

For my great nieces and nephews
who bring love, joy and laughter to my life.
AW

For my ever patient husband
Darren
SD

Alexander the Aviator's Aussie Adventures Series

Alexander the Aviator's Aussie Adventures – Christmas
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Illustrations © 2007 Sue Dunkley

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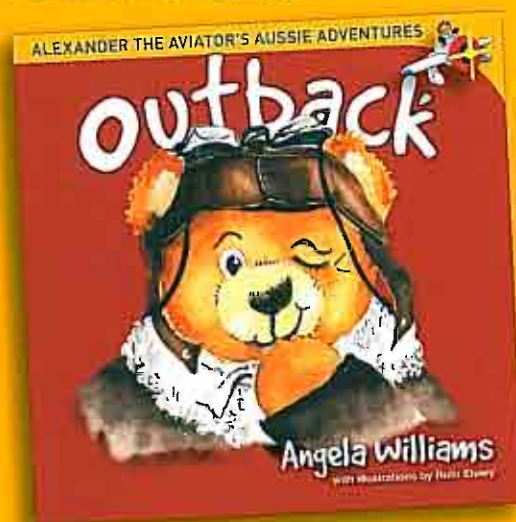
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Alexander the Aviator... Oh! and don't forget Josh,
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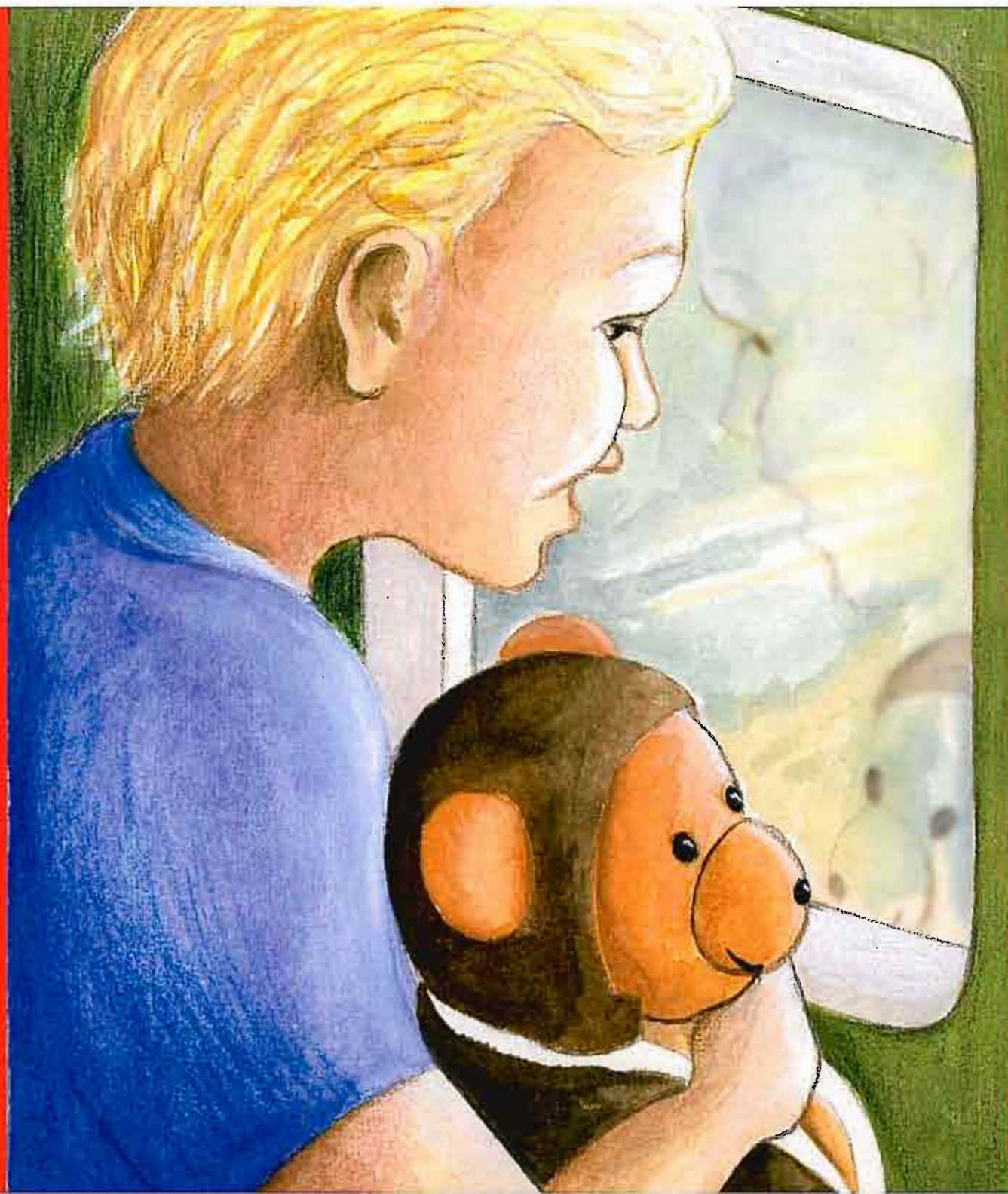
ALEXANDER THE AVIATOR'S AUSSIE ADVENTURES



