

Company enters and begins to sing as they decorate the living room for Christmas.

DECK THE HALLS

Deck the halls with boughs of holly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Tis the season to be jolly,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Don we now our gay apparel,
Fa la la, la la la, la la la.
Troll the ancient Yule tide carol,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

See the blazing Yule before us,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Strike the harp and join the chorus.
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Follow me in merry measure,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
While I tell of Yule tide treasure,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Fast away the old year passes,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Hail the new, ye lads and lasses,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

Sing we joyous, all together,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.
Heedless of the wind and weather,
Fa la la la la, la la la la.

*As the song ends, the group gathers around the Christmas tree that they have just decorated.
Each member carefully re-arranges a certain ornament before dialogue begins.*

Ash-Lee: It's the holidays. My absolute favourite time of the year. The snow is blowing softly through the air, the fire is crackling, keeping us warm, and we have a beautiful Christmas tree in front of us. What could be better?

Jason: Sunshine?

Kristin: Going to the beach?

Sohee: Not having to wear a huge winter jacket all day?

Ash-Lee: But just think of how nice it is to see everyone, the songs we get to sing...building snowmen!

Tyler: And besides all that...the Christmas season makes me want to sing carols and just be happy. I feel like singing about Frosty....

All:

FROSTY THE SNOWMAN

Frosty the snowman was a jolly happy soul,
With a corncob pipe and a button nose
And two eyes made out of coal.
Frosty the snowman is a fairy tale, they say,
He was made of snow but the children
Know how he came to life one day.
There must have been some magic in that
Old silk hat they found.
For when they placed it on his head
He began to dance around.
O, Frosty the snowman
Was alive as he could be,
And the children say he could laugh
And play just the same as you and me.
Thumpetty thump thump,
Thumpety thump thump,
Look at Frosty go.
Thumpetty thump thump,
Thumpety thump thump,
Over the hills of snow.

Frosty the snowman knew
The sun was hot that day,
So he said, "Let's run and
We'll have some fun
Now before I melt away."
Down to the village,
With a broomstick in his hand,
Running here and there all
Around the square saying,
Catch me if you can.
He led them down the streets of town
Right to the traffic cop.
And he only paused a moment when
He heard him holler "Stop!"
For Frosty the snow man
Had to hurry on his way,
But he waved goodbye saying,
"Don't you cry,
I'll be back again some day."
Thumpetty thump thump,
Thumpety thump thump,
Look at Frosty go.
Thumpetty thump thump,
Thumpety thump thump,
Over the hills of snow.

Amy: The magic of the Christmas season is what gets me. Whenever I see one of the Salvation Army kettles, it just makes me feel good about the human race.

Mike: I always try to do something good for someone, a random act of kindness. The feeling that that brings to me can't be described.

Ash-Lee: I always have enjoyed relaxing and just watching the old classic Christmas movies... *Miracle of 34th Street*, *It's A Wonderful Life*, stuff like that.

Jason: (*sung*) Should auld acquaintance be forgot, And never brought to mind? Should auld acquaintance be forgot, And *auld lang syne*?

Tyler: That song always brings me back to my childhood, when I would sit with my family, around the TV, and we would watch the shows that all the stations tend to play, and we would grow close to each other. It was awesome.

Mike: What stands out most is the scenes you see in front of a church. The whole setting has always been something that affects me the most deeply. And the echoes of Silent Night as it comes out of the church doors can be an extremely moving experience..it just... (*start to sing*) Silent Night, Holy Night, All is calm, all is bright... (*all join in*)

SILENT NIGHT

Silent night, holy night

All is calm, all is bright

Round yon Virgin Mother and Child

Holy Infant so tender and mild

Sleep in heavenly peace

Sleep in heavenly peace

Silent night, holy night!

Shepherds quake at the sight

Glories stream from heaven afar

Heavenly hosts sing Alleluia!

Christ, the Saviour is born

Christ, the Saviour is born

Silent night, holy night

Son of God, love's pure light

Radiant beams from Thy holy face

With the dawn of redeeming grace

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth

Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth "

Amy: Whenever I hear these old songs I want to get up and just do something for someone else. I guess it is true that the Christmas season really brings out the best in all of us. I feel as though there is a weight on me to just go save the world, cure cancer, help an old lady cross the street, whatever. I just can't seem to sit still at times like this.

Kristin: I've always found the reverence that the season brings is something that really makes me want to spend time in the season more and more. I've always been someone who loves the holidays, but Christmas is definitely the one I like the best. If only we didn't have the snow...

Jason: We could all move to Florida.

Tyler: And hang out at the seniors complexes.

Mike: They have cookies. *(exit)*

Ash-Lee: And Iced Tea.

Amy: I like it here. I say....Let it snow!

LET IT SNOW

Oh, the weather outside is frightful,
But the fire is so delightful,
And since we've no place to go,
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.

It doesn't show signs of stopping,
And I brought some corn for popping;
The lights are turned way down low,
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.

