

What Santa Forgot

by

Various students from various schools

Christmas should not be stressful but Santa is not  
happy. He is getting grumpier and grumpier.

His actions trigger a  
string of events that threaten Christmas.

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## Cast of Characters

CHECKER: Elf: Sleigh maintenance specialist and travel planner.

BOW: Head Elf. Can also be used as the prompt.

MANNY: Elf: Workshop maintenance manager. A little clumsy.

DOC: Elf: Medical marvel to all at the North Pole.

SANTA: Santa Claus is so busy he forgets a couple of very important things.

MRS CLAUS: Looks out for everyone at the North Pole.

CHRIS / CHRISSY: Son/Daughter of Santa. A little mischievous and upset with their father.

MISSY / DEC: Daughter/Son of Santa. A little mischievous and upset with their father.

TRACK: Elf: Trainer to all of the reindeer.

MAGS: Elf: A magical specialist which they take seriously.

ELF 1: Work conditions turn this elf evil. The leader of the evil elves.

ELF 3: Wants to be part of the gang but not sure what the evil elf thing is all about.

ELF 2: Good friends with Elf 1.

ELF 4: Know things are not right but a bit scared to go against Santa.

ELF 6: Wants to see working conditions change life Elf 1 says.

ELF 5: Wants to see working conditions change life Elf 1 says.

ELF 7: Leader of the good elves.

ELF 9: A little confused about things.

ELF 8: Best friends with Elf 7.

TD: Elf: Toy designer to the Santa and the world.

KID: Elf: A young elf in training.

RUDOLPH: A self-important reindeer that learns that everyone is important.

ACT IScene 1 Welcome to the North Pole

*Lights FADE UP on office area STAGE RIGHT.  
CHECKER is sitting at the desk working, humming  
a Christmas song when the phone rings.*

CHECKER

Hello?

(pauses, listens)

Has anyone touche it?

(pauses, listens)

No! Don't use the glitter vacuum, you'll blow it up.

(pauses, listens)

I know, I know...look just tell everyone to have an  
early lunch and I'll be down as soon as I can.

(pauses, listens)

I don't know how long. Just get everyone out of  
there.

*CHECKER hangs up the phone, continues working  
and is muttering in an angry manner to  
themselves.*

*Three elves, BOW, MANNY and DOC enter UP CENTER  
STAGE (warehouse) and move slowly DOWN STAGE.  
They do not see CHECKER and CHECKER does not  
notice them.*

BOW

How's production

MANNY

No major problems.

DOC

Things should pick up now the Elf Shakes have been  
contained.

BOW

Thank Santa for that!

MANNY

Must have been the sugar shortage that brought that  
on.

DOC

Nothing worse than an elf with low sugar levels.

BOW  
Elf disaster!

CHECKER:  
I'll say!

*BOW, MANNY and DOC jump in surprise.*

DOC  
What's up Checker?

CHECKER  
What isn't!

MANNY  
Did those spare parts arrive?

CHECKER  
Yeah, but now the tagging machine is sticking.  
Hopefully all it needs is unsticking.

BOW  
Want some help?

CHECKER  
No thanks Bow. I'm gonna teach one of the junior  
elves how to do it.

*CHECKER gathers up some paper work while talking  
to BOW and DOC, then leaves STAGE RIGHT  
(factory). While CHECKER is getting ready to  
leave MANNY notices the audience and starts  
waving to them.*

BOW and DOC walk over to MANNY talking as they go.

BOW  
What you doing Manny?

DOC  
You haven't got Elf Shakes have you?

*DOC tries to feel MANNY's forehead, MANNY  
brushes him off. BOW backs off a bit.*

MANNY  
No.

*MANNY points at the audience.*

MANNY

Look! It's them. They made it.

DOC

They sure did.

*BOW, DOC and MANNY all look at each other, nod and then step forward together. They bow one at a time, then bow all together.*

MANNY/BOW/DOC

Welcome to the North Pole!

*All three go out into the audience to greet people. They shake hands and give out lollies or candy canes.*

Option: hand out signs or things the audience will use to interact with the play.

*The phone rings and they all rush back to the stage. Manny being the one to answer the phone.*

MANNY

Hello. Workshop Manager speaking.

(pauses, listens)

Have you checked the storeroom?

(pauses, listens)

Okay, leave it with me.

(pauses, listen)

Just change the setting and I'll sort it out.

*Hangs up the phone, shrugs to the audience and the other two elves.*

DOC

More problems?

MANNY

Yip!

BOW

Want some help?

MANNY

Thanks Bow, but it'll be fine. It's a two second job.

*MANNY leaves CENTRE STAGE (warehouse), waving at the audience as they go.*

BOW and DOC wave MANNY off, then start to move towards

DOWN CENTER STAGE as they talk, lights FADE DOWN STAGE RIGHT, SPOTLIGHT DOWN CENTER STAGE as they walk.

BOW

Problems to the left, problems to the right....

DOC

...even in the middle of the night...

BOW

Glue it, stitch it...

DOC

...wrap it, fix it...

EVERYONE

That's what we do for all of you!!

*BOW and DOC take a bow.*

BOW

Life around here is really busy, but believe me when I say - WE LOVE IT!

DOC

Which is why we've invited you here today. We want to tell you a story that hasn't been told before.

BOW

It's not a secret, we just don't want it to happen again.

*BOW looks nervous, he hesitates and DOC places a hand on Bow's shoulder.*

DOC

Breathe Bow, Breathe.

*DOC stands with their hand on BOW's shoulder and they take three deep, visible breathes together.*

DOC

That's better. Do you want me to tell them?

*BOW shakes his head, straightens up, and takes another deep breathe.*

BOW

One year...Christmas...

(takes deep breathe)

Was almost...

(takes 2 deep breathes)  
 All most...  
 (takes 3 deep breathes)  
 Canceled!

*BOW visible shakes, and sobs. DOC calms BOW down.*

DOC  
 Bow's right... Christmas almost didn't happen. Not the sort of thing we want to have happen ever...

BOW  
 ...never ever...

BOW/DOC  
 Again!

DOC  
 We might not have known how bad things were if we didn't have the CCR. It's a machine that Bow here, and other elfgneers developed.

*DOC points to a machine sitting behind the desk or to the side of STAGE RIGHT. They make their way over to it was they talk. SPOTLIGHT follows them.*

DOC  
 CCR stands for Christmas Cheer Radar.

BOW  
 It measures the level of Christmas Cheer around the world. The elfgneers used elf classified technology, so I can't tell you too much...lets just say it uses serious elf magic.

DOC  
 As you can see it is sitting on Jingle Bells. Which is normal for this time of year.

BOW  
 Many thought there was no need for the CCR, but Santa said build it. So we did.

DOC  
 And it did come in handy.

BOW  
 Many, many year ago, about four weeks before Christmas...



*DOC suddenly jumps in front of BOW who tries to see passed him, DOC whispers in BOW's ear. They have a little conversation, whispering back and forth, pointing to the audience at different times.*

*They stop, look at the audience, then rush around the office looking for something. Both return with pieces of cardboard that they hold so the audience cannot see what is on them.*

BOW

Okay. Doc here, says that because Christmas so only a couple of months away we need to be careful.

DOC

We don't want to tamper with the CCR readings for this year.

BOW/DOC

Never ever Again!

BOW

We're going to need some help while we tell this strange Christmas tale.

DOC

We want your help. It's really easy.

*BOW holds up a sign that says Jingle Bells.*

DOC

If you see Bow hold up a sign, just yell out what is written on it.

BOW/DOC

Easy peasy elf sneezy!

BOW

Let's try it.

*DOC nods. They count together, then BOW holds up the sign and DOC encourages the audience.*

BOW

1, 2, 3!

*BOW holds up a sign that says Jingle Bells.*

DOC / AUDIENCE

Jingle Bells!

*BOW lowers his sign and looks at DOC.*

BOW  
No bad. But I think they can do better. Let's try again.

DOC  
1, 2, 3!

*Bow holds up a sign that says Jingle Bells.*

DOC / AUDIENCE  
Jingle Bells!

*BOW lowers his sign and looks at Doc.*

BOW  
Much better. What about this one?

DOC  
1, 2, 3!

*BOW holds up a sign that says Ho ho ho!*

DOC / AUDIENCE  
Ho ho ho!

BOW  
What about this?

*DOC holds up a sign that says Merry Christmas.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

*BOW and DOC do this until they feel the audience is loud enough.*

They both applaud the audience.

BOW  
Well done!

DOC  
Magnificent! I think you're ready.

BOW  
It's important you keep an eye out for the signs.

DOC  
Remember it is how you Will help us keep Christmas

safe.

*BOW and DOC look at each other, shake hands. BOW takes a deep breathe, bounces on the balls their feet, shakes out their hands.*

BOW

Many, many, many years ago, about 4 weeks before Christmas...

*The lights FADE OUT on the office, BOW and DOC leave the stage.*

The phone rings, and rings. Loud footsteps are heard, the lights FADE UP on the office and SANTA enters and answers the phone.

SANTA

Hello!

(pauses, listens)

How often?

(pauses, listens)

Did you try to sort it out?

(pauses, listens)

Why not?

(pauses, listens, getting annrgy)

No! I'll do it. I'll be down soon.

*SANTA hangs up the phone down and mutters to himself as he starts looking through piles of paper.*

The phone rings again. SANTA answers it.

SANTA

What!

(pauses, listens)

Call Manny or Track?

(pauses, listens)

While SANTA is listening on the phone an elf enters STAGE RIGHT (factory). SANTA holds up his hand to keep the elf quite.

SANTA

I don't care, get it done!

*Santa hangs up the phone and does not look at the elf.*

SANTA

What do you want?

*The elf gestures with their hands, waving a piece of paper about. They stutter unable to say what they want, they are too scared.*

SANTA

Get out and leave me alone!

*The elf places the paper on the desk and rushes to exit CENTER STAGE (warehouse), they collide with another elf. The first elf whispers to the second, they both look at SANTA and then tiptoe off CENTRE STAGE (warehouse). SANTA continues to work, muttering all the time to himself.*

*At the FRONT STAGE 2 elves enter pulling a Christmas tree behind them, as music starts to play. The two elves start to sing 'The twelve days of Christmas'.*

*SANTA stands and comes out from behind his desk, not happy with what he sees.*

ELF 1 / ELF 2

On the first day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

*SANTA shakes his head and returns to his desk. The first two elves set up the tree FRONT STAGE, FAR RIGHT.*

*SANTA is startled by two more elves that come into his office. They are holding pieces of paper that they give to SANTA as they sing.*

*ELF 3/ELF 4 sing their new verse, all elves on stage sing the rest of the verses.*

ELF 3 / ELF 4

On the second day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

*SANTA starts to tell them to go away when two more elves come into his office and crowd around his desk. Elf 1-2 continue to decorate the tree.*

*ELF 5/ELF 6 sing their new verse, all elves on stage sing the rest of the verses.*

ELF 5 / ELF 6

On the third day of Christmas oh Santa please give

me... 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

*SANTA starts to tell them to go away when two more elves come into his office and crowd around his desk. Elf 1-2 continue to decorate the tree.*

*ELF 7/ELF 8 sing their new verse, all elves on stage sing the rest of the verses.*

NOTE: More elves can be added to sing each verse.

