

**A CBEEBIES CHRISTMAS CAROL**

**SONGS**

1. "EVERYBODY HERE LOVES CHRISTMAS" (INTRO OF SHOW AND SCROOGE)
2. "COUNTING DOWN TO CHRISTMAS"
3. "FEZZIWIG JIG"
4. "CHRISTMAS ISN'T CHRISTMAS WITHOUT YOU" (CRATCHITTS'S HOME)
5. "THINK TWICE"
  
6. "EBENEZER SCROOGE LOVES CHRISTMAS" (REPRISE OF SONG 1)

**LYRICS OF SONGS IN BLUE.**

***PURPOSE OF SONG IN BOLD AND ITALICS.***

**PRE-RECORDED LINES IN RED.**

CAST LIST  
(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Narrator	Cat Sandion
Scrooge	Andy Day
Office workers	Gemma Hunt Alex Winters
Bob Cratchitt	Chris Jarvis
Fred – Scrooge’s nephew	Ben Faulks
Jacob Marley character	Tree Fu Tom
Friend of Christmas Past	Derek Griffiths
School Teacher	Phil Gallagher
School Pupils	Cerrie Burnell Richard David-Caine Joseph Elliott
Mrs Fezziwig	Justin Fletcher
Mr Fezziwig	Pui Fan Lee
PARTY GUESTS	Baroness Floella Benjamin (& Humpty) Iain Lauchlan (& Fingermouse) Dave Benson-Philips
Friend of Christmas Present	Katrina Bryan
Mrs Cratchitt	Rebecca Keatley
The Cratchitt children	2 children – Benny & Daisy
Friend of Christmas Future	Steven Kynman
Band	Little Bulb Theatre

**1. OPENING: Welcome to the show and introduction of Scrooge**

THE ENSEMBLE (LIVE BAND: 'LITTLE BULB') OPEN THE SHOW WITH A SONG.

THE STAGE AND COSTUMES DEPICT A VICTORIAN LONDON STREET IN WINTER. THE BAND MEMBERS ARE DRESSED FOR OUTSIDE. APART FROM DRUMS AND KEYS, THE BAND ALL ENTER AND SING THE FIRST VERSE FROM AND AROUND CENTRE STAGE.

**"EVERYBODY HERE LOVES CHRISTMAS" SONG: SAYING 'HELLO', WHAT CHRISTMAS IS AND INTRODUCING SCROOGE.**

LITTLE BULB

Everybody here loves Christmas  
Everybody cheer it's Christmas  
Everybody shares  
And everybody cares  
It's Christmas!  
(Christmas!)

Everybody here loves Christmas  
Everybody cheer it's Christmas  
Family  
And friends and me  
It's Christmas time again!

THE NARRATOR (CAT) ENTERS AND LITTLE BULB GIVE HER CENTRE STAGE

CAT

Welcome to the CBeebies Christmas Carol!  
I'm your Christmas storyteller and I've  
got a great story to tell you!

CAT SINGS THE SECOND VERSE:

CAT

Everybody here loves Christmas  
Everybody here LOVES Christmas  
Except  
One man  
Whose name  
Is Scrooge!

ENTER SCROOGE, AN ISOLATED FIGURE ON THE STAGE, LOOKING MEAN AND CARRYING BAGS OF MONEY. LITTLE BULB ALL RUN AWAY FROM HIM TO THEIR 'BANDSTAND' AREA.

CAT

Ebenezer Scrooge HATES Christmas  
Ebenezer Scrooge HATES Christmas  
He's mean and cold  
He just loves Gold  
Not Christmas -

Not Christmas.

DURING THIS SCROOGE GOES TO HIS FRONT DOOR, PUTTING HIS MONEY BAGS DOWN AND LOOKING MEANLY AROUND HIM TO MAKE SURE NO-ONE STEALS THEM WHILE HE GETS OUT A HUGE BUNCH OF KEYS TO UNLOCK THE DOOR TO HIS HOUSE. AS THE SONG ENDS AND WHILE SCROOGE WORKS OUT WHICH KEY TO USE, THE DOOR TRUCK BEGINS TO TURN AND THE WORKERS (BOB, CERRIE AND ALEX) ENTER FROM THE VOMS, BRINGING WITH THEM A LARGE TABLE STACKED WITH GOLD COINS AND MONEY BAGS. THEY COUNT THE MONEY WHILE THEY TALK...

GEMMA

Christmas Eve! My favourite time of the year.

BOB

I can't wait to get home to my family – the children will be SO excited!

ALEX

I can't believe Mr Scrooge wanted us to work tomorrow. On Christmas Day!

GEMMA

And with only a candle to keep us warm!  
It's freezing in here!

ALEX

He really is the meanest man in the whole world.

BOB

Well, he pays my wages so he's not *all* bad and I've bought you a small present to share!

BOB HAS TAKEN OUT A SMALL BOX WRAPPED IN A BOW AND PASSES IT TO THE OTHERS.

BOB

Merry Christmas!

THE OTHERS HAVE OPENED THE BOX AND INSIDE IS A MINCE PIE

ALEX & GEMMA

Thank you, Bob! Let's share it now.

BUT THE SOUND OF KEYS TURNING IN THE LOCK SCARES THEM...

BOB

Mr Scrooge is back! Hide it!

A CBeebies Christmas Carol

THEY PASS THE PIE BETWEEN EACH OTHER AS THE DOOR OPENS AND AS SCROOGE ENTERS ALEX IS THE LAST PERSON HOLDING THE PIE AND HE STUFFS IT WHOLE INTO HIS MOUTH!

SCROOGE

Bah! Have you finished counting all my gold?

