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SCROOGE WITH A TWIST

By

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The tale of a really nice guy, who auditioned for the part of a scoundrel

The Cast

NARRATOR – Male or female

SCROOGE – Male

WIDOW CRACHITT/SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PAST – Past: Female

AGATHA (and Actor #1 or TBA) – Female

VICTORIA (and Actor #2. or TBA) – Female

FRERDERICKA – The niece of Scrooge, female

MRS. FEZZIWIG – Female

GREEK CHORUS – Voices 1 through 9 or TBA: males and/or females

CHRISTMAS PRESENT – Male or female

CHRISTMAS FUTURE – Male or female

SOUND PERSON – Works backstage

Greek Chorus parts are distributed or numbered at director's discretion. They may sing, speak sing, or just speak the lines if singing is not comfortable, as the director sees fit. Parts may be doubled.

Pre show: setting the Mood

Some carolers (in London dress) greet the audience in the anteroom. They sing and pass out candy canes and programs prior to show time.

Optional upbeat carols might include

Deck the Hall

Angels We Have Heard

Jingle Bells

Oh, Christmas Tree

Repeat the first carol to enter the stage area

This is the cue for the singers to walk into the set. Narrator, singers and any other Greeks, enter past the audience, and go to their stage positions where there is a

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high stool and a podium for Narrator and chairs for the Greek chorus at SR or SL. Some Greek chorus members, who are carolers from the hallway, will want to go backstage to change from London dress to Greek costume, in their sheet and head wreath.

The Seven Scenes of Scrooge

The seven short scenes of the show should be done as continuously as possible without taking actual breaks and blending them together.

SCENE I

(A street in London. Several lampposts are lit and it is early evening.)

NARRATOR: Greetings of the Season! Welcome, welcome to the _____(name of group) presentation of "Scrooge With a Twist."*(sits on high stool DC)* Once upon a time, or should I say, "and this is how it all began," Charles Dickens wrote the story of Scrooge. A story of redemption, of family love, of...adaptation and change, well, everyone knows the story of Ebenezer Scrooge. Right? At least I think you do, yes? Right?

AUDIENCE AND GREEKS: Yes! Sure do! Read it before, etc.

NARRATOR: Well, good. I'm glad that's settled because I'd hate to bring up this whole thing for the very first time in your life, and then have to do it all by myself!...*(shakes head and sighs)* So would you mind if I ask you to give me a hand now and then?

AUDIENCE AND GREEKS: *(respond by clapping, led by agreeable Greek chorus)* Ok. Thank you, thank you so much. Now, as I was saying, *(sees actor #1. entering)* Oh, no!, *(looks up, flustered)* it's starting! I don't think I was quite ready. Here comes, Actor #1! You see, we couldn't think of a good name for her, so...maybe a number will have to do, ...unless of course, you can think of a name for us. What do you think?

AUDIENCE AND GREEKS: Well, maybe, ...I like ... How about...? *(offer names)*

NARRATOR: What? That's good. Well, aha...so what shall we call her? Hmm...*(stalls for time for audience to come up with more. Greek chorus make suggestions until Narrator hears one from the audience to use.)* What's that you want

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to call her, George? I don't think so. Hortense? Oh, _____, _____ I really like that. From now on, *(looks at her)* you're _____.

ACTOR #1: *(Bows to audience)* Thank you ever so. *(ala Marilyn Monroe)* May I begin? *(sits down on bench SR- Opens a large book)*

NARRATOR: Well, since you auditioned for the part, I suggest you start now.

ACTOR #1: *(slowly and with great dramatic enunciation)* Marley was dead to begin with. There was no doubt whatever about that, and...

NARRATOR: Yes, yes, yes, *(gets up and goes over to Actor #1.)* Can't we just skip that part? Everybody knows that Marley was dead.

ACTOR #1: Well, I was just reading the script and it says that....

NARRATOR: I know what it says, I have a copy right here, but it's so depressing. Couldn't we have a different beginning just for once? *(gets up and asks audience)* Don't you think so? *(Yes!)* How about it? How should we start this?

(Audience response, Greek chorus if necessary, Greeks: "Yes! Ok ...etc.)

GREEK #5: Yes, just skip the Marley was dead part and get on with it!

ACTOR #1: *(Miffed, huffs, and leaves the stage. Narrator watches him/her go.)*

NARRATOR: Oh, well, never mind, at least we still have that traditionally famous part of theater, the Greek Chorus, who will...hopefully remain to help us tell the story.

GREEK CHORUS: *(All stand, take a step forward and bow during the piano introduction)* Music Cue: Piano Introduction

End of FreeView—Now buy the entire play!
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