ELF 7 / ELF 8

On the fourth day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 4 rolling pallets, 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

*As the elves continue to sing SANTA slips lower and lower in his chair, eventually putting his head on the desk.*

ALL ELVES

On the fifth day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 5 tonnes of glue, 4 rolling pallets, 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

ALL ELVES

On the sixth day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 6 thousand ribbons, 5 tonnes of glue, 4 rolling pallets, 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

ALL ELVES

On the seventh day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 70 thousand name tags, 6 thousand ribbon,s 5 tonnes of glue, 4 rolling pallets, 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

ALL ELVES

On the eighth day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 8 million curly bows, 70 thousand name tags, 6 thousand ribbons, 5 tonnes of glue, 4 rolling pallets, 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

ALL ELVES

On the ninth day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 9 billion candy canes, 8 million curly bows, 70 thousand name tags, 6 thousand ribbons, 5 tonnes of

glue, 4 rolling pallets, 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

ALL ELVES

On the tenth day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 10 trillion stockings, 9 billion candy canes, 8 million curly bows, 70 thousand name tags, 6 thousand ribbons, 5 tonnes of glue, 4 rolling pallets, 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

ALL ELVES

On the eleventh day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 11 zillion boxes, 10 trillion stockings, 9 billion candy canes, 8 million curly bows, 70 thousand name tags, 6 thousand ribbons, 5 tonnes of glue, 4 tonnes of wrapping, 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

ALL ELVES

On the twelfth day of Christmas oh Santa please give me... 12 gazillion labels , 11 zillion boxes, 10 trillion stockings, 9 billion candy canes, 8 million curly bows, 70 thousand name tags, 6 thousand ribbons, 5 tonnes of glue, 4 tonnes of wrapping, 3 pales of glitter, 2 extra staple guns and a hand with the staff Christmas Tree.

*The elves collapse on each other, looking exhausted. SANTA does not lift up his head until the phone rings and he answers it. His grumpy voice causes some of the elves to scatter, leaving the stage. While others are cleaning up any mess they may have made.*

SANTA

What!

(pauses, listens)

Oh! Sorry Mrs Claus.

(pauses, listens)

Yes Mrs Claus.

*SANTA hangs up. Then picks up the phone straight away.*

SANTA

Thank you Mrs Claus.

*Hangs up again and gets up to leave, notices the elves that are still cleaning up.*

SANTA

What are you all doing here?

*The elves look at each other then at SANTA. They all start to talk at once. SANTA rushes off CENTER STAGE (warehouse) and they follow him.*

*BOW enters STAGE RIGHT (factory) and checks the CCR, he talks to the audience.*

BOW

Are you all okay? Sorry what did you say?

*BOW encourages the audience to yell out a response.*

BOW

I did warn you. A grumpy Santa is not a pretty sight. Remember to keep an eye out for the signs. Be ready to yell out. See you soon.

*BOW waves goodbye and leaves the stage.*

*The lights FADE OUT on the office.*

#### Scene 2 Problems at home

*Lights FADE UP on SANTA's living room.*

*MRS CLAUS is sitting by the fire with her two children. She is knitting, the children are on the floor reading and drawing. SANTA enters STAGE LEFT looking very tired and grumbling to himself.*

MRS CLAUS

Busy day Mr Claus?

SANTA

When isn't it!

*Everyone looks at SANTA surprised by his tone of voice. The silence makes SANTA look up.*

SANTA

Sorry Mrs Claus. Sorry Chris/Chrissy and Dec/Missy. I didn't mean to be sound so grumpy.

MRS CLAUS

How about a cup of tea to warm you up? Then I'll heat up your dinner?

SANTA

What do you mean heat up my dinner?

CHRIS / CHRISSY

We've already eaten.  
(rudely)

MISSY / DEC

Like, two hours ago.  
(rudely)

MRS CLAUS and SANTA glare at the two children.

BOTH CHILDREN

Sorry.

MRS CLAUS

We know how busy you are so don't worry about it.  
I'll make you a cup of tea, then get you some dinner.

SANTA

Thank you Mrs Claus.

*MRS CLAUS exits STAGE LEFT. SANTA leans back in his chair and closes his eyes. The children look at each, not sure if they should disturb him or not.*

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Dad?

SANTA

Ummmm.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Did you see the new wrapping paper I designed? It really is quiet...

SANTA

Not now please Chris/Chrissy. I just need a little rest. Maybe later.

*SANTA does not open his eyes.*

CHRIS / CHRISSY

That's what you said a week ago.

SANTA

Sorry, what was that?

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Nothing dad.



SANTA

Ummm.

*The children went back to their reading and drawing.*

*MRS CLAUS enters STAGE LEFT with a mug of tea. Sees that he has fallen asleep, gives a big sigh when there is a light knock at the door STAGE LEFT.*

MRS CLAUS

Come in.

TRACK

Sorry to disturb you Mrs Claus.

MRS CLAUS

It's fine Track, you're not disturbing me. But you may be disturbing him.

TRACK

Oh...uummm...I don't want to wake him?

MRS CLAUS

Can I help you Track?

TRACK

It's Rudolph.

MRS CLAUS

Not again!

TRACK

I'm afraid so.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

He's almost as grumpy as dad.

DMISMISSY

Almost! They're pretty the same...

*MRS CLAUS places her hands on her hips and glares at the two children.*

MRS CLAUS

Children! That's enough!

*SANTA snores loudly and wakes himself up with a fright. He jumps to his feet, looking around him in a panic, then he sees TRACK.*

SANTA

What's wrong...what is it!

*TRACK nods but looks too scared to say anything.*

SANTA

What's happened?

MRS CLAUS

Relax dear...

SANTA

Track what is it!

TRACK

S...so...sorry to intrude Santa.

SANTA

Well too late for that isn't it.

TRACK

Sorry... but...but...but we have a problem with Rudolph. He refuses to eat the hay, he's...he's demanding carrots.

SANTA

Don't waste my time! Just give him some.

TRACK

We've run out.

SANTA

Well order some then.

*SANTA sits down again. TRACK is clearly nervous.*

TRACK

I...I...I have but...but the order won't be here for three weeks.

*SANTA jumps up again.*

SANTA

Three weeks! What does Doc's say about Rudolph's diet?

TRACK

Rudolph won't g...go on the...the diet.

SANTA

Come on, let me talk to Rudolph.

*SANTA and TRACK exit STAGE LEFT together. The family sit in silence for a few seconds.*

CHRIS / CHRISSY

I wish dad wasn't so grumpy?

MRS CLAUS

Now you know he doesn't mean it. He's just so busy and tired. Christmas will be over soon and he will be back to his usual self.

MISSY / DEC

I don't know about that. He seems worse than last year.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

And the year before that.

MISSY / DEC

I reckon.

MRS CLAUS

Well, each year does seem to get busier and busier. We just need to try and see how we can help him, make things a little easier for him.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

He won't listen!

MISSY / DEC

He never listens. Especially to us.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

We have lots of ideas, like with the wrapping machine. It would speed up the wrapping production and take the pressure off everyone.

MISSY / DEC

We made special wrapping paper, it's self sticking. It will save time and money.

MRS CLAUS

When he gets a chance to look at it, I'm sure he will see you're being helpful.

MISSY / DEC

I don't think so.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

He's just a grump!

MRS CLAUS

Your father is not doing it deliberately, he is just very, very busy.

*Both children start to talk at once.*

MRS CLAUS

Enough! I know how you feel.

(sighs)

Last week I cooked his favourite meal and he only ate half of it, then he didn't even say thank you.

*Once again the children start to talk at the same time. They do not hear SANTA enter STAGE LEFT.*

SANTA

What's all the noise about? As if I don't have enough to worry about.

MRS CLAUS

Oh nothing. The children just got a bit excited telling me about yesterday when they were over on the west slope.

SANTA

What were you doing on the west slope?

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Working with Track the Trainer.

MISSY / DEC

Remember you told us to help her with Rudolph.

SANTA

Oh...did I?

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Yes, you did!

*The two children look at MRS CLAUS, and shrug their shoulders.*

MISSY / DEC

It was really, really cold and I thought my nose was going to fall off.

SANTA

Mmmmm.

*SANTA starts to fall asleep again.*

MISSY / DEC  
Typical...never listens.

*SANTA snores and wakes himself up.*

SANTA  
(yawning)  
That reminds me, I have given our personal supply of carrots to Track for Rudolph.

CHRIS / CHRISSY  
But dad, that means we can't have carrot soup tomorrow.

MRS CLAUS  
Never mind Chris/Chrissy we'll have something different.

MISSY / DEC  
We always have carrot soup on Thursday!

MRS CLAUS  
It's only soup. We could have...

*CHRIS/CHRISSY and MISSY/DEC both start complaining about not having carrot soup. SANTA is shaking his head, MRS CLAUS is trying to quieten the children down.*

SANTA  
Too bad!  
(Pauses, quieter)  
Rudolph is too important, I can't let him starve. He needs his strength for Christmas Eve.

CHRIS / CHRISSY  
It still seems a bit unfair.

SANTA  
It's hard work flying all through the night delivering all the presents.

MISSY / DEC  
He could at least try to eat hay.

CHRIS / CHRISSY  
You make us eat our greens.

MISSY / DEC  
Even if they've gone cold.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Hey! What if you tried to heat up the hay.

MISSY / DEC

Yeah! Maybe Rudolph would...

SANTA

That's enough!

(pauses, quieter)

Can I ask you for a nice, warm cup of tea Mrs Claus?  
I didn't seem to get to drink the last one.

MRS CLAUS

Of course you can. Now have a seat and I'll be back  
in...

*There is a knock at the door. Everyone looks at  
the door.*

SANTA

Come in!

*MAGS enters STAGE LEFT.*

MAGS

Good evening Santa, Mrs Claus, Children. Sorry to  
disturb you.

MRS CLAUS

You know you are always welcome.

SANTA

What is it?

MAGS

Oh...well...I'm actually here to see Mrs Claus.

SANTA

Oh right. Fine.

*SANTA relaxes in a seat, appears to be dozing  
off. MRS CLAUS and MAGS move away of SANTA.*

MAGS

Remember you asked me to let me know if there was any  
change.

MRS CLAUS

Yes, so what...

*SANTA jumps to his feet and rushes over to where*

*MRS CLAUS and MAGS are talking.*

SANTA

Change? What change?

*MAGS is not sure if they should continue. MRS  
CLAUS nods, indicating that MAGS should tell  
SANTA.*

MAGS

Changes with the radar.

MRS CLAUS

Mags was telling me the Christmas Cheer Radar has  
been picking up interference and it has just made a  
bit of a jump.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

What kind of jump?

MISSY / DEC

Up or down?

*MRS CLAUS and MAGS look at one another then they  
both point up, at the same time, then down.*

CHRIS/CHRISSY and MISSY/DEC copy them. Then SANTA does it.

SANTA

Down!

EVERYONE

Down.

*SANTA starts to pace the floor.*

SANTA

Negative vibes must be rising around the world.

*MISSY/DEC leans over and talks quietly to  
CHRIS/CHRISSY.*

MISSY / DEC

They're not much better here.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

I know.

MISSY / DEC

Dad's always grumpy.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

What does he expect.

*SANTA is asking MAGS lots of questions and MAGS is looking scared. MRS CLAUS sends the children out of the room. They exit STAGE LEFT.*

MRS CLAUS then goes over to SANTA and tries to calm him down.

MRS CLAUS

Now don't panic I'm sure there is a simple explanation for the drop in Christmas cheer.

SANTA

In my experience nothing is simple. Mags! How are the magic...

MRS CLAUS

We...ummm...well we thought that maybe it could be coming from somewhere closer to home?

SANTA

Not that elf union again is it?

MAGS

No...maybe...actually...it could have...

SANTA

Check the magic counter on the radar and attach the dust zapper.

*MRS CLAUS and MAGS look at each other and shrug their shoulders.*

MAGS

Maybe you should think listen to what Mrs Claus has to say.

SANTA

Just do it and don't disturb me again tonight!

*MAGS looks over their shoulder at the door as they speak. The heads of the other elves appear.*

MAGS

But Santa I really think...

SANTA

Just do it!



MAGS

Arh....Ummm...I will...

MRS CLAUS

Oh dear.

*CHECKER, TRACK, MANNY, DOC, BOW and TD tumble into the room STAGE LEFT. They slowly get up brushing themselves off, straightening each others clothes.*

SANTA

What is the meaning of this?

*SANTA steps towards the elves, they back away pushing each other forward, eventually MANNY is pushed forward. MANNY looks back at the other elves, they all nod.*

MANNY

There... there are things we need to discuss. Ummm...  
If...if you have time Santa.

*The other elves all nod in agreement.*

SANTA

Well I don't have time!

MRS CLAUS

Why don't we all...

SANTA

Get out of my house and let me get some rest.

*All the elves look at each other and turn to leave. MRS CLAUS starts to talk to SANTA as they are leaving.*

MRS CLAUS

I know you're busy but you should...

