

The Sound Of Christmas

Junior Script

by

Gawen Robinson

Published by

Musicline Publications

P.O. Box 15632

Tamworth

Staffordshire

B77 5BY

01827 281 431

www.musiclinedirect.com

No part of this publication may be transmitted, stored in a retrieval system, or reproduced in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, manuscript, typesetting, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the copyright owners.

It is an infringement of the copyright to give any public performance or reading of this show either in its entirety or in the form of excerpts, whether the audience is charged an admission or not, without the prior consent of the copyright owners.

Dramatic musical works do not fall under the licence of the Performing Rights Society.

Permission to perform this show from the publisher 'MUSICLINE PUBLICATIONS' is **always required**. An application form, for permission to perform, is supplied at the back of the script for this purpose. **To perform this show without permission is strictly prohibited**. It is a direct contravention of copyright legislation and deprives the writers of their livelihood.

Anyone intending to perform this show should, in their own interests, make application to the publisher for consent, prior to starting rehearsals.

All Rights Strictly Reserved.

CONTENTS

Cast List.....	2
Speaking Roles By Number Of Lines	3
Cast List In Alphabetical Order (With Line Count)	4
List Of Characters In Each Scene	5
List Of Properties.....	6
Production Notes	7
Scene 1: The Salesburg Mall	12
Song 1: The Tills Are Alive (Shop ‘Til You Drop).....	12
Song 2: The Tills Are Alive (Reprise)	14
Scene 2: The Mctrapp Family Home.....	15
Song 3: The Meaning Of Christmas	18
Scene 3: The Got-Thelott Mansion	19
Song 4: More, More, More.....	20
Scene 4: The Fairplays’ Semi-Detached.....	22
Song 5: Thank You For The Day	23
Scene 5: The Makenmend’s Flat.....	24
Song 6: Merry Christmas Anyway	25
Scene 6: The Salesburg Mall	26
Song 7: Salesburg!	27
Song 8: The Sound Of Christmas.....	29
Song 9: The Sound Of Christmas (Reprise).....	32
Photocopiable Lyrics	33

CAST LIST

N.B. In the following list, the bracketed number shows the number of spoken lines each role has.

An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

* Maria	Young singer and shop assistant.....	(46)
Captain Flymouse McTrapp	Single Father of 6 children	(26)
Mr Nasty	Boss of the shopping mall.....	(27)
Adolpho	Mr Nasty's assistant.....	(20)
* Ray McTrapp	Captain McTrapp's eldest son	(18)
* Emily McTrapp	Captain McTrapp's eldest daughter	(10)
* Ian McTrapp	Captain McTrapp's 2 nd son	(8)
* Mary McTrapp	Captain McTrapp's 2 nd daughter.....	(7)
* Alice McTrapp	Captain McTrapp's 3 rd daughter.....	(13)
* Tom McTrapp	Captain McTrapp's 3 rd son.....	(10)
Mr Got-thelott	Very rich father to the Got-thelott children	(2)
Mrs Got-thelott	Very rich mother to the Got-thelott children	(1)
Bill Got-thelott	Spoilt 1 st son in the Got-thelott family	(1)
Sue Got-thelott	Spoilt 1 st daughter in the Got-thelott family.....	(2)
Richie Got-thelott	Spoilt 2 nd son in the Got-thelott family	(2)
Wynn Got-thelott	Spoilt 2 nd daughter in the Got-thelott family	(1)
Mr Fairplay	Average Father to the Fairplay children.....	(1)
Mrs Fairplay	Average Mother to the Fairplay children	(1)
Gladys Fairplay	1 st daughter in the Fairplay family.....	(2)
Joy Fairplay	2 nd daughter in the Fairplay family	(1)
Grant Fairplay	Son in the Fairplay family	(1)
* Mr Makenmend	Poor father to the Makenmend children.....	(9)
* Mrs Makenmend	Poor mother to the Makenmend children.....	(7)
Charity Makenmend	1 st daughter in the Makenmend family.....	(1)
Kitty Makenmend	2 nd daughter in the Makenmend family	(0)
Timmy Makenmend	Small son in the Makenmend family	(1)
Judge Cash-Mint	The Choir Contest Judge	(5)
* The (hired) Tillers	Shop assistants in the mall	(0)
The Shoppers	Last minute Christmas shoppers in the mall.....	(0)
Optional Chorus (To join in any of the songs)		(0)

