

**YOUNG BOY SIDE #1 (SHOW HOST)**

Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls, and Friends of Christmas everywhere! My name is Tiny Tom, Tiny Tim's much older cousin who never made it into the original Dickens story. A shame, but this is why I have inserted myself as your host for our evening's festivities.

Now, in just a few moments we will open the doors to Mr. Ebenezer Scrooge's office, otherwise known as your beloved Cascade Theater. I encourage you to keep a pleasant countenance, for Mr. Scrooge, as you know, is quite grumpy during the holidays and needs some severe cheering up.

However, I am happy to say that his humbug attitude has NOT discouraged the ten curious and courageous souls you are about to meet - our Company of Players who have together prepared one of the oldest and most familiar of all Christmas tales in a most unfamiliar way.

We hope the adventure that awaits you becomes a magical memory that will last for endless Christmases to come! And now... (DRUM ROLL) Welcome to "Ebenezer Scrooge's Big Bend Christmas Show!

**YOUNG BOY SIDE #2 - (SCHOOL-AGE SCROOGE)**

*The Boy speaks with a hint of a British accent.*

**BOY**

Brilliant morning, eh?

**CRICKET TEAM CAPTAIN**

That it is, Scrooge.

**BOY**

I always say, every day's another chance at 'appiness, what what?

**CRICKET TEAM CAPTAIN**

If you say so, Ebenezer. *(The Young Boy begins stretching)*

**BOY**

Sun's shinin', daisies are bloomin', and today's the big school cricket match!

**CRICKET TEAM CAPTAIN**

You'll want to get yourself a good seat, then.

**BOY**

Oh, I would, but I've got a feeling that I'll finally get picked for the team today!

**CRICKET TEAM CAPTAIN**

Is that right? What makes you so sure?

**YOUNG BOY**

Well, you're already on the team, Tristan's at a christening, Nigel's on 'oliday, and Piers 'as the pox! I'm the only one left!

**EBENEZER SCROOGE SIDE #1 (GRUMPY SCROOGE)**

**PRUDENCE**

Your contribution will help needy children, helpless war widows and the terminally ill.

**SCROOGE**

Those all sound like very worthy candidates.

**PRUDENCE**

They do?

**SCROOGE**

For the poorhouse. I understand they have one over in Redmond. You know, the keep trying to get one of everything over there.

**PRUDENCE**

Oh, but the poorhouses are not nice places, sir. Many would prefer death over such cruel conditions.

**SCROOGE**

Well, if that is what they prefer, they should be my guests and help control the overpopulation.

**PRUDENCE**

Oh, but sir! These are our friends! Our neighbors! Our neighbors' children!

**SCROOGE**

(Slamming the desk) They are drains on society, I tell you! And as far as I'm concerned, the people who represent them are thieves! Yourselves included! Kindly remove your persons from these premises, ladies, or I'll summon the authorities!

**EBENEZER SCROOGE SIDE #2 (SCARED AND FUNNY SCROOGE)**

*(Lightning, Thunder &  
clanging bells startle  
Scrooge from his sleep. He  
inches away from his bed,  
grasping the sheet, shaking)*

**SCROOGE**

What?! What's this? What the devil? Stop! Stop, I tell  
you!

*(Chains clank and  
the wind whooshes)*

**SCROOGE**

Who goes there? Intruder! Enter at your own peril! I  
warn you! I am trained in jujitsu and karate!

*(Scrooge performs some  
hilarious martial arts moves)*

**EBENEZER SCROOGE SIDE #3 (REPENTANT SCROOGE)**

*(Overlooking Tiny Tim's headstone)*

**SCROOGE**

This is all my fault. My doing. And I must fix it. By God, if there is a way I can spare Tiny Tim from this fate, I swear I will do it. But wait, Spirit? This is a Christmas yet to come, is it not? And what - what is it that I learned? If...if...if I truly see the past, I can change the present? And does it follow? If I truly see the present, can I not change the future? And even if there is no hope for me, there must be hope for Tiny Tim.

*Scrooge drops to his knees.*

**SCROOGE**

Oh, Spirit, Bring me home. Give me a chance to set things right - to give rather than take. I swear I will do all I can to help my fellow man from this moment on. I will change, Spirit. I promise.

*Scrooge stands, huddling, begging.*

**SCROOGE**

Please, help me. . . help me. . . help me . . .  
help me. . .

**SCROOGE SIDE #4 (JOYOUS SCROOGE)**

**SCROOGE**

Excuse me, boy!

