



# Santa Claus

by Colin Barrow

Licensed by



*Pantoscripts*

[pantoscripts.org.uk](http://pantoscripts.org.uk)

This script is published by

NODA LTD  
 15 The Metro Centre  
 Peterborough PE2 7UH  
 Telephone: 01733 374790  
 Fax: 01733 237286  
 Email: [info@noda.org.uk](mailto:info@noda.org.uk)  
[www.noda.org.uk](http://www.noda.org.uk)

To whom all enquiries regarding purchase of further scripts and current royalty rates should be addressed.

#### CONDITIONS

1. A Licence, obtainable only from NODA Ltd, must be acquired for every public or private performance of a NODA script and the appropriate royalty paid : if extra performances are arranged after a Licence has already been issued, it is essential that NODA Ltd be informed immediately and the appropriate royalty paid, whereupon an amended Licence will be issued.
2. The availability of this script does not imply that it is automatically available for private or public performance, and NODA Ltd reserve the right to refuse to issue a Licence to Perform, for whatever reason. Therefore a Licence should always be obtained before any rehearsals start.
3. All NODA scripts are fully protected by copyright acts. Under no circumstances may they be reproduced by photocopying or any other means, either in whole or in part, without the written permission of the publishers
4. The Licence referred to above only relates to live performances of this script. A separate Licence is required for videotaping or sound recording of a NODA script, which will be issued on receipt of the appropriate fee.
5. NODA works must be played in accordance with the script and no alterations, additions or cuts should be made without the prior consent from NODA Ltd. This restriction does not apply to minor changes in dialogue, strictly local or topical gags and, where permitted in the script, musical and dancing numbers.
6. The name of the author shall be stated on all publicity, programmes etc. The programme credits shall state 'Script provided by NODA Ltd, Peterborough PE2 7UH'

NODA LIMITED is the trading arm of the NATIONAL OPERATIC & DRAMATIC ASSOCIATION, a registered charity devoted to the encouragement of amateur theatre.

This script is licensed for amateur theatre by NODA Ltd to whom all enquiries should be made.

[www.noda.org.uk](http://www.noda.org.uk) E-mail: [info@noda.org.uk](mailto:info@noda.org.uk)

## **THE SCRIPT**

This script is easy to produce at virtually any venue. It's a great festive production and great Christmas songs or carols can be included. Evidently due to the pantomime title, it works best prior to - or on and around - Christmas. This could put off some groups or companies that do pantomimes late which take in the February school half term. However, it is not exempt from those and can work just as well. Also, when it comes to scenery, the scenes have been carefully chosen so that snow/ice wintry scenes do not need to be present. If you are able to include wintry back drops, that is of course a bonus.

## **SYNOPSIS**

Christmas eve is approaching in Santaland and all are busy in preparation for Santa's night time deliveries. But Deadly Nightshade and her sidekick Burdock have plans to ruin Christmas. She has already taken her vengeance on Prince Jack and turned him into Jack Frost, and Sergeant Knocker has become Frosty the snowman. Then, by casting a spell, all the Christmas trees disappear and there is warmth to melt all the snow and ice. With her actions, things are beginning to look grim for the festive period. Especially for Jack Frost and Frosty who worry at melting in the warming temperatures. To the rescue come the fairies, Goody Gumdrop and Matilda, who with their magic bubbles return Jack and Frosty to normal. But this makes Deadly Nightshade more determined to ruin Christmas and cast a spell onto Santa which makes him disappear! But in true panto tradition, good overcomes bad, Santa is found and he delivers to all the boys and girls as normal on Christmas eve while the snow returns as so do all the Christmas trees.

**Approximate running time:- Two hours***(Not including the interval)*

### **USEFUL INFORMATION**

**Casting:-** The casting can be quite flexible to suit your available performers. Although some are best played by male, it would be quite possible for them to be played by a female if your performer availability dictate to do so

**Chorus:-** This script can be used with or without a chorus. Where there are chorus speaking lines and you have no chorus, these can be delivered by performers or adult/child members.

**General staging:-** The scenery and lighting can be as simple and easy as you wish, especially if tight budget and logistics have a strong influence with your production. This also applies to costuming and properties, and yet still providing a brilliant pantomime. Of course, if budget and logistics dictate otherwise, the skies are the limit!

**Scenes:-** The script is written to use two full stage scenes and one front cloth scenes. These are not set in stone and re-name some scenes if you wish to run more cloths. Likewise, if you are running with limitations. The full stage scenes could use the same back drop of a nondescript mottled effect. And dress each scene where needed to suit its title. The front cloth scenes could be done front of curtain or again in front a nondescript mottled effect.

**Set dressing:-** Dressing for the scenes is entirely up to you and the stage space available. It will also depend on what type of back drops you are using too. Especially for those working with no chorus and have more stage space available.

**Misc:-** Additional jokes can be slotted in where or if you feel they are required to your choosing.

---

---

## **MUSIC AND DANCE**

**Song/dance numbers:-** The script is written to allow the *maximum time* of **one minute to one and a half minutes** for each song or dance routine. In each case choosing and ending to give a natural finish. These can be shorter but watch if too many run longer as this could alter the pantomime's whole running time.