SANTA

Busy! Busy is an understatement!

*CHECKER turns back and as they speak the other elves stop.*

CHECKER

Some of the elves are not happy.

*MANNY steps up to stand beside CHECKER.*

MANNY

Things need to change!

*The elves all gasp.*

SANTA

Change? Not Happy? Bow are you part of this?

BOW

Not really Santa. Just passing by. I'm going to the office.

*SANTA watches BOW walk passed him into the office space, which slowly lights FADE UP.*

*MRS CLAUS does her best to calm everyone down, while SANTA appears to get more agitated.*

MRS CLAUS

Can I get anyone something to drink?

*All of the elves shake their heads.*

MRS CLAUS

Something to eat?

*All of the elves shake their heads.*

MRS CLAUS

Right then, if you're all sure. Everyone make yourself at home and find a seat.

*The elves all thank MRS CLAUS and start moving around the place changing seats, pushing pass SANTA, who is standing center stage just watching, but looking angry.*

SANTA

Stop!

*All THE elves and MRS CLAUS freeze. Nobody looks at SANTA.*

SANTA

Move! Now! Over there!

*SANTA points to a spot STAGE LEFT and everyone starts to move to it, even MRS CLAUS.*

SANTA

Not you Mrs Claus. Them!

*MRS CLAUS moves to sit on the sofa by herself. The elves say nothing just stare at SANTA, they are standing in a group. He gives a big sigh.*

SANTA

What's the problem?

*All of the elves start to talk at once, as they slowly move forward. SANTA is edged back into his seat, he finally places his head in his hands. The lights FADE DOWN, across the entire STAGE .*

### Scene 3 Evil plotting

*At the same time as the evil elves, 3 GOOD ELVES sneak on, up on stage, from UP CENTER STAGE (warehouse) to DOWN CENTER STAGE. They carry on and hide behind a cardboard bush, or a twig off a tree. They move, stop, then move a little more until they make it to CENTER STAGE, where they listen to the EVIL ELVES plans.*

*A spotlight FADES UP FRONT OF STAGE, a group of six EVIL ELVES sneak on. ( The number of elves can be made to suit your numbers.) 2 from one side, 4 from the other, the bump into each other, then cause a fuss trying to calm each other down.*

*They meet CENTER STAGE.*

ELF 1

Holey Holly Spikes!! SSHHHHH!

*All Elves freeze.*

ELF 1

Do you want everyone to hear us?

*The other elves all shake their heads, looking around.*

ELF 1

Right then! Who's got it?

ELF 3

Got what?

*ELF 1 looks around nervously, the others look to see what they were looking at.*

ELF 1  
It!

ELF 2  
Yeah it!

*All ELVES nod, except ELF 3 who shrugs. ELF 4 holds up a candy cane.*

ELF 4  
Do you mean this?

*The other elves all shake their heads.*

ELF 6  
I don't think so.

ELF 4  
Oh.

ELF 1  
Right then! As I said before, who's got it?

ELF 3  
Is this it?

*ELF 3 holds up a roll of paper. ELF 1 snatches it.*

ELF 5  
Now what?

ELF 4  
We have to get it signed by every elf at the North Pole.

*The other elves all gasp and shake their heads.*

ELF 6  
Smashing Snowballs!

ELF 1 / ELF 2 / ELF 3 / ELF 4 / ELF 5  
Shhhhh!

ELF 1  
First, we need to find a non elf to pledge the petition.

ELF 2  
Who's going to do that?

ELF 5  
Everyone loves Santa.

ELF 6  
Nobody will want to get rid of him.

ELF 3  
Anyway, if we fire Santa who will take his place?  
*All the ELVES look around nervously, then to ELF 1.*

ELF 1  
I don't know! But he has to go. I've aged 50 years this year. I no longer feel a spritely 406!

ELF 6  
You look good for 406.

ELF 1  
Thanks. It's the new snow lotion I've been using.

ELF 6  
Oohh! Sounds good. Where did you get it?

ELF 5  
Who cares!

ELF 4  
The kids.  
*All ELVES look at ELF 4.*

ALL ELVES  
What kids?

ELF 4  
Chris/Chrissy and Dec/Missy.

ELF 1  
Of course! They're not happy at the moment.

ELF 6  
Jolly Jumpers!

ELF 3 / ELF 2  
Perfect!

ELF 4 / ELF 5  
We're in!

ELF 3  
Do you think they'll do it?

ELF 1  
I'll try and talk to them. You lot start gathering support.

*The ELVES are all shaking hands when MANNY steps onto the stage from STAGE LEFT and yells at the elves huddled together.*

*The GOOD ELVES watch the EVIL ELVES leave, then move out from behind their hiding place.*

ELF 7  
Did you hear that?

ELF 9  
Why didn't they invite us?

ELF 8  
Because we're not evil.

ELF 9  
We're not?

*ELF 7 and ELF 8 shake their heads and shrug.*

ELF 8  
(sighs)  
What are we going to do?

ELF 9  
About what?

*ELF 7 and ELF 8 hit ELF 9 over the head.*

ELF 7  
We should tell Santa!

ELF 8  
But he may think we started it.

ELF 9  
He's so grumpy, he scares me...I'd rather join that lot.

*ELF 9 points in the direction the EVIL ELVES went.*

ELF 8  
Really?

ELF 9  
Really.

ELF 7  
Maybe we should tell Mrs Claus.

ELF 8  
Good idea. But we need to wait for the right moment.  
Like when Santa isn't around.

*The GOOD ELVES fumble about as they hide behind their props and start to move off stage. MANNY enters STAGE RIGHT.*

MANNY  
Hey, you lot! Get back to work.

*The GOOD ELVES get a fright and rush off stage in different directions. Including through the audience. The spotlight FADE OUT.*

Scene 4 Meeting time

*Lights FADE UP on living room and office.*

*BOW is sitting at the desk working. The ELVES are arranged in a neat order, some sitting on the sofa, others standing behind them. MANNY is standing to the side of them. MRS CLAUS is sitting in a chair by herself, she keeps looking at her watch.*

*SANTA enters and hands MANNY a clipboard.*

SANTA  
Call the roll!

MANNY  
Yes Santa.

*MANNY coughs to clear their throat.*

MANNY  
Apologies. Bow, due to over work can not attend the...

*SANTA stops pacing and looks at MANNY, who does not finish his sentence, but starts the role.*

*MANNY coughs to clear their throat again.*

MANNY

Manny...workshop manager to the busiest production team in the world.

*MANNY stands with pen poised, looks around, shakes their head.*

MANNY

Ummm .. late. Doc...medical marvel and carer for all at the North Pole.

DOC

Present!

MANNY

Track...trainer and caretaker of all Reindeer at the North Pole.

TRACK

Parcel!

MANNY

Checker...maintenance specialist and travel planner to Santa.

CHECKER

Gift!

MANNY

Mags...Magical expert for things magical at the North Pole.

MAGS

Dovana!

*Everyone including SANTA look at MAGS.*

MAGS

What? It means gift in Lithuanian.

*EVERYONE nods and smiles. MANNY goes back to his list.*

MANNY

TD...Toy Designer extraordinary for all children around the world.

TD

Surprise!



*EVERYONE including SANTA look at TD.*

TD

All presents should be a surprise.

*They all nod and smile. MANNY goes back to his list.*

MANNY

Manny...workshop manager to the busiest production team in the world.

*MANNY stands looking and waiting for a reply. EVERYONE including SANTA look at MANNY. They all point to Manny, who turns to look at what they are pointing at.*

*While EVERYONE is focused on MANNY the CHRIS/CHRISY and DEC/MISSY sneak in and hide.*

*TD goes and whispers in MANNY'S ear.*

*MANNY turns and coughs.*

MANNY

Oops that's me. Present!

*They all nod and smile. All except SANTA.*

SANTA

Things need to change! We need to work harder. Elf production is down!

MAGS

Elf production is down because...

SANTA

No excuses...they need to work harder.

MAGS

But Santa surely you can see a link between your gumpiness and...

SANTA

What did you say?

*SANTA has stopped pacing and is pointing at MAGS. The elves standing around MAGS lean away.*

*The CCR dips a bit.*

*BOW stands and raises a "Jingle Bells" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Jingle Bells!

*SANTA does not budge. BOW's lifts up the "Jingle Bells" card again.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Jingle Bells!

*SANTA spins around and looks at the audience. He glares at them and places his hands on his hips.*

*BOW lifts up the "Jingle Bells" card again.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Jingle Bells!

SANTA  
Who are you! What are you doing here!

*BOW lifts up the "Ho, ho, ho!" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Ho, ho, ho!

SANTA  
That's my line and don't you forget it!

*BOW lifts up the "Merry Christmas!" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

*MRS CLAUS comes forward as the audience yells out.*

SANTA  
Maybe not this year!

*The ELVES gasp and MRS CLAUS indicates for the audience to be quiet, she then places her arm around SANTA and tries to get him back to the meeting.*

MRS CLAUS  
Now, now Santa. Don't worry about them, there are more important things to think about.

SANTA

Yes there is Mrs Claus.

MRS CLAUS

And why don't you let me and the head elves...

SANTA

More important than attending this meeting. I need to be going, I can't sit around here all day like some of you obviously do!

MRS CLAUS

Santa! That's not fair, you know that everyone works very hard.

SANTA

Really!

MRS CLAUS

Really!

ALL ELVES

Yes really!

SANTA

Then why is toy production down?

TD

That's because...

SANTA

Excuses!

TD

No, it's just that...

SANTA

What's the excuse in the wrapping department?

CHECKER

There's a problem...

SANTA

Excuses!

CHECKER

No, it's just that...

SANTA

Is there a magical shortage or something?

MAGS  
Someone's causing...

SANTA  
Excuses!

MAGS  
No, it's just that...

*During this DOC has moved to talk to MRS CLAUS  
and then slowly comes up to SANTA.*

SANTA  
Is there another Elf Epidemic Doc?

DOC  
No, just a very stressed out Santa! Now calm down  
and...

SANTA  
Calm down! How can I calm down! There are to many  
problems at the North Pole...

*The CCR slips again and BOW holds up the "Merry  
Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

*SANTA turns on the audience when they yell out.*

SANTA  
And them! Whoever they are demanding a Merry  
Christmas.

*BOW holds up the "Ho, ho, ho" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Ho, ho, ho!

SANTA  
I told you that was my line!

DOC  
Your blood pressure must be through the roof Santa,  
you need...

SANTA  
I need you to leave me alone and for everyone else to  
do their jobs.

*BOW holds up the "Jingle bells" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Jingle Bells!

SANTA  
And for you to be quiet!

*BOW holds up the "Ho, ho, ho" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Ho, ho, ho!

SANTA  
Don't you lot listen...that is mine line! Not yours!

*As the audience quietens down, ELF 7 runs on stage gasping for air. They go straight to MANNY.*

*When MANNY yells what, everyone looks at them and ELF 7 .*

MANNY  
What!

ELF 7  
An accident.

MANNY  
What kind of accident.

ELF 7  
It's horrible...I...I...couldn't stand to look at it.

*ELF 8 and an ELF called KID enter holding a stretcher. On the stretcher is an over wrapped, dented present with lots of tape on it.*

EVERYONE gasps then crowds round, while DOC rushes to get his bag.

DOC  
Out of the way everyone, give it some air.

*DOC kneels down and opens their bag. They take out a stethoscope and testS that the present is breathing.*

SANTA  
What do you think Doc?

*DOC does not answer but continues to test the presents condition.*

CHECKER

Have you ever seen this before Doc?

*DOC does not answer but continues to test the presents condition.*

MAGS

What's the cause Doc?

*DOC does not answer but continues to test the presents condition.*

TRACK

Can you save it Doc?

*DOC does not answer but continues to test the presents condition. EVERYONE is looking worried.*

DOC shakes their head.

DOC

We're too late.

EVERYONE

Gasp!

DOC

Death by...over wrapping.

*Some ELVES start to sob.*

DOC

Excessive sellotaping has caused... paper crinkling... and trauma tearing.

*Everyone is now sobbing or consoling each other over the loss of the present.*

DOC

Luckily it's not contagious.

