

Characters Needed for “All About that Baby”

Lead Roles: Lots of Words

Nathaniel: Optimistic shepherd who loves his sheep; scatter-brained & often late (sings a solo)

Joanna: Girl Traveling to Bethlehem for census; older sister of Simone (sings a solo).

Simone: Girl traveling to Bethlehem for census; Younger Sister of Simone (sings a solo)

Older Nathaniel: (Adult or Teenager) Older version of Nathaniel who narrates from off stage; Comes out on stage during the last scene.

Max: Super cool sheep; a leader who is gruff but wise and respected (raps).

Beatrice: Opinionated sheep; fashion conscious diva (raps)

Medium/Small Roles

Miriam: Shepherd who is Nathaniel’s Sister; sweet and understanding.

Abigail: Shephard who is Nathaniel’s Older Sister; Practical and bossy.

Cece: Excitable sheep who is often nervous (raps).

Jojo: Funny Sheep (raps).

Judah: Shephard who is Nathaniel’s brother; man of few words.

Tiny Roles:

Wise Man 1: One line. (Solo and small trio).

Wise Man 2: One line. (small trio).

Wise Man 3: One line. (small trio)

Joseph: One line (Sings a solo).

Nonspeaking Role:

Mary (Sings a Solo)

Only parts with Large or Medium Lines will be auditioned. This play has a place for everyone. The actual audition scripts are attached to this memo.

Thank you and I look forward to seeing all of you perform.

Darla Onstott
Old Fort Baptist Church
Script Coach and Stage Director.

SCENE 2

([55] “Opt. SFX - Field Atmosphere” begins. Shepherds Abigail, Miriam and Judah stand talking in an open field watching their sheep [on hands and knees] that are clustered in the center of the stage.)

ABIGAIL: (irritated) Where is Nathaniel? He’s late again! His shift was supposed to start . . . well . . . when the sun was there (pointing in the sky) and now it’s there (pointing over a bit).

MIRIAM: (kindly) Don’t be so hard on him, Abigail. You know he gets . . . distracted. Besides, I like having a break – being out in the fields. I think it’s peaceful out here.

[[10] DVD 4 music begins to “Sheep Trip (Underscore 2)”]

Sheep Trip (Underscore 2)

DVD 4

With motion ♩ = 120

[10]

N.C. “There’s enough . . .

Music by
DANIEL SEMSEN
Arranged by Daniel Semsén

The musical score is written for piano in 4/4 time with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). It consists of two systems of music. The first system begins with a piano (mp) dynamic and features a steady eighth-note melody in the right hand and a simple bass line in the left hand. The second system starts with a fermata over the first measure, followed by a triplet of eighth notes in the right hand. The piece concludes with a sharp upward diagonal line in the right hand, indicating an abrupt end.

... my feet up and—” *Music ends abruptly*

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MIRIAM: **There's enough to do helping Mom at home.** *(As she sits down, Nathaniel enters stage left, running towards Beatrice the sheep.) I can sit back, put my feet up and— (music ends abruptly. Nathaniel freezes just before tripping over Beatrice. Miriam, Abigail and Judah freeze as well.)*

OLDER

NATHANIEL: *(from offstage)* **Those are my sisters and my older brother. Everyone in the family helps out in the pasture. They're on the early morning shift.**

(Nathaniel unfreezes and tumbles over Beatrice, a sheep on her hands and knees)

NATHANIEL: **Oof!**

MIRIAM: **Oh, there you are, Nathaniel! How was the trip through town?**

JUDAH: *(dryly)* **Better than this latest "trip" over the sheep?**

MIRIAM: **I heard people have been arriving by the hundreds. More people than I have ever seen!**

NATHANIEL: *(matter of fact)* **I tripped over some nice kids: Joanna and Simone. They're here for the census. (suddenly intense and excited) But on to more important things: the sheep. How's Max's foot? Has Beatrice been getting enough exercise? I promised JoJo I would help him stretch out his left hind foot; he injured it last week in our self-defense class.**

ABIGAIL: *(condescending)* **They're sheep, Nathaniel. Seriously....you talk about them like they're your friends.**

NATHANIEL: *(high pitched; protests too much)* **Pff – ha –what???? They're just sheep, Abigail. Don't be crazy. What kinda person would be friends with sheep?**

OLDER

NATHANIEL: *(from offstage)* **I was friends with the sheep. I had the greatest adventures with them. For me, it was all about those sheep.**

ABIGAIL: **Have fun with your "friends," Nate. We'll be back when the sun goes down.**

