

“Christmas Spirits”

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Setting:

Bar at the North Pole for Christmas characters

Synopsis:

Fictional characters air their troubles and complaints of the season with a touch of humor.

Character Summary:

Males	10
Females	8
Either	4

Cast of Characters:**Major**

- Nick - (M) Owner and bartender of Christmas Spirits
- Stranger - (M) New patron to the bar being introduced to the groups of people
- Santa Claus - (M) The big man in the magical red suit
- Mrs. Claus - (F) The wife of the big man

Minor:

- Scrooge - (M) From "A Christmas Carol"
- Jacob Marley - (M) From "A Christmas Carol"
- Ghost of Christmas Past - (F) from "A Christmas Carol"
- Ghost of Christmas Present - (M) from "A Christmas Carol"
- Ghost of Christmas Future - (M) from "A Christmas Carol"
- Tiny Tim - (M) from "A Christmas Carol"
- The Grinch - (M) From "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas"
- Cindy Lou Who - (F) from "The Grinch Who Stole Christmas"
- Clarence/Clara the Angel - (E) from the movie "It's a Wonderful Life" or "It Happened One Christmas"
- Frosty the Snowman - (M) from the TV special
- Grandma - (F) from the song "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer."
- Jack Frost - (E) Winter Spirit
- Sugar Plum Fairy - (F) From song "The Nutcracker Suite"
- Little Drummer Boy - (F) from the song "Little Drummer Boy"
- Tattler - (F) from the song "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Clause"
- Various Elves - (E) Background voices
- Little Girl - (F) Reads a letter to Santa
- Little Boy - (E) Reads a letter to Santa

Notes: Yellow highlighted characters could be cut for time and important dialogue performed as background voices.

1 *SFX Canned Christmas Music*

2 Nick: Hello everyone! I'm Nick, nice to meet ya!
3 I'm the owner, operator, resident friend,
4 shoulder to cry on, arm chair therapist,
5 confidant and purveyor of potent potables at
6 Christmas Spirits. In other words, I'm the
7 bartender at a bar catering to a special
8 clientele. You may know most of them, they're
9 the living spirits of Christmas and they all
10 come here to unwind and let their troubles
11 out. *(beat)* Troubles you ask? Why sure they
12 have troubles just like anyone else, so they
13 come here to listen to one another and ease
14 their pains. I have lots of stories to tell
15 but one in particular comes to mind. The tale
16 of a special stranger and the Christmas that
17 almost wasn't!

18 *SFX Canned Christmas Music and background voices*

19 *SFX Sleigh Bells ringing the first 4 notes of "Carol of the*
20 *Bells"*

21 Nick: Welcome to Christmas Spirits, the merriest bar
22 around. Come on in and take a load of. Name
23 your drink of choice and it's yours.

24 Stranger: Thank you. Very kind of you.

25 Nick: So what can I get ya tonight?

26 Stranger: Oh, some water will be fine, thank you.

27 Nick: Water it is then.

28 *SFX Canned Christmas Music and background voices*

29 Stranger: Awful busy, is it always like this?

30 Nick: Busy? *(chuckle)* I guess it looks like that.
31 The folks are just blowing off some steam
32 before the big day tomorrow!

33 Stranger: Big Day?

34 Nick: You're joking? Tomorrow's Christmas Day!

35 Stranger: *(easy laugh)* Of course, Christmas Day, I lost
36 track of time and it snuck up on me.

37 Nick: It happens (*beat*) say, do I know you? You
38 look familiar.

39 Stranger: I just have one of those faces.

40 Nick: Yeah, happens in here sometimes. We get new
41 people coming in every year. Since you're
42 new, let me show you around. Introduce you to
43 some of the groups around here.

44 Stranger: I don't want to be a bother.

45 Nick: No bother at all. You caught us during a lull
46 in the action and I have some time. I can let
47 the staff take over for now. (*raises voice*)
48 Yo! Sugar!

49 Sugar Plum: You bellowed?

50 Nick: You know it sweetie. Could you and some of
51 the other fairies take over? Gotta new guy to
52 show around.

53 Sugar Plum: Oh sure, you get to have fun while the rest of
54 us get to work our wings off.

55 Nick: You're the best! Come on stranger, lemme show
56 you around.

57 Stranger: Are you sure it is ok? She seemed a little
58 upset.

59 Nick: Oh that's just the way she is. Remarkably
60 sour for a sugar plum fairy! So, Christmas
61 Spirits is split up into several rooms. This
62 is our main area where everyone likes to sit
63 and talk, over there is the Literary Character
64 room for the book characters. Silver Screen
65 for the big movie folks, Little screen for the
66 made for TV movies, Musical room for the folks
67 in song and play and of course the Elves
68 Playroom (*lowers voice*) when they get some egg
69 nog in them they get out of control. Oh, and
70 never give them Nutmeg, drives 'em crazy.