*Some ELVES seem relieved to hear this. Most are still in shock. TRACK has moved closer to the elf KID.*

TRACK

Were there others?

KID  
No.

*CHECKER moves closer to KID*

CHECKER  
Did you see it happen?

KID  
No.

*TD moves closer to KID.*

TD  
Did you do it?

KID  
No!

*SANTA pushed forward and takes Kid by the ear.*

SANTA  
This is all your fault!

KID  
No! Ow...your hurting me.

*CHRIS/CHRISSEY and DEC/MISSY come out of hiding and try to sneak away, but keep stopping or hiding again. Everyone is focused on KID, but KID sees them.*

MRS CLAUS  
Give Kid a chance to explain. I'm sure there is a reasonable explanation.

SANTA  
Yes...Kid did it!

KID  
No! It...It wasn't me...

*KID looks at each ELF in horror as they close in home them. MRS CLAUS shakes her head and returns to her seat and her knitting.*

TRACK  
Are you sure?

MANNY  
Don't lie to us.

MAGS  
Christmas may depend on it.

DOC  
The presents will depend on it.

CHECKER  
Be honest.

TD  
Hurry up!

*BOW holds up the "Jingle Bell" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Jingle bells!

KID  
(to the audience)  
Not you too!

SANTA  
Well?

*KID looks around at everyone who has closed in on them and continuing to question them. KID crawls out from underneath them all and points at CHRIS/CHRISSEY and DEC/MISSY.*

KID  
It was them!

*Everyone looks up in surprise and turns to where KID is pointing. MRS CLAUS gasps, but remains seated.*

MRS CLAUS  
Chris/Chrissy, Dec/Missy?

KID  
I ... I saw them. They were there, they...they were near the wrapping machine.

SANTA  
Everybody out! Now!

*All of the ELVES start to race around, trying to get out of SANTA's way.*

The CCR dips and BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" sign. EVERYBODY on stage freezes as the audience yells.



BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

*SANTA turns on the audience.*

SANTA  
This is not the time!

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" sign again.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

SANTA  
Not at this rate. Now please stop...

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" sign again.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

SANTA  
I don't have time for this right now.

*SANTA turns from the audience to the ELVES, who have been encouraging the audience to yell louder each time. Some of them look guilty.*

SANTA  
Kid! Go with Track. Stay in the barn with the reindeer, listen to nobody but Track.

*SANTA points of CENTER STAGE(Warehouse). TRACK and KID exit CENTER STAGE. SANTA watches them leave, the other ELVES start to whisper but stop when SANTA starts to talk. CHRIS/CHRISSEY and DEC/MISSY have started to leave and stop when SANTA starts to talk, they slowly turn around to face SANTA.*

SANTA  
Stop right there!

CHRIS / CHRISSEY  
We...we were just trying to help.

DEC / MISSY  
We tried to...to tell you...

SANTA  
Bed! Now!

BOTH CHILDREN  
But dad!

SANTA  
Go!

*SANTA points STAGE LEFT. The children hang their heads and exit STAGE LEFT. Everyone watches them leave, then MRS CLAUS starts helping the remaining ELVES leave. Some leave STAGE RIGHT, some STAGE LEFT, some CENTER STAGE. MRS CLAUS has a quiet chat with MANNY and MAGS before they leave. SANTA slumps into a chair.*

Lights FADE OUT on the living room and the office. A DESK LAMP is switched on at BOW's desk, where BOW is sitting working.

Scene 5 More evil plotting

While the EVIL ELVES are sneaking on, the GOOD ELVES 7, 8 and 9, on, up on stage, from UP CENTER STAGE to DOWN CENTER STAGE. They are hiding behind a cardboard bush, or a twig off a tree. They move, stop, then move a little more until they make it to CENTER STAGE, where they listen to the EVIL ELVES plans.

A spotlight FADES UP FRONT of STAGE. EVIL PLOTTING ELF 5 and ELF 2 sneak into the spotlight.

ELF 5  
Where are the others?

ELF 2  
I don't know.

ELF 5  
Why are they always late?

ELF 2  
Ring them.

*ELF 2 digs around in the pocket of the apron or a bag and pulls out an oversized phone. ELF 5 looks around nervously while ELF 2 rings the other ELVES.*

ELF 2  
Where are you?  
(pauses, listens)  
Same place as before.

(pauses, listens)

ELF 2 and ELF 5 are looking STAGE RIGHT when ELF 3 and ELF 6 enter STAGE LEFT, walking backwards. ELF 3 is talking on another oversized phone. The elves do not see each other.

ELF 3 and ELF 2 meet CENTER STAGE, standing right next to each other, not looking at each other, while still talking on the phone. The other elves stand with their arms folded and just watch them.

ELF 3  
We're here.

ELF 2  
Did you hear the news?

ELF 3  
Crunchie Candy Canes who hasn't!

ELF 2  
We have to change our plans.

ELF 3  
Why?

*ELF 5 and ELF 6, turn ELF 2 and ELF 3 around, they seemed shocked to see each other then laugh.*

ELF 3 / EELF 2  
Blinding Blizzards!

ELF 5  
Look, we've got problems.

ELF 2  
I know. We can't get near the kids.

ELF 5  
Santa has got them locked up tight.

ELF 6  
Which means we don't have anyone to pledge the petition.

ELF 3  
So what are we gonna do?

ELF 6  
Plan B.

ALL ELVES  
No!

ELF 3  
We...we can't!

ELF 2 / ELF 6  
Not plan B!

ELF 5  
The last time Black Magic was used...and it wasn't even at the North Pole. Things went wrong...very wrong.

ELF 6  
Where's ...

ELF 3  
Starting plan B.

*The CCR dips and BOW holds up the "Ho, ho, ho" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Ho, ho, ho!

*The ELVES huddle close together and freeze, when it is quiet they look around.*

ELF 6  
W...w...what was that?

ELF 3  
It's started.

ELF 2  
B...bbb...black...m...magic.

ELF 5  
Don't be silly, sounded more like a pack of.....donkeys!

ELF 6  
But we don't have donkeys at the North Pole.

ELF 5  
Don't panic. If Black Magic is used....

*The CCR dips again and BOW holds up the "Ho, ho, ho" card again.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Ho, ho, ho!

*The ELVES huddle even closes together and freeze, when it is quiet they look around.*

ELF 6  
There it is again!

ELF 2  
It's Santa! He knows!

ELF 3  
I'm out of here.

ELF 2  
Me too!

*ELF 2 and 3 dash off STAGE LEFT.*

ELF 6  
Those two are as useless as a bow on an empty box.  
I'll make inquiries about you know what.

ELF 5  
I'll let the others know. We can't keep working these  
ridiculously hours, all work and no play make elves  
evil.

ELF 6  
It breaks my heart but the grumpy Santa has got to  
go.

*They high five and exit STAGE RIGHT. When the  
EVIL ELVES have gone, the GOOD ELVES come out  
from their hiding places.*

ELF 9  
What's black magic?

ELF 7  
Evil magic...

ELF 8  
...from the South Pole.

*While ELF 7 and ELF 8 are talking ELF 9 is  
visibly thinking.*

ELF 7  
Santa could be in real danger.

ELF 8  
We need to tell someone.

ELF 7  
What about Mags?

ELF 9  
Hey, isn't it white at the South Pole, like it is here? So...ummm, shouldn't it be called White Magic?

*ELF 7 and ELF 8 shake their heads and hit ELF 9 over the head. While rubbing their head ELF 9 sees BOW.*

ELF 9  
We could tell Bow...who's just over there.

*ELF 9 points at BOW who is in the office space. Then starts to walk over to BOW. The other two ELVES stop ELF 9.*

ELF 8  
Shhh. He's an elf too, he may be in on it.

ELF 9  
Am I in on it? I'm an elf.

ELF 7  
Got it! Mrs Claus!

ELF 8  
Of course. We could try talking to her while she's doing the cabin inspections.

ELF 9  
Cabin inspection! I gotta go my cabin is a real mess. I can't afford to get anymore demerit points.

*ELF 9 runs off STAGE LEFT. ELF 7 and ELF 8 shake their heads.*

ELF 7  
I'll meet you later and we'll try to talk with Mrs Claus.

*ELF 7 exits STAGE LEFT. ELF 8 exits STAGE RIGHT.*

*Spotlight FADES OUT. BOW's stands and turns of his desk light before exiting STAGE RIGHT.*

ACT IIscene 6 Something's missing

*Lights FADE UP on the living room.*

*BOW sits at his desk with the LAMP ON.*

*CHRIS/CHRISSEY walks in with a duster and other cleaning equipment, sneezing and coughing.*

DEC / MISSY  
Yuck!

CHRIS / CHRISSEY  
Is that to me or the floor?

DEC / MISSY  
Both.

CHRIS / CHRISSEY  
Thanks a million. It's not all my fault we're stuck doing the housework.

DEC / MISSY  
No it's dad's fault.

CHRIS / CHRISSEY  
Don't let mum hear you say that or she'll have you clean out Rotten Rudolph's stable.

DEC / MISSY  
Gross! He's got orange poo from all the carrots he eats.

CHRIS / CHRISSEY  
I know. Orange poo with bits of hay in it.

DEC / MISSY  
You're disgusting! I don't want to think about Rudolph's poo or anything Rudolph for that matter. I really don't like that reindeer.

CHRIS / CHRISSEY  
Me too! I'm sure this cold I've got is Rudolph's fault.  
(coughs)  
If he hadn't kept pushing me into the snow bank I wouldn't have got so wet, and got this cold.  
(sneezes)  
It's not fair.

DEC / MISSY

What are we gonna do Chris/Chrissy?

*MRS CLAUS walks on saying her line.*

MRS CLAUS

Finished you chores?

DEC / MISSY

I've finished in here.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Me too.

*MRS CLAUS walks around the room, checking it is clean.*

MRS CLAUS

Not bad. Punishment over.

BOTH CHILDREN

Yes!

MRS CLAUS

I am very disappointed in you both and I know your father is also.

*Both children have their heads down when CHRIS/CHRISSY lets out a big sneeze.*

MRS CLAUS

Oh dear!

*MRS CLAUS checks CHRIS/CHRISSY's temperature.*

MRS CLAUS

Off with you both. Put that cleaning stuff away, wash your hands and then come and relax by the warm fire.

BOTH CHILDREN

Yes mum.

*Both children exit STAGE LEFT. Manny knocks, then sticks their head out to check if SANTA is about.*

MANNY

Is he here?

MRS CLAUS

It's all clear.



MANNY

Great!

*MANNY, CHECKER, TRACK, MAGS, DOC and TD enter CENTER STAGE. MANNY is carrying a clipboard.*

MRS CLAUS

Give me that and let's see what needs to be done.

*MANNY gives MRS CLAUS the clipboard. MRS CLAUS starts pacing across the stage, the ELVES follow her. When she stops, they stop, some banging into each other. This continues while she is talking.*

MRS CLAUS

Has the wrapping machine been fixed?

CHECKER

Yes Mrs Claus.

MRS CLAUS

Good. How is Rudolph behaving?

TRACK

Okay Mrs Claus.

DOC

Though he does not like the new diet.

MRS CLAUS

To Bad, just make sure he sticks to it. Is there any truth about an elf revolt? The North Pole couldn't stand up to it at the moment.

MANNY

I have one possible suspect, but nothing else.

MRS CLAUS

Keep that elf contained.

MANNY

Yes Mrs Claus.

MRS CLAUS

TD what's happening in your department?

TD

Communications have improved and I changed the shift times.

MRS CLAUS  
Good thinking.

TD  
Thank you Mrs Claus.

*MRS CLAUS stops, turns to face the ELVES, who  
all bang into each other.*

MRS CLAUS  
Now remember, don't let Santa know about our  
meetings. He's a little touchy at the moment.

DOC  
I am concerned about his stress levels.

TRACK  
And the CCR levels.

*They all look at the CCR.*

MRS CLAUS  
We all are, which is why we need to help Santa, by  
doing it uncover.

DOC  
Mrs Claus is right. If Santa knew we were doing all  
these things without consulting him it just might tip  
him over the edge.

