

**“Home For Christmas” (2010)**

**Scene 1a – Town Square - December 5, 1946**

*(Curtains open as “Anything Can Happen” music begins. Townspeople are milling around in groups, looking in store windows, etc. Pastor Skip enters with Timyra. Skip greets people as they walk by Lighting full outside look)*

**Pastor Skip:** And this (*indicates stage*), Timyra, is our Town Square. We have lots of shops, places to come and see your friends and neighbors... and everyone comes out around Christmas time. Say, what’s one of your favorite things about Christmas?

**Timyra:** I don’t know.

**Pastor Skip:** Well, you’re going to make some special memories while you’re here. I bet this will be your best Christmas ever! C’mon – let’s go see the Christmas lights in the park. (*exits with Timyra*)

*(Milo enters carrying a very large stack of presents, well above his head)*

**Milo:** (*weaving through the crowd, having a difficult time balancing the presents*) ‘Scuse me... pardon me...

**Mrs. Carter:** Milo, where are you going with all of those gifts?

**Milo:** These are the donations for the kiddie hospital from the guys down at the company. George asked me to take them by today.

**Mrs. Carter:** Why do you have so many?

**Milo:** Why make seven trips when you can make one? (*turns to leave*)

**Mrs. Carter:** Well, ok. Just be careful. And WATCH OUT FOR THAT ICE!!

**Milo:** (*falls, tossing all the presents. From the ground*) That’s the fourth time that’s happened today.

**Mrs. Carter:** (*helps him up and picks up some presents*) C’mon – I’ll help you. (*they exit*)

**Ernie:** Hey John, has Paul made it home from the war yet?

**John:** He got in just last week. His first Christmas with us since he joined the service.

**Ernie:** I can’t believe it - just in time! Maybe we’ll get some snow to welcome him home.

**John:** You never know! It's Christmas.

**Song:** Anything Can Happen

*(During first "newsies" break. Sam and Al enter and overhear)*

**Sam:** Al! Did you hear that? Our soldiers will be home for Christmas!

**Al:** That's great!

**Sam:** I know! This Christmas, I will find a soldier and fall in love!

**Al:** *(really excited)* YES!

**Sam:** *(surprised)* I didn't expect you to be that excited for me.

**Al:** I'm not. But if you can find a guy to love you, I know I can get everything on my Christmas list!

*(During 2<sup>nd</sup> break, Mel runs in)*

**Mel:** Sam! Al! Guess who I just ran into?

**Sam/Al:** Who?

**Mel:** Victor Corby! He's back from the war. And look at what he gave me. *(shows sisters a ring on her left ring finger)*

**Sam:** That's beautiful. But you better be careful putting it on that finger. Someone might think you too are engaged. *(Mel smiles as it dawns on Sam)* You're engaged!?! AAAHHH!! What does dad think about it?

**Mel:** I haven't told him yet.

**Al:** No...way...

**Sam:** This Christmas just keeps getting better and better

**Anything Can Happen (cont.)**

**Scene 1b - Street**

*(After song, lights out on stage and curtains close. Orchestra plays reprise and then Mel, Sam and Al enter from stage right, in front of curtain Lights front of curtain)*

**Sam:** So, tell us everything. How did he propose? Does he still look hot in his uniform? How much did the ring cost? And oh... most importantly... does he have any single friends?

**Mel:** Oh, he looks even hotter in his uniform. He hid the ring in my crème brulee, which was so sweet...and nasty. We wrote to each other the whole time he was overseas. That's how we fell in love.

**Sam:** Awwwwwww.

**Al:** Gross.

**Mel:** (*Looking offstage SL*) Here he comes!

**Sam:** (*Shrieks*) Yay!

**Al:** (*to Sam*) What is wrong with you?

**Sam:** Love is in the air!

(*enter Victor*)

**Al:** So is your brain.

**Victor:** There you are, Melanie – I've been looking all over for you.

**Sam:** (*to Al*) Awww... he's been looking all over for her!

**Al:** I know. I'm standing right here.

**Mel:** Victor, you remember my sisters. This is Sam...

**Sam:** Samantha (*shakes Victor's hand*)

**Mel:** Right... and Allison...

**Al:** Al. (*Gives Victor 'five'*)

**Victor:** Mel, Sam and Al.

**Al:** Our dad wanted a boy.

**Sam:** (*referring to Al*) And this is the closest thing he got.

**Al:** (*to Victor*) Do you play football?

**Victor:** Are you kidding? I love it. We played all the time overseas.

**Al:** Finally, someone in this family who understands me. You have my blessing.

**Sam:** Speaking of which... how nervous were you when you asked daddy for permission?

**Victor:** Well... um... truth is...

**Mel:** He didn't. I told him he didn't need to. I'm a grown woman now and I can make decisions for myself.

**Sam/Al:** *(Pause, look at each other and start laughing)*

**Mel:** Ignore them. You have nothing to worry about.

**Victor:** I sure hope not.

**Mel:** But, maybe I should talk to my parents alone first. Would you mind walking around the block a few times so I can break the ice?

**Victor:** That sounds like a great idea. *(Crosses to SR and then turns)* Oh... um... I love you. *(exits)*

**Sam/Al:** *(in a mocking voice)* I love you, tooooo!

**Mel:** Now girls, not ONE word before I tell dad.

**Sam:** *(starts laughing)*

**Mel:** What?

**Sam:** I just thought of something. Dad finally gets a boy... and his name's Vicky!

*(Sam and Al laugh.)*

## **Scene 2 – Living Room**

*( Curtain opens revealing living room. George is asleep on the sofa, newspaper covering face. Full inside House lights. Front door SL facing audience. Mel/Sam/Al enter)*

**Sam:** Let me show you all the gifts I bought.

**Mel:** Did you get mom that necklace she was looking at?

**Sam:** Right here.

**Mel:** She's going to love that.

**Al:** What did you get me?

**Sam:** Nothing.

**Mel:** That's the same thing I got her! C'mon. Let's go wake, Dad.

**George:** (*waking abruptly*) There you are girls; I was starting to get worried!

**Al:** Clearly.

**Sam:** Don't worry dad. We would NEVER run off and do something without letting you know first.

**George:** (*slightly taken aback by her response*) I'm... glad to hear that. How was shopping?

**Al:** LOVE-ly. Absolutely romantic.

**George:** Al?

**Mel:** It was fine, dad; everything was fine.

**Sam:** MOOOOOOMMM!!!

**Ann:** (*comes running in from SR*) Girls? Is everything ok?

**Sam:** Of course. I just thought you might want to ... you know... be in here... right now... for this.

**Ann:** For what?

**George:** Girls? What's going on?

**Ann:** (*realizes*) Oh...OHHHH... Mel? Victor asked you to marry him?

**Al:** (*to Sam*) Mom's good.

**George:** Victor asked you to *marry* him? How did he take it when you said "No"? Mel, you told your mother and me this relationship was on hold until he got back.

