

By Sheri Flannery-Verrilli

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SCROOGE MAKES UP!

By SHERI FLANNERY-VERRILLI

CAST OF CHARACTERS (In Order of Appearance)

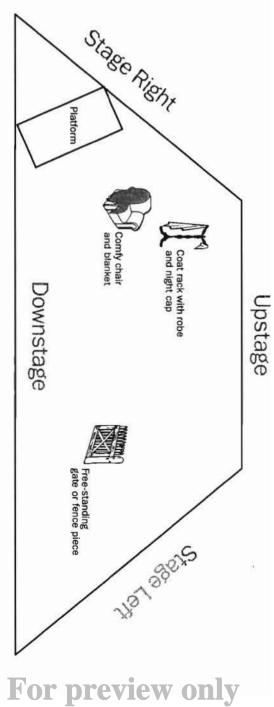
	<u># (</u>	of lines
EBENEZER SCROOGE	mean and miserly man; founder of Scrooge and Marley Cosmetics	81
BOBBIE CRATCHIT	his employee; mother of Tiny Kim	8
CHARITY	charity volunteer	7
FELICITY	another	7
MAKEUP MARLEY	Scrooge's deceased female partner	17
GHOST OF CHRISTMAS		
	first spirit who arrives to teach Scrooge the error of his ways	17
YOUNG SCROOGE	teenage grocery store cashier	8
CUSTOMER	crotchety older lady	6
MANAGER	of the supermarket	6
GHOST OF CHRISTMAS		
PRESENTS	second spirit	15
TINY KIM	young woman whose face was disfigured from testing Scrooge and Marley Anti-Aging Cream	7
GHOST OF CHRISTMAS		
FUTURE	final spirit; a skater type.	20
CITIZEN 1	local with a bad British accent	10
CITIZEN 2	another	7
CITIZEN 3	another	9
CAROLERS	.extras, as desired	n/a

SETTING

The play was written to accommodate a small space with three playing areas. A free-standing gate or fence piece, placed perpendicular to the audience, separates CENTER STAGE from STAGE LEFT to represent the outside of SCROOGE'S house. Placed on a diagonal DOWN RIGHT is a small, rectangular platform, large enough for two people to stand on. This is the simple "ghostly dimension" from which SCROOGE and the GHOSTS observe the events of past, present and future. Near the platform is a big, comfortable-looking chair with a blanket on it. A standing coat rack to the LEFT of the chair holds a bathrobe and nightcap. All ENTRANCES and EXITS are STAGE LEFT.

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Set Design



Audience

¹ LIGHTS UP: SCROOGE ENTERS and slowly crosses the stage. His impoverished employee, BOBBIE CRATCHIT, follows at his heels, waving a coin in the air.

BOBBIE: But please, Mr. Scrooge! It's Christmas Eve! I was hoping to spend at least a few hours at home celebrating with my family! Let

- 5 spend at least a few hours at home celebrating with my family! Let me reimburse you for an hour's worth of work so that I may at least share that much time with my children.
 - **SCROOGE**: (*Malicious.*) Christmas Eve? Bah, humbug! You'll work your usual nightshift and celebrate the fact that you still have a job at
- 10 my cosmetics factory! (Pushes her hand away; the coin drops to the ground.)
 - **BOBBIE:** But I've been working such long hours, and Tiny Kim needs—
- SCROOGE: Scrooge and Marley Cosmetics is a business, not a charity,
 Ms. Cratchit. Now get back to work! (BOBBIE EXITS tearfully. SCROOGE spots the coin on the ground, crosses to it and prods it with the tip of his cane. His mood changes instantly to one of delight.) Ahh, so sad! Amid all that pathetic pleading, one fool's loss becomes another's gain. (Suddenly, zealous CAROLERS—including CHARITY and FELICITY—
- 20 ENTER, crowding around SCROOGE. Trying not to lose sight of the coin, SCROOGE desperately tries to reach it, but to no avail.)

