#### **MARLEY + SCROOGE**

**SCROOGE** But why do you walk the earth? And why do you come to me?

MARLEY I am doomed to wander through the world and witness what I cannot share, but might

have shared on earth, and turned to happiness.

I wear the chain that I forged during my life on earth. I made it link by link and yard by yard, and now I can never be rid of it. Anymore than you will ever be rid of yours.

**SCROOGE** M-m-mine...?

MARLEY Imagine the weight and length of the mighty chain you are making for yourself. It was as

heavy and as long as the seven Christmases ago! You have labored at mightily ever since!

It is a terrible ponderous chain you're making, Scrooge.

**SCROOGE** But you were always a good man of business, Jacob

MARLEY Business? Mankind is our business, Ebenezer. But how seldom do we attend to it! I know

this because I have sat invisible at your elbow many a day in your office...

**SCROOGE** M-my office? Watching me?

MARLEY Hear me, my time is almost gone. I am here tonight to warn you it is your only hope

# **FEZZIWIG**

Yo-ho, Ebenezer! Yo-ho, Dick! No more work today, my boys! Hilli-ho! Chirrup! It's Christmas Eve, Dick! Christmas, Ebenezer! Now come along, clear everything away before a man can say *Jack Robinson* and make some room here, before Mrs. FEZZIWIG and me daughters arrive with the punch bowl.

(making a toast to the crowd) Mrs. Fezziwig, my darling Isabel, my dear friends, thanks to our heroic Ebenezer there will now be happiness and contentment in this room, the like of which none of us have ever seen before!

2024

Please prepare this side to the best of your creative ability. Have fun, be creative, and show us what you can do! Using this side during the audition is completely fine; we will have printed copies available.

#### CHRISTMAS PRESENT + SCROOGE

**PRESENT** Ebenezer Scrooge!! I am the Spirit of Christmas Present! Look upon me! You have never

seen the like of me before!

**SCROOGE** Never.

**PRESENT** And yet, how many of my brothers have you rejected in your miserable lifetime?

**SCROOGE** I have never met your brother, sir

**PRESENT** You have never looked for them!

**SCROOGE** How many of them are there?

**PRESENT** What year is this?

**SCROOGE** Eighteen hundred and fourty-three.

**PRESENT** then I have 1842 brothers! This year it is my turn. Each year at this time, one of us visits

this puny little planet just spread some happiness and to remove as many as we can of

the causes of human misery! Which is why I have come to see you, Ebeneezer Scrooge!

**SCROOGE** And what do you want with me...

**PRESENT** you're a funny looking little creature! I must admit, I found it hard to believe that you

would be as horrible as my brother said you'd be, but now that I look at you, I can see

they were understating the truth!

**SCROOGE** let me assure you, sir, that I am a man of the highest principles and the most generous

spirit!

**PRESENT** generous spirit! You don't know the meaning of the phrase – but you are about to find

out! Drink this!

**SCROOGE** What is it...

**PRESENT** Taste it! (*He does*) .... Do you like it?

**SCROOGE** I've never tasted anything like it—

**PRESENT** Of course you haven't! It's the essence of human kindness! There are more good things

in life, Scrooge, than you can possibly imagine!

### **BOB CRATCHIT**

Now listen my dears. Your mother and I want you all to have a good time, but you don't have to wreck the house and kill each other to do it, all right

The marriage of goose and sage and onion stuffing a la Cratchit is one of the culinary miracles of our day -- a living, legend throughout the length and breadth of Camden town! The only remaining problem, my dears, is whether to put the stuffing inside the goose or the goose inside the stuffing!

but since the ultimate intention is to put them both inside ourselves, I don't suppose it much matters!

And here they are — the one and only Carol,-Singing Ctatchits! Newly returned from their triumphant musical tour of Regents Park and Euston Road

### **MRS CRATCHIT**

Mr. Scrooge? What are you trying to do – spoil our Christmas? *Your* money paid for the goose, my dear, not Mr. Scrooge. *You* earned that money, my love! Believe me! 15 shillings a week at three pence an hour, and not a penny, raise in eight years. You earned it! Mr. Scrooge says times are hard... He's right. For you, they are! But not for himself! "The founder of our feast." Ha! The founder of our feast indeed! I wish I had him here! I'd give him a piece of my mind a feast upon, and he'd have indigestion for a month! It needs to be Christmas Day, Bob, to drink to a rotten, stingy, old Meiser, like Ebeneezer Scrooge! You know he is, Bob. Nobody knows it more than you, my poor love.