**BOY**

Yes, sir?

**SCROOGE**

What is today, my fine fellow?

**BOY**

Do you not know, Sir? It's Christmas Day!

**SCROOGE**

Tell me, young man, how old are you?

**BOY**

Nine years old this month, sir.

**SCROOGE**

Hah-ha! Did you know I was nine years old -- when I was your age! (Giggling) Hah! A joke! I made a joke!

**BOY**

Are you all right, Sir?

**SCROOGE**

More than that! You see, it's still Christmas! I haven't missed it! The Spirits did it all in one night!

**BOY**

The Spirits, Sir?

**SCROOGE**

Yes indeed! But - but no mind! Do you know the store-the Market of Choice? It's down a few blocks, next to that modern pizza place with the skinny crust and too many things to choose from. You can't miss it.

**BOY**

Of course, sir.

**SCROOGE**

You must go there at once! Buy the prize turkey in the deli and take it to the home of Bob Cratchit. And don't let on where it came from! Imagine, a turkey twice the size of Tiny Tim! And look! The town of Bend! All out and about celebrating this glorious holiday! Wheeeee!

**MALE ENSEMBLE SIDE #1 (GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST)**

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

Ebeneeeezerrrr Scrooooge. . .

**SCROOGE**

Who-who-who are you?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

I am a dead man. Ask me who I was.

**SCROOGE**

Who -who-who - who was you?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

In life, I was your business partner, Jacob Marley.

**SCROOGE**

This is impossible! Ghosts do not exist!

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

Oh, we exist indeed. But we're hard to find. Like a parking place at Bend Brewing on a Friday night.

**SCROOGE**

No, no! You're an illusion. A nightmare!

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

The only nightmare here is you, Ebenezer, and it is time for a reckoning! (*Thunder clap*) You have wasted your life Scrooge, counting pennies...

**SCROOGE**

Nonsense! I've never squandered a penny in my life.

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

No, you have squandered something far more valuable than money -tiiiime.

**SCROOGE**

Come again?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

Tiiiiiiime!

**SCROOGE**

Sorry?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

Time.

*The Ghost of Christmas Past  
wiggles his arms. Chains clank.*

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

Hear that, Scrooge? These invisible chains link me to a fate worse than death. And unless you change your ways, you shall face the same horrible end.

**SCROOGE**

You can't mean -- hell?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

Yes! Everyday I wake up in the same place. Juniper Pool. Saturday afternoon. The middle of summer.

*Scrooge gasps, covering his mouth in horror.*

**SCROOGE**

You don't mean -

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

Yes, Ebenezer. Children. Children everywhere. Wet children.

*Scrooge gasps again.*

**SCROOGE**

Tell me, Marley, is there a way I can avoid such a hideous fate?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

There is but one chance, one hope.

**SCROOGE**

That would actually be two ways then --

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST**

Ghosts!



**MALE ENSEMBLE SIDE #2 (AMBITIOUS YOUNG SCROOGE)**

**FEZZIWIG**

Ebenezer! Will you put that ledger down and treat yourself to some eggnog?

**AMBITIOUS YOUNG SCROOGE**

I will, Mr. Fezzi. Just as soon as I have finished the books for the week.

**FEZZIWIG**

The books can wait. Your fiancé over there - cannot.

*Scrooge notices his fiancé*

**AMBITIOUS YOUNG SCROOGE**

Be right with you, darling! Just a few bits and bobs to finish up!

**FEZZIWIG**

Put your work down, Ebenezer, and go join her!

**AMBITIOUS YOUNG SCROOGE**

Oh, she knows how I am. I cannot rest until I have completed my work.

**FEZZIWIG**

But you never complete your work. There's always more.

**AMBITIOUS YOUNG SCROOGE**

Thank goodness, Mr. Fezziwig! A man without work is a man without purpose!

**FEZZIWIG**

Tread carefully, my friend. I don't want to see you end up alone in this world.

**AMBITIOUS YOUNG SCROOGE**

I'm not worried. I have Lavinia. We are soon to be married, and we shall have plenty of time together once I have earned my fortune.

**LAVINIA**

Look, Ebenezer! I've pulled this mistletoe from the branch. If I hold it over your head, you never know what might -

**AMBITIOUS YOUNG SCROOGE**

(Exploding) You did what??!! Do you know how much those decorations cost? How do you expect me to pay for our tickets to America when you insist on indulging in this delinquent behavior?

**MALE ENSEMBLE SIDE #3 - BOB CRATCHIT**

**CRATCHIT**

Uh, sir?