**Mel:** *(holding up ring finger)* He's back. *(After a long pause)* Somebody please say something.

**Al:** I liked him.

**George:** Sam, Al – maybe you two should go upstairs.

**Ann:** *(to Mel)* You said you were going to tell your father how serious you two were.

**Mel:** I was going to...I just didn't expect Victor to ask me so soon.

**George:** You could've told him you wanted to think about it.

**Mel:** But I don't want to think about it. He wants to marry me.

**George:** And just when do you and Victor plan on getting married?

**Mel:** January.

**George:** NEXT MONTH?!

**Sam:** *(halfway up the stairs, turns)* Can we please stay?

**Ann:** Go.

**Sam:** Alright. We're just gonna listen through the vents anyway. *(both girls enter their own rooms)*

**George:** Sweetheart, have the two of you even talked about how you're going to live? How's he going to provide for you?

**Mel:** We've got it all figured out. He's waiting outside to talk to you. Please don't be mad.

**Ann:** Mel, your father and I trust you. But we also want to make sure that you are making the right decision.

*(Victor knocks on the door)*

**Mel:** That's him, now.

**George:** Let him in. We don't want him freezing out there. *(to Ann)* Well, maybe a little.

*(Mel lets him in)*

**Ann:** *(hugs him)* Hello, Victor. It's good to see you again. Mel told us the news.

**Victor:** (*shaking George's hand*) Mr. and Mrs. Grogan, I know that his must have come as a huge surprise – and I'm very sorry for that - but when I saw Melanie today, I just couldn't wait another minute to ask her to be my wife. I want you to know that I love Melanie very much and my life would never be complete without her.

**Ann:** (*won over*) Oh, George.

**George:** (*to himself*) Oh no. (*to Victor*). I believe you two do love each other and want to honor God, but there are a few practical things about marriage that I'm just not sure you both have considered. Before I sign off on this, I'd like to talk to you and Mel together. (**Victor nods**) Mel, would you take Victor into the study and I will be right in.

(**Mel and Victor exit SR**)

**George:** (*to Ann*) You knew about this?

**Ann:** I knew about this (*arms wide open, indicating towards the couple*); I *didn't* know about *THIS* (*indicates ring finger*). Go easy on them, George. You didn't ask my father to marry me either.

**George:** Well, that was different.

**Ann:** How?!

**George:** I...you weren't my daughter.

**Ann:** That's true...and weird.

**George:** I just don't know about this. She's growing up too fast, Ann. We'll be out soon. Well, at least two of us will. (*exits*)

**Ann:** (*sitting on the sofa*) Lord, ever since Mel was a little girl, we prayed for a godly man to love her with all his heart and I think Victor could be that man. Give them peace right now. And give George wisdom as he meets with them. Thank you.

(**Pastor Skip knocks on the door with Timyra in tow. Ann opens the door.**)

**Ann:** Pastor Skip! What a pleasant surprise. And who is this that you have with you?

**Skip:** Ann, this is my new friend, Timyra. Timyra, this is Ann Grogan – one of the nicest ladies you'd ever want to meet.

**Ann:** Hi, Timyra, it's nice to meet you. Help yourself to some cookies.

(**Timyra sits on sofa, eating cookies on the coffee table. Skip stays near SL and speaks to Ann in a softer voice**)

**Skip:** Thanks for letting us stop by, Ann. Timyra is an orphan. A social worker stopped by the church to see if we could help them out for a few weeks until they would be able to find her a foster home.

**Ann:** Oh, poor thing. Did her parents recently die?

**Skip:** No. She has no idea who her parents are. She's been bounced around from foster home to orphanage, back and forth all her life. So, we've been walking around all day together and I've been showing her the town, praying the Lord would give us some direction.

**Ann:** Is there anything that we can do to help?

**Skip:** Maybe. From what I've been told, the places that she's been haven't been homes filled with love. As we were looking at Christmas lights, she said it looked like the trees had been painted. And I thought about George and the paint company. God has really blessed you with this big house, but more than that, your family has always been so generous in showing love to the company, the community and the church, I was wondering if maybe...

**Ann:** We would love to have Timyra come live with us.

**Skip:** Now, it should only be a week or two, at the most.

**Ann:** She is welcome here as long as she needs a place to stay. Do you have her things?

**Skip:** They're in that bag.

**Ann:** That's all of it?

**Skip:** It's enough clothes for 4 days.

**Ann:** If I know my girls, that won't be a problem.

**Skip:** (*Moves to sofa*) Timyra, this is Mrs. Ann Grogan. You're going to be staying with her family for a little while. She has three daughters who will love to have you around to play with. And I'll come by every few days to check on you and make sure you're doing ok. Does that sound good?

**Timyra:** Yes.

**Skip:** Good. I'll see you soon, Timyra. Try not to have too much fun. (*exiting*) Thanks Ann. I know the Lord sent her here for a reason. Have a great day and I'll see you soon.

**Ann:** Bye Skip. God bless. (*closes door*) So, Timyra, you've been walking around all day?

**Timyra:** Yes.



**Ann:** Pastor Skip said you got to see the Christmas trees in the park.

**Timyra:** I did. They were beautiful. I've never seen trees *that* big before.

**Ann:** You know, the *best* Christmas trees in the whole world are grown right here in town and my husband, George, always picks out the nicest one. I know we'd love for you to help us decorate – if that's ok with you.

**Timyra:** I think I can handle that.

**Ann:** Would you like some hot chocolate?

**Timyra:** Mmmm... yes please!

**Ann:** My daughters will be down here any minute now. Let me warn you, they might scare you a little bit. One will want you to play football, the other will want you to wear make-up. Is that ok?

**Timyra:** *(smiling)* I've never done any of that.

**Ann:** Well, then you're in for a treat. *(calling upstairs)* SAM! AL! Come downstairs please.

**Timyra:** Sam and Al? Aren't those boy names?

**Ann:** *(laughing)* Yes. We also have another daughter, Mel. The Lord didn't bless us with a son, so George likes to call the girls by their nicknames.

**Timyra:** Why?

**Ann:** It's just a little way for him to let them know he loves them.

*(Sam and Al come running down the stairs yelling)*

**Sam:** MOOMMMM, tell Al that sports are for BOYS!

**Al:** And then tell Sam that her make-up makes her look like a clown.

**Sam:** BOY!!

**Al:** Clown-face!!

**Sam:** BOY!!

**Al:** Clown-face!!

*(George enters SR followed by Mel and Victor)*

**George:** What's with all the noise?

**Ann:** Girls, please! You're scaring our guest... and the neighborhood. I'm glad everyone's here. I want you all to meet Timyra. She will be staying with us for a week or two until Pastor Skip can find her a permanent home, right Timyra?