Children, we shall drink to your father, for all the love and happiness he gives us. And to Tiny Tim, for the health we wish him. And for the sake of your father, I'll even drink to that old miser Mr. Scrooge. Long life to him, and to us all!

2024

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# **TINY TIM + BOB CRATCHIT**

**BOB CRATCHIT** Which one do you like best?

**TINY TIM** I like all of 'em!

**BOB CRATCHIT** Good boy! And why not one in particular?

**TINY TIM** Well, you said I can't have none of 'em, so I might as well like 'em all!

BOB CRATCHIT Tiny Tim, you are a philosopher and a gentleman, and I've still got

twelve shillings left in me pocket —

**TIME TIM** Twelve shillings!

**BOB CRATCHIT** Twelve shillings, which says the Cratchit family will have as good a

Christmas as the Lord Mayor of London 'imself.

**TINY TIM** ...twelve shillings.... Wow.

#### **NEPHEW + SCROOGE**

**NEPHEW** Uncle Ebenezer, I cannot tell you what a joy it is to see your happy smiling face. And how are you, Bob? A very merry Christmas, uncle

Ebeneezer! God save you!

**SCROOGE** God save me from Christmas! It's a lot of humbug.

**NEPHEW** Christmas, a humbug? Come now I'm sure you don't mean that!

SCROOGE I'm sure I do mean that! Merry Christmas, indeed! What reason have

you to be merry? You're poor enough.

**NEPHEW** and what reason have you to be miserable? You're rich enough! Don't

be so dismal Uncle Ebeneezer.

**SCROOGE** if I could work, my Will nephew every idiot who goes about with a

"merry Christmas "on his lips should be boiled with his own pudding and

buried with a stake of Holly through his heart! —

**NEPHEW** God forbid, uncle! —

**SCROOGE** — You keep Christmas in your way, and let me keep it in min!

**NEPHEW** But you don't keep it!

**SCROOGE** Then let me alone! And be good enough not to bother me, sir, during

business hours. And get off me ledger — you'll ruin me binding.

**NEPHEW** Seven o'clock on Christmas Eve? That's not business hours! That's

drudgery for the sake of it, and an insult to a all men of goodwill!

Come now, don't be angry. Dine with my wife and me tomorrow!

**SCROOGE** There's another thing! As though you hadn't got enough problems you

went and got married! Now Ryan God's name did you do something like

that?

**NEPHEW** Because I fell in love with the lady. // my offer stands. You are always

welcome uncle just like Christmas itself. // I want nothing from you. I ask

nothing of you. Why can we not be friends? (No response) Merry

Christmas Uncle! And to you, too, Bob! And your family! (*Turns to leave*)

Oh and Uncle...? A Happy New Year!

# **ISABEL**

Ebenezer? We have talked of marriage for quite some time. But there is still no plan for a wedding you say you need to have enough money to support such an enterprise.... When will that ever be Ebenezer? How much is "enough"? I want to marry you, not your cashbox. I fear you have found another love to replace me —— and she is much more desirable than I am.

The lady is here (she references the cash box) all your nobler dreams, that I loved, I have seen die off, one by one, until only the desire for gain is left. You promised to me was made when you were poor, and content to be so. You were someone else then. I see that only too clearly, and so I can release you.

### **TOM JENKINS + SCROOGE**

**TOM** (to customers) There you are, sir! Thank you very much! (Spotting Scrooge) And

Merry Christmas to you, sir.

**SCROOGE** No.

**TOM** Hot broth, Mr. Scrooge... a smell token of Christmas esteem, with the

compliments of Tom Jenkins!

SCROOGE No.

**TOM** (hastily) And there'll be a free can of broth every night throughout the coming

year, sir...

SCROOGE No.

**TOM** In gratitude for you infinite kindness in giving me another two weeks to pay!

TOM Ten days.

**SCROOGE** One week.

TOM One week.

Later, during the "Christmas Future" scene, Tom has taken down and is holding the 'Scrooge& Marley name plate. He is addressing a large, cheerful crowd in the street

TOM

There it is, friends, shinin' bright as the 'happy thoughts the mere mention of the name Scrooge brings to our minds! (*To the crowd*) Ladies and gentlemen, we are gathered 'ere today because we are united by a common bond – namely ur feelings of gratitude to Mr. Ebenezer Scrooge!

I don't think any one of us could ever 'ope to find the words to describe the true depth of our feelings toward 'im.

(Quieting the mob) Alright now, my friends, settle down, if you lease. I completed understand 'ow emotional you all feel about this most important celebration. But may I ask you to kindly 'old your emotions in check. We are all deeply moved, and those of us would have been in debt to Mr. S over the years will never forget the rare and beautiful thing 'e has just done for us... right?!