ALL

Nearly, Mr Scrooge. There's so much of it Mr Scrooge! *Mumble cough spit mumblepie.*

ALEX SPITS CRUMBS AS HE SPEAKS WHICH MAKES BOB AND CERRIE LAUGH

SCROOGE

(IN RESPONSE TO THE WORKERS)

Bah! Humbug! No time for any of your laughing - back to work the lot of you!

A KNOCK ON THE DOOR AS THE WORKERS PACK UP ALL THE BAGS OF GOLD AND ARE THROWING/PASSING THE BAGS BETWEEN THEM IN A LINE AND INTO THE SAFE...

**2. BAR HUMBUG: SCROOGE REFUSES TO CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS. WE SEE HOW MISERABLE SCROOGE IS DESPITE ALL HIS RICHES**

SCROOGE GOES TO THE DOOR

SCROOGE

Better not be carol singers!

HE OPENS THE DOOR, RAISING HIS STICK IN READINESS TO FEND OFF ANY "CHRISTMAS ACTION" THAT MIGHT BE WAITING FOR HIM. IT IS HIS NEPHEW FRED BEARING GIFTS - A SMALL BASKET OF CHRISTMAS VEGETABLES FOR EACH OF THE WORKERS: A BAG OF BRUSSEL SPROUTS/SATSUMAS/CHESTNUTS, WITH A BOW AROUND EACH BASKET.

FRED

Ello! Merry Christmas Uncle!

SCROOGE

(GOING TO THE SAFE TO COUNT THE MONEY IN)

Bah! Humbug!

FRED

(TO AUDIENCE)

Merry Christmas everyone!  
And Mr Bob Cratchitt sir! How are you and your fine family?

BOB

(GLANCING IN SCROOGE'S DIRECTION)

Can't complain.

FRED

Dear Bob.

This is for you, and you Alex and you Gemma...  
and for you too Uncle Scrooge! Surely it's  
time for these good people to go home? It's  
very late.

SCROOGE

Bar Humbug.

FRED (LAUGHING)

That's a funny word uncle. What is a humbug?  
Is it a kind of minty sweet?

SCROOGE

Bar.

FRED (TEASING)

Is it a seasonal treat?

SCROOGE

Humbug.

THERE ARE CHIMES FROM A CLOCK. FRED AND THE WORKERS LOOK  
EXPECTANTLY AT SCROOGE.

SCROOGE

Go then. Go home.

BOB AND THE COUNTERS START VERY QUICKLY WRAPPING THEIR SCARVES UP  
AND PUTTING THEIR HATS ON BEFORE SCROOGE CHANGES HIS MIND.

THE BAND STRIKE UP THE MELODY FOR **THE COUNTING DOWN TO CHRISTMAS  
SONG**. PERHAPS IT IS JUST ONE INSTRUMENT, OR THE RHYTHM AT FIRST,  
TO UNDERSCORE THE SCENE BETWEEN FRED AND SCROOGE?

WORKERS

Merry Chr- I mean good night Mr Scrooge.

THE WORKERS HAVE LEFT AND JOINED THE BAND AND ARE SHOWING AND  
SHARING THEIR PRESENTS. MAYBE THEY GET SOME SHAKERS/PERCUSSION TO  
JOIN IN WITH PLAYING THE SONG. FRED HAS A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR  
SCROOGE, WHICH HE TRIES TO GIVE HIM WITH EVERY LINE. EVERYTIME HE  
TRIES TO PUT IT IN SCROOGE'S HANDS OR IN FRONT OF HIM SCROOGE  
MOVES AWAY.

FRED

Why do you not care about Christmas Uncle?

SCROOGE

I HATE Christmas. It's just an excuse to be  
lazy. To spend all day eating and not  
working!

FRED

But Christmas is all about being with the  
people you love, your family and friends.

SCROOGE

Humbug

FRED

You should share some of your gold Uncle.  
Have some fun. Throw a big party. It's  
Christmas time.

SCROOGE

Fred.

Why are you so merry?  
You're poor enough.

FRED

But Uncle  
Why so miserable?  
You're rich enough.

SCROOGE

Bar humbug!

FRED

Happy Christmas Uncle!

HE PUTS THE PRESENT SOMEWHERE SCROOGE CANNOT IGNORE IT AND EXITS  
BUT THEN QUICKLY POKES HIS HEAD AROUND THE DOOR.

FRED

(CHEEKY)

You'll always be welcome at my house!

FRED EXITS THE HOUSE AND JOINS THE WORKERS WHO ARE OUTSIDE WITH  
THE BAND. SCROOGE CONTINUES TO COUNT GOLD IN HIS HOUSE AND THE  
"COUNTING DOWN TO CHRISTMAS" SONG BEGINS.

(SUGGESTED CHARACTERS FOR THESE LINES)

FRED

It's Christmas Eve!

The winter snow!

I can't believe

Only a night to go!

ALL: Counting down to Christmas...

ALEX: I love the choir!

GEMMA: I love the tree!

BOB: Beside the fire -

The family and me!

ALL: Counting down to Christmas!

*(Excited babble/chatter between them)*

**SCROOGE (ALL LINES IN BOLD)**

**Everybody else loves Christmas -  
A season that I just can't stand  
This golden stuff  
Is what I love  
Bah Humbug!**

**1...2...3...4...5...**

**WORKERS & FRED**

**5...4...3...2...1...**

**It's Christmas Eve! TWO  
The winter snow! THREE  
I can't believe FOUR  
Only a night to go!**

**I love my gold!**

Counting down to Christmas...

**BAH HUMBUG!**

**I love the choir! I love my gold  
I love the tree! Lots of gold  
Beside the fire -  
The family and me! No family, just me...**

Counting down...

**BAH HUMBUG!**

Counting down...

**BAH HUMBUG!**

Counting down.....