CAROLERS: (Sing "Deck the Halls.") Deck the halls with boughs of holly, Fa, Ia, Ia, Ia, Ia! La, Ia, Ia, Ia!

²⁵ 'Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa, la, la, la, la! La, la, la, la, la!
Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa, la, la! La, la, la! La, la, la!
Troll the ancient yuletide carol,

30 Fa, la, la, la, la! La, la, la, la!

SCROOGE: (*Pushes through the CROWD, his eye still on the coin.*) Out of my way! Out of my way, I say! Stop that dreadful singing at once! (Scrambles to the ground and picks up the coin.)

CAROLERS: (Ad-lib, muttering angrily as they EXIT.) Well, I never! How rude! No Christmas spirit, that one! (CHARITY and FELICITY have spotted SCROOGE picking up the coin. They rush over to him with their collection pots, which have the names of their charities written on the sides.)

 CHARITY: (Holds out her pot.) A very happy holiday to you, Mr. Scrooge!
 Would you like to make a contribution to the Detention Home for Thoroughly Disgusting Children?



1 SCROOGE: I certainly would not.

FELICITY: (Holds out her pot.) Then how about a donation to the Society for Miserable Old Ladies? Even a small tip will do.

SCROOGE: Here's a small tip-you two ladies look hideous! I suggest

- 5 you scurry down to the store and buy some of my Scrooge and Marley beauty products before it's too late!
 - **CHARITY**: Really, Mr. Scrooge, there are more important things to worry about than one's vanity at this time of year.

FELICITY: Yes. Like the poor and the homeless! So stop being so miserable. 'Tis the season to be jolly, remember?

SCROOGE: (Lifts his cane and threatens her.) Jolly? I'll show you jolly!

- **CHARITY**: (*Raises her arms in defense.*) Sir, please! Christmas is a time for peace.
- **SCROOGE:** Exactly! Peace and quiet! Now, out of my way, so I can go home and take a nap.
 - **FELICITY:** But, Mr. Scrooge, there is such joy in being a friend to the less fortunate.
 - **SCROOGE**: I, myself, don't need any friends, but if you do, go home and hang a pork chop around your neck, and you might get a dog to play with you.
 - **FELICITY**: (*Insulted.*) Oh! You are a rude, mean and selfish man, Mr. Scrooge!

- ²⁵ **CHARITY**: Perhaps you should try some of your beauty products, sir. They might remove the wrinkles from that sour old puss of yours!
 - **SCROOGE**: (*His hands grasp his heart, mockingly.*) Ooh! I'm wounded to the core!

CHARITY: Mock us all you want, Mr. Scrooge.

- 30 **FELICITY**: We pity your soul. (SCROOGE wiggles his fingers in his ears like a child.)
 - **CHARITY/FELICITY**: (Roll their eyes.) Ugh! (They EXIT shaking their heads in disgust.)

 SCROOGE: (Opens the gate and crosses to his chair. He hangs his cane on the coat rack, removes his cloak and hat and does the same. As he dresses in his robe and nightcap, he mutters.) Christmas! Bah, humbug! I'd hate it more, except that I make a small fortune selling my cheaply made but expensively priced cosmetics to all those nincompoops for their stupid holiday parties! (Yawns and stretches, nestling into his chair.) Ooh! Being mean is quite exhausting! (Pulls his blanket around him and falls asleep. Pause.)

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SCROOGE: Sticks and stones may break my bones but names will never hurt me.