**Timyra:** Yep.

**George:** Hi Timyra, I'm George Grogan. I'm glad you're with us. Make yourself at home. This is my daughter Mel and her fiance, Victor.

**Mel:** *(shakes hands with Timyra)* Hey Timyra. How old are you?

**Timyra:** I'm 10.

**Victor:** No, you're at least 13 or 14. *(Timyra smiles)*

**Mel:** Mom, Victor and I are going to go for a walk. We'll be home for dinner. See ya Timyra.

**Ann:** You guys be careful.

**Sam:** This is great! I've always wanted a girl for a little sister.

**Al:** *(gives Sam a look)* Gee, thanks. And I've always wanted a NORMAL sister. Do you like bugs?

**Timyra:** Sure.

**Al:** You're perfect! *(Timyra laughs)*

**Sam:** Don't listen to her. Come on, let's take your stuff up to the guest room and we can look through my closet... I have a ton of old dresses that I haven't worn for years that will look great on you. *(starts up the stairs with Al and Timyra following)* You're like my own living doll! We're going to have so much fun.

**George:** Go easy on her, Sam.

**Sam:** Yes, Daddy.

**George:** Thanks girls.

**Ann:** Thanks for understanding, George. Skip had nowhere else to go.

**George:** I'm glad he came here. You made the right decision. And now, we have a wedding to plan.

**Ann:** It went that well?

**George:** They're moving quick, that's for sure, but Victor does have a plan and his priorities straight. But more importantly, they've prayed about it, they love God and they really seem to love each other.

**Ann:** Oh, good. I'm proud of you, George. If only dad had been as understanding to you as you were to them.

**George:** I still don't think he likes me. I'm going to head to the office for a little bit. I'll be home for dinner. *(starts to exit, turns back)* Oh, honey, could you do me a favor?

**Ann:** Sure.

**George:** Go lock Sam in her room until she's 30. *(exits)*

*Ann sings:*

**Song:** "Anything Can Happen" (reprise)

*Curtain Closes*

### **Scene 3: The Office**

*(Milo and Betty are in the office. Milo is seated, staring out, without blinking/moving, Betty on the left going over receipts with a calculator. Notices Milo is not moving and attempts to go back to work while glancing up at him Lights on office.)*

**Milo:** *(snores once)*

**Betty:** *(looking up, as if mishearing)* I'm sorry, what was that?

**Milo:** *(snores again)*

**Betty:** Milo?

**Milo:** *(snores louder)*

**Betty:** (*standing up and walking towards Milo*) Milo!

**Milo:** (*snoring louder*)

**Betty:** (*standing over Milo, waking him, yelling*) MILO!

**Milo:** (“wakes up”, notices **Betty** standing over him. Scared, yells) AHHHHH!!

**Betty:** (*startled*) AHHHHH!!

**Milo:** (*startled again*) AHHHHH!! Are you crazy?!

**Betty:** Me? You were sleeping with your eyes open!

**Milo:** What?

**Betty:** It was creepy!

**Milo:** Well, then throw a bucket of water on me. Use an air horn. How would you like it if you woke up and saw my face!

**Betty:** Good point. (*collecting breath*)

**Milo:** (*regaining composure*) I almost died just then.

**Betty:** What was that all about?

**Milo:** I’m sorry. I haven’t been to sleep since late night inventory.

**Betty:** Milo, that was *four* nights ago. You’re telling me you haven’t slept in four days?

**Milo:** It’s not my fault. It’s all this coffee – (*whining*) it won’t let me sleep.

**Betty:** Then *why* do you keep drinking it?

**Milo:** If I don’t, I’ll fall asleep. George is relying on me. If Mr. Manager isn’t on the ball, the whole company will collapse.

**Betty:** That’s not at all true.

**Milo:** It is! I was just dreaming about it. Also, there will be sharks.

(**George enters**)

**George:** Hey team.

**Milo:** George! (*jumps in George's arms*)

**George:** What are you doing? (*Drops Milo*)

**Milo:** We always shake hands. I'm trying out a new greeting. Too much?

**George:** Just a little.

**Betty:** You were gone for awhile there, George. I thought maybe you had run off and left me the company.

**George:** Sorry, had some family business to take care of. Seems our family grew by two in the last hour – at least temporarily. (*notices the look*) I'll explain later. How are things going? Milo, do you have a status report?

**Milo:** Oh yeah. (*grabs a coffee mug and chugs it to get energy. Rapid fire delivery*) Today we poured 459, processed 382 and packaged 365 cans of paint – assorted colors, I have the breakdown if you need them. We filled and shipped 28 orders putting us ahead of schedule. Changed a light in Hallway 3...(*stops mid-sentence, staring out again. He's fallen asleep, snores once*)

**George:** (*notices Milo has stopped talking. Looks at Betty, questioning*)

**Betty:** Don't get too close. I'll explain later. MILO!

**Milo:** (*picking up mid-sentence*)...refilled toilet paper in men's room. 2 employees called in sick. I delivered most of the presents to the Children's hospital... we had a casualty or two.

**George:** Children?!

**Milo:** Presents. Also, I found the mouse that's been ransacking the kitchen.

**George:** Good work, Milo.

**Milo:** Yeah. I caught him and put him in Betty's desk.

**Betty:** What?!

**Milo:** Haha. Just kidding. I killed him.

**George:** (*pause, staring at Milo as if slightly creeped out*). Betty, give me some good news. How are the finances looking?

**Betty:** Do you want some good news or do you want to know how the finances are looking?

**George:** That bad, huh?

**Betty:** A little below average, actually. For the third year in a row our orders during the holiday season have taken a hit.

**Betty:** Makes sense. Not as much demand, not as much business.

**Betty:** But, this year it's more than usual. Could be that families with soldiers coming home are saving for Christmas...

**George:** And people aren't as likely to paint in colder weather...

**Milo:** And gas prices are up to 700 dollars.

**Betty:** Whatever the reason, we're already behind at the start of our slow season. George, I know you have a lot of money invested in GroCo Paint and if I could just be honest with you, my suggestion is that for the time being, until we can get our footing under us again, don't spend a whole lot of extra money, either for the company or personally.

**George:** For instance, like a wedding?

**Betty:** Who's getting married.

**George:** Mel.

**Betty/Milo:** Congratulations, that's great, etc.

**George:** In January

**Betty/Milo:** Oooohhhhhh...

**George:** Yeah. But let's keep this quiet for right now. I know Ann and I don't want the girls to worry about this. The Employee Christmas party over at the house is in two weeks. Let's meet about this the next day and see how things are going. Let's pray the Lord works something out.