To Christmas!

*Shhhhhh! Hehehehe!*

AS FRED AND ALL THE WORKERS LEAVE EACH OTHER TO GO HOME...

FRED

Poor Uncle Scrooge!

ALEX & GEMMA

Goodbye sir!

BOB

Happy Christmas Mr Scrooge!

SCROOGE

(SLAMMING THE DOOR)

Bah HUMBUG!

THEY ALL LEAVE, LIGHTS CLOSE DOWN TO LEAVE SCROOGE, ALONE.

### 3. SCROOGE'S BEDROOM

AS SCROOGE GETS CHANGED BEHIND A CHANGING SCREEN INTO HIS NIGHT GOWN/CAP THE NARRATOR SPEAKS TO THE AUDIENCE.

NARRATOR

You all love Christmas don't you?

AUDIENCE

Yes!

NARRATOR

Do you think we could help Scrooge have fun at Christmas?

AUDIENCE

Yes!

SCROOGE COMES OUT FROM BEHIND THE CHANGING SCREEN AND MAKES FOR HIS BED.

SCROOGE

Shhhhh! I'm getting ready for bed!

SCROOGE GETS INTO BED AND DRAWS THE CURTAINS. SOUNDS OF LOUD SNORING. THE NARRATOR SPEAKS IN HUSHED TONES.

NARRATOR (WHISPER)

Oh dear! I don't think Scrooge is ever going to change! We need some kind of magic...!

THE TREE FU TOM MUSIC STARTS AND SWIRLS APPEAR VIA PROJECTIONS ON THE CURTAINS. STAGE LIGHTING CHANGES FROM THE NORMAL/BEDROOM STATE.

TREE FU TOM

(OUT OF VISION)

Did someone say Magic?! I can help with that!

A FIZZING, MAGICAL SPARKLE WHIZZES AROUND THE CURTAIN, MAGIC PULSING AS IT (TOM) SPEAKS. THEN HE APPEARS, HOVERING ON THE CURTAINS.

TOM

Hello! I'm Tom, a magical sprite,  
Together we can help Scrooge change his ways tonight,  
bringing three friends who can show him the way  
to care and share and enjoy Christmas Day!

He will be visited by three of my friends:  
three presents to open before the night ends  
But I need help from **you all** to create them ... so  
with Big World Magic, let's Tree Fu Go!

TOM SPINS INTO A MAGICAL TRANSITION INTO 'SPELL TIME' – BLUE LIGHTING ON THE STAGE AND AUDIENCE HELP INCLUDE THEM IN THE BLUE BACKGROUND THAT TOM HOVERS/STANDS ON.

NARRATOR

Yes! Up you get everyone!  
We need to do a 'Magic Presents' spell.

TREE FU TOM  
(IN VISION)

Right, copy me, into your spell pose  
Hands out and draw a present box in front of you [drawing top first then the bottom]:  
Now cross your arms and hug yourself  
Draw a second present box [drawing top first then the bottom]  
Put your hands on the middle of your chest  
Draw a third present box [drawing top first then the bottom]  
Touch your head  
Then reach up to the sky  
Open your hands: one, two, three  
Now clap and say, 'Magic Presents' to send the magic to me  
MAGIC PRESENTS!"

WE SEE THE CHILDREN'S MAGIC FLYING TOWARDS TOM WHO CONCENTRATES IT INTO A GLOWING BALL THEN FIRES IT TOWARDS HIS FEET. A STAGE LIGHTING CUE EMPHASISES THE EFFECT OF THE MAGIC AT THE BASE OF THE CURTAIN.

TREE FU TOM  
(IN VISION)

Yes! We did it!  
Thanks for your help!  
Wake up Scrooge; it's time to open your  
first present!

TREE FU TOM ANIMATES/FLIES OFF. STAGE LIGHTS RETURN TO THEIR NORMAL/BEDROOM STATE. AUDIENCE SIT!

SCROOGE AWAKES GRUMPILY AND OPENS HIS BED CURTAINS TO SEE A LARGE PRESENT HAS APPEARED. SCROOGE IS VERY SURPRISED. RUBS HIS EYES. BUT THE PRESENT IS STILL THERE.

SCROOGE

(TO AUDIENCE LOOKING AT THE PRESENTS)  
Where did they come from? I must be dreaming.  
This is very strange, most peculiar.

HE TRIES TO WAKE HIMSELF UP BUT THE PRESENT IS STILL THERE. THE CLOCK STARTS TO CHIME AND THEN STRIKE THE HOUR. 1 O'CLOCK.

SCROOGE

1 O'clock? Bar humbug. I should be asleep.

HE STARTS TO GO BACK TO BED BUT SUDDENLY THE PRESENT STARTS TO SHAKE, THERE IS DRY-ICE, MUSIC, LIGHTS AND EITHER SCROOGE TOUCHES THE BOX AND IT FALLS OPEN OR IT IS FLOWN UP INTO THE AIR. INSIDE IS FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST (DEREK GRIFFITHS).

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST

(TO AUDIENCE)

Hello everyone!

SCROOGE

I don't believe it!

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST

Hello Ebenezer Scrooge.

I'm very pleased to meet you.

*I've been sent to you with a charm*

*To make sure you don't do more harm.*

*You can't remember what Christmas should be.*

*So you're going on a wild adventure with me.*

SCROOGE AND FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST 'DISAPPEAR'/EXIT AND THE SCENE TRANSITIONS.