71 Stranger: Does it ever get too crowded?

72 Nick: Nope. Always enough room. Christmas Spirits
73 is just like the people it caters to, magical.
74 It's always just the right size and always has
75 the right number of rooms.

76 Stranger: Sounds amazing.

77 Nick: (*chuckle*) Stick around, you ain't seen nothing
78 yet. So, here's some of our older patrons.
79 Been around for a long time now and some of
80 the nicest people you could ask to meet.
81 Everyone, like to introduce you to a new face
82 to our crowd.

83 GOPast: Another new face? Do they never stop?

84 GOPresent: (*Grand Voice*) Don't be silly man, you look to
85 the past too much. Live in the now I say!
86 Come closer man, come so that I may know you!
87 Eat, drink and be merry!

88 GOPast: You're always like this, you never think of
89 anything except for the present.

90 GOPresent: And your head is always stuck in the past!
91 Live a little and live in the now!

92 GOPast: I can't believe you would say that to me! I'm
93 the Ghost of Christmas Past so of course I
94 look to the past you short sighted rube. You
95 never consider your actions, only living in
96 the moment.

97 Nick: Come on folks, can't you get along? Always
98 the same with these two, past and present, you
99 would think they would get along better.

100 GOPresent: You'd be cross too if you were constantly
101 being passed over for credit in your own
102 story, everyone knows Scrooge and his
103 transformation but do we get the credit? Nope.

104 GOPast: It's all Scrooge you hear about. How he
105 changed and turned over a new leaf, as if it
106 was all on his own.

107 Stranger: But everyone knows that without you, there
108 would have been no change.

109 GOPresent: Darn right there wouldn't! Without us that
110 miser would still be huddled around a single
111 lump of burning coal and eating potato soup
112 that was mostly water!

113 Stranger: What about your friend? He has been fairly
114 quiet through all of this.

115 Past: He doesn't say anything, just sits there and
116 points and makes...

117 Future: (*deep, resonant voice*) Very kind of you to
118 inquire as to what I think. While it is
119 hurtful to be glossed over in the tale it is
120 important to remember that each of us played
121 an integral role and without each piece
122 nothing would have changed and the tale would
123 have been without moral or meaning.

124 (*beat*)

125 Past/Present: You can talk!?

126 Future: Yes, I can speak.

127 Present: In all the times we sat here you've said
128 nothing! Why?

129 Past: Exactly! If you could speak all this time why
130 haven't you contributed anything?

131 Future: You never asked. You just argue with one
132 another and I can't get a word in edgewise.
133 It would have been rude to interrupt.

134 Past: Would have been...

135 Present: Never asked? What kind of... when did you...

136 Nick: I think we should let them work this out on
137 their own. Come on, lets meet some other
138 patrons. Have a good night Spirits.

139 Stranger: Sounds like they have an interesting dynamic.

140 Nick: It is. Funny, I never knew he could speak
141 either. I'd like to introduce you to some of
142 our song characters, Jack Frost, Frosty the
143 Snowman and Grandma, (*whispers*) don't mention
144 Santa to her, kind of a touchy subject.

145 Grandma: Touchy?! You get run over by a bloated man in
146 a red suit and his "tiny" reindeer and you
147 tell me if you get to be a little touchy about
148 it!

149 Nick: Now Grandma, it hasn't been proven and you
150 admitted that you had been drinking too much
151 eggnog when it happened.

152 Grandma: It would take a lot of eggnog for me to be
153 confused as to who ran me over!

154 Nick: Yes, well, everyone, we have a new guest to
155 our fine establishment.

156 Frosty: Hey there friend! Pull up a chair and have a
157 drink with us!

158 Jack Frost: (*drunk*) Stick it up your nose Frosty! Do you
159 always have to be so nice to everyone?

160 Frosty: Jack, there is no need to be rude.

161 Jack frost: No need? Really? You try living with the
162 label as an icy jerk with a nose fetish! Some
163 fool writes a song saying I nip at peoples
164 noses and every thinks I like noses. The
165 soft, supple, bulbous ones, the proud straight
166 ones and the little button ones... who wouldn't
167 tweak them? Its as plain as the nose on your
168 face that I don't have a problem!