- 1 CAROLERS: (ENTER quietly, stopping just outside the gate. As SCROOGE sleeps, they softly sing a verse of "In the Bleak Midwinter.") In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron,
- 5 Water like a stone: Snow had fallen, Snow on snow, snow on snow, In the bleak midwinter, Long ago. (Slowly and quietly EXIT. In the distance, CHURCH BELLS
- CHIME. MUSIC from "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" begins.) 10
- MARLEY: (Suddenly ENTERS dressed in a long, black negligee-type outfit and stiletto heels. Her face is pasty white, with long false evelashes and makeup applied so heavily that it gives her a cheap, trashy look. She carries a long chain and dances around the gate in a style that is part bad ballet/part bad exotic dancer, and stops 15 at SCROOGE'S chair, where he is fast asleep. MUSIC FADES OUT. In a loud, deep, exaggerated, ghostly voice.) Ooooooh... oooooooh!

Ebenezer Scrooge! Ebenezer Scrooge! Arise!

- SCROOGE: (Stretches awake, happy.) Ah! Time to make the donuts! (Checks his wristwatch.) Wait a minute! It's not time to get up yet! 20 What is the meaning of this? (Gives a peculiar up and down glance to MARLEY.) Who are you?
 - MARLEY: Don't say you don't recognize me, Ebenezer. In life, I was your business partner at Scrooge and Marley Cosmetics.
- 25 SCROOGE: Makeup Marley? Can it really be you? Holy cow! Who did your makeup? Your foundation is much too pale, and you need about a gallon of rouge!
 - MARLEY: I'm dead, Scrooge. Remember? I had a reaction to that new anti-aging cream we were trying to market.
- SCROOGE: Oh. Well, I must say, it worked! You haven't aged at all! 30
 - MARLEY: That's because I died, you nitwit! Now listen, I don't have much time. I came to warn you that if you don't change your ways, you're going to pay the price in the afterlife.
- SCROOGE: I don't care what happens after I'm dead. (Notices her big chain.) Hey, what's with the chain? Have you joined a rap group or 35 something?
 - **MARLEY**: I forged these chains in life, Ebenezer! Each link a harsh eyeliner, an unkind acne cream. Now I am doomed to wander for eternity gathering and chaining together all the empty shopping carts from every Mall-Mart store on earth!
 - SCROOGE: What? You're working for Mall-Mart now? You traitor! You know they're our biggest competitor!



MARLEY: (Louder and more menacing.) I'm not getting paid, you ninny! The president of Mall-Mart made a deal with— (In reverence, raises both hands upward.) You-Know-Who!

SCROOGE: (Points to sky.) Who? You mean the "Big Guy"?

- 5 MARLEY: Yes. That "Big Guy" now gets a 75 percent discount at every Mall-Mart store on earth—and in exchange, he supplies them with free ghostly labor!
 - **SCROOGE**: (*Amazed at the concept.*) Holy cow! What a genius! I wish I had thought of that!
- 10 **MARLEY**: Mall-Mart saves a bundle by not having to pay those shopping cart collectors. And now other stores want in on the act.
 - **SCROOGE**: Well, come on! Could you blame them? It's a really sweet deal!
 - MARLEY: Not for you, it isn't! That's what I've come to warn you about,
- 15 Ebenezer. Your time here on earth is coming to an end. SCROOGE: An end? Why. that's ridiculous! I feel fit as a fiddle!
 - MARLEY: You don't have to be sick to get run over by a cement truck. Listen to me, Ebenezer. Just yesterday, I watched an angel
 - embroider your name on one of those Coshko smocks!
- 20 SCROOGE: Coshko?? I don't believe you!
 - **MARLEY:** (*Raises arms, waves hands in air and shrieks.*) Oooo-oooh! You doubt my word! It's true, Ebenezer! Oooo-oooh!

SCROOGE: (Tries to pull her arms down.) No, please! Stop!

- MARLEY: (Annoyed, slaps SCROOGE away. She suddenly drops her ghostly voice and begins to speak with a nasally "Noo Yawk" accent.) Hey, don't touch the nails! I just polished them, and they ain't dried yet. (Blows on them, waves her hands in the air, speaking ghostly again.) Oooo-oooh! Beware, Ebeneezer! Your fate is at hand!
 - **SCROOGE:** (Cringes, drops to his knees, scared.) All right! All right! I believe you! Now, please, Marley, tell me what I can do!
 - **MARLEY**: (Again with the "Noo Yawk" accent.) How the heck should I know? Be nice. Eat your carrots. Maybe share some of your moolah.
 - SCROOGE: What? Part with my hard-earned savings? Never!

