just think it would be cool to have a little baby brother that I could help take care of . . . and blame stuff on when . . . I . . do something wrong.

PANDORA}. Oh, GOOD GRIEF, I should've seen that coming.

{BRIAN}. What's with all this new baby stuff anyway, it all sounds boring to me.

PANDORA}. Yeah, me too.

{WINTER} }. Well, I don't know, but there's something very special going on here.

{SAMANTHA}. What's that?

{BRIAN}. Yeah, what are you talking about?

{WINTER}. Well, I heard this baby was a King! I mean look at all the animals and Angels all around! Brian will never be King!

{BRIAN}. I was King of the puppet hill once!

PANDORA}. And what about that star?

{WINTER}. I heard it marked the spot and Brian didn't get a star when he was born!

PANDORA}. Marks the spot of what?

{WINTER}. Baby Jesus of course!

{BRIAN}. I know right, Jesus got his own star!

{WINTER}. Brian got a star on his homework once!

{SAMANTHA}. I don't think that's the same thing!

{INFO:}. ALL LAUGH HYSTERICALLY.

{BRIAN}. A new King at Joseph's house? That's ridiculous. Joseph is just a carpenter, he's not royalty . . . He's nothing.

{WINTER }. Well, I'm just saying.

{SAMANTHA}. Just saying what Winter!

{BRIAN}. Maybe she's confused.

PANDORA}. Maybe Winter thinks she could be Queen someday.

{WINTER }. I want to be Queen of my castle. I have all my dolls as my royal subjects.

{PANDORA}. Okay, . . . just stop it!

{SAMANTHA}. Yeah, Brian! She's not confused she's just dreaming!

{WINTER }. I'm just saying I heard that there was something very special about this baby they had.

{SAMANTHA }. Like what!

{WINTER }. Well, for starters the baby was born of a virgin.

{SAMANTHA}. Virgin! What does that even mean?

{BRIAN } Oh, I got this! It's someone from Virginia.

{PANDORA } I.. don't think... that's what it means.

{SAMANTHA } Well, how does it work then!

{BRIAN } Let me take a stab at this! Okay,. . . . A virgin is not normal, but magical. In the sense that. . . is not normal. I mean the stork brings baby Jesus to Joseph. . . an if he like the baby they must buy it on amazon with his amazon credit card and hope Mrs. Joseph likes him.

{PANDORA } What is he talking about? I don't think amazon even exist yet.

{WINTER } Yeah, what she said!

{SAMANTHA } Well, that really clears it up.

{BRIAN } But what does the Bible say about this? Doesn't the Bible talk about baby Jesus born as a Virginian?

{WINTER } Wait a minute!, wasn't Jesus born In Bethlehem?

{SAMANTHA } Well, this is a really special baby to be born as a Virginian and in Beth-le-hem-ian.

{WINTER } Oh, my goodness!

{PANDORA } Yeah, no kidding. How does that even happen?

{BRIAN } Well, the Bible says Jesus was born in Bethlehem. And as you can see that's where we are.

{SAMANTHA } Oh yeah! I guess it was in Bethlehem.

{WINTER } What happens next?

{PANDORA } Yeah, what is going to happen next?

{SAMANTHA}. Tell us!

{BRIAN}. Well, according to the Bible Mary was with child, and had to wait nine months like everyone else for this little baby Jesus to be born.

{PANDORA}. Why would she do something like that!

{BRIAN}. She did it, because God asked her to. He told her that she was blessed among women. Not only would she bring Jesus into the world, but Jesus would **SAVE** the whole world.

{SAMANTHA}. Save the whole world? . . .

{PANDORA}. From what?

{BRIAN}. Ourselves.

{SAMANTHA}. Save us from ourselves? I've never done anything **THAT** bad.

{BRIAN}. Me neither, I took candy from my sister once. Does that count?

{SAMANTHA}. Yes Brian. . . . I think it does.

{BRIAN}. Well, according to the Bible, all of us has fallen short of Gods perfect example.

{WINTER}. How can this baby change that?