MRS CLAUS  
And we can't have that, can we.

DOC  
No we can't, Santa and Christmas just might not  
survive.

MRS CLAUS  
Off you go, things to do, so do the things you have  
to do.

*MRS CLAUS gives MANNY the clipboard and they all  
leave. She stares out into the audience.*

MRS CLAUS  
Oh,  
(sighs)  
I do hope everything will be alright. I know in my  
heart that Santa does not mean to be grumpy, with  
everyone. If I could only get him to ask for a little  
bit of help, things would once again be more fun.

With smiles and laughter and with the knowledge we were all in this together. How could Santa forget that we are all here to help him, to help each other. How could Santa forget, that a smile and a kind word, can make others feel good. How can Santa forget that please and thank you, are magic words.

*MRS CLAUS shakes her head and sighs again. She exits STAGE LEFT*

*Lights FADE OUT on the living room and office.*

*Lights FADE UP, DOWN CENTER STAGE.*

*A group of ELVES enter UP CENTER STAGE (warehouse) ready for work. Two or three elves push a large heavy box to DOWN CENTER STAGE. The elves gather around it. They take out a toy from the box, pretend to do something to it and then either throw it out into the audience or place it in a gift bag (these can be brought on and placed in front of the large box. Gift bags can be taken out into the audience after the song or just packed up and taken off stage.)*

*As the ELVES work they sing to the tune of Jingle Bells.*

ALL ELVES

Work all day, work all day, No time to play. Got to make lots of toys cause Chrissy's on the way - Hey!  
 Work all day, work all day, No time to play. Got to make lots of toys cause Chrissy's on the way - Hey!  
 Nail it, paint it so, a thousand toys a day, no time to go slow. Lots of work on it's way Wrapping, taping bows, to fill up Santa's sleigh, around the world he goes leaving presents on the way - Hey! Work all day, work all day, No time to play. Got to make lots of toys cause Chrissy's on the way - Hey! Work all day, work all day, No time to play. Got to make lots of toys cause Chrissy's on the way - Hey!

*ELVES pack up and exit CENTER STAGE singing the song again.*

*Lights FADE OUT, DOWN CENTER STAGE.*

*Lights FADE UP Santa's living room.*

*DEC/MISSY is lying on the sofa reading a book. CHRIS/CHRISY is sitting by the fire wrapped in*

*a blanket and a thermometer in their mouth.*

*MRS CLAUS enters STAGE LEFT, carrying a hot drink.*

MRS CLAUS

Here you go Chris/Chrissy. A nice lemon drink to warm you up and sooth that sore throat.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Thanks mum.

MRS CLAUS

Dec/Missy get your feet of the sofa.

DEC / MISSY

Sorry mum.

*MRS CLAUS gets her knitting and sits next to DEC/MISSY.*

*Running is heard off stage, then KID rushes on STAGE LEFT out of breath.*

*MRS CLAUS jumps up, the children listen with interest.*

MRS CLAUS

Kid! What in the North Pole is the matter?

KID

S...San...Santa...I need Santa!

MRS CLAUS

He's not here Kid. Can I help you?

KID

It's Rudolph.

*Both children become disinterested when Rudolph is mentioned.*

MRS CLAUS

What has that silly reindeer done now?

KID

He's got...

*TRACK enters STAGE LEFT with DOC and RUDOLPH. RUDOLPH looks very sorry for himself.*

DOC

Sorry Mrs Claus but we thought Santa might be here.

MRS CLAUS

Kid go look in the Snow Globe factory. He said something about going down there this morning.

KID

Yes Mrs Claus. Right away Mrs Claus.

*KID rushes off, exit CENTER STAGE but runs into SANTA just outside the door. A commotion can be heard on stage. SANTA enters CENTER STAGE, dragging Kid by the ear.*

SANTA

What are you doing here. I told you...

*SANTA notices RUDOLPH, TRACK and DOC. TRACK still has their arm around RUDOLPH.*

SANTA

What's the matter. Rudolph are you okay?

DOC

Don't panic Santa. Rudolph is fine, he just has a little cold and we thought you should know.

SANTA

A cold!

DOC

We're going...

SANTA

This is disastrous!

TRACK

Honestly Santa, it's not big deal.

*SANTA goes into a panic and does all the following things while he speaks. He guides RUDOLPH closer to the fire, taking CHRIS/CHRISSEY's drink and blanket and giving it to RUDOLPH then sitting him in CHRIS/CHRISSEY's seat, they end up on the floor.*

SANTA

No big deal. Are you mad! Without Rudolph there will be no Christmas. How can you say no big deal. Here, have a drink Rudolph. Is that better with a blanket.

Sit here next to the fire.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

But dad! I'm sick too.

*SANTA pays no attention to CHRIS/CHRISSY,  
continues to fuss over RUDOLPH.*

MRS CLAUS goes to CHRIS/CHRISSY, helps them up and guides them to the sofa.

SANTA

Mrs Claus give me that pillow for Rudolph.

*MRS CLAUS passes SANTA a pillow from the sofa,  
she does not look happy.*

DOC

Calm down Santa. This is not necessary.

SANTA

I'll decide what is necessary. You!

*SANTA points at KID.*

KID

Me?

SANTA

Yes you! Stay here, the rest of you can go. Rudolph needs his rest.

*DOC starts to protest, SANTA lifts his hand to stop DOC. DOC exits CENTER STAGE.*

*TRACK goes to check on RUDOLPH, SANTA shoos them away. TRACK exits CENTER STAGE. The same thing happens with Track.*

*MRS CLAUS tries to talk to SANTA, he lifts his hand to stop MRS CLAUS. MRS CLAUS and the children exit STAGE LEFT.*

*KID is standing by themselves, looking very scared.*

SANTA

I want you to stand guard here.

KID

Here?

SANTA

Yes. All night.

KID

Here, all night?

SANTA

Do not let anyone in and if they do get in do not let them out.

KID

All night? In and out?

SANTA

All night! By yourself.

KID

By myself?

SANTA

By yourself!

KID

All night, by myself?

SANTA

Yes! All night, by yourself!

*KID goes to speak, SANTA lifts up his hand to stop KID*

SANTA

And before you ask...All night, by yourself, here...in my house.

*KID just nods. SANTA checks RUDOLPH, who is lying down in front of the fireplace sleeping.*

SANTA glares at KID.

BOW holds up the "Jingle Bells" card.

BOW / AUDIENCE

Jingle bells!

SANTA

That's enough of your noise too! Rudolph needs his rest.

*SANTA storms off, exit STAGE LEFT.*

*KID sits on the floor, CENTER STAGE, muttering SANTA's orders to themselves. KID does not see the children.*

*CHRIS/CHRISSY and DEC/MISSY sneak on STAGE LEFT, hiding from KID.*

CHRIS / CHRISSY  
It'll be easy.

DEC / MISSY  
Are you sure?

CHRIS / CHRISSY  
Look, that stupid reindeer has...

DEC / MISSY  
I know Rudolph has been a stuck up poodle and I'd like nothing more than to teach him...

CHRIS / CHRISSY  
...and dad...

DEC / MISSY  
Yeah and dad...a lesson. But, well Kid... will get the blame and that's not fair.

CHRIS / CHRISSY  
Was dad fair? And what about how Rudolph has treated us. Nothing is fair around here anymore.

DEC / MISSY  
Nothing.

CHRIS / CHRISSY  
We'll come back later. Kid's bound to fall asleep. Stupid Elf.

DEC / MISSY  
Yeah! Stupid Elf.

*CHRIS/CHRISSY and DEC/MISSY exit CENTER STAGE(warehouse).*

*BOW is still sitting at the desk with the DESK LAMP ON.*

*KID jumps up as the children leave and looks around the stage as if they have heard a noise. Then KID starts muttering quietly about staying awake and tries different things to do this.*



*Holding eyes open wide, star jumps, singing and dancing etc.*

*KID suddenly notices the audience and freezes. Then walks slowly to DOWN CENTER STAGE.*

KID

What are you doing here? You shouldn't be here, if Santa catches you he'll be so angry. Go on, get out! Go!

*KID starts to walk back to where RUDOLPH is sleeping, then rushes back to DOWN CENTER STAGE.*

KID

No, Stop! I...I...I can't let you leave.  
(starts pacing and panicking)  
Santa said if someone got in, not to let them leave.

*The CCR dips and BOW holds up the 'Merry Christmas' card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Merry Christmas!

KID

SShhhhh! Merry Christmas to you too, but can you whisper it as not to wake Rudolph, or Santa?

*KID counts and BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

KID

1, 2, 3, Merry Christmas.  
(whispering loudly)  
Not so loud...oh never mind I'm doomed anyway. Thanks for trying to cheer me up, a Merry Christmas generally helps.

*KID sits in silence for a bit, then starts to get all excited. KID does a lot of jumping around before they actually say anything.*

KID

That's it! Help! You can help me! I mean, since you're here and I can't let you leave you might as well make yourself useful. You can help me have a little elf nap. Santa had me help Track clean out all the stables, wash the reindeer, brush the reindeer, feed the reindeer...basically you name it, I've had to do it. So I'm am monstrously elf tired!

*KID yawns and stretches and starts to fall asleep where they are. Then suddenly wakes up.*

KID

So if you could keep watch while I have a little sleep, that would be amazing. I probably won't even be able to sleep, but just in case you could yell out if you see anyone. Would you do that for me?

*KID appeals to the audience, getting them to answer with a loud yes.*

KID

Thanks! If you see someone you could...ummm...yell out...

*KID gets different ideas, but changes their mind and does not say it.*

KID

Got it! You could yell out my name. Kid! That's me.

*KID starts to yawn and stretch, while making a bed out of pillows from the sofa, on the floor CENTER STAGE. KID makes a big fuss about settling down to sleep.*

*BOW helps lead the audience in yelling out.*

*CHRIS/CHRISSEY and DEC/MISSY sneak on, STAGE LEFT. The AUDIENCE yell out.*

*Both children hide as KID wakes up and looks around. KID does not see the children and goes back to sleep. This process is repeated three or four times. Finally KID does not wake up to the yelling and the children get to RUDOLPH and steal the nose.*

*As the children are leaving, CHRIS/CHRISSEY stands on DEC/MISSY's foot making them yell out and for KID to wake up.*

KID

Stop!

*CHRIS/CHRISSEY, DEC/MISSY freeze. They pass the nose between them before one of them hides the nose behind their back.*

KID  
What are you two doing here?

CHRIS / CHRISSEY  
We live here.

KID  
Oh Yeah, so you do. I guess that's okay then.

DEC / MISSY  
Night then?

KID  
Night.

*KID waves goodnight, starts to settle down again. The two children stare at each, amazed at their good fortune and then quickly exit, STAGE LEFT.*

*Lights FADE OUT and the DESK LAMP is SWITCHED OFF. BOW exits STAGE RIGHT.*

*Loud snoring can be heard from RUDOLPH and KID.*

*Lights FADE UP on Santa's living room.*

*RUDOLPH and KID are both asleep. RUDOLPH is sleeping with their butt sticking up in the air. KID has rolled to DOWN CENTER STAGE, one arm and one leg hanging over the edge of the stage.*

*MRS CLAUS enters STAGE LEFT, saying her line and moving over to check on RUDOLPH.*

MRS CLAUS  
Morning Rudolph. Rise and shine. How are you feeling today?

*MRS CLAUS kneels over RUDOLPH. She staggers back with a scream, and starts to panic.*

*SANTA rushes in. KID does not wake up, just moves a bit and mumbles.*

SANTA  
What! What's the matter?

*MRS CLAUS cannot speak due to her shock. SANTA looks at her and laughs.*

SANTA

Oh dear, another Snow spider is it Mrs Claus. Show me where it is and I'll take the tiny terror away for you.

*SANTA goes to MRS CLAUS, she is desperately trying to tell him what she has discovered.*

MRS CLAUS

N...n....no....no....nose!

SANTA

No? It's not a Snow spider?

*MRS CLAUS is too shocked to get out what she needs to say. She shakes her head at SANTA. SANTA looks confused.*

SANTA

Yes, it is a Snow spider?

