

THE LEGEND OF SANTA PIG

*Conceived and Written by
William J. Springer
(With Apologies to C. Clement Moore)*

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The Reviews Are In—”Santa Pig” Is a Hit!

“EGG-CELLENT !!!”

The Hen House Herald

“TAKE A GANDER AT THIS ONE! “

The Goosey Gossiper

“FIVE GOBBLES!”

The Turkey Times

“BETTER THAN A TRUCK LOAD OF TIN CANS”

The Goat Gazette

“A GALLOPING GOOD TIME!”

The Tack Room Tribune

“EWE’LL LOVE IT!”

The Sheep Shank Shopper

“THE SONGS ARE A MOO-SICAL DELIGHT!”

The Cow Town Chronicle

“SQUEAKY CLEAN FUN FOR THE WHOLE PACK!”

The Mousey Morning News

“MORE FUN THAN A HEN-HOUSE RAID!”

The Fox Tail Tattler

“LOOK OUT, NUTCRACKER: ‘THE LEGEND OF SANTA PIG’ IS DESTINED TO BECOME THE NEW ANNUAL HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENT EVENT!!!”

Pig Sty Sentinel

Publicity

You may want to excerpt these animal reviews and incorporate them into your publicity and programs.

STORY OF THE PLAY

This play answers the age-old philosophical question: "If it's Christmas in the barnyard and no one is around, will the animals have one bang-up Christmas party?" Well, the answer is most definitely YES!!!

The show begins with an introduction by Fido, the P.C. (that's "Pet of Ceremonies") who "warms up" the audience. As the story unfolds, young Timmy and Beth MacDonald fall asleep with visions of sugar plums and farm animals singing and dancing in their heads. Combining songs that are drawn from traditional tunes; dialogue that will amuse both children and adults; a frantic chase (will the Cook catch the Turkey in time for Christmas dinner - and do we really want her to?); an audience sing-along; and extensive technical notes, "The Legend of Santa Pig" is easy and fun to produce.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENES

Prologue: In front of curtain.

Scene 1: MacDonald living room, Christmas Eve.

Scene 2: MacDonald barnyard, later.

Scene 3: MacDonald living room, Christmas Day.

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CAST OF CHARACTERS (20 to 26 characters)
(Doubling and down-sizing possible. See notes at end.)

PET OF CEREMONIES

FIDO: The dog.

THE HUMANS

FRANK: The stage manager.

JOE MACDONALD: The farmer.

ANN MACDONALD: His wife.

TIMMY MACDONALD: Their son.

BETH MACDONALD: Their daughter.

PEARL: The cook.

THE ANIMALS

ELLIE: The cow.

GLADYS TOMESINA EDITH: The ewe.

LAMBY - PIE: Her daughter.

HENRIETTA: The hen.

REGINALD: The rooster.

CHICKEN LITTLE: Their child.

CHICKEN BIG: Their child.

GARY: The gander.

GRETA: The goose.

PETER: The pig.

POLLY: His wife.

IMA PIG: Their child.

URA PIG: Their child.

DOBBS: The horse.

TOM: The turkey.

KNOTT E. VAN: The mouse.

SLY: The fox.

BILLY: The goat.

AND -- SANTA PIG: The legend!

Playing Time: 55-60 minutes. Note: While it is not encouraged, the Prologue and first song can be eliminated to shorten the play's running time.

PROLOGUE

(AT RISE: A SPOTLIGHT hits FIDO who is CS. He is bent over with his legs spread and his rear end facing the audience. He is digging a hole and the "dirt" flies into the audience. He gets up and goes a few steps SR where there is a bone on the ground. Picking it up in his teeth, he goes back to CS and drops it into the "hole." He then assumes his original position - this time with his rear end facing UPS - and paws dirt back into the "hole" to complete burying the bone. Then he stands up and is slapping his paws, one past the other to clean them, when he sees the audience.)

FIDO: *(As if HE were speaking real words and real sentences.)* Woof. Woof woof woof, woof-woof woof woof. Woof woof-woof woof woof woof-woof. Wo - *(HE is interrupted by a noise from off SL.)*

STAGE MANAGER: Psst. Psssst.

FIDO: *("Huh?")* Woof?

STAGE MANAGER: *(Sticks arm on stage and motions FIDO toward HIM. Whispers.)* Fido.

FIDO: *("Who me?")* Woof, woof?

STAGE MANAGER: *(Whispers.)* Yeah, you. Come here a second.

FIDO: *("Excuse me a moment. I'll be right back.")* Woof-woof woof woof woof-woof. Woof woof woof woof. *(HE crosses to SL. STAGE MANAGER leans out and whispers in HIS ear.)* *("What?")* Woof? *(The STAGE MANAGER repeats the whispered message. FIDO throws himself against the act curtain - almost as if in fear.)* Humans?!?!?! *(With HIS paw up over his eyes he peers into the audience. Then, with his paws on his hips, he says to the STAGE MANAGER:)* Well, I certainly hope they're all on a leash.

STAGE MANAGER: *(Motions FIDO back to CS before exiting.)* Go on now.

FIDO: *(Stopping on HIS way he again peers out into the audience. Then, shaking his head.)* Allowing humans loose in a theater... Whatever is this world coming to?

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FIDO: *(Cont'd.)* Oh, well. *(HE continues back to CS.)*
Okay. Well, I guess I better start all over again from the beginning. Welcome, dogs and cats, puppies and kittens of all ages - oops, I forgot - Welcome, ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls to the *(INSERT THEATER or GROUP NAME.)* production of "The Legend of Santa Pig." My name is Fido and I'm your PC - that's Pet of Ceremonies - for the evening. Now, before we start our play, there are a couple of things you need to know. First of all, if you hear something funny in our play, we want you to laugh, *(HE does.)* Arf! Arf! Arf! Come on, let me hear you laugh along with me. Arf! Arf! Arf! Arf! Arf! That was great! Now, if we do something you really like, here's how you let us know. *(HE howls and claps his paws together.)* A-OOOOOOOOOOO! Now, you do it with me. *(Claps again.)* A-OOOOOOooooooo! That was terrific! *(NOTE: If it's possible to really get the audience to "arf" and "howl," that's great, but if they just laugh and clap like "humans," don't belabor the point.)*

Now, there are just two more things before we start. The first is that when you're not laughing and applauding, you have to sit very still and quiet so you can hear everything we're saying up here on stage. And, second, if the need arises, the boys' fire hydrants are located in the lobby on the left, and the girls' fire hydrants are on the right. *(Adjust directions to fit.)* Now, on with our show!

(MUSICAL FANFARE.)

FIDO: Our story of "The Legend of Santa Pig" begins on a farm not too far from here. It's the Young MacDonalds' Farm. It used to be Old MacDonalds' farm years ago. Anyhow, that's where I live, along with Sox the cat, all the farm animals, and of course, the young MacDonald family. *(The CHARACTERS enter as FIDO mentions them.)* There's Mr. and Mrs. MacDonald ... their children Timmy and Beth ... and Pearl, the cook.

(MUSIC "Old MacDonald Had a Farm" begins for next song.)

End of Freeview

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