

GUEST OF HONOR

[Beth enters; she can be jumping rope or reading a book.]

Scooter: [stumbles on stage and wipes the back of his hand across his forehead]
Phew! I'm pooped!

Beth: Hi, Scooter! Why are you so tired?

Scooter: I've been cleaning my room!

Beth: [incredulously] You? Clean your room? What's the occasion?

Scooter: My Uncle Josiah is coming to town. He lives in India as a missionary. Mom says he's our guest of honor!

Beth: Your uncle lives in India? That's cool!

Scooter: Yeah, last time he visited us, he brought me a basket that was used by a real snake charmer.

Beth: Ugh! Minus the snake, I hope.

Scooter: [sighs] Unfortunately, yes. Anyway, Uncle Josiah is going to stay in my room, so I had to make it look good.

Beth: That's really cool that you're making him feel so welcome.

Scooter: Mom made a joke that if I didn't clean my room, we'd have to put Uncle Josiah in the garage! "No room in the inn!" she said.

Beth: That IS funny. You know when Jesus came to Earth, he should have been the greatest guest of honor EVER! But instead he was born in a stable because there wasn't room in the inn.

Scooter: Did somebody forget to clean his room?

Beth: No, Jesus—God's Son, the SAVIOR OF THE WORLD—was born to a poor family. He was a Savior for everyone, not just the rich and powerful.

Scooter: But you would think they could have found God a better room than a stable with a bunch of stinky animals!

Beth: Yeah, you would think that, but Jesus being born in a stable was God's perfect plan.

Scooter: Even though he was a GUEST OF HONOR?

Beth: Yeah. Jesus came humbly so that everyone could know him.

Scooter: You know what, I think I need to go back and make my room extra-clean for Uncle Josiah. I may have stuffed some dirty socks under my bed.

Beth: Ew, gross.

Scooter: I've decided something. There should always be room in OUR inn for visitors.

Beth: And there should always be room in our hearts for Jesus.

Scooter: Amen!

[Both exit.]