Christmas

Angela Williams
with illustrations by Sue Dunkley

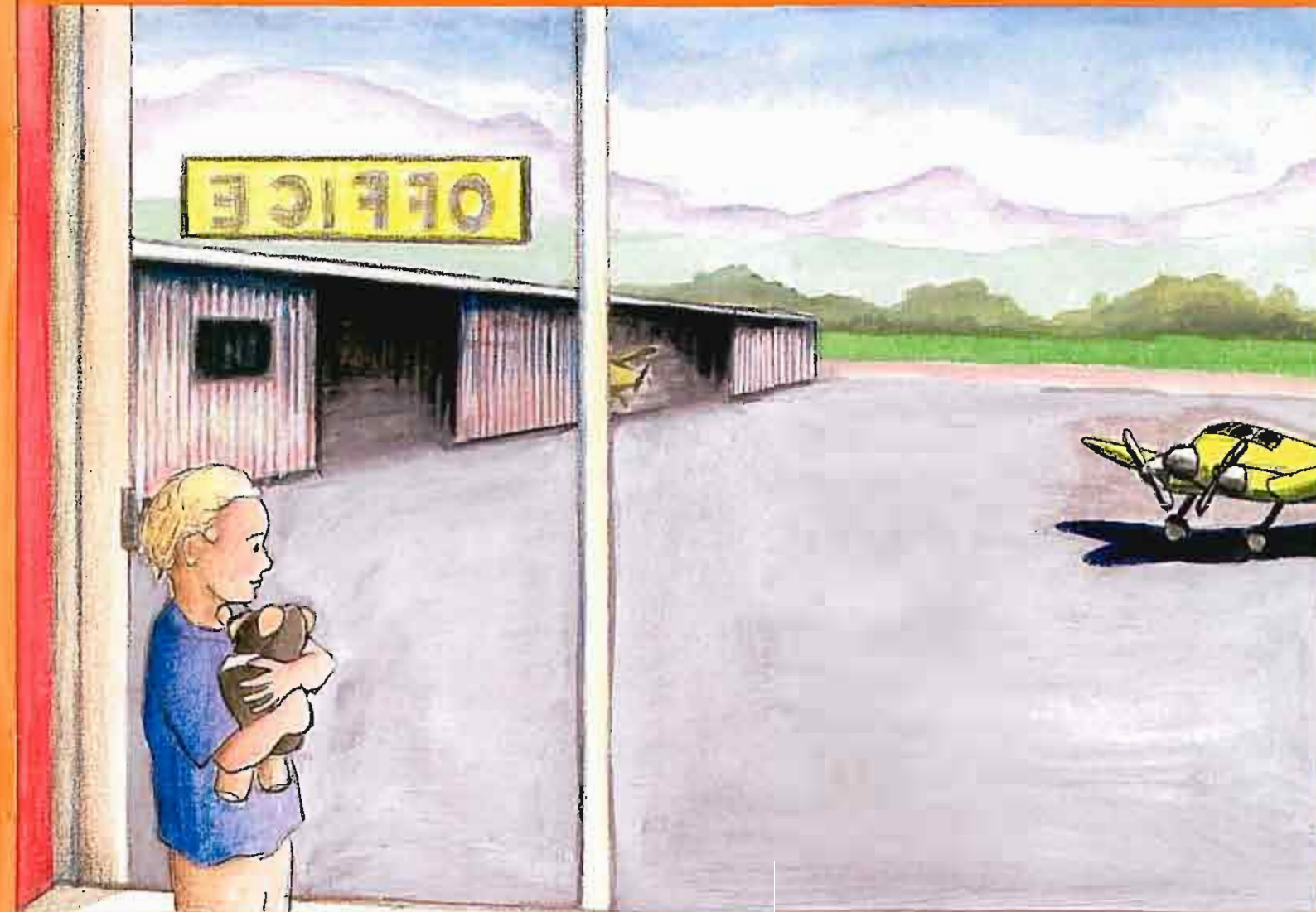


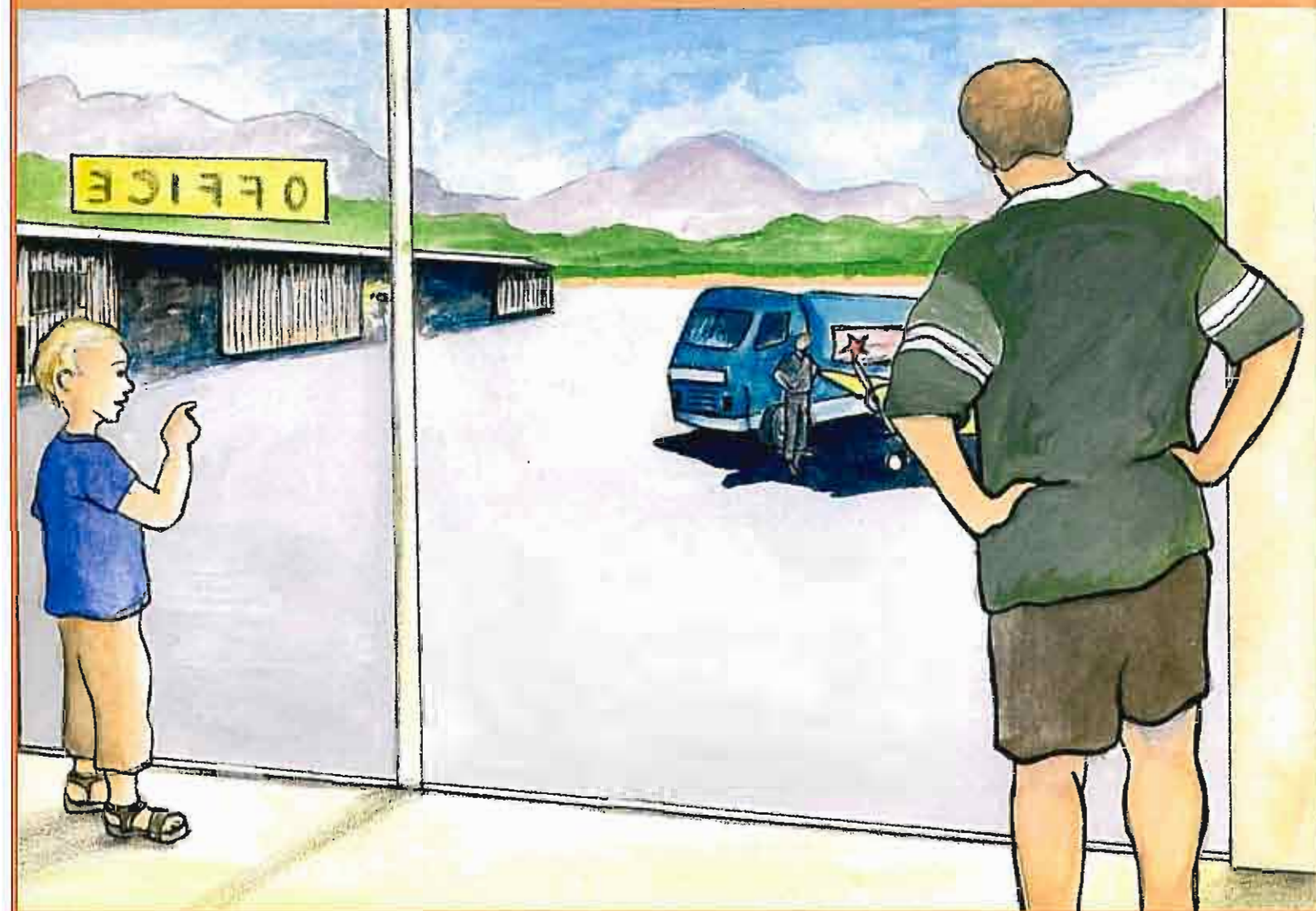


“There it is!” said Josh excitedly as the small country runway came into view.

Josh and Alexander were looking out of the window of the small plane. They were going to Grandma’s house for Christmas, but had to make a quick stop to refuel the plane.