#### **4. SCHOOL: MAKING CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS WITH MISTER MAKER AND THE SWASHBUCKLE TEAM**

SCROOGE AND FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST REAPPEAR IN A SCHOOL ROOM. MISTER MAKER IS PLAYING AN ARTS AND CRAFTS SCHOOL TEACHER. HE IS STANDING NEXT TO A BIG, AS YET UNDECORATED CHRISTMAS TREE. CERRIE, COOK AND LINE (FROM SWASHBUCKLE) ENTER. THEY ALL SAY 'HELLO' TO THE AUDIENCE. CERRIE, COOK AND LINE LOOK AT THE MATERIALS AT THEIR DESKS FOR MAKING CHRISTMAS TREE DECORATIONS.

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST

Hehe! First stop. School days. Happy days!

Really *really* messy days.

MR MAKER

Settle down class – and no standing on the table! In today's art lesson we're making Christmas Tree decorations.

COOK AND LINE

Yes Mr Teacher ma'am, I mean sir!

SCROOGE

This is a bad dream. A terrible Christmassy nightmare!

MR MAKER  
(TO SCROOGE)  
Hello. We need your help.

SCROOGE  
Bar humbug. Why should I help you?

CERRIE  
Because it's Christmas!

SCROOGE  
I *hate* Christmas!

LINE  
Come on. Help us out here.

MR MAKER  
The best way to decorate the tree is if we  
all work together.  
You. (SCROOGE) Stand there.

HE PUTS SCROOGE NEXT TO CERRIE.

MR MAKER  
You three, get in a row.

THE SWASHBUCKLE TEAM ARRANGE THEMSELVES IN A ROW.

MR MAKER  
Now, *let's* make it!

SCROOGE  
But what do I do?

MR MAKER  
Take a shape for a decoration and pass it  
down the row. (HE DOES IT) Then you (POINTS  
TO CERRIE) add the glue.

CERRIE  
I add the glue.

MR MAKER  
Then you add sparkle

COOK  
I add the sparkle

THERE ARE DIFFERENT SPARKLY THINGS, GLITTER, STARS, TINSEL (ETC)

MR MAKER  
You add the bow

LINE

I add the bow.

MR MAKER

And you add it to the Christmas tree.

LINE

And I add it to the Christmas tree

MR MAKER

Perfect!

LINE

What could possibly go wrong?

NOW THAT THEY'VE DONE IT ONCE THE MUSIC STARTS AND THEY REPEAT THE 'FACTORY LINE' OF MAKING CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS FASTER AND FASTER BUILDING TO A CRESCENDO. SCROOGE RUNS OUT OF SHAPES TO DECORATE BUT THEN FINDS A SACK OF OTHER DECORATIONS UNDER HIS DESK WHICH HE PASSES INDIVIDUALLY DOWN THE ROW. IN THE SPEEDY CONFUSION, LINE STARTS TO DECORATE MR MAKER AS IF HE WERE THE CHRISTMAS TREE. HE'S SO BUSY THAT HE DOESN'T REALISE HE'S DRESSING MR MAKER.

THE ORDER OF THE DRESSING ON MR MAKER:

1. A BIG TRAIN OF TINSEL IS WRAPPED AROUND HIS BODY WHILE HIS BACK IS TURNED TO LINE. HE TURNS ROUND AND FACES LINE.
2. LINE TUCKS ANOTHER DECORATION (LITTLE CRACKER?) IN MR MAKER'S TOP POCKET.
3. MR MAKER STARTS TAPPING LINE ON THE SHOULDER AND WAGS A POINTED FINGER AS IF TO TELL HIM OFF ... BUT LINE JUST HANGS THE NEXT DECORATION ON THE POINTED FINGER!
4. BAUBLES GO ON THE EARS AS EARRINGS.
5. A GIANT GLITTERY STAR IS PUT ON HIS HEAD AS A HAT (WITH HANDY CHIN STRAP!)
6. AND THE FINALE ... A BIG BUCKET OF DRY SNOW TO DUST THE WHOLE TREE. MR MAKER GETS THE FULL BUCKETFUL IN HIS FACE.
7. MUSIC STOPS. LINE REALISES THAT WHAT HE'S DONE SO ADDS A RED NOSE TO MR MAKER ANYWAY WITH A NERVOUS "DOES THAT MAKE IT ANY BETTER?" TYPE EXPRESSION ON HIS FACE!

THE SCHOOL BELL SOUNDS. THE WHOLE GANG (INCLUDING SCROOGE) SEES THEIR TEACHER ALL WRAPPED UP AND LAUGH.

MR MAKER

(DRYLY, HE'S NOT ANGRY)

Why does this happen every year?

THE FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST RINGS THE SCHOOL BELL.

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST  
Time to go!

CERRIE, COOK AND LINE UNWRAP MR MAKER AND PUT THE DECORATIONS ON THE TREE AND EXIT AS FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST TAKES SCROOGE ON THE NEXT STEP OF ADVENTURE.

**5. LINK**

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST  
(LAUGHING)  
He did make a very pretty Christmas tree!

SCROOGE  
(SCROOGE IS SMILING AND ON THE VERGE OF LAUGHING BUT THEN HE REMEMBERS THAT HE IS IN A BAD MOOD)  
It wasn't at all funny.

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST  
(TO THE AUDIENCE)  
*Boys and girls, was it just me?  
I saw Scrooge Smiling, almost with glee?*

He was smiling, wasn't he?

AUDIENCE  
Yes!

SCROOGE  
Oh. No I wasn't!

AUDIENCE  
Oh yes you were!

SCROOGE  
OH NO I WASN'T!

AUDIENCE  
OH YES YOU WERE!

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST  
Isn't it a pain Scrooge?

SCROOGE  
What?

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST  
Always being in such a bad mood?!

SCROOGE  
Humbug!