MARLEY: (Suddenly checks her watch and gasps.) Oops! Look at the

- time! I've got a facial and a hair appointment in ten minutes. Sorry, Ebby... but I really gotta go.
 - SCROOGE: But what about me, Marley?
- MARLEY: You? Oh, yeah, you. (Again, speaking with the accent, rushes her words—she wants to leave.) Uh…be prepared, Eb. You're gonna
 be visited by these three ghost-type characters. Just do whatever they tell ya to do. And no matter what happens, don't let anybody

measure you up for any kind of smock, you hear? (MUSIC starts up 1 again, and MARLEY resumes her silly dance. She leaves her chains behind.)

SCROOGE: Marley! Wait! Don't go!

- 5 MARLEY: (In a ghostly voice.) Ooooh! Farewell, Ebenezer! Oooooooooh... (MUSIC FADES as she EXITS. A moment of complete silence.)
 - SCROOGE: (Stunned, he looks around, rubs his eyes and slowly sits back in his chair. Scratches his head.) Wow! I've got to lay off the sauce at dinner! Now, where was I? Oh, right... my nap! (Closes his eyes.)
- 10 MARLEY: (RE-ENTERS "Ooohing" in an expressionless monotone. She crosses to SCROOGE, walking in tiny hurried steps, stiletto heels clicking, to retrieve her chains. Gestures to chain, in that nasally voice again.) Oops! Almost forgot these. I got a date with "Pauly the Hammer" tonight. He used to be a jewel thief, but now he's doomed to collect shopping carts, too. Pauly says he's gonna 15 dip these babies in 24-carat gold for me. Maybe even add a little "ice" if I'm good. Well, take it easy, Eb. (Dances off with the chain, again moaning.) Ooooooh! Oooooooooooooooohhhhhh!! (SCROOGE is startled, but tired. He rubs his head, pulls the blanket up to his chin and falls asleep. Pause. CHURCH BELLS RING in the distance.) 20
 - GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST: (ENTERS wearing a Mickey Mouse hat, holding a balloon and eating a bag of popcorn. He opens the gate, skips like a child over to SCROOGE and taps him hard on the shoulder. Does a happy little dance.) Hey, there! Hi, there! Ho, there!
- ²⁵ SCROOGE: (Opens his eves, not quite awake.) Mickey Mouse? Is that you?
 - CHRISTMAS PAST: No, you numbskull! I'm the Ghost of Christmas Past. They pulled me out of Disney World to come here. So, get your ugly self up out of that chair and come with me.
- 30 SCROOGE: Where are we going?
 - CHRISTMAS PAST: Just to that little platform over there. You want some popcorn?
 - **SCROOGE:** (Takes a handful of popcorn.) Uh, sure, why not? (They move to the rectangular platform and mount it, watching the action from the sidelines as they eat.)
- 35
 - YOUNG SCROOGE: (ENTERS carrying a small counter-like table with a toy cash register on it. He places the table in the open area at LEFT and stands before the register. A CUSTOMER ENTERS.) Next in line, please!
- 40 CHRISTMAS PAST: That's you, Ebenezer, at your first job. You were a cashier at Foods 'R' Us, remember? (CUSTOMER plunks a box of cereal and a jar of face cream down on the table.)

