

# **Tinsel**

## **Infant Script**

by

## **Dave Corbett**

**Ideal Cast Size 26**

**Speaking Roles 15**

**Minimum Cast Size 18**

**Duration (minutes) 25**

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**CAST LIST**

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

Tinsel (12)

Sandy Squirrel (4)

**Narrators**

Narrator 1 (3)

Narrator 2 (2)

Narrator 3 (5)

Narrator 4 (2)

Narrator 5 (2)

Narrator 6 (2)

**Frosties**

Freddy Frost (4)

Freda Frost (3)

Fran Frost (2)

Frankie Frost (2)

**Toys**

Clown (3)

Doll (3)

Spaceman (2)

***Non-Speaking Roles***

Joseph

Mary

Wise Men

Shepherds

***N.B In addition to the above characters a chorus of Stable Animals, Toys and Squirrel Friends will be required.***

**SPEAKING ROLES BY NUMBER OF LINES**

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

|                      |    |
|----------------------|----|
| Tinsel .....         | 12 |
| Narrator 3 .....     | 5  |
| Freddy Frost .....   | 4  |
| Sandy Squirrel ..... | 4  |
| Narrator 1 .....     | 3  |
| Clown.....           | 3  |
| Doll .....           | 3  |
| Freda Frost.....     | 3  |
| Fran Frost.....      | 2  |
| Frankie Frost .....  | 2  |
| Spaceman .....       | 2  |
| Narrator 2 .....     | 2  |
| Narrator 4 .....     | 2  |
| Narrator 5 .....     | 2  |
| Narrator 6 .....     | 2  |

### SUGGESTED CAST LIST FOR 18 ACTORS

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

|  |    |
|--|----|
| Tinsel .....   | 12 |
| Narrator 3.....also reads Narrator 6's lines .....               | 7  |
| Narrator 1.....also reads Narrator 4's lines .....               | 5  |
| Freda Frost.....also reads Fran Frost's lines <sup>1</sup> ..... | 5  |
| Freddy Frost .....   | 4  |
| Narrator 2.....also reads Narrator 5's lines .....               | 4  |
| Sandy Squirrel .....   | 4  |
| Clown.....   | 3  |
| Doll .....   | 3  |
| Frankie Frost .....  | 2  |
| Spaceman .....   | 2  |

***Non-speaking Roles: Joseph, Mary, Wise Man, Shepherd, Stable Animal (e.g. Donkey), 2 Squirrel Friends.***

***<sup>1</sup>Names will need to be adjusted in the speeches on page 10.***

**LIST OF PROPERTIES**

|                                      |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|
| Christmas Decorations .....          | Stage Prop  |
| Foliage.....                         | Stage Prop  |
| Indoor Christmas Tree .....          | Stage Prop  |
| Outdoor Christmas Tree .....         | Stage Prop  |
| Presents .....                       | Stage Prop  |
| Red Berries .....                    | Scattered around stage for Sandy Squirrel and Friends |
| Silver Pine Cones .....              | Scattered around stage for Sandy Squirrel and Friends |
| Icicles (page 9) .....               | Frosties  |
| Glittering Fireflies (page 14) ..... | Toys  |
| Crooks (page 15).....                | Shepherds   |
| Gifts (page 15).....                 | Wise Men  |

## **HELPFUL HINTS AND TIPS**

Give your children their words to learn first – enlist the help of parents here. Set a date by which they should know them; you cannot hope to rehearse movement or introduce props until words and cues have been learned.

If sending home words to learn, send cues (the preceding line or two) as well, so children not only know what to say but when to say it!

Songs are best learned separately (it helps to keep the blood pressure down for all concerned).

Once rehearsing begins on stage, introduce any flats (free standing scenery) as soon as possible, so that children have their positions correct from the start. And don't forget to have one or two rehearsals with props, microphones (and lights if using) before the official dress rehearsal to allow time for children to get used to them.

Finally – this may seem obvious but is often forgotten – don't forget to practise your cast bows (arms across tummies or not?) and the order in which they should lead off stage. All too often a super show ends in foot-shuffling embarrassment because no one knows quite what to do when the applause ends.



## **PRODUCTION NOTES**

### **STAGING**

Depending on the facilities available this show can be as simple or complex as you want. Just remember, this is not supposed to be a West End production. All most parents want to see is their child on stage. All most teachers want is to survive unscathed. So feel free to add, subtract or completely change the ideas below. And don't forget to send your comments and pictures to [kate@musicline-ltd.com](mailto:kate@musicline-ltd.com).