{BRIAN}. It has already been mentioned, this is not just an ordinary birth with an ordinary baby. This baby came from God.

{SAMANTHA}. That sounds deep!

{WINTER}. Yeah, too deep for me.

{PANDORA}. Me too.

{WINTER } My head hurts.

{PANDORA} Yeah, I think I like it better with my head in the sand and not thinking about all this stuff. All we wanted to know was what this baby had to do with all this!

{BRIAN} Well, it was necessary for our redemption. The Bible says if you want to go to heaven, it's not automatic. It is free, Jesus (this baby) will pay the price for us. You don't have to work for it, but you do have to ask!

PANDORA} Doesn't everybody go to heaven?

{WINTER } No!only "ALL Dogs go to Heaven" I saw that good movie. I don't know about cats though, Especially Enda's cat!

DAISY MEOW, MEOW, MEOW!

{WINTER}. Okay, Okay, all cats go to heaven too!

{SAMANTHA}. I thought all we had to do was be good enough.

{BRIAN}. That won't work! We can't. Even the slightest little lie is enough to send us to a bad place.

PANDORA}. I hate bad places. I got locked in the bathroom once on a accident.

{BRIAN} Well, . . . that's. . .not. . . exactly. . . .Where . . .**{INFO:}**.

{PANDORA} **INTERRUPTS**. WELL, I DON'T THINK THAT'S FAIR! I'm not a bad puppet.

{BRIAN}. You don't have to be a bad puppet.

{WINTER } Well, I don't think that's fair!

{BRIAN}. It may not be fair, but it is JUST.

PANDORA} Well, that means nobody can go to heaven.

{BRIAN}. With out baby Jesus. . . .Exactly.

{SAMANTHA} Well, this is a special baby indeed.

{BRIAN} Exactly!

{PANDORA} Okay, let me get this straight. You're saying that basically all of us are going to a dark place and Jesus, came into this world as this baby to save us!

{WINTER }. All I wanted was a baby brother to play with and blame stuff on when something goes wrong, but it looks like Mary is going to have a very special baby,. . . . maybe we can be BFFs

{ PANDORA}. I would love to be BFFs with Jesus.

{SAMANTHA}. I think Jesus would like to be your BFF, but as any relationship there are requirements.

{WINTER }. What requirements?

{ PANDORA}. You have to be a good puppet and do the right things.

{BRIAN }. The good news is we don't have to go to "dark place", because of this baby Jesus. He was given as a bridge to cross the great divide between heaven and us. It's up to us to accept it. Far better than a baby brother. This baby is our ticket to heaven.

{WINTER }. I got this Brian, . . . You see, it had to be like this, because otherwise everybody would brag about what they did to get to Heaven.

{BRIAN}. Yes, For example: you would have some people saying I got to heaven because I quit smoking.

{PANDORA}. I smoked once when my shirt caught on fire.

{INFO:}. ALL LAUGH

{WINTER }. Really? Cool!

{BRIAN}. Seriously! Others would say I got to heaven because I stopped drinking. Still others would say, I got here because I stopped lying or stopped watching fuzzy bear on TV during church. Or stop posting lies in Puppet Book.

{PANDORA}. OH, NO! WAIT A MINUTE, we all like fuzzy bear on TV. We can't help it if it comes on Sunday.

{SAMANTHA}. Yeah, I like fuzzy bear too. I watch it all the time.

{WINTER }. You mean, we can't even watch fuzzy bear on Sunday!

{BRIAN}. No, what I'm saying is you can't go to heaven and say you got there because you stop watching fuzzy bear. But yes, on Sunday you should be in church because you Love this baby Jesus and what He did for us.

{WINTER }. Okay, I changed my mind. I just want my doll.

{PANDORA}. Yes, it seems so complicated! I like fuzzy bear; I don't want to go to church.

{BRIAN}. Well, if you're a Christian close to Jesus, you will want to go to church. It's about love for church, love for each other, a love for baby Jesus and what he's here to do.

{PANDORA}. I think I could love baby Jesus.

