

PICTURES
OF A
CHRISTMAS WORLD

A Christmas Fairy Tale Told in Words and Music
Intended For Performance By Children Of All Ages

Script By

Keith Dawson

All Carols Musically Arranged By

Malcolm Sircom

ISBN 1 898754 38 1

DRAMATIS PERSONAE

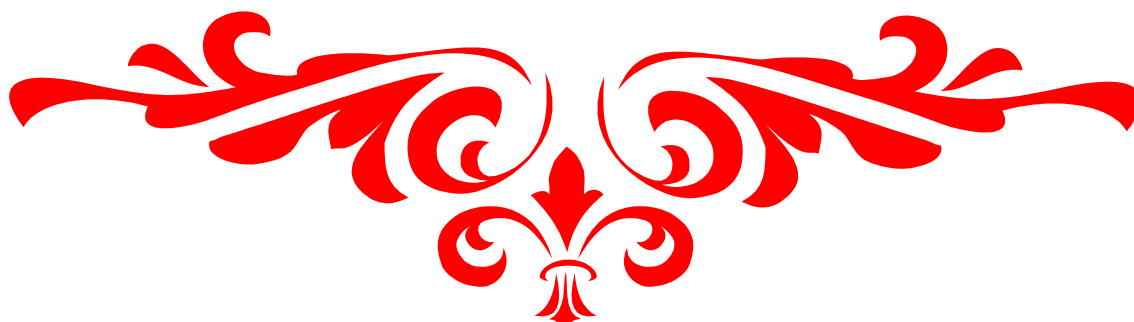
Great Britain	Jack	
	David:	
	Katie	
	Suzie	
	Sam	
	Wisbich	A Helper for Santa Claus
	Mother	
Poland	Jan	A Polish Man (<i>Pronounced 'Yan'</i>)
	Eve	His Wife
	A Peasant	
	Another Peasant	
France	Pierre	A Frenchman
	Jean	Eldest Son (<i>Pronounced schjohn</i>)
	Mârie	Pierre's Wife
	Annette	His Youngest Daughter
Germany	Christkindl	The Messenger of the Christ Child
	Child 1 - 4	
Caribbean	Tom	A Man
	Bernice	A Woman
	Errol	A Youth
	Pearl	A Girl
	Elder	A Village Elder or Dignitary
Russia	Mother	
	Child 1 - 3	
	Grandpa	
	Grandma	
Australia	Brad	
	Toby	
Canada	Narrators 1-5	
	Chorus of Messengers, Guests (Non-speaking)	
	Iagoo (Non-speaking)	
	Brave 1	
	Brave 2	
	Squaw 1	
	Squaw 2	
Mexico	Mexican 1 - 5	
	Joseph	
	Mary	
	Innkeeper	

CONTENTS

Scene One	Somewhere in Britain	Page 5
Scene Two	Poland	Page 10
Scene Three	France	Page 13
Scene Four	Germany	Page 15
Scene Five	Caribbean	Page 17
Scene Six	Russia	Page 20
Scene Seven	Australia	Page 25
Scene Eight	Canada	Page 27
Scene Nine	Mexico	Page 31
Scene Ten	Back in Britain	Page 35

SONG LIST

Song One	Deck the Halls	Page 5
Song Two	Lullaby, Jesus	Page 10
Song Three	March of the Kings	Page 14
Song Four	O Christmas Tree, O Christmas Tree	Page 16
Song Five	The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy	Page 18
Song Six	Sleigh Ride	Page 22
Song Seven	Huron Indian Carol	Page 29
Song Eight	The Search for Lodging	Page 32
Song Nine	A Christmas Folk Song	Page 35
Song Ten	Deck the Halls (Reprise)	Page 36



SCENE ONE - SOMEWHERE IN GREAT BRITAIN

(The play begins anywhere in Great Britain - your home town would be quite suitable. At the start , David, Katie & Suzie are found building a snowman. Other children could be tobogganing, snowball fighting etc. Anything in the way of traditional winter sports. Although it rarely happens in most of Britain at Christmas, snow has fallen on the ground! This is a Christmas card scene. The rest of the cast, with choir etc, enter during the first song and take up their positions as required.)