### **BACKDROP AND SET**

This is an incredibly simple show to stage, consisting of only one scene. The play mainly takes place in a garden, with an area at the side of the stage made to represent the inside of a house. A simple backdrop of a garden scene, with foliage, red berries and silver pine cones scattered around is ideal for most of the stage. If possible, the scenery at the edge of the stage should suggest a cosy room, with Christmas decorations, presents and a Christmas tree. The Narrators could sit at the side of the stage or somewhere prominent, without being in the way of the action.

### **COSTUMES**

The Narrators should be dressed in typical winter attire: hats, coats, scarves, gloves etc. If this would cause a problem with the children becoming hot or uncomfortable, stick to casual clothes augmented with winter accessories to fit the theme.

The Frosties are intended to be 'Jack Frost' style characters and should be dressed in white to represent their winter nature. If possible, you could decorate their clothes with glitter or 'icicles' to make them appear more snow-like.

Tinsel is a fairy-like creature and should be dressed to demonstrate this. A light coloured dress with wings is all that's really needed.

Sandy Squirrel, the Squirrel Friends and the nativity animals should wear grey or brown clothes with animal masks to differentiate them from the rest of the cast. If the budget allows, animal costumes can be found online.

The toys, including the Doll, the Clown and the Spaceman should wear simple costumes representative of the type of toy they play. If the budget allows, Halloween and fancy dress costumes that can be found online are ideal.

Mary, Joseph, the Shepherds and the Wise Men should wear full-length smocks and headdresses. Mary should wear a white shawl or head covering over a blue smock. The Shepherds should carry crooks and the Wise Men should carry gifts in order to clearly define them.

### **MUSIC**

All the music required to stage this production is on the high quality Backing Tracks and Vocal Tracks CDs (both also available as mp3 downloads). An Easy Play Score is also available for purchase (see our website). These products are not only invaluable for performance, but can assist with the teaching of the songs too.

In addition, a brand new product: a CD-ROM or download of all the songs called Sing it! is also available. This CD-ROM or download can teach the songs to the children without any

teacher input. Children can use it at school or at home - think of the time it will save you! Most schools use it in class on an interactive white board or in the school hall on the overhead projector to allow full cast practice.

## **CHOREOGRAPHY**

### **Track 1: Frosties**

The Frosties should dance around the stage making spiky and jerky movements throughout the song. Have them shiver or mime the action of being warm during the spoken lines.

### **Track 2: Tinsel**

Little movement is needed in this song. Tinsel can shake her head when the wrong name is mentioned and nod her head when Tinsel is sung.

### **Track 3: Here's My Spell**

During the song Tinsel performs the action of casting a spell on the toys. As she performs the spell, the toys mime the actions of waking up, yawning and stretching.

### **Track 4: I Can Help**

Sandy and the Squirrel Friends mime the actions that they are singing about throughout the song.

### **Track 5: Firefly**

The Toys can hold up their Fireflies and swoop them around as if they are flying.

### **Track 6: It's All About A Baby**

During the song, the nativity characters should enter in groups and form a tableau in the centre of the stage.

### **Track 7: What A Lovely Tree**

All cast should assemble on stage for the final song. No movement is needed.

**TINSEL SCRIPT**

- NARRATOR 1:** Once upon a Christmas time there was a beautiful fir tree.  
**NARRATOR 2:** It was planted outside a lovely house in a big garden.  
**NARRATOR 3:** It stood all alone in the freezing winter weather.  
**NARRATOR 4:** It didn't mind the cold at all, but it was very lonely.  
**NARRATOR 5:** It wanted to be covered with pretty decorations like the one inside the big house.  
**NARRATOR 6:** Oh look, here come the Frosties.

*(The Frosties enter, and dance with spiky movements around the stage during the song. N.B. words in brackets are to be spoken with feeling.)*

**TRACK 1:****FROSTIES**

- FROSTIES:** FROSTIES, FROSTIES, MADE OF ICE,  
 FROSTIES, FROSTIES, MADE OF ICE,  
 WE WILL MAKE YOU REALLY COLD.  
*(Brr!) COLD. (Brr!) COLD.*
- IF YOU WANT TO GO OUTSIDE,  
 IF YOU WANT TO GO OUTSIDE,  
 WEAR A SCARF, WEAR A SCARF, WEAR A SCARF  
 TO KEEP YOU NICE AND WARM.  
*(Mmm!) WARM. (Mmm!) WARM.*
- FROSTIES, FROSTIES, MADE OF ICE,  
 FROSTIES, FROSTIES, MADE OF ICE,  
 WE WILL MAKE YOU REALLY COLD.  
*(Brr!) COLD. (Brr!) COLD.*
- IF YOU WANT TO GO OUTSIDE,  
 IF YOU WANT TO GO OUTSIDE,  
 WEAR A HAT, WEAR A HAT, WEAR A HAT  
 TO KEEP YOU NICE AND WARM.  
*(Mmm!) WARM. (Mmm!) WARM.*
- FROSTIES, FROSTIES, MADE OF ICE,  
 FROSTIES, FROSTIES, MADE OF ICE,  
 WE WILL MAKE YOU REALLY COLD.  
*(Brr!) COLD. (Brr!) COLD.*
- IF YOU WANT TO GO OUTSIDE,  
 IF YOU WANT TO GO OUTSIDE,  
 WEAR SOME GLOVES,  
 WEAR SOME GLOVES, WEAR SOME GLOVES  
 TO KEEP YOU NICE AND WARM.  
*(Mmm!) WARM. (Mmm!) WARM.*

