

## CRATCHIT'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

A musical in two acts

by John Gleadall

Dramatis Personae

*NHS Group, should be a mixed group, boys and girls, Dr Kowalski should be a girl.*

Nurse 1 (Carol Cratchit)

Nurse 2 Natalia

Nurse 3 Colleen D

Nurse 4 Zofia

Nurse 5 Jakub

Nurse 6 Jan

Nurse 7 Lorenzo

Nurse 8 Carlotta

Dr Kowalski

Ivy Cratchit

Holly Cratchit

Kris Cratchit

Tina Cratchit

Solo Prologue Singer

Prologue dancer 1

Prologue dancer 2

Security Guard

Rob Ageing Irish Rock Star, knighted for charity work

Squidge Ageing Scottish Rock Star, OBE for charity work – not knighted.

Rob and Squidge's 'people' – optional, but four is the best number.

Archie Scrooge's nephew

Erin Archie's girlfriend

Band Singer 1

Band Singer 2

Band Singer 3

Band Singer 4

Auditionee 1

Auditionee 2

Auditionee 3

Marley's Ghost – rasta punk look

Ghosts of Christmas Past – Linda, Betty and Sherry – cross between the Supremes and Bananarama

Ebs Scrooge – Scrooge as a young boy

Fran – Scrooge's sister

Office staff

Various groups as directed for the 'Making Money' song

Shmooge Young man Scrooge

Ruby Shmooge's girlfriend  
Ghost of Christmas Present – looks a lot like Ariana Grande  
Present's backing singers/dancers  
Granny Cratchit  
Party Guest 1  
Party Guest 2  
Party Guest 3  
Ghost of Christmas Future (invisible to Scrooge)  
Vendor 1  
Vendor 2  
Wife  
Vincent  
Shopper 1  
Shopper 2  
Girlfriend  
Boyfriend  
Older Ruby  
Boy  
Vicar

The set should be very minimal with props moved on and off by actors as they enter and exit. There should be a projection screen in a portrait format (it represents a mobile phone screen) USC. This should be made of a fireproof paper which will enable Marley to break through. If possible this should be replaced in the interval.

There should be a series of 8'x4' painted 'legs' (preferably 3 a side) either side of the stage, plus further flats at the rear of the stage. All of these flats should be able to revolve. One side should be a plain colour – possibly graded blue to red, or a light enough colour to be washed with colour from stage lights. On the reverse should be a series of images of Scrooge's face in two tone black and white with expressions ranging from evil (SR) to benign (SL). This stage format should allow large numbers of cast to enter and exit very quickly and quietly. By the end of the show all of the flats should be reversed to show Scrooge's progress.

ACT ONE

**PROLOGUE PART 1**

*The opening scene is the NHS Community Choir rehearsal. The whole cast should be gradually entering up to ten minutes before curtain, in twos and threes, as though getting ready to rehearse. There could be a notice on the stage 'NHS Community Choir, Final Rehearsal Today' The choir slowly assume the formation on stage. At Curtain time lights up on the whole cast standing in a choir formation plus the Cratchit children with Tina in a wheelchair at the front.*

**Song One - CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

TIME IS BACK AGAIN WELCOME BACK AGAIN  
THOUGH IT'S BEEN A YEAR  
SINCE THE MUSIC PLAYED - SEASONS COME AND FADE  
NOW WE'RE SINGING HERE  
CHRISTMAS

TIME IS NEAR  
THE MUSIC'S HERE  
CHRISTMAS

TIME IS NEAR  
IT'S YEAR  
WE'VE BEEN HERE  
SING OUR SONG  
IT'S SO LONG  
NOW WE'RE HERE  
CHRISTMAS!

TIME IS BACK AGAIN  
WELCOME BACK AGAIN  
THOUGH IT'S BEEN A YEAR  
SINCE THE MUSIC PLAYED  
SEASONS COME AND FADE  
NOW WE'RE SINGING HERE  
CHRISTMAS

TIME IS NEAR  
THE MUSIC'S HERE  
CHRISTMAS

TIME IS NEAR  
IT'S YEAR  
WE'VE BEEN HERE  
SING OUR SONG  
IT'S SO LONG  
NOW WE'RE HERE  
CHRISTMAS!

TIME IS BACK AGAIN  
WELCOME BACK AGAIN  
THOUGH IT'S BEEN A YEAR

TIME IS NEAR  
THE MUSIC'S HERE  
CHRISTMAS

TIME IS NEAR  
IT'S YEAR  
WE'VE BEEN HERE

SINCE THE MUSIC PLAYED  
SEASONS COME AND FADE  
NOW WE'RE SINGING HERE  
CHRISTMAS

SING OUR SONG  
IT'S SO LONG  
NOW WE'RE HERE  
CHRISTMAS!

TIME IS BACK AGAIN  
WELCOME BACK AGAIN  
THOUGH IT'S BEEN A YEAR  
SINCE THE MUSIC PLAYED  
SEASONS COME AND FADE  
NOW WE'RE SINGING HERE  
CHRISTMAS

TIME IS NEAR  
THE MUSIC'S HERE  
CHRISTMAS

TIME IS NEAR  
IT'S YEAR  
WE'VE BEEN HERE  
SING OUR SONG  
IT'S SO LONG  
NOW WE'RE HERE  
CHRISTMAS!

TINA            And God Bless Us Every One!

Dr K            Well done Tina, great line – that will be a wonderful end to the concert. Thank you everybody – super rehearsal. See you all later for the carol singing, don't forget the collecting buckets!

*All exit except NHS characters*

DR K            Carol – that new song you brought us is outstanding!

NURSE 2        I love the words – *nurse 2 sings* – 'And today's the day to make a beginning' - Your hubby is so clever Carol. Did he write that song just for us?

CAROL          Well he actually wrote it for/

Dr K            It's truly exceptional Nurse Cratchit. And an excellent rehearsal! Can somebody turn the TV on – we'll get the news, I think there's an NHS spending review.

KRIS            I'll do it!

*Kris uses a remote to turn on a notional TV over the heads of the audience. TV screen light. End of the news revealing large spending cuts in NHS. Then SFX of trailer for TV talent show, 'Thumbs Up' advertising the latest competition to create a Christmas number one song.*

THUMBS UP  
THUMBS UP  
GETCHA THUMBS UP

*V/O GET THE NEW THUMBS UP APP AND YOU CAN VOTE IN THE THUMBS UP SONGWRITING TALENT SHOW. YOU DECIDE ON THE NEXT CHRISTMAS NUMBER ONE. USE YOUR THUMBS UP TO VOTE YES, OR THUMBS DOWN TO VOTE NO. ENTRIES TO THE ADDRESS SHOWN ON THE SCREEN*

*THUMBS UP  
GETCHA THUMBS UP  
YOU CAN HAVE YOUR SAY  
YOUR THUMB WILL BECOME  
YOUR VOTING CARD TODAY.*

*THUMBS UP APP AVAILABLE ONLINE FOR £10. VOTES COST £1 PER VOTE.  
UNLIMITED VOTES. TERMS AND CONDITIONS APPLY.*

*Sound fades. Kris turns the TV off as Boris Johnson's name is mentioned.*

CAROL           The next Christmas number one?

NURSE 7        What about Bob's new song Carol?

CAROL           Well to be honest he doesn't actually know that/

NURSE 8        Imagine the money we could make from that!

IVY             Enough to pay for a Proton Beam Therapy Machine for Tina's treatment?

DR K            Maybe not – that's about £30 million pounds!

NURSE 6        But the hospital has already raised half of that from the appeal.

NURSE 7        And Children In Need have pledged another five million....

TINA            Could I at least get some new tyres?

NURSE 2        Let's do the competition then, that song is brilliant – how do you enter?

NURSE 8        Postal entries – we'd have to record it.

NURSE 4        But the 'Thumbs Up' office is just round the corner.

Dr K            And aren't we going Carol Singing this evening?

NURSE 3        Yeah - just around the corner.

NURSE 2           Thumbs Up? Security's very tight.

Dr K               Everybody loves an NHS choir though – what kind of a person would turn away the NHS? I mean apart from Jeremy Hunt?

TINA               My Daddy works at Thumbs Up with/

CAROL             Come along Tina time we got home.

NURSE 5           Where does he work? Thumbs Up? Carol - you never told us that Bob works for/

CAROL             Is that the time? We must be going/

TINA               My Daddy will get us on the telly.

CAROL             Tina!

ALL                Let's go!

*Exit NHS group. Mirror Ball on. Blue and red lights divide the stage. Stage right blue, stage left red. Scrooge is U/S right, seated on an office chair wearing a distinctive jacket, back to the audience, looking at his mobile.*

## **PROLOGUE PART 2**

*Enter Singer, Dancers dressed one red one blue enter/exit as directed. Fixed spotlight on singer. Dance duet, should personify good/evil or giving/taking.*

### **Song Two – WISH FOR THE MOON**

NOW THAT IT'S TIME TO PAY THE PIPER  
AND ALL YOUR LIFE YOU'VE SUNG A DIFFERENT TUNE  
CHANCES NOT TAKEN, DREAMS UNFULFILLED  
NOW YOU CAN WISH FOR THE MOON

HERE IS YOUR LEGACY OF LIVING  
SAD AND UNLOVED AND IT IS COMING SOON  
MORALLY BANKRUPT, CRIPPLED INSIDE  
NOW YOU CAN WISH FOR THE MOON.

THIS IS THE FUTURE  
LOOK TO THE PAST YET TO COME

NOW THAT IT'S TIME TO PAY THE PIPER

BUT YOU'VE BEEN SINGING IN A MINOR KEY  
LOOK THROUGH THE NEEDLE, THIS IS THE DOOR  
THE MAN IN THE MOON WAITS TO SEE

THIS IS THE FUTURE, STILL IN THE FUTURE  
LOOK TO THE PAST YET TO COME

SCROOGE WAS A MAN  
A MEAN OLD MAN

*Exit Dancers and singer. Mirror Ball off.*

### **SCENE ONE**

*Enter Security man; Off stage singing from NHS choir; enter choir dressed in outdoor coats and scarves, collecting tins and lanterns on sticks. Ivy is pushing Tina's wheelchair*

SECURITY      Hold on there – excuse me – you can't come in here. I'm sorry, this is a private area for Mr Scrooge and Thumbs up productions.

NURSE 5        But officer, we're the NHS choir raising money for old folk in hospital.

SECURITY      I'm very sorry but I have my orders/

NURSE 6        And injured babies

SECURITY      The thing is it's my first day/

IVY              And my sister Tina who is really really sick. *Tina coughs and looks ill.*

SECURITY      Well/

HOLLY          Thank you!

*The choir fill the stage and sing a traditional wassailing song.*

### **Song Three – A SOALIN'**

HEY HO NOBODY

HOME

MEAT NOR DRINK NOR

MONEY HAVE I

NONE

HEY HO NOBODY

HOME

MEAT NOR DRINK NOR

HEY HO NOBODY

YET SHALL WE BE  
MERRY  
HEY HO NOBODY  
HOME  
HEY HO NOBODY  
HOME

MONEY HAVE I  
NONE  
YET SHALL WE BE  
MERRY  
HEY HO NOBODY  
HOME  
HEY HO NOBODY  
HOME

HOME  
MEAT NOR DRINK NOR  
MONEY HAVE I  
NONE  
YET SHALL WE BE  
MERRY  
HEY HO NOBODY  
HOME  
HEY HO NOBODY  
HOME

HEY HO NOBODY  
HOME  
MEAT NOR DRINK NOR  
MONEY HAVE I  
NONE  
YET SHALL WE BE  
MERRY  
HEY HO NOBODY  
HOME  
HEY HO NOBODY  
HOME

SOAL A SOAL A SOAL CAKE  
PLEASE GOOD MISSUS A SOAL CAKE  
AN APPLE A PEAR A PLUM AND A CHERRY  
ANY GOOD THING TO MAKE US ALL MERRY  
ONE FOR PETER TWO FOR PAUL  
THREE FOR HIM WHO MADE US ALL

GOD BLESS THE MASTER OF THIS HOUSE AND THE MIST-E-RESS ALSO  
AND ALL THE LITTLE CHILDREN THAT ROUND YOUR TABLE GROW  
THE CATTLE IN YOUR STABLE THE DOG BY YOUR FRONT DOOR  
AND ALL THAT DWELLS WITHIN YOUR GATES WE WISH YOU TEN TIMES MORE

SOAL A SOAL A SOAL CAKE  
PLEASE GOOD MISSUS A SOAL CAKE  
AN APPLE A PEAR A PLUM AND A CHERRY  
ANY GOOD THING TO MAKE US ALL MERRY  
ONE FOR PETER TWO FOR PAUL  
THREE FOR HIM WHO MADE US ALL

GO DOWN INTO THE CELLAR AND SEE WHAT YOU CAN FIND  
IF THE BARRELS ARE NOT EMPTY WE HOPE YOU WILL PROVE KIND  
WE HOPE YOU WILL BE KIND WITH YOUR APPLE AND STRONG BEER  
FOR WE'LL COME NO MORE A SOALIN' TILL THIS TIME NEXT YEAR

SOAL A SOAL A SOAL CAKE  
PLEASE GOOD MISSUS A SOAL CAKE  
AN APPLE A PEAR A PLUM AND A CHERRY  
ANY GOOD THING TO MAKE US ALL MERRY  
ONE FOR PETER TWO FOR PAUL  
THREE FOR HIM WHO MADE US ALL

THE STREETS ARE VERY DIRTY MY SHOES ARE VERY THIN



I HAVE A LITTLE POCKET TO PUT A PENNY IN  
IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A PENNY A HA'PENNY WILL DO  
IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT A HA'PENNY THEN GOD BLESS YOU!

SOAL A SOAL A SOAL CAKE  
PLEASE GOOD MISSUS A SOAL CAKE  
AN APPLE A PEAR A PLUM AND A CHERRY  
ANY GOOD THING TO MAKE US ALL MERRY  
ONE FOR PETER TWO FOR PAUL  
THREE FOR HIM WHO MADE US ALL

NOW TO THE LORD SING PRAISES ALL YOU WITHIN THIS PLACE  
AND WITH TRUE LOVE AND BROTHERHOOD EACH OTHER NOW EMBRACE  
THIS HOLY TIDE OF CHRISTMAS OF BEAUTY AND OF GRACE  
OH TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND JOY!

*The singing is sensational and the choir turn to face U/S right. Scrooge slowly turns to face them, still absorbed in his mobile.*

NURSE 7        It's him! Squeezer Scrooge!

