AN ENCHANTING CHRISTMAS MINI-MUSICAL

The Mouse In Santa's House

SCRIPT

PROLOGUE

As the lights come up downstage, we see four glittering Christmas Crackers: Amy Crimble, George Crinkle, Tiny Crackle and Abby Crotchet. They are arguing among themselves.

Amy Crimble As the oldest cracker here, I think I should be the one telling the story.

George Crinkle No Amy Crimble, as the tallest one here, I should be the one telling the story.

Tiny Crackle No, no, no, George Crinkle, as the funniest one here, I'm the one who should be

telling the story.

Abby Crotchet Well we're all funny Tiny Crackle, we're crackers after all; we've all got jokes

in us!

Tiny Crackle Yes, well, I've got the funniest joke.

Amy Crimble Go on then, let's hear it.

Tiny Crackle Why couldn't the skeleton go to the Christmas party?

Amy Crimble We don't know. Why?

Tiny Crackle Because it had no body to go with.

Abby Crotchet That was quite funny actually.

Tiny Crackle What do you give a dog for Christmas?

Amy Crimble We don't know.

Tiny Crackle A mobile bone.

Amy Crimble Ha, ha, very funny.

Tiny Crackle So, can I tell the story?

George Crinkle I've got an idea!

Abby Crotchet Oh no, that usually spells trouble.

Tiny Crackle No. TROUBLE spells trouble.

George Crinkle No, why don't we all tell the story?

Abby Crotchet All four of us?

Amy Crimble In the spirit of Christmas, I think that's a very good idea.

George Crinkle Okay. All those in favor say "aye".

All Aye!

Abby Crotchet Great. George Crinkle, as it was your idea, you should go first.

George Crinkle Ooh, I don't know: I'm a bit nervous now!

Amy Crimble George Crinkle!

George Crinkle Okay. Here goes.

SCENE ONE

Lights come up over the whole stage to reveal Santa's workshop. Elves enter carrying presents, busying themselves here, there and everywhere. They then form a production line, passing presents from one to another as they load Santa's sleigh and George Crinkle steps forward, speaking directly to the audience.

As he does so, Tip the mouse appears, darting about the workshop.

George Crinkle There once was a mouse

Who lived in a house,

Santa's house all covered in snow. But it was warm on the inside,

As warm as a glove,

And was filled full of smiling

And filled full of love.

Tip scurries in front of him as Tiny Crackle takes over the narration.

Tiny Crackle Tip was this mouse

And he ran through the house,

Peeping round corners, running upstairs,

Jumping on tables, jumping on chairs.

While the elves, hard at work, moving forwards and back,

Put wonderful presents inside Santa's sack.

One of the elves (Honey Banjo) shouts out to Lily Noodle.

Honey Banjo Come on, Lily Noodle, speed up!

Lily Noodle slowly picks up a present and puts it onto the sleigh.

Lily Noodle I'm going as fast as I can, Honey Banjo.

Ella Randle Call that fast? I've just seen a snail run past you!

Lily Noodle You can talk, Ella Randle. If you got any slower, you'd stop and fall

asleep!

Honey Banjo Alright you two, that's enough arguing. What we need is a good old sing-song to

help us with our work.

Ella Randle/Lily Noodle (together and shaking hands) Good idea!

ONE MORE SLEEP

Tip, the mouse, runs about during the song, darting here and there, finally lying down on top of the sack of presents on Santa's sleigh.

One more sleep 'til Christmas Day.
We're busy elves, no time to play.
At Christmas time there's so much to do.
We sort and we wrap all the presents for you.
We sort and we wrap all the presents for you.

One more sleep 'til Christmas Day.
We're busy elves, no time to play.
Big boxes, small boxes tied up with love.
We push and we pull and we heave and we shove.
We push and we pull and we heave and we shove.

One more sleep!
Just one more sleep!
One more sleep!

One more sleep 'til Christmas Day.
We're busy elves, no time to play.
Our work is done, we've packed up the sleigh.
One more sleep 'til Christmas Day.
Only one more sleep 'til Christmas Day.