- 1 YOUNG SCROOGE: That will be five dollars and 50 cents, please.
 - **CUSTOMER**: Wait a minute! This box of cereal is on sale. And you rang up the wrong price on that jar of face cream! What are you trying to do? Rip me off on Christmas Eve?
- 5 YOUNG SCROOGE: The sale on cereal was last week, ma'am. And you should really buy a different moisturizer. This cream won't help those deep lines and wrinkles on your face.
- **CUSTOMER**: How insulting! Are you saying that I'm a liar, or that I'm a wrinkled old prune? I demand to speak to the manager! (Calls OFFSTAGE.) Manager!!
 - **YOUNG SCROOGE:** (*Nervous, hands her a receipt.*) No, please, wait! Look at your bill! I even gave you a discount on the face cream! (*It is too late.*)
- MANAGER: (ENTERS in a white grocer's coat and badge and approaches the CUSTOMER.) Yes, ma'am. What seems to be the problem?
 - **CUSTOMER:** I'll tell you what the problem is. Your cashier is arguing with me and being very rude!

MANAGER: Is that so?

YOUNG SCROOGE: No, sir. I was just trying to explain—

- 20 **CUSTOMER**: Explain nothing. I happen to be a good customer at this store!
 - **MANAGER**: (Pulls coupons from pocket, hands them to CUSTOMER.) Please, ma'am, don't get upset. Let me give you some coupons for a free box of laxatives and a free tube of Preparation H.
- 25 **CUSTOMER:** And what about the boy?

MANAGER: Oh, don't worry. We won't use him at the register anymore.

- **YOUNG SCROOGE:** What? But I love being a cashier. I'm so good at counting money. Or how about I stock the shelves in Cosmetics? I know all the products!
- 30 **MANAGER**: Yeah, well, too late! I got a new job for you. Go out to the parking lot and start rounding up those shopping carts.
 - **YOUNG SCROOGE:** Shopping carts? But there's thunder and lightning outside! Please! I only tried to tell this woman that—

CUSTOMER: He tried to tell me that I was wrong when I wasn't.

- 35 YOUNG SCROOGE: But... but...
 - **MANAGER**: Remember, Ebenezer, the customer is always right. Now go round up those carts. Have a nice Christmas, ma'am. (*EXITS with CUSTOMER. YOUNG SCROOGE follows them OFF with the table and cash register.*)
- 40 **SCROOGE**: (Upset.) Please, spirit, show me no more!

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1 CHRISTMAS PAST: This is where it all started, isn't it. Ebenezer? You tried to do the right thing, didn't you?

SCROOGE: Yeah! And look where it got me!

CHRISTMAS PAST: They sent you out on that stormy Christmas Eve to collect shopping carts, and it traumatized you for the rest of your life. 5

SCROOGE: That's what you get for trying to help someone.

CHRISTMAS PAST: You hadn't even collected five shopping carts when that car hit you in the parking lot.

- It wasn't a car! It was a busload of old people going SCROOGE: shopping for their Christmas party. Senior citizens get a discount 10 every Tuesday, you know.
 - CHRISTMAS PAST: You were in a body cast for a whole year. They said you broke every bone in your body that Christmas Eve. But worse than that, your spirit was broken. After that night, you hated-

15 **SCROOGE**: Collecting shopping carts! CHRISTMAS PAST: No. You hated Christmas, remember? **SCROOGE:** Oh, right. But I hated collecting shopping carts even more! CHRISTMAS PAST: Come, let's go visit the emergency room, shall we? I heard you had bones sticking out of your body in three places.

- 20 SCROOGE: What are you, nuts? I don't want to remember that! Take me home, spirit!
 - CHRISTMAS PAST: Ooh, please? I love that stuff! I'm a real fan of hospital shows.
 - SCROOGE: Look, you did your job. I realize now why I hate Christmas,
- so why don't you just return to Fantasyland, or wherever you came 25 from, and let me get back to my nap?

CHRISTMAS PAST: Actually, I was just at the gates to Adventureland.

SCROOGE: Well, if you leave now, you can catch the "Country Bears Jamboree" and still make it home in time to watch the Christmas episode of "ER" (Or other popular TV show.). 30

CHRISTMAS PAST: Ooh, that is tempting, but ...

SCROOGE: They're killing off a main character tonight.

