

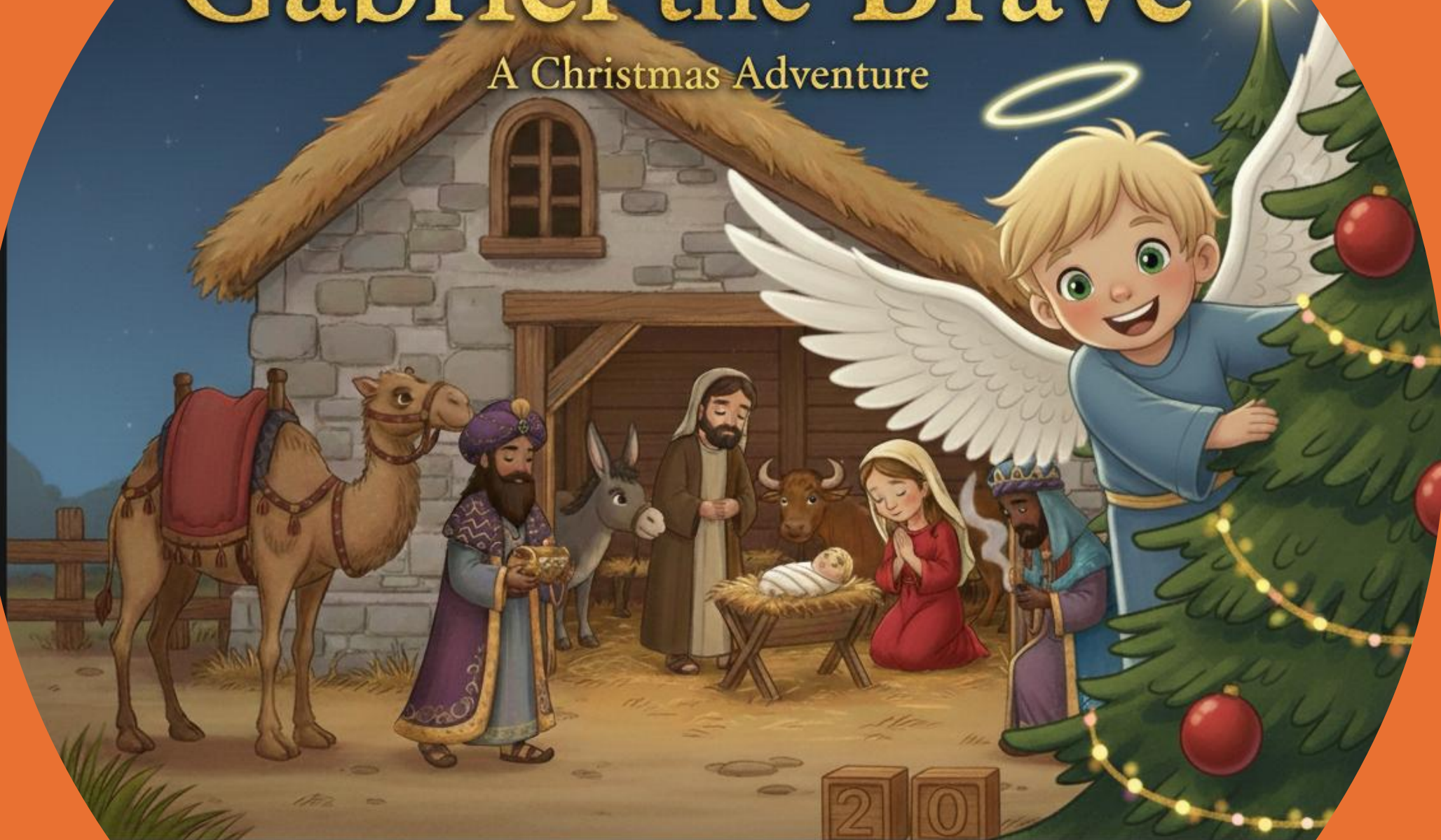
Gabriel the Brave

A Christmas Adventure



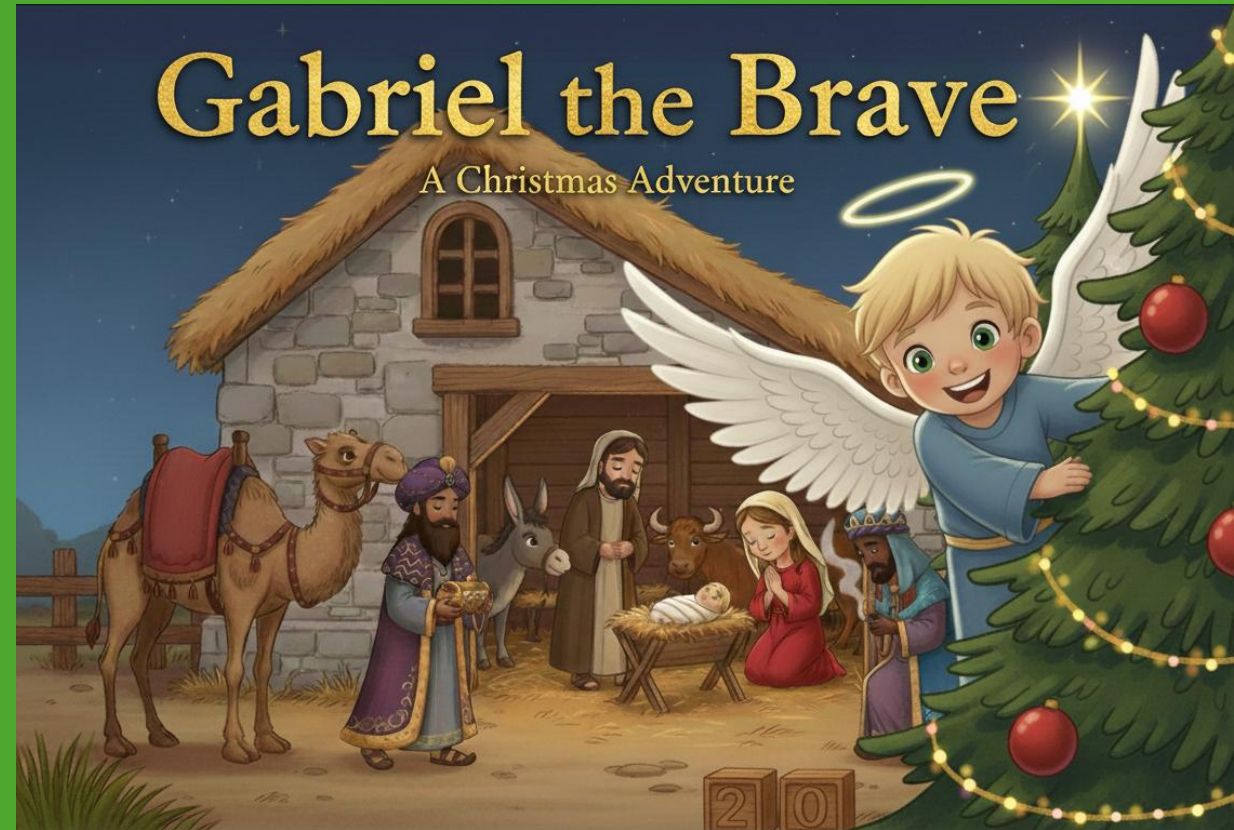
Gabriel the Brave

A Christmas Adventure



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Gabriel the Brave: The Story of the Christmas Tree Angel



Page 1: inside title page

Gabriel the Brave: The Story of the Christmas Tree Angel

- Page 2: copyright page



*For my dearest
Gabriel,
You are my star,
my angel, my heart.*

*With all my love,
[Blank]*

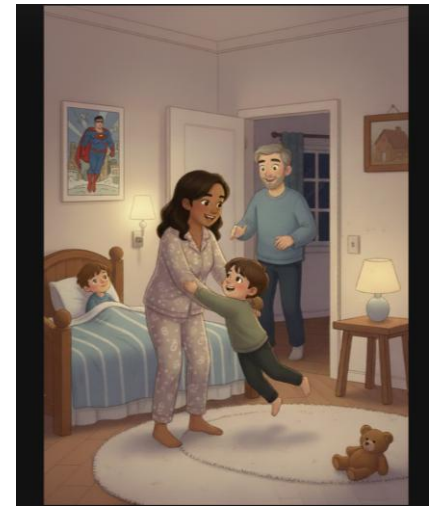
Page 3, dedication and disclaimer statement:

“To my own brave boys. You are my armor every time I leave for work. You are my smile when I am nervous. You are my shining light when I am lost. I love you.”