*Not all character song slots required to be executed.* They are there as ideal spots if you wish to use them. This helps those cast who do not feel comfortable to sing to opt out. Additional songs can be added to your own discretion if you feel the need to do so.

You do not need to use all the slots allocated for chorus song/dance numbers, especially if your chorus numbers are very low. Select, the slots most suitable to your chorus.

If you are working without a chorus and not using the song/dance slots allocated. You can add an extra cast member song or two or lengthen the other cast songs allocated slightly to make up the time.

The script does supply some song suggestions, but they do not need to be used. All other song/dance numbers are to your own choice. This allows the cast who are involved to select something that's comfortable for them and perhaps a little more modern. It also prevents the repetition of music from recent past productions you have staged.

**Song/dance not with time restrictions:-** The opening number, Principle boy and girl duet, the community song and finale song can take their own natural time length as they are important numbers. By keeping to these parameters, the production will run at a good pace; and be fresh and entertaining to your audience.

**DISCLAIMER:- The performing licence of this script does NOT include permissions, licences or royalties of ANY music/songs used with the staging of this script.**

For **ALL** music and song selected to stage this script, any royalties, licenses or permission has to be obtained by **YOU** the group, club or company according to the music performing rights laws. **These include ALL parody suggestion given with-in the script.**

*(The majority of premises are registered and you **must** contact to make sure the music/song selections used comply with the licence held by the premises. **Do this prior or at the start of rehearsal to avoid complications near or on the production dates.**)*

## **CHARACTERS**

**Deadly Nightshade** - The bad fairy

**Fairy Burdock** - Deadly Nightshade's assistant

**Goody Gumdrop** - A good Fairy

**Matilda** - A good Fairly

**Santa Claus**

**Mrs. Santa Claus** Dame

**Holly** - Principal girl

**Jack Frost** - Principal boy

**Frosty** - The Snowman

**Puddle** - A genetically modified reindeer (*from a cow or horse costume*)

**Scooter** - A comic Elf

**Sugar Plum** - A comic Elf

**Old Bill** - Old Policeman (small part)

**Chorus** (*if you have one*) **And/or adult/child members wishing to participate**

## **CHARACTER GUIDELINES**

In general, all costuming is to your own choosing and ideas as are the number of costume changes you wish to do. With some characters the costuming is quite explanatory by their name. Here you will also find some ideas for characters that will help enhance their names. Other characters from time to time require additional costume to fit the script.

**Deadly Nightshade:** The villain. Can be male or female. An evil fairy type of character costumed in dark colours. The same costume can be used throughout. The costume is neat and tidy to contrast against Burdock who is messy. A large staff/wand type of prop is required throughout.

**Burdock:** The villain's sidekick. Can be male or female and fairy type in appearance. A little daft/clumsy in manner and ragged/untidily/messily dressed. Greens and muddy colours work well, tussled hair. Has a worse for wear wand throughout that bends/droops in the middle when needed (*curtain wire works well for this*). The same costume can be worn throughout.

**Goody Gumdrop:** A good fairy. Costumed as a fairy. The same costume can be used throughout if wished

**Matilda:** A good fairy. Goody's sidekick. Costume similar to that of Goody but best in a different colour. The same costume can be used throughout if wished.

**Santa Claus:** Best played by a male and dressed as Santa would be. The script has included on many, but not all entrances, '*ho, ho, ho*', where they are missing, they can be included if you wish. When he has been made into a post box by Deadly Nightshade, there are two obvious options to achieve this, but you may also have your own ideas. However, you make it, it has to fit over his Santa Costume and remove with ease. 1) A stiff canvas/fabric wrap and top which is

---

fastened by velcro up the back. The post box is coloured appropriately with a letter slot where Santa can look out. This will allow him to take small steps and be easy to get into or out. 2) A hard light-weight constructed tube with top. Coloured appropriately with a letter slot where Santa can look out. With his feet out of the bottom he can walk and by pulling off the tube to get in and out.

**Mrs. Santa Claus:** Dame and Santa's wife. Costume to your own ideas. For act one, scene five, she will need an apron and chef's hat for a cooking scene and a costume that's easy to clean if needed.

**Holly:** Principal girl, Daughter of Santa and Mrs. Claus, Costume as a principal girl to your own ideas.

**Jack Frost:** Principal boy. (*Prince Jack*) The costuming is as Jack Frost and needs to suggest that. Maybe a spiky/icicle headdress would help this effect and the general colour use of icy blues, white and silver. When he returns to being Prince Jack, (*after the thaw spell*) his costuming for the following scenes will be as a usual principal boy. It could be a good idea to keep to similar costume colouring as when he was Jack Frost.

**Frosty:** A speaking snowman who is costumed in a 'all in one/onesie' type white fluffy outfit, with a top hat, scarf, carrot nose, etc. Frosty is Sergeant Knacker that has been frozen with a spell given by Deadly Nightshade. After the spell has been

reversed, the costuming should resemble that of a pantomime Police Sergeant but can keep the carrot nose, top hat, scarf, etc, for the audience to recognise him.

