

Baby Jesus by Jean Teeling

TWO DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS BY JEANNIE AGE 6

My Aunt Ella was supposed to have a baby yesterday but it didn't happen.

She says it will probably come tomorrow. But, tomorrow is Christmas. That is Jesus's birthday. Is Aunt Ella bringing Jesus back into the world?

This is too hard to think about. Will Jesus punish me for my sins? I took two pieces of candy from the grocery store and didn't pay for them. And, I told Mommy she was mean and ugly when she wouldn't let me go to Sueann's house to play yesterday. And, I hid Daddy's cigarettes so he wouldn't stink up the house. And, I didn't say my prayers three nights last week. I think I'm in trouble.

I wonder what I can do to make her hold that baby inside her until after Christmas? I could sing to her. Singing makes people happy and smiley.

I remember Mommy didn't smile or look happy all day my brother Jimmy was born. She kept holding her belly like it was hurting her and she rushed off to the hospital after she peed a bunch all over the back porch.

Maybe Aunt Ella won't even want a new baby if I give her my new baby doll that cries and laughs when you push the buttons. She has six other kids and they only have three bedrooms in their house. She'd have to let Jesus sleep in the same room with her and Uncle Murl. Uncle Murl

wouldn't like a baby crying and waking him up during the night. He has to get up at 4:30 to go milk the cows. And, cows don't like it much when you don't get that milk out of them when their bags are full.

Oh Oh, Mommy's talking to somebody on the phone. Sounds like Aunt Ella is on her way to the hospital. Good, someone else will have to bring Jesus into the world again. And, I can keep my baby doll that loves me. I wonder if Aunt Ella made a mess all over the floor like my Mommy did.

I don't think I'll order any babies when I grow up. Doesn't sound like much fun to me.