CHRISTMAS PAST: (Excited.) Really? Which one?

SCROOGE: I forget. One of the main guys is guitting so he can take on movie roles. Everybody wants to be George Clooney (Or other 35 popular actor who left a TV show.) these days.

CHRISTMAS PAST: Okay, you talked me into it. See you later!

SCROOGE: Wait a minute! How do I get home?

CHRISTMAS PAST: Oh, it's easy. You just click your heels together three

times and say, "There's no place like home... there's no place like 40 home!" For preview only

SCROOGE: Hey, isn't that from...? CHRISTMAS PAST: Do you want to go home or not?

SCROOGE: Fine. I'll do it. There's no place like home! (*Clicks heels.*) There's no place like home! (*Clicks heels.*) There's no place like home! (*Clicks heels, then spins as if in a twister. Twirls across to his*

- chair and collapses into it, asleep, as CHRISTMAS PAST EXITS.)
- **CAROLERS**: (ENTER quietly, carrying a small Christmas tree. They stop at the gate and gather around the tree to softly sing to the tune of "O Christmas Tree.") O Christmas tree! O Christmas tree!
- How lovely are your branches!
 O Christmas tree! O Christmas tree!
 How lovely are your branches!
 In beauty, green will always grow,
 Through summer sun and winter snow.
- O Christmas tree! O Christmas tree!
 How lovely are your branches!
 O Christmas tree! O Christmas tree!
 Your beauty green will teach me.
 O Christmas tree! O Christmas tree!
- Your beauty green will teach me.
 That hope and love will ever be,
 The way to joy and peace for me.
 O Christmas tree! O Christmas tree!
 Your beauty green will teach me. (EXIT quietly. CHURCH BELLS RING
 in the distance.)
 - GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: (ENTERS wearing a hat piled high with several colorfully wrapped gifts stacked on top of each other. It is tied under the chin with a big, bright ribbon. She walks very carefully, balancing the presents on her hat, and moves through the
- 30 gate to SCROOGE.) Arise, Ebenezer! Arise!
 - SCROOGE: (Wakes up, sees the GHOST and is annoyed.) Oh, not again!
 Okay, fine. Which one of the Stooges are you—Moe, Larry or Curly?
 CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: I am the Ghost of Christmas Presents.

SCROOGE: You mean, Christmas "Present," don't you?

- 35 CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: (Excitedly points to hat.) No. Christmas presents? Get it? I wrapped them myself. Aren't they pretty?
 - **SCROOGE:** (*Flat.*) Stunning. Now can we get on with this so.l can get some sleep?

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: Sure. Arise and walk with me, Ebenezer.

- 40 SCROOGE: Are we going far?
 - **CHRISTMAS PRESENTS**: (Gestures.) No. Just over there, to stand on that platform. (*They mount the platform.*)

