

When Got Sucked up the Sasha Chimney



A Christmas Musical In One Act

Book, music & lyrics by
Craig Hawes

Libretto

PRODUCTION NOTES

Welcome to ***When Sasha Got Sucked Up The Chimney!*** I am sure you will enjoy rehearsing and performing this festive musical, but to aid your production it may help to consider the following notes.

CASTING

The script is written for 38 speaking characters, as listed overleaf. These range from principal parts to small supporting roles. For productions with fewer cast members, condensing of characters is possible. This can be done in numerous ways, but the following example reduces the cast number to 24:

- Remove Elves G,H,I,M,N and O (reallocating lines to the other 11 elves)
- Remove Sweep 2 and 3 (reallocating lines to Sweep 1)
- Remove reindeer Comet, Blitzen, Prancer and Vixen (reallocating lines to the other reindeer)
- Cast guest adults as Bert and Gerty Claus!

The ***“Penguin Dance”*** has been written in to cater for additional performers, and is optional depending on your own casting availability. It may be an ideal way to incorporate much younger performers into the show, providing an additional “Ahh” factor! To expand the cast, unlimited chorus parts may be used as additional Penguins, Elves, Sweeps and Londoners, and an off-stage choir for backing on other songs. Directors are encouraged to consider adults to guest perform the roles of Berty and Gerty. Gerty works particularly well as a dame (played as a comedy female role for a male actor). Although children can perform these parts equally well, the use of adults (including a dame) brings a “pantomime” feel to the performance and helps to emphasise the “parental” qualities of the characters at the end of the show.

COSTUMES

The production gives scope for many bright, colourful and festive costumes for different characters. It is important to remember that Sasha, Will, Milly and Harriet are dressed in Victorian night clothes throughout the production. The only animals in the show are the Reindeer - these could be costumes in full fur suits and face paints, but work equally well in fur trousers, white t-shirts, red braces and fur antlers.

STAGING

A backdrop of a night sky would work well as a background to different scenes which are brought to life through small, brightly coloured flats and set pieces which are brought on and off as appropriate. The backdrop can be painted, or a star cloth can be made or hired with twinkling lights set into black material. These can be used when appropriate, especially in the Rooftop and Sleigh Ride Scenes. The most important set piece is the fireplace, used in the Orphanage and Workshop Scenes. This can be created using a fire surround mounted on a small scenery flat with a hole cut to allow performers to climb through. At the end of Clean Sweep Reprise an instrumental section covers the scene change, and this can be used as an opportunity for an optional Ultra Violet flying scene with the children flying through clouds and past London landmarks painted in UV paint under UV lighting.

MUSIC

All the music required to stage this production, including sound effects, is found on the Backing Track CD. A vocal recording is provided as a guide and to enable the swift learning of songs. The backing tracks without vocals are ideal to use in rehearsals and performances. Directors may, if they wish, allow a choir or separate character to accompany or replace a soloist in a song or section intended for a soloist. This is sometimes necessary if certain cast members are unable to perform the solo themselves fully or if a larger chorus or choir is required to be employed more fully throughout the show.

AND FINALLY...

This is a magical Christmas show, and you should aim to get your audience laughing, crying and feeling really festive by the end of your performance! Oh, yes, and don't forget to enjoy yourselves along the way!

My best wishes for a successful, magical and enjoyable production.