**Puddle:** A genetically modified reindeer. (*Two operators inside the skin*) As a reindeer costume would be a big ask by most, the script has accommodated that a cow or horse costume is used instead with reindeer type antlers attached. You can add any adornments that a Lapland reindeer may have.

**Scooter:** A comedy Elf and one of Santa's helpers. Costumed as you feel fit and for act one, scene five will require an apron and chef's hat. For that scene a costume that easily cleaned would be a bonus. The script asks the character to enter on occasions on a child's scooter. Other entrances are left without so as not to become monotonous. However, with the director's discretion, if the performer has the skill, the use of a hover board or roller skates could be used on these entrances that's without the scooter. But adhere to and health and safety requirements and rules at the time of production if this is done.

**Sugar Plum:** A comedy ballet Elf and one of Santa's helpers. Costumed as you feel fit and for act one, scene five will require an apron and chef's hat. For that scene a costume that is easily cleaned would be a bonus. Many entrances it is asked for pirouettes, etc, but not all. If you wish for them on all entrances, or different moves they are to the director's discretion.

**Old Bill:** A old crippled police constable for act two, scene one and three only. Costumed as a pantomime Police Constable with a gnarled or similar walking stick

**Chorus (if you have one) And participating adults/children:** Costumed to fit the scenes they are participating in

## **SYNOPSIS OF SCENES**

### **ACT ONE**

**Scene one**.....Santaland (full stage)  
**Scene two**.....The Deep Forest (front cloth)  
**Scene three**.....Santaland (full stage)  
**Scene four**.....The Deep Forest (front cloth)  
**Scene five**.....Inside Santa's House (full stage)  
**Scene six**.....The Deep Forest (front cloth)  
**Scene seven**.....Inside Santa's House (full stage)

### **ACT TWO**

**Scene one**.....Santaland (full stage)  
**Scene two**.....The Deep Forest (front cloth)  
**Scene three**.....Santaland (full stage)  
**Scene four**.....The Deep Forest (front cloth)  
**Scene five**.....Santaland (full stage)



---

---

## SANTA CLAUS

### ACT ONE

#### SCENE ONE

#### SANTALAND (full stage)

The scene opens with the cast and/or chorus singing/dancing an opening number. The chorus are costumed as Elves/Santa's workers. If the main cast are used for the opening, they all exit after the number with Santa set up stage and exiting first. The chorus remains on stage.

#### Opening number: -

**Chorus:** Welcome, to Santaland. And here is the man himself. *(All gesture with hands to the opposite stage that he is to enter)*

*Fifteen seconds or so of Disco or beat music as Santa enters strutting his stuff with great dance moves. He finishes at stage centre*

**Santa:** Ho, ho, ho.

**Chorus:** Hee, hee, hee.

*Scooter enters on a scooter from one stage side and circles the stage as Sugar Plum enters from the other side with over stated ballet dancing. The two crash into each other and fall over. Santa and Chorus holding their bellies laugh with jollity Ho. Ho. Ho.*

**Santa:** Well, Scooter. What are you doing down there?

**Scooter:** Getting up again. *(Gets up and passes the scooter off stage and is passed a ledger type book)*

**Santa:** And what about you, Sugar Plum?

**Plum:** *(getting up on all four then stands)* My arabesque had an argument with my croisé and I may have damaged my entrechat!

**Santa:** *(looks Plum up and down)* Let's hope that will stop you playing with your entrechat! *(Business like)* Right, how's things coming along?

**Scooter:** Slowly getting there like a Donkeys gallop! *(Opens the ledger)* The sleigh has had its MOT and annual service. The presents have not presented any problems and the Reindeer have had their things polished and their what nots buffed up. And I've started them on a diet of beans for an express delivery on Christmas night! *(Slaps the ledger book shut)*

**Santa:** Perfect! Now where's Mrs. Claus?

**Plum:** Writing a letter to you Santa regarding her Christmas present. She says' this time, she wants a fat bank balance and a skinny body and don't get them mixed up like last year!

**Santa:** Then she'll be left disappointed again this year.

**Scooter:** *(pats Santa's tummy)* Not much room left for the mince pies that the children will leave out for you, Santa.

**Santa:** It's because of last year's mince pies I'm the size I am!

**Plum:** You should have gone on a diet over the summer?

**Santa:** I did, and it wasn't as hard to stick to as I thought.

**All:** Not hard to stick to a diet?

**Santa:** Nope. It was a healthy sea food diet. If I saw the food, I ate it! Ho, ho, ho.

**All:** Hee, hee, hee.

*Mrs. Claus enters with a sheet of paper*

**Mrs:** Ah, here you are Rufus. In my hand I have the return of your DNA results. According to this, you're twenty percent Russian, twenty percent Santalandish, twenty percent British, twenty percent confused, ten percent out of date and ten percent of unknown origin.