NURSE 2        Merry Christmas Mr Scrooge.

Dr K            OK everybody, now's our chance, let's sing our Christmas Number one song!

NURSE 3        Mr Scrooge, we've written a song about working together and loving each other.

NURSE 4        It's like 'Imagine'

NURSE 5        Meets 'Blowin In The Wind'

NURSE 6        Meets 'One Love'

NURSE 7        Meets 'Jerusalem'

NURSE 8        Meets 'Let there be' / *(he was going to say 'peace on earth')*.

SCROOGE        *(Calmly turns and looks up from his mobile)* Shut up. Get out. *(He talks into his mobile)* Security?

Dr K            Go on Holly, Ivy, Tina! Quick before we get chucked out. We've got a hand written manuscript Mr Scrooge. Carol – give Mr Scrooge the music.

*Carol gives Scrooge a sheet of manuscript paper. The cute children are urged forward by the choir. They sing. Spotlight on the singers and another on Scrooge who examines the sheet music during the singing. Rest of the stage dim.*

**Song Four – TOMORROW WILL NEVER COME**

STANDING HERE IN THE DYING YEAR  
WITH THE SUN GLOWING RED ON THESE CLOUDED HILLS  
DAYS GROW COLD AND THE CLOUDS UNFOLD  
ON THE DARK AND SATANIC MILLS

AND TODAY'S THE DAY TO MAKE A BEGINNING  
TODAY'S THE DAY/

*Lights return to normal state as Scrooge speaks*

SCROOGE      Stop. Who let them in here? (pause) I said: 'Who let them in here?' (*He turns to the security man*) Was it – you?

SECURITY      Well they said they was the NHS choir and they was raising money for the hospital and I thought well as it's Christmas and all/

*Scrooge raise his hand to stop the guard speaking. He gets his phone out and speed dials.*

SCROOGE      Hello? Yes I know you are head of security Marlow, I just phoned you up. Can you please tell (*he turns to the security guard*) you – what's your name?

SECURITY      Jack Sackman

SCROOGE      How appropriate, yes tell Sackman to be off the premises by 5 pm please. Yes I am aware it's 4.48 now.

*Security Guard's walkie talkie comes on air, "Sackman, you're sacked - out the back Jack"*

NURSE 3      That's a bit harsh!

SCROOGE      Still here?

NURSE 4      Didn't you like our song?

NURSE 5      It's going to be the new Christmas No. 1

NURSE 6      It's original, by/

CAROL           Someone we know.

DR K             That's the only copy.

SCROOGE        No copyright? Sackman, as you're still here make yourself useful – rubbish – bin – now.

*The security guard takes the music and drops it in a waste bin right next to Scrooge*

SECURITY        I thought the song was really good

SCROOGE        That's why you are an unemployed security officer and I am running the world's largest talent agency.

KRIS             We thought you could record the Hospital Choir

IVY              and make a lot of money for the NHS

HOLLY           and help our little sister – she's not well. *Tina coughs and looks ill.*

SCROOGE        It's the worst song I ever heard and you lot are a bunch of amateur, talentless no hoper do gooders who are wasting my time. You'd better go now before the police arrive.

*The choir reaction is disgust and surprise. They prepare to leave creating a shape for the song*

NURSE 7         No wonder they call him 'squeezer'!

NURSE 8         What's his real name?

NURSE 2         Ebenezer

Dr K             Ebenezer Scrooge

NURSE 3         What were his parents thinking?

### **Song Five – A MEAN OLD MAN**

SCROOGE IS A MAN IS A MEAN OLD MAN  
IS A VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY  
MEAN OLD MAN

EBENEZER HE'S A GEEZER WHO WILL NEVER TRY TO PLEASE YER

HE WILL ALWAYS TRY TO SQUEEZE YER FOR YOUR  
MONEY SO AVOID HIM IF YOU CAN

GOT NO SENSE OF HUMOUR  
JUST WADS OF MAZUMA

SCROOGE IS A MAN IS A MEAN OLD MAN  
IS A VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY  
MEAN OLD MAN

HE IS FISCALLY RETENTIVE HIS INVESTMENTS ARE INVENTIVE  
AND HE PAYS A SMALL INCENTIVE SO HIS BROKER IS ATTENTIVE  
WHAT A MEAN OLD MAN!

HE GETS VERY FEW KICKS  
GETS OFF ON SPONDULICKS

HE CAN TAKE A LIFE  
AND HE CAN RUIN IT  
TAKE YOUR HOPES  
AND DREAMS YOU  
THINK YOU'RE DOING IT  
TILL YOU FIND YOU  
HAVE TO GIVE AWAY  
YOUR SOUL  
THAT IS WHY HE IS A  
MEAN OLD

HE CAN TAKE A LIFE  
ND HE CAN RUIN IT  
TAKE YOUR HOPES  
AND DREAMS YOU  
THINK YOU'RE DOING IT  
TILL YOU FIND YOU  
HAVE TO GIVE AWAY  
YOUR SOUL  
THAT IS WHY HE IS A  
MEAN OLD

HE CAN TAKE A LIFE  
AND HE CAN RUIN IT  
TAKE YOUR HOPES AND  
DREAMS YOU THINK  
YOU'RE DOING IT  
TILL YOU FIND YOU  
HAVE TO GIVE AWAY  
YOUR SOUL  
THAT IS WHY HE IS A  
MEAN OLD

MAN HE IS SO MEAN  
HE IS A MEAN OLD

MAN HE IS SO MEAN  
HE IS A MEAN OLD

CONSCIENCE IS A WORD  
THAT HE'S NEVER HEARD  
THERE'S A PAUCITY OF  
REAL INTEGRITY A MEAN  
OLD

HE CAN TAKE A LIFE  
AND HE CAN RUIN IT  
TAKE YOUR HOPES AND  
DREAMS YOU THINK  
YOU'RE DOING IT  
TILL YOU FIND YOU  
HAVE TO GIVE AWAY  
YOUR SOUL  
THAT IS WHY HE IS A  
MEAN OLD

MAN HE IS SO MEAN  
HE IS A MEAN OLD

CONSCIENCE IS A WORD  
THAT HE'S NEVER HEARD  
THERE'S A PAUCITY OF  
REAL  
INTEGRITY A MEAN OLD

INVESTMENTS  
TENDED  
AVARICIOUSLY  
MEAN OLD

HE CAN TAKE A LIFE  
AND HE CAN RUIN IT  
TAKE YOUR HOPES AND  
DREAMS YOU THINK  
YOU'RE DOING IT  
TILL YOU FIND YOU  
HAVE TO GIVE AWAY  
YOUR SOUL  
THAT IS WHY HE IS A  
MEAN OLD

MAN HE IS SO MEAN  
HE IS A MEAN OLD

CONSCIENCE IS A WORD  
THAT HE'S NEVER HEARD  
THERE'S A PAUCITY OF  
REAL  
INTEGRITY A MEAN OLD

INVESTMENTS  
TENDED  
AVARICIOUSL  
Y  
MEAN OLD

ALL  
MEAN OLD MAN  
MEAN OLD MAN  
VICIOUS  
HE'S AVARICIOUS

SCROOGE

ALL

WHY WON'T THEY SEE  
THEY THINK OF ME AS MALICIOUS  
I'M JUST AMBITIOUS

MEAN OLD MAN  
MEAN OLD MAN  
VICIOUS  
HE'S AVARICIOUS

*ALL*  
MEAN OLD MAN  
MEAN OLD MAN  
FELONIOUS  
HE'S PARSIMONIOUS

SCROOGE

ALL

HATE WHAT I'VE GOT  
JUST 'CAUSE I'M NOT SANCTIMONIOUS

MEAN OLD MAN  
MEAN OLD MAN

---

THEY'RE INHARMONIOUS!

FELONIOUS  
HE'S PARSIMONIOUS

ALL SCROOGE IS A MAN IS A MEAN OLD MAN  
IS A VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY  
MEAN OLD MAN  
AND IF PEOPLE ASK FOR MONEY HIS DEMEANOUR ISN'T  
SUNNY HE CAN TURN A LITTLE FUNNY HE WILL GO AND GET  
HIS GUN HE IS A MEAN OLD MAN.

SOCIALLY UNHANDY  
HE IS KRUGERANDY

SCROOGE IS A MAN, A MEAN OLD  
A MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD,  
VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY  
MEAN OLD MAN

SCROOGE IS A MAN, A MEAN OLD  
A MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD,  
VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY  
MEAN OLD MAN

A MEAN OLD MAN  
A MEAN OLD MAN

A MEAN OLD MAN!

*The choir have been getting off during the last verse which should get quieter and quieter, then every head comes back into view to shout the last line. Lights dim. Exit choir and Security man. Lights up.*

## **SCENE TWO**

SCROOGE (Using his phone as an intercom) Crotchet could you come in here please.

*Enter Cratchit SR*

CRATCHIT Mr Scrooge – it's Cratchit Mr Scrooge.

SCROOGE It's a joke Crotchet – a Crotchet is a one beat note, rather than a Cratchit which is a dead beat scrote.

CRATCHIT Are you in a good mood sir?

SCROOGE As it happens yes.

CRATCHIT Any particular reason sir?

SCROOGE Crotchet – please examine the contents of the bin.

*Scrooge points into the bin, right next to him, Cratchit retrieves the song material and examines it.*

SCROOGE Can you do anything with that?

CRATCHIT Oh yes! It's fantastic Mr Scrooge – looks a bit familiar. Why is it in the bin?

SCROOGE When I wrote it I thought it was no good – but now I think there might be something there. Could be my next number one Crotchet. Can you rock it up a bit? Four on the floor, some grimy beats etc?

CRATCHIT But it's in 3/4 time sir (he sees the look on Scrooge's face) but I'll have a go Mr Scrooge. Hey wait a minute! This is my/

SCROOGE Excellent isn't it? What were you going to say?

CRATCHIT Er – this is my – kind of thing. You didn't have the local hospital choir in here by any chance did you sir?

SCROOGE Yes – soon got rid of that bunch of losers. Oh just change some of the wimpy hippie lyrics can you – I was struggling for inspiration. Maybe a bit more like Windzy?

CRATCHIT You mean Stormzy sir? Oh – that Windzy – yes OK. I'll get to work. Oh, by the way Mr Scrooge, what shall I do about these begging letters?

SCROOGE Oh – just keep sending them out.

*Enter Rob and Squidge (they should look like Bob and Midge and they could have their 'people' with them with notebooks and appeal placards. The people could take some of the lines if required. They should join in the chorus of the song)*

SCROOGE Ah Sir Rob - and is that Squidge with you?

ROB It's that time of year again Squeezer.

SCROOGE Haven't you actually fed the world yet?

- SQUIDGE      This year we're collecting for red knees day.
- CRATCHIT      Don't you mean Red Nose day Squidge?
- ROB             Last year we had to get down and beg for a donation – so it's red knees day.
- SCROOGE      Very droll Sir Rob. I recall I gave you a percentage of our Christmas number one last year?
- SQUIDGE      I still have it. I was surprised at the number of zeros before the decimal point.
- He gets 50p out of his pocket*
- SCROOGE      And your point is?
- ROB             This place isn't the same since Marley went! Over the past seven years you've claimed more in tax relief than you've actually given!
- SCROOGE      Marley was too generous by half – he never understood the tax dodges – er – system. Hard to believe it's seven years since he shuffled off.
- SQUIDGE      He always found a small donation for us though. Look Squeezer, this year we're helping folks who can't help themselves right here in the United Kingdom.
- SCROOGE      I think that 'United' is over egging the pudding somewhat.
- ROB             There's people sleeping out in the open tonight, it's freezing. Did you know that over 600 people died on the streets last year?
- SCROOGE      They should go indoors.
- SQUIDGE      Lots of them can't. The ones suffering from mental illness or dependant on drugs – they need treatment.
- SCROOGE      NHS, Social Services, prisons?
- ROB             Stretched beyond breaking point. And did you realise there's nearly 4 million children in the UK living in poverty? Right now?
- SQUIDGE      We want to help these kids. Ignorance and want are ruining their chances of a decent life. It's - it's Dickensian!
- ROB             So get your BACS payment ready Squeezer!



- SCROOGE I do not wish to appear on your subscribers list
- ROB You want to remain anonymous?
- SCROOGE I wish to be left in peace. I already fund the Prison Service, NHS and Social Services through my tax payments.
- SQUIDGE Come on Squeezer – we know you've got loads of money in offshore tax havens!
- SCROOGE I'm just a simple talent show host.
- ROB Squeezer, if we don't act now many of these young lives will be meaningless. Many folk will die on the streets!
- SCROOGE And this affects me – how?

*Lights dim, pool of light on Bob and Squidge (and their 'people' if used)*

**SONG SIX – THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL**

- ROB THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL  
BUT SOME CAN'T READ AT ALL  
THAT MANY HANDED SCRAWL  
THAT SPELLS OUT THEIR LIVES
- SO CARDBOARD CITY GROWS  
ACROSS THE WINTER SNOWS  
THE HOMELESS PERSON KNOWS  
THE PAIN YET SURVIVES
- SQUIDGE THE DAILY SEARCH FOR WORK BEGINS TO PALL  
THE ENDLESS MAKING ENDS MEET CAN'T FORESTALL  
THE GRINDING DOWN OF LIVES SO VERY SMALL  
TO DEPRIVE
- THE DIGNITY THAT MANY WILL FORGO  
INSTEAD OF LEADS THEY PLAY A CAMEO  
THEY NEVER LEARN THEIR LINES OR PLAY THE SHOW,  
JUST SURVIVE.

---

ROB

SQUIDGE

---

THE WRITING'S ON THE WALL  
BUT SOME CAN'T READ AT ALL

THAT MANY HANDED SCRAWL  
THAT SPELLS OUT THEIR LIVES

SO CARDBOARD CITY GROWS  
ACROSS THE WINTER SNOWS  
THE HOMELESS PERSON KNOWS

THE PAIN YET SURVIVES!

THE DAILY SEARCH FOR WORK BEGINS TO PALL  
THE ENDLESS MAKING ENDS MEET CAN'T  
FORESTALL  
THE GRINDING DOWN OF LIVES SO VERY SMALL  
TO DEPRIVE

THE DIGNITY THAT MANY WILL FORGO  
INSTEAD OF LEADS THEY PLAY A CAMEO  
THEY NEVER LEARN THEIR LINES OR PLAY THE  
SHOW,  
JUST SURVIVE.

ROB            Come on Scrooge! Get your bloody wallet out! There's people dying out there!