SPEAKING ROLES BY NUMBER OF LINES

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

* Maria	46
Mr Nasty	27
Captain Flymouse McTrapp.....	26
Adolpho.....	20
* Ray McTrapp.....	18
* Alice McTrapp	13
* Emily McTrapp	10
* Tom McTrapp	10
* Mr Makenmend	9
* Ian McTrapp	8
* Mary McTrapp	7
* Mrs Makenmend.....	7
Judge Cash-Mint.....	5
Mr Got-thelott.....	2
Sue Got-thelott.....	2
Richie Got-thelott	2
Gladys Fairplay	2
Mrs Got-thelott	1
Bill Got-thelott	1
Wynn Got-thelott.....	1
Mr Fairplay	1
Mrs Fairplay	1
Joy Fairplay	1
Grant Fairplay	1
Charity Makenmend.....	1
Timmy Makenmend	1

CAST LIST IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER (WITH LINE COUNT)

N.B. In the following list, the number shows how many spoken lines each role has. An asterisk (*) before the character's name indicates that this character ALSO has solo or featured sung lines.

Adolpho.....	20
* Alice McTrapp	13
Bill Got-thelott	1
Captain Flymouse McTrapp.....	26
Charity Makenmend.....	1
* Emily McTrapp	10
Gladys Fairplay	2
Grant Fairplay	1
* Ian McTrapp	8
Joy Fairplay	1
Judge Cash-Mint.....	5
* Maria	46
* Mary McTrapp	7
Mr Fairplay	1
Mr Got-thelott.....	2
* Mr Makenmend	9
Mr Nasty	27
Mrs Fairplay	1
Mrs Got-thelott	1
* Mrs Makenmend.....	7
* Ray McTrapp.....	18
Richie Got-thelott	2
Sue Got-thelott.....	2
Timmy Makenmend	1
* Tom McTrapp	10
Wynn Got-thelott.....	1

Non-speaking roles: The (hired) Tillers, who have featured group singing, and the Shoppers and Kitty Makenmend, who don't.

LIST OF CHARACTERS IN EACH SCENE**Scene One**

Mr Nasty
Adolpho
Maria
Tillers
Shoppers

Scene Two

Maria
Captain McTrapp
Ray McTrapp
Tom McTrapp
Mary McTrapp
Emily McTrapp
Ian McTrapp
Alice McTrapp

Scene Three

Maria
Captain McTrapp
Ian McTrapp
Ray McTrapp
Mary McTrapp
Alice McTrapp
Emily McTrapp
Tom McTrapp
Mr Got-thelott
Mrs Got-thelott
Bill Got-thelott
Sue Got-thelott
Richie Got-thelott
Wynn Got-thelott

Scene Four

Maria
Captain McTrapp
Emily McTrapp
Ray McTrapp
Alice McTrapp
Tom McTrapp
Ian McTrapp
Mary McTrapp
Mr Fairplay
Mrs Fairplay
Gladys Fairplay
Joy Fairplay
Grant Fairplay

Scene Five

Maria
Captrain McTrapp
Ray McTrapp
Ian McTrapp
Emily McTrapp
Tom McTrapp
Alice McTrapp
Mary McTrapp
Mr Makenmend
Mrs Makenmend
Charity Makemend
Kitty Makenmend
Timmy Makenmend

