

# ANGELS UNAWARES

Author Unkown

"Be not forgetful to entertain strangers: for thereby some have entertained angels unawares" Hebrew 13:2

(one set, dim lights between scenes) a living room with a tree and presents underneath, a table filled with food, coats and other winter clothes on a coat rack, fire in a fireplace)

Scene One: a woman is sleeping on her sofa. A bright light fills the room and the woman awakens.

OFFSTAGE VOICE: "Get up, get ready! The Lord will visit you tonight!"

WOMAN: "Oh, my goodness! I have to hurry. I have so much to do before the Lord comes! (she rushes around, talking to herself) I had better put these magazines away, the Lord might get the wrong idea. Let's see...that goes for these books...and movies...and this picture too. And I probably should take the TV into the bedroom, right after I finish watching my soaps that is. I just can't wait to see if Lance comes back to Jessica!"  
(lights dim)

Scene Two: the woman is sitting in her rocking chair.

WOMAN: "There now, all is ready for the Lord to come. The Lord must know all I do for Him and that's why He chose to visit me. (she ticks off her reasons on her fingers)

One, I never gossip. Why, I never even mentioned to Alice that I saw her husband at the town hall when he was supposed to be working! I just slipped the picture I took of him under her front door.

Two, I am the best singer in the church choir. I take my rightful place in the front row each and every Sunday and make a joyful noise unto the Lord. And I'm good, too. Old

Sister Smith told me just last week that she can hear me, even without her hearing aid!

Three, I give to the poor. I put in something every time the church collects for the needy. Only last month I put in a whole roll of paper towels! They were on sale but it's the thought that counts, you know.

(the clock on the mantel strikes 6:00)

WOMAN: "Six o'clock! The Lord should be here any minute. I'm sure He knows I go to bed at nine. (she starts rocking, then there's a knock at her door)

WOMAN: "Now who could that be?"

(she opens the door and there's two boys standing there, one 10, one 5. they are wearing ragged and dirty sweaters, no coats or hats)

OLDER BOY: "Please M'am. Would you have a spare sweater or coat for my brother? He's awfully cold.

Daddy came home really bad this time and Momma said

for us not to come back to the house until Daddy falls asleep. I don't know how much longer I can keep him warm. Please, M'am, can you help me?"

(the woman turns and looks at the rack of coats and hats behind her then shakes her head)

WOMAN: "I don't have time to fool with you kids. There's a shelter down the street, only four or five blocks, and I'm sure they will help you there. That's what those folks do, isn't it?"

(she closes the door and sits back down in her chair, rocking a little faster this time)  
(lights dim)

Scene Three: woman is rocking, the clock strikes 7:00

WOMAN: "My goodness! seven o'clock and the Lord still hasn't come! I wonder what's keeping Him?" (a knock on the door) Now what?"

(there is a young woman with a small baby there)

YOUNG WOMAN: "Lady, could you spare a little bit of milk for my baby? She doesn't need much, she hardly eats at all. (young woman looks around the room) We had a nice home like this once but my parents threw me out when they found out the baby was coming. They've never even seen their granddaughter. Would you have just a little milk for her?"

(woman turns and looks at the table full of food then shakes her head)

WOMAN: "I don't have anything to give you, young lady. There are lots of charity organizations in this town and it's their job to help people like you."

(she close the door and sits down in her chair, rocking even faster)

(lights dim)

Scene Four: woman rocking, clock strikes 8:00

WOMAN: "Eight o'clock! The Lord is so late! (a knock at the door) This is getting to be annoying. Here I am, waiting for the Lord like a good Christian, and all these people keep bringing me their problems!"

(she opens the door and an old man is standing there)

OLD MAN: "Evening, lady. I was wondering if you might have a dollar or two to spare. It isn't for me, it's for my grandson. He's in the hospital and the doctors are not sure how long he'll live. All he wants for Christmas is a baseball. I don't have any money and it would mean so much to him to have that ball..." (woman throws up her hand and stops him)

WOMAN: "Now look. There are plenty of folks in this town who are always giving away their money for one cause or another. You'll just have to talk to one of them. I put a dollar in the offering plate every Sunday so the church can help the needy so I've already done my share."

(she closes the door and sits down, rocking very fast)  
(lights dim)

Scene Five: woman rocking, her Bible on her lap, clock strikes 9:00)

WOMAN: "I can't believe it's nine already and the Lord still hasn't come to see me. (she lookd up and prays) Lord, you said you were coming to visit me tonight and I've waited and waited and you're not here." (a bright light fills the room)

OFFSTAGE VOICE: "I came to yo three times tonight and three times you turned me away. I was in the eyes of that little boy who needed a sweater to keep his brother warm. I was in the heart of that young woman who needed just a drop of milk for her baby. I was in the soul of that old man who needed so little to help a child who meant so much to him."

(woman looks down at her Bible and reads Matthew 25:35-40)

WOMAN: "Then shall the righteous answer him saying, Lord when saw thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink? When saw we thee a stranger and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee? Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee? And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brthren, ye have done it unto me."

(woman falls to her knees, covers her face)

WOMAN: "Oh, dear Lord, forgive me. (after a moment, she gets up and looks around the room. she smiles and looks up) Lord, if I hurry, I think I can still catch up with them!"

(she gathers up coats, food, and presents and hurries to the door. at the last moment, she grabs her purse too and rushes out the door)

Offstage, a choir is heard singing, "Silent Night".  
CURTAIN

Charlotte Winstead "Angelwing"  
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