*MRS CLAUS shakes her head again. SANTA is still confused.*

MRS CLAUS

No! Nose!

SANTA

I know I don't know, you're not making sense.

*MRS CLAUS takes a big breathe, points a shaky finger at Rudolph.*

MRS CLAUS

Ru...Rudo...Rudolph's nose is gone.

*SANTA rushes to RULDOPH, who is now fully awake and searching around where they slept for the nose.*

*KID is now wide awake, sitting on the edge of the stage and gesturing to the audience asking why they did not wake them up.*

SANTA

Sound the alarm!

*MRS CLAUS rushes to the telephone. The office phone rings, BOW enters STAGE RIGHT, SWITCHES ON the DESK LAMP, answers the telephone.*

BOW

Hello?

(pauses, listens)

Right away Mrs Claus.

*SANTA has been helping RUDOLPH look for then nose, he now sits RUDOPLH by the fireplace. MRS CLAUS sits on the other side of RUDOLPH.*

*BOW starts to make the siren noise, pause, then do it again. BOW continues to do this while the following action happens.*

*ELVES arrive from different directions, they all look at RUDOPLH on entering and react with shock and despair. DOC arrives and starts to check RUDOLPH's condition. KID tries to get a look at RUDOLPH, but cannot get near, so goes back to sitting on the edge of the stage. KID sits with their head in their hands. CHRIS/CHRISY and DEC/MISSY sneak on and stay a little hidden, out of everyone's way.*

*The EVIL ELVES sneak pass BOW as the siren is sounding. They huddle together at the edge of the living room space, whispering and pointing. They look happy.*

*BOW stops making the siren sound. He moves from the office to SANTA's living room. When BOW encounters the EVIL ELVES he sends them away. THEY exit STAGE RIGHT, high fiving as they go. Everyone is focused on RUDOLPH so do not see them do this.*

*Everyone is talking and pointing/looking at RUDOPLH. This stops when SANTA pushes through them and goes to stand behind KID, DOWN CENTER STAGE. SANTA stands over KID, with his hands on his hips, facing the audience.*

*KID slowly sits up straight, talks to the audience.*

KID

There's someone behind me, isn't there?

*KID acknowledges the correct answers from the audience.*

KID

It's Santa, isn't it?

*KID acknowledges the correct answers from the audience.*

KID

Does he look mad?

*KID acknowledges the correct answers from the audience.*

*KID does not look at SANTA, remains looking at the audience.*

KID

Morning Santa.

SANTA

This is ALL your fault!

*MRS CLAUS moves to SANTA's side, tries to calm him down. SANTA brushes her off.*

*As SANTA and KID talk the other elves create a semi circle around them. RUDOLPH is between DOC and TRACK.*

KID

But I didn't take...

SANTA

Who did I ask to look after Rudolph?

KID

Me.

SANTA

Who fell asleep?

KID

Me.

SANTA

Who wasn't watching Rudolph why they were asleep?

KID

Me.

*BOW sneaks back to the office to check the CCR.*

SANTA

Who let them in?

*SANTA points to the audience.*

KID

Me.

*BOW holds up the "Jingle bells" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Jingle Bells!

*SANTA looks to the audience.*

SANTA

Not now you lot! You're...

*BOW holds up the "Jingle bells" card as SANTA is talking.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Jingle Bells!

*SANTA is angry. He looks at the audience and then at BOW and shakes his head. SANTA pulls Kid to his feet.*

SANTA

Where is it? Where is the nose?

KID

I don't know. I didn't take it.

SANTA

Well who did?

*KID shrugs.*

KID

What's the big deal anyway, it's only a nose.

EVERYONE

Gasp!

SANTA

Only a nose!

CHECKER

It is so much more than just a nose.

RUDOLPH

It's my nose.

TD

Without it, Christmas is a good as...cancelled.

EVERYONE

Gasp!

*SANTA stumbles back, MRS CLAUS and DOC help SANTA to a seat.*

MRS CLAUS

Now, now. Let's not over react.

KID

Yeah good idea.

*The elves close in on KID as they speak.*

MANNY

You don't get it do you?

*KID shrugs. CHIS/CHRISSY and DEC/MISSY enter, STAGE LEFT unnoticed.*

KID

What's to get?

MAGS

It's all about the magic.

KID

We still have Santa. He's magic!

CHECKER

What have you been doing in class, not listening obviously.

TD

You're right, Santa is magic.

MAGS

But, when he's away from the North Pole his magic is weakened.

MANNY

Rudolph's nose strengthens his magic.

TD

It makes the load lighter.



TRACK

The reindeer go faster.

CHECKER

The sled go higher.

MAGS

The magic, magical.

MANNY

Rudolph's nose is like Santa's link to the North Pole.

TD

It is so important.

*SANTA jumps up and pushes through the elves that are surrounding KID.*

SANTA

You have ruined everything. No where is it?

*SANTA stands over Kid, who has backed away from him, but bumps into the elves behind them. MRS CLAUS stands and shoos ELVES away, she puts her arm around KID.*

MRS CLAUS

That's enough, all of you.

*SANTA goes to say something and MRS CLAUS glares at him. He backs down.*

MRS CLAUS

Kid, go and sit by Rudolph.

*Everyone watches KID, RUDOLPH moves away from them when they sit down.*

MRS CLAUS

Santa, how are we going to solve the problem?

*SANTA thinks for a minute.*

SANTA

We need to...  
(thinking)

we should...  
(thinking)

we must...  
(thinking)

find the nose. Everyone search! Go, Go. There is no time to waste.

*There is lots of commotion and moving around the stage, CHRIS/CHRISSEY and DEC/MISSY hid behind the sofa, they peer over the back of it to see what is happening. SANTA calls a stop to everything.*

SANTA  
Stop!

*EVERYBODY ON STAGE freezes.*

SANTA  
I'll do it myself. Want a job done well...do it yourself!

*They all watch SANTA storm off, STAGE LEFT.*

*CHRIS/CHRISSEY and DEC/MISSY are still hiding behind the sofa.*

*MRS CLAUS steps CENTER STAGE and takes charge.*

*As an elf's name is called, they step forward, listen then exit in different directions. The children remain hidden behind the sofa, nobody notices them.*

MRS CLAUS  
Right everyone, listen up. Track. Search the stables, barns and send a party out to the training fields.

TRACK  
Got it!

*TRACK exits STAGE RIGHT.*

MRS CLAUS  
Checker. Make sure the maintenance shed and each of the garages are searched.

CHECKER  
On it!

*CHECKER exits CENTER LEFT.*

MRS CLAUS  
Manny. Every workshop and all the wrapping stations need to be cleaned, checked and okayed by you.

MANNY

Doing it!

*MANNY exits CENTER STAGE.*

MRS CLAUS

TD. No desk, corner or cabinet should remain untouched.

TD

We'll find it!

*TD exits STAGE RIGHT.*

MRS CLAUS

Mags. You need to find a potion that will strengthen Santa's magic. If we don't find the nose, he's going to need it.

MAGS

Magic it!

*MAGS exits STAGE LEFT.*

MRS CLAUS

Doc. Even the surgery needs to be searched.

DOC

Searching it!

*DOC exits CENTER STAGE.*

MRS CLAUS

Bow. Have you got any leads on that group of naughty plotting elves?

BOW

Yes.

MRS CLAUS

Good. Follow them up. They could have something to do with this. We need to catch them before they cause any more harm.

*BOW exits STAGE RIGHT. He SWITCHES OFF the DESK LAMP as he passes the desk.*

MRS CLAUS

Kid. I want you to guard Rudolph.

KID

Me!

MRS CLAUS

Yes, you. I know you can take good care of him. Take him into the spare room and stay with him. Don't let anyone in, except Doc and Myself.

KID

Yes Mrs Claus.

*KID and RUDOLPH exit STAGE LEFT.*

MRS CLAUS talks to the audience.

MRS CLAUS

I'm going to turn this house inside out, upside down and round about, then back again. If we don't find Rudolph's nose I hope Mags can find the magic.

*MRS CLAUS exits STAGE LEFT and the two children slowly come out from their hiding place. They move to DOWN CENTER STAGE, checking that they are alone. They talk quietly as they move.*

DEC / MISSY

I...I....I'm scared Chris/Chrissy.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

It'll be okay...I think.

DEC / MISSY

We have to give it back.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

We can't...they'll know it was us and we'll be in mega trouble.

DEC / MISSY

I don't care, I just want this to be over. I want...

CHRIS / CHRISSY

I know. Me too.

DEC / MISSY

We could just leave it in here somewhere.

*They both look around the room.*

CHRIS / CHRISSY

I've got it. Come on.

*They both quietly exit CENTER STAGE. Lights FADE DOWN.*

Scene 7 Extra evil plotting

*Noises can be heard down the front of the stage, NO lights are on. The EVIL ELVES are stumbling around in the dark, trying to be quiet but failing.*

*ELF 1, ELF 5 and ELF 3 come from FRONT of STAGE RIGHT. ELF 2, ELF 4 and ELF 6 come from FRONT of STAGE LEFT. The conversation starts just before they reach each other FRONT CENTER STAGE.*

- ELF 1  
Have you seen Rudolph?
- ELF 4  
No.
- ELF 3  
I can't believe someone has done our job for us!
- ELF 5  
BUT I don't want to lose my job...
- ELF 2  
Look, I reckon we should join the search. If we find it, we can decide what to do with it.
- ELF 6  
We could hold it for ransom!
- ELF 5  
For candy canes.
- ELF 3  
Sliding Snowdrifts! We'd never have to work again!
- ELF 4  
Does this mean Plan B is on hold.
- ELF 2  
Of course it is!
- ELF 1  
Just do as Mrs Claus asks and say nothing.

*BOW enters STAGE RIGHT, as MANNY enters CENTER STAGE (warehouse). They both have torches that*

*they shine around the stage and down onto the EVIL ELVES.*

ELF 6  
But I thought we were going too...

ELF 5  
Not yet. We should wait and see what happens.

BOW  
Hey you lot!

MANNY  
What you doing down there?.

*The EVIL ELVES bump into each other in a panic, then split into two groups and run away. BOW and MANNY chase after the EVIL ELVES.*

*Elf 7, ELF 8 and ELF 9 who have crept on earlier behind BOW and hid behind the office desk, now come out when BOW and MANNY run off. ELF 8 SWITCHES ON the DESK LAMP, they stay by the desk.*

ELF 9  
Is Bow playing tag? I like tag.

ELF 7  
Not now! I know about the nose.

ELF 9  
We all know it's missing.

ELF 7  
I know who took it.

ELF 8 / ELF 9  
Who?

ELF 7  
That lot!

ELF 8  
How do you know?

ELF 7  
It's obvious. You heard them.

*ELF 9 and ELF 8 look at ELF 7, very confused.*

ELF 9  
Ummm...yeah.

ELF 7  
They said...say nothing about the nose that we have stolen.

ELF 8  
Did they?

ELF 7  
Yes they did.

ELF 8 / ELF 9  
Oh.

ELF 7  
Come on, time to be a hero.

ELF 9  
Like superman.

*ELF 9 flies off CENTER STAGE like superman.*

*ELF 7 AND ELF 8 shake their heads and exit STAGE RIGHT. ELF 8 SWITCHES OFF the DESK LAMP as they leave.*

#### Scene 8 Find the magic

*Lights FADE UP on the living room space as SANTA enters STAGE LEFT studying a map of the world. He is followed by MAGS who is carrying some bottles of magic potion. MAGS is wearing a shoulder bag with other magic stuff in it.*

MAGS  
Try this one Santa.

SANTA  
Will it taste as bad as the last one?

MAGS  
Arh...I don't think so.

*SANTA takes the bottle, drinks it, waits. MAGS watches SANTA closely, walks around SANTA.*

SANTA  
How do I know if it's worked?

MAGS

Your beard will tingle.

*SANTA wiggles his chin, then shakes his head.*

SANTA

No! Nothing!

*MAGS rummages through their magic bag as they speak.*

MAGS

Oh. Well, what about this one. It will make your belly wobble.

*SANTA doesn't look to pleased, but tries it, wiggles his belly about.*

SANTA

No! Nothing!