{WINTER }. **{INFO:}. FRUSTRATED** I just wanted a little baby brother. I thought I could be BFFs with this baby. . . . Who wrote this skit anyway? Hey Samantha, we all need to do our homework for math class. We'll see you all later.

{SAMANTHA}. I'm not staying her with your cat. I'll help with your math.

{INFO:}. ALL GO DOWN EXCEPT **{PANDORA},{DAISY}**

Cast: TEAM 2

{EDNA}

{DAISY}

{LUCY}

PANDORA}

{MATT}

{INFO:}. UP COMES LUCY, EDNA READ AN SAY LINES CAREFULLY

{EDNA} HEY GUYS! WHAT'S GOING ON? We heard your talking about this baby Jesus an how complicated the situation is.

{MATT} LOOK, this baby Jesus thing isn't complicated, it's very, simple. God made going to heaven through Jesus very simple because we cannot save ourselves, again you must ask it's not automatic.

{LUCY}. I like simple.

{MATT} What a Christmas present!

{EDNA}. Yeah!

{ PANDORA}. Well, actually, He **"IS"** the reason for the season!

{MATT} We need to put this story on Puppet Book!

{LUCY}. I love Puppet Book!

{EDNA} Well, Matt, what do you want for Christmas?

{MATT} I thought you would never ask. I want two motorcycles, a big red truck, new clothes, a new swimming pool, all the candy I can eat, oh, and a white Christmas, new parents, and a new girlfriend.

{EDNA} Seriously!

{LUCY}. Yeah, Matt,. . . YOU'RE LUCKY YOU'VE GOT THE FRIENDS YOU HAVE! And as far as your girlfriend I asked you to the puppet dance and you said no **YOU** wanted to ask Edna!

{EDNA}. Leave me out of this!

{BRIAN}. I decided to forgo the new scooter and iPad.

{EDNA} **{INFO:}**. LOOKS DISGUSTED.

{ PANDORA}. WHAT! Don't change the subject! I'd rather have Daisy than you Matt.

{LUCY}. Yeah Matt, you owe me some puppet flowers for being mean to me, and that's more stuff than most people get in a lifetime. I think Christmas should be more about loving one another. And being together as a family and putting grudges aside.

{ PANDORA}. What fun is that?

{MATT} Sometimes it's not just about fun. We need to learn to love one another as Jesus did. He is our great example of what love is all about.

{INFO:}. DAISY STARTS COZYING UP TO **{MATT}**

{EDNA} Daisy has got the idea. . . . Looks like Daisy loves you, Matt!

{LUCY}. Yeah, Matt, I hope you like cats because Daisy loves you.

{INFO:}. **{MATT}** SNEEZES. Well, I don't love cats very much because of my allergies.

{ PANDORA}. You can be Daisy's BFF Matt!

{LUCY}. Yeah, best friends forever. We need to get a picture for Puppet Book.

{EDNA} That's the last thing he needs.

{LUCY}. I wonder what cats want for Christmas.

{EDNA} Probably catnip, a bird, or a toy mouse.

{INFO:}. DAISY STILL COZYING UP TO **{MATT}** SNEEZES AGAIN.

{MATT} DAISY, can you go over there? **{INFO:}**. POINTING OVER TO THE STAND.

{INFO:}. **{DAISY}** MOVES TO THE STAND.

{PANDORA} Well, what do you think about this Christmas thing!

{LUCY}. What do you mean?

{PANDORA} Well, like Edna said, Christmas is not about presents necessarily. . . . even though I do love a good Christmas present but there's a bigger picture here, I think.

{LUCY}. Like what?

{PANDORA} WelllikeI mean what if you are very poor in another country and cannot afford a Christmas present for your friends.

{LUCY}. Yeah, that would really be sad!

{PANDORA} I guess she would have to make something.

{LUCY}. Well, what if you are too poor to even have anything to make anything with?

{EDNA} You mean like us!

{LUCY}. No! Your mom and dad have more money than all of us put together.