Scene Six

Captain McTrapp
Ray McTrapp
Emily McTrapp
Tom McTrapp
Maria
Mr Nasty
Adolpho
Judge Cash-Mind
Alice McTrapp
Mrs Makenmend
Ian McTrapp
Mary McTrapp
Timmy Makenmend
Mary McTrapp
(The entire cast can be used in this scene)

LIST OF PROPERTIES

Scene One

A line of shop tills and tables Scene Prop
 Shop decorations and adverts etc. Scene Prop

Scene Two

A whistle Captain McTrapp
 Christmas tree, surrounded by presents..... Scene Prop
 Table, chairs and T.V..... Scene Prop
 Table cloth and other decorations Scene Prop

Scene Three

Christmas tree (more decorated than in Scene Two) Scene Prop
 Additional presents surrounding the tree Scene Prop
 Table, chairs and T.V. but with posher tablecloth..... Scene Prop
 Lavish decorations (more so than in Scene Two)..... Scene Prop

Scene Four

Christmas tree (moderately decorated) Scene Prop
 Table, chairs and T.V. with modest tablecloth Scene Prop
 Small doll Gladys Fairplay
 Book..... Grant Fairplay

Scene Five

One small cake Scene Prop
 Table and chairs (without tablecloth and T.V.) Scene Prop
 Old tea set Scene Prop
 Empty milk jug Scene Prop
 Small bowl of sugar Charity Makenmend

Scene Six

A line of shop tills and tables, as in Scene One..... Scene Prop
 Shop decorations and adverts etc. Scene Prop

PRODUCTION NOTES

STAGING

In order to effectively stage this show there needs to be a flexible approach to the scene changes required. It is not necessary to have a stage as such; this show can be performed in any acting area, even 'in the round' with the audience seated around the acting area. The following stage suggestions will need to be adapted according to the circumstances and resources available to the director of the show.

There are six scenes with five different settings indicated but this can be easily achieved without complex scenery. Salesburg Mall serves as the opening and closing scene for the show with the remaining four scenes being inside the homes of different families from a mansion to a modest flat. To keep the action flowing the scenes can be changed in front of the audience by the children performing the show. To aid clarity the following conventions have been adopted in these notes. The use of the term 'stage' denotes any form of acting area as distinct from the audience seating area.

Scene One: Salesburg Mall can be created by setting four or more shop tills across the width of the acting area so that the till workers sit and look across the 'stage' and not at the audience. They should be positioned so that they look towards the centre of the acting area and not away i.e. till operators on stage right should face stage left and vice versa. The 'customers' would then be positioned on the furthestmost side (upstage) from the audience and Adolpho and Mr Nasty would then walk on the nearest side of the tills to the audience (downstage). The tills could be simple desks or tables with cardboard tills placed on them. These could be carried or wheeled off during...

Song Two: The Tills Are Alive (Reprise). Captain McTrapp and his six children should then bring on basic items of scenery to create the interior of...

Scene Two: The McTrapp Family Home. Keeping it simple will allow the audience to create the imagery in their own minds as to what the house is like. Suggestions are a Christmas tree, a television unit, a table and chairs. The Christmas tree could be decorated very lavishly on one side and very basically on the other and similarly the table could have a lace tablecloth on one side, a typical cotton tablecloth on another and a cheap cover on another. As the scenes change from the 'posh' extravagance to the basic, so the items can be turned to change the view of these items to match the characters that live there. The items should be set upstage to allow the children to form a line downstage when ordered to by Captain McTrapp. As...

Song Three: The Meaning of Christmas is delivered so the scene is changed to **Scene Three: The Got-thelott Mansion.** Maybe a few more items are added to the Christmas tree as presents are deposited underneath its boughs. The presents should be large, wrapped in bright, expensive-looking wrapping paper with large bows adorning them. After...

Song Four: More, more, more, the dialogue continues as they move to **Scene Four: The Fairplays' Semi-detached**. During this dialogue, the scenery can be modified by turning the tree and table and replacing any expensive looking presents with more modest items. As...