*MAGS rummages through their magic bag again as they speak.*

MAGS

What about this one. It will make your knees knock.

*SANTA sighs loudly, but tries it, wiggles his legs.*

SANTA

No! Nothing!

*MAGS rummages through their magic bag again as they speak.*

MAGS

Well Ummm...what about this one...

*SANTA holds up his hand, and Mags stops rummaging in the magic bag.*

SANTA

No! Enough!

*MAGS throws some glitter at SANTA, making him cough.*

SANTA

No more!



MAGS

Wait! I've got a different colour glitter to try.

SANTA

No!

SANTA exits CENTER STAGE. Mags mutters to themself, gets a book out, starts looking through it.

MAGS

Magic is not an exact science, it's...well...it's...magic. Understanding Quantum Physics is easy peasy...but not magic. But somehow this problem simply needs a NOSE! Rudolph's nose.

*MAGS sits on the edge of the stage, quietly flicking through the book.*

MAGS

Maybe I need to approach this problem differently.

*Mags rummages in their bag and brings out a hat, which they put on.*

MAGS

Something to keep the brain warm.

*Mags rummages in their bag and brings out a magnify glass, which they use to look at the audience through.*

MAGS

Something to see things more clearly. To get a closer look at the problem.

*Mags rummages in their bag and brings out a mustache, which they put on.*

MAGS

Something to help me think differently...like someone else.

*MAGS stands and talks. Also pacing the stage, while using the magnify glass as if searching for something.*

MAGS

Unhappy elves, a naughty Rudolph, unhappy children and a grumpy Santa. This is either Black Magic or Christmas Espionage! I need to investigate.

*BOW enters STAGE RIGHT just as Mags is leaving.*

BOW

Mags? Is that you?

MAGS

Mags. 007 Mags, magical spy.

BOW

Okay...You look a little like Sherlock Holmes to me.

MAGS

This case is going to need them too!

*Mags exits STAGE LEFT and BOW laughs. BOW SWITCHES ON the DESK LAMP then makes a telephone call at his desk.*

BOW

Manny?

*(pauses, listens)*

Have the workshops been cleared?

*(pauses, listens)*

Could you let Mags know.

*(pauses, listens)*

I caught one but they swear they know nothing about the nose job.

*(pauses, listens)*

Maybe. Mrs Claus had them searching the attic.

*BOW hangs up the telephone, SWITCHES OFF the DESK LAMP and exits STAGE RIGHT.*

*Lights are still ON in the living room.*

*CHECKER, TRACK and TD enter STAGE LEFT carrying or pushing boxes. They talk while searching through boxes.*

*At various times they throw things into the audience.*

TRACK

I hope this is the last of it.

CHECKER

It's gotta be.

TD

Good, my back is killing me. I'm a toy designer not...

CHECKER

Stop whinging and look! None of us are enjoying this,  
but the nose has got to be found.

*They continue to look and talk, they find some  
strange items in the boxes.*

*None of them notice MAGS enter STAGE  
LEFT, searching with the magnify glass.*

TRACK

Whose stuff is this? I'm mean really...who'd wear  
this?

CHECKER

Santa?

TRACK

Arh, right.

TD

Some of this should have been thrown out years ago.

CHECKER

Definitely.

TD

What's this?

*All three elves laugh. They get a fright when  
they hear MAGS request.*

MAGS

Hold that up again!

CHECKER

Mags?

MAGS

Mags, 007 Mags. Now hold that up again.

*TD does as MAGS asks. MAGS examines the object,  
takes out a small bag and places some sort of  
evidence in it from the object.*

MAGS

Thanks. Carry on chaps. Or should that be, carry on  
elves.

*MAGS exits CENTER STAGE, examining more things  
as they leave. The others watch MAGS leave,*

*looking confused.*

TD

What was that about?

TRACK

Who knows. Probably some kind of magical stuff?

CHECKER

Come on let's get to the bottom of these boxes.

*All three start searching again as they hum a song, singing the odd word here and there. Still throwing things out into the audience as they search.*

*Looking up TRACK thinks they notice something that one of the other elves has thrown out into the audience.*

TRACK

What was that?

CHECKER

What was what?

TRACK

If I knew I wouldn't be asking. Whatever it was went over there?

*TRACK is looking out into the audience while the other two are trying to figure out what is happening.*

TD

What went over there?

CHECKER

Over where?

TD

Over there?

CHECKER

Or over there?

TD

Over where?

TRACK

It was it!

TD  
What was it?

CHECKER  
Was it It?

*All three look at each other, then out into the audience. Then they all speak together.*

TRACK / TD / CHECKER  
The Nose!

TD  
I'll call Manny and Bow.

*TD calls on his phone, while the other two rush into the audience.*

*TD joins them, then so does MANNY and BOW all searching through the audience. CHECKER will have the nose hidden on them, at a designated time they hold it up yelling, and they all make their way back to the stage. They all crowd around looking at the very precious cargo.*

CHECKER  
Cracking Crackers, we found it!

BOW  
Brilliant!

TD  
Christmas is saved!

MANNY  
Bonza Bows! I'll go get Santa.

*MANNY exits CENTER STAGE.*

BOW  
I'll go call Doc.

*BOW enters the office, SWITCHES ON the DESK LAMP, makes his telephone call, checks the CCR, gives the audience the thumbs up. BOW sits at his desk working.*

MAGS enters the living room STAGE LEFT.

TD  
Christmas is saved!

MAGS  
Maybe...maybe not.

CHECKER  
What! Why?

MAGS  
Magic is a funny thing and who knows what will happen when the nose goes back on. If it goes back on at all.

TD  
But its Rudolph's nose. It should fit.

MAGS  
Magic theory says always be prepared for magical disasters.

*CHECKER still has the nose cupped in their hands. CHECKER and TD start to talk at once, asking MAGS to explain what they mean.*

*SANTA and MRS CLAUS enter with MANNY CENTER STAGE.*

SANTA  
Where is it?

TD  
Checker has it. We thought...

*SANTA goes to take the nose, MAGS stops him.*

MAGS  
Don't touch it!

SANTA  
Where's Rudolph?

*TRACK and RUDOLPH enter STAGE LEFT.*

TRACK  
Right here Santa. We thought...

SANTA  
Mags, stick it on!

*MAGS seems unsure. CHECKER offers MAGS the nose, MAGS holds up their hands not wanting to touch it.*

MAGS

I think you should do it Santa for uummmm...magical reasons.

*CHECKER offers SANTA the nose who does not take it. CHECKER behaves as if the nose is getting heavier.*

SANTA

As I keep saying, need a job done...DO IT YOURSELF!

*BOW holds up the "Jingle bells" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Jingle Bells!

*SANTA faces the audience.*

SANTA

What's the problem now? No, don't bother telling me, just keep quiet.

*SANTA turns to CHECKER and indicates that he wants the nose. CHECKER looks at MAGS and then MRS CLAUS. They both nod in turn.*

*SANTA hesitates, suddenly putting his hands behind his back.*

*RUDOLPH is starting to get impatient.*

SANTA

Mags you should do it. This is a magical emergency, we need you.

*The CCR goes up a bit.*

*BOW holds up the "Ho, ho, ho" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Ho, ho, ho!

SANTA

Even they agree.

MAGS

Okay, only if you're sure Santa.

SANTA

I'm Christmas sure.

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

SANTA  
Their Christmas sure too.

*CHECKER carefully passes the nose to MAGS, it is nearly dropped and everyone gasps. MAGS then presents the nose to DOC.*

MAGS  
Can you check the sniff levels please Doc.

*DOC starts to examine the nose, RUDOLPH is hovering around him.*

RUDOLPH  
Can we speed this up?

DOC  
All in good time.

RUDOLPH  
I feel a little naked without me nose.

DOC  
You don't want to wear someone else nose do you? With someone else's sniffs.

RUDOLPH  
Yuck! No thanks.

DOC  
Well, be patient.

RUDOLPH  
I need my nose!

*BOW holds up the "Jingle bells" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Jingle bells!

*BOW holds up the "Jingle bells" card again.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Jingle bells!



RUDOLPH

Don't you yell at me! Have you ever lost a nose....I bet you haven't.

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Merry Christmas!

RUDOLPH

My nose is too important..more important than you.

*SANTA is standing with RUDOLPH as they both face the audience.*

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Merry Christmas!

RUDOLPH

Not without my nose it won't be.

SANTA

That's what I tried to tell them before.

DOC

It's ready!

RUDOLPH / SANTA

About time!

*SANTA and RUDOLPH glare at the audience, then go back to the group. SANTA pushes RUDOLPH towards MAGS CENTER STAGE.*

*SANTA is standing behind RUDOLPH and everyone else standing behind MAGS. CHRIS/CHRISSEY and DEC/MISSY sneak on behind all the elves and crouch behind the sofa. Nobody pays any attention to them.*

*MAGS hesitates, then makes a big show of removing the disguise, placing it in the magic bag, then trying to put the nose back on. When it is on MAGS backs away and RUDOLPH stands up straight. He soon starts to jump, as if trying to fly. Then suddenly RUDOLPH starts stamping their feet.*

RUDOLPH

It doesn't work! Why's it not working. You broke my nose!

*RUDOLPH points at MAGS. SANTA moves forward to examine the nose. Some of the elves start to panic.*

SANTA

Mags, what's wrong with it? Doc?

*DOC shakes their head and checks RUDOLPH's temperature.*

MAGS

I was scared this might happen.

MRS CLAUS

Has it spread Mags?

MAGS

Yes.

SANTA

What are you talking about? Can you fix Rudolph's nose or not?

MAGS

Sorry Santa but...

SANTA

Sorry!

RUDOLPH

Sorry!

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Merry Christmas!

SANTA

Mrs Claus will you get rid of these noisy elves.

MRS CLAUS

Sorry Santa but...

SANTA

Sorry! You're sorry!

*While this was happening RUDOLPH has slumped to*

*the floor, KID goes and comforts RUDOLPH.*

*BOW holds up the "Jingle bells" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Jingle bells!

SANTA  
Will someone keep those noisy elves out of here.

*SANTA is pacing the floor again, MRS CLAUS is trying to talk with him, get him to listen. This continues while BOW and the other elves are helping the audience yell out what is on the cards BOW holds up.*

BOW holds up the "Ho, ho, ho" card.

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Ho, ho, ho!

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

*SANTA stops CENTER STAGE.*

SANTA  
Enough! I don't have time to listen to you or to you Mrs Claus.

EVERYONE  
Gasp!

MRS CLAUS  
Santa! You need to listen.

ALL ELVES  
Please listen!

MRS CLAUS  
We need you...

SANTA  
You all need to stop! I've never had such rude elves. Christmas is going to be ruined if Rudolph's nose is not fixed.

*SANTA is ranting, waving his arms around.*

*CHECKER whispers to MANNY, who whispers to TRACK, who whispers to TD. The nod all at once then face SANTA.*

CHECKER  
Santa!

*SANTA stops and stares at the elves.*

MANNY  
Stop!

TRACK  
Being!

TD  
Grumpy!

*SANTA turns on the audience, really angry, points at them.*

SANTA  
This is your fault.

MRS CLAUS  
No it's not their fault.

SANTA  
What did you say?

MRS CLAUS  
It's not their fault.

CHECKER  
You need to...

*SANTA stops and stares at the elves.*

MANNY  
Stop!

TRACK  
Being!

TD  
Grumpy!

*SANTA looks at MRS CLAUS, points at himself. MRS CLAUS nods her head in agreement. SANTA looks at the elves who nod in agreement.*

SANTA  
Have I really been grumpy?

EVERYONE  
Yes!

SANTA  
A little grumpy, or a lot?

EVERYONE  
A lot!

SANTA  
A lot?

EVERYONE  
A lot!

TD  
We know you're busy, but you stopped letting us help you.

TRACK  
It's our job to help you Santa, but you wouldn't let us.

DOC  
Your stress levels went up and Christmas Cheer went down.

SANTA  
You mean...

*Everyone looks at the CCR, which has gone up a little bit more.*

Santa points at the CCR.