169 Frosty: Of course you don't Jack.

170 Grandma: Come on Jack, there's nothing to be ashamed
171 of. Just admit you like noses. As far as
172 fetishes go its not too bad. Why I can tell
173 you some stories about what Grandpa and I used
174 to get up to before his lumbago kicked in, see
175 we would get onto the roof and...

176 Jack frost: I'm not a deviant! It's as plain as the nose
177 on your face that I don't have a fetish!

178 Sugar Plum: Mr Frost, your snifter of brandy.

179 *(beat)*

180 Jack Frost: What? I like Brandy and it comes in a
181 snifter. Stop reading into things. *(mutter)*
182 Nosey people looking at someone odd..

183 Frosty: Settle down, Jack. Nobody said anything. You
184 like Brandy and I wish someone would give me a
185 Hot Toddy.

186 Nick: Frosty, we've been through this. You drink
187 something hot, you melt. Not exactly good for
188 business to see the remnants of a snowman on
189 the ground. Besides, think of the kids and
190 what it would do to them!

191 Frosty: Fine, fine, another snow cone and an ice tea.
192 No lemon cones this time! Someone decided to
193 be a joker and slipped me some Polar Bear
194 special "yellow" cones!

195 *SFX growling outside getting louder*

196 Stranger: What was that?

197 Grandma: What was what? Is it Santa coming to run me
198 down again?

199 Jack Frost: Kiddies fresh from playing with their little
200 red noses?

201 *SFX more growling becoming more impatient and angry*

202 Nick: Sounds like the Polar Bears. Have to keep
203 them outside since a certain company got them
204 hooked on caramel colored sugar water and
205 decided to use them as their spokes models.

206 Jack Frost: You mean the Co..

207 Grandma: Don't speak their name! They're worse than
208 you-know-who and their lawyers will be on us
209 like a ton of bricks if you say their name!

210 *SFX More growling and banging*

211 Nick: Wonder what they're getting worked up over.
212 They've got crates of that stuff out there to
213 drink.

214 Grandma: Someone must be messing with them.

215 *SFX loud boom and multiple growls.*

216 Jack Frost: (snort) Who'd be foolish enough to mess with
217 polar bears except for...

218 Frosty: Oh no... not them.

219 Grandma: Quitting time already? Nick? I thought you
220 had measures in place this year.

221 Nick: I did, I mean I do. But you know how they
222 are.

223 Stranger: How who are?

224 In Unison: The elves.

225 *SFX Door chimes the first four notes of Carol of the Bells*
226 *accompanied by tiny voices overlapping, the*
227 *elves have arrived.*

228 Nick: (over the voices) You see, the elves are very
229 hard workers and they all come here at
230 quitting time.

231 Jack Frost: They not only work hard but they believe in
232 playing harder. And unfortunately they also
233 believe in making our lives unbearable.

234 Frosty: Yeah, they always keep coming over and
235 stealing my ha...

236 *SFX giggling and singing "Monkey in the Middle, Monkey in*
237 *the Middle" and "Keep Away"*

238 Nick: Guys... Guys... He can't move without his hat. I
239 tell you that every year. Just give it back
240 to him.

241 Elves: Awww... stupid magic hat. Here, no fun if he
242 can't move.

243 Frosty: Happy Birthday! I told you little creeps to
244 stop taking my hat! Do you know how rude that
245 is and how much I hate going lifeless in the
246 middle of a...

247 *SFX Giggling*

248 Jack Frost: Enough, give it up or I'll tweak your little
249 cute noses!

250 *SFX Giggling*

251 Nick: (*sounding stern*) Anyone that takes Frosty's
252 hat will have no nutmeg on their eggnog. Do I
253 make myself clear.

254 Elves: (*overlapping*) As crystal, sorry Nick, just
255 playing, no harm done.

256 Frosty: Happy Birth... Again!? I need to install a chin
257 strap on this thing!

258 *SFX raucous elf sounds fade and a door closes*

259 Grandma: Not sure which is worse, a horde of elves or a
260 rampaging Santa's reindeer running you down!

261 Stranger: Are you ok Frosty? That can't be fun for you.

262 Frosty: Its not but its ok. Those little guys work
263 really hard through the year and deserver a
264 chance to blow off steam. At least they
265 always give my hat back to me.

266 Stranger: You are a very forgiving person, no wonder all
267 the children love you. They love you all
268 actually. I hear them singing your songs and
269 your praises.

270 Jack Frost: That's true. It's not like they really focus
271 on the whole nose thing.

272 Grandma: And I guess its not like they're laughing
273 about me be a hit and run victim.

274 Nick Glad to hear that's settled. Tell you what,
275 next round's on me. Gotta move on to the next
276 group. (beat) Nice work there Stranger,
277 wasn't sure they were going to calm down this
278 time.