Song Five: Thank You For the Day finishes, the group moves across the stage as the set is stripped of most items. The tree, presents and television are removed, as is the tablecloth from the table, leaving a very austere set. The contrast between Scene Three and this one should be noticeable. Finally...

Song Six: Merry Christmas Anyway, allows re-setting of the Salesburg Mall as per scene one.

CHOREOGRAPHY

Song One: The Tills Are Alive is a steady opening number that, if resources allow, could be split between the till operators and the chorus. The movement and actions of the singers should complement the lyrics. As the tempo is steady, this should not present too great a challenge to the children. The till operators could get up and walk around their tills and move downstage as they sing the first verse. The chorus would then join them to sing the choruses of the song.

Song Two: The Tills Are Alive (Reprise) is choreographed in a similar manner.

Song Three: The Meaning of Christmas is a lively number that has a steady build through it. The lyrics are, in the main part, rhetorical questions and could be played in that way by the singers so that the actions support the lyrics. The children march on to and off from the song in the manner of the Von Trapp family of 'The Sound of Music'.

Song Four: More, More, More is a steady march tempo. The greedy Gott-thelott kids could sing this in an accusatory manner so that their actions are demanding throughout the chorus sections. In contrast, the parents (Mr & Mrs Got-thelott) and the McTrapps should adopt a retaliatory stance in the song so that the two groups are singing at each other in the final choruses, across the stage.

Song Five: Thank You For the Day is a lively swing number, which gives good opportunities for the singers to dance through the number. Simple group movements are all that is really needed if resources are limited.

Song Six: Merry Christmas Anyway is a gentle ballad, full of meaning that should be sung by the duet to the audience. Little movement should be used as this will distract from the powerful meaning of the lyrics.

Song Seven: Salesburg! Is another steady number with a familiar feel to it; plenty of

opportunity for big movements in this number. The whole of the acting area could be given over to this number with strong interactions between the till operators and the chorus building to a grand finish.

Song Eight: The Sound of Christmas & Song Nine: The Sound of Christmas (Reprise) are the big finale to this show. The tune has a majestic, stately feel to it and is initially sung by the McTrapps and finally by the whole cast. This is the song that the audience will go out singing! Make it big and meaningful in every way!

COSTUMES

The following notes are suggestions only. The producer should costume the show according to the resources available and to his/her artistic interpretation.

Maria is a till girl and as such she should wear uniform clothing along with the other **till girls**. They should all wear the same colour and style of uniform as do the till operators of large supermarket stores such as ASDA, Sainsbury's, Tesco etc. She is, of course, based on the character of the same name in 'The Sound of Music' and could in subsequent scenes after the opening be dressed in similar manner to the famous character.

Captain Flymouse McTrapp is clearly ex-military and probably wears something akin to a uniform. He could wear an army Captain's outfit or he could wear something befitting an officer 'off-duty' such as 'Chinos', lounge jacket etc. He possibly has a full moustache.

Mr Nasty is the owner of the Salesburg Mall and thus he probably wears a three-piece suit to highlight his importance and a shirt and bow-tie.

Adolpho is his store manager and his costume would not upstage that of the owner. Thus he probably wears a two-piece suit, highly polished shoes and shirt and tie.

Ray, Emily, Ian, Mary, Alice & Tom McTrapp could be dressed in normal everyday costume for simplicity or dressed more 'fifties style' with shorts, shirts and ties for the boys and full skirts for the girls with sandals for all.

The **Got-thelott** family should all be dressed up-market. Depending on whether the previous family are dressed modern or fifties, this family should be of the same era but very much up-market with designer label feel to their clothing.

The **Fairplays'** costume should be ordinary in style whether costuming in period or modern.

By contrast, the **Makenmend** family costumes should clearly show their thriftiness. Dad's jacket probably has elbow patches; any woollen items such as jumpers, cardigans should have clearly visible darning etc. This is a family that throw nothing away but adapt and

repair as necessary. Their costume should clearly show this.