- SCROOGE: I should have guessed. Okay, what are you going to show me?
 - **CHRISTMAS PRESENTS**: I thought we'd visit your employee, Bobbie Cratchit, at home.
- 5 SCROOGE: At home? What's Cratchit doing at home? She's supposed to be working at the factory tonight, testing out our new Asbestos Face Powder!
 - **CHRISTMAS PRESENTS**: You give her a ten-minute dinner break, so she came home to feed the youngest of her six children, Tiny Kim.
- 10 SCROOGE: Tiny who?
 - CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: Tiny Kim. Watch and listen, Ebenezer.
 - **BOBBIE**: (ENTERS with white powder on her face. She looks around and calls.) Tiny Kim! Where are you, Tiny Kim?
- **TINY KIM'S VOICE**: (From OFFSTAGE, in a small, child-like voice.) I'm coming, Mommy! (TINY KIM ENTERS wearing a brown paper bag over her head with two eyeholes cut out and eyelashes painted over them. Carrying a teddy bear, she walks with difficulty, using one crutch.)
 - SCROOGE: Good god, spirit! What's wrong with that child?
 - CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: Tiny Kim was a guinea pig for your scientists,
- 20 don't you remember, Ebenezer? Your company tested the ingredients of your anti-aging cream on her.
 - SCROOGE: You mean the same stuff that killed Makeup Marley?
- **CHRISTMAS PRESENTS**: Yes. Marley was the lucky one. She died. But poor Tiny Kim's face is so disfigured, she's had to wear a paper bag to keep people from staring at her.
 - **SCROOGE**: Good strategy! I'm sure she blends in with all the other people who wear paper bags over their heads. But, the crutch! Tell me, spirit, is she lame, too?
- **CHRISTMAS PRESENTS:** (*Chuckles.*) Nah. She just uses the crutch to keep from bumping into things. It's hard to see where you're going with a paper bag over your head.
 - **BOBBIE**: (*To TINY KIM.*) I'm home on my break, Tiny Kim, and I brought you dinner. Here's a big piece of stale bread. (*Hands bread to TINY KIM.*)
- 35 **TINY KIM**: Oh, thank you, Mommy. I'm so hungry! (*Breaks off the crust and eats it under the bag.*) I'll just eat the crust and save the rest for Tiny Joe, Tiny Pete, Tiny Sam, Tiny Kate, Tiny Jill and Humongous Harry.
 - SCROOGE: Humongous Harry?
 - CHRISTMAS PRESENTS: Their dog.
- 40 **TINY KIM**: Look, Mommy, I painted eyelashes on my paper bag today. How do they look?

End of Script Sample

PRODUCTION NOTES

PROPERTIES

ONSTAGE: Comfy chair and blanket, coat rack with robe and nightcap, free-standing gate or fence, small rectangular platform.

BROUGHT ON:

Coin (BOBBIE) Collection pots with names of charities (FELICITY, CHARITY) Long chain (MARLEY) Balloon, bag of popcorn (GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST) Counter or table with toy cash register, receipt (YOUNG SCROOGE) Cereal box, jar of face cream (CUSTOMER) Store coupons (MANAGER) Small Christmas tree (CAROLERS) Teddy bear, crutch, sprig of mistletoe (TINY KIM) Bread crust (BOBBIE) Tall staff topped with a skull and sprig of ivy (GHOST OF CHRISTMAS FUTURE)

Large, free-standing cross or tombstone with "RIP" on it (CITIZEN)

MUSIC AND SOUND EFFECTS

Carolers sing four Christmas carols, a cappella; however, other music can be substituted or added as desired. MAKEUP MARLEY dances to "Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy" from Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Suite*. The only sound effect is of church bells ringing.

COSTUMES

- SCROOGE wears a top hat, cloak, scarf and wristwatch and carries a cane.
- MAKEUP MARLEY wears a long, black, negligee-type outfit with stiletto heels and a wristwatch.
- GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST wears Mickey Mouse ears.

YOUNG SCROOGE wears a grocery store smock.

MANAGER wears a white grocer's coat with a name badge.

- GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENTS wears a hat piled high with wrapped gifts.
- TINY KIM wears a large paper bag (with eyeholes cut out and eyelashes drawn on) over her head. At the end of the play, she wears a robe over an attractive, glittery, tight-fitting outfit.
- GHOST OF CHRISTMAS FUTURE wears a cheap Halloween "horror" costume and mask.

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FLEXIBLE CASTING

There is a lot of room for doubling, if desired. CHARITY and FELICITY could double as CUSTOMER and MANAGER, as could two of the CITIZENS. CAROLERS can be double-cast as CITIZENS, YOUNG SCROOGE, MANAGER and CUSTOMER. The GHOSTS and MANAGER can be played by male or female actors.

NOTE

If desired, the action can be rendered less "racy" by substituting more family-oriented publications for the Victoria's Secret catalog and Sports *Illustrated* swimsuit issue, and toning down Makeup Marley's costume as well as Tiny Kim's at the end of the play.

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