The terminal was not like the city airports; it was one long shed behind a low wire fence. At one end was the hangar; in the middle there was a tractor parked in a storage room and at the other end of the shed was an office, which is where Josh and his family waited while the plane was being refuelled.





“Dad, how come the men aren’t putting the petrol in the plane?” asked Josh. Josh’s Dad looked out to see what was happening.

“I’ll go and see what’s wrong,” said Dad.

“There’s a problem with the engine,” said Josh’s Dad when he returned. “They can fix it, but we will have to stay here overnight.”

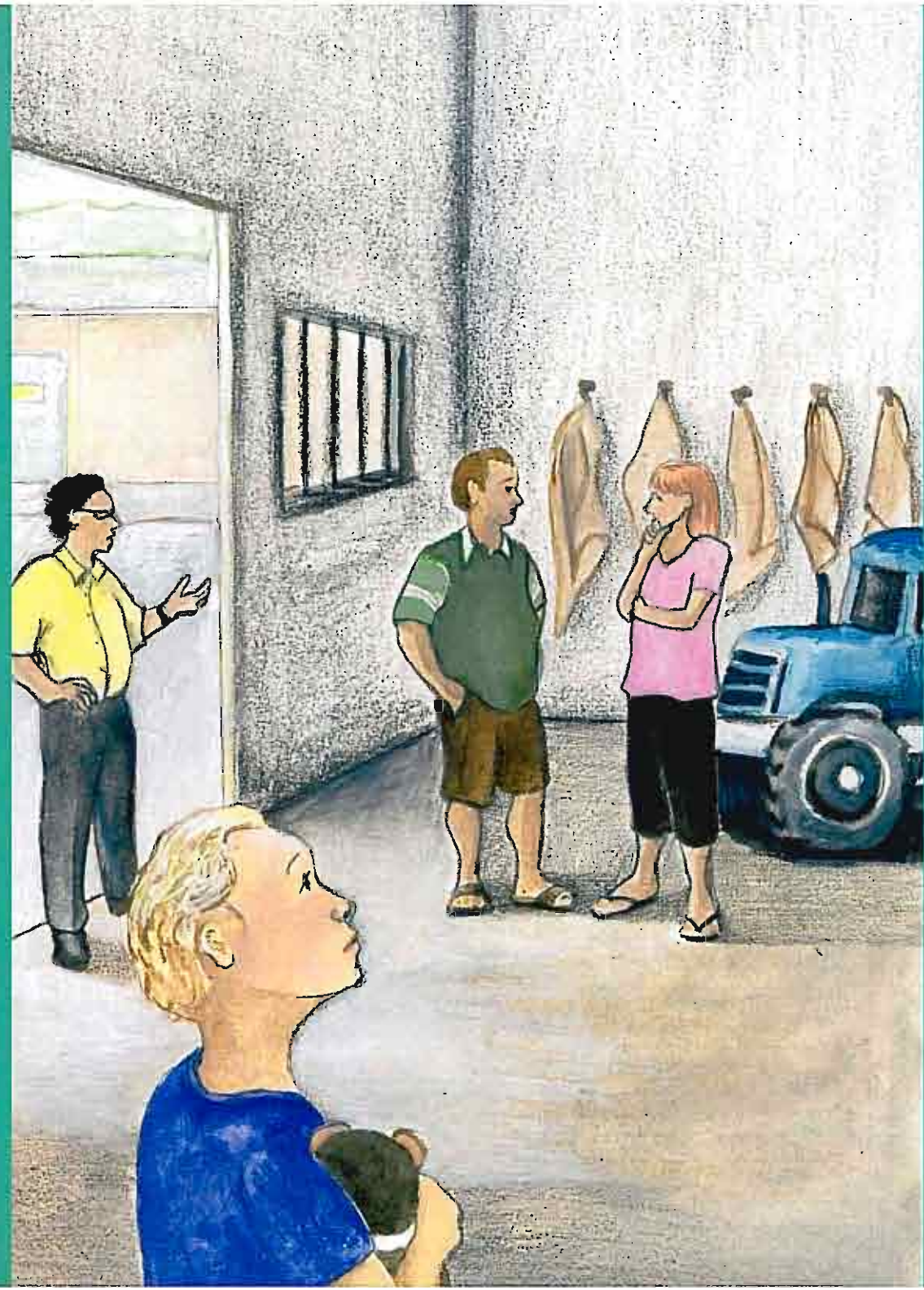
Josh’s Dad asked the man in the office if he could use the telephone to find a place where his family could stay for the night.