Craig Hawes

CHARACTERS

Orphans

Sasha*

Milly

Will

Harriet

Chimney Sweeps

Tom

Sweep 1

Sweep 2

Sweep 3

North Pole Characters

Santa Claus (Berty)*

Mrs. Claus (Gerty)*

Tooth Fairy

Tooth Ache

Holly

Ivy

Reindeer

Dasher

Dancer

Prancer

Vixen

Comet

Cupid

Donner

Blitzen

Rudolph

Elves

Elf A

Elf B

Elf C

Elf D

Elf E

Elf F

Elf G

Elf H

Elf I

Elf J

Elf K

Elf M

Elf N

Elf O

Elf S

Ensemble

Penguins

Little Elves

Sweeps

Londoners

* denotes characters with singing solos

SCENES & MUSIC

		Music 1: Overture	Page 6
<u>PROLOGUE</u>	A VICTORIAN STREET	.....	Page 6
		Music 2: The Mistletoe Ball (<i>Sasha & Company</i>)	Page 6
<u>SCENE 1</u>	THE ORPHANAGE	.....	Page 7
		Music 3: Someone Somewhere (<i>Sasha</i>)	Page 9
		Music 4: Stardust # 1	Page 9
		Music 5: Up The Chimney	Page 10
<u>SCENE 2</u>	THE ROOFTOP	.....	Page 10
		Music 6: Clean Sweep (<i>Chimney Sweeps</i>)	Page 10
		Music 7: Up And Out	Page 11
		Music 8: Clean Sweep (Reprise) (<i>Chimney Sweeps</i>)	Page 12
<u>SCENE 3</u>	THE NORTH POLE	.....	Page 13
		Music 9: Penguin Dance	Page 13
		Music 10: Tooth Fairy Entrance # 1	Page 14
<u>SCENE 4</u>	SANTA'S WORKSHOP	.....	Page 16
		Music 11: Santa's Workshop	Page 16
		Music 12: SFX Chimney Siren # 1	Page 17
		Music 13: Children Arrive	Page 17
		Music 14: SFX Rudolph Applause # 1	Page 20
		Music 15: You've Got A Friend In Me.....(<i>Elves</i>)	Page 21
<u>SCENE 5</u>	THE CLAUS HOUSE	.....	Page 22
		Music 16: Bertie And Gerty Music	Page 22
		Music 17: SFX Wind	Page 23
		Music 18: Friend In Me (Reprise) (<i>Bertie & Gerty</i>)	Page 24
<u>SCENE 6</u>	MIDNIGHT	.....	Page 26
		Music 19: Midnight Music	Page 26
		Music 20: SFX Chimney Siren # 2	Page 26
		Music 21: Harriet Arrives	Page 26
<u>SCENE 7</u>	ELF SCHOOL	.....	Page 28
		Music 22: Elf School Music	Page 28
		Music 23: The Tickling Song (<i>Gerty & Little Elves</i>)	Page 29
<u>SCENE 8</u>	THE STABLES	.....	Page 30
		Music 24: Stables Music	Page 30
		Music 25: SFX Rudolph Applause # 2	Page 31
		Music 26: Magical Sleigh Ride.....(<i>Company</i>)	Page 32
<u>SCENE 9</u>	SANTA'S WORKSHOP	.....	Page 33
		Music 27: JFK Music	Page 33
		Music 28: SFX Crashing Sleigh	Page 34
		Music 29: Tooth Fairy Entrance # 2	Page 35
<u>SCENE 10</u>	THE ORPHANAGE	.....	Page 37
		Music 30: Back To London	Page 37
		Music 31: Stardust # 2	Page 38
		Music 32: Believe In Christmas (<i>Sasha & Company</i>)	Page 38
		Music 33: Magical Sleigh Ride (Reprise) ...(<i>Company</i>)	Page 39
		Music 34: Company Play Out	Page 39

Music 1: Overture**PROLOGUE****Music 2: The Mistletoe Ball**

A Victorian Street just outside Stoneheart Orphanage. As the music begins, the curtains open and dim blue lights reveal a host of Londoners frozen. A spotlight fades up on Tom the Chimney Sweep who steps forward to address the audience over the introduction to the song.

TOM: London, Eighteen ninety-nine! Victoria's on the throne - gawd bless 'er! There's a chill in the air and it looks like snow! Not a chimney sweep's favourite weather, but then, what the hec! Tomorrow's Christmas Eve, and you know what that means? Only the best party of the year - the Mistletoe Ball!

As the music changes and full lights come up, the Londoners begin to move and position themselves ready for the song and dance.

ALL: THERE'S A REASON FOR ELATION
THIS TIME EACH YEAR
AS THE SNOW BEGINS TO FALL
IT'S A SEASON CELEBRATION
SPREADING GOOD CHEER
THERE'LL BE FUN FOR ONE AND ALL
AT THE MISTLETOE BALL!

THERE ARE GARLANDS OF GREEN HOLLY
RIBBONS AND BOWS
AND A CHRISTMAS TREE SO TALL
WITH A WELCOME WARM AND JOLLY
EVERYONE KNOWS
THERE'LL BE FUN FOR ONE AND ALL
AT THE MISTLETOE BALL!

Sasha looks out of the Orphanage window at the excitement outside.

SASHA: WHEN YOU'RE JUST A LONELY ORPHAN
HIDING YOUR FEARS
AND YOU'RE FEELING SAD AND SMALL
YOU CAN WISH FOR SOMETHING MORE THAN
HEARTACHE AND TEARS
BUT I'LL NEVER GO AT ALL
TO THE MISTLETOE BALL!

