

SCENE 3 – SANTA’S WORKSHOP

(Santa is gathered with a few elves. They are hard at work making toys.)

SANTA

All right, elves. It’s that time of year, the night before the night before Christmas. Let’s go through our story, to make sure everyone remembers everything.

ELFABUH

Do we have to? It’s the same every year.

SANTA

Yes, we have to, because 363 days go by between Christmas Day and Christmas Eve Eve.

ELFSUFFICIENT

364 in leap years. Don’t forget that.

SANTA

Yes, very good point, Elfsufficient. Now, has everyone reviewed our Christmas Eve agenda? We have many miles to cover, many roofs on which to land, many—

ELFHELP

Santa, I plan to make this so much faster and more meaningful. In every child’s stocking, I will be placing a copy of my new book, “Putting the Elf back in Self.” Children will be able to manifest the awesome power of gift-giving all year round and soon there will be no need for us.

ELFMANAGEMENT

You sound like a foot soldier in the war on Christmas!

SANTA

All right, that’s enough, that’s enough everyone. Now, let’s get started.

MRS CLAUS

(Heard offstage, she has a very old-lady voice) Santa! Santa!

SANTA

Yes, Mrs. Claus!

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) Santa, the man on the TV says it might snow.

SANTA

Yes, dear, yes. It might. It’s the North Pole, after all.

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) Don’t forget to pack your long underwear and an extra pair of mittens.

SANTA

Thanks for the reminder, Mrs. Claus. Okay, As we do every year, we start on page 1, "Twas—"

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) Santa?

SANTA

Yes, Mrs. Claus?

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) What are you doing?

SANTA

Preparing for our journey dear.

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) Are you going somewhere? Where are you going?

SANTA

All over the world, dear, all over the world.

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) Can you pick up some Epson Salts on your way home?

SANTA

Yes, dear.

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) Thank you, Santa.

SANTA

Now that that's all settled, here we go, "Twas—"

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) Santa?

SANTA

(Growing exasperated) Yes, Mrs. Claus.

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) Are you still busy?

SANTA

Yes, just getting started.

MRS. CLAUS

(Off) Mind if I join you?

SANTA

Yes...I mean, no...I mean, please join us if you'd like. **(To the elves)** "Twas the night before—"

“

(He is interrupted by the entrance of Mrs. Claus. She is a beautiful young woman dressed in some sort of sexy Mrs. Claus getup. She still speaks in the old-lady voice.)

MRS. CLAUS

(To the elves) Hey, dudes, Snow White sends her love! *(the elves groan).*

(As Santa reads the story, he is frequently interrupted by elves ringing a bell to indicate they know the answer to a question.)

SANTA

Okay, ‘Twas the night before Christmas and all through the house, not a creature was stirring, not even a—“

(Elfsufficient rings his bell.)

SANTA

Yes?

ELFSUFFICIENT

(Staring at Mrs. Claus) Spouse? Uh...mouse...yes, mouse.

SANTA

Mouse is correct. ‘The stockings were hung by the chimney with care, in hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be there.’“

ELFHELP

(Ringing her bell) That’s you. Each of us is a saint in our own special, saintly way.

SANTA

‘The children were nestled all snug in their beds, while visions of—“

ELFABUH

(Ringing her bell) Sugarcubes danced on some bread?

SANTA

‘Ma in her kerchief and I in my cap, had just settled down—“

ELFSUFFICIENT

(Rings bell) For a bowl full of jelly.

SANTA

Uh, no, that’s later. We just settled down for a long winter’s nap, didn’t we Mrs. Claus.

MRS. CLAUS

He snores, like a Mustang without a muffler.

SANTA

“When out on the lawn there arose such a clatter, I sprang from my bed to see what was the matter. Away to the window I flew like a flash—“

ELFHELP

(Rings bell) Tore open the shutters and threw up.

SANTA

“The moon on the breast of new fallen snow—“

ELFMANAGEMENT

(Ala Beavis/Butthead) Huh huh, he said...snow.

SANTA

“Gave a lustre of midday to objects below. When what to my wandering eyes should appear, but a miniature sleigh and—“

ELFABUH

(Ringing her bell) Eight bottles of beer!