SCROOGE      They'd better crack on and do it then – now **that** would lower the social services bill.

SQUIDGE      We'll take that as a no then

SCROOGE      See them out Crotchet.

*Lights fade on Scrooge and go up DSC*

SQUIDGE      Why are you still working for that miserly minger?

ROB            Yeah – you should be branching out on your own!

CRATCHIT     I can't. He's got all the rights to my music and– oh it doesn't matter.

SQUIDGE      Let it go. Come and work for me. Studio work, loads of gigs.

CRATCHIT     Can't do it – he made me sign this intern contract – he owns me, plus I have be at home for the kids when Carol's working nights. She brings all the money in. But I can let you have a fiver for the homeless/

ROB            Keep it Bobby – see you round.

*Exit Rob and Squidge. Lights back up on Scrooge*

### Scene Three

SCROOGE      Every year it's the same. Sir Bob and sidekick Squidge OBE, bigging themselves up in

the media.

CRATCHIT To be fair they have raised over £150,000,000 for charities sir. If you ask me they've done the world a service

SCROOGE And did I?

CRATCHIT I don't think so sir, you wouldn't give anything this year/

SCROOGE I mean did I ask you?

CRATCHIT No sir.

*Enter Archie and Erin*

ARCHIE Was that Sir Rob and Squidge I passed in the corridor?

SCROOGE Oh God! My nephew! Every year! It's like the first chapter of a book over and over again!

ERIN Happy Christmas Uncle Scrooge!

SCROOGE No.

ARCHIE No what?

SCROOGE No I don't want come to your awful flat in Gunwharf Quays for Christmas lunch.

ERIN But/

*Scrooge holds up his hand*

SCROOGE And just because you cohabit with my nephew does not make me your Uncle.

ERIN But/

*Scrooge holds up his hand*

SCROOGE What I do want is the update for the 'Thumbs Up' App. Isn't your boutique software up to the job Archie ? All I need is the thumbprint database.

ARCHIE I've just coded the latest version of the app Uncle.

*He points his mobile to a screen on the back wall which shows a projection of a mobile with a big thumbs up logo on it.*

ARCHIE            Uncle Scrooge, the software I developed for Thumbs Up is state of the Art – but I really can't allow you to access people's thumbprints and bank details without their permission.

SCROOGE        You have no imagination.

ARCHIE            I have imagination – but I also have principles.

SCROOGE        I suppose I'll have to just carry on charging punters for the subscription service then. It was a brilliant concept of mine – Thumbs Up to vote yes and Thumbs down to vote kill. I mean no. Could we license the software to Governments for election purposes? We can already fix the vote to any result you want.

ERIN              But/

*Scrooge holds up his hand*

SCROOGE        Any result.....

ARCHIE            You can't do that unless you corrupt the code Uncle Scrooge. The App I supplied was totally honest and above board - ah - you corrupted it didn't you?

SCROOGE        What's the point of a vote with the wrong result.

ERIN              Ain't that the truth. And by the way, it was Archie who devised the 'Thumbs Up' concept!

SCROOGE        That idea sprang from the funding I provided – and now I want it developed further. I want to/

ARCHIE            I can't take on any more at the moment Uncle, I'm too busy with the Stonepillow work.

SCROOGE        Oh dear. And they are paying you – how much?

ARCHIE            Well, I offered my services in lieu of a donation.

SCROOGE        I cannot believe we are related.

ARCHIE            Anyway – we'd still like you to come and share Christmas day with us.

SCROOGE        Are you still vegan, no wheat no dairy? No thanks. In fact I'd rather not share anything

of yours and – listen Archie

ARCHIE Yes

SCROOGE You are not going to share anything of mine so off you go for another year.

ARCHIE I don't want or need anything of yours Uncle. I come here every year because you are my mother's brother and now that she can't be here/

SCROOGE Oh here we go – look, had I known how ill she was I would have paid for the new treatment in America/

ERIN You would have known had you ever got in touch even once.

*Scrooge opens his mouth to speak*

ERIN Once.

*Scrooge opens his mouth to speak*

ERIN Just once.

*Scrooge opens his mouth to speak*

ERIN But you never

*Scrooge opens his mouth to speak*

ERIN Ever

*Scrooge sits waiting*

ERIN Did!

SCROOGE Finished? And you wonder why I don't come and spend time with you. Frankly I'd rather be dead in a ditch.

ERIN That can be arranged

ARCHIE She's got a point though Uncle Scrooge – you would have known about Mum if you ever bothered to phone.

ERIN And you could have paid for the new proton beam therapy– that would have helped!

ARCHIE But that's all past and you are still mum's brother and you are still welcome to come and spend Christmas day with us. He holds out his hand to Scrooge who ignores it.

SCROOGE Well you probably think you mean well, but I think you'd better jog on now. You keep Christmas in your way and I'll keep it in mine.

ERIN But you don't keep it at all you mean old man, you don't keep Christmas at all. Come on Archie – merry Christmas Bob Cratchit.

CRATCHIT Merry Chris/

*He sees the look on Scrooge's face.*

*Lights dim on Scrooge and come up DSC for the song and dance. Chorus of dancers/singers*

**Song Seven – BLUES IN HIS POCKET**

GONNA TELL YOU A STORY ABOUT A MAN WHO'S GOT A HEART AS HARD AS STONE  
YOU KNOW HE'S GOT THE MEANEST STREAK AND THAT'S WHY HE'S ALL ALONE  
THE MILK OF HUMAN KINDNESS CURDLES UNDERNEATH HIS GAZE  
AND IF HE BOUGHT A CHRISTMAS CARD YOU'D SURELY BE AMAZED

*CHORUS*

*HE'S GOT THE BLUES IN HIS POCKET (BLUES IN HIS POCKET)*  
*HE'S GOT THE BLUES IN HIS POCKET (BLUES IN HIS POCKET)*  
*HE'S GOT THE BLUES IN HIS POCKET (OOH, OOH, OOH)*  
*GONNA LOCK IT FROM THE LIGHT OF DAY (LOCK IT RIGHT AWAY)*

YOU'VE ALL MET THE MAN WHO'S LAST WHEN YOU GET TO THE BAR  
JUST LOOK AROUND WHEN YOU GET THERE 'CAUSE HE AIN'T VERY FAR  
HE'S THE ONE SAYS "O.K. YOU GUYS MY TURN TO BUY THE BOOZE!"  
WHEN THE BILL COMES ON HE'S GONE TO THE JOHN SO HE CAN NEVER LOSE

*CHORUS*

HE DON'T THINK MUCH OF CHRISTMAS 'CAUSE IT SMACKS OF GIVE AND TAKE  
HE DON'T LIKE HIS FAMILY THINKS THEY'RE ALWAYS ON THE MAKE  
HE HAS A FAMILY BATHROOM DOOR IF YOU CAN COMPREHEND  
YOU PAY BY VISA DEBIT IF A PENNY YOU MUST SPEND

*CHORUS*

*Possible dance section.*

HE LOVES TO ROB THE POOR AND GIVE THE MONEY TO THE RICH  
HE'D MAKE A GOOD POLITICIAN BUT HE NEVER FELT THE ITCH  
HE PROMISES THE EARTH TO YOU AND THEN HE GIVES YOU HELL  
HE'S GONNA BREAK THOSE PROMISES LIKE BOJO AND PATEL

CHORUS

*Exit Archie and Erin*

**Scene 4**

SCROOGE        Crotchet! Have you prepared the audition room yet?

CRATCHIT      Yes Mr Scrooge all ready. Mr Scrooge, about my contract/

SCROOGE      Your legally binding with severe penalty clause intern contract? Is that the one?

CRATCHIT      It doesn't matter ..

SCROOGE      Good. Who am I auditioning this evening?

CRATCHIT      We have four acts, first up is a vocal band, then we have three solo artists

SCROOGE      Get them in and ready. I'm going to make sure they've sacked that security fool.

*Exit Scrooge.*

CRATCHIT      They've been waiting all day Mr Scroo..... *Cratchit calls offstage* - OK you can come in now.

*Enter the auditionees, a vocal band and three solo auditionees. They are excited about the chance to be on Thumbs Up*

B SINGER1      This is amazing! We're going to be on Thumbs Up!

B SINGER 2      Er – if we pass the audition

B SINGER 3      Bob, do you think we stand a chance?

CRATCHIT      Well you are really good.

B SINGER 4     We're going to do the song you taught us.

CRATCHIT     No! Best not, the lyrics/

AUD/ 1        Why not? I heard them practising.

AUD/ 2        So did I. It's fantastic!

AUD/ 3        Go on Mr Cratchit do it – I want to hear it.

CRATCHIT     I don't think that Mr Scrooge would like that song.

AUD/ 3        Can you show me?

B SINGER 1     Come then, before he gets here.

CRATCHIT     I'm not sure if/

B SINGER 2     And you can sing lead Bob

CRATCHIT     Well in that case

**SONG 8        SPENDING MONEY**

IT'S TIME HE HAD A SEARCHING LOOK INSIDE HIS SOUL  
HE DOESN'T HEAR THEM - BUT THE BELLS BEGIN TO TOLL  
DON'T ASK WHO THEY'RE RINGING FOR  
'CAUSE HE CAN'T REMEMBER ANYMORE

YOU'D BETTER THINK ABOUT YOUR LIFE  
'CAUSE YOU KNOW KNOW YOU'RE SHARP - EN – IN' THE KNIFE  
WITH EVR'Y CHEAT AND LIE YOU CUT THE ROPE  
YOU'RE HANGING BY A THREAD  
YOUR ONLY HOPE IS STOP AND REALLY ...

WHAT COULD YOU DO WITH ALL THAT  
MONEY  
LIVING IN LUXURY ALL MILK AND  
HONEY FOR YOU  
WHAT A FEELIN' IT'S SO NEW  
TO THINK OF ALL THE THINGS THAT YOU  
COULD DO

YOU'D BETTER THINK ABOUT YOUR  
LIFE  
'CAUSE YOU KNOW KNOW YOU'RE  
SHARP - EN – IN' THE KNIFE  
WITH EVR'Y CHEAT AND LIE YOU CUT  
THE ROPE  
YOU'RE HANGING BY A THREAD



YOUR ONLY HOPE IS STOP AND REALLY

...

YOU'RE DOING VERY WELL MR SCROOGE (SCROOGE....)  
THE PROFITS FOR YOUR COMPANY ARE TOTALLY HUGE  
BUT CAN'T YOU SEE YOU'RE WASTING YOUR TIME (WASTING YOUR TIME)  
YOU FALL MUCH FASTER EV'RY DAY THE HARDER YOU CLIMB

YOU KNOW YOU NEED A MAJOR SHOCK  
'CAUSE THE TIME IS TICK - IN ON THE CLOCK  
YOUR TIME IS RUN - IN OUT THE THE FINAL DANCE  
IS HANGIN' FROM A THREAD YOUR ONLY CHANCE IS REALISE YOU NEED ...

YOU NEED A SHOCK TO STOP THE ROT  
NOW  
WATCHIN THE CLOCK AS IT'S TICKING  
YOU CHANCES AWAY  
COULD BE YOUR LAST CHANCE TODAY  
THE CLEAR THE DEBT THE DEBT YOU  
GOTTA PAY

YOU KNOW YOU NEED A MAJOR SHOCK  
'CAUSE THE TIME IS TICK - IN ON THE  
CLOCK  
YOUR TIME IS RUN - IN OUT THE THE  
FINAL DANCE  
IS HANGIN' FROM A THREAD YOUR  
ONLY CHANCE IS REALISE YOU NEED  
...

*Enter Scrooge*

SCROOGE Well I couldn't quite catch the words from outside but it sounded terrible. You can go.

B SINGER 3 Excuse me? We've been waiting all day

SCROOGE Next.

B SINGER 4 Lyrics are spot on Bob!

CRATCHIT Don't cause any trouble guys, life's hard enough anyway!

SCROOGE Next!

*Exit Vocal band, solo singer 1 takes centre stage.*

SCROOGE Who's this?

AUD/ 1 My name is Merlot and it's always been my dream to/

SCROOGE        Get on with it.

*This audition to be devised by the company, no more than a minute or so. The singer is rejected.*

SCROOGE        Next!

AUD/ 2         It's always been my dream/

*Scrooge holds his hand up. This audition to be devised by the company, no more than a minute or so.. The singer is rejected.*

SCROOGE        Next!

AUD/ 3         Dream - singer – I Will Survive

*Intro music to 'I Will Survive' starts, the singer takes a breath to start the first line/*

SCROOGE        Next!

*Singer stands open mouthed.*

CRATCHIT        That's the last one for today sir.

SCROOGE        Oh – who was the worst?

CRATCHIT        The last one sir, we didn't hear her sing.

SCROOGE        OK – she's in. Give her 'Let It Go' just a bit too high for her to sing – oh and tell wardrobe to dress her up as a little kid. We can bill her as 'the opera kid'.

CRATCHIT        But she can't sing opera sir

SCROOGE        Perfect! This is TV Crotchet! Think of the ratings! Think of the Thumbs Down votes! Every vote is 50p! Oh, get her some nerdy glasses as well. Possibly a fat suit. *Exit singer who has been reacting to this dialogue.* Now go and work on next year's Christmas number one song.

CRATCHIT        But it's Christmas Eve sir - time to go home! I - *He sees the Scrooge 'look'* – well, maybe I'll do a couple of hours....

SCROOGE        Crack on Crotchet – not a minim to waste! A minim – get it? I'll just close up here.

**Scene 5**

*Exit Cratchit. Scrooge looks at his mobile. Lights go down, Scrooge looks around in surprise. Creepy doom laden FX Soundtrack starts.*

SCROOGE        Hey! Auditions have finished! Who put the lights down? Is there somebody there? I'm calling head of security – let's see Marlow, Marlow – damn! I pressed Marley! He won't answer after seven years in the grave!

*Projection of a facetime call on the 'phone screen'. We see Marley's face as he answers the call. He is swathed in chains in the traditional style. He also has dreadlocks and a rasta hat. Reggae music is playing.*

SCROOGE        Marley!

MARLEY         What you say man?

SCROOGE        MARLEY!!!!

MARLEY         Hold on a moment! *He turns his head to one side* Hey - Bob! Can you keep it down? I'm doing a ghost call! *The music subsides.* That better – now – what you say?

SCROOGE        Marley?

*Marley bursts through the paper screen and the projection is turned off.*

MARLEY         Marley's ghost actually!

SCROOGE        But – you're, you're – what are you doing here?

MARLEY         Well....