One more sleep!
Just one more sleep!
One more sleep!
Just one more sleep!
One more sleep!

All the elves exit.

SCENE TWO

Scene changes to Tilly's house - 29 Tinsel Terrace.

Tilly enters with Claude Tigger the cat following behind. Tilly sits and begins to write, Claude Tigger curling up next to him.

Abby Crotchet continues with the story.

Abby Crotchet Meanwhile, in a little house far, far away,

A boy named Tilly was writing away.

Tilly (as he writes) 'Dear Santa, please, please, please send me a mouse for

Christmas. Not a sugar one. A real one. I love them. Also a bike, a set of drums and a box of paints. I promise I'll be a very kind boy from now on. Thank you.

Tilly.'

What do you think, Claude Tigger? Do you think that's a good letter to send to

Santa?

Claude Tigger No, I think you should put . . . "Dear Santa, I want a mouse, cheers big fella.

Tilly."

Tilly Claude Tigger! I have to be polite; I can't put that. I think I'll go with what

I've got.

Claude Tigger Fair enough.

Tilly (putting letter in envelope) Now, what's the address? Hmm . . . (writing)

"Santa, Greenland." Do you think that's the right address?

Claude Tigger Nah, he's got to live in a street, hasn't he! He probably lives in a big igloo as

well. Put "Santa, Big Igloo, Greenland Street, North Pole."

Voices are heard from offstage, calling. It is Molly Mom and Brad Dad.

Molly Mom (*off*) Tilly, where are you?

Brad Dad (off) Tilly

Tilly (scribbling the address) Here Claude Tigger, take this. You can post it for

me.

Brad Dad and Molly Mom enter upstage as Abby Crotchet steps forward.

Abby Crotchet Tilly was sad, he so wanted a mouse, But his

parents said . . .

Parents (to audience) Who wants a mouse in their house!

Abby Crotchet His dad was called Brad and his Molly Mom was called Molly,

And most of the time they were friendly and jolly.

Molly Mom Ah, there you are, Tilly, we've been looking all over the house for you.

Brad Dad (taking the letter from Claude Tigger) What's this? A letter to Santa? Oh Tilly,

it's no good writing a letter to Santa: we can't have a mouse in the house, not

with Claude Tigger our lovely cat living here.

Claude Tigger (taking the letter from Dad) I'll put it in the bin then.

Brad Dad (tickling Claude Tigger) Good boy, there's a lovely pussy cat.

Claude Tigger giggles, then moves away with the letter, but doesn't put it in the bin.

Molly Mom (to Tilly) Dad's right, Tilly. You know how hungry Claude Tigger gets.

Claude Tigger (to himself) What's that? I'm not hungry, I've just had my tea.

Brad Dad He'd be chasing it all over the place wouldn't you, you naughty little puss.

Claude Tigger (yawning quietly to himself) You won't catch me chasing anything: I'd rather

have a good kip.

Molly Mom Why don't you ask for a football? Or some stilts!

Tilly Thanks, Molly Mom, but I'd really like a mouse. (whispering to Claude

Tigger) Post the letter as quickly as you can.

He exits quickly followed by Claude Tigger, Molly Mom and Dad as music starts and the ensemble sing 'Dear Father Christmas'.

DEAR FATHER CHRISTMAS

Dear Father Christmas, I hope you are well today. You must be very busy putting presents in your sleigh. I'm writing from my bedroom at Number 29. I'll be sure to put a sign up so you know which house is mine.

I'd like a teddy please, a cricket bat and ball.

Can I have a tree house, not too big and not too small?

I'd like a puppy but my cat is not too keen.

I'd also like some coloring pens, red and yellow, blue and green.

Dear Father Christmas, I hope you are well today. You must be very busy putting presents in your sleigh. I'm writing from my bedroom at Number 29. I'll be sure to put a sign up so you know which house is mine.

I'd like a big red bicycle, a jumper and some socks.