**SCROOGE**

Speak up man!

**CRATCHIT**

Might it be acceptable for me to take my leave just a touch early this evening?

**SCROOGE**

What?? It's the middle of the day!

**CRATCHIT**

It's eight pm, sir. On Christmas Eve. Mr. Marley used to let me go home a bit early on Christmas Eve.

**SCROOGE**

And see where that got him? The graveyard! Wormfood! Is that the future you wish for yourself, Cratchit?

**CRATCHIT**

It's the future we all face, Mr. Scrooge, like it or not. I do wish to get home before Tim goes to bed.

**SCROOGE**

Hmph! You'll want all tomorrow off as well, I assume?

**CRATCHIT**

If it's convenient, sir. Oh, and this is for you.

**SCROOGE**

What is it?

**CRATCHIT**

It's a little cup and ball game. Tim fashioned it for you out of old cardboard, some string and an acorn.

**SCROOGE**

Hmph, somewhat lopsided. I doubt if it will work.

**ACTOR FIVE**

Just think of it as a token of our appreciation.

**SCROOGE**

Gifts are always invitations for gratitude, Cratchit -- and I have none to offer.

**ACTOR FIVE**

Sorry to hear that, sir. Um, goodnight. And Merry  
---- goodnight.

**FEMALE ENSEMBLE SIDE #1 - THE SAINT SISTERS**

**PRUDENCE**

Oh, Mr. Scrod!

**GERTRUDE**

Scrooge.

**PRUDENCE**

That's what I said.

**GERTRUDE**

It's us!

**BOTH**

The Saint Sisters!

*Scrooge spins on his stool to look at  
them.*

**PRUDENCE**

I'm Prudence and she's Grapefruit

**GERTRUDE**

Gertrude.

**PRUDENCE**

That's what I said.

**GERTRUDE**

Nevertheless --

**BOTH**

Merry Christmas!

**SCROOGE**

Ah-hah! Customers! Welcome!

**PRUDENCE**

My, but that wind outside is really something. We may  
even see some perspiration.

**ACTOR GERTRUDE**

Precipitation.

**PRUDENCE**

That's what I said.

**FEMALE ENSEMBLE SIDE #2 - GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

Ooh! That looked painful. But it'll be fire on TikTok. Come on, get up, dude. You're gonna get dirt all over your dress. (*Actor Six snaps picture of Scrooge with her cell phone*) Mind if I Insta that?

**SCROOGE**

What is this? Who are you?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

Ghost of Christmas Present, honey.

**SCROOGE**

What year is it?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

The present, home boy. Don't think too hard. You gotta just live in the now. (*Hits a yoga pose*) Ooommm.

**SCROOGE**

I have had enough spirits for one night.

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

Not me. I could really use a skinny margarita.

**SCROOGE**

What do you want with me?

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

Just wanted to get you outta the house, boo. You gotta admit, your social life is kinda pathetic.

**SCROOGE**

My social life is none of your business!

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

Here's the stitch - Your associate, and only friend in the world, Bobby Cratchit, is having Christmas Eve dinner with his family and you're the guest of honor.

**SCROOGE**

But - but I wasn't invited!

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

Which is why we're crashing, chica.

**SCROOGE**

But I'm not wearing any pants!

**GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT**

Don't worry, sweet-cheeks. They can't see us anyway.

**FEMALE ENSEMBLE SIDE #3 - MRS. CRATCHIT**

**BOB CRATCHIT**

How is he?

**LUCY CRATCHIT**

No better than before.

**BOB CRATCHIT**

Shall we give him some water?

**LUCY CRATCHIT**

He is so weak. I fear it will choke him.

*Bob kneels beside her*

**BOB CRATCHIT**

We must prepare ourselves.

**LUCY CRATCHIT**

I won't hear it, Bob, I won't!

**BOB CRATCHIT**

Lucy! Dear!

**LUCY CRATCHIT**

*(Breaking down, anger and sorrow becoming one)* You promised to get him the new pills he needed!

**BOB CRATCHIT**

How? We hadn't the funds! One pill cost more than I made in a month!

**LUCY CRATCHIT**

Then you should have gotten a second job! Worked longer hours! Made more money!

**BOB CRATCHIT**

I tried, Lucy. I tried. I only wish I could trade places with him now. I have failed you both.

*Bob turns and steps away*

**LUCY CRATCHIT**

*(Panicked, Lucy leans into the cradle)* Bob! Come back!  
*(Tearfully)* Tim! Wake up! Wake up!