“That won’t be easy,” said the man behind the desk. “There is a big family reunion and everywhere is booked out - there are no places left to stay in town.”

“What are we going to do?” Josh asked his Mum.

“I’m not sure yet,” she said, “but we will find somewhere to spend the night.”





"You can stay in our storeroom,"
said the man.

Josh, holding Alexander very tightly, went
with his family to look inside the storeroom.

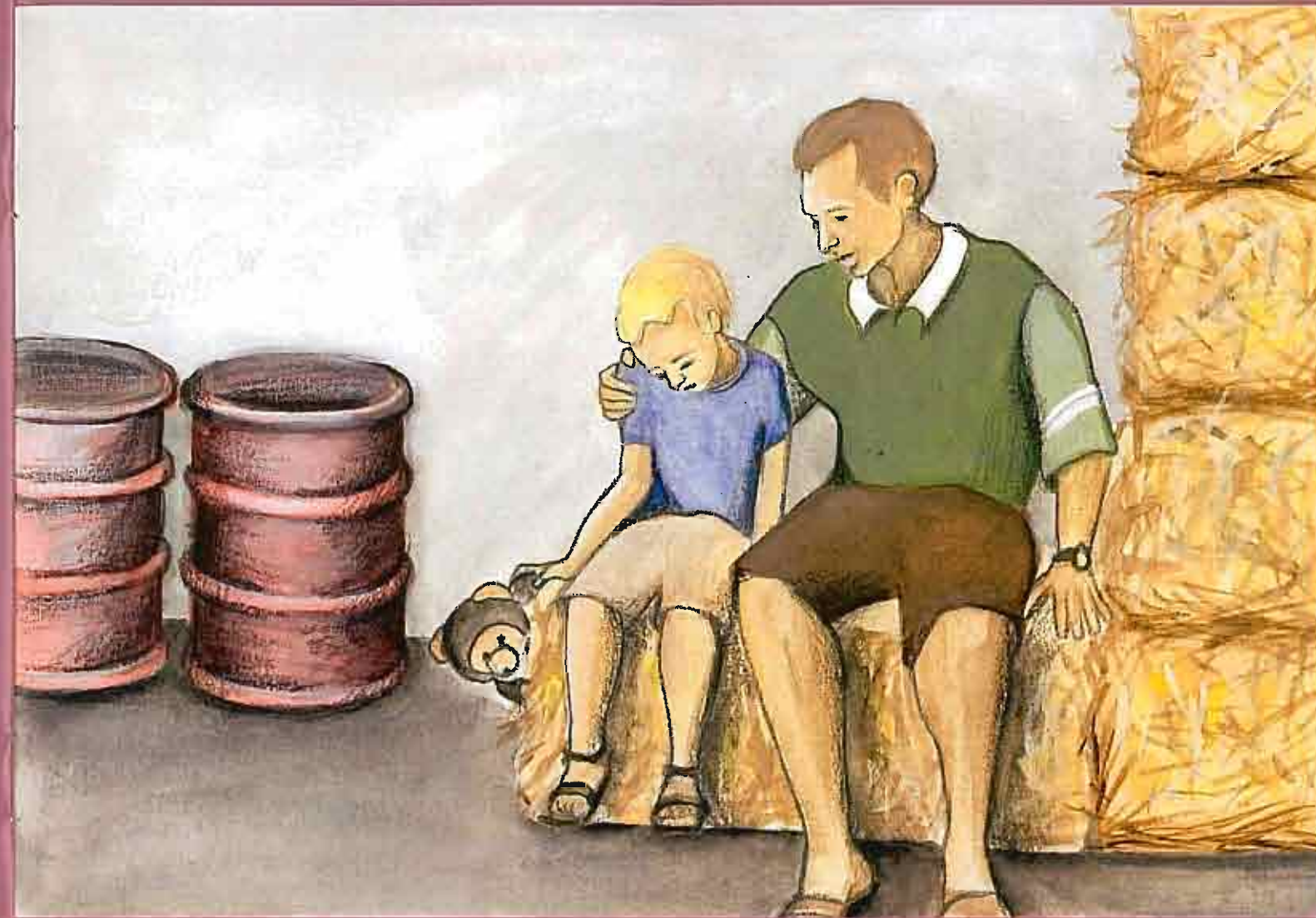
There was the blue tractor, some bales
of hay stacked almost to the ceiling
and some hessian bags hanging
on nails in the wall.