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST

No time for arguments!  
(AS THE FEZZIWIGS ENTER)  
*Now we must go there's much more to see,  
A great house party, so Christmassy!*

**6. FEZZIWIGS' BALL**

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST MOTIONS TO SCROOGE TO WATCH WHAT IS ABOUT TO UNFOLD.

MR FEZZIWIG (PUI) STARTS THE SCENE BY SAYING 'HELLO' TO THE AUDIENCE. MRS FEZZIWIG (JUSTIN FLETCHER) IS GETTING READY DOING THE FINISHING TOUCHES TO HER HAIR.

MR FEZZIWIG  
(TO AUDIENCE)  
Hello. Welcome all! Welcome to our party.  
I'm Mr Fezziwig and this is my wife ...

MRS FEZZIWIG  
Mrs Fezziwig! How do you do!

MR FEZZIWIG  
Do you want a fuzzy wig Mrs Fezziwig?

MRS FEZZIWIG  
Don't you like the way I've done my hair, Mr Fezziwig?

MR FEZZIWIG  
I love the way you've done your hair. But for our Christmas party I thought you might want these!

HE GIVES HER SOME FLASHING HAIR CLIPS, WHICH SHE PUTS IN HER HAIR.

MRS FEZZIWIG  
Oh thank you kind husband.

MR FEZZIWIG  
Now you're ready for a party. Isn't she boys and girls?

AUDIENCE  
Yes!

MR FEZZIWIG  
I'm sorry. I couldn't hear you.

AUDIENCE  
(LOUDER)  
YES!

MRS FEZZIWIG  
But are *you* ready for a Christmas party?

AUDIENCE  
(EVEN LOUDER)  
Yes.

MRS FEZZIWIG  
Alright! Alright! Then let's have the  
Fezziwig Jig!

THE AUDIENCE JOINS IN THE DANCE MOVES.

MRS FEZZIWIG (SPOKEN)  
Raise your arms to wake them  
Wave them all about and shake them  
Find a friend and take them  
On a boogie round the room with me!

MRS FEZZIWIG (SUNG)  
Raise your arms to wake them  
Wave them all about and shake them  
Find a friend and take them  
On a boogie round the room with me!

MR & MRS FEZZIWIG DANCE

DOORBELL SOUNDS.

MRS FEZZIWIG  
Oooh! Fantastic. More guests!

MR FEZZIWIG  
I'll get the door my love.

MR FEZZIWIG GOES TO THE DOOR AND OPENS IT – MORE GUESTS FLOCK IN. GUESTS TO THE PARTY ARE PRE-SCHOOL PRESENTER LEGENDS: BARONESS FLOELLA BENJAMIN (WITH HUMPTY FROM PLAYSCHOOL), IAIN LAUCLAN (WITH FINGERMOUSE) & DAVE BENSON-PHILLIPS.

MRS FEZZIWIG  
Mr Iain Lauchlan  
and his esteemed escort Fingermouse.  
Merry Christmas!  
Mr David Benson-Philips!  
<SWOONING> And oohhh my!  
Baroness Benjamin of Beckenham and Humpty!  
<CURTSEYING HUMBLLY> We're so delighted you  
can join us. Such an admirer of your  
work!

GUEST (SUNG - FLOELLA BENJAMIN)  
It's so nice to meet you  
Let me shake your hand and greet you

MRS FEZZIWIG (SUNG)

Come join in I'll treat you to...  
A Fezziwig jig that'll wobble my wig!

OTHER GUESTS (SUNG plural)

Friends across the nation  
Thank you for the invitation!

MR FEZZIWIG (SUNG)

The Fezziwig Ball, welcomes all!  
Jump around the room with me!

SCROOGE CAN'T HELP GETTING UP AND CLAPPING HIS HANDS AS WELL AS TAPPING HIS FEET. WITH A PUSH FROM FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST, SCROOGE JUMPS INTO THE PARTY SCENE AND BECOMES THE LIFE AND SOUL OF THE PARTY, DANCING WITH MRS FEZZIWIG.

**THE SONG ENDS. APPLAUSE.**

SCROOGE HAS COLLAPSED IN EXHAUSTION CATCHING HIS BREATH. THE FEZZIWIG PARTY DISAPPEARS AS FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST AND SCROOGE TALK.

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST  
So. Do you like dancing then?

SCROOGE  
(SUDDENLY REALISING WHAT HE'S DONE)  
No. I hate it. Humbug bar. I mean bar  
humbug.

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST  
But I just saw you dancing with the  
Fezziwigs!

SCROOGE  
No. Not really. I was pushed into it...  
(SCROOGE LOOKS MEANINGFULLY AT FRIEND OF  
CHRISTMAS PAST)  
...and I just couldn't get out of the, the  
fray. But I hated every minute of it.

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST  
(DISBELIEVINGLY)  
Really?

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST LAUGHS.

SCROOGE YAWNS. THE ENSEMBLE BRING THE BED FORWARD AGAIN AS FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST LEADS SCROOGE TO IT. SCROOGE LIES DOWN.

FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST  
You must be tired after enjoying yourself so  
much.

SCROOGE  
HMMMMMMbug. After all that terrible jigging  
and noise I'll never be able to sleep.

SCROOGE FALLS ASLEEP STRAIGHT AWAY AND STARTS TO SNORE LOUDLY.  
FRIEND OF CHRISTMAS PAST MOTIONS TO THE AUDIENCE TO STAY QUIET AND  
EXITS (IN A PUFF OF SMOKE?!)

## 7. NARRATOR TRANSITION

NARRATOR  
*Time for the next present to help poor Scrooge  
He needs to learn to be kind and not rude  
He's too mean and moody, always unfair.  
Here comes a gift to help him really care.*

CLOCK BEGINS TO CHIME AGAIN. SCROOGE SITS UP IN BED.