**Betty:** He always does.

**Milo:** Word. In the meantime, I need more coffee. (*stands to exit*)

*(Lights out)*

**Scene 4 – Living Room – December 17<sup>th</sup>, 1946**

*(Curtain opens on living room, now decorated for Christmas. Lights up inside house look. Mel and Victor are on the sofa looking at a large book of wedding things. Ann is setting up for the party)*

**Mel:** What do you think about these invitations? Or these? Or these? Or...these?

**Victor:** I... like them all? You pick.

**Mel:** Good answer. See, you're doing great at this.

**Ann:** Would you guys mind moving off the sofa with all of those things. We're going to need the extra seating tonight.

**Mel:** Sure Mom. *(they move to the front of the stage and sit, miming conversation over the books)*

*(George enters with a tie half-way on)*

**George:** Honey, would you help me with this.

**Mel:** Now, about the bridal party. There will be seven on your side, seven on mine...

**George:** *(to Ann)* Seven? SEVEN? I feel like I'm in a Steve Martin movie.

**Ann:** Relax honey, we'll work it out if we need to.

**Sam:** *(from upstairs room, coming out of the room and down the stairs)* Moooooomm! Tell that little monster that she has to wear the dress I picked out for her tonight.

**Ann:** And by 'little monster', I assume you mean...

**Sam:** AL! All I ask is that for one night she look and dress like a girl.

**Ann:** Honey, you know that Al is at a different point in growing up than you are. You know, you were once just like her.

**Sam:** No, I wasn't.

**Ann:** No, you're right... you weren't. Either way, you know that she won't wear a dress.

**Sam:** Then would you please ask her to stay in her room and not come out. Just for tonight?

**George:** And why must she stay locked in her tower?

**Sam:** Because a gorgeous young man might be coming to the Christmas party this evening and I want all of us to make a good impression.

**George:** Where did you meet this gorgeous young man?

**Sam:** We haven't actually met... He was in the army with Victor and Victor gave him our phone number. He's called every night for the past week and a half *(dreamy)* and we've talked for at least two hours a night. He's in town this weekend and I invited him to come to the party.

**Ann:** Where is he from?

**Sam:** Colorado.

**Ann:** And he's called New York every night? That's long distance. That's very sweet of him.

**Sam:** It sure is. But he doesn't have that much money so I've had him call collect. *(turns to walk away)*



**George:** (to **Ann**) Collect!?

**Ann:** Shhh. We'll deal with this after the party.

*(Al and Timyra enter from the upstairs bedroom door. Timyra is wearing a dress with tennis shoes and carrying a football, coming downstairs)*

**Al:** I love having a sister!! Mom, can we go outside and play before the guests arrive?

**Sam:** Are you kidding? She's wearing a dress! I spent all afternoon getting her ready!

*(Milo enters, during this time, Al and Timyra are chasing each other around the sofa, tossing the football, etc. and Sam is trying to stop them)*

**Milo:** Merry Christmas! I come bearing... pie. Here you go.... *(Falls asleep midsentence and collapses behind sofa. Pie is unharmed. Standing)* That was close.

**George:** Milo, this year, instead of working refreshments, I would like you to help out with the coats. I think it might just be safer for everyone.

**Milo:** You got it, George. Ann, you want this in the kitchen?

**Ann:** That would be great, thanks Milo.

*(Milo walks around to front of sofa heading towards SR. Al and Timyra run in front of sofa from SR to SL, almost causing Milo to drop pie. Al and Timyra run back towards Milo and SR as Sam attempts to intercept the girls, approaching on Milo's right. Milo attempts to dodge the girls again and hits Sam in the face with a pie. No one moves. Milo looks at the pie and then replaces his hand with Sam's and then runs off. Sam screams and runs off)*

**Al:** That was the greatest thing I've ever seen. *(Choir members start to arrive)* They're here!

**Song:** "Shopping

**Song Break #1**

**Gob:** (to Milo) Excuse me, do you know where Samantha is?

**Milo:** Sam?

**Gob:** Do you know her?

**Milo:** Yeah, real sweet girl.

**Gob:** Really?

**Milo:** Do you like pie? (*starts to usher Gob off*) This way.

**George:** Hey Milo, all of our Christmas stuff is downstairs. Why don't you bring it up and get some people to help you decorate.

**Milo:** You got it, George.

**Gob:** (*to Al*) Excuse me, do you know where Samantha is?

**Al:** (*laughing uncontrollably*)

**Ann:** Al, that wasn't very nice. Come here, girls. I need your help. The food is sitting in the kitchen and no one is eating anything.

**Mel:** What can we do?

**Ann:** Help me pass out these cookies. Make them take them if you have to.

**Timyra:** How do we do that?

**Ann:** Push a little. Here, I'll show you.

### **Song Break #2**

**Gob:** Do any of you know where Samantha is?

**ALL:** NO!

**Mel:** She should be here soon. I know she's looking forward to meeting you.

**Milo:** Are you still looking for Sam? I ran into her a little while ago. Check the dessert table. She's probably stuffing her face with some pie.

**Al:** (*laughing hysterically, high fiving Milo*) I love you.

**Gob:** Do you guys think I should go look for her?

**Mel:** (*protecting her sister*) NO!

**Al/Milo:** YES!

**George:** Honey, how's everything going?

**Ann:** The natives are getting restless. The girls gave out every tray of cookies!

**George:** Every tray?

**Ann:** If we don't do something soon, they're gonna start eating the mistletoe. Keep them busy.

**George:** *(to himself)* Keep them busy? Keep them busy. Ah, I got an idea. *(to the crowd)* Hey guys – everybody – sing!

### **Song Break #3**

**George:** Thank you all for coming tonight and helping us kick off the Christmas season. We love you and hope you had a great time. Now don't forget, in two weeks we have the Christmas Eve gathering here. We can't wait to have you back. Ann has the rest of the refreshments and Vicky and the other girls have your coats. Drive safely. Thank you and goodnight!

### **Ending Song Break**

**Gob:** Does *anyone* know where Samantha is?

*(After song, curtains close and choir exits stage as orchestra plays "Reprise". Curtains reopen with George and Ann sitting on the sofa by themselves)*

**Ann:** Another Christmas party in the books.

**George:** The RECORD books. I have a feeling I'm never going to forget this Christmas.

**Ann:** Let's hope not. Did you see Timyra tonight?

**George:** She looked like she was having such a great time. I'm glad the girls are showing her so much fun.

**Ann:** It's been good for the girls, too. They really seem to enjoy having her around.

*(Pastor Skip knocks on the door, George opens it)*

**George:** Hey Pastor, come on in. To what do we owe this visit?

**Skip:** I apologize for coming by so late, but I knew after the party you would still be up. I've come to talk to you about Timyra.

**Ann:** Did they find a home for her?

**Skip:** Not yet, I'm afraid. During the Christmas season, I guess it's harder to find people willing to take on such a big responsibility, so it hasn't happened as fast as we had hoped. I know that business at the paint company has been pretty slow and I don't want to add any extra burdens to your family.