**Santa:** Ah, the wonders of science.

**Mrs:** Never mind the science. When you asked me to marry you, you told me you were a pedigree.

**Santa:** I'm one of a kind, my dear.

**Mrs:** According to this, you have more kinds than Heinz!

**Scooter:** *(glancing off)* Look! Visitors! And right at our busiest time too.

*Goody Gumdrops and Matilda enter right*

**Goody:** *(to Santa)* Mr. Claus. I'm Goody Gumdrops the Good Fairy and this is my assistant, Matilda.

**Mrs:** *(looks at Matilda)* If I had a face like hers, I put it on a wall and throw a brick at it.

**Matilda:** If I had a face like yours, I'd put it on a brick and throw a wall at it!

**Mrs:** *(to audience)* That's not nice is it boys and girls?

**All:** Oh, yes it is! *(encouraging the audience to join in)*

**Mrs:** Oh, no it isn't!

**All:** *(encouraging the audience to join in)* Oh, yes it is!

*They continue routine and finish when suitable*

**Santa:** Now, now. Shake hands and be friends.

*Mrs steps forward to shake hands with Matilda, trips on nothing and lunges forward across the stage. She returns to Matilda holding out her hand*

**Matilda:** I don't do that. Hand shaking spreads germs.

**Goody:** Now think very carefully, Matilda. We fairies are immortal, aren't we?

**Matilda:** Oh, we are, Goody Gumdrop.

**Goody:** And do immortals have to worry about germs?

**Matilda:** No, Goody.

**Goody:** Then shake the lady's hand?

**Santa:** But she's no lady. She's my wife! Ho, ho, ho.

**All:** *(except Mrs who's threatening Santa with a bunch of fives)* Hee, hee, hee

*Matilda reaches out reluctantly, gives Mrs hand a quick shake*

**Matilda:** *(reacts miserably and wipes her hand on her skirt)* Yeuk, germs!

**Song:-** *There are many songs (children's) that are to do with germs or washing of hands. Most are very short but can incorporate good moves whilst singing. Or you may wish to parody a well know song to fit*

**Santa:** So, what's brought you to Santaland?

**Goody:** We've come to warn you that Deadly Nightshade is making trouble. She wants to ruin Christmas.

*All gasp with shock and Scooter hurriedly looks in the ledger*

**Santa:** We can't let that happen. It would make all the children unhappy.

**Matilda:** That's why she's doing it.

**Scooter:** (*triumphantly*) I knew I'd heard her name before. Deadly Nightshade is on the naughty list.

**Plum:** (*to the audience*) She sounds perfect for a career in politics then!

**Mrs:** How are we going to save Christmas from Deadly Nightshade?

**Scooter:** With only a few days until Christmas, we must act fast.

**Mrs:** I can only act at one speed because my extra small knickers that fit my super fine physique don't allow me to act fast!

**Santa:** (*to audience*) Translated that means - her bums is too big for her pants!

**Plum:** We had better check the workshop carefully to make sure Deadly Nightshade hasn't already got up to mischief.

**Santa:** Come along, let's get checking.

*All exit the stage except Mrs. Claus*

**Mrs:** There's enough of them to do the checking, I'll stay here and chat to you lot. Well, here I am boys and girls, Mrs. Claus the hottest chick in the North pole. I don't normally work in the workshop as I have my own job. I'm the resident striptease artist down at the Frost Bite club. I do my very own (*shivvers*) Brrrrrrrrrlesque routine, it makes me shiver controllably but at least it keeps me fresh! I'm part Eskimo you know and I've thought about having cosmetic surgery - I'm looking iniut! But the other day, I was having a bit of trouble and had to see the doctor. He said, "what's wrong?" I said, "I've been sitting on the ice Doctor" so he had a look at the area of inconvenience and said that I got Polaroides! So, he issued me a prescription for a depository. But when I went to pay for the prescription with my credit card, my account had been frozen! Now, I wonder if you will help me? (*Business*) You see I got this present for a very special person and I thought you could help me look after it. Do you think you could do that? (*Business and is handed the present from stage side*) Here it is look, and if I put it here (*places it down in front of the pros arch*) if anyone goes to touch it will you shout out and tell me? (*Business*) Now, what I want you to shout is, "who's touching the pressy" can you do that? Let have a little practice. (*Do business*) That will be great.

*Frosty enters*

**Mrs:** Well bless my soul if it's not Frosty the snowman.

**Frosty:** (*doffing his hat*) Good day, Mrs. Claus.

- Mrs:** I must say, Frosty, you are looking trim. Have you lost weight?
- Frosty:** Oh, yes. It's called the hair dryer diet. All you do is set the thing on high and the pounds just melt away!
- Mrs:** And you seem much happier since being stressed?
- Frosty:** I've not had a meltdown for ages now! I hear you had a DNA test done for Mr. Claus?
- Mrs:** I have, and it turns out his ancestors go way back.
- Frosty:** My DNA didn't show my ancestry. Apparently, all I am is eighty five percent water, eight percent dirt and seven percent dog pee.

