

Three Boys

Frozen with fear Yaknel couldn't move a muscle or they'd soon be discovered!

The already overcrowded city was receiving more travelers each minute with many many more to come. Yaknel and his buddy Ben found all this to their liking. Helping with baggage, carrying water, etc. gave them enough coins to fend off hunger for one more day.

As night approached an uncomfortable chill set in and made the teenage boys realize they were in the wrong part of the city to take advantage of their "home" of broken pottery and clay chunks in the north part of the dump. Taking a shortcut between a restaurant and a primitive animal shelter, Yaknel and Ben heard the strange cry of a baby. The cry was strange only because the sound came not from the restaurant, but from the animal shelter. This turned the boys instantly into detectives of a big case to solve.

In a few moments, being extra quiet, the boys were crouched behind a mound of hay. If you knew the boys for very long you could see Ben was the industrious provider, while Yaknel was the bold protector of the pair. However, in this situation not even Yaknel had the nerve to peek out and survey the situation; both had to settle for audible clues.

The increased shivering of the boys was interrupted only by additional commotion from the center of the stable. Only later was it determined this commotion was visiting shepherds that had found the baby with the leading of an angel. Ben and Yaknel thought it sounded like the shepherds were kneeling and worshipping the baby.

Time passed as the boys strained to hear more of this strange event.

Then the worst happened! The boys heard steps coming toward the place where they were hiding. Frozen with fear Yaknel couldn't move a muscle though the steps were getting closer and they'd soon be discovered!

They crouched as small as they could and covered their eyes with one hand and their head with the other. As the steps seemed to stop right next to Yaknel he became almost too scared about his living through the next 10 seconds of his life to shake.

You've had situations in your life that developed into something entirely different than what you'd expected... right? Well, just then Yaknel heard right in his ear a very loud **ba-a-a-a**. And just as astonishing, a moment later the lamb curled up on the hay, cozy between Ben and Yaknel. Each boy asked himself what the connection might be of a baby born among animals and this threat that became friend. The boys never slept better.

No matter if its being led by an angel or just sharing a warm wool coat for a winter's night; joy and blessings come to those who seek the Child with a repentant heart. (End of Story)