279 Stranger This time?

280 Nick: It gets worse every year. The spirits and
281 holiday figures get more angry and resentful
282 about the way they have been treated by the
283 world.

284 Stranger: It does seem as if the world has lost its way
285 and forgotten what the holiday means.

286 Nick: Amen to that brother: So now we come to the
287 kiddie table, the jolliest of jollies here.
288 Everyone, say hello to a new quest. Allow me
289 to introduce Tiny Tim, Cindy Lou Who, The girl
290 from the I saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus Song

291 *SFX (Drum Roll)*

292 Nick: And of course the Little Drummer boy.

293 Drummer: Girl.

294 Nick: What?

295 Drummer: Girl, Little Drummer girl and I'm not that
296 little anymore. I've been around for almost
297 80 years you'd think people would stop calling
298 me Little and figure out that I was a girl!

299 Tiny Tim: You think that's bad? I'm 6'3", over 100 years
300 old and people still call me "Tiny" expecting
301 a little boy with a crutch crying out "God
302 Bless us everyone!"

303 Cindy Lou: At least you aren't linked to a green furball
304 with attitude issues and have everyone
305 thinking that you're a fool because you didn't
306 realize that the Santa in your home was just a
307 thief!

308 Tattler: I could have told you he wasn't Santa! I saw
309 Santa and the things he did to my Mommy!

310 Tiny Tim: We keep trying to tell you, that wasn't Santa,
311 it was your Daddy dressed in a Santa Costume.
312 And nobody likes a tattle tale!

313 Tattler: It was Santa! I seen him!

314 Tiny Tim: Nick? When are you gonna stop treating us
315 like kids? Most of us are either close to or
316 over 100 years old by now. Could you stop
317 serving us apple cider and Shirley Temples?
318 Maybe some booze?

319 Nick: You're all forever young, enjoy it!

320 Drummer: Well the next person that pinches my cheek and
321 tells me how cute I am is going to get a drum
322 stick up the nose!

323 Jack Frost: (*from a distance*) Did someone say nose?

324 GOFuture: Could be worse kid, you could be 7 foot tall
325 wearing Robes Death wouldn't be seen in and
326 everyone thinks you're a mute. Do you know
327 how hard it is to get dates looking like this?

328 Cindy Lou: We get it, everyone has problems. At least you
329 can drown your woes in some booze! Even the
330 Elves get to drink and they all look like
331 eternal children.

332 Tattler: You just don't get it, no one respects us
333 because they think we're kids. And I'm just a
334 little tattle tale!

335 Stranger: But think of the joy you bring to children and
336 adults alike. You show them a purity of heart
337 that is sorely lacking in the world today.
338 Timothy sees the goodness in the world even
339 though he has every reason to being bitter...

340 Tiny Tim: He is right...

341 Stranger: Cindy Lou, you had faith in a person that was
342 trying to be a villain and trusted him where
343 others wouldn't have.

344 Cindy Lou: Well he was just a nice man in a Santa Claus
345 suit.

346 Stranger: And let us not forget the Drummer Girl and her
347 gift to the newborn king, the only thing she
348 had to give and she did without reservation.

349 Drummer: It was just a little tune I had thought up.

350 Stranger: Which leaves our young woman who saw something
351 on a Christmas Eve, something that allows
352 others to recapture their youth, their hopes
353 and their dreams as they remember what it was
354 like waiting up to see what they could see.

355 Tattler: I guess its not that bad being thought of as a
356 child when you put it that way.

357 Tiny Tim: Who needs booze and besides, we at least get
358 our own table right?

359 Nick: Glad to hear it. Tell you what, maybe I'll
360 even let you have a little bit of champagne
361 this New Years Eve. So, come on Stranger, one
362 more table to introduce to you to. (*lowers*
363 *voice*) That was great the way you handled
364 them. Ever thought about becoming a
365 bartender?

366 Stranger: (*chuckles*) Not really, I'm just good at
367 listening to people.

368 Nick: You'd be surprised just how much of that you
369 have to do as a bartender. So, here we are at
370 the last table, I call it our grumpy gus
371 corner. Let me introduce you to Ebenezer
372 Scrooge, the Grinch, Jacob Marley and Clarence
373 the Angel.

374 Stranger: An angel? I'm surprise to see you here!

375 Clarence: You appear in one movie and show a guy what
376 life would be like without him in it and next
377 thing you know depressed fools are flinging
378 themselves off bridges like lemmings hoping an
379 angel will come along and make them feel
380 better. "You started it Clarence, you take
381 care of the problem!" I tell you, its not
382 easy!