*Scooter and Plum enter with Puddle. Scooter enters first and crosses and crashing off stage; he re-enters without the scooter*

- Mrs:** Look everyone, it's one of our reindeer. *(Modified by putting antlers on a horse or a cow)* As you can see, he's been genetically modified. His dad was a (horse / cow) and his mum was a deer. Now we got (a stallion with twigs! / milk that's expensive)
- Frosty:** Why do you call him Puddle?
- Mrs:** It's what you get when you have rain, dear!
- Plum:** What was the attraction between you and Mr. Claus?
- Mrs:** He's a man and I'm a woman - of sorts. And when he came down the chimney with my present, he saw me and couldn't believe his eyes.
- Scooter:** Were you irresistible?
- Mrs:** No. I was doing Yoga with no clothes on and got myself stuck in a funny position. So, he helped me untangle myself and I kissed him as a reward.
- Plum:** *(in a seductive way)* Was the kiss sensational and spine chilling?
- Mrs:** He said I was like rare wine.
- Scooter:** All fresh and fruity?
- Mrs:** No. All sour and vinegary and it gave him a headache.
- Plum:** We've decided to go on holiday after the Christmas rush this year.
- Mrs:** To an amusement park with all those monster rides?

**Scooter:** No, Switzerland.

**Mrs:** What's in Switzerland that's any good?

**Plum:** We don't know. But it can't be all bad as it has a big plus on its flag!

**Mrs:** *(to audience)* Isn't it wonderful to know you're not at the bottom for stupidity!

*Holly enters with her head hanging low*

**Mrs:** You look sad, Holly. What's the matter my little Christmas Cookie.

**Holly:** Oh, Mum. I feel so lonely.

**Mrs:** You're not alone. You got Daddy, me, Puddle, Frosty, these two elves and *(indicates the audience)* all these lovely people.

**Holly:** I know and you're all really sweet and kind, but I haven't got that special person. The true love in my life.

**S & P:** *(sighs and leans back to back on each other)* We know what you mean.

**Holly:** *(surprised)* I didn't realize you two wanted to get married.

**Scooter:** You wouldn't believe how many hints I've dropped to her. *(Points with his thumb indicating plum leaning against him)*

**Plum:** *(pointing back with thumb over the shoulder)* You wouldn't believe the time I've spent looking beautiful for him!

*Puddle bashes between Scooter and Plum at the end of Mrs next line knocking them over*

**Mrs:** And you've no idea the time you've wasted dropping hints and looking beautiful when you should have been making toys.

**Frosty:** I wish I could find love. But everyone keeps giving me the cold shoulder.

**Plum:** Maybe they think you're covered in dandruff!

**Frosty:** But people keep throwing snowballs at me!

**Mrs:** *(to audience)* I'm sure there is a joke there, but I will refrain!

**Scooter:** I made myself a snowball,  
as perfect as it could be,  
I thought I'd keep it as a pet

and let it sleep with me.  
I made it some pyjamas,  
and a pillow for its head.  
Then last night it ran away,  
but first it wet the bed!

**Holly:** *(sighs again)* But here I am stuck in Santaland with no chance of a lovely man passing by.

**Mrs:** Love will come soon enough my child and when it does, we shall celebrate it. But for now, we have Christmas to prepare for.

**S & P:** *(jumps about)* Ooh, Christmas. It's a real alphabetti spaghetti!

**Song:-** *suggestion* **The Christmas Alphabet** *(written by Buddy Kaye 1954)*  
*They start to sing the song the chorus enter one by one with the templates or similar of the items mentioned and join in singing. If you are working with a large chorus, have the majority to enter left and right on Scooter and Plums last line. Goody, Matilda and Santa join in with the song as set with the director*

### **Black-out**

ACT ONE  
SCENE TWO  
THE DEEP FOREST (front cloth)

*Deadly Nightshade enters left. She has a quite impressive wand/staff*

**Deadly:** So, the little darlings want to celebrate Christmas and enjoy themselves to they? Not when I can have anything to do about it. Because I, Deadly Nightshade, will stop the merriment and bring misery. *(Taps her lip)* Of course, floods of tears from sobbing kids would be such a delight and highly acceptable. *(With delight)* Oh, it so nice to be nasty.

**Song:-** *Choose a good sinister baddie song*

*Burdock enters left in a slight stumbling way. She has a wand that's tatty and will bend in the middle (see construction at the end of the script) when required by moving her hand*

**Burdock:** Oh, Mistress, there you are. I have bad news; the hens have got sore bums.

**Deadly:** And why may I ask?

**Burdock:** Eggs are going up and the hens don't like it!

**Deadly:** At least it will give them something different to cackle about!

**Burdock:** *(looking at audience)* Oh, dear, Mistress, I think there is something wrong. These people look happy.

**Deadly:** What! *(looking into the audience)* You're right, Fairy Burdock. Some of them are even smiling.

**Burdock:** *(warily)* You don't think they got wind do you and need burping?

**Deadly:** I think they've been eating beans and afraid they'll start trumping!

**Burdock:** But I never smile if I think I'm going to trump. I hold in my trumps like this. *(She puckers her lips tightly and pushing them out with eyes open wide holding her breath)*

**Deadly:** You do come out with some daft things, Burdock. But I know why they're happy, it's because they like Christmas.