Can I have some pennies to put in my money box?

A train track with a steam train and a big tall station house.

But most of all I'd love to have my very own furry mouse!

Dear Father Christmas, I hope you are well today.
You must be very busy putting presents in your sleigh.
I'm writing from my bedroom at Number 29.
I'll be sure to put a sign up so you know which house is mine,
Which house is mine. Yeah.

SCENE THREE

Back at the workshop in Santa's house, Honey Banjo the elf is alone with only Tip the mouse for company.

Tip lies back on the sack of presents. Honey Banjo, who is sweeping the floor, calls over.

Honey Banjo Don't get too comfortable, Tip. Santa will be here shortly and he won't want

to see you lying all over the presents.

Tip It's just so comfy, Honey Banjo. There must be a big squashy jumper or

something in this one. (he prods the present he's lying on) Mmmm, nice.

OPTIONAL SONG: A VERY SMALL MOUSE. SEE PAGE 26 FOR LYRICS.

Honey Banjo All of the elves have gone for their tea and sandwiches: you ought to get after

them. Go on, just think of all those lovely crumbs on the floor for you to eat.

Tip (yawning) I'm not hungry.

Honey Banjo Not hungry! Well that's a first. Pity: it means I'll have to sweep them all up

myself!

He continues sweeping as Amy Crimble steps forward and carries on with the story.

Amy Crimble For a wee little thing, Tip could eat like a horse,

Discovering food as a matter of course: Crumbs under tables, crumbs under chairs, Crumbs in the corners and under the stairs.

But he was comfy and sleepy as he lay on the sleigh,

And closing his eyes, he drifted away.

Honey Banjo exits, sweeping, as Santa enters with Donna, Blitzen, Rudolph and a group of elves.

Santa Come on then my elves, get this sleigh outside ready for take-off.

We've a busy night ahead.

The elves begin to move the sleigh off enthusiastically.

Santa Careful now. Remember, elfin safety!

George Crinkle The elves started moving the sleigh from the house,

And nobody noticed the stowaway mouse!

The reindeer were chomping to be on their way,

When Honey Banjo came running with something to say.

Honey Banjo enters waving a letter. It is clearly Tilly's letter!

Honey Banjo Wait! Sorry Santa, there's a letter for you, can you hang on a moment?

Santa Oh no, Honey Banjo, all letters and present requests have been answered for

this year. It's much too late now! Come on Rudolph, come on Donna and

Blitzen!

Santa gets onto the sleigh behind Donna, Blitzen, Rudolph and any other reindeer, along with Tip who is still fast asleep.

Sound Effect - Sleigh Taking Off, CD Track 17

Tiny Crackle And without a to-do,

To the air the sleigh flew,

As high as a house or a bird or a bat,

Or the tallest giraffe, in the tallest of hats.

FLYING HIGH

It's Christmas Eve, a starry night, Snowy rooftops, a blanket of white, And the moon shines down with a silvery light. Hear the sleigh bells ring!

Santa is there, reindeer too.

Presents are packed, no more to do.

With a crack of the whip, they start to move.

Hear the sleigh bells ring and sing!

Flying high! As high as the sky!
Through all kinds of weather they fly on by.
Faster than the speed of light.
Round the world they fly in one night!

From the frozen north, covered in ice,
To the warm lands, paradise.
Did you see the sleigh flash past in a trice?
Hear the sleigh bells ring.
Hear the sleigh bells ring and sing!

Flying high! As high as the sky!
Through all kinds of weather they fly on by,
Faster than the speed of light.
Round the world they fly, round the world they fly,
Round the world they fly in one night!
Round the world they fly, round the world they fly,
Round the world they fly in one night!

As the song comes to an end, Abby Crotchet steps forward.

Abby Crotchet Onwards they soared through the cold winter sky,

When suddenly Tip woke up and ...

Tip (looking around) Oh my!

Abby Crotchet He had snow on his head,

He had snow on his tail. His claws were all numb And his face rather pale. Oh dear, what a pickle, It couldn't be possible.