SANTA  
That was my fault?

MRS CLAUS  
Yes dear.

SANTA  
It wasn't dust?

MAGS  
No.

*BOW holds up the "HO, HO, HO" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Ho, ho, ho!

*SANTA looks at the audience, BOW and back to everyone else.*

SANTA  
Now I get it.

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

SANTA  
Merry Christmas!

*BOW holds up the "Ho, ho, ho" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Ho. Ho Ho!

SANTA  
Ho, ho, ho!

*BOW holds up the "HO, HO, HO" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Ho. Ho Ho!

SANTA  
Ho, ho, ho! I must say that does feel better.

MRS CLAUS  
Welcome back Santa.

SANTA  
Mrs Claus can you ever forgive me? You work so hard making sure everyone, including me, are happy and well fed.

MRS CLAUS  
Already forgiven Santa.

SANTA  
And you, my many elf friends. How would anything get done if we did not work together. Forgive me for forgetting the importance of teamwork and friendship.

*SANTA looks around all the elves, shakes hands with some.*

*BOW holds up the "Jingle bells" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Jingle bells!

SANTA  
Jingle bells! Thank you to you all. Together we will lift Christmas Cheer.

MAGS  
Actually, there is something else.

SANTA  
And what might that be Magical Mags?

*RUDOLPH jumps up from his sulking.*

RUDOLPH  
(moaning)  
My nose still doesn't work.

MAGS  
Well, there is that and I think I know...

RUDOLPH  
Then fix it Magic elf! Now!

*MAGS goes to speak but SANTA steps in.*

SANTA  
Rudolph is that the way to talk to Mags, or Track or any of the elves?

RUDOLPH  
But Santa, my nose.

SANTA  
I have a feeling your nose will regain its magic, if you show some Christmas Cheer.

RUDOLPH  
But Santa, Christmas is nothing without me.

SANTA  
Nobody is that important. Not even me.

RUDOLPH  
But Santa you said that I was too important to get sick and you gave me all the carrots. Plus...

SANTA

You are important. We are all important, because without each and everyone of us, Christmas would not be Christmas.

RUDOLPH

But Santa...

SANTA

Do you design, make, wrap and test the toys?

RUDOLPH

No.

SANTA

Do you maintain the sleigh?

RUDOLPH

No.

SANTA

Do you cook, clean and help care for everyone at the North Pole?

RUDOLPH

No.

SANTA

Nobody is the most important person. We all need each other to get the job done.

RUDOLPH

Sorry Santa.

SANTA

Thank you Rudolph. Now that didn't hurt did it?

*RUDOLPH shakes his head. The CCR goes up a little more.*

SANTA

Anything else Rudolph?

RUDOLPH

I guess.

SANTA

Go on then.

*RUDOLPH scuffs their feet on the ground, looking a little scared.*



RUDOLPH

Sorry, Track for not listening to you and annoying the other reindeer.

TRACK

Thanks Rudolph.

RUDOLPH

Sorry, Doc for not following the diet. It was probably me making the sleigh heavier.

DOC

Thanks Rudolph.

RUDOLPH

Sorry, Checker trying to rearrange the travel plans for Christmas eve.

CHECKER

Thanks Rudolph.

RUDOLPH

Sorry, TD for complaining about the weight of the toys and trying to change the designs.

TD

Thanks Rudolph.

RUDOLPH

Sorry, Manny for interfering with the wrapping machine.

MANNY

Thanks Rudolph.

*They all look at the CCR, it is nearly right up. Everyone starts to get excited, except MAGS, who is looking thoughtful.*

EVERYONE (NOT MAGS)

You did it!

KID

See it wasn't me.

*RUDOLPH shakes his head and gets down on his knees facing the audience.*

RUDOLPH

Please forgive me everyone. I didn't mean to cause so much trouble. Losing my nose has taught me a big

lesson.

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas.

RUDOLPH  
Merry Christmas.

*RUDOLPH jumps up, visibly making their legs tremble.*

RUDOLPH  
I think it's working...my legs are starting to tingle. How will I know if my magic is beginning to mingle?

*DOC and MAGS look at each other and laugh.*

DOC  
When you start to talk in rhymes.

TRACK  
Oh no. I really haven't miss that.

RUDOLPH  
It's back. It's back. I'm ready to hit the track.  
*Everyone is starting to get excited. MAGS is still looking like something is not right.*

SANTA  
We all need to remember, to give Christmas cheer, to receive Christmas cheer.

*SANTA looks over at the CCR.*

SANTA  
How's it looking Bow?

BOW  
Good Santa, but it seems to be stuck, it won't go any higher.

CHECKER  
Any ideas Mags?

*MAGS pulls out a hat, mustache from their bag, putting them on again. This time MAGS also has a notebook and a pencil.*

MAGS

Kid?

KID

It wasn't me.

*MAGS does a big tick in the notebook.*

MAGS

I know. Rudolph?

RUDOLPH

I haven't done anything else.

*MAGS does another big tick in the notebook.*

MAGS

I know.

SANTA

Mags?

MAGS

Just call me Mags, 007 Mags.

*The others laugh nervously at Mags, who pays no attention.*

MRS CLAUS

What have you discovered Mags. I mean, 007 Mags.

*MAGS consults the notebook as they talk.*

MAGS

The stealing of the nose had nothing to do with Christmas Cheer. It is an unrelated event that has made things magically worse.

KID

It wasn't me.

EVERYONE

We know.

CHECKER

Any ideas on who or why.

*The two children now decide it is time to leave.*

MAGS

Ask them!

*MAGS points at the two children, who freeze on the spot. When they hear MRS CLAUS say their names they turn to face everyone. The elves move around behind them to stop them from leaving.*

MRS CLAUS  
Chris/Chrissy! Dec/Missy!

SANTA  
Why should we ask them?

*The two children hang their heads in shame. KID gets excited as they realise something.*

KID  
Was that what you were doing the other night?  
Stealing Rudolph's nose!

EVERYONE  
Gasp!

MRS CLAUS  
No.

SANTA  
My own children.

*MRS CLAUS starts to sob, SANTA consoles her.*

CHRIS / CHRISSY  
We...we didn't mean to...to ruin christmas. We  
just...just...

SANTA  
...wanted me to listen to you.

*Both children nod.*

DEC / MISSY  
We wanted to help. That was why we were working on  
the wrapping machine. Chris/Chrissy invented new  
self-gluing wrapping paper and we just wanted to  
help... but we...

SANTA  
...wanted me to listen to you.

*Both children nod.*

SANTA  
Sorry to you both. I know you want to help and I

would like nothing more.

RUDOLPH

So why did you steal my nose.

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Sorry Rudolph, we got annoyed with you because Santa seemed to think you were more important.

DEC / MISSY

He wouldn't listen to us, and he gave you all of our carrots.

SANTA

I think we both need to apologise.

*Before they can say anything, BOW holds up the "Jingle bells" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Jingle Bells!

*Everyone on stage look at each other, then reply in unison.*

EVERYONE

Jingle Bells!

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Merry Christmas!

EVERYONE

Merry Christmas!

SANTA

Ho, ho, ho!

*BOW holds up the "Ho, ho, ho" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE

Ho, ho, ho!

*Everyone on stage looks at the CCR which has gone up a lot.*

MAGS

How do you feel Rudolph?

RUDOLPH

It may not show, but I feel it's beginning to grow.

TRACK

Must you talk in rhyme?

DOC

That's how it works every time.

*TRACK groans, the others laugh. MANNY and CHECKER exit CENTER STAGE.*

TRACK

I suppose I'll have to get use to it.

MAGS

Exaggaly!

TD

What?

MAGS

It's magic for exactly.

BOW

One more push and Christmas will be back on track.

*As BOW is talking MANNY and CHECKER escort the EVIL ELVES and the GOOD ELVES in.*

*The EVIL ELVES, ELF 1, ELF 2, ELF 3, ELF 4, ELF 5, ELF 6, are led on by CHECKER from STAGE LEFT, FRONT of STAGE.*

*The GOOD ELVES, ELF 7, ELF 8, ELF 9, are led on by MANNY from STAGE RIGHT, FRONT of STAGE.*

*BOW moves to DOWN CENTER STAGE to talk to the elves.*

BOW

Who's, who Manny?

MANNY

These three helped us with our investigations.

SANTA

What investigations?

MRS CLAUS

Your grumpiness seemed to have casued more than just

the CCR dropping.

SANTA  
Oh.

MRS CLAUS  
Let Bow deal with. He has it all under control.

BOW  
Are these the elves?

*BOW points to the EVIL ELVES. The GOOD ELVES nod their heads, ELF 9 starts to wave at them, ELF 7 and 8 stop them.*

BOW  
Thank you.

ELF 9  
You're welcome.

*MANNY waves them away. SANTA and MRS CLAUS wave to them, or shake hands with them, thanking them for their help. The GOOD ELVES exit STAGE RIGHT.*

The EVIL ELVES whisper to each other while this is happening. They jump apart as they hear BOW speak.

BOW  
Right you lot, what have you got to say for yourselves?

*The elves hang their heads and shuffle their feet. Finally ELF 3 looks up.*

ELF 3  
Okay, I'll go first. I'd like one of those hat warmers. You know the ones that...

ELF 4  
Oooo, I like them. What about...

ELF 1  
I don't think he means, 'What do you want for Christmas.'

ELF 2  
I think he wants to know what we've been doing.

ELF 3  
Oh. Well yesterday I stayed home because I wasn't

feeling well...

ELF 4

Yes you did, and the day before that we had that secret meeting didn't we...

ELF 1 / ELF 2 / ELF 5 / ELF 6 /  
ELF 7

SSSHHHHHH!

CHECKER

Do I need to remind you of the ELF Code?

EVIL ELVES

No.

*The EVIL ELVES all hang their heads again, some nudging another as if urging them to speak.*

ELF 1

We're sorry Santa for thinking you didn't care...

ELF 5

...and trying to...to...umm...get...get...umm. . rid of you.

EVERYONE

Gasp!

ELF 3

It was only because you were...

*All of the EVIL ELVES turn their backs on the audience and start talking all at once. They are still FRONT of STAGE, huddled together in front of where SANTA is standing on stage.*

*BOW coughs loudly, MANNY and CHECKER move in a break them apart. The EVIL ELVES slowly quieten down and go back to standing in a line, facing the audience, hanging their heads.*

ELF 4

All of us should have worked a little harder...

ELF 5

...tried a little harder...



ELF 6  
...smiled a little more...

ELF 2  
...shared a little more...

ELF 3  
...uuummmm...

ELF 1  
...too help make all our lives easier.

EVIL ELVES  
And happier! Sorry everyone!

SANTA  
I should have done all of those things too.  
*CCR goes right up.*

RUDOLPH  
Come on Santa, I'm ready to canta.

SANTA  
You're right Rudolph, it's time to be off.

*SANTA and RUDOLPH link arms and exit CENTER STAGE. EVERYONE else waves them off, calling out good wishes.*

DOC  
How about a bit more Christmas Cheer Everyone?

MAGS  
Good idea Doc. Let's make sure Santa and Rudolph have all the magical Christmas Cheer they need.

EVERYONE  
Christmas Cheer!

*BOW holds up the "Merry Christmas" card.*

BOW / AUDIENCE  
Merry Christmas!

EVERYONE  
Merry Christmas!

MRS CLAUS  
Time for a song.

CHECKER

Only if they join us.

*CHECKER points to the audience. Those on stage gather around CENTER STAGE and the GOOD ELVES enter STAGE RIGHT, standing FRONT of STAGE with the EVIL ELVES.*

*The group lead audience encouraged to sing along to Merry Christmas and Jingle Bells.*

BOW

So don't forget. Christmas Cheer is not just about once a year.

MRS CLAUS

It's in what we do, everyday...

TD

...to everyone, everywhere.

CHECKER

Kind words, taking time to talk.

DOC

And time to listen to others.

TRACK

Helping hands...

KID

Caring friends...

CHRIS / CHRISSY

Being nice to your brothers and sisters.

DEC / MISSY

And mum and dad.

EVERYONE

Adds up to Christmas Cheer. Merry Christmas.

THE END