

The Patchwork Angel

traduzione de: L'angelo delle pezze
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1

Hi, I'm Edgardo, but everyone calls me Eddy or the Patchwork Angel because of my clothes. They're all patched up because... well, because I fall a lot when I fly. I know, I'm an angel, and I should know how to fly, but honestly, it's not the only thing I'm not great at. In short, I'm a bit of a clumsy angel...

I'm heading to Earth for a super important task. I have to get everything ready for the birth of Jesus! I don't know why they gave this job to me.

2

My mission is to find a cradle for baby Jesus and a place for Mary and Joseph to stay for the night. I thought of a grand palace, like the Roman ones, with warm walls, braziers, and a cradle fit for a king. It will be perfect... I mean, almost perfect. Anyway, I'll manage! I'll start by looking for a king's palace.

3

Phew, puff and pant! I've flown all day, but I haven't found a king's palace. I really am a clumsy angel...

Everyone is here in Bethlehem to be counted, to say how many children they have, and who their father and mother are. There's not a single little room left. In the end, I found only this stable, but I'll make it a royal stable! Now I'll go look for a cradle, a super cradle, a cradle fit for a king!

4

Phew, puff and pant! I've flown all day, but I haven't found a king's cradle. I really am a clumsy angel...

I found only this manger. Now I'll make a blanket from the fabric I use to patch up my clothes. It will be a royal manger. Brr... it's cold; I'll go look for some wood to keep us warm. Super wood, wood fit for a king!

5

Phew, puff and pant! I've flown all day but couldn't find any wood! I really am a clumsy angel...

No fire, but I found an ox already settled next to the manger. Now I just have to convince the donkey to come into the stable. Together, they'll keep baby Jesus warm, a warmth fit for a king.

Oh look, a star with a tail. Maybe it's a bit clumsy too, to look so strange. It seems like it doesn't know how to stay in the sky properly—it's coming down right near the stable. I'm so tired... time to sleep for a bit.

6

It was nighttime. The comet star peeked into the stable and smiled; everything was ready. Mary and Joseph arrived, and while the Patchwork Angel was still asleep, Jesus was born.

At dawn, Mary woke the angel. He looked at her and whispered, "Mary, I'm sorry. I only found a stable."

She leaned in and replied, "Thank you. It's clean and smells lovely. It's perfect."

Eddy added, "I only found a manger for a cradle."

Taking his hand, she answered, "It's comfortable for Jesus. And the blanket is warm and colorful."

The angel whispered, "I didn't even find firewood, only an ox and a donkey to keep you warm."

Mary hugged him and said, "It's so nice to feel the warmth from the ox and donkey. It's a good warmth; everything is perfect."

7

The Patchwork Angel was amazed. "Everything's perfect? Perfect are the angels who know how to fly well and never fall. Mary, you know one of those; his name is Gabriel."

Mary smiled and said, "You are perfect, like all angels and children in the world. You're perfect just as you are."

"Jesus was born to tell you that he loves you just as you are, so love yourself too."

Eddy looked at the patches on his clothes. He loved them all. Each one reminded him not so much of the falls but of trying to fly—and, in his own way, succeeding. Then he moved closer to Jesus and felt a light in his chest. It was love.

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