383 Stranger: How so?

384 Clarence: Do you think everyone really makes the world a
385 worse without them in it! I'm telling you,
386 its not easy sometimes finding someone, anyone
387 that would be worse off without some of those
388 gems in their lives!

389 Scrooge: At least you get remembered fondly. The
390 Grinch and I are always remembered as we were,
391 not what we became!

392 Grinch: Exactly! Our names are synonymous with people
393 that hate Christmas...

394 Scrooge: Or tight fistted with a dollar!

395 Frosty: You did try and steal my eyes when I first got
396 here!

397 Scrooge: That was a misunderstanding. I had recently
398 reformed and you have to admit, those eyes of
399 yours are fine examples of premium grade A
400 coal. Do you know how much those go for on
401 the open market?

402 Frosty: Bad enough you tried to take them but even
403 after you plucked out the first one and I
404 started screaming, "My eyes, my eyes please
405 don't take my eyes." You just kept going!

406 Scrooge: I gave them back didn't I?

407 Frosty: Yeah, you did at that. I just can't believe...

408 *SFX giggling*

409 Nick: Jack! Give Frosty his hat back and leave his
410 nose alone!

411 Jack Frost: Aww... but its such a cute button!

412 Frosty: Happy Birthday! Darn it Jack gimme my nose!

413 Nick: (*sigh*) So, back to the introductions.

414 Grinch: Yes, it is far too inconvenient to always be
415 considered shady and underhanded. Why can't
416 we be held up as pillars of virtue like we
417 eventually became when we reformed? Why must
418 our names always contain such negative
419 connotations?

420 Marley: Well, before you reformed you did go through a
421 town and steal every present, ornament, tree
422 and morsel of food that wasn't nailed down.
423 Strike that... you did take the ones that were
424 nailed down and the nails!

425 Grinch: (*chuckle*) That was wicked of me wasn't it?

426 Clarence: And Scrooge when you suggested sending hungry
427 people, women and children to workhouses or
428 prisons and told they would rather die you
429 said to let them!

430 Scrooge: Well I wouldn't say that now!

431 Marley: At least all of you are remembered in some
432 way! I'm usually a trick question during
433 Christmas trivia games. How many ghosts was
434 Scrooge visited by, four ghost by gum, four!
435 Not three!

436 Scrooge: There, there Jacob, without you I wouldn't
437 have been prepared for what was to come.
438 Though you were a little light on the details
439 as to what was going to happen to me.

440 Marley: Balderdash. I told you what you needed to
441 know. And at least you had a chance to
442 reform! Look at me.

443 *SFX chains rattling and dragging*

444 Marley: You reformed and here I am still being
445 punished. Didn't even lose a single link in
446 the chain or a strong box.

447 Stranger: But you are all deeply loved characters. Even
448 though someone may call someone that doesn't
449 seem to have the Christmas spirit a Scrooge or
450 a Grinch it at least means they have faith
451 that they can reform, just as you did. And I
452 am sorry you get so busy Clarence but sometime
453 people just need reassurance that they matter
454 especially this time of year.

455 Marley: And me? I matter too right?

456 Stranger: Of course you do Jacob. Why without you there
457 would have been no story and Scrooge would
458 have imagined everything to be a product a bad
459 potato.

460 Scrooge: Well, I guess it isn't so bad. Round of
461 drinks for the house on me.

462 *SFX Cheers and Laughter*

463 Nick: Did good Stranger. Old Ebenezer may have
464 reformed but getting him to pick up a tab is
465 not the easiest thing in the world. So, what
466 can I get you and what do you think of the
467 place?

468 Stranger: You have a great place with a lot of good
469 people in it. Oh, just water please.

470 Nick: We do have stronger things than water you
471 know.

472 Stranger: I'm good with water.

473 *SFX first 4 notes of carol of the bells as the door opens*
474 *and closes*

475 Group: SANTA!

476 Nick: How's it going Santa?

477 Santa: Like it's a dog eat dog world and I'm wearing
478 meat underpants. Set me up with an Irish
479 coffee without the coffee Nick.

480 Nick: That bad?

481 Santa: Just busy as usual. So many requests, well,
482 more like demands, and so little time. I need
483 to make sure I have a bit of the Christmas
484 Spirit in me before heading out for the night.
485 (beat) I see my Elves made it in already? Did
486 I miss them messing with old Frosty?

487 Sugar Plum: Nick! We need you in the Elf Playroom.
488 Winter Warlock and the Abominable snowman are
489 elf bowling again, and some of the more drunk
490 elves are chasing the elf on the shelf,
491 luckily no ones tall enough to get him down.