**George:** How did you know about the company?

**Skip:** The Lord works in mysterious ways. That, and Betty has been coming by the church every day to ask God for an answer. *(pause)* I've found a family that is willing to take Timyra for a week or until we find other arrangements.

**George:** Skip, I appreciate you thinking of our situation, but if it's all the same, I think we'd like to have her stay with us for a little while longer. We'll find a way to work it out.

**Ann:** She's never been a burden. Only a blessing.

**Skip:** I appreciate your family more than you know. If that's the way I think we should have a prayer together.

*They pray together as lights go out..*

*(Curtain closes)*

**Scene 5- Girl's Bedroom – Side stage                      Lights up**

*(The girls are all piled on a bed in their pajamas. Mel is brushing Timyra's hair)*

**Mel:** So, did you have fun tonight, Timyra?

**Timyra:** Did I ever! I played football in a dress, I met a lot of really nice people and the food was delicious! I've never had a better time in my whole life.

**Sam:** Yeah, the Christmas parties are always ... unpredictable. Remember the year that dad thought it would be a good idea to have real candles on the wreaths and almost burned the whole house down.

**Mel:** If Milo hadn't spilled water everywhere, it would have. *(all laugh)* Or how about the time it snowed so hard that everyone had to spend the night here? Two bathrooms for 60 people... that was exciting *(all laugh)*

**Al:** Or how about the year that we were running around and Sam got hit in the face with a pie!

**Sam:** That was tonight.

**Al:** And it's still funny! *(All laugh)*

**Mel:** If you think tonight was fun, wait until our Christmas Eve gathering.

**Timyra:** What's that?

**Al:** Every Christmas Eve, Dad has everyone from the church and the paint company come over and celebrate Christmas.

**Timyra:** I can't wait. That sounds like it will be so much fun.

**Sam:** (*indicating Timyra's bag*) What's in the bag, Timyra?

**Timyra:** Oh, those are just my things. Clothes, you know...

**Al:** You've been here for over 2 weeks now and you still haven't unpacked?

**Timyra:** It's a habit, I guess. I never know when I'm going to have to move again, so I'd rather not get used to one place.

**Sam:** Well, we're breaking that habit tonight. We're going to help you unpack. Get used to being here because we love you.

**Timyra:** You guys have such a nice family. I've never been a part of something where so much happens *all* the time. Weddings, parties, make-overs and indoor football – I can't wait until I have a family of my own.

**Mel:** You'll have one soon, Timyra. But you know, even though this family can be crazy...especially at Christmas...

**Sam/Al:** ESPECIALLY at Christmas...

**Mel:** We always remember that the reason we celebrate Christmas is because of Jesus. God was showing His love for us when He sent Jesus down to earth to be our Savior. So, just remember, wherever you are, Christmas is all about God's love for you.

**Song:** "Beyond the Noise"

*After song, girls tuck in Timyra and leave stage as she goes to sleep.*

*Blackout after girls leave*

**Scene 6: Warehouse – December 18<sup>th</sup>, 1946**

*(Lights up on Side Stage as George and Milo are in the office. Milo is seated, staring out, but asleep – mouth open, snoring. George is trying to throw paper balls in his mouth. When one hits him, Milo wakes up abruptly)*

**Milo:** *(dream scream)*

**George:** As your friend, I need to tell you this cannot be healthy.

**Milo:** I know, but I can't take a day off just to sleep. That's a sign of weakness. *(drops cup)*

**George:** What was that?

**Milo:** A sign of weakness. This exhaustion is deteriorating my muscles. By the way, you know those plants in the lobby?

**George:** Yeah?

**Milo:** They really need to be watered.

**George:** Milo, those are fake plants.

**Milo:** Whoops.

*(Betty enters)*

**Betty:** Hello boys. How's your day going?

**Milo:** Eh, it could be worse. Right? It could be? It ISN'T worse, is it?

**Betty:** *(laughing it off)* Oh, Milo.

**Milo:** You didn't say "no"!

**George:** Hey Betty. We're doing alright. But you calling a meeting on your day off...this must be pretty important.

**Betty:** Well, I wanted you both to know where we are. As you're aware, business hasn't picked up. And because of this, we're now behind on our bills for this month. I've worked it out and at this rate, we won't be able to catch up on most of our bills for a minimum of six months.

**Milo:** *(to George)* Can I come live with you?

**Betty:** I have some good news though. I've figured out a way to free up some money that will hopefully carry us to the spring when business should pick up again.

**George:** Great work, Betty. That's why you get paid the big bucks.

**Betty:** Exactly...which leads me to our solution. If you take a look at our expenses per month versus our income you'll see that we can free up just enough cash by losing one employee.

**George:** Just one employee? Betty, I know that one factory worker won't make up the difference we need, plus, I don't want to get rid of someone. They need this job just like I need them.

**Betty:** You're right. One factory worker won't solve the problem. But a higher-up, administrative employee would solve the problem.

**Milo:** I knew it *(downs a pot of coffee)*.

**George:** Who are we talking about?

**Betty:** *(pulling out a letter from her pocket)* George, this is my official notice. I'm tendering my resignation, effective immediately.

**George:** No, I won't let you. You're too valuable to this company. You've been here for 15 years. You're family.

**Betty:** If I don't, then we don't have the money to keep us up and running. Don't worry about me. Dave and I have a fund that will help out a little. And besides, what could be a more appropriate solution at Christmas?

**George:** What do you mean?

**Betty:** The way I see it, Christmas is all about sacrifice. God saw something down here He loved more than Himself, and He gave up the thing He loved most to save it. I love this

company. It IS family. And if my resignation will carry it through until it can get going again, I can't think of anything that would bring me a bigger blessing.

**George:** You're an amazing friend. I don't know how to thank you. But I'm afraid that even if you go, there are still so many financial burdens I have right now. I don't know how to pull everything off... either the company suffers or I disappoint my family...

**Milo:** George, if there's one thing I've learned from you...besides never drive a Prius...it's that God is faithful. He'll always provide.

**Betty:** What can I say, George? When he's right, he's right.

**Milo:** I feel like we're about to hug.

**Betty:** I don't.

**Song: "Keep the Faith"**

*(Music starts. George, Milo and Betty look around to find out where the music is coming from. (Lighting up for warehouse scene on main stage) During song, curtain opens revealing Warehouse set. Betty, George, Milo move from the "Office" to the Warehouse. At end of song, curtain closes and orchestra plays long "Reprise" segue)*



## **Scene 7 – Living Room – December 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1946**

*(Curtain opens on living room as the girls are working with flowers on the floor and on the sofa. Ann is in the chair, knitting)*(*Lighting – inside house scenes*)

**Mel:** Sam, could you hand me those flowers over there. I think I've found the perfect colors to match the dresses.

**Sam:** *(hands them to Mel)* I was wondering, as your Maid of Honor, do you think I should get a bigger bouquet? Maybe something a little flashier...