For artistic purposes, **Judge Cash-Mint** could wear robes, as befits his/her position, complete with wig if possible.

The Shoppers and **Chorus** can be dressed in a variety of colourful costumes as the Producer sees fit.

LIGHTING AND SOUND

Lighting and sound always adds another dimension to any production but is not essential in this show. If available, it will aid the scene changes by focussing the audience's attention away from this activity and on the singers. It will also create mood and emphasis when used appropriately. But, it must be stressed, it is NOT essential.

Lighting

Scene One should be well lit overall as would be expected in a supermarket setting. If possible, lighting could be focussed on Maria's till after **Song One** until the start of **Song Two**.

Scene Two – McTrapp Family Home could have a spotlight focussing on the Christmas tree with more subtle lighting on the acting area where the family group assemble. This lighting theme could then be used for the remaining scenes, with the Christmas tree light being subsequently dimmed as we move through the scenes until it is extinguished for the Makenmend set in **Scene Five**.

Bright lighting throughout the remainder of the show until the end will suffice.

Sound Effects (SFX)

Captain McTrapp blows a whistle on two occasions in Scene Two. This is best achieved live rather than relying on a sound effect. He blows the whistle again at the start of Scene Six. Likewise, the knock at the door prior to Maria's entrance in Scene Two is best performed live by either Maria or another performer (offstage).

There are no other sound effects.

SCENE 1:**THE SALESBURG MALL**

(A long line of Till Workers busily sells gifts to queues of Customers. Mr Nasty, owner of the Salesburg Mall and his store manager, Adolpho, both stride menacingly down the line. They stalk the Tillers, goading them to work harder.)

SONG 1:**THE TILLS ARE ALIVE (SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP)****TILLERS:**

THE TILLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF CHRISTMAS.
THE TILLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF CASH.
HAPPY PEOPLE SPENDING ALL THEIR MONEY.
IT'S THE CHRISTMAS SEASON, IT'S A SMASH!

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP.
GIVE IT ALL TO ME,
'COS I'M RELYING ON YOUR SPENDING SPREE.
SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP.
NOTHING COMES FOR FREE,
AND I'LL BE WAITING FOR THE TILLS TO RING FOR ME.

THE TILLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF CHRISTMAS.
THEY RATTLE ALONG AT THIS TIME OF GREED.
SILLY PEOPLE SPENDING ALL THEIR SAVINGS.
ON THE THINGS THEY'LL NEVER REALLY NEED.

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP.
GIVE IT ALL TO ME,
'COS I'M RELYING ON YOUR SPENDING SPREE.
SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP.
NOTHING COMES FOR FREE,
AND I'LL BE WAITING FOR THE TILLS TO RING FOR ME.

THE TILLS ARE ALIVE IT'S A SOUND SO TUNEFUL.
THEY RING TING-A-LING AS THE PEOPLE SPEND.
IF YOU DON'T HAVE CASH ENOUGH TO PAY US.
THEN WE'LL FIND A WAY TO MAKE YOU LEND.

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP.
GIVE IT ALL TO ME,
'COS I'M RELYING ON YOUR SPENDING SPREE.
SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP.
NOTHING COMES FOR FREE.
AND I'LL BE WAITING FOR THE TILLS TO RING FOR ME.
WAITING FOR THE TILLS TO RING FOR ME.

(Mr Nasty and Adolpho stop next to Maria's till. She is singing for the customers' entertainment and not selling very much at all.)

MR NASTY: What are we going to do about Maria? Ideas Adolpho! You are the Manager!

ADOLPHO: Stop singing on the tills and serve faster Maria? Mr Nasty is watching you.

MARIA: Oh I'm trying my best. It's just that people are always asking me to sing carols and ...**(Interrupted.)**

MR NASTY: The Salesburg Mall was built for shopping, not free entertainment.

MARIA: Oh, it's Christmas time Mr Nasty.

ADOLPHO: Yes, the time of year for profit. **(Gestures to Till Workers.)** Come on you hired tillers, sell faster.