0 page

- Mom, dad, why do we put the angel on top of the Christmas tree?



Page 4



- A long time ago in Heaven, a young angel named Gabriel lived where clouds stood tall as mountains and the sunshine never dimmed. He was a bright and curious angel, always eager to learn and help. But he was also a bit shy, especially when it came to big tasks.





Page 5

- One day, God, the all-powerful creator of everything, said he had a special mission for Gabriel.



Page 6 and 7 in
a double
spread

"Gabriel," God's voice boomed, "I have a task for you, a very important one. You are to travel to Earth and deliver a message to a young woman named Mary. She will give birth to my son Jesus who will save the world."



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Gabriel's heart pounded. He'd never been chosen for such a significant mission. "Me, Lord?" he whispered. "Me? Deliver such an important message?", his voice trembling.

God nodded, "You have a kind heart and a gentle spirit. You are the perfect angel for this brave task."



Page 9

Still uneasy, Gabriel accepted his task. He knew it was a great honor, but the thought of facing such a big responsibility made him anxious. As he prepared for his journey, he tried to believe in himself as God believed in him.





Page 10 and 11 in a
double spread

In the small town of Nazareth lived a kind and pure young woman named Mary. One day, as Mary was going about her daily chores, a bright light filled her room. Mary jumped back, standing before her was Gabriel, his wings shimmering with celestial light.

Page 12

- "M-m Mary?" Gabriel's voice shook. "You have found favor with God. You will have a special son who will bring joy to the world and his name will be Jesus!"



Page 13

- She had never seen an angel before, and the news was overwhelming. But she trusted in God and accepted her task.



Page 14

- As Gabriel returned to heaven, he felt relieved. He had completed his task, but he wondered, “Did I do a good job on that message?”





- God Said, “Gabriel, you have done well! Now you must go and help a star shine the way for people to find my son Jesus. Shine your light into the star. Shine as bright as you can to show everyone that Jesus has been born!”