492 Nick: Starting early tonight aren't they?

493 Sugar Plum: One of them snuck some nutmeg in and they're
494 all drunk as skunks. I had to wade through a
495 pile of passed out elves, pointed shoes and
496 jiggle bell hats everywhere. It's like the
497 Keebler factory exploded.

498 Nick: Sorry Santa, Stranger, I'll be back. Have to
499 take care of this.

500 Santa: So, like I was saying, did I miss old Frosty
501 losing his hat?

502 Frosty: They took my hat again Santa! I hate when
503 they do...

504 *SFX giggling*

505 Santa: (*roaring with laughter*) Ho, Ho, Ho... that never
506 gets old! Thank you Tiny Tim!

507 Tiny Tim: Just Tim please sir.

508 Frosty: Happy Bir... oh forget it.

509 Grandma: That's him! That's the homicidal lunatic in
510 red fur that ran me over! I'd recognize that
511 laugh anywhere!

512 Santa: Madam, the boys and I did no such thing as run
513 you over.

514 Grandma: I have the hoof and Claus marks on my back
515 that say otherwise you menace!

516 *SFX first 4 notes of carol of the bells as the door opens*
517 *and closes*

518 Mrs Claus: Santa! Are you causing a ruckus again?

519 Santa: No dear, just having a discussion with someone
520 about sleigh operation and right of way on a
521 snowy night.

522 Mrs Claus: Ran over another Grandmother, hmm?

523 Grandma: No! The same one! Every year! Once or twice
524 I could forgive but every year now! Every
525 single year!

526 Tattler: Mrs Claus?

527 Mrs. Claus: Yes dear?

528 Tattler: I saw your hubby doing things with my Mommy
529 under the mistletoe last night.

530 Mrs Claus: I'm sure you did dear.

531 Santa: I did nothing of the sort little girl. Stop
532 telling Mrs Claus every year I kissed your
533 mother, that was your daddy in Santa suit.

534 Tattler: I'll get undeniable proof next year you home
535 wrecker!

536 Nick: I miss anything?

537 Stranger: Just everyone going after one another.

538 Nick: It happens. They're all unwinding a little.
539 Big night ahead of them. Hey Sugar? Send
540 someone over to Hermes's dental and let him
541 know he is going to get a few customers? More
542 than a couple people will want their two front
543 teeth replaced for Christmas.

544 GOPresent: The people out there don't appreciate us and
545 the work we all go through.

546 Santa: Every year, more and more letters from people
547 asking me for things. (*snort*) Not even
548 asking, demanding is more like it!

549 Mrs Claus: Are you sure you should be drinking that much
550 Santa?

551 Santa: I know when to say when dear.

552 Grandma: Like when you ran me over you drunkard, no
553 wonder your nose is red!

554 Santa: Look, just because some fool wrote a poem
555 about me and described be as having a belly
556 that shakes like a bowl full of jelly I am
557 seen as an overweight geriatric with a cookie
558 and milk fixation! It's Rudolph that has the
559 red nose not me!

560 Jack Frost: Nose? A red nose? Where?

561 Sugar Plum: Mick? The 12 days of Christmas folks are
562 fighting with the 12 Redneck days in the music
563 lounge trying to decide which is better. And
564 they brought the birds again... ALL of them! We
565 don't have enough newspaper and the other
566 fairies refuse to clean up after them again.
567 I think the eleven lords a leaping or 11
568 ladies dancing did it, I can never remember
569 which number goes to which performer.

570 Nick: yeah, Remembering the days of Christmas is
571 like remember the names of Santa's reindeer.

572 Santa: That's easy, just have to remember the song.

573 Mrs Claus: Really? So name them.

574 Santa: They're my reindeer, of course I know their
575 names! Ho ho ho.

576 Mrs Claus: You usually call them your boys, buddy, or
577 some other generic thing. Bet you can't
578 remember their names.