SCROOGE  
I knew it. It was all a bad dream.  
(HE SEES THE NEW PRESENT) I know I can see  
another present. But I don't *believe* it is  
there. If I shut my eyes. (HE SHUTS HIS  
EYES) On the count of two it will disappear.  
(BELLS CHIME ONE)  
ONE  
(BELLS CHIME TWO)  
TWO

SCROOGE  
(OPENS EYES)  
Oh. No.

THE SECOND PRESENT OPENS AND REVEALS KATRINA (NINA AND THE  
NEURONS).

SCROOGE  
What now?

KATRINA  
(TO AUDIENCE) Hello everyone!

SCROOGE  
Who are you?

KATRINA  
Don't be scared. I'm your friend. We're  
going to see how a really *kind* family share  
Christmas. You know Bob don't you?

SCROOGE

Bob?

KATRINA

Bob Cratchitt. He works for you?!  
Come on Ebenezer off we go!

KATRINA AND SCROOGE DISAPPEAR/EXIT AS THE SCENE TRANSITIONS.

SCROOGE

(OFF)

Oh no not again!

### **8. CRATCHITT'S HOME**

THE CRATCHITT'S KITCHEN APPEARS. IT IS POOR LOOKING WITH A BARE TABLE, ONE GAS LAMP, FOUR BARE WOODEN CHAIRS OR STOOLS AND 4 TINY PRESENTS WRAPPED UP UNDER A TINY TREE. THERE ARE FOUR HOME-MADE CRACKERS ON THE TABLE. BOB CRATCHITT ENTERS LOOKING TIRED AND WORRIED. THEN TWO CHILDREN (A BOY AND A GIRL) COME IN CARRYING A SMALL PLATE OF VEGETABLES EACH. BOB PUTS ON A BRIGHT FACE. THEN MRS CRATCHITT ENTERS WITH A TINY TURKEY ON A PLATE. THEY GIVE OUT THE PRESENTS AND KISS/HUG EACH OTHER WITH THANKS. KATRINA AND SCROOGE REMAIN SEPARATE FROM THE SCENE WITH THE CRATCHITTS SO IT IS CLEAR THAT THEY CAN'T BE SEEN.

BOB

(TO MRS CRATCHITT)

My dear, by this firelight you are even  
more beautiful.

MRS CRATCHITT

(CARRYING IN A VERY TINY ROAST TURKEY)

I can't stop thinking about Scrooge. He  
makes me so angry!

BOB

Bess. It's Christmas.

MRS CRATCHITT

But he wouldn't even give you one lump of  
coal for the fire. You came home so cold.

BOB

Don't speak ill of anyone at Christmas,  
Bess. Especially not Scrooge. If it wasn't  
for him we wouldn't have this wonderful  
feast.

MRS CRATCHITT

Feast my foot! If he was here I'd tell him I  
would. I'd give him a piece of mind.

SCROOGE IS SOMEWHAT ALERTED BY THIS.

BOB

(LAUGHING)

I love you Bessy. You're the best!

SCROOGE

Where's the rest of their dinner? That's not enough.

KATRINA

It's all they have.

SCROOGE

Why?

KATRINA

Because you don't pay him enough.

SCROOGE LOOKS SHOCKED AT HOW LITTLE THEY HAVE AND STARTS TO FEEL BAD, EVEN RESPONSIBLE.

MRS CRATCHITT

(STOPS BEING CROSS AND GETS INTO CHRISTMAS FUN MODE)

Who wants to pull a cracker?

THE CHILDREN ARE QUIET, SHY. THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER AND NOD EXCITEDLY.

BOB

Did you make these yourselves?

THEY LOOK AT EACH OTHER CONSPIRATORIALLY AND NOD EVEN MORE.

MRS CRATCHITT

(IS IN ON THE SECRET)

They're special crackers.

BOB

What's so special about them?

THE CHILDREN SHRUG GIGGLING.

MRS CRATCHITT

They're silent crackers. If you want them to bang you have to make the sound yourself.

BOB OFFERS TO PULL A CRACKER WITH TINY TIM AND MRS CRATCHITT WITH THE LITTLE GIRL AND THE CHILDREN BOTH SHOUT 'BANG!' SO LOUDLY THEY SURPRISE THEMSELVES AND THEN LOOK SHY AGAIN. EVERYONE LAUGHS. SO DOES SCROOGE.

BOB TAKES THE CHILDREN ON TO HIS KNEES AND SMILES/WINKS AT BESS.

BOB

You're the best Christmas presents anyone  
could have. Christmas wouldn't be Christmas  
without you.

**"CHRISTMAS ISN'T CHRISTMAS WITHOUT YOU" SONG**

**THE POOR FAMILY SING ABOUT HOW THEY DON'T HAVE MUCH. BUT AS IT'S CHRISTMAS THEY CELEBRATE WHAT THEY DO HAVE, EACH OTHER. THEY PLAY A GAME OF IMAGINING HAVING PLENTY AND THE CHRISTMAS FEAST THAT THERE COULD BE ... THE SONG LIFTS IN ENERGY AS THEY LIST THE FOODS THEY'D LIKE TO HAVE – (EMPTY PLATES OPEN OUT TO REVEAL CONCERTINA PROPS OF FANCIFUL FOOD?) ... BUT THEY COME BACK DOWN TO EARTH AT THE END ... BECAUSE THOSE THINGS ARE JUST FANTASY: THEY DON'T HAVE THOSE THINGS TO EAT. BUT THEY ARE HAPPY BECAUSE THEY ARE WITH EACH OTHER.**

**LYRICS TO BE SPLIT BETWEEN BOB AND MRS CRATCHITT – SUGGESTIONS:**

BOB

Christmas isn't Christmas without you  
Christmas isn't Christmas at all

BESS (MRS CRATCHITT)

Christmas isn't Christmas without you  
Whether you're big - (or you're small)

BOB

Christmas isn't Christmas without you  
It doesn't matter what you may say:

BESS

Christmas isn't Christmas without you

WHOLE FAMILY

But together, it's Christmas every day.

