

**SOCKS AND PANTS AND HANDKERCHIEFS SKETCH**

***Christmas Day. Three men sit in a semi-circle downstage left “drinking” out of mugs. The rest of their families are dotted about the stage engaged in various activities – playing cards, having conversations, reading etc.***

**JOHN:** Well, here we go again. Another Christmas. ***(Wearily)*** Guess I’ll be getting my usual present!

**TREVOR:** What’s that?

**JOHN:** Socks. It’s always socks. ***Beige*** socks!

**GEOFF:** With me it’s handkerchiefs. Always handkerchiefs. How about you Trev?

**TREVOR:** Pants.

**GEOFF:** Pardon?

**TREVOR:** I always get pants for Christmas. I wouldn’t mind so much if they were cool ones like my son Harry wears. ***(He stares out and says in a slow, dreamy voice)***. Boxers by Calvin Klein. That’s what I dream of.

***(They all laugh.)***

**JOHN:** ***(To Geoff)*** Hankies aren’t so bad. I mean, they’re very useful if you have a cold.

**GEOFF:** ***(Mimics the voice of his mother)*** “We didn’t know what to get you so we got you these. Look, they’re initialled! Yes, I know you’re Geoff with a “G” but they only had “J”. You can never have enough hankies!” ***(Back to his own, normal voice)*** Yes you can! Especially when you’ve got drawers stuffed with the things from previous years!

**JOHN:** ***(Laughing)*** Well, you could always open up a handkerchief shop.

**TREVOR:** ....or become a magician. You know. They have hundreds of them tied together up their sleeve.

**GEOFF:** Yes, but those are lovely, brightly coloured ones. Mine are always white!

**CHRIS:** ***(Coming over to John)*** Come on Dad. It’s time for the family presents. Santa *has* delivered them, after all.

**HARRY:** ***(Coming over to his dad, Trevor)*** Yes come on Dad. We can’t wait any longer. The suspense is killing us!

***(All three dads get up wearily, moving their chairs to one side.)***

**DADS:** ***(Sarcastically, slowly in unison)*** Oh yes, we can’t wait!

**TRACK 19:                    GIVING OUT THE PRESENTS**

*(Fade out according to the length of music required.)*

*(Chris and Harry join their cousin Jenna over by the tree and distribute the presents to the family. Once this is done, the three children unwrap theirs first.)*

**CHRIS:**                    *(Looks very disappointed as he holds up a pair of beige socks)*  
Socks! *(sarcastically)* Great!

**HARRY:**                    *(Holds up a huge pair of white Y-fronts in front of him and shakes his head in disbelief)* I suppose I might grow into them.....one day.  
*(Looks over to Jenna)* Jenna, what did you get?

**JENNA:**                    *(She has been given a set of handkerchiefs with the letter "J" on them. She holds one up for the audience to see)* Well, at least they got the letter right! *(to Geoff)* Go on Dad, go on Uncle Trevor, open yours! You too Uncle John.

**JOHN:**                    *(Opens present)* Oh wow! An Xbox!

**TREVOR:**                   *(Opens present)* I can't believe it! A PlayStation!

**GEOFF:**                    *(Opens present, but hides it at first) (miserably)* I got handkerchiefs again! *(Laughing)* I'm joking *(revealing his present)*  
An iPad!

*(All three are obviously delighted and high-five each other.)*

**JACKIE:**                    *(Opens her present. It's a denture bath. She holds it up to the audience.) (Kindly)* What a thoughtful present. This will really come in handy.....er, in about forty years!

*(She then gives her own teeth a tug to check that they are still firmly in place and gives the audience a "thumbs-up".)*

**TRACEY:**                    *(Unwraps her gift. She looks aghast at the hot water bottle she has been given) (Sarcastically)* A hot water bottle. Just what I've always wanted!

**GINNY:**                    *(She unwraps a huge flowery nightdress and holds it up in front of her). (In a sarcastic voice, swishing the nightdress round like a ball gown).* Oh, I must be the luckiest girl alive! "Cinderella, you shall go to the ball!"

*(Everyone laughs.)*