

Audition Piece 1 - Scrooge

SCROOGE:

What else can I be when I live in such a world of fools as this? Merry Christmas! Out with Merry Christmas! What's Christmas to you but a time for paying bills without money; a time for finding yourself a year older but not an hour richer. If I could work my will, every idiot who goes about with "Merry Christmas" on his lips should be boiled with his own pudding and buried with a stake of holly through his heart.

FRED: Uncle!

SCROOGE: Nephew, keep Christmas in your own way and let me keep it in mine.

Audition Piece 2 – Second Spirit

SECOND SPIRIT: He was Christmas Past. There was a lifetime he could choose from. I have only this day, one day, and you Scrooge. I have nearly lived my fill of both. Christmas Present must be gone at Midnight. That is near now.

(He speaks to two beggar children who pause shyly at the far side of the stage. The children are thin and sickly; they are barefoot and wear filthy rags.)

Come. *(They go to him.)*

SCROOGE: Is this the last spirit who is to come to me?

SECOND SPIRIT: They are no spirits. They are real. Hunger, Ignorance. Not spirits, Scrooge, passing dreams. They are real. They walk your streets, look to you for comfort. And you deny them. Deny them not too long, Scrooge. They will grow and multiply and they will not remain children.

Audition Piece 3 Bob Cratchit

BOB CRATCHIT: *(Raising his glass)* My dear, to Mr. Scrooge. I give you Mr. Scrooge, the founder of the feast. *(To his wife)* My Dear – Christmas Eve!

MRS. CRATCHIT: Mr. Scrooge. Pah!

BOB CRATCHIT: I only know one thing on Christmas: that one must be charitable.

MRS. CRATCHIT: I'll drink to his health for your sake not for his.

BOB CRATCHIT: If he cannot be, we must be happy for him. A song is what's needed. Tim! *(He shakes his little son gently to wake him)*. If you're asleep on Christmas Eve, I'll be much mistaken.

Tim! You must sing lad, give us a song for a Happy Christmas.