



SCROOGE'S CHRISTMAS

by Theodosia Paynter and G. A. Grant-Schaefer

OPERETTA/MUSICAL IN 2 ACTS

BASED ON DICKENS' "CHRISTMAS CAROL"

PUBLISHED BY

ELDRIDGE PUBLISHING COMPANY
1-800-HI-STAGE

Download your complete script from Eldridge Publishing

<https://histage.com/scrooges-christmas>

SCROOGE'S CHRISTMAS

An Operetta in Two Acts

By Theodosia Paynter and G. A. Grant-Schaefer

*A Musical in 2 Acts
Based on Dickens' "Christmas Carol"*

PUBLISHED BY

ELDRIDGE PUBLISHING COMPANY

PO Box 1595
Venice, FL 34284

© 1989 by Eldridge Publishing Company

WHY CAN'T I Photocopy Playbooks?

Everyone uses a photocopier for business purposes but did you know it is illegal to copy this playbook? The symbol ©, which appears on all Eldridge plays and musicals, means that the artistic property is protected by the federal copyright law and cannot be copied by any means. Further, possession of scripts alone does not grant performance rights. You must have a production license.

As a publisher we work hard to keep costs low, especially for our many school and church customers. We realize budgets may be limited and some groups may not even charge admission to performances. People who copy our material force price increases on all our honest, paying customers and cheat the playwright and publisher out of a fair living. Investigators make random checks and any organization found producing our material illegally is turned over to our attorneys for immediate prosecution.

To copy this text is an infringement of the federal copyright law as is to perform this play without royalty payment. Federal copyright law -- 17 U.S.C. section 504 -- allows for a recovery of a minimum of \$250 and a maximum of \$50,000 for each infringement, plus attorney fees. Call the publisher for further scripts and licensing information.

**Eldridge Publishing Company
P.O. Box 1595 • Venice, FL 34284**

1-800-HI-STAGE

SCROOGE'S CHRISTMAS

3

SCROOGE'S CHRISTMAS

This operetta is appealing to all ages, and may be effectively presented by all the combined grades, or by the high or lower grades separately. Where an all-grade performance is desired, the larger and more important characters of Scrooge, Fred, Bob, Jacob Marley's Ghost, Mrs. Cratchit and 2 Gentlemen should be taken by students of the upper classes. The minor characters, which may be large or small, are Belinda, Martha, Carollers, Angels, and Festive Ghouls and Ghosts. The small characters are Peter, Tiny Tim, Boy, Girl, Ragamuffins, Grocery Lads and Shopping Lasses. This makes a satisfactory distribution of parts. The alto part is so written that it may be omitted, if necessary. All the melodies are within easy range and are easily learned.

CHARACTERS

EBENEZER SCROOGEGrouchy, selfish and tight-fisted
FRED (*Scrooge's Clerk*)Frigid and timorous
BOB CRATCHIT (*Scrooge's nephew*)Poor, but always cheery
TWO GENTLEMENCharity's Agents
JACOB MARLEY'S GHOST.....Remorseful Spirit
MRS. CRATCHIT (*Bob's wife*).....Expansive in ribbons
PETER CRATCHIT(*Son*)Dressed to the teeth
TINY TIM (*Son*)Lame, but brave of heart
BELINDA CRATCHIT(*Daughter*).....Mother's helper
MARTHA CRATCHIT(*Daughter*)A fine young lady
BOY }
GIRL } (*Young Cratchits*)Expectant of goodies

Also any number of CAROLLERS, RAGAMUFFINS, ANGELS, FESTIVE GHOULS, GROCERY LADS, SHOPPING LASSES, LITTLE CHEFS, GHOST

SYNOPSIS

ACT I

Scene 1--Scrooge's office seen through windows on Christmas Eve

Scene 2--Interior of Scrooge's office...later the same night

ACT II

The Cratchit Home....Christmas Day noon

LIGHTING

Act I: It is early evening. The dim outside moonlight is in contrast to the bright light of Scrooge's office inside, where the figures are distinctly visible to audience. When the Angels appears, all is dark but for their candles and a beam of rosy light which falls on them. A blue light is thrown on Marley's ghost and an ordinary one on Scrooge during their scene, while all is dark.

Act II: The lighting should be as bright as possible. Candles are placed on mantel and dining table. A bright glow shows in fireplace.

SCROOGE'S CHRISTMAS

4

THE STORY

Carollers and Ragamuffins celebrate Christmas Eve before Scrooge's office with joyous singing and dancing. Scrooge is sitting in his counting-house gloating over his money. The singers annoy him and he chases them off. He begrudges his clerk warmth and even the Christmas holiday. Scrooge repulses his nephew's hospitality and scoffs at charity seekers. When he is finally alone, he is haunted by ghouls and Christmas angels.

The ghost of his former partner, Jacob Marley, comes to him and convinces him that his cold and unkindly way of life is storing up trouble for him after death. Scrooge is alarmed, and as he thinks about it, his granite heart softens. He immediately sends for gifts of food and toys to take to the home of his nephew Christmas day.

Bob Cratchit's household on Christmas, though poor, is redolent with a joyous spirit. Tiny Tim, the little lame son, says "God bless us every one," and all sit about the goose dinner with great rejoicing. Scrooge comes and watches them before announcing himself, and hears Bob upholding him to all. Finally he joins the family and presents them all with gifts. The happy day is ended in playing Blind Man's Bluff, Scrooge having the time of his life.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

Act I

1. INTRODUCTION: RING THE BELLS!Carollers and Chorus
2. OUR BONES ARE COLD.....Ragamuffins
3. BONFIRE DANCERagamuffins
4. GOD REST YOU MERRY, GENTLEMEN..Chorus
5. EXIT OF CHARACTERSInstrumental
6. COME, THIS YULETIDE NIGHT.....Scrooge and Angels
7. CHIMING BELLS (Carol)Chorus
8. GROTESQUE DANCEFestive Ghouls
9. GHOSTSEbenezer, Jacob and Ghosts
10. CHRISTMAS ERRANDSGrocery Lads and Shopping Lasses

Act II

11. OH, CHRISTMAS TREE! (Carol).....Carollers and Chorus
12. BOB UP RESPLENDENT.....Chorus
13. THE GOODLY GOOSEBob, Mrs. Cratchit and Family
14. GOD BLESS US EVERY ONE!Tiny Tim and Chorus
15. HEY AND A HO!.....Little Chefs and Chorus
16. BLIND MAN'S BLUFFScrooge and Chorus
17. FINALE: RING CASTLE BELLS.....Entire Cast

End of Freeview

Download your complete script from Eldridge Publishing

<https://histage.com/scrooges-christmas>

Eldridge Publishing, a leading drama play publisher since 1906, offers more than a thousand full-length plays, one-act plays, melodramas, holiday plays, religious plays, children's theatre plays and musicals of all kinds.

For more than a hundred years, our family-owned business has had the privilege of publishing some of the finest playwrights, allowing their work to come alive on stages worldwide.

We look forward to being a part of your next theatrical production.

Eldridge Publishing... for the start of your theatre experience!