*If optional chorus of ska dancers are used they should enter here. Mirror ball off*

**SONG 9    GO DOWN**

MARLEY         I'VE COME TO DO A FAVOUR  
AND YOU'LL SOON GET THE FLAVOUR  
WHEN YOU HEAR WHAT I GOT TO SAY  
  
'CAUSE YOU'RE TOO LONG IN THE TOOTH  
AND NOW YOU GOT TO HEAR THE TRUTH  
BEFORE YOU SEE ANOTHER CHRISTMAS DAY

YOU CAN'T MISTREAT YOUR FELLOW MAN  
AND NOT EXPECT TO HAVE A JUDGEMENT DAY  
AND WHEN YOU GO AND MEET YOUR MAKER  
AND YOU'VE ONLY BEEN A TAKER  
WELL YOU KNOW WHAT HE'S GOING TO SAY?  
DOWN, GO DOWN, GO DOWN!

NOW BY A GREAT STROKE OF LUCK  
IT WAS YOUR PARTNER KICKED THE BUCKET  
WHEN HIS HEART COULDN'T TAKE THE STRAIN

AND NOW I ROAM THIS ENDLESS NIGHT  
UNTIL MY WRONGS THEY ARE PUT RIGHT  
UNTIL I GET INSIDE YOUR BRAIN

THAT THE GOOD AND THE BAD THINGS YOU DO IN LIFE  
ARE WRITTEN IN A CREDIT BOOK  
AND I'D BE PREPARED TO BETCHA THAT THE CREDIT SIDE OF LEDGER  
ON YOUR PAGE AIN'T WORTH A LOOK!  
DOWN, GO DOWN GO DOWN

NOW YOU'D BETTER PAY ATTENTION  
' CAUSE YOU KNOW THAT MY INTENTION  
IS TO TRY AND SAVE YOUR VERY SOUL

SO TO HELP YOU TRY AND SEE  
I GOT THE SOUL CONSULTANCY  
TO COME AND PULL YOU FROM THIS HOLE

YOU'RE GONNA SEE THREE GHOSTS TONIGHT  
AND YOU KNOW THEY'LL GIVE YOU GOOD ADVICE  
'CAUSE THEY KNOW THE SITUATION WHEN IT COMES TO DAMNATION  
AND THEY'LL TELL YOU IT'S NOT VERY NICE (*WHEN HE SAY*)

DOWN, GO DOWN, GO DOWN.

*VOICE OVER*

**SCROOGE** This ghost act is in very poor taste - but even if you are real - I've got nothing to worry about – I work hard - I'm rich !

**MARLEY** You got to lively up yourself Squeezer! In life I thought like you, I wanted money, success at any price - but listen man - the price is too high. For every cheat and lie in my life I got another link in this chain of death that holds me captive; for every kind

and caring act a link was removed.

**SCROOGE** So - how many links did you have removed?

**MARLEY** Oh come off it - I've got more links than Radio Two! My time is running short now so listen up - you have a chance to change your life, you have the opportunity to help your brothers and experience real success. The three spirits I spoke of will help you.

**SCROOGE** Really? And if you wanted to do an impersonation of Marley you should realise that he hated reggae music.

**MARLEY** You will see all three spirits before the night is out - and you know since I met my cousin Bob on the other side I've acquired quite a taste for Reggae!

*Marley sings*

YOU'VE GOT A CHANCE TO REPENT  
AND YOU KNOW YOU MUST RELENT  
AND LET THE MESSAGE GET DOWN DEEP INSIDE  
YOU CAN STRAIGHTEN ALL THE KINKS  
AND REMOVE THE HIDDEN LINKS  
THAT WILL DRAG YOU DOWN 'TIL YOU HAVE DIED

YOU'RE GONNA SEE THREE GHOSTS TONIGHT  
AND YOU KNOW THEY'LL GIVE YOU GOOD ADVICE  
'CAUSE THEY KNOW THE SITUATION WHEN IT COMES TO DAMNATION  
AND THEY'LL TELL YOU IT'S NOT VERY NICE (*WHEN HE SAY*)

*Mirror ball on*

DOWN, GO DOWN, GO DOWN.  
DOWN, GO DOWN, GO DOWN.  
DOWN, GO DOWN, GO DOWN.

*Exit Marley and optional chorus of ska dancers. Blackout. Curtain closes across broken screen. Enter ghosts of Christmas Past one of whom who sits in Scrooge's chair whilst the other two stand either side. They resemble Bananarama meets the Supremes – they look fab-u-lous.*

## Scene 6

*Scrooge is backing up to his chair. He is talking on his mobile.*

**SCROOGE** Marlow? Who let those rasta lunatics in? I told you no more auditions today! Any more security breaches and you can go with Sackman! *He sits down only to find his seat already occupied.* Aaagh! Who are you? No not you Marlow – YOU are sacked!!!! *He turns off his mobile* And YOU – get out, all of you!

*The girls move up close and personal. Scrooge is totally aware of their feminine charms.*

LINDA           Actually Scroogy baby, I think you'll find that this is **your** audition.

BETTY           Uh huh – we're going to examine your credentials – Squeezy.....

SHERRY         A real close look.

SCROOGE       It's a very kind offer but – look girl groups are a thing of the past but/

LINDA           Spot on Scroogy – we **are** from the past

SCROOGE       Long past?

BETTY           Your past – the rock'n'roll years.

SHERRY         Just like Jacob Marley said we would be

SCROOGE       What? But that was a joke right? Or a figment of my imagination/

LINDA           But Scroogy – you don't have no imagination, remember?

BETTY           You steal other people's ideas

SHERRY         And talent

LINDA           And then you throw them on the scrap heap

BETTY           So we've come to give you one last chance

SHERRY         It's never to late to change Squeezy

LINDA           And you need to change

BETTY           'Cause right now Scroogy – you ain't got no soul

SHERRY         And you got no class

LINDA           You know what we gonna do Scroogy?

BETTY           We're gonna help you out

SHERRY         Just listen up Squeezer

*Mirror ball off with the music cue.*

**SONG 10: YOU GOT NO SOUL**

**YOU GOT NO SOUL, YOU GOT NO CLASS  
YOU GOT NO FUTURE IF I DON'T KICK YOUR ASS  
YOU GOT NO CHANCE IF YOU AIN'T WILLIN' TO LEARN  
"CAUSE THE WAY YOU BEEN GOIN' YOU'RE GONNA BURN BABY BURN**

YOU DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU'RE GOING  
YOU KNOW YOU NEVER DID  
YOU LOST YOUR MAP AND YOUR COMPASS BABY  
WHEN YOU WERE JUST A LITTLE - LITTLE KID

BUT I KNOW WHERE YOU'RE COMIN' FROM  
AND I'LL TELL YOU WHERE YOU'RE GOIN' TO  
IF YOU DON'T CHANGE YOUR ATTITUDE  
IF MY MESSAGE DON'T GET THROUGH

**CHORUS**

NOW YOU'RE HEADED OUT ON THE HIGHWAY  
IT'S THE HIGHWAY OF DESPAIR  
AND WHEN YOU REACH YOUR DESTINATION  
YOU'RE GONNA SCREAM THAT IT JUST AIN'T - JUST AIN'T FAIR

AND I KNOW WHERE YOU BEEN COMIN' FROM  
SINCE RUBY DONE LEFT YOU FLAT  
THERE'S A WHOLE BUNCH OF TROUBLE WAITIN' UP AHEAD  
NOW WHAT D'YOU THINK OF THAT - AND

**CHORUS**

NOW YOU'D BETTER THINK AND RECONSIDER  
CONSIDER WHAT YOU'RE GONNA DO  
'CAUSE I'M GONNA GIVE AN AMNESTY  
ON ALL THE WICKED THINGS YOU - THINGS YOU DO

YOU'D BETTER LOOK WHERE YOU'RE COMIN' FROM  
AND WHERE YOU GOT TO UP TO NOW  
AND IF YOU DON'T LIKE WHAT YOU'RE LOOKIN AT  
YOU KNOW YOU BETTER CHANGE - AND HOW!

**CHORUS**

*IT'S TIME YOU BETTER HAD A GOOD LOOK AT YOURSELF AND WHERE YOU BEEN GOIN AND WHAT YOU BEEN DOIN AND THINK ABOUT THE ULTIMATE CONSEQUENCES OF THE SELFISH WAY YOU BEEN CARRYIN ON - YOU AIN'T GONNA GET NO PLACE BEIN' A MEAN OLD MAN - YOU GOTTA GIVE - YOU GOTTA LIVE - YOU GOTTA LURVE YOUR BROTHER MAN - BUT YOU DON'T AND THAT'S WHY*

YOU GOT NO SOUL, YOU GOT NO CLASS  
YOU GOT NO FUTURE IF I DON'T KICK YOUR ASS  
YOU GOT NO CHANCE IF YOU AIN'T WILLIN' TO LEARN  
"CAUSE THE WAY YOU BEEN GOIN' YOU'RE GONNA BURN BABY BURN

YOU GOT NO SOUL, YOU GOT NO CLASS  
YOU GOT NO FUTURE IF I DON'T KICK YOUR ASS  
YOU GOT NO CHANCE IF YOU AIN'T WILLIN' TO LEARN  
"CAUSE THE WAY YOU BEEN GOIN' YOU'RE GONNA BURN BABY BURN \_ YOU GOT NO SOUL!

### Scene 7

LINDA            C'mon Scrooge – we haven't got all night

BETTY            Places to go

SHERRY          Folks to see

SCROOGE        I can't leave the studio now I/

LINDA            Just relax.

BETTY            Chill

SHERRY          Take it easy

*Lights dim. The mirror ball starts. We hear a snatch of the theme music to 'Who Do You Think You Are'. Lights up. Linda has moved to DSR. Sherry and Betty stay with Scrooge. Linda could have a prepared V/O script. Mirror ball stops*

LINDA            TV impresario Ebenezer 'Squeezer' Scrooge is well known for his controversial 'Thumbs Up' talent series on his own subscription channel. He has shaped the future of many aspiring singers and songwriters. But what of his own past? He has agreed to meet with geneologist Sherry who has been researching into his family.



SCROOGE I haven't agreed to meet anybody! Who's Sherry?

SHERRY I'm Sherry honey. I found some old footage you may like to see.

*'Ebs' Scrooge and his Fran run on from the wings. They are happy and playing a 'catch' game. She catches him and he gives her a sweet. Sherry 'freezes' the action with a wave of her hand.*

SHERRY Remember him?

SCROOGE That's me! Me as a boy— and at my old boarding school. Where did you find this/

SHERRY Remember her?

SCROOGE Fran - my sister, she/

SHERRY I know what happened to her – met her last week. She's pretty mad at you.

SCROOGE I didn't know! I couldn't/

SHERRY You can't lie to me. And you sure as hell can't lie to yourself! Let's have a look see what's going on.

*She waves the action back into life*

FRAN I'm sorry we're late Ebs, but I have fantastic news. Daddy says that you can leave this horrible school. I told him how much I missed you and he says that you can come home and you never have to come back here!

EBS That's amazing! Thanks Fran, I'll never forget this. Never. *He gives her another sweet. Sherry freezes the action*

SHERRY What's with the candy?

SCROOGE Humbugs.

SHERRY I shoulda guessed. *She unfreezes the action.*

EBS This is going to be the best Christmas ever.

FRAN Come on Ebs, Dad's waiting in the car.

*The children exit running and laughing.*

SHERRY Shame about Fran.

**Scene 8**

LINDA Squeezer is now keen to discover what happened after he left school. Sociologist Betty has been looking into his early career.

SCROOGE Betty – you?

*Mirror ball starts.*

BETTY Uh huh. Take a look at this and see if there's anything you recognise.

*Music. A whole office party appears from the wings both sides and noisily gets into position, then freezes. Music stops.*

SCROOGE I know these people, this is my first Christmas at Fezziwig & Co. music publishers and sheet music dealers. I bought them after I left. It's a big high street chain now.

BETTY Which you cleverly turned into a 'we buy your old instruments' and pay day loan scam. I mean shop.

SCROOGE A public service Betty.

BETTY The first chain around your neck . Anyway where are you?

SCROOGE There I am, over there. Grown into a big boy now Betty.

BETTY And who's that you are dancing with?

SCROOGE Me? Dancing? Don't be ridicul – ooh at that I'm dancing! With Ruby. That's Ruby my girlfriend Ruby.

BETTY Girlfriend?

SCROOGE It couldn't last – she was too clingy. She wanted too much. I was too busy.

BETTY Too busy to care for somebody? To busy to help folks? Too busy for a relationship?

SCROOGE We got engaged!

BETTY Let's see what she has to say about this.

*Betty brings the action to life. If possible live instruments on stage. There are calls for Ruby to give*

*them a song. The three ghosts form a backing group.*

**SONG 11 PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS**

RUBY            YOU TELL ME THAT YOU LOVE ME AND YOU'RE GONNA BE TRUE  
                      YOU TELL ME IT'S FOR ALWAYS AND WE'LL NEVER BE THROUGH  
                      BUT TALK IS CHEAP AND NOW IT'S TIME THAT YOU GOTTA PROVE  
                      YOU MEANIN' WHAT YOU SAYIN' TIME FOR MAKIN' YOUR MOVE

AND PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS  
IT'S SOMETHING YOU CAN AFFORD  
JUST PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS  
YOU'LL GET A BIGGER REWARD

                      YOU'RE VERY GOOD AT PROMISES BUT YOU DON'T REVEAL  
                      BY SHOWING ME IN ACTION JUST THE WAY THAT YOU FEEL  
                      YOU SAY THAT I'M THE GIRL FOR YOU BUT THAT'S ONLY TALK  
                      YOU TALK THE TALK BUT NOW IT'S TIME FOR WALKING THE WALK

AND PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS  
IT'S SOMETHING YOU CAN AFFORD  
JUST PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS  
YOU'LL GET A BIGGER REWARD

*INSTRUMENTAL INTERLUDE*

SHMOOGE        THERE'S SOMETHING ON MY MIND AND IT IS WELL OVERDUE  
                      THERE'S SOMETHING IN MY POCKET AND I GOT IT FOR YOU  
                      THERE'S SOMETHING THAT I GOT TO SAY ON MY BENDED KNEE  
                      WELL BABY HERE'S A RUBY RING WILL YOU MARRY ME

I PUT MY MONEY WHERE MY MOUTH IS  
IT'S A LESSON I LEARNED  
I PUT MY MONEY WERE MY MOUTH IS  
'CAUSE I GOT MONEY TO BURN

I PUT MY MONEY WHERE MY MOUTH IS  
IT'S A LESSON I LEARNED  
I PUT MY MONEY WERE MY MOUTH IS  
'CAUSE I GOT MONEY TO BURN

*Mirror ball on, exit office staff leaving Ruby and Shmooge DSC. They freeze. Mirror ball off.*

**Scene 9**

RUBY Married! Oh Shmoogy – when?