SONG ONE - DECK THE HALLS (Choir & Cast)

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la - la la - la la.
'Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la - la la - la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la - la la la - la a la.
Troll the ancient Yuletide carol,
Fa la la la - la la - la la.

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la la - la la - la la.
Strike the harp, and join the chorus,
Fa la la la - la la - la la.
Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la - la la la - la a la.
While I tell of Christmas treasure,
Fa la la la - la la - la la.

Fast away the old year passes,
Fa la la la - la la - la la.
Hail the new! ye lads and lasses;
Fa la la la - la la - la la.
Sing we joyous all together,
Fa la la - la la la - la a la.
Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la - la la - la la.



- Jack: **(Runs onto stage with Sam)** Hey, can we help make the snowman?
- David: No! Make your own. We've spent ages trying to build this one. **(Turns to one of his friends)** Did you get the carrot for his nose?
- Katie: Yes, and some pebbles for his eyes. I couldn't find any coal.
- Suzie: I know where to get some coal from. **(She goes off to collect a piece, leaving a teddy dressed like Wisbich {see Appendix}.)**

Jack: Huh! Come on Sam, we'll make our own. Much bigger and much better! **(They move away)**

Sam: Let's have a snowball fight instead. **(He picks up a snowball and throws it at Jack.)**

Jack: Right! Come on then! **(He returns a snowball, others join in.)**

(During the snowball fight, a little elf enters from stage right {SR}. He/she looks very dejected and has tears in his/her eyes.)

Katie: What's up, little fella'?

Jack: Hey, I like the fancy dress. Smart isn't it?

David: He doesn't look very happy, does he {she}?

Sam: I don't think he's from around here.

Jack: Wouldn't be, wearing an outfit like that! **(They laugh)**

Katie: **(Going over to the elf)** Why are you so upset? What's bothering you?

David: More to the point, who are you?

Wisbich: My name's Wisbich, and I'm lost, tired and fed up.

Jack: Apart from that - you're fine?

Katie: Lay off him, Jack. Can't you see he's upset? **(To Wisbich)** What's up?

Sam: Where are you from? I've not seen you around here before.

Wisbich: You shouldn't have seen me ever before. I'm from the North Pole.

David: **(Incredulous)** The North Pole? That's at the top of the world isn't it?

Jack: Wow! Aren't you a bit far from home?

Suzie: **(Entering with the coal)** I've got some coal. Oh, hello. Who's this?

Sam: His name's Wisbich and he's from the North Pole.

Katie: I don't get this. If you're from the North Pole, what are you doing here?

Wisbich: **(Frustrated)** I'm one of Santa's helpers and I was collecting with the others and someone must have messed with the clock... and time stopped... when it shouldn't have ... and he went and left without me... and I don't know where they've gone or how to find them or.....

All: Slow down!

Suzie: I can't keep up with this.

Katie: Start again and this time go a bit slower.

Wisbich: I'm one of Santa's helpers.

Sam: The Santa!

Jack: No! A Santa! Anyone knows there's dozens of them. They're in every shop and store.

Wisbich: I'm talking about the real Santa. Santa Claus, from the North Pole. The one who brings the presents on Christmas Eve.

Katie: You're one of his helpers?

Jack: Aren't you a bit early? Christmas isn't for another eighteen days!

Wisbich: No, I'm not too early, but now I'm going to be too late. That's what I meant when I said that we were collecting. We were collecting the letters to Santa Claus on our way back to the North Pole.

David: On your way back from where?

Wisbich: On our way back from delivering some presents.

Sam: But Christmas isn't for...

Jack: ...another eighteen days yet!

Wisbich: We don't deliver all of the presents on Christmas Eve. In some parts of the world we start early and other parts we don't deliver until January.

Kate: Do you mean, that some people don't celebrate Christmas on Christmas day?

Wisbich: No, I don't mean that. Christmas day is Christmas day. But in some countries presents are opened in early December, and in other countries they are opened on Christmas day, and in others they don't open them until twelfth night.

Suzie: Why?