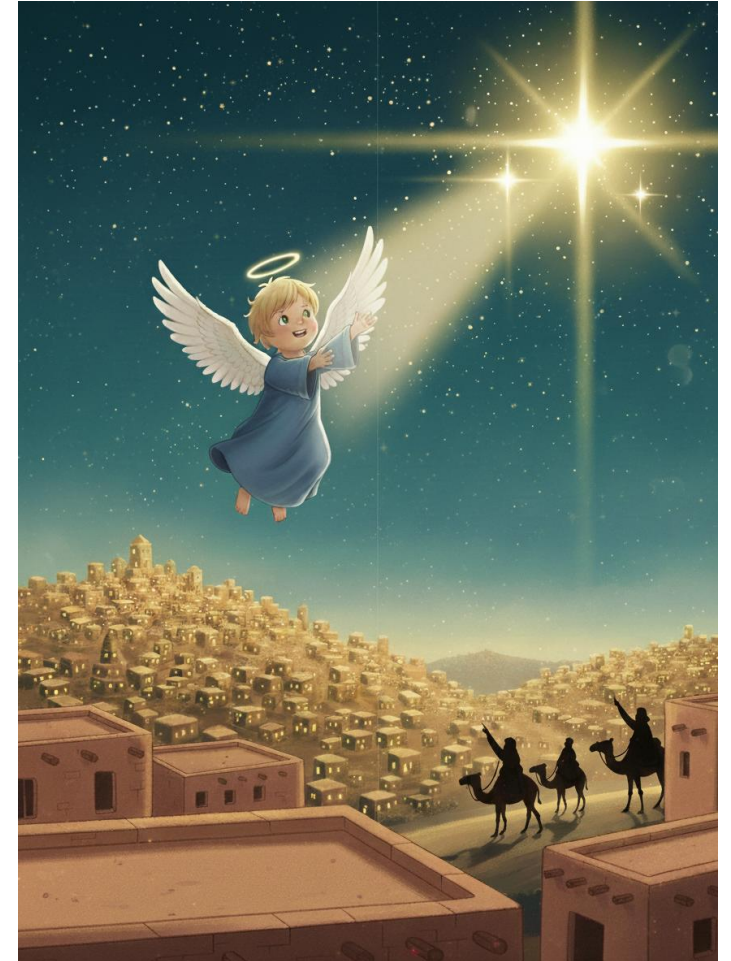
Page 16

Gabriel was nervous. He had never shined his light in the way that God was asking for. What if he wasn't bright enough? As he tried to shine his light in the star over Bethlehem, the night baby Jesus was born, he barely made any light at all. His stomach began to sink, and his throat tightened, but he felt a hand on his shoulder.



Page 17

- It was God, but his voice didn't boom this time as he said, "Through me all things are possible. Now, shine."



Page 18 and 19 in a double spread

Gabriel felt warmth like a flash through his body and out of his wings, he BURST into light and reignited the brightest star in the sky. Everyone for miles around could see the star above Bethlehem. It was *Gabriel* guiding them to the birthplace of Jesus Christ the Lord's one and only son.



Page 20

- "Well done, Gabriel," God said, his voice filled with love. "You have done so well. You faced your fears with courage and believed in me. Now hurry and tell the shepherds that Jesus has come!"



Page 21

Gabriel's heart jumped! He realized that God had chosen him because he was perfect, because he was willing to trust in him. From that day on, Gabriel carried himself with newfound confidence, knowing that with God's guidance, he could overcome any challenge. He joyfully went as fast as he could (without being nervous) to tell the shepherds that Jesus had come and to follow the star he had fixed for

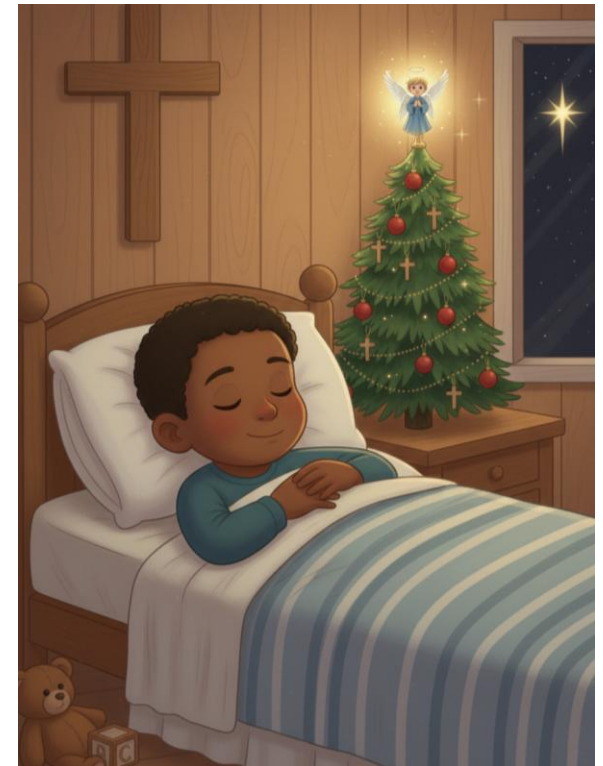




- And so, Gabriel's role in the Christmas story unfolded, a tale of courage, faith, and the power of divine love. It is a reminder that even the smallest among us can make a difference, and that is why we place an angel or a star at the top of the tree every year.

Page 23

- Now, as you go to bed tonight, plug in your star, providing protection and a reminder to be brave and courageous even when you are scared. Use this light to help you remember that all things are possible with God and that he is always with you.



Page 24—author and illustrator bios