Yes it would be  
So lover-ly  
To be warm beside the fire  
The stockings up  
Beneath the tree  
And for dinner we might see...

BESS

A turkey roast  
That I could boast  
Had potatoes, sprouts and peas,

GIRL

Some more for you?

BOY

Some more for me!

BESS

Imagine how that meal would be!...

BOB

Christmas isn't Christmas without you  
It doesn't matter what you may say:  
Christmas isn't Christmas without you  
But together, it's Christmas every day.

SCROOGE LOOKS MOVED BY THE FAMILY'S SITUATION.

KATRINA

Take my hand Scrooge it's time to go.

SCROOGE

No. I don't want to.

KATRINA

You can't stay here. Sorry. It's nearly time  
for your last present.

SCROOGE

No. I want to stay here. I don't want to go  
back to my cold, lonely room.

KATRINA

Perhaps the next present can help you with that?

SCROOGE

No. No one can help me. I'm such an  
uncaring, miserable wretch. I see that now.  
I don't deserve to share Christmas with  
anyone.

KATRINA CHANGES THE SCENE. SCROOGE'S BED IS CENTRE STAGE AGAIN.  
SCROOGE IS STANDING AT THE FOOT OF HIS BED. KATRINA TAPS HIM ON  
THE HEAD AND SCROOGE FALLS BACK INTO BED ASLEEP. KATRINA THEN  
DISAPPEARS.

## **9. NARRATOR TRANSITION**

THE CLOCK STARTS TO CHIME. SCROOGE SUDDENLY GETS OUT OF BED AND  
PACES AROUND. THE LAST PRESENT APPEARS. IT IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM  
THE OTHER TWO. BLUE AND SILVER? SHINY? SCROOGE AND NARRATOR LOOK  
AT IT. SCROOGE REACHES OUT TO TOUCH IT BUT PULLS AWAY.

SCROOGE

I don't want it. I don't want to open it.  
Oooh! I hope that clock never reaches three.

NARRATOR

*What is Scrooge so scared of? What could it be?  
Afraid to be stuck? To never be free?  
It is hard to change. That is quite true.  
But if you say 'sorry' friends will help you.*

## **10. CHRISTMAS FUTURE**

SCROOGE

One. Two. (HE COWERS UNDER THE BEDCLOTHES) Three.

THE CLOCK STRIKES THREE. THERE IS SMOKE, WEIRD LIGHTING AND SLIGHTLY OMINOUS MUSIC. THE FINAL 'FRIEND' APPEARS IN A DRESSING GOWN WITH THE HOOD UP. IT STARTS TO DO A ROBOTIC DANCE. THE DRESSING GOWN FALLS OFF TO REVEAL ROBERT THE ROBOT (JUSTIN'S HOUSE) IN A 'VICTORIANISED' COSTUME.

ROBERT THE ROBOT

Hello Everyone!

Mr Scrooge Sir. Are you there?

HE LOOKS AROUND BUT AS SCROOGE IS HIDING UNDER A SHEET ROBERT DOESN'T SEE HIM.

SCROOGE

No.

ROBERT THE ROBOT

That's funny because I can hear you.

SCROOGE

Go away.

ROBERT THE ROBOT

But I'm here to help you Sir.

SCROOGE

I don't want any more help.

SCROOGE POKES HIS FACE OUT OF THE COVERS AND LOOKS AT ROBERT.

SCROOGE

You're silver!

ROBERT THE ROBOT

And blue! With just a dash of red.

(TWIDDLES TIE)

I'm very friendly Sir. I'm Robert: a  
butler, from the future.

HE STARTS TIDYING SCROOGE'S BEDROOM/OPENING UP THE BED CURTAINS. SCROOGE WATCHES HIM SUSPICIOUSLY.

SCROOGE

Robert. Dear Robert.  
I don't want to be mean anymore.  
I mean. What's the point of having all  
that gold if I never put it to good use?

ROBERT THE ROBERT  
I don't know sir.

SCROOGE

Me neither. How can I change? I've never  
been kind before.

ROBERT THE ROBOT

I am here to help you sir. It's good that  
you want to be kind, now you have to show  
it.

SCROOGE

But - how?

ROBERT STARTS TO FIDDLE WITH THE BUTTONS ON HIS CHEST.

SCROOGE

What are you doing?

ROBERT THE ROBOT

Firing up the old RMP1 player Sir. I think  
this requires a song!

**"THINK TWICE" SONG**

ROBERT: How do you show that you're caring?  
How do you show that you're nice?  
How do you show that you're sharing?  
Think Twice!

SCROOGE: Think Twice?

ROBERT: How do you show that you're caring?  
How do you show that you're nice?  
How do you show that you're sharing?  
Think Twice!

SCROOGE: Think Twice?

ROBERT: What do you do when a friend falls over?

SCROOGE: Leave them there on the floor?

ROBERT: (Shakes head) What do you do when a friend  
falls over?

SCROOGE: Lend them a hand, and help them to stand...?

ROBERT: *You're very quick off the mark, aren't you  
sir!*

ROBERT: How do you show that you're caring?

How do you show that you're nice?  
How do you show that you're sharing?  
Think Twice!  
SCROOGE: Think Twice?

ROBERT: What do you when a friend comes calling?  
SCROOGE: Pull a horrible face?  
ROBERT: What do you when a friend comes calling?  
SCROOGE: Give them a grin – invite them in!

