

Little Violet and the Angel

By Philip Osment

Gabriel is a young angel. Here, he introduces himself to the audience for the first time and explains his situation and as much as he remembers of his former life on earth. The scene takes place in the sky.

GABRIEL:

Gabriel's the name. I'm an angel you know. Like my wings? Bit small, aren't they They're not proper ones. I haven't earned my proper ones yet. I've just arrived you see. Apparently I used to live down there

(He looks down.) Whoa! I hate heights. (He looks down again.) Whooooahoooah. Long way down isn't it? Funny this is. I don't remember a thing about being down there. No one ever does. I Just woke up surrounded by all these clouds and celestial beings. They gave me this harp as well but I'm not sure how to play it, I think it needs tuning because when I try and play a song on it, It sounds dreadful! (He plays a discordant note.)

He just gave it to me, the boss. I said, 'I don't know how to play the harp', he said, 'you'll learn'. (He tries to play again it sounds even worse) His name's Gabriel too. The one who gave me the harp. My boss. But he's the big cheese. He's what you call an archangel. You should see the wings on him. They're massive! I'm just a common angel. In the scheme of things. I'm not much higher than a cherub. In fact he was quite upset, the other Gabriel, I mean, I suppose he didn't want to be sharing his name with somebody as low down the pecking order as me.

Anyway I haven't got time to dawdle talking to you. Got work to do. Places to go, people to see. I'm looking for a little girl. I'm supposed to be her guardian angel. I have to watch over her, it's my first job. He said, if I do it well then I might get wings like his!