Wisbich: It's traditional - anyway, it gives us a chance to get them made and delivered on time. We deliver the first lot and pick up letters from children for the next delivery and so on.

Sam: Wow!

Jack: OK, so you don't deliver them all on one night. What's all that about someone messing with a clock and time stopping?

(Wisbich has calmed down. He sits down on a tree stump. The children gather around him/her.)

Wisbich: We have to deliver the presents at the same time. So before we start out, Santa opens the box with the Omega clock in it and...

Suzie: What's the Omega clock?

Wisbich: That's the clock that controls all time. Santa stops the clock, time stands still and off we go. My job is to collect the letters from other children on our way back. Someone must have messed with the clock and I got left behind - here.

Katie: So what are you going to do?

Wisbich: **(Becoming upset)** I don't know. Somehow, I've got to find out where Santa is and catch up with him. But I haven't got any transport.

David: I've got a toboggan you can use.

Jack: **(A bit sarcastic)** What about the reindeers? What are you going to use for them - your pet guinea pigs?

Suzie: Don't be horrible, Jack! He's only trying to help.

David: I just thought you might have some magic powder or something like that.

Wisbich: **(Brightening up)** I have! Why didn't I think of that? I could sprinkle some magic star dust onto the toboggan and I'll be away. **(Downcast again)** Oh, but I don't know which way to go - or where.

Katie: We could help. Couldn't we, gang?

Sam: I'm in!

David: And me!

Suzie: Brilliant!

(They all look at Jack who, up until now has said nothing)

Jack: What? Me? **(Reluctantly)** I suppose so.

Katie: Go on, David, fetch your toboggan and we can head for the stars.

(David exits to fetch the toboggan)

Suzie: Shall I fetch an atlas, so that we know where we've got to go?

Katie: How about a globe, that would be better?

Suzie: My little brother's got one of those. I'll go and fetch it. **(She exits)**

Sam: Do you have any idea where we've got to go, to find him?

Wisbich: Well, we started in Turkey, then we went to Holland and Belgium and one or two other countries and delivered presents to all of them.

Jack: Great! But we need to know where he goes to after that.

Wisbich: We came here on the start of our letter-collecting run, then he was going to Poland, I think.

(David re-enters with the toboggan, followed shortly by Suzie with a large globe.)

David: Got the sledge!

Sam: Come on then, let's go find Santa Claus!

(Wisbich takes a small packet out of his pocket and sprinkles some dust onto the toboggan as he says some magic words.)

Wisbich: All aboard and on the sleigh
We will soon be on our way.
Gliding o'er the land and seas,
Flying high above the trees.
Magic star dust of the night,
Give this sledge the power of flight.

(The Children climb onto the toboggan. There is a flash followed by a blackout. The scene changes to Scene 2 - Poland.)

SCENE TWO - POLAND

(Lights up. The children are found, somewhat scattered about the floor, around the toboggan. They are in the village of Kepice.)

Jack: Crikey, can't you manage a softer landing than that? My insides are all outside now.

David: This toboggan's got good brakes now, hasn't it?

Wisbich: Sorry about that. I'm not used to controlling the sleigh, Donner and Blitzen are usually on automatic pilot!

Katie: Where are we?

Suzie: *(Pointing on the globe)* Are we here?

Wisbich: No, that's Italy, we're in Poland and I hope we are in Kepice.

Sam: Why's that then?

Wisbich: 'Cos that's the last place we visit in Poland. If he's not been here, we're ahead of him, aren't we?

Sam: I wish I was clever like you.

Wisbich: And if we're ahead of him, all we have to do is wait and he'll turn up. If we're not ahead, well... I s'pose we've got to get our skates on.

Suzie: Why? What's wrong with the toboggan:

Jack: Nothing's wrong with the toboggan. It's just a oh never mind.

Katie: What's that noise?

Suzie: It sounds like Someone's singing.

Wisbich: Sssh!

(They listen for a moment as a group of peasants enter and join the choir singing.)

SONG TWO - LULLABY, JESUS

Lullaby, Jesus, my dear one be sleeping.
Lullaby, Jesus, while watch I am keeping.
Lullaby, baby, my darling I love you.
Your mother will sing and so gently will rock you.