

AUDITION SIDES for

DICKENS' CHRISTMAS CAROL - A RADIO DRAMA

NARRATOR: I'm the narrator. I describe the details of each scene and tell the audience what is happening. This is "Charles Dickens' Christmas Carol." It requires a good story teller to make the scary parts scary and the happy parts happy -- and that's my job.

MARLEY'S GHOST: I am the ghost of Jacob Marley, Scrooge's long dead partner. Because of my own greed and avarice, I am doomed to wander the world after Death... without rest or peace. I wail in unceasing torture and remorse! Beware my fate, Ebenezer. Beware! Beware!
(GHOSTLY WAIL)

MR. FEZZIWIG Yo ho, there! Ebenezer! Dick! No more work to-night. Christmas Eve!
(LAUGHS) Ha Ha! Join in the festivities! Merry Christmas, all! Come and dance! Hilli-Ho!

PETER CRATCHIT (READING FROM BIBLE) "...And he took a child, and set him in the midst of them. And answered, 'I say unto you that none but those who are as humble as little children shall enter into Heaven. Whosoever shall receive one such little child in my name, receiveth ME...'"

BUCK and BOY CAROLER:

1st Line: What's today? Why it's Christmas day, sir.

2nd Line: Do I know the Poulterer's in the next street? I should hope I did.

3rd Line: Do I know whether they've sold the prize Turkey that was hanging up there? What? The one as big as me? It's hanging there now.

Sing: "God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen"

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NEPHEW FRED and KATE his wife:

FRED: (LAUGHS) ...and then he said Christmas was a hum-bug! As I live!
And he believed it too!(LAUGHS) Ha-ha-ha-ha!

KATE: (LAUGHS) More shame for him, Fred.

FRED: He's a comical old fellow--that's the truth. And not so pleasant as he
might be. However, his offences carry their own punishment, and I
have nothing to say against him.

KATE: I'm sure he is very "rich." At least you always tell me so.

FRED: (LAUGHS) What of that, my dear wife? His wealth is of no use to
him. He doesn't make himself comfortable with it.

KATE: I have no patience with him.

FRED: Well, I have. I am sorry for him. I couldn't be angry with him if I tried.
Who suffers by his ill whims--himself, always. I mean to give him the
same chance every year, whether he likes it or...

BELLE: I'm Belle. I was Ebenezer's fiancée when he was young, but became
alarmed as my darling became hard and cruel. He chose money
over love and I could no longer remain engaged to him. It hurt me to
leave him, but I had no other choice. Farewell, Ebenezer. May you
be happy in the life you have chosen.

MARTHA CRATCHIT Sorry, I'm late, Mother. We'd had a deal of work to finish up last
night--and to clear away--this morning. Mother, please don't cry.
Father will be home soon. Don't let him know you've been crying.

BELINDA and FANNY SCROOGE:

Dear, dear brother. I have come to bring you home. Yes, home!
Home--for ever and ever! Father is so much kinder than he used to
be, that home's like Heaven. We're to be together all Christmas long!
And have the merriest time in the world! Come with me! Let us go!

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CHARWOMAN, MRS. DILBER and OLD JOE:

CHARWOMAN: Who's the worse for the loss of a few things like these? Not a dead man, I suppose.

MRS. DILBER: No, indeed! If he wanted to keep 'em after he was dead--the wicked old screw--why wasn't he natural in his lifetime?

OLD JOE: Mrs. Dilber!

MRS. DILBER: Well, if he had been, he'd have had somebody to look after him when he was struck with Death... Instead of lying there, gasping out his last--alone--by himself.

OLD JOE: 'Tis the truest word that ever was spoke. It's a judgment on him, it is. (PAUSE) Huh?(SHOCKED) What's this? Bed-curtains?

CHARWOMAN: (LAUGHS) Ahhh, yes! Bed-curtains!

OLD JOE: You don't mean to say you took them down--rings and all--with him lying there?

CHARWOMAN: Why not? (STARTLED) Ah! Don't drop that oil upon the blankets, now.

OLD JOE: His... blankets, too?

CHARWOMAN: And this fine shirt! It's the best he had. They'd have wasted it--by dressing him up--if it hadn't been for me! (LAUGHS)

ALL THREE: (LAUGHTER) Ha-ha-ha-ha...
