Hearts' Rebirth

Author's Notes

Heart's Rebirth is a play for seven actors, originally meant to be performed at Christmas time. The opening Prologue is not meant to be performed, nor are the sectional headings in the script. They are included for your information only.

The section headings indicate some of the structural symbolism of the dual nature of the play. The twin settings combine to push forward a straight-forward explanation of the gospel, as indicated by the titles. They may be a help in rehearsal, to enable the actor to focus each section on the spiritual truth it is meant to express.

The actor's names are somewhat symbolic, as well. "Chris" stands for "Christian," and "Will" represents the human will. John and Joseph were originally played by the same actor, but it was thought better to separate the roles to clarify the action.

The stage should be minimalist, to allow good integration with the rest of a Christmas program and quick set-up. The original production split the stage to correspond with the shift in action. Stage right was the home of the Bennett family, and Mary, Joseph, and John occupied stage left. Care should be taken to avoid "dead spots," and to switch the focus from one side of the stage to the other quickly at the appropriate moments. The overall pace and energy of the production should be high.

❧ Scott