579 Santa: I'll make you eat those words!

580 Grandma: Like you eat cookies?

581 Santa: (*clears throat*) There's Dasher and Dancer.

582 GOPast: Those are the easy ones, it gets harder as you
583 go along.

584 GOPresent: Everyone knows that.

585 GOFuture: Even though I know how this ends I'm in
586 suspense.

587 GOPresnet: I liked you better when you couldn't talk.

588 Santa: Prancer and Vixen.

589 Mrs Claus: half way there, must have caught you before
590 you drank too much.

591 Santa: (*inaudible grumbling*) Comet and Cupid...

592 Scrooge: This is it, this is where most people lose it.

593 Santa: Um... then there's...

594 Frosty: Knew he'd blow it.

595 Santa: No, no, I have it.. then there's... umm...
596 Rudolph!

597 Cindy Lou: I don't think he counts.

598 Drummer: Maybe this will help.

599 *SFX soft drum roll and snapping fingers*

600 Santa: Teeto and Jermaine!

601 Mrs Claus: Those are part of the Jackson 5.

602 Santa: Dopey and Doc?

603 Grinch: Two of the Seven Dwarves.

604 Santa: Grant and Lee?

605 Nick: They were Generals in the Civil War.

606 Santa: Black and Blue?!

607 Sugar Plum: Now you're just naming colors.. this is sad.

608 Mrs Claus: The last two are Donder and Blitzen my dear.

609 Santa: Of course! Donder and Blitzen. I almost had
610 it! So much on my mind who wouldn't forget a
611 couple of names! Its this blasted holiday.
612 Like it never ends! I remember a time when
613 Christmas didn't start until I came out on
614 that Thanksgiving Parade in New York! Now we
615 have Christmas decorations out before
616 Halloween even starts!

617 Scrooge: And the movies! Christmas in July? July?!
618 Really? I can't tell you how being in one
619 hundred degree weather makes me think of
620 Christmas!

621 Frosty: What's with calling any movie that takes place
622 during Christmas a Christmas movie? Die Hard
623 is a Christmas Movie? Die Hard?! A Christmas
624 movie should not have a body count at the end
625 of it!

626 Grinch: And how many times can the make a Christmas
627 movie with the same plotline? They're almost
628 all the same anymore. Its like the writers
629 throw the basic ideas in a hat, pick them out
630 and blend them together for the latest movie.

631 Drummer: Don't get me started on the music remakes. If
632 I have to listen to one more fading pop star
633 caterwaul their way through a "Holiday
634 Classic" I may throw up in my drum! Take a
635 three minute song and draw it out to five
636 minutes, most of it them trying to hit a high
637 note in the middle of the song and failing
638 miserably!

639 Santa: Christmas just doesn't mean what it used to.
640 It used to be about people loving one another
641 and being nice. Now its about presents and
642 money.

643 Grinch: Don't forget being offended! Like a string of
644 lights is offensive and needs a court case!

645 Mrs Claus: And heaven forbid you say Merry Christmas to
646 someone that doesn't want to hear it. Say
647 Merry Christmas to the wrong person and you
648 may as well have spat on them and told them
649 their grandmother was a drug dealer!

650 Santa: Speaking of which, I took a trip out there and
651 posed as a Santa in front of store ringing a
652 bell for charity. Some man almost punched me
653 and yelled at me for ringing the bell in his
654 face obnoxiously.

655 Jack Frost: You know what, they don't appreciate us
656 anymore. Why do we bust our tails for them?

657 Nick: What are you saying Jack?

658 Jack Frost: Forget 'em. They wanna be miserable, let 'em.
659 They want this to be all about stuff fine. I
660 say we strike! Show em what a Christmas
661 without the spirits is like and watch em come
662 crawling back!

663 Tiny Tim: Yeah! Then they'll give us the respect we
664 deserve!

665 Cindy Lou: Strike! Strike!

666 Jack Frost: Make it as plain as the nose on their faces!

667 Grinch: I don't know about this guys.

668 Scrooge: Yeah, come on, venting is one thing but taking
669 away the spirit of Christmas? Trust me, we
670 don't want that!

671 Jack Frost: Strike, Strike, Strike!

672 Frosty: yeah! They don't appreciate us, we'll show
673 em!

674 Nick: (roar) That's enough!

675 *SFX Silence*

676 Nick: Enough of this talk of strikes and crying into
677 our drinks. So the people out there are more
678 callous out there. It doesn't mean we have to
679 be just like them.

680 Stranger: Nick's right. Maybe the people want to
681 celebrate Christmas earlier every year because
682 it's the one time when it's easier to be nice
683 to one another and try to show some humanity
684 without asking for anything in return?

685 Santa: Well, yeah, but to make us work so hard on
686 something they should be able to do on their
687 own.

688 Stranger: It should make you proud that they turn to you
689 when they're in need. Santa? I think Nick
690 told me that you keep a couple of special
691 letters in your pocket that help you remember
692 the season.