MR NASTY: So true. The more they buy the more I cry "merry profits"! **(To Till Workers) FASTER!**

MARIA: So sorry Mr Nasty, I'll try my best. How will you spend Christmas Day? Will you celebrate?

MR NASTY: Celebrate? I'll be here in my office.

MARIA: Won't you feel lonely?

(Pause.)

MR NASTY: I go to the tills when my heart is lonely.

ADOLPHO: Anyway the staff will all be here. They'll prepare for the sales.

MARIA: On Christmas day? Surely there's more to Christmas than shopping. There's togetherness and friendship.

ADOLPHO: I think Maria needs her two minute break.

MR NASTY: Have you gone crazy girl?

MARIA: No, Mr Nasty I haven't. I think everyone needs friendship at Christmas time, even more than presents and useless bargains.

MR NASTY: Be careful Maria, we can always find another soloist for the 'Mall Carol Competition'.

ADOLPHO: Yes, you could blow any chance you had of sharing those big prizes. After all, we will win.

MARIA: I don't think I care anymore.

ADOLPHO: What! What are you saying girl?

MARIA: I'd rather be at a family home on Christmas Day.

MR NASTY: Maria, I think you should find a home now and go... go pronto!

MARIA: Are you firing me, at this time of year?

ADOLPHO: No, he's merely shooting you in the right direction.

MR NASTY: Bye for now. Get another job. Bye, bye, bye, bye.

MARIA: Buying! That's all you think about. I shall go then.
ADOLPHO: 'Tis a great pity. Maria was our best hope of winning the "Mall Carol Competition".... without cheating that is.
MR NASTY: There are plenty more hired Tillers around Adolpho. Find a new lead singer.
MARIA: Goodbye then. I shall find a new home and work somewhere else.

(She exits.)

MR NASTY: Well! What are you all looking at? BACK TO WORK! *(To the Tillers.)*

SONG 2: **THE TILLS ARE ALIVE (REPRISE)**

TILLERS: THE TILLS ARE ALIVE WITH THE SOUND OF CHRISTMAS.
WE'RE ALL ON A HIGH WITH THAT JANGLING SOUND.
HAPPY PEOPLE EMPTYING THEIR PURSES.
BUYING ALL THOSE GIFTS THEY HAVE JUST FOUND.

SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP.
GIVE IT ALL TO ME.
'COS I'M RELYING ON YOUR SPENDING SPREE.
SHOP 'TIL YOU DROP.
NOTHING COMES FOR FREE.
AND I'LL BE WAITING FOR THE TILLS TO RING FOR ME.
WAITING FOR THE TILLS TO RING FOR ME.

SCENE 2:**THE MCTRAPP FAMILY HOME**

(Captain McTrapp's house, where he and his six Children are in their living room.)

RAY: I don't care as long as my presents are larger than yours!
MARY: I don't care as long as mine are more expensive.
TOM: I don't care as long as I get more than you lot put together.
CAP'T: Children, children! You all get greedier, noisier and more selfish every year.
EMILY: It's nearly Christmas Day, Father.
CAP'T: A time for being thankful.
MARY: A time for lots of presents you mean.
EMILY: Yes I want lots too.
IAN: I want sixteen going on seventeen.
TOM: But no one will get more than me or else.
IAN: Or else what?

(A fight starts.)

CAP'T : Stop fighting. *(Blows a whistle)* Stop, stop, stop! Attention! Get into line! This year has been as disaster behaviour-wise. I know, it's since your dear mother passed away. You miss her example, so I've decided to do something about it. Now get into line. Attention!

(The Children get into line smartly.)