{PANDORA} Well, . . . what about that!

{LUCY}. Unfortunately, a lot of people don't even know what loving each other is all about.

{EDNA} It does sound complicated.

{PANDORA} OH, GOOD GRIEF It's not complicated. You can show love to someone by doing just little things.

{LUCY}. What little things?

{PANDORA} Well, like writing them a note, or just wanting to be with someone and telling them that you love them.

{EDNA} He could just walk up and hug someone.

{PANDORA} I . . . think that would get you into more trouble. Especially if you didn't know the person.

{MATT} I hugged my dog once.. . .BUT HE DIDN'T HUG BACK.

{PANDORA} I don't think that's the same thing Matt!

{EDNA} You could even draw somebody a picture.

{LUCY} Well, that's pretty simple.

{PANDORA} Just any act of love would be appreciated, I'm sure.

{LUCY} Well, I let my mom clean my room, do my laundry, and fix my meals. Is that showing love?

{EDNA} I think that's the other way around. They're showing love to you.

{LUCY} Oh.

{MATT} Yeah, That's something for you.

{EDNA} Oh, you mean like mow the grass.

{PANDORA} Something like that!

{EDNA} How about feeding my cat?

{INFO:}.DAISY SHAKES HEAD YES!

{PANDORA} Well, that would be showing love to your cat. And even though I'm sure she appreciates it I'm not sure she recognizes that as a loving gesture.

{EDNA} WOW, this love thing is hard.

{MATT} It's what you do for someone else that costs you something. It doesn't have to be money, but perhaps an effort.

{EDNA} Well, that's interesting!

{LUCY} Yeah, I guess we all could do that, but sometimes I would rather just play my PUPPET games.

{PANDORA} Yeah, well that's what we're talking about. We all need to consider others more than "ourselves".

{EDNA} I think I would rather just get presents.

{PANDORA} Well, look at the present God gave us.

{MATT} Yeah, the perfect lamb that will save the world.

{EDNA} I'm not sure I understand all of that.

{PANDORA} You don't have to understand all of it, you just have to believe it.

{LUCY} I don't think we will ever know the full depth of what Jesus did for us.

{PANDORA} Yeah, not on this side of life anyway.

{EDNA} Look at those shepherds over there. They look like they truly love this baby Jesus.

{PANDORA} The shepherds were scholars of the night sky. They watched the movement of stars and knew their names. And then all of a sudden there was a weird star that they had never seen before, bright and glorious.

{LUCY} Yeah, they must have known there was something very special going on.

{EDNA} Yeah, especially when they saw the Angels.

{PANDORA} You see it is a story of love, it doesn't have anything to do with the puppet Santa Claus.

{LUCY} The Kings brought gifts to baby Jesus and that's why we give gifts today celebrating his birth. I could give him Enda's cat Daisy, I guess.

{MATT} I don't think that would be appropriate. Daisy's not even your cat to give!

{EDNA} YOUR NOT GIVING MY CAT AWAY!

{INFO:}. DAISY GETTING CLOSE TO **{LUCY}**.

{LUCY}. Goodness, I like you Daisy, I think you're cute and all that BUT, you just need to give me a little space.

{ ENDA}. Maybe you need to pet her more.

{MATT} I'M ALLERGIC . . .She just needs to stay away from me, and what's that got to do with Christmas!

{ ENDA}. Daisy is a person too. AT LEAST SHE THINKS SHE IS. She will lay in my seat on the couch an just dare me to move her. . . .She's, my person. . . .I might just give her a bath though, to show her who's boss.

{PANDORA} Well. . . I . . . think . . . "that" will be the other way around. Showing who's boss I mean. . . . I want to come over when you do that and watch. . . Oh look, she is laying on the Bible. I think she's trying to tell us something.

{LUCY}. Maybe we should read the Christmas story in Luke.

{PANDORA} That sounds like a great idea. Why don't you start Edna and maybe Lucy can read some and I'll read some.

{ ENDA}. Good idea. Let's do it!

{INFO:}. ALL GO DOWN