SHMOOGE Oh – er – as soon as we have the deposit saved for the house.

BETTY Let's just check that again.....

*She 'rewinds' using her remote – the actors should go in reverse and do reverse talking if possible!*

RUBY Married! Oh Shmoogy! – when?

SHMOOGE Oh – er – as soon as we have the deposit saved for the house.

*She uses pause button*

BETTY Shmoogy?

SCROOGE Er – pet name you know...

BETTY So you and Ruby – house deposit, pet name - serious. What happened?

SCROOGE Yes, well - the time for marriage just never seemed to crop up that's all. I was just starting up in business and all my funds were tied up - I mean there's the reception, honeymoon expenses- do you realise how much a wedding dress costs ? It's not cheap you know!

LINDA Betty has been researching into /

SCROOGE Oh shut up!

BETTY Let's get the real story.

LINDA Betty shows Scrooge a scene from a few years later.

*She brings Shmooge and Ruby to life.*

RUBY Shmoogy, my mum and dad are going away for the weekend.

SHMOOGE Yes?

RUBY So I'm home alone.

SHMOOGE And?

RUBY           And I'm going to be lonely all on my own.

SHMOOGE       Oh?

RUBY           I thought maybe, just for the weekend, we could pretend to be married.....

SHMOOGE       Fantastic! You'd do that for me?

RUBY           Anything Shmoogy, I'd do anything for you.

SHMOOGE       What – like we're properly married?

RUBY           Mmmmm.

SHMOOGE       Great! I've got washing, ironing, mending – what? What's wrong?

RUBY           You've changed Ebenezer. Don't you remember that night at the office Christmas party when we sang our song and you gave me this beautiful ring - it is a real ruby isn't it Schmoogy ?

*She indicates the whopping red plastic stone weighing down her hand*

SHMOOGE       Of course .

BETTY           *Freezes the action* Christmas cracker?

SCROOGE       Maybe.

*Betty resumes the action.*

RUBY           You know we finally have our ten per cent deposit saved up for our house and.....

SHMOOGE       Ah yes, the £3000..... I've been meaning to talk to you about that Ruby.

RUBY           You have? Oh wow! knew you wouldn't let me down in the end! We must start making plans! What date shall we tell every one? Who's going to be your best man - will you ask Jacob? I must....

SHMOOGE       *Picks up flapping Ruby and deposits her on the chair*  
Actually that's not what I meant Ruby - you see I've got some good news...

RUBY           Yes honey bunny?

SHMOOGE Well you see... I've had an amazing offer .. I was given the chance to buy £1500 worth of shares in a company manufacturing ... wait for it ... these things ....

*He produces a Hula Hoop*

RUBY Big necklaces! Wow! (*tries it on*) It's a bit too big I think Schmoogy

SHMOOGE Well you put it round your waist sweetie.

RUBY *Tries it on and it falls to the ground* Is it for fat people Schmoogy?

SHMOOGE No Ruby. Allow me to demonstrate.

*He demonstrates with vigorous pelvic thrusting*

RUBY *Clearly enjoys the idea of the thrusting*  
Oooh! Shmoogy!!! Do I get in there with you?

SHMOOGE Oh no!!!! It's definitely a solo thing!

RUBY Well that's a stupid thing then! Who's going to buy one of those?

SHMOOGE Everyone! It's a Hula Hoop and soon people will be hula ing and hooping wherever you look this is going to be the next big thing - bigger than the yo-yo –my £1500 will be multiplied before you know it! You just wait and see

RUBY £1500? But - Schmoogy, that's half our house deposit on the cottage in Wade Court!!

SHMOOGE Ah but here's the other good news! I put another £1500 into this fantastic new Video format – it's called Betamax and it's going to be bigger than VHS!

RUBY Another £1500 - but that's – ALL of our house deposit!

SHMOOGE Think of the return – and in a few years they'll be building more houses all round this area.

RUBY Don't be silly Shmooge – they'll never build more houses in Havant, Hayling or Emsworth – it's all protected land!

SHMOOGE But with all the money I'm going to make I can buy you a massive house! This investment is much better than a house – the prices won't go up much round here.

RUBY I don't want a massive house Shmoogy – I want you. I'm sorry but you must choose - it's me or the video and this stupid - stupid waistnecklace thing!

*Schmoogy looks at Ruby, looks at the Hula Hoop (which is situated on the far side of Ruby) and finally puts his arms around Ruby, but only in order to reach the Hula Hoop and the Betamax which he picks up and slowly carries offstage. Spotlight on Ruby.*

**SONG 12**      **WHEN THE MAGIC LINGERS ON**

WHEN THE MAGIC LINGERS ON  
EVEN THOUGH YOUR DREAMS HAVE GONE  
THAT'S WHEN YOU KNOW IT'S TIME STEPS ARE OUT OF RHYME  
IT'S TIME FOR MOVING ON

DON'T YOU FOOL YOURSELF HE'LL CRY  
HE WAS GLAD TO SAY GOODBYE  
AND THOUGH IT SOUNDS SO CRUEL YOU WERE JUST A FOOL  
AND FOOLS WERE MADE FOR LOVE

LIKE A WARM WIND IN THE WILDERNESS  
HE CAME INTO MY HEART  
LIKE A WHIRLWIND IN THE WINTER  
NOW HE'S TEARING ME APART  
BUT I WON'T LET MY FEELINGS SHOW  
MY TEARS I'LL SHED ALONE  
AND HOPE HE STARTS TO REALISE  
THERE'S NO LOVE ON YOUR OWN

WHEN THE MAGIC LINGERS ON  
EVEN THOUGH YOUR DREAMS HAVE GONE  
THAT'S WHEN YOU HAVE TO CHOOSE FROM THE WAYS TO LOSE  
IT'S TIME FOR MOVING ON  
IT'S TIME FOR MOVING ON  
IT'S TIME THIS GIRL HAD GONE.

*Lights fade as Ruby leaves her ring on the seat - pause for applause to fade - young Scrooge nips back on and removes the ring.*

**Scene 10**

LINDA            *Back in character as one of the ghost girl group.* How wrong could a boy be?

SCROOGE        OK – I admit it. That house in Wade Court is now worth 1.5 mill.

BETTY            I think she's talking about Ruby

SHERRY            She's a real nice girl.

LINDA            Offering more than money – Shmoogy.

SCROOGE        Look – I'll pay the deposit back – plus some interest.

BETTY            Not listening Scrooge.

SCROOGE        Can you leave now please?

SHERRY         You really need to hear what we say Mr Scrooge

LINDA            We'll go now

BETTY            Our time is up

SHERRY         And so is yours – have a think about what you've been doing.

*Mirror Ball on. Cast come on in groups until the whole company is on stage.*

**SONG 13    MAKING MONEY**

*1 FEZZIWIG GROUP*

YOU'RE DOING VERY WELL MR SCROOGE  
YOUR PROFITS FOR THE COMPANY ARE TOTALLY HUGE  
JUST PUT YOUR NAME RIGHT HERE ON THIS LINE  
YOU'VE GOT A JOB FOR LIFE WITH US IF ONLY YOU'LL SIGN

YOUR FUTURE HERE IS VERY SECURE  
WE'RE GOING TO RAISE YOUR SALARY YOU'LL NEVER BE POOR  
YOU'RE MAKING MONEY HAND OVER FIST  
WE'RE GONNA MAKE AN OFFER THAT YOU'LL NEVER RESIST

*2 SCROOGE*

YOU'VE BEEN SO GOOD TO ME  
THAT I'D WORK HERE FOR FREE  
I COULD NEVER FORGET HOW YOU GAVE ME A START

I'M JUST GLAD TO REPAY  
ALL YOUR KINDNESS AND SAY  
I'M A COMPANY MAN AND I'LL SIGN FROM THE HEART



WE'LL NEVER PART!

*3 MORE FEZZIWIG PEOPLE*

YOU'VE MADE A VERY POSITIVE CHOICE  
INTEGRITY AND HONESTY RING TRUE IN YOUR VOICE  
AND SO WE HAVE A SEAT ON THE BOARD  
IT'S GOT YOUR NAME ON IT AND WE STAND BACK AND APPLAUD

*4 SCROOGE*

YOU'RE REALLY VERY KIND AND I COULDN'T HAVE HAD A  
EASIER START A BETTER RUNG UP THE LADDER  
BUT I WANT IT ALL NOW, A PORSCHE AND A HARLEY  
AND SO I HAVE FOUNDED "EBENEZER AND MARLEY"

YOU'VE ALL BEEN SO NICE SO OBLIGINGLY THICK  
ALLOWING ME TO PULL OFF MY VERY FIRST TRICK  
AND WHEN I HAVE GONE YOU'LL HAVE SO MUCH TO DO  
CAUSE I'M TAKING AWAY ALL YOUR CUSTOMERS TOO!

*5 MARLEY AND EMPLOYEES*

YOU'RE DOING VERY WELL ON YOUR OWN  
IN BUSINESS YOU'RE THE KING AND YOU CAN SIT ON A THRONE  
YOUR PROFITS DOUBLE EVERY YEAR

*SCROOGE* YOUR WAGES DON'T YOU WANNA WORK YOU'D BETTER SIGN HERE!

*6 DEBTORS, SCROOGE AND EMPLOYEES*

*DEBTOR 1* I WAS HOPING YOU COULD HELP WITH THE INTEREST ON MY LOAN  
*DEBTOR 2* BUT YOU KEEP RAISING THE RATES MY MONEY'S TIED UP IN MY HOME!

*S&M* DON'T YOU BE CONCERNED NOW IF OF MONEY THERE'S A SHORTAGE  
WE'LL JUST LIQUIDISE YOUR ASSETS BY FORECLOSING ON YOUR MORTGAGE!

*DEBTOR 3* YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND WE'LL PAY YOU BACK YET

*S&M* THE LONGER THE TIME THE GREATER THE DEBT

*DEBTOR 1* BUT WHAT OF MY WIFE  
*DEBTOR 2* MY DAUGHTER  
*DEBTOR 3* MY SON!

*SCROOGE* YOU SHOULD HAVE THOUGHT OF THAT I'VE GOT A BUSINESS TO RUN!

*6 RIVAL BUSINESSES*

YOUR COMPANY HAS SWALLOWED US WHOLE  
YOU'RE GOING TO PUT US OUT OF WORK AND ONTO THE DOLE

*SCROOGE*

I'M SORRY BUT THAT SIMPLY CONFIRMS  
YOU'RE GOING TO HAVE TO SELL TO ME AND SELL ON MY TERMS.

*7 MARLEY*

YOUR REFERENCES LOOK VERY GOOD  
WE MAY GIVE YOU A CHANCE IF IT CAN BE UNDERSTOOD  
THAT EVERY SINGLE NOTE THAT YOU WRITE  
BELONGS TO SCROOGE AND MARLEY AND WE HAVE COPYRIGHT

*8 CRATCHIT FAMILY*

I DON'T KNOW QUITE WHAT TO SAY  
OR WHAT TO DO  
THERE'S A LOT OF FUNNY PEOPLE HERE  
WITH FUNNY POINTS OF VIEW

THIS MAN CAN TAKE THE PUREST GOLD  
AND SPIN IT INTO STRAW  
DESTROYING ALL THE SINGERS  
NO FUTURE NO ENCORE

*9 S&M*

YOU GOTTA LIVE OFF EACH OTHER BABY  
YOU'D BETTER LEARN TO RIP OFF YOUR BROTHER BETTER  
FORGET YOUR SCRUPLES THIS WE PRAY

YOU GOTTA SHRED ALL YOUR STANDARDS AND BE  
PREPARED TO HAVE NO PRIDE AND HAPPY TO SMOTHER  
OTHER FEELINGS OF CONSCIENCE EVERY DAY

THE FUTURE'S IN THE MEDIA SO WE  
ARE BUYING UP THE RADIO AND THEN IT'S TV  
AND NOW WE'RE TRADING ON SHATTERED DREAMS  
HUMILIATION ALWAYS SEEMS TO SELL WELL IT SEEMS

*10 AUDITIONEES*

*AUD 1* I ONLY WANT TO SING AND BE A STAR ON THE TELLY  
*AUD 2* MY MOTHER SAYS I'M MUCH BETTER THAN LIZA MINELLI  
*AUD 3* YOU'RE RUINING OUR HOPES AND DREAMS SO WHY CAN'T YOU BE  
FAIRER  
*AUD 1* ESPECIALLY WHEN I'M SINGING LIKE CHRISTINA AGUILERA  
  
*AUD 2* OH GIVE US A CHANCE I'LL DO ANYTHING  
*AUD 3* IT'S MAKING ME ILL, MY LIFE'S ON THE BRINK  
*ALL* YOU ATTITUDE STINKS IT CORRUPTS AND DESTROYS  
  
*SCROOGE* OH THAT'S ENOUGH OF THAT YOU KNOW - JUST SEND IN THE BOYS!

*Security remove the auditionees to the back*

*11 ROB AND SQUIDGE*

THE WRITINGS ON THE WALL, BUT SOME CAN'T READ AT ALL  
THAT MANY HANDED SCRAWL THAT SPELLS OUT THEIR LIVES  
YOUR TIME IS GROWING SHORT AND TIME JUST CAN'T BE BOUGHT  
YOUR SOUL WILL NEED SUPPORT, OR YOU WON'T SURVIVE

*12 MARLEY*

NO. I'M ALWAYS LOOKING AFTER MY WEALTH  
I GOT THE MONEY BUT I ALSO GOT MY GOOD HEALTH  
YOU'RE OUT OF LUCK 'CAUSE I'M MUCH TOO SMART  
AND IN THE SHOWBIZ JUNGLE I CHOOSE HEAD OVER HEART

*Marley succumbs to a heart attack*

*13 CRATCHIT*

I THINK THAT MR MARLEY'S VERY SICK WHAT CAN WE DO  
I THINK HE'S PASSED AWAY FROM OVERWORK AND CONSCIENCE TOO

*SCROOGE*

OH NO I MUST HAVE WORKED HIM MUCH TOO HARD I TAKE THE BLAME  
IN RECOMPENSE I THINK OUR SIGN MUST EVER BEAR HIS NAME  
IN FACT IT MAY IMPROVE TRADE - "IN MEMORY OF A FRIEND"

CRATCHIT

WHEN WILL THIS EVER END?