**Al:** You do realize that you are not the bride, don't you?

**Sam:** Of course I do. But Victor will have a lot of his Army friends there and it is absolutely necessary that I look stunning. Don't worry little brother, I'll make sure we find you a baseball hat that matches your dress.

**Al:** Really? That would be great! Can I wear a hat, Mel?

**Mel:** We'll see.

**Sam:** You can't be serious.

**Timyra:** *(Walking up to Mel with a bouquet)* Here you go, Mel, I made this for you.

**Mel:** Timyra, this is beautiful! Would you mind if I carried this down the aisle?

**Timyra:** You can do whatever you want with it. *(smiling)*

**Mel:** Maybe I could get you to arrange all of my flowers.

**Timyra:** Sure, I don't charge much. *(all laugh)*

**Sam:** Timyra, if you'd like, I can do your hair and make-up for the Christmas Eve gathering.

**Al:** And you can borrow one of my hats!

**Sam:** Hair!

**Al:** Hats!

**Timyra:** *(in a joking, grown-up tone)* Girls, don't fight over me, please. There's plenty of me to go around. *(all laugh)*

**Mel:** Hey mom, I'm going to run over to the office and see Betty. At the party she said she had some ideas for caterers.

**Ann:** *(trying to hide something)* Oh, Mel, she isn't there right now. We'll talk to her later.

**Mel:** She's always there at this time. Come on Timyra, you can go with me.

**Ann:** Girls, she's not there.

**Al:** Where is she?

**Ann:** *(against her will, sighing)* Betty resigned a few days ago.

**Girls:** *(shocked)* What? Why? Etc.

**Ann:** Come here, sit down. *(the girls join Ann)* You know that around Christmas, your father's business tends to slow down. But this year, it appears that the business really isn't doing well. He's been working very hard these past few weeks trying to come up with some ways to keep the company going, but it seems like new things keep popping up that need to be taken care of. Betty resigned last week so that her pay could help the company pay some of its bills so that your father wouldn't have to use his own money.

**Mel:** I can't believe we didn't see it. I thought he was acting a little different but we were so wrapped up in everything going on here.

**Sam:** But is everything ok now?

**Ann:** We wish that was the case. Your father loves you all very much and he will do anything to provide for the family. But right now, he's having to make some very difficult decisions and we need to be praying for him.

**Mel:** Dad has been so generous about the wedding. He's never said anything to make us feel like we're burdening him. If Betty can give up her job, I will gladly give up the big, church wedding. We can always have a beautiful wedding at home.

**Sam:** I KNOW that I've been wasting a lot of money on shopping and collect calls... tell Dad not to worry about it. I will find a way to repay him... even if I have to sell all... some of my clothes (*smiles*)

**Al:** I've been pretty selfish too. Everyday I've reminded Dad of all the things on my Christmas list. And though, I probably deserve them (*smiles*) it would ruin my Christmas to know that I have everything I asked for, but only because Dad worked so hard and gave up what he wanted.

**Ann:** Girls, you don't have to do that.

**Sam:** We want to, Mom.

**Timyra:** You all have been so nice to me. You've let me live with you, given me food, clothes... I know that bringing someone into your house costs more than all you are willing to give up. Mrs. Grogan, please call Pastor Skip and tell him I'm ready to leave. (*runs off crying*)

**Ann:** Timyra, wait! (*runs after her*)

**Mel:** It never occurred to me that having Timyra stay with us would add to the money problems. But we cannot let her leave!

**Al:** But even if Dad found a way to keep her through Christmas, you know Pastor Skip will be back in a few weeks once he's found a home for her.

**Sam:** We can't let that happen, either.

**Mel:** What are you saying, Sam?

**Sam:** Timyra isn't *like* family. She *is* family. And I want her to be a part of this family from now on... officially.

**Mel:** Me, too.

**Al:** Me, three. But she's right, it costs a lot more to have another family member to take care of and I don't know what else we have to give up!

**Sam:** Whatever it takes, Al. I don't care if it means we give up this house, Timyra has to be in our family. We love her too much.

**Mel:** Wait – what did you just say?

**Sam:** Uh... we love Timyra too much?

**Mel:** No, about the house.

**Sam:** Oh, I just said, ‘I don’t care if we give up this...’ (*realizes*) Ohhh...

**Al:** The house? That’s a great idea! Do you think Mom and Dad will be ok with that?

**Mel:** We love Timyra and if they love her as much as we do, I think they will do whatever it takes to keep her with us.

**Sam:** I know they will.

**Al:** (*to Sam*) What do you know... the Princess can have a good idea every now and then.

**Sam:** I’m not all bad (*smiles*).

**Al:** No, not all... (*they laugh and hug*)

**Mel:** Let’s hurry up and tell Mom.

**Sam:** I’ll get her. (*yelling*) Moommmm!

*(Lights out, curtains close)*

## **Scene 8: Bedroom – side stage**

*(Timyra comes running in and lays on her beg crying. (Lighting comes up as she is heard sobbing) Ann runs in shortly after her, carrying a gift)*

**Timyra:** *(crying, seeing Ann)* I'm sorry, Mrs. Grogan. I didn't mean to cause you all any problems.

**Ann:** *(pulling Timyra next to her on the bed)* Don't cry, Timyra. You've done nothing wrong. You are wonderful and our family loves having you here. We're going to figure all of this out.

**Timyra:** But isn't Mr. Grogan mad at me? I'm the reason you all are having these problems.

**Ann:** *(reassuring)* Oh, no, Timyra, you're not. Sometimes, we have to go through some difficult situations and when we do, we just have faith that God will work things out for us.

**Timyra:** Does He always work things out?

**Ann:** It may not always be the way we expect Timyra, but God always has a plan and it's always perfect. Christmas reminds us of that. When I was about your age, my parents told me about the very first Christmas gift. It didn't come wrapped in a bow and it didn't cost any money, and yet it was the greatest gift of all. The Bible tells us that we are separated from God and there is nothing we can do to earn forgiveness for the wrong things we've done, so God did a wonderful thing. He sent us a gift, His only son, Jesus, who came to earth to be our Savior. He sacrificed His life on the cross to save us from our sins. But Timyra, like any other gift it is not yours unless you receive it. You must pray and ask God to forgive you for the wrong things you've done, and you must put your faith in Him and then He will come into your life and He will be your Savior.