693 Nick: I did? Oh! Yeah, I did. Come on Santa, you
694 usually have a couple good ones.

695 Santa: Ho,ho,ho... well I do have a couple.

696 *SFX papers rustling*

697 Santa: Dear Santa, I'm writing to you from my
698 hospital room and..

699 *SFX fade in little girl voice reading in chorus with Santa*

700 Chorus: I hope you can give me what I want for
701 Christmas..

702 Little Girl: I'm awful sick and I heard the doctors talking
703 about this probably being my last Christmas
704 and all. So, I don't really need any toys or
705 gifts this year. I just really need you to
706 promise to take care of my folks and little
707 brother. He can be a pain sometimes but I
708 still love him. I know they'll be sad when
709 I'm gone cause I see em crying when they think
710 I'm sleeping. Don't make them be sad Santa,
711 let them be happy and know its all right. If
712 you can do that for me this Christmas I'll
713 love you forever.

714 Santa: *(clears throat)* it goes on for a little more
715 but you get the point.

716 Jack Frost: Such a good little kid. Wish there was
717 something we could do.

718 Nick: What about another?

719 Mrs Claus: I'll take this one

720 *SFX pages rustling*

721 Mrs Claus: Dear Santa, I know I'm not supposed to believe
722 in you anymore cause I'm a big boy now but...

723 *SFX fade in boys voice reading in chorus with Mrs Claus*

724 Chorus: I thought I would give it one more try and
725 pray this reaches you.

726 Little Boy: See, there's a family in our neighborhood that
727 have it rough. Well, Dad says its tough all
728 over but this family seems to have gotten the
729 short end something fierce. Sometimes they
730 don't have food, or lights but they're awful
731 good folks. Always have a smile on their
732 faces and ready to give a hand when someone
733 needs it. They got two boys my age and it
734 just, well it just don't seem fair that they
735 gotta suffer more than they have to. Could
736 you maybe use whatever magic you have left
737 that you might have been thinking of using on
738 me and giving it to them? Just for one night
739 maybe to give them a good Christmas to get
740 them through the year?

741 Mrs Claus: That goes on a little more too but I think you
742 get the point.

743 Stranger: I know people seem self centered and greedy
744 this time of year. Looking toward the
745 pettiness in their hearts and forgetting the
746 spirit of the season. But there are still
747 good people out there. Please don't make them
748 suffer because of the bad seeds.

749 Jack Frost: Well, I wouldn't know what to do if we
750 actually did go on strike.

751 Cindy Lou: I'd be making my story a lie if I didn't see
752 the good in people.

753 Grandma: What the heck, what's getting run over one
754 more year, as long as people get a laugh or
755 two.

756 Santa: Thanks Nick, you too Stranger. Thank you for
757 reminding some old fools that there's still
758 some good out there.

759 Nick: Hey! We still have a couple of hours before
760 midnight. How about drinks on the house?

761 *SFX Cheering and the sounds of merry making which slowly*
762 *fades.*

763 *SFX first four notes of Carol of the Bells*

764 Nick: Welcome to Christmas Spirits, I'm afraid its
765 last call, almost time for Christmas. Oh,
766 back again Stranger?

767 Stranger: Yeah, just wanted to check in before heading
768 home.

769 Nick: Long trip ahead of you? Here's your water.

770 Stranger: Thanks. Yeah, you could say I have a ways to
771 go tonight. Thanks for the water by the way.

772 Nick: Hallmark of a good bartender, knowing what the
773 customer wants and needs.

774 Stranger: You are a great bartender, but an even better
775 Spirit of Christmas, aren't you Nick? Or
776 should I say Saint Nicholas?

777 Nick: (*chuckle*) You got me. How'd you know? No one
778 else has figured it out.

779 Stranger: Wasn't easy. But you do a very good job
780 keeping everyone in line and motivated to do
781 their jobs.

782 Nick: They're a good group. They just forget
783 sometimes. Have to give them a nudge or two.
784 I almost thought we weren't going to make it
785 through tonight. Thanks for the help by the
786 way. I forgot about the letters Santa carries
787 around, and I know I didn't tell you about
788 them.

789 Stranger: Lucky guess.

790 Nick: Uh-huh, lucky. You helped out a lot

791 Stranger: You know what they say, "a soft answer turneth
792 away wrath".

793 Nick: But grievous words stir up anger. Same now as
794 it was then. Just who are you stranger?

795 Stranger: Someone passing by looking for a place to rest
796 for the night, you know how the story goes.
797 Well, thanks for the stories and the water.
798 God Bless you Saint Nick.

799 *SFX door opens and the first four notes of Carol of the*
800 *Bells followed by the sound of a clock*
801 *striking midnight.*

802 Nick: *(softly)* Wine? I know I gave you water but
803 now its wine. *(chuckling)* Well, thank you
804 for dropping by "stranger". Thank you for
805 everything, and... may I be the first tonight to
806 say... Happy Birthday.