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I reading

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opening extract from

Cat in the Manger

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Then I heard sheep. Bleating sheep. Typical! Of all the stupid animals in the world, sheep can be relied upon to be the most stupid. We could hear them coming closer and closer, and then, with an icy blast, the door flew open again and in stumbled some shepherds and snowy sheep.

The shepherds knelt on the mud floor and talked to the man and the woman and smiled at the baby.



The camels were the last straw. They are as clumsy as cows but have much bigger feet, bad tempers, bad breath, and they spit. There were three of them. . .



Enormous they were. They just stuck their heads under the sacks covering the window and glared at us.

I must say their bridles looked smart, red and green leather with gold decorations. And when their three masters strode into the barn, they looked fabulous. They looked as rich as kings.