**Timyra:** I don't know if I can do that.

**Ann:** I know you can. *(takes the gift)* Here. This will help.

**Timyra:** What is it?

**Ann:** It is a Bible with your name on it, and inside you'll find out just how special you are to God.

**Song:** “            “

**Ann:** Do you feel better?

**Timyra:** Very much.

*(offstage we hear Sam yell, "Moommm!")*

**Ann:** I better go see what they need. Will you be ok?

**Timyra:** Yes. Thank you.

**Ann:** I love you, Timyra *(exits)*

**Timyra:** *(smiles)* I love you, too. *(opens Bible and begins to read)*

*(Lights out)*

## **Scene 9: Office**

*(George is at his desk. Milo is sitting in the chair next to his. They look depressed) (Lights up on side stage)*

**George:** Milo, would you like some coffee.

**Milo:** *(energy less)* I've got some, thanks George.

**George:** Is everything alright?

**Milo:** We can only afford decaf.

**George:** That makes no sense.

**Milo:** You're telling me. Got any ideas?

**George:** Nothing. Betty was the best accountant I've ever known. If she couldn't come up with something, I doubt I can.

**Milo:** What about a bake sale? *(both shake their heads 'no')* Nah... hey, do you want to...dance again? *(motions towards 'warehouse')*

**George:** *(shakes head)* Thanks, though. I keep praying that God will send some help and I know that He cares...

**Milo:** Have faith. He's never let you down and I don't think He's about to start now. You never know. The answer is usually right under your nose... or, over your head.

**George:** What does that mean?

**Milo:** I have no idea. I'm just talking. Maybe this will help. *(pulls an envelope from his pocket)* Merry Christmas, George. Sorry it isn't more.

**George:** This is your Christmas bonus. I can't accept this.

**Milo:** Come on, George. I want you to have it. After all the patience you've shown me, it's the least that I can do.

**George:** Thanks, Milo. That really means a lot to me. *(pauses, sincerely)* You know, you've always been like a son to me.

**Milo:** Thanks, George. I feel the same way about you. *(goes to coffeepot and begins pouring into cup. During George's story, he falls asleep and coffee overflows cup onto ground)*

**George:** Hey, you remember that time we went to that conference in *(insert story here)*  
*(During the story, George realizes Milo is asleep and reaches behind desk, grabs an airhorn and blows it)*

**Milo:** I spilled a little.

*(Ann enters)*

**Milo:** Hey Ann – I'll leave you two alone. *(exits)*

**George:** Honey, the Lord works in mysterious ways.

**Ann:** *(upbeat)* He sure does. That's why I'm here. I told the girls about the situation with the company and how things are going.

**George:** How did they take it?

**Ann:** I'd say they took it fairly well.

**George:** Really? What does that mean?

**Ann:** Let's just say that Mel downsized the wedding to a small affair, Sam has written off long-distance boyfriends and shopping... at least temporarily... and Al all but tore up her Christmas list. They are willing to do whatever it takes to help out the family.

**George:** Praise God! We have such amazing daughters.

**Ann:** There's something else that we need to talk about.

**George:** Timyra.

**Ann:** Timyra. We both love her and the girls absolutely adore her...

**George:** I want to adopt her.

**Ann:** What? Are you serious?

**George:** The night of the Christmas party, she had such a spark of life in her... I can't imagine our family without her.

**Ann:** Neither can I. And neither can the girls.



**George:** Since that night, I've been praying that the Lord will make a way, but I can't see an answer, no matter how hard I try.

**Ann:** I think the Lord just provided one. Let's sell the house.

**George:** Sell the house? The girls grew up in that house. How would we explain that to them?

**Ann:** It was their idea.

**George:** Our daughters... Mel, Al... SAM... they want this?

**Ann:** No. They... we want Timyra. And they'll do anything to keep her.

**George:** So will I.

**Song:** "A Little More Christmas"

*(At end of song, Ann exits and as George follows, he turns)(Lighting comes up on all three stages for this song.) (Curtain opens part way into the song so the girls on the main stage can sing.)*

*(Lights out)*

*(Musical segue)*

## **Scene 10: Front of Curtain – December 24<sup>th</sup>**

*(Milo walks down center aisle doing a colorful rendition of “Deck the Halls” and is carrying a pie. As he nears the stage, Sam and Al enter SR in front of curtain. Lights up on stage as Milo approaches)*

**Al:** *(excited)* Milo!

**Sam:** *(annoyed)* MILO!

**Milo:** Milo! Hello, ladies. And according to my refrigerated advent calendar may I say, Merry Christmas Eve.

**Al:** You’re in a good mood.

**Milo:** Best four days of sleep ever! I’m rested, relaxed, my stocking is hung by my mailbox with care...bring on Christmas.

**Sam:** Milo...what’s that you have with you.

**Milo:** This pie? *(quickly holds pie up to Sam’s face, almost hitting again)*. That was close.

**Al:** Not close enough.

**Sam:** What are you thinking?

**Milo:** I’m thinking this is going to taste delicious.

**Sam:** *(almost yelling now)* Why would you bring another pie to our house?!

**Milo:** It’s the Christmas Eve Gathering and the last pie... you know... you ruined it..

**Sam:** *I* ruined?

**Milo:** Al, back me up.

**Al:** You *did* put your face in it.

**Milo:** See?

**Sam:** *(almost losing it)* *I* put?

**Milo:** Don't worry, Sam. I forgive you.

**Sam:** YOU forgive *me*?

**Al:** That's nice of you, Milo.

**Milo:** It's the least I could do.

**Sam:** AHHH!! (*while Sam screams towards the audience, Milo and Al give each other "five" behind her back*) Could someone *please* explain to me why I would choose to put my face in a pie two minutes before I was to meet my gorgeous soldier boy?

**Milo:** Maybe you saw what he looked like?

**Al:** He wasn't great.

**Milo:** You could do a little better. (*to Sam*) Hey...you're welcome.

**Sam:** (*regaining composure*) Milo, you have worked for my father for many years and because of this...because it's Christmas...I forgive you. Just...don't do me any more favors. My soldier boy is still in town and will be coming by this evening.