**Burdock:** *(breaking her pose with great relief catching her breath; Happily)* Ooh, yes Christmas. All that food, drink, presents and kissing a coconut under the mistletoe as it's the nearest thing to something whiskery and hairy.

**Deadly:** *(with vengeance at Burdock)* And far too much happiness and merriment! *(Menacingly at Burdock)* Now, are you sure you like Christmas?

**Burdock:** *(cowers)* Not now you have reminded me how much you dislike it, Mistress.

**Deadly:** *(triumphantly)* I'm glad we've got that sorted out. And now I am going to ruin Christmas for everyone.

*Goody and Matilda enters from right*

**G & M:** Oh no you're not!

**D & B:** Oh yes we are!

**G & M:** *(encouraging the audience to join in)* Oh no you're not!

*Repeat once again*

**Deadly:** I most certainly am. Come along, Fairy Burdock. I have to think quietly beside the stream to make my evil plans. *(Exits left)*

**Burdock:** *(following Deadly and stumbles slightly)* I'd much sooner we made mince pies! *(Exits)*



*Matilda sees the present and goes to it. Audience reaction. Mrs Claus enters hurriedly. With her she has a folded-up map*

**Mrs:** *(to Matilda)* Hey, don't touch what ain't yours. *(To audience)* You can see why I need you now, can't you. *(To the Fairies)* Now, what do you know?

**Goody:** Deadly Nightshade is making evil plans to stop Christmas happening.

**Mrs:** I'm not having that. I've just completed my online order for Christmas to be delivered by Iceland.

**Matilda:** In that case, can you give us directions how to find Deadly Nightshade's hideout?

**Mrs:** I can, but you don't start from here.

**Goody:** How do we get there if we don't start from here?

**Mrs:** You need to start at the crossroads.

**Matilda:** Can you give us the directions for the crossroads?

**Mrs:** I can, but you don't start from here.

**Goody:** We need to look at a map.

**Mrs:** *(producing a map)* As it happens, I got one that I made earlier. *(Opens it up)*

**Matilda:** *(looking)* Right, where are we on the map?

**Mrs:** You see that great big arrow that says, "you are here"?

**G & M :** Yes!

**Mrs:** Well, you're not there.

**G & M :** We're not there?

**Mrs:** No. That's where I was when I made the map.

**G & M:** At the crossroads?

**Mrs:** Yes, which is there and not here. But I can give you directions.

**G & M :** Yes please!

**Mrs:** But you can't start from here you have to start from there.

**Matilda:** So, if I go to the crossroads by myself I'll shout "I'm here".

**Mrs:** Ah, well now, that won't be quite right will it. Because you'll be there and not here.

**Matilda:** Okay then, when I get there I'll shall shout, "I'm there".

**Goody:** But surely when you get there, she needs to shout, "I'm here".

**Mrs:** Now you're confusing things. Look, you both go and get there, and when you're there you shout, "We're here" and I will know you're there!

**G & M:** Got it. *(Exits off right and shouts) We're here! (Then goes around to stage left as Mrs gives directions)*

**Mrs:** Turn right at the Christmas tree, turn right again at the ski jump and then right at the frozen hot tub.

*Goody and Matilda enter left*

**G & M:** But we're back where we started!

**Mrs:** That's because you're there.

**G & M:** Where?

**Mrs:** Here!

**G & M:** But where is here?

**Mrs:** *(shows the map and points)* There look, where 'X' marks the spot.

**Goody:** And what does that mean?

**Mrs:** This is Deadly Nightshades hideout.

**Matilda:** Why didn't you say that in the first place?

**Mrs:** Because you asked for directions how to get here, not if you were here already!

**M & G:** *(up in arms)* You twit!

*They both chase Mrs off right. Deadly and Burdock enter left*

**Deadly:** All I've got to do to ruin Christmas is get rid of all the Christmas trees.

**Burdock:** I wish you told me before, I didn't bring my chain saw.

**Deadly:** Sometimes I wonder if you were born stupid or had to work at it. We get rid of them all by magic. And that's all the real ones and all the artificial ones.

**Burdock:** But why all the Christmas trees, Mistress?

**Deadly:** Because with no trees to place the presents under, means there will be no need for presents. *(With glee)* And all the children will be very unhappy!

**Burdock:** *(looking about)* So all the forests will be bare of trees.

**Deadly:** The forests will be the same as they are now you dope. A twenty-metre fir tree is no good in a three bedroom semi-detached house! I'm talking about the trees grown or made only for the Christmas tree trade.

**Burdock:** Ah, I see. I think. Well, I don't see, but sort of understand. But not really that either because...

**Deadly:** *(cutting in)* Oh, shut up. You're worse than a politician never giving the answer to a simple question! *(Instructing)* Now, do as I do.

*Deadly stands slightly sideways and raises her wand/staff. Burdock stand behind Deadly and raises her wand and by moving her hand allows it to droop*

**Deadly:** Are you ready?

**Burdock:** Hang on, I've gone limp. *(She places the bottom end to her lips and blows and by sliding her hand the wand becomes normal again)* Right, I'm ready.