OLDER

NATHANIEL: *(from offstage)* **I had a peaceful, easy feeling with my sheep. I mean, I knew they couldn't actually talk, but when I looked in their eyes it was like I could almost hear what they were thinking . . .**

(**11** **DVD 5** *music begins to "Sheep Stuff". During the song, the sheep rise to stand on two legs to perform the rap; these sheep are cool and have unique personalities. Oblivious, the human characters are unaware of the sheep's conversation and conversion, and continue to talk to the other shepherds.*)

Narrator, Nathaniel
Joanna
Simone

SCENE 3

([56] Opt. SFX-Town Atmosphere)

OLDER

NATHANIEL: *(from offstage)* Before I knew it, my shift was over and I was running back through town, thinking about the great meal I would have.

(Nathaniel runs on stage, totally distracted, and is about to bump into Joanna and Simone again but they quickly sidestep him.)

JOANNA: Whoa . . . running shepherd alert! You really don't stand still long, do you?

SIMONE: *(excited, grabs Nathaniel for a long hug)* Nathaniel! Can we come on an adventure with you? I'm bored.

NATHANIEL: *(still squeezed by Simone)* Well, I'm just heading home for supper—

JOANNA: We have some leftover food; would you like some? We're staying right here at the inn. We were lucky to get a room, actually. The innkeeper told Papa it was the busiest he'd seen it in years!

NATHANIEL: *(considering)* Well, I guess I could eat with you and then take you to see my sheep.

SIMONE: *(excitedly chants)* Sheep! Sheep! See the sheep!

JOANNA: *(laughing)* She just wants to avoid going to bed.

[[14] DVD 6 music begins to "A Deep, Dark Night (Underscore 3)"]

(The three walk as a group, heading stage left)

OLDER

NATHANIEL: *(from offstage)* Simone eventually convinced me and soon we were walking back to the fields under a deep, dark blanket of night.

NATHANIEL: *(talking nonstop)* You're gonna love my flock. Now, Beatrice—she's the feisty one. But then there's Max — he's so cool, the others all follow his lead. And JoJo — he's just so funny . . .

(The trio continue talking as they exit off stage as stage lights dim. Sheep enter stage in darkness.)

OLDER

NATHANIEL: *(from offstage)* I could talk about my sheep all day. But little did I know, something unbelievable would happen that night.

(As lights come up, the sheep are on their hands and knees, talking amongst themselves in pasture; no shepherds in sight.)

BEATRICE: *(opinionated and a bit of a diva; in middle of story)* So I thought I would try it, you know? What harm could it be to try a different style? A straightener would add a few inches and could really elongate my midriff—

MAX: *(Grunt)* Beatrice, are you talking about the botched hairstyle you tried last season? *(speaks slowly and emphatically)* It looked like you had been HIT-BY-LIGHTNING.

BEATRICE: *(defensive)* It's called a crimping iron, boys! It was totally "on fleece."

MAX: On fleece?

BEATRICE: It's the latest lingo—I'm told it'll catch on soon. But anyways, crimped wool was in fashion in the fall. Ask anyone. And that crimper had 5 stars on Shyelp! As for the wool treatment – I had that mud imported from the pasture at Lambton Abbey. If CeCe hadn't left the mud in so long I could have been the top fashionista in the field.

JOJO: You were certainly the dirtiest. *(sheep giggle)* It was . . . baaaad.

BEATRICE: *(losing patience and responds by punctuating each word)* IT-WAS-SUPPOSED-TO-EVAPORATE! The wool was supposed to—

(15 [DVD 7] music begins to "Messiah" on page 37. As music begins, an angel suddenly appears upstage in a bright spotlight)

CECE: *(nervous, hears the music but doesn't notice the light)* Stop playing games, Beatrice. You're sheeeepin' me out!!

BEATRICE: Uh . . . that's not me. Max?

MAX: *(taking earplugs out of his ears)* Sorry, I had my ewe plugs in. What's happening?

(another angel appears upstage in a bright spotlight right before trumpet blast)

CECE: *(points at angel and shields her eyes)* **What is that?**

BEATRICE: **Baa! Oh my sheeepness!**

MAX: **Stay calm everyone . . .**

JOJO: **Let's try a new technique I learned at sheep defense class last week: The Sheepinator! *(motions to them)* Huddle close and move as one – left, right, left, right.**

(all sheep – on all fours – sway left to right.)

BEATRICE: *(deadpan)* **I feel silly.**

MAX: **This seems like just swaying. What's this supposed to do?**

JOJO: **I heard it scares away predators!**

(another angel or two appears onstage or in a spotlight as choir begins singing)