**FREDDY:** We'll make it cold today, Freda Frostie.  
**FREDA:** We'll make it ice cold, Freddy Frostie.  
**FRANKIE:** We'll make noses cold today, Fran Frostie.  
**FRAN:** We'll make noses ice cold, Frankie Frostie.

*(Tinsel enters with a twirl.)*

**TINSEL:** I heard what you said, Frosties, but we have other work to do.  
**ALL FROSTIES:** Who are you?  
**TINSEL:** Don't you know my name?  
**FREDDY:** Is it Tania?  
**FREDA:** Is it Helen?  
**FRANKIE:** Is it Melissa?  
**FRAN:** Is it Rumpelstiltskin?

**TRACK 2:** **TINSEL**

**FROSTIES  
&TINSEL:** WHAT IS MY NAME? WHAT IS MY NAME?  
 GUESS, GUESS. WHAT IS MY NAME?  
 TRY ALL YOU CAN, TRY ALL YOU CAN.  
 IT'S NOT JENNY OR JAN.  
 TINSEL ... TINSEL ... IS MY NAME.

WHAT IS MY NAME? WHAT IS MY NAME?  
 GUESS, GUESS. WHAT IS MY NAME?  
 TRY ALL YOU CAN, TRY ALL YOU CAN.  
 IT'S NOT ANGIE OR ANN.  
 TINSEL ... TINSEL ... IS MY NAME.

WHAT IS MY NAME? WHAT IS MY NAME?  
 GUESS, GUESS. WHAT IS MY NAME?  
 TRY ALL YOU CAN, TRY ALL YOU CAN.  
 IT'S NOT FIFI OR FRAN.  
 TINSEL ... TINSEL ... IS MY NAME.

**TINSEL:** My name is Tinsel, the Christmas fairy. My job is to decorate all the lonely Christmas trees, like this one here.  
**ALL FROSTIES:** Can we help?  
**TINSEL:** Yes, you can dangle pretty icicles on the branches.

*(The Frosties hang glittering icicles on the tree. Toys could quietly take up positions on stage in the area representing the inside of the house.)*

**ALL FROSTIES:** We're tired out now, Tinsel.  
**TINSEL:** In that case we need more help.  
**NARRATOR 1:** Tinsel looked through the window of the big house.  
**NARRATOR 2:** There were lots of toys ready for Christmas Day.  
**TINSEL:** They can help as well.  
**FREDDY:** But they're only toys.  
**TINSEL:** Wait until I work my magic on them.

**TRACK 3:** **HERE'S MY SPELL**

*(During the song the toys come to life as the lyrics suggest. They yawn and stretch slowly as they 'wake up'.)*

**FROSTIES &**

**TINSEL:** LOOK AT ALL THE TOYS,  
 LOOK AT ALL THE TOYS,  
 LOOK AT ALL THE TOYS  
 FOR GIRLS AND BOYS.

THEY CAN HELP AS WELL,  
 THEY CAN HELP AS WELL,  
 THEY CAN HELP AS WELL,  
 SO HERE'S MY SPELL.

MAGIC, PAGIC, SWIRL AND SWISH.  
 MAGIC, PAGIC, SWIRL AND SWISH.  
 MAGIC, PAGIC, GRANT A WISH.

SEE THEM RUB THEIR EYES,  
 SEE THEM RUB THEIR EYES,  
 SEE THEM RUB THEIR EYES,  
 THEY'RE SO SURPRISED.

THEY CAN HELP AS WELL,  
 THEY CAN HELP AS WELL,  
 THEY CAN HELP AS WELL,  
 SO HERE'S MY SPELL.

MAGIC, PAGIC, SWIRL AND SWISH.  
 MAGIC, PAGIC, SWIRL AND SWISH.  
 MAGIC, PAGIC, GRANT A WISH.

WATCH THEM YAWN AND STAND,  
 WATCH THEM YAWN AND STAND,  
 WATCH THEM YAWN AND STAND,  
 AS WE HAD PLANNED.

THEY CAN HELP AS WELL,