14 RUBY

WHEN THE MAGIC LINGERS ON,  
EVEN THOUGH YOUR DREAMS HAVE GONE  
THAT'S WHEN YOU KNOW IT'S TIME STEPS ARE OUT OF RHYME  
IT'S TIME FOR MOVING ON

WHEN HIS EYES NO LONGER SHINE,  
WHEN I HOLD HIS HAND IN MINE  
HERE'S WHEN I HAD TO CHOOSE FROM THE WAYS TO LOSE  
IT'S TIME FOR MOVING ON  
IT'S TIME FOR MOVING ON  
IT'S TIME THIS GIRL HAD GONE

ALL	RUBY	PAST / MARLEY
<p>YOU'RE DOING VERY WELL MR S YOUR PROFITS ARE OBSCENE AND BASED ON PAIN AND DISTRESS BUT LOOK INTO YOUR HEART AND YOU'LL FIND THE TRUTH IS THAT YOUR BUSINESS SHOULD BE ALL OF MANKIND</p>	<p>SAY YOU'RE SORRY SAY YOU'RE SORRY</p> <p><i>Repeat ...</i></p>	<p>YOU'RE GONNA FIND THAT MANKIND IS YOUR BUSINESS TONIGHT</p> <p><i>Repeat ...</i></p>
<p>ALL YOUR LIFE YOU'VE BEEN ON THE MAKE YOU'VE GIVEN NOTHING NO THANK YOU OR SORRY JUST TAKE A MEAN OLD MAN WHOSE CONSCIENCE IS HUGE SO MEAN OLD MAN YOU'D BETTER FACE THE FUTURE FOR SCROOGE!</p>	<p>SAY YOU'RE SORRY SAY YOU'RE SORRY</p> <p><i>Repeat ...</i></p>	<p>YOU'RE GONNA FIND THAT MANKIND IS YOUR BUSINESS TONIGHT</p> <p><i>Repeat ...</i></p>

*The entire cast have a mobile phone showing a thumbs down screen, Blackout leaving the phones illuminated, Cast exit to the light of their phones.*

**END OF ACT ONE**

## ACT TWO

### SCENE 1

*Blackout. Entire company on stage, preset in exactly the positions they finished Act 1. Lights up. Scrooge is dozing in his chair. The whole company assume choir positions (as in the opening of the show) and sing. Scrooge sleeps.*

### SONG 14. TOMORROW WILL NEVER COME

STANDING HERE IN THE DYING YEAR  
WITH THE SUN GLOWING RED ON THESE CLOUDED HILLS  
DAYS GROW COLD AND THE CLOUDS UNFOLD  
ON THE DARK AND SATANIC MILLS

AND TODAY'S THE DAY TO MAKE A BEGINNING  
TODAY'S THE DAY TO SEARCH IN YOUR HEART  
FOR TODAY IS YOUR TIME AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO CLIMB  
MOUNTAINS SO GREEN YOU SHOULD START

STANDING HERE WITH A BRAND NEW YEAR  
AT THE CROSSROADS OF TIME YOU CAN MAKE A STAND  
TELL THEM, "BUILD A JERUSALEM  
IN THIS GREEN AND THIS PLEASANT LAND!"

AND TODAY'S THE DAY TO MAKE A BEGINNING  
TODAY'S THE DAY TO SEARCH IN YOUR HEART  
FOR TODAY IS YOUR TIME AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO CLIMB  
MOUNTAINS SO GREEN YOU SHOULD START

STANDING HERE IN THE DYING YEAR  
IN DECEMBER REMEMBER THE HOPE WAS BORN  
SAVED THE WORLD AND THE CLOUDS UNFURLED  
ON A SWEETER AND FINER DAWN

AND TODAY'S THE DAY TO MAKE A BEGINNING  
TODAY'S THE DAY TO SEARCH IN YOUR HEART  
FOR TODAY IS YOUR TIME AND IF YOU'RE GOING TO CLIMB  
MOUNTAINS SO GREEN YOU SHOULD START

WILL YOU SAY ON YOUR DYING DAY  
THAT THE WORLD IS MUCH BETTER FOR WHAT YOU'VE DONE  
SWORD IN HAND DID YOU UNDERSTAND  
THAT TOMORROW WILL NEVER COME - TOMORROW WILL NEVER COME

*All exit except Cratchit who wanders across the stage with the music manuscript in his hand. He sees Scrooge asleep in his chair.*

**SCENE 2**

CRATCHIT      Mr Scrooge? Are you still here? I thought I'd seen a ghost/

*Scrooge sits bolt upright, his eyes open wide.*

SCROOGE      Ghost? Alright! Enough! I Get it! Maybe I have made a few bad decisions. But it's never too late to change. Maybe I could transfer the deposit for the house back to Ruby? After all Tomorrow will never come and –

*He sees Cratchit and stumbles to a stop.*

CRATCHIT      Are you alright sir? You seem to be a little/

SCROOGE      Never better Crotchet – why don't you go home now?

CRATCHIT      Home? Now? Are you sure you're feeling OK?

SCROOGE      Fine, fine off you go I'll just rest my eyes for a minute.

*Exit Cratchit, Scrooge closes his eyes and immediately opens them again. Scrooge needs a string of credit cards and a distinctively framed photograph of Ruby to use as props in this scene. He should also remove his jacket.*

SCROOGE      Bizarre. What a weird dream that was!

**SONG 15      SCROOGE'S SONG**

WAS THAT A DREAM? OR WAS THAT REAL?  
AND DID I HAVE A LIFE WORTH LIVING  
THOSE DREAMS DON'T BOTHER ME 'CAUSE THEY NEVER LAST  
I HAVE REALITY HERE IN MY HAND

AND SO IT SEEMS THAT I CONCEALED  
THAT ONCE I HAD A LOVE WORTH GIVING  
THAT DOESN'T BOTHER ME 'CAUSE LOVE NEVER LASTS  
I HAVE THE FUTURE CAREFULLY PLANNED

THIS IS ALL I WANT TO BE  
HERE IS ALL MY FAMILY

THEY DON'T HURT YOU  
THEY DON'T CRY  
LOVE IS UNDEPENDABLE  
LOVE IS NOT EXPENDABLE  
IT CAN HURT YOU  
UNTIL YOU DIE

APPARENTLY I MADE A CHOICE  
SUCCESS AND FAME BEFORE MY FAMILY  
I GOT IT ALL AND MORE AND SO I REJOICE  
TURNED OUT SO WELL FOR ME IT'S MY POLICY

THIS IS ALL I WANT TO BE  
HERE IS ALL MY FAMILY  
THEY DON'T HURT YOU  
THEY DON'T CRY  
LOVE IS UNDEPENDABLE  
LOVE IS NOT EXPENDABLE  
IT CAN HURT YOU  
UNTIL YOU DIE

*Dance feature using the opening duo dancers in their original costumes.*

I LEFT A TRAIL OF BROKEN DREAMS  
'CAUSE DREAMS HAVE NO INTRINSIC VALUE  
WHY SHOULD I BOTHER NOW TO CHANGE ALL MY SCHEMES  
IT'S HARD TO FACE AND FAR FAR HARDER TO DO - SO

THIS IS ALL I WANT TO BE  
HERE IS ALL MY FAMILY  
THEY DON'T HURT YOU  
THEY DON'T CRY  
LOVE IS NOT EXPENDABLE  
LOVE IS UNDEPENDABLE  
IT CAN HURT YOU.....UNTIL YOU DIE

### **SCENE 3**

SCROOGE      Hard cash, fame and fortune – what's wrong with that? Anybody would have done what I've done – anybody!

*Mirror ball starts. Christmas Present enters with her entourage.*

SCROOGE      Ghosts? Hah! More like a spot of indigestion – food poisoning. Hah!

*Christmas Present touches him on the shoulder, he jumps out of his skin.*

SCROOGE       Hah!!!!!! You gave me the fright of my life!

PRESENT       No – you're going to get the fright of your life in about – twenty minutes.

SCROOGE       What, but, how, where, – who are you?

PRESENT       Christmas Present.

SCROOGE       Can I unwrap you now?

PRESENT       Not funny Scrooge. In so many ways. Not funny. And just to take that smile off your face and the drool from your mouth, I really think we should see what's going on this Christmas Eve. We've been watching you Ebby. You've been a bad, bad boy.

SCROOGE       Your point is?

PRESENT       My point is your future Scrooge – quite incredibly, you're getting a chance to mend all your broken fences – it's just that from now on, you really can't break any more.

*Mirror ball off, Scrooge edges away Christmas Present sings to him*

**SONG 16       BROKEN FENCES**

A FUNNY CIRCUMSTANCE  
EVEN THOUGH YOU BURNED YOUR BOATS  
YOU GET A CHANCE  
EVEN THOUGH YOU CUT YOUR THROAT  
YOU CAN EXCHANGE THE DARKNESS FOR THE DAY

*To the audience*

I WONDER IF –  
HE'S GONNA BE COMIN' BACK  
I WONDER IF  
THE MEGALOMANIAC  
WILL BE CHANGING HIS MIND LEAVING BEHIND  
ALL OF HIS DIRTY BAGGAGE HE'S NEVER GONNA MANAGE WITH  
HIS CURRENT STATE OF MIND



DARK AND UNREFINED RE-  
LENTLESSY UNKIND  
ALL OF HUMANKIND WOULD  
SAY THAT HE IS BLIND NOW IT'S TIME TO PAY

*To Scrooge*

PAY YOUR DUES  
NOW YOU COMMITTED THE CRIME  
YOU GOTTA LOSE  
YOUR ATTITUDE DO THE TIME  
SO YOU'RE COMING WITH ME YOU'RE GONNA SEE  
ALL OF THE CONSEQUENCES ALL OF THE BROKEN FENCES  
YOU AIN'T GOT NO DEFENCES – HANG YOUR HEAD IN SHAME

*Dance*

A FUNNY CIRCUMSTANCE  
EVEN THOUGH YOU BURNED YOUR BOATS  
YOU GET A CHANCE  
EVEN THOUGH YOU CUT YOUR THROAT  
YOU CAN EXCHANGE THE DARKNESS FOR THE DAY

PAY YOUR DUES  
CAUSE NOW YOU DONE THE CRIME  
YOU GOTTA LOSE  
YOUR ATTITUDE DO THE TIME  
SO YOU'RE COMING WITH ME YOU'RE GONNA SEE  
ALL OF THE CONSEQUENCES ALL OF THE BROKEN FENCES  
YOU AIN'T GOT NO DEFENCES – HANG YOUR HEAD IN SHAME

#### SCENE 4

PRESENT        You just don't get it do you?

SCROOGE        No you don't get it – I just want to carry on with my life!

PRESENT        But your life impacts on so many other lives/

SCROOGE        Yeah – like who?

*Enter Cratchit family they freeze in a family position. Carol has a bottle from which she secretly and freely drinks. They all freeze apart from Carol who keeps boozing.*

PRESENT See anybody you recognise?

SCROOGE Crotchet?

PRESENT His name is Bob Cratchit – stop belittling people you great bully. Listen to this.

*Present unfreezes the family group.*

GRANNY What was I saying?

TINA You were telling us about Christmas when you were young/

GRANNY That's it Tim!

TINA I'm Tina Granny – who's Tim?

GRANNY It's a shame – they wanted a boy you know. I was just saying, me and your Grandad – we used to go out every night.

HOLLY What did you do? No phones, no internet/

KRIS No Facebook

IVY No Snapchat

TINA Yes - what did you actually do Granny?

GRANNY Screwin'.

HOLLY Sorry?

CAROL Granny/

GRANNY Screwin'. We were really good at it.

CAROL Granny – it was called the twist.

GRANNY That's it Susan! The twist, me and your Grandad – we used to go out twistin' – we won a competition once!

KRIS What at? Screw/

CAROL That's enough Kris! Bob – we really should get her into a home soon. I love her to bits

but she's getting dangerous – she stuck a knife in the toaster last week and put the electric kettle on the gas!

CRATCHIT      You know the cost of a care home? Over a thousand pounds a week! It's all wrong - I thought the whole point of Grandparents was the free child care!

CAROL          What are we going to do – we've got to give the kids some sort of Christmas as well as trying to take care of your mum and Tina.

CRATCHIT      Christmas is cancelled this year – Christmas? Bah humbug!.

CAROL          You sound just like Voldemort

CRATCHIT      Don't call him that Carol – at least I have a job!

GRANNY        What's he sayin'?

CRATCHIT      I'm just saying Ma – I say - I've got a job.

GRANNY        You're still an intern son, and after all this time that evil hearted, back stabbing, two timing, double dealing, duplicitous, social climbing Machiavellian git should have given you a proper job!

TINA            She's not as green as she's cabbage looking is she?

KRIS            So how much do you get paid Dad?

IVY             What's an intern?

TINA            It's a student or trainee who sometimes works without pay in order to gain work experience or satisfy requirements for a qualification.

*Present freezes the action*

PRESENT        Clever girl! It's a shame really.

SCROOGE        Shame – why?

PRESENT        You'll see.

*She unfreezes the action.*

HOLLY          So don't you get paid Dad?

CAROL Very little indeed! We can't really afford to celebrate this year.

TINA Because of my treatment?

GRANNY Don't you worry about that Tina – when I've gone you can have everything of mine towards your fund!

KRIS But you haven't got anything left Granny Cratchit – remember?

GRANNY Haven't I? What about my – er – what were we talking about? Where's my tea?

IVY Why don't you get another job Dad?

HOLLY Yeah – your songs are great Dad!

CRATCHIT It's complicated - Mr Scrooge has my contract

CAROL Which you signed without reading/

CRATCHIT I trusted him!

IVY Nanny Cratchit says that if you'd worked harder at school instead of always doing singing and dancing then you could have got a really good job.

CRATCHIT Yes well/

KRIS Granny Cratchit says that you were clever but you just wasted your time doing stupid school musicals and plays and stuff -

CRATCHIT Ah but/

GRANNY He did GCSE music! I told him – that ain't going to get you no job son. Would he listen?

CRATCHIT The thing is/

HOLLY Gran says if you'd have worked harder at school instead of that stupid youth theatre you could have gone to university and/

CRATCHIT Yes well I got a place on the job creation scheme/

TINA Your position in the socio economic hierarchy is hardly enhanced by this placement however.