ROBERT: *Now you're getting the idea, sir!*

ROBERT: How do you show that you're caring?  
How do you show that you're nice?  
How do you show that you're sharing?  
Think Twice!  
SCROOGE: Think Twice?

SCROOGE: Now I know how to be caring...  
Now I know how to be nice...

Everybody cares – and everybody shares... It's  
Christmas!

SONG ENDS, BUT THERE'S ENERGY AND MOMENTUM THAT PROPELS US INTO  
THE FINALE.

SCROOGE  
(KISSES ROBERT)  
You were the last but the best present!  
Do you know what?!

ROBERT INDICATES HE DOESN'T 'KNOW WHAT' WITH A LONG SHRUG BUT  
SCROOGE DOESN'T WAIT FOR A RESPONSE.

I'm going to throw an enormous party!  
Money...? no worries! Everyone's invited...  
Fred, my neighbours and of course Bob and  
his family. They would love to come too  
don't you think?! Come on! No time to waste.

BEFORE ROBERT CAN ANSWER SCROOGE EXITS TO CHANGE, DRAGGING ROBERT  
OFF WITH HIM.

## **11. FINALE – SCROOGE'S PARTY**

**THE BAND PLAY UNDER THE NARRATOR:**

NARRATOR  
The old 'miser' Scrooge is now a changed man.  
Your magical gifts worked according to plan!

NARRATOR ENCOURAGES THE AUDIENCE TO CHEER! NARRATOR IS GIVEN AN INVITE BY A BAND MEMBER. SHE WAVES IT EXCITEDLY. DURING THESE LINES, GUESTS (ALL CAST MEMBERS) ARRIVE ON STAGE.

NARRATOR

Scrooge sent out invites, but didn't sign his name,  
He was scared they would think it a trick or a game.  
So when those mysterious cards arrived  
Neighbours and friends were intrigued and surprised:

ALEX

"It says: 'Come to my party!' But who is  
it from?"

GEMMA

"No clues. I can't guess. They're not  
letting on."

ROBERT HAS A TRAY OF NIBBLES THAT HE OFFERS THE NARRATOR, WHICH SHE EATS HAPPILY. SCROOGE ENTERS AFTER CHANGE OF COSTUME.

**"EVERYBODY HERE LOVES CHRISTMAS" SONG STARTS (NOW: "EBENEZER SCROOGE LOVES CHRISTMAS")**

ALL THE CAST (ALL EXCEPT CRATCHITT FAMILY) ARE AT THE PARTY, HOLDING INVITATIONS AND SCROOGE CHATS TO THEM GLEEFULLY. THERE ARE SURPRISED LOOKS FROM FRED, MR AND MRS FEZZIWIG AND SPECIAL GUESTS AT THE CHANGE IN SCROOGE'S BEHAVIOUR. SWASHBUCKLE CAST AND MISTER MAKER APPEAR AND POPULATE THE STAGE WITH PARTY JOY.

ROBERT THE ROBOT

Mr Scrooge, sir! Quick! The Cratchitt's  
are coming!

**MUSIC DIES DOWN**

SCROOGE

Thank you Robert!

SCROOGE HIDES HIMSELF BEHIND PEOPLE/PROPS. THE CRATCHITT'S ENTER — THEY'RE EXCITED AND IN AWE OF THE PARTY. THEY START SAYING HELLO TO PEOPLE/ENJOYING THEMSELVES. THEY HELP THEMSELVES TO FOOD FROM ROBERT'S TRAY.

SCROOGE SNEAKS UP ON BOB AND TAPS HIM ON THE SHOULDER. BOB TURNS AND DOUBLE-TAKES, AND IS SUDDENLY TERRIFIED AT COMING FACE TO FACE WITH HIS BOSS.

SCROOGE

Bob Cratchitt!

BOB

Yes Mr Scrooge Sir!

SCROOGE

What are you doing Mr Cratchitt?

BOB

Well Mr Scrooge, I was invited to this party with all these people, and we were just having a bit of fun...

SCROOGE GESTURES TO SOME FOOD IN BOB'S HAND

SCROOGE

...and food?

BOB

And food, yes sir. I'm sorry I know you don't agree with folk enjoying Christmas but...

SCROOGE

So you're having food ... and fun ... with other people ... at my party?

BOB

Yes sir. Sorry sir. (PAUSE) I'm sorry. Did you say YOUR party?

SCROOGE

(LAUGHING)

Yes Bob – MY party!

I'm so sorry Bob, I'm so sorry to all of you for that little trick. But I promise I didn't mean to upset you. I couldn't resist seeing the look on your faces. You see. I want you to see Bob. I've changed. Mrs Cratchitt I've changed.

MRS CRATCHITT

You do look different. What could it be?

SCROOGE

This?

SCROOGE POINTS TO A BIG SMILE ON HIS FACE.

MRS CRATCHITT

Yes. That does make a big difference!

SCROOGE

Where are your children? I've got a present for them especially.

THEY ARE HIDING BEHIND THEIR MOTHER'S SKIRT. SCROOGE GIVES THEM EACH A GIFT.

BOB  
What do you say?

CRATCHITT CHILDREN  
Thank you Mr Scrooge. Happy Christmas. Happy  
Christmas everyone!

ENSEMBLE CHEER.

**THE SONG ERUPTS INTO THE WHOLE CAST SING-ALONG TO END THE SHOW.**

SNOW FALLS FROM THE SKY ON THE AUDIENCE.

AUDIENCE APPLAUSE.

NARRATOR  
That's the end everyone. My tale is told.  
Mr Scrooge came in at last from the cold.  
His heart was melted by love and by care  
No longer lonely. Scrooge now loves to share.

MORE APPLAUSE.

THE END.