When we finally say good night,
How I'll hate going out in the storm;
But if you really hold me tight,
All the way home I'll be warm.

The fire is slowly dying,
And, my dear, we're still good-bye-ing,
But as long as you love me so.
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow.

Mike: Okay *(dump fake snow on Amy)*

Sohee: Tradition was always an important part. It just doesn't seem like a proper Christmas without hearing the story from the Bible. I don't know about anyone else, but I think we need to hear it. Any objections? *(pause for a few moments)* Okay. I'll get the Bible and we'll all take turns reading part of it.

Kristin: And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus, that all the world should be taxed. *(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)* And all went to be taxed, everyone to his own city. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city called Nazareth, into Judea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem: *(because he was of the house and lineage of David:)* to be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her first born son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them at the inn. *(pass Bible)*

Jason: And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone about them; and they were sore afraid. And the angel said to them,

Fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born today in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you: Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

Ash-Lee: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will towards men.

Amy: And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

Let us go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us

Tyler: And they came with haste, and found, Mary, Joseph and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child. And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds. But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

(set down Bible and all begin to hum O Holy Night. Once all have hummed first verse and chorus, begin to sing song)

O Holy Night

O holy night,
The stars are brightly shining;
It is the night of
Our dear Savior's birth!
Long lay the world
In sin and error pining,
Till He appeared
And the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope,
The weary world rejoices,
For yonder breaks
A new and glorious morn.
Fall on your knees,
O hear the angel voices!
O night divine,
O night when Christ was born!
O night divine, O night,
O night divine!

Led by the light of Faith
Serenely beaming,
With glowing hearts
By His cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star
Sweetly gleaming,
Here came the wise men
From Orient land.
The King of Kings lay thus
In lowly manger,
In all our trials
Born to be our Friend!
He knows our need,
To our weakness no stranger;
Behold your King!
Before the lowly bend!
Behold your King! your King!
Before Him bend.

Truly He taught us
To love one another;
His law is love and
His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break
For the slave is our brother
And in His name
All oppression shall cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in
Grateful chorus raise we,
Let all within us
Praise His holy name!
Christ is the Lord,
Oh praise His name forever,
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim
His pow'r and glory
Evermore proclaim.

(Mike gets up and turns on Christmas tree lights)

Mike: Look! It's started to snow.

Ash-Lee: The beauty of the season.

Kristin: I love how the yard looks right after a fresh snowfall. I like to imagine that I am looking out onto the clouds and that I can step out onto them and dance on air.

Sohee: I always feel like I am gazing out at the ocean as the tide comes in and the pure white of the snow is the wake of the waves as they crash against the beach. It takes me back to my summer and it helps me remember that it will come once more.

Jason: I love getting to make snowmen and snow angels. I love the feeling of being down in the snow and just playing.

WINTER WONDERLAND

Tyler:

Sleigh bells ring, are you listening,
In the lane, snow is glistening
A beautiful sight,
We're happy tonight,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

Kristin:

Gone away is the bluebird,
Here to stay is a new bird
He sings a love song,
As we go along,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

Ash-Lee:

In the meadow we can build a snowman,
Then pretend that he is Parson Brown
He'll say: Are you married?
We'll say: No man,
But you can do the job
When you're in town.

Mike:

Later on, we'll conspire,
As we dream by the fire
To face unafraid,
The plans that we've made,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

All:

In the meadow we can build a snowman,
And pretend that he's a circus clown
We'll have lots of fun with mister snowman,
Until the other kids knock him down.

When it snows, ain't it thrilling,
Though your nose gets a chilling
We'll frolic and play, the Eskimo way,
Walking in a winter wonderland.

(Clock strikes midnight)

Sohee: It's Christmas!

Jason: Time for a new year to begin.

Amy: New beginnings and stuff like that.

Tyler:

When Christmas bells are swinging above the fields of snow,
We hear sweet voices ringing from lands of long ago,
And etched on vacant places
Are half-forgotten faces
Of friends we used to cherish, and loves we used to know. (Christmas Fancies – Ella Wheeler Wilcox)

Kristin: Just looking at the Christmas tree makes me feel good inside. It's kinda a way of looking at a new start to the year.

*(start recording of company singing **Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas**)*

Merry Christmas everyone!

Jason: Merry Christmas.

Mike: Merry Christmas.

Amy: Happy Holidays!

Sohee: Merry Christmas.

Tyler: Joyeux Noel

Ash-Lee: Merry Christmas.

All: Merry Christmas to all and to all a happy Holiday season.

(snow begins to fall)

END

HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS

Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Let your heart be light
From now on,
Our troubles will be out of sight
Have yourself a merry little Christmas,
Make the Yule-tide gay,
From now on,
Our troubles will be miles away.

Here we are as in olden days,
Happy golden days of yore.
Faithful friends who are dear to us
Gather near to us once more.

Through the years we all will be together
If the Fates allow
Hang a shining star upon the highest bough.
And have yourself a merry little Christmas now.