EMILY: I'm not going to have to miss tea am I?
ALICE: You're not going to switch off my TV set again, are you?
RAY: You're not going to halve my pocket money again, are you?
CAP'T: No, No, No! This year I've decided you are not going to enter the Mall Carol Competition.
TOM: Oh no, we wanted to win the bumper bundle of prizes.
ALICE: We wanted that extra cash Father.
CAP'T: I don't care. What I want is for you all to get on with each other and be thankful for what we've already got. So I've also decided, no Christmas presents.
RAY: What no prizes or presents?
MARY: No presents means no Christmas!
CAP'T: That's not true. After losing your mother you've all lost the meaning of Christmas as well. I mean to do something about that.

(Knock at door.)

CAP'T: Ah, that will be Maria your new Child Minder. I think she's the kind of person who could change all your attitudes for the better.

(Captain McTrapp lets Maria in the front door.)

MARIA: Good evening Captain McTrapp.

CAP'T: Welcome Maria. Well these are my six children. Children, this is Maria.

(There is a silence.)

CAP'T: I've heard how you gave up the chance to sing solo in the big carol contest.

MARIA: There are more important things at Christmas, Captain.

CAP'T: Very commendable!

TOM: Very weird!

CAP'T: Tom! Well children? Go on, introduce yourselves.

RAY: I'm Ray, the brainiest. ***(Steps forward and back from line.)***

ALICE: I'm Alice. I like being at home. ***(Steps from line etc.)***

TOM: I'm Tom. I had a cold last week.

EMILY: I'm Emily. I like chocolate biscuits.

IAN: I'm Ian. I don't like carrots.

MARY: I'm Mary. I was seven once.

MARIA: Very Interesting. My, you all look rather glum. What is wrong?

RAY: Father says we want too much.

ALICE: All we want is more.

TOM: Christmas is over. No presents.

IAN: No Christmas. No Carol Competition, No prizes.

EMILY: No presents or prizes.

MARY: No, nothing, naught or zero, zip!

MARIA: I see you all do need to learn something more of Christmas and its true meaning. If you're agreeable, Captain McTrapp?

CAP'T: As we discussed earlier Maria.

MARIA: Tonight children, you will all come with me and I will show you sights that will make you see things in a different light.

ALICE: Surely we're not going out now on this cold winter's night.

CAP'T: You all have things to learn and this is truly the right time.

ALICE: Is it very far?

MARIA: No it's not too far. In fact it's so near to your world you'll be amazed.

Christmas is the same everywhere. Wrap up warm and we'll go straight away. These homes are in your own neighbourhood.

CAP'T:

Follow on children. Follow Maria! (***Blows his whistle.***)

SONG 3: **THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS**

MARIA: WE'RE GOING ON A MAGIC JOURNEY.

IAN: WHERE?

MARIA: A JOURNEY FAR, YET NEAR.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS RINGS OUT CLEAR.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS IS HERE.

MARIA: WE'RE GOING WHERE THE LIGHTS SHINE BRIGHTLY.
YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY NEAR.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE YEAR.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS IS HERE.

RAY: IS IT TURKEY OR CRACKERS?
TOM: OR CARDS ON THE WALL?
MARY: IS IT WATCHING THE TELLY?
MARIA: IT'S NOT THAT AT ALL.
IT'S A FEELING THAT'S COSY AND WARM.
EMILY: A SHELTER AT HOME FROM THE STORM.

ALICE: IS IT CHOCOLATE AND TINSEL?
MARY: OR A STAR ON A TREE?
EMILY: IS IT LOGS BY THE FIRE?
IAN: IS IT SOMETHING FOR ME?
ALL: IT'S NOT SANTA OR BLITZEN,
AND ALL THE REINDEER.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS IS HERE.

ALL: WE'RE GOING ON A MAGIC JOURNEY.
A JOURNEY FAR, YET NEAR.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS RINGS OUT CLEAR.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS IS HERE.

WE'RE GOING WHERE THE LIGHTS SHINE BRIGHTLY.
YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY NEAR.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS THROUGH THE YEAR.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS IS HERE.
THE MEANING OF CHRISTMAS IS HERE.

(They all troop offstage in a line, following Maria.)