ALL: THROUGH THE DANCING AND THE LAUGHTER
WE MAY BELIEVE
WHEN WE HEAR THE CHURCH BELLS CALL
WE'LL BE HAPPY EVER AFTER,
THIS CHRISTMAS EVE
THERE'LL BE FUN FOR ONE AND ALL
AT THE MISTLETOE BALL!

GROUP 1: FUN FOR ONE AND FUN FOR ALL

GROUP 2: AT THE MISTLETOE BALL!

GROUP 1: FUN FOR ONE AND FUN FOR ALL

GROUP 2: AT THE MISTLETOE BALL!
GROUP 1: FUN FOR ONE AND FUN FOR ALL
GROUP 2: AT THE MISTLETOE BALL!
GROUP 1: FUN FOR ONE AND FUN FOR ALL
ALL: AT THE MISTLETOE BALL!

The townsfolk call and wave goodbye to each other and exit.

SCENE 1

During the final part of the song, the scene changes swiftly to become the bedroom of Stoneheart Orphanage. Sasha is dressed in her nightgown, scrubbing the floor. Milly enters full of excitement holding out a piece of paper towards Sasha.

MILLY: I've done it Sasha! I've written the letter, just as you said.
SASHA: Sshh, Milly! Mrs. Flint will hear! Quickly, come over here.
MILLY: Read it, Sasha. Tell me if it's alright.
SASHA: No, Milly! These are your Christmas wishes. You shouldn't tell anybody your Christmas wishes. Well, except Santa, of course.
MILLY: Are you sure this will work? How will it get to him?
SASHA: By magic, Milly. We put it in the chimney tonight and then something wonderful will happen and it will fly through the air.
MILLY: All the way to the North Pole?

Harriet enters & stands to one side watching Sasha & Milly.

SASHA: That's right! How did you know that?
MILLY: My parents used to tell me about him. They said he was the kindest man in the world.
SASHA: He is, and he makes children's wishes come true. All you have to do is be good and believe.
HARRIET: What a load of nonsense. Really, Sasha, I would have thought you'd have grown out of such fairy stories!
MILLY: They're not fairy stories, it's true!
HARRIET: You're such a baby, Milly. There's no such thing as Santa Claus. He doesn't exist!
SASHA: Don't say that, Harriet. Just because you don't believe.

William enters.

HARRIET: There's no such thing as Santa Claus, there's no such thing as fairies and there's no such thing as happy ever after - especially for us orphans!

MILLY: You're a liar!

WILL: Milly! Be quiet! You know what will happen if Mrs. Flint hears us. There'll be no supper - again! Just ignore her. She's just a silly, sad little girl.

HARRIET: I'm not silly, and I'm certainly not little! Not like your little runt of a sister.

Harriet pushes Milly, and Will runs forward to protect her.

WILL: Don't you dare, Harriet! If you lay one finger on her then I'll ... I'll ...

HARRIET: What will you do, William? Don't make me laugh. *(Turning back to Milly)* Not such a tough boy, is he, your big brother?

WILL: Why are you so horrible, Harriet?

SASHA: Well, she won't have any Christmas wishes coming true.

WILL: You're right there, Sasha. I bet she's on the top of Santa's naughty list!

They laugh at Harriet, who becomes angrier than ever.

HARRIET: *(Shouting)* Don't you dare laugh at me! Santa doesn't exist! And even if he did, why would he bother to visit a bunch of orphans like us? No one cares about us, no one wants us. Nothing good ever happens to orphans. That's just the way it is Milly. *(She snatches Milly's letter from her)* So stop dreaming about Christmas wishes, because you're just wasting your time! *(she rips the letter into pieces)*

MILLY: No! *(she bursts into tears, trying to pick up the pieces of paper.)*

WILL: Harriet, you beast! How could you!

SASHA: Come on Milly, don't be upset. She doesn't know what she's talking about.

MILLY: He does exist, doesn't he Will?

WILL: Of course he does, Milly. Come on, I've got another sheet of paper under my bed. You've got time to write it again. Come on.

William and Milly exit together, leaving Sasha and Harriet alone in the bedroom.

SASHA: What on earth did you do that for? Milly's only little.

HARRIET: And she needs to know the truth, Sasha. It's no good filling her head with dreams that won't come true. About a new mother and father who will magically appear one day and adopt her. You know as well as I do that day will never come.

SASHA: But it's Christmas, Harriet. *(she picks up her little music box from a table and looks longingly at it)* If there's ever a time to believe in dreams and wishes, it's now.

Harriet snatches the music box from Sasha.

HARRIET: You and your silly music box and your silly dreams and wishes.

SASHA: Give it back, Harriet. You know that music box is the only thing I have from my parents.