*Deadly crouches slightly raising her arms forward as if to make a spell. As she does this, Burdock does the same, but is close behind Deadly and sticks her wand up Deadly's bottom. The sounds of a hooter can be heard to strengthen the move if wished. Deadly jumps with a start and clutches her bottom.*

**Deadly:** I wish you'd watch what you're doing. Now, stand further back, because we don't want that happening again.

**Burdock:** Sorry, Mistress. I'll keep my thing under better control.

**Deadly:** It's a wand, not a thing, Burdock!

**Burdock:** *(moving her hand slowly to allow the wand to droop again)* Well, whatever it is, mine's got a leak. Look?

**Deadly:** *(looks)* Oh for goodness sake. Just do your best with the thing - wand!

*They both pose again with sufficient space between the two with Burdock's wands drooping. Both in time they wave the wands as they speak. Deadly can be very serious doing this as Burdock can be a little more comical*

**D & B:** Trees of green and coloured too,  
with baubles, lights and shimmering hue.  
Vanish now, leave naught behind  
be gone from Earth and humankind.

*A pyro can go off if you wish or just a thunder sound. As this happens, the stage is plunged into darkness*

### **Black-out**

ACT ONE  
SCENE THREE  
SANTALAND (full stage)

The scene can open with a chorus number if wished. A jolly upbeat Christmas Carol or song would work well here. If you open without a chorus, Scooter, Plum and Santa can open the scene singing with any additional elves. Puddle can also be on stage

*Santa has a hand-held computer device in his hand to read from.*

**Santa:** Ho, ho, ho.

**All:** Hee, hee, hee.

**Santa:** *(reading from the device)* Now, let me see what the kids are asking for this year. Dear Santa, please can I have my pea shooter back that I use on granny for target practice. Dear Santa, Can I have a toaster that makes hot dogs inside a pop tart! Dear Santa, A unicorn that poops rainbows, please! Dear Santa, if you ask my dad, I have texted him everything I want! Dear Santa, this year don't give me sweets that only mum and dad likes, give me ones that only I like! Dear Santa, please can you bring me some chicken nuggets with chips and a tub of ice cream so I haven't got to eat mum's brussels sprouts and Christmas Puddin'. That's a relief. Nothing too much out of the ordinary.

**Scooter:** But what is out of the ordinary, all the Christmas trees have gone!

**Santa:** Don't be so silly. There are millions of Christmas trees.

**Plum:** Not any more. That Deadly Nightshade has got rid of them.

**Scooter:** No wonder she's always on the naughty list.

**All:** Christmas is doomed!

**Santa:** Not if we can stop Deadly Nightshade.

**Plum:** But how? It's impossible to undo her spells.

**Scooter:** And with no Christmas trees, where are we to put the presents?

**Santa:** In the kid's stockings like we normally do.

**Plum:** That's okay for small presents. But what about bikes, technology, huge boxes of sweets and toys?

**Santa:** Deadly Nightshade will not ruin Christmas for everyone. The big presents can be left in a corner.

**Plum:** *(goes to the present)* What, like this one?

*Audience reaction and Mrs enters quickly followed by Frosty*

**Mrs:** Leave that present alone. That's a special one and not yours to handle. *(To audience)* You see how much I need your help to keep that present safe? *(To Frosty)* Hey, Frosty, you still using that funny money?

**All:** What funny money?

**Mrs:** Iced lolly!

**Frosty:** I've given up using that money because the cafe wouldn't take it to pay for my Snowflakes or Icicles for breakfast. And you'd never believe the problem I had paying for my iced tea!

*All laugh*

**Santa:** Oh, Frosty, you do make us laugh.

**Song:-** *Suggestion - **Frosty the Snowman** - (by Walter "Jack" Rollins and Steve Nelson 1950)*

**Santa:** Deadly Nightshade has been making problems for us my dear, but I think we've now sorted that.

**Mrs:** That's good 'cause I got a problem.

**All:** What is it?

**Mrs:** Well, what with all this global warming I decided to be more eco-friendly and have bought a wooden snow buggy.

**All:** Ooooh, how wonderful!

**Mrs:** It's very nice and got a wooden body, wooden ski's, wooden seat, wooden handles and a wooden engine.

**All:** So, what's the prob?

**Mrs:** It wooden start!

*All exit laughing except Mrs and Santa, Santa laughs with his usual Ho, ho, ho.*

**Santa:** Now my dear, as you know Christmas eve is fast approaching and I shall be away all night. So, on Christmas day, I don't want you banging on about me visiting and dropping off presents at houses of one or two of my old flames.