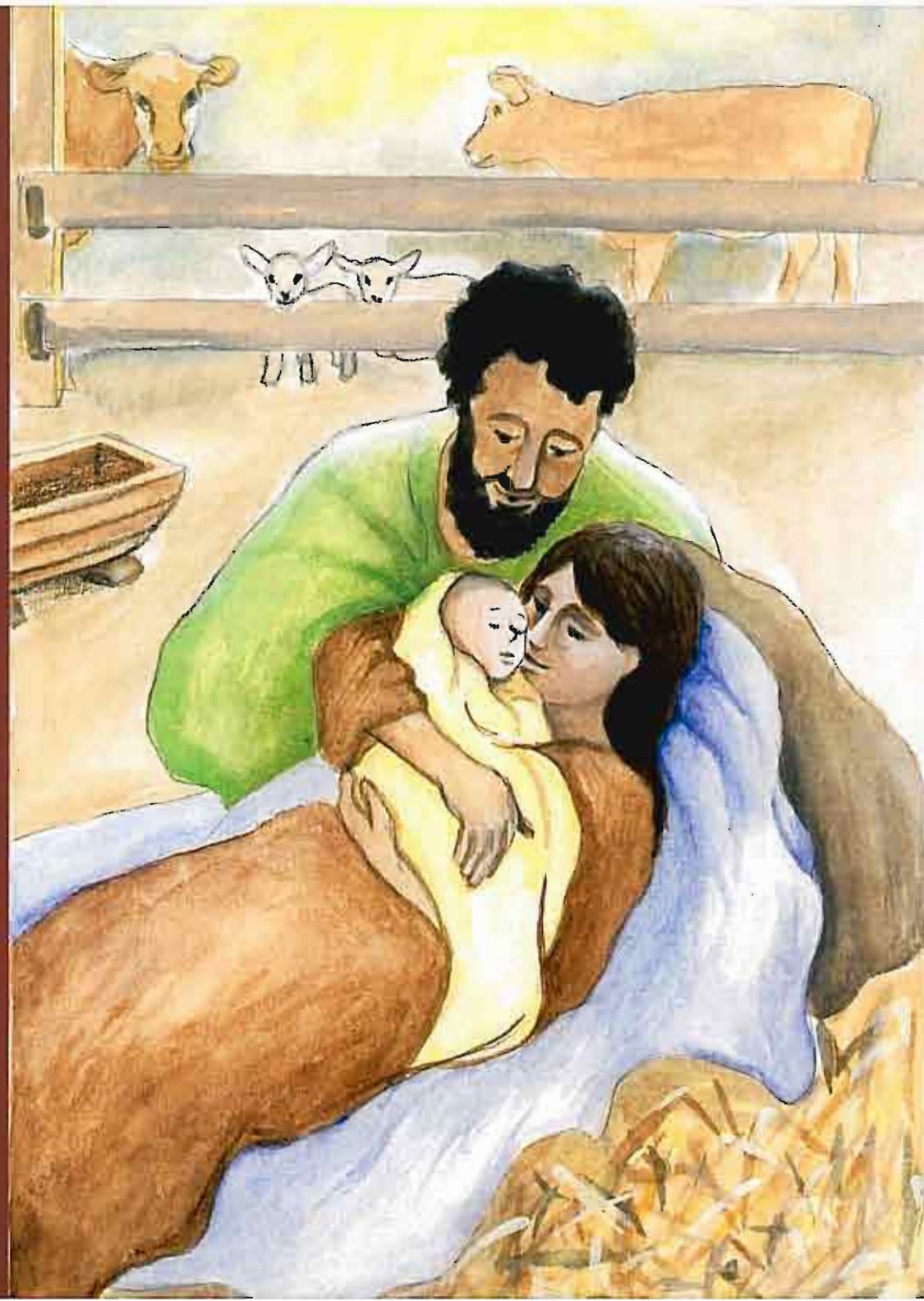
They decided to stay in the storeroom, but Josh didn't look very happy.

"It's okay mate, it's only for one night," said his Dad. "We can make beds out of this hay - it will be fun!"

"But it smells in here Dad and there are no decorations, no Christmas tree and no presents," answered Josh.

"It just doesn't feel like Christmas!"





“Josh, do you remember the real story of Christmas?” his Dad asked him. “Sure, it’s about when Jesus was born,” replied Josh.

“That’s right. When Joseph and Mary got to Bethlehem there was nowhere for them to stay until a man said that they could sleep in the stable with the animals. Right there amongst the smell of the animals, Jesus was born.