- CAROL Yes and since Tina's been so ill, well things have been a bit tight.
- CRATCHIT Not as tight as you - as you might think ! (*He takes her bottle*)
- HOLLY My teacher said that money isn't everything.
- CAROL Yes, well she's bound to say that being a teacher.
- CRATCHIT No she's quite right, money can't buy you a family like this, money can't buy you any of the really important things in life,
- CAROL Apart from proper housing
- CRATCHIT Well yes housing's important
- HOLLY And Dance lessons
- CRATCHIT Granted, education is vital.
- GRANNY And a good healthy diet
- CRATCHIT Yes OK but apart from Food , Shelter and Education
- KRIS And a care home for Granny
- CRATCHIT Point taken, but aside from Food , Shelter and Education, and humane treatment for dementia patients/
- CAROL *Tearfully* And some proper medical treatment *snatches bottle back and takes a big swig*
- CRATCHIT OK! OK! But apart from food, shelter, entertainment, education, care for the elderly and a chance to buy your way to the front of the queue for health treatment, there are more important things - like a loving family and friendship; that's all free – you've just got to give of yourself and be prepared to say, 'Is the world a better place because of me?' *Removes Mrs C's bottle again.*

**SONG 17      LIVE FOR EACH OTHER**

- CRATCHIT I DON'T KNOW QUITE WHAT TO SAY  
OR WHAT TO DO  
THERE'S A LOT OF FUNNY PEOPLE HERE  
WITH FUNNY POINTS OF VIEW

ALL I USED TO THINK ALL FOLKS WERE GOOD  
WHEN I WAS STILL NAIVE  
BUT NOW MY MIND IS CHANGING  
ALTHOUGH I STILL BELIEVE

WE GOTTA LIVE FOR EACH OTHER MAYBE  
ONE DAY YOU'LL FIND THE WORLD IS YOUR BROTHER GOTTA  
LIVE FOR EACH OTHER COME WHAT MAY

WE GOTTA LIVE FOR EACH OTHER MAYBE  
WE'LL GET A WORLD WHERE WE CAN LOVE ONE ANOTHER GOTTA  
LIVE FOR EACH OTHER EVERY DAY

MANY THINGS ARE STRANGE TO ME  
THERE'S SUCH A LOT TO LEARN  
THE CITY THAT I LIVE IN  
HAS MANY TWISTS AND TURNS

AND THOUGH I'VE WALKED A THOUSAND STREETS  
A HUNDRED TIMES OR MORE  
I'LL COME BACK TO THE SAME PLACE  
THERE'S JUST ONE TRUTH I'M SURE

WE GOTTA LIVE FOR EACH OTHER MAYBE  
ONE DAY YOU'LL FIND THE WORLD IS YOUR BROTHER GOTTA  
LIVE FOR EACH OTHER COME WHAT MAY

WE GOTTA LIVE FOR EACH OTHER MAYBE  
WE'LL GET A WORLD WHERE WE CAN LOVE ONE ANOTHER GOTTA  
LIVE FOR EACH OTHER EVERY DAY

*The Cratchit family start to exit. Tina starts to sing a line from 'Tomorrow Will Never Come'*

CRATCHIT Carol – about my 'Tomorrow Will Never Come' song - Mr Scrooge seems to think he wrote it! Did your NHS choir sing it to him?

CAROL He took the music from Dr Kowalski.

KRIS Scrooge nicked it!

CAROL How low can a man stoop? That song was to raise money for the hospital/

HOLLY For Tina's treatment!

*Tina looks ill. Exit Cratchits concerned for Tina.*

**Scene 5**

PRESENT Whose song? Who gets the money?

SCROOGE They should have copyrighted it! Any way Crotchet's under contract to me – what's his is mine.

PRESENT And does that make it right?

SCROOGE It's legal! Watertight in fact. Relax – Listen - I'll get Tiny Tina to sing it. Tiny Tina – hey - great name for a singer! And in a wheelchair! There's a whole new 'Parasinger' market out there waiting to be tapped!

PRESENT Sorry Scrooge, no chance of exploiting Tina; she doesn't make it.

SCROOGE Doesn't make it?

PRESENT Next Christmas will see the family group reduced by one. And it's not Granny.

SCROOGE Oh. *Pause.* No hang on – what was it? Proton Beam? Look – tomorrow morning I'll/

PRESENT I am the ghost of Christmas Present, for me tomorrow never comes. 'Now' is all I have Look – see what's happening right now - your nephew Archie is having a Christmas party.

*During the last speech enter Archie and Erin's Christmas Party group. They freeze in a semi circle, all looking at their mobile. Present unfreezes the group. Silence. They all study their phones.*

ARCHIE That's not how you spell repugnant.

*Silence*

ARCHIE Or Malignant.

GUEST 1 Or Repellent.

GUEST 2 And anyway this is much too easy! We guessed who is was after loathesome!

ERIN Shall we play another round?

GUEST 1 No – this 'guess the celebrity' app is not one of your best Archie.

GUEST 2            We could – actually play charades - talk to each other?

ARCHIE            What – in real life?

GUEST 1            Like in the old days?

ERIN                Mobiles off!

*Guest 3 has not moved – just staring at the mobile phone. Erin takes the phone away.*

GUEST 3            A – but – phone – ah – ooh.

ARCHIE            Right – I'll go first!

*The company should develop two amusing charades sequences. 2 minutes each. This should lead into Archie's new 'Musical Charades' idea.*

ARCHIE            Hey I've got a better idea – 'Musical Identity' – you have to guess who I am from the song – no clues!

### **SONG 18 REPRISÉ MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS**

ARCHIE            YOU KNOW THAT I'M A MEAN OLD MAN THAT'S WHY I'M SO RICH  
I'M LIVING IN A MANSION WHILE YOU LIVE IN A DITCH  
I'M SAVING UP MY MONEY FOR THE DAY I GET OLD  
I'M GONNA TAKE IT WITH ME IN A COFFIN OF GOLD

ALL                JUST PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS  
STOP THE TROUBLE AND STRIFE  
JUST PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE YOUR MOUTH IS  
AND STOP WASTING YOUR LIFE  
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR LIFE  
YOU'RE WASTING YOUR /

*Present freezes the action*

SCROOGE          Well that's not very nice! Constantly taking the/

PRESENT          Perhaps you should consider just why they say these things. Listen

*Present unfreezes the action*



ERIN            Not him again! He's a shadow across our lives! And every Christmas you try and get him to come round!

*Music cue starts as V/O under the next speech. As many cast as possible should gradually get on stage*

ARCHIE        He's my Uncle – my mum's brother. Nothing can change that and I'll be there for him when he needs me. I've got to believe that some of my mother's kindness and dignity is in him somewhere – so yes, every Christmas I will always try and reach him – it's a special time of year – it's Christmas!

*Mirror ball comes on*

PRESENT      Remember you can't change what has been. You can't change what is. But you can change what is to come. But only if you start today – it's the first day of the rest of your life, and tomorrow is a brand new day, untouched and waiting for you.

## **SCENE 6**

*Exit Present. A bell begins to toll and pall bearers dressed in black bring a coffin on USC. They stand at the rear of the stage.*

SCROOGE      Here we go again! Let me guess – ghost of Christmas Future?

*Future is never seen by Scrooge, just a disembodied voice, but can be visible to audience.*

FUTURE        Yes, I am the spirit of Christmas Yet To Come.

SCROOGE      Where are you? I can't see you

*The trap door crashes open and a bright red light shines up from below. Smoke comes up.*

FUTURE        You can see me if you dare to look into the future.

SCROOGE      No you're alright. Hearing you is fine.

*One of the pall bearers closes the trap door.*

SCROOGE      So – what's the coffin all about then?

FUTURE        Someone lies within.

SCROOGE      Anybody I know? And how far in the future are we?

FUTURE           The future is a world of might bes and possibilities Scrooge. Anything can happen. The future is not fixed like the past. Don't look back, what has been is forever and cannot be changed, but your future can - it changes constantly as a result of your thoughts and deeds.

SCROOGE         What about me then? I mean – what happens to me?

FUTURE           If you continue as you are now, it is all very clear. Look and learn the legacy of your life's work.

*Mirror ball off. Enter Car Boot characters. They lay down sheets with their objects for sale as they chat. These must include Scrooge's jacket and Ruby's ring.*

VENDOR 1        Alright Stacey? You done this car boot before?

VENDOR 2        Yeah, I'm a regular, third Sunday every month – got anything good today?

VENDOR1         Yeah – bit of luck, house clearance – bought the lot! They were taking any bids, massive tax bill to pay apparently.

VENDOR 2        Some of that stuff looks a bit tatty

VENDOR 1        Yeah well all the best stuff had gone – receivers took it. Look give me a hand and we can split the profits.

*Enter shopping couple.*

VENDOR 2        You're on. Here we go, punters! Genuine house clearance, bargain basement, come on ladies and gentlemen, you won't find anything like this in your high street!

VENDOR 1        Better than eBay, cheaper than Gum Tree! Bargains galore everything must go! Good morning sir – how about a nice new jacket? Hardly worn.

WIFE             It's rather old fashioned – it would suit you though Vincent.

VINCENT         Load of old trash.

WIFE             What was that?

VINCENT         I say – I brought plenty of cash.

WIFE             Oh- good.

- VENDOR 2      Straight from Regent Street Madam – Aquascrotum that is.
- WIFE            Nice material. I was only saying last week that you need a new jacket Vincent – what was I saying?
- VINCENT        That I need a new jacket dear.
- WIFE            I think you should buy it Vincent.
- VINCENT        I'm not sure, I was thinking/
- WIFE            Thinking? You? What do you know about fashion – or anything come to that?
- VINCENT        I have made a few big mistakes/
- WIFE            Pardon?
- VINCENT        I say – they're good makes – these clothes, good makes.
- WIFE            How much for the jacket?
- VENDOR 1      That's ten quid.
- WIFE            Give him five – take it or leave it!

*They do the deal. Enter two more shoppers. Exit Wife and Vincent.*

- VENDOR 2      Come on ladies, look at this solid silver photo frame. Worth a fortune that is – a fortune!
- SHOPPER 1     How much?
- VENDOR 2      10p.
- SHOPPER 2     Who's the woman in the photo then?
- VENDOR 1      That doesn't matter.
- The vendor takes Ruby's photo out and rips it up.*
- VENDOR 1      There you go.
- SHOPPER 2     I'll have it – what about the hula hoop?

VENDOR 1      Oh that's very valuable, a genuine antique, real plastic! Most of these are in landfill now, can't get one for love nor money.

SHOPPER 1     I've only got money.

VENDOR 1      50p then – and I'll throw in this old video tape!

SHOPPER 1     I'll take it.

*Enter courting couple, exit shoppers. Enter Older Ruby*

GIRL            Ooh look at this Charlie! Is this a real ruby in this ring?

VENDOR 2      Definitely.

BOY             Really?

VENDOR        I wouldn't lie to you.

GIRL            I love it!

BOY             How much?

VENDOR 2      £599.

BOY             And what's your very best price on that?

VENDOR 1      Everybody's been watching 'Bargain Hunt'! Ruined my business!

GIRL            We'll give you £10.

*She shakes vendor 2's hand.*

VENDOR 2      OK

GIRL            Nah – too much.

*They exit. The vendors start to pack up.*

O RUBY         I'll take the ring.

VENDOR 2      There you go love.

*Older Ruby gazes at the ring and moves DSR*

VENDOR 1      You'd better start counting up. Don't forget to take out the ten quid for the pitch - how much?

VENDOR 2      35 p.

VENDOR 1      Sad isn't it. You'd have thought that his whole life would have been worth more than that.

### **SCENE 7**

SCROOGE      Rubbish! That wasn't about me! Mind you it was my stuff – but I'm rich, I'm well respected – well - I'm rich anyway/

FUTURE      Investments can go wrong in life as well as in money Scrooge.

SCROOGE      But surely there will be something left? And surely somebody will miss me?

FUTURE      Not many. Here is one who still misses the man you used to be – could be again.

*Older Ruby sings from DSR. Scrooge moves over to stand closer as she sings – he attempts to hold her hand on the 'touch my hand' line but it slips away.*

### **SONG 19      YESTERDAY/TODAY**

OLD RUBY      HE WANDERS ALONE IN THE NIGHT  
AND THE SHADOWS ARE MADE MUCH DARKER BY THE LIGHT  
OF YESTERDAY, TODAY

AND HE'S LOCKED IN THE DEPTH OF DESPAIR  
CAGED UP FEELINGS HIDDEN SO LONG HE DOESN'T CARE  
FOR YESTERDAY TODAY

MY HEART WOULD STOP BEATING  
WITH A FLEETING GLANCE OR IF HE CHANCED TO TOUCH MY HAND  
UNDERSTAND

THAT ONCE HE SHOWED ME A HEART MADE OF GOLD  
NOW THE GOLDEN IDOL HAS CLAIMED HIS VERY SOUL  
FROM YESTERDAY TODAY

MEM'RIES THAT I CHERISH  
SIMPLY PERISH NOW HE DISAVOWS HIS LOVE FOR ME

## HE MUST SEE

*Enter younger Ruby DSL*

THAT'S WHY HE WANDERS ALONE IN THE NIGHT  
WINDOW SHOPPING HE HAS TO CHOOSE A LIFE THAT'S RIGHT  
FROM YESTERDAY – TODAY

OLD RUBY	YOUNG RUBY
HE WANDERS ALONE IN THE NIGHT AND THE SHADOWS ARE MADE MUCH DARKER BY THE LIGHT OF YESTERDAY, TODAY	WAITING FOR TOMORROW TONIGHT - ALL THROUGH THIS DARK AND ENDLESS NIGHT OF YESTERDAY - TODAY
AND HE'S LOCKED IN THE DEPTH OF DESPAIR CAGED UP FEELINGS HIDDEN SO LONG HE DOESN'T CARE FOR YESTERDAY TODAY	I ONCE HAD A TRUE LOVE SO BLIND, HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW MUCH I CARED NOT YESTERDAY, TODAY
MY HEART WOULD STOP BEATING WITH A FLEETING GLANCE OR IF HE CHANCED TO TOUCH MY HAND UNDERSTAND	MY HEART WOULD STOP BEATING WITH EACH FLEETING GLANCE OR IF HE CHANCED TO TOUCH MY HAND UNDERSTAND
THAT ONCE HE SHOWED ME A HEART MADE OF GOLD NOW THE GOLDEN IDOL HAS CLAIMED HIS VERY SOUL FROM YESTERDAY TODAY	I HOPE HE WILL SEE THAT I GAVE MY HEART BUT HE CHARGED SUCH A TOLL MAKE YESTERDAY TODAY
MEM'RIES THAT I CHERISH SIMPLY PERISH NOW HE DISAVOWS HIS LOVE FOR ME HE MUST SEE	MEM'RIES THAT I CHERISH SIMPLY PERISH NOW HE DISAVOWS HIS LOVE FOR ME HE MUST SEE
THAT'S WHY HE WANDERS ALONE IN THE NIGHT WINDOW SHOPPING HE HAS TO CHOOSE A LIFE THAT'S RIGHT FROM YESTERDAY YESTERDAY TODAY	HE MUST START TOMORROW TO CHOOSE, HE HAS TO CHOOSE A LIFE THAT'S RIGHT FROM YESTERDAY YESTERDAY TODAY

*Lights fade on Old Ruby and Young Ruby. Spot on scrooge and coffin.*

**SCENE 8**

*Dancers are entering throughout this speech. Mirror ball on.*

SCROOGE      OK – enough now. Let me go back to my life. I will try. I will/  
FUTURE        Soon Ebenezer. But first you must open the box.  
SCROOGE      What? No way/  
FUTURE        All your life you have been taking the money – but now you must/  
SCROOGE      Open the – No!  
FUTURE        Open the box!