**Milo:** Oh...yeah. No, he isn't.

**Sam:** Yes, he is. I spoke with him yesterday.

**Milo:** And I spoke to him today.

**Al:** (*laughing*) Yes!

**Sam:** What?

**Milo:** Yeah...and I told him the reason you hid from him at the party was that you're not interested.

**Sam:** (*growing angry*) What?!

**Milo:** And I told him about our little conversation.

**Sam:** *What* conversation?

**Milo:** This one, where you said you could do better.

**Sam:** *YOU* said that!

**Milo:** Who can remember who said what?

**Al:** Not me.

**Milo:** Me either.

**Sam:** *(starts to exit)* AHHHH!!!

**Milo:** *(calling after Sam)* Sam...Sam...

**Sam:** *(turning back)* WHAT!?

**Milo:** Hey...you're welcome.

**Sam:** *(running offstage, yelling)* MOOOOMMMMM!!!!

*(Al and Milo turn and look at each other, then start laughing hysterically)*

**Milo:** Oh man, that was fun.

**Al:** *(laughing)* Yeah it was. You didn't really call old what's-his-name, did you?

**Milo:** Of course not. I just wanted to have a little fun.

**Al:** It's a shame you didn't get her to cry.

**Milo:** Hey, she was close. *(pauses, thinking, looks at Al)* You know what I'm thinking?

**Al:** If we work together...

**Milo:** We could have her crying before the night is over. *(extends arm)* Merry Christmas, Al.

**Al:** *(takes Milo's arm)* Merry Christmas, Milo. *(they exit)*

**Lights out as they leave the stage.**

## **Scene 11: Living Room – December 24<sup>th</sup>, 1946**

*(Fully decorated for Christmas, entire cast and choir on stage.) (Lights up for Christmas indoor scene) (Curtain opens)*

### **Song: “Rhythm Of Rejoicing”**

*At the conclusion of the song, Pastor Skip steps forward)*

### **Pastor Skip:**

We want to thank the Grogan family for once again opening their home for all of us to gather on Christmas Eve. This is one of those events we've come to look forward to all year long, when we go beyond the parties and the decorations and the gift-giving, and come together to remember and celebrate the greatest gift ever given.

The event is told in the Bible, in the 2nd chapter of Luke. It's a story that never gets out of date, and one that even a child can understand. With that in mind, I asked our new friend, Timyra, to help me retell the story. This is the historical account of how God sent our Savior to earth. *(Pastor Skip motions to Timyra; She comes beside him, opens her Bible and reads; music begins – repeat m. 13-30 with orch. only 1st time)*

**Timyra:** Joseph went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem, the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.

While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

*(Timyra looks up at Pastor Skip, who begins to read)*

**Pastor Skip:** <sup>8</sup> And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

<sup>10</sup> And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

<sup>12</sup> And this *shall be* a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

<sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, <sup>14</sup> Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

<sup>15</sup> And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. <sup>16</sup> And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. <sup>20</sup> And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

*(Timyra and Pastor Skip move back to their places)*

### **Song: “A Time For Worship”**

**George:** I want to thank all of you for coming this evening to help us celebrate the birth of our Savior. We love having all of you in our home, singing and sharing in the joy of Christmas. Every year is special, but this year holds special significance for our family. This year, our family has learned a lesson or two about Christmas. When we think of Christmas, we think of

how we were separated from God – lost and alone, with no one to love us. And then God, for no other reason than the love that He had for us, sacrificed that which was most dear to Him – His precious Son, Jesus so that we may be brought into the family of God. As many of you know, Timyra came to us just a few weeks ago but she has touched our family and allowed us to show her love. We realized that Timyra would probably be leaving us after Christmas and, well, that’s just something we couldn’t have happen. *(the family joins George)*

**Ann:** This year, we all pitched in whatever we could and we were only able to get one Christmas present.

**Mel:** And it’s for you, Timyra. Pastor Skip?

*(Timyra and Pastor Skip join them)*

**Skip:** Timyra, these are your adoption papers. These papers say that George Grogan has completed the legal process and has paid all fees and adoption costs. Timyra, you are now officially a member of the Grogan family!

*(Choir and family erupt in applause, cheers and hugs)*

**Timyra:** This is so wonderful! I have a family!! But... how did you afford this... I thought things were difficult around here.

**George:** It was. But then we realized that just like God, being adopted into a family comes by sacrificing something you love very much. We *all* decided that because we love you no price was too high to pay. So, I spoke to the realtor yesterday, and we’ve sold this house. We took that money, paid to adopt you and took what was left and bought a smaller home for all of us. We will be moving out by the end of this month.

**Timyra:** I don’t know how to thank you.

**Ann:** Thank *God*. He was the One who sent you here and He was the One who worked His plan out... just like we knew He would. We just had to have a little faith. *(Hugs Timyra)*

**George:** Thank you all for joining us tonight. This will be our last Christmas Eve Gathering in this house, but our first Christmas as a complete family.

**Song: “Finale”**

*(After song, curtains close while Orchestra plays a reprise. During this time, the stage is cleared of all furniture and decorations)*

**Scene 12 – Living Room – December 28, 1946**

*(Curtain opens on living room stripped down a la 'moving out'. Lighting for inside house A few boxes are on the stage. The Front Door is moved in front of the curtain-line. George, Victor, Milo are centerstage)*

**George:** Thanks for all of your help. These should be the last of the boxes. Would you mind carrying them out to the moving truck?

**Victor:** Sure, Mr. G. Glad to do it.

**Milo:** *(to Victor)* Hey Vicky, listen...I made some extra room in the back of the truck. Go ahead and put these back there. *(Victor starts to walk off, Milo watches)* Yeah...all the way in the back...all the way...*(Victor is offstage. Milo to George)* I made that up! There's no room in the back! I'm going to lock him in the truck.

**George:** *(appearing to disapprove)* Milo...*(looks around, and then back to Milo, holding up two fingers)* Two minutes.

**Milo:** Yes! Thank you, George! *(runs off)*

**George:** C'mon girls. The car is running.

*(Sam and Al enter)*

**Sam:** Dad, would you please tell Al that if me, her and Timyra are going to share a room, I get most of the closet space and final word on decorating?

**Al:** Don't worry, Sam. I think I would like to see pink curtains and some butterfly wallpaper.

**Sam:** Really? That's wonderful! Dad- she's fixed!

**Al:** Yeah... it'll look great with my BUG COLLECTION, PIE-FACE! Hahaha *(runs out the front door).*

**Sam:** *(yelling)* You little monster – I know where you sleep! *(exits)*

*(Timyra comes running in from SR and surprises George with a big hug from behind)*

**George:** Woah!

**Timyra:** Thank you.

**George:** Thank YOU, Timyra. Are your bags packed?

**Timyra:** Yep, and for the first time, I'm glad.

(**Ann** and **Mel** enter SR)

**Mel:** Awww... you're going to be the most gorgeous flower girl.

**Timyra:** Thanks Mel.

**Mel:** I'm really going to miss this place.

**Ann:** Me too.

**Mel:** Hey, it's what families do, right?

**George:** Right. Now, would you run out and check on your sisters before they do the other thing that families do?

**Mel:** Sure. (*exits*)

**Song:** "A Little More Christmas"

(*At the end of the song, Sam interrupts with an offstage, "Mooommm!". Ann smiles and kisses Timyra on the forehead and heads out the front door after pausing to take one last look. George takes Timyra's hand as they walk out the door. Lights out on stage and curtain closes after they walk out the door. George and Timyra are standing at the door*)

**Timyra:** So, can I call you 'Dad', now?

**George:** Hmm... can I call you 'Tim' now? (*they hug and then pause. He looks down at her*)  
Welcome home. (*They turn and exit*)

**Postlude – "Overture of Joy"**