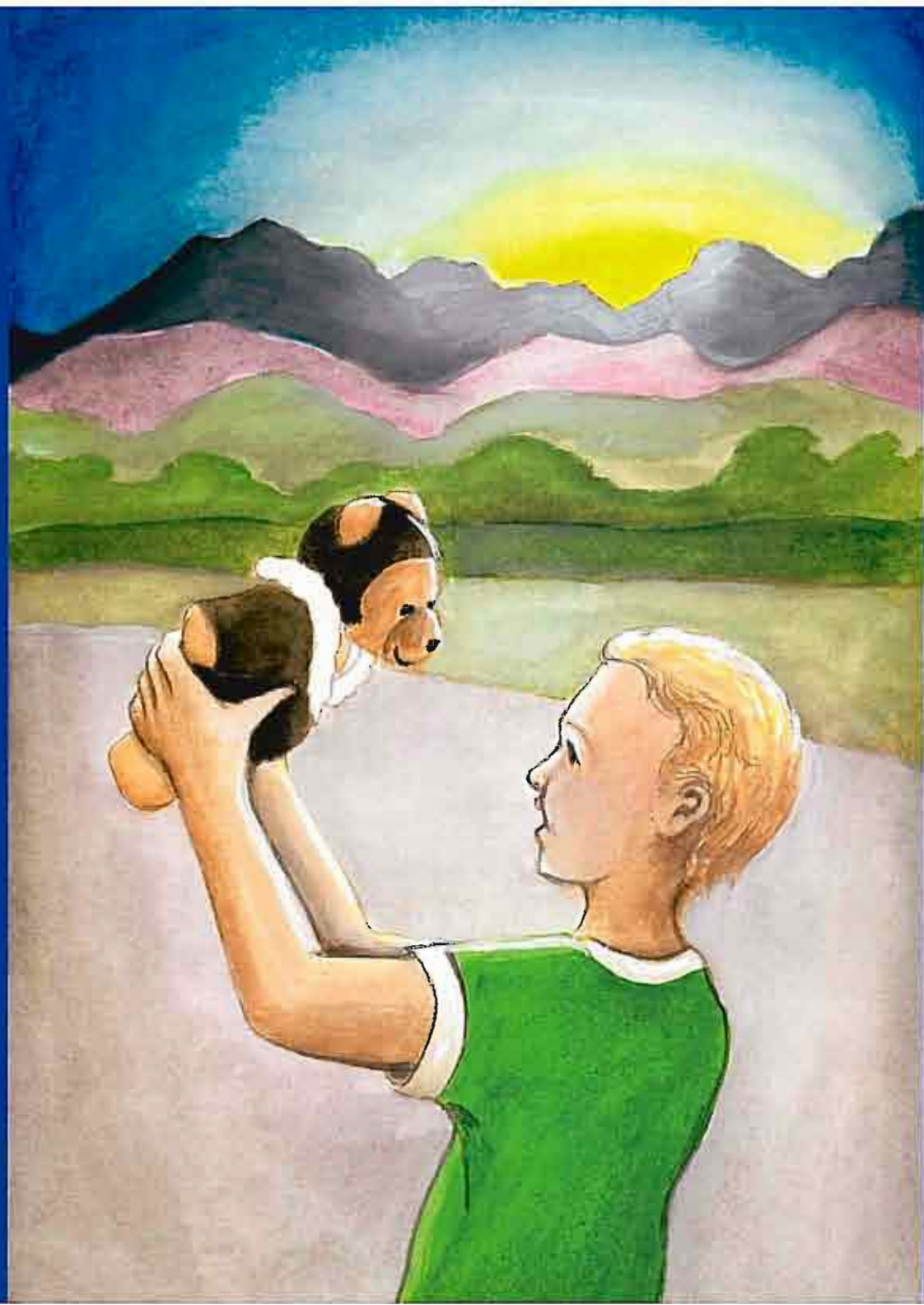
Joseph made a bed for Jesus out of an animal feeding trough and he probably made a bed out of hay for himself and Mary.

There were no decorations and no tree, but there was the most amazing gift that anybody could ever want - the gift of God’s Son,” said Dad.

“Decorations and presents and trees are great, but the reason we celebrate Christmas at all is because of Jesus.”

As they snuggled down in their bed of straw, listening to the sounds of the crickets outside, Josh whispered to Alexander, "I guess if Jesus, who is the son of God, can sleep in a stable - then we can sleep in a storeroom for one night."





Josh woke up early the next morning,
just as the sun was coming up.

It was a brand new day - Christmas Day!
"Hey Alexander," Josh exclaimed,
"It's Christmas Day!

It's Jesus birthday!"

When they finally arrived at Grandma's house there were hugs and kisses for everyone.

The house was filled with decorations and there were heaps of presents under the Christmas tree. As Alexander watched Josh unwrapping his presents he remembered the greatest Christmas gift of all - Jesus.

"and while they were in Bethlehem, the time came for her to have her baby. She gave birth to her first son, wrapped him in strips of cloth and laid him in a manger - there was no room for them to stay in the inn."

Luke 2: 6 & 7 (GNB)