*Lights down. Mirror ball off. Scrooge opens the coffin – there should be a million candlepower torch already on inside the coffin to shine in his face. Blackout. Close coffin lid. Cue music into dance feature.*

**SONG 20 THE GATES OF HELL DANCE.**

**SCENE 9**

**SONG 21 WISH FOR THE MOON/MEAN OLD MAN**

NOW THAT IT'S TIME TO PAY THE PIPER  
AND ALL YOUR LIFE YOU'VE SUNG A DIFFERENT TUNE  
CHANCES NOT TAKEN, DREAMS UNFULFILLED  
NOW YOU CAN WISH FOR THE MOON

HERE IS YOUR LEGACY OF LIVING  
SAD AND UNLOVED AND IT IS COMING SOON  
MORALLY BANKRUPT, CRIPPLED INSIDE  
NOW YOU CAN WISH FOR THE MOON.  
THIS IS THE FUTURE  
LOOK TO THE PAST YET TO COME

NOW THAT IT'S TIME TO PAY THE PIPER  
BUT YOU'VE BEEN SINGING IN A MINOR KEY  
LOOK THROUGH THE NEEDLE, THIS IS THE DOOR  
THE MAN IN THE MOON WAITS TO SEE

THIS IS THE FUTURE, STILL IN THE FUTURE  
LOOK TO THE PAST YET TO COME

SCROOGE WAS A MAN  
A MEAN OLD MAN

**SEGUE INTO**

A MEAN OLD MAN

MAN HE IS SO MEAN  
HE IS A MEAN OLD

MAN HE IS SO MEAN  
HE IS A MEAN OLD

MAN HE IS SO MEAN  
HE IS A MEAN OLD

MAN HE IS SO MEAN  
HE IS A MEAN OLD

CONSCIENCE IS A  
WORD  
THAT HE'S NEVER  
HEARD  
THERE'S A PAUCITY OF  
REAL INTEGRITY A  
MEAN OLD

CONSCIENCE IS A  
WORD  
THAT HE'S NEVER  
HEARD  
THERE'S A PAUCITY OF  
REAL INTEGRITY A  
MEAN OLD

CONSCIENCE IS A  
WORD  
THAT HE'S NEVER  
HEARD  
THERE'S A PAUCITY OF  
REAL INTEGRITY A  
MEAN OLD

INVESTMENTS TENDED  
AVARICIOUSLY  
MEAN OLD

INVESTMENTS TENDED  
AVARICIOUSLY  
MEAN OLD

HE CAN TAKE A LIFE  
AND HE CAN RUIN IT  
TAKE YOUR HOPE  
AND DREAMS YOU  
THINK YOU'RE DOING  
IT  
TILL YOU FIND YOU  
HAVE TO GIVE AWAY  
YOUR SOUL  
THAT IS WHY HE IS A  
MEAN OLD



ALL	MEAN OLD MAN MEAN OLD MAN VICIOUS HE'S AVARICIOUS	

	SCROOGE	ALL
NOW I CAN SEE SEE THAT I HAVE BEEN SO MALICIOUS SO INAUSPICIOUS		MEAN OLD MAN MEAN OLD MAN VICIOUS HE'S AVARICIOUS

ALL SCROOGE IS A MAN IS A MEAN OLD MAN  
IS A VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY  
MEAN OLD MAN

EBENEZER HE'S A GEEZER WHO WILL NEVER TRY TO PLEASE YER  
HE WILL ALWAYS TRY TO SQUEEZE YER FOR YOUR  
MONEY SO AVOID HIM IF YOU CAN

GOT NO SENSE OF HUMOUR  
JUST WADS OF MAZUMA

SCROOGE IS A MAN IS A MEAN OLD MAN  
IS A VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY VERY  
MEAN OLD MAN

AND IF PEOPLE ASK FOR MONEY HIS DEMEANOUR ISN'T  
SUNNY HE CAN TURN A LITTLE FUNNY HE WILL GO AND GET  
HIS GUN HE IS A MEAN OLD MAN.

SOCIALLY UNHANDY  
HE IS KRUGERANDY

SCROOGE IS A MAN, A MEAN OLD  
A MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD,  
VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY  
MEAN OLD MAN

SCROOGE IS A MAN, A MEAN OLD

A MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD, MEAN OLD,  
VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY, VERY,  
MEAN OLD MAN

A MEAN OLD MAN  
A MEAN OLD MAN

A MEAN OLD MAN!

*The last line is whisper quiet. Blackout. Clear the stage. Church bells SFX. Lights up on Scrooge sleeping fitfully in his chair. He wakes to the sound of the bells.*

### **SCENE 10**

*Scrooge wanders to DSC and looks out. A boy walks past.*

SCROOGE      Hey you! Boy! What day is it?

BOY            It's Christmas day you dinlow!

SCROOGE      They did it – all in one night. I'm still alive – it's now, now! Live for today, live for each other, tomorrow never comes – but tomorrow is a brand new day!

BOY            Are you alright mister?

SCROOGE      Never better! Now listen - if I give you a wodge of cash can you go to the nearest butcher and but me a massive turkey?

BOY            You bin watchin' too many Christmas movies mate – all the butchers are shut on Christmas day– they're at home cooking their own turkeys! Why don't you nip home and get one out of your freezer quick!

*Exit Scrooge. Lighting change to suggest we are now outdoors. Sound of a motor bike crossfade into Christmas bells. Projection of St Faith's Church frontage. Enter Bob, Squidge and 'their people' as though they are coming out of Church. Vicar shakes hands at the Church door. All cast should gradually enter as though they've all been to Church.*

SQUIDGE      What a vicar! How many priests ride a motor bike?

ROB            The Rockin' Rector they call him!

SQUIDGE      Can we sign him up?

ROB                   Come on. We'd better get a move on if we're going to help serve the lunches to the homeless guys.

SQUIDGE            It was a great appeal this year Rob, broke all records!

ROB                   So did Squeezer – we somehow ended up owing him money!

*Enter Cratchit family and NHS choir.*

CRATCHIT            What a great Christmas morning service.

GRANNY             I never heard 'Oh Come All Ye Faithful' done in the style of Jerry Lee Lewis before!

CAROL                That's some vicar!

TINA                 When we get home will Santa have been?

*Enter Scrooge disguised in Santa suit.*

ARCHIE              Hey look – here IS Santa!

SCROOGE            Er – ho ho ho.

ERIN                 Not very convincing Santa!

ARCHIE              No – you'll have to do better than that!

SCROOGE            Ho! Ho! Ho! How did your appeal go this year – Rob? Squidge?

ROB                  Not bad but/

SQUIDGE            We could always do with more.

ROB                  Yeah - with some people it's like, *sung* 'Do They Know It's Christmast Tme at All!'

SCROOGE            So I've been led to believe. Here would this help?

*He hands over a cheque*

TINA                 What's that?

DR K                 It's a cheque, they used to use it for money in the old days.

SQUIDGE            Wow! Couldn't do contactless with this – too many zeros!

SCROOGE Oh, and one for you as well Dr Kowalski, made out to the hospital appeal.

DR K Are you serious? This amount will enable us to – Tina, look at this!

TINA That's a lot of new tyres!

CRATCHIT That's a proton beam machine!

CAROL You must be the real Santa Claus!

SCROOGE And something for you Mrs Crotchet, I mean Cratchit!

*He hands over the frozen turkey which crashes to the floor.*

ARCHIE It's frozen solid! You'd better all come to us for lunch – and you Santa!

CAROL Wait a minute – this cheque is signed by/

*She wheels Tina over to Scrooge who bends over to give Tina a present, she grabs hold of his false beard which comes off.*

ALL Scrooge!

RUBY Shmoogy!

ALL Shmoogy?

SCROOGE Ruby! *He holds up her ring finger* Ruby - Maybe it's time I got you a real one?

RUBY This one is just fine if you really mean it?

SCROOGE I think I do. And Cratchit – Bob – this cheque is in lieu of past and future royalties.

*He passes Cratchit a cheque. Cratchit's eyes open wide in shock.*

CRATCHIT Future royalties?

SCROOGE Your new song, your Christmas number 1 – Cratchit's Christmas Carol!

**SONG 22 TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY**

SCROOGE I KNOW I'VE BEEN A SINNER

AND I KNOW THAT I'VE DONE WRONG  
 BUT NOW I GOT ANOTHER CHANCE  
 A CHANCE NOW TO BELONG

I KNOW I'M NOT A WINNER  
 BUT I KNOW I GOTTA SAY  
 I CAN'T REST IF I DON'T TESTIFY  
 THAT TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY

ALL WELL TOMORROW, YEAH TOMORROW  
 WELL TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY  
 WELL TOMORROW, YEAH TOMORROW  
 WELL TOMORROW IS THE DAY !

SCROOGE	ALL
I KNOW I'VE BEEN A SINNER AND I KNOW THAT I'VE DONE WRONG  BUT NOW I GOT ANOTHER CHANCE A CHANCE NOW TO BELONG	WELL TOMORROW, YEAH TOMORROW WELL TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY WELL TOMORROW, YEAH TOMORROW WELL TOMORROW IS THE DAY !
I KNOW I'M NOT A WINNER BUT I KNOW I GOTTA SAY I CAN'T REST IF I DON'T TESTIFY THAT TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY	WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA
IT'S BEEN A FUNNY KINDA' NIGHT AND NOW I'VE GONE AND SEEN THE LIGHT AND THE LIGHT SHOWS ME THE WAY I ONLY NEED A LITTLE SHOVE AND A MESSAGE FROM ABOVE THAT TOMORROW IS THE JUDGEMENT DAY!	
I KNOW I'M NOT A WINNER BUT I KNOW I GOTTA SAY I CAN'T REST IF I DON'T TESTIFY THAT TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY	WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA
AND NOW I'M A BEGINNER PLEASE LET ME JUST EXPLAIN I'M CALLING OUT TO FREEDOM AND I'VE THROWN AWAY THE CHAINS	

---

I KNOW I'M NOT A WINNER BUT I KNOW I GOTTA SAY I CAN'T REST IF I DON'T TESTIFY THAT TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY	WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA
--	--

GHOSTS      NOW WE'RE REALLY ON A ROLL 'CAUSE WE'RE GONNA SAVE HIS SOUL  
GET ON YOUR KNEES AND PRAY !

JUST BE THANKFUL TO THE LORD THAT HE'S LETTIN' YOU ABOARD  
AND HE'S GONNA LET YOU STAY

GHOSTS	ALL
AND NOW YOU'LL BE A WINNER AND WE KNOW WE GOTTA SAY WE'RE IMPRESSED THAT YOU CAN TESTIFY THAT TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY	WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA

ALL      HE'S A WINNER - NOT A SINNER  
HE'S A NEW MAN BORN TODAY  
SECOND CHANCING - AND ROMANCING  
DON'T THROW IT ALL AWAY!

GHOSTS	ALL
AND NOW YOU'LL BE A WINNER AND WE KNOW WE GOTTA SAY WE'RE IMPRESSED THAT YOU CAN TESTIFY THAT TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY	WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA

ALL      WELL TOMORROW - YEAH TOMORROW  
WELL TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY  
WELL TOMORROW - YEAH TOMORROW  
WELL TOMORROW IS THE DAY

SCROOGE	ALL
I KNOW I'M NOT A WINNER BUT I KNOW I GOTTA SAY I CAN'T REST IF I DON'T TESTIFY THAT TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY	WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA WHOA
I CAN'T REST IF I DON'T TESTIFY THAT TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY I CAN'T REST IF I DON'T TESTIFY THAT TOMORROW IS A BRAND NEW DAY !!!!!!!	

### CURTAIN

#### **Bows and Get off**

*Music for bows will be as requested by directors. Once bows are complete the cast should form parallel lines facing the audience. They should all link hands and slowly snake off the stage, maintaining the structure of the lines, whilst Scrooge and Tina are upstage centre singing 'Tomorrow Will Never Come'. This getoff sequence should be in blue light with snow falling (white light used to highlight the snow) Mirror Ball on.*

#### **SONG 23 TOMORROW WILL NEVER COME**

STANDING HERE IN THE DYING YEAR  
WITH THE SUN GLOWING RED ON THESE CLOUDED HILLS  
DAYS GROW COLD AND THE CLOUDS UNFOLD  
ON THE DARK AND SATANIC MILLS

AND TODAY'S THE DAY TO MAKE A BEGINNING  
TODAY'S THE DAY I'LL SEARCH IN MY HEART  
FOR TODAY IS MY TIME AND IF I'M GOING TO CLIMB  
MOUNTAINS SO GREEN I SHOULD START

STANDING HERE WITH A BRAND NEW YEAR  
AT THE CROSSROADS OF TIME I WILL MAKE A STAND  
HELP THEM, "BUILD A JERUSALEM

IN THIS GREEN AND THIS PLEASANT LAND!"

AND TODAY'S THE DAY TO MAKE A BEGINNING  
TODAY'S THE DAY TO SEARCH IN MY HEART  
FOR TODAY IS MY TIME AND IF I'M GOING TO CLIMB  
MOUNTAINS SO GREEN I SHOULD START

WILL I SAY ON MY DYING DAY  
THAT THE WORLD IS MUCH BETTER FOR WHAT I'VE DONE  
SWORD IN HAND NOW I UNDERSTAND  
THAT TOMORROW WILL NEVER COME

TOMORROW WILL NEVER COME