**Mrs:** One or two old flames! You have enough old flames to have a roaring fire!

**Santa:** But I'm Father Christmas, it's my job to visit everyone.

**Mrs:** *(to audience)* I bet that's an excuse you've not heard before and can't argue with!

**Santa:** *(takes Mrs hand)* But my dear, *(look at her)* I only have eyes for you.

**Mrs:** I hope with your eyes comes the rest of you?

**Santa:** *(pulls her close)* Every little bit of me.

**Mrs:** Yes - well - this is a family show so we'll leave your little bit out of it.

**Santa:** *(romantically)* My dear, you're more than enough for this Santa to ever love.

**Mrs:** *(all gooey)* Ahh, bless your frizzy whiskers!

**Song:** *A fun romantic duet - seasonal or otherwise*

**Santa:** How are the Christmas preparations doing?

**Mrs:** I've bought the most enormous bird you have ever seen for Christmas dinner.

**Santa:** Turkey?

**Mrs:** I didn't ask. I bought it from MacTavish the Greek, so it could be anything that has two legs.

**Santa:** An enormous bird sounds expensive. I hope you've enough money left for all the trimmings?

**Mrs:** Don't worry. I went to..... *(name of local shop)* and put my foot down with a firm hand. I said, "no super festive discount on my groceries, no Santa coming down the chimney with pressies".

**Santa:** And what about the decorations?

**Mrs:** Nearly finished. Except I can't find a tree anywhere. But I have got this. *(Pulls some mistletoe from her pocket)*

**Santa:** Where are you going to hang that?

**Mrs:** *(holds the mistletoe above her head)* I thought I could hold it like this.

**Santa:** That will make your arm ache.

**Mrs:** Not if you hurry up and kiss me. *(She puckers up her lips)*

**Santa:** Only if you close your eyes?

**Mrs:** *(smugly)* Oh, that's easy. I can do that with my eyes shut! *(Closes her eyes and puckers her lips)*

*From the stage side Santa brings on something comical or horrible and places it on Mrs lips. Mrs opens her eyes with shock screams out and chases Santa off*

*Holly enters*

**Holly:** It's so lonely without a special someone.

**Song:-** *A short song of being alone, looking for love, or similar*  
*While she sings, Jack enters and gradually comes toward Holly. Each time Holly looks his way, he stops – by the time the song finishes, he is standing beside her but she hasn't taken much noticed*

**Holly:** *(sighs)* Life would be perfect if only I had someone to love.

**Jack:** I know what you mean.

*Holly jumps in surprise and stares at Jack*

**Holly:** Where did you come from?

**Jack:** The frozen north.

**Holly:** Aren't you cold?

**Jack:** Thankfully yes, or I'd be a pile of slush and not able to speak to you.

**Holly:** My name is Holly, I am the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus.

**Jack:** I'm very pleased to meet you. My name is Jack, Jack Frost.

**Holly:** Frost. Are you made of ice?

**Jack:** I am now. I used to be like you, but Deadly Nightshade cast a spell upon me and turned me to ice.

**Holly:** She's a nasty bit of work. *(hesitatingly)* Have you been here long?

**Jack:** It's hard to tell. I don't wear a watch.

**Holly:** *(big sigh)* You are handsome.

**Jack:** As you are beautiful and I can't take my eyes off you. But why are you so sad?

**Holly:** I'm lonely and without romance.

**Jack:** Maybe I can help?

**Holly:** I feel better already, just from talking to you. *(Walks away dreamlike)* This is how I always imagined it would be when I met my own true love.

**Jack:** Have you ever thought this might be our destiny?

**Holly:** *(turns quickly)* That we are meant for each other?

**Jack:** *(romantically)* My heart feels so warm when I look at you. *(Reaching out and pulls Holly close)* In fact, my heart is red hot compared to my freezing outside. *(With concern)* Would you prefer to wear gloves so you won't get colds hands holding mine?

**Holly:** *(shakes her head)* It's stupid and crazy, but I feel our love will keep me warm.

**Jack:** And so it shall, Holly. So it shall.

*They embrace*

**Holly:** *(leading him by the hand)* Come with me and meet my Mother and Father.

**Jack:** *(holding back)* Where are they?

**Holly:** At home or in Father's workshop preparing for Christmas Eve.

**Jack:** I will need to remain outside or I will melt if I go indoors.



**Holly:** *(with slight shock)* Oh goodness me, I wasn't thinking. Yes, you had better stay outside and I'll bring them out to see you. *(Continues to exit taking Jack with her by the hand)*

**Jack:** *(amused)* This could be interesting. Introducing a boyfriend is one thing, but an icicle I think could stretch their imagination. *(Exits)*

*Frosty enters with a large sock*

**Frosty:** This should hold a nice few presents.

*Scooter and Plum enter*

**Scooter:** That's a big sock, Frosty.

**Frosty:** I'm going to hang it up for Santa on Christmas eve.

**Plum:** What are you asking Santa to bring this year, Frosty?

**Frosty:** There is so many things I want, but don't know which is the most important.

**Scooter:** We can help you and the audience choose the item that is on Santa's top ten most wanted present list.

**Frosty:** I can't see how you can do that?

**Plum:** You do exactly what we say. *(To audience)* And you can join in too, it's just simple maths.

**Scooter:** Don't tell us or anyone sat next to you, do the whole sum in your head. Now, *(to Frosty and audience)* pick any number from one to nine?

**Frosty:** Done that.

**Plum:** Multiply that number by three.

**Frosty:** Done that.

**Scooter:** Now add three.

**Frosty:** Done that.

**Plum:** Now times that number by three.

**Frosty:** Done that.

**Scooter:** Now you have a two-digit number. Add those two numbers together.