HARRIET: I'm surprised at you Sasha. You've been here in this orphanage since the day you were born. Surely you've realised by now it's a waste of time believing in anything. *(giving her the music box)* Take your stupid music box. It's time you realised wishes never come true. It's time you stopped dreaming.

Harriet exits, leaving Sasha looking sad and thoughtful. She winds up her music box and opens it.

SASHA: But my dreams are all I have.

Music 3: Someone Somewhere

I'VE NEVER KNOWN A MOTHER'S GENTLE KISS
BUT WHAT YOU'VE NEVER KNOWN YOU NEVER MISS
I'LL ALWAYS LIVE MY LIFE THIS WAY
YET STILL I ASK EACH TIME I PRAY
IS THERE SOMEONE SOMEWHERE FOR ME?

HERE INSIDE MY MIND
I CAN SEE HER LOOKING DOWN ON ME
MOTHER'S SMILE SO WARM AND KIND
THAT'S A SIGHT I KNOW I'LL NEVER SEE

TO KNOW YOU'RE SOMEONE'S CHILD AND YOU BELONG
A FEELING THAT I'VE WANTED FOR SO LONG
I CLOSE MY EYES AND WONDER WHY
MY HOPES AND DREAMS SHOULD FADE AND DIE
IS THERE SOMEONE SOMEWHERE FOR ME?

HERE INSIDE MY MIND
I CAN SEE HER LOOKING DOWN ON ME
MOTHER'S SMILE SO WARM AND KIND
THAT'S A SIGHT I KNOW I'LL NEVER SEE

AND SO I GO ON WISHING HERE ALONE
TO DREAM OF KINDNESS I WAS NEVER SHOWN
AND THOUGH I HAVE NO ONE TO LOVE
I ASK THE SHINING STARS ABOVE
IS THERE SOMEONE SOMEWHERE
IS THERE SOMEONE SOMEWHERE
IS THERE SOMEONE SOMEWHERE FOR ME?

At the end of the song, Sasha sits and cries quietly.

Music 4: Stardust # 1

A magical tinkling sound comes from the fireplace. As Sasha investigates, William and Milly enter.

WILL: What's the matter, Sasha?

SASHA: I thought I heard something. But I must have imagined it.

MILLY: Is it too late? To send my letter?

SASHA: Of course not, Milly! Come on, let's get your letter sent. *(She takes the letter from*

Milly's hand) Now, close your eyes, both of you, and wish hard.

Music 5: Up The Chimney

Will and Milly close their eyes as Sasha creeps into the fireplace. We hear a magical noise and Sasha cries out as she disappears up the chimney. Will and Milly open their eyes and run to the fireplace.

MILLY: Sasha!

WILL: Where are you?

Milly creeps into the fireplace followed by Will, who both disappear up the chimney in turn. Blackout.

SCENE 2

The Rooftop. The music continues as the lights slowly fade up to reveal rooftops and chimney pots. Tom is sat on a chimney stack as his chimney sweep friends slowly gather on stage holding brushes.

TOM: Watcha, Charlie!

SWEEP 1: How you doing, Tom?

TOM: Lovely evening for a night on the tiles, eh, Alvin?

SWEEP 2: Certainly is, Tom!

TOM: Us sweeps see it all up here, don't we, fellas? Up on the rooftops with London at our feet. Them lot down there don't have a clue what goes on up here!

SWEEP 3: They wouldn't believe it if they did!

TOM: That's true! Living up amongst the stars and chimney pots. It sure is a lucky life!

Music 6: Clean Sweep

ALL: CLEAN SWEEP! BRUSH AND A BROOM
LIGHT UP YOUR FIRE AND BANISH THE GLOOM
CLEAN SWEEP! NIGHT ON THE TILES
WE CAN SEE MILES AND MILES!

CLEAN SWEEP! ASHES AND SMOKE
DON'T WANT TO LIVE LIKE THE EVERYDAY FOLK
CLEAN SWEEP! TROUBLE AND STRIFE
LIVING A LUCKY LIFE!

LONDON SPREADING BENEATH OUR FEET
WORKING WAY ABOVE THE CITY STREET
YOU'LL DISCOVER A WORLD SO NEW
CLIMB OUR LADDER, SHARE OUR POINT OF VIEW!

CLEAN SWEEP! CHIMNEY AND FLUE
SPRINKLE THE STARDUST AND WISHES COME TRUE
CLEAN SWEEP! MAGIC WE WEAVE
ONLY IF YOU BELIEVE!

CLEAN SWEEP! THIS PLACE IS OURS