Oh but it was,

He'd turned into a mousicle!

Tip freezes in an interesting position,

The sleigh is cleared as action returns to Tilly's house.

SCENE FOUR

Back at Tilly's house, 29 Tinsel Terrace, Tilly is sulking behind the Christmas tree. Claude Tigger is curled up at his feet while Molly Mom and Brad Dad are trying to get Tilly to see sense.

Cracker Amy Crimble steps forward.

Amy Crimble Meanwhile, in the old brick house,

Tilly still daydreamed of having a mouse.

Tilly I really would love a mouse. Why can't I have a mouse for Christmas?

Molly Mom We've told you! Because Claude Tigger would chase it and catch it and

eat it for tea!

Claude Tigger (opening one eye) Pardon?

Brad Dad He's crazy for mice.

Claude Tigger Crazy! For mice! Yuck! I'd rather have a nibbly biscuit.

Tilly You see! Claude Tigger wouldn't really eat a mouse.

Claude Tigger Course not, yuck, yuck, yuck, yuck! Give me some nice tinned fish or some

frisky biskys, yum! Mmm (he starts dozing off).

Brad Dad Be that as it may, we're not getting a mouse.

Tilly Well, I've written Santa a letter, so you never know.

Molly Mom You posted it?

Brad Dad We told you not to do that, Tilly.

Claude Tigger (as he drifts off to sleep) I'll cross my paws and claws for you, Tilly.

Tilly Thanks, Claude Tigger.

Molly Mom Oh, deary me, all I wanted was a nice quiet Christmas.

Brad Dad Me too.

They flop down onto the sofa as Tiny Crackle steps forward.

Tiny Crackle When suddenly, out of nowhere, without any warning, completely out of the

blue . . .

Amy Crimble Yes?

Tiny Crackle There was a ring on the doorbell.

A doorbell sounds, or a knock if easier.

Molly Mom (moving off to answer the door) Now who can that be?

All of Molly Mom and Dad's relatives enter, bustling and keen to be indoors.

All Surprise!

Molly Mom Oh my goodness.

Suzy, Jack, Ron We've come to stay!

Molly Mom To stay . . . where?

Sister Suzy Here of course. After all, it's Christmas. Everybody knows that Christmas

is a time for families to be together!

Molly Mom Gosh, hasn't our family grown? I don't know where you're all going to sleep!

Sister Suzy Don't worry about us, we'll sleep anywhere, won't we Cousin Jack?

Cousin Jack Oh yeah, anywhere at all, sofa, bath, floor. I slept in a dog kennel once.

Molly Mom A dog kennel! Was it comfortable?

Cousin Jack It was for me. The dog wasn't too happy though.

Molly Mom Right, well, you'd best come in properly and make yourselves at home.

With rather a hubbub, the relatives make their way further into the house. Some exit with suitcases as if going upstairs. Others plonk themselves on chairs or find some floor space.

Abby Abby Crotchet steps forward.

SCENE FIVE

Abby Crotchet Christmas Eve, having good times,

Juice for the children, grown-ups some wine.

Mince pies and nibbles, big bowls of food,

But Tilly was still in a very bad mood.

We remain in the living room of Tilly's house. All the relatives are sitting round, now wearing party hats. Tilly is looking very glum, sat in the corner with Claude Tigger.

Brad Dad I'm very pleased to welcome you all to our humble abode and I'm also

pleased we've managed to squeeze you all in.

Molly Mom Yes, you're all very welcome.

Brad Dad (raising a toast) Cheers!

All Cheers!

Claude Tigger (to Tilly) Who are all these peep holes?

Tilly It's 'people', Claude Tigger! They're all my family.

Ron (*calling over*) Cheer up, Tilly, it's Christmas Eve!

Cousin Jack Aren't you excited about tomorrow? It's Christmas Day.

Sister Suzy Think about all your lovely presents.

Cousin Jack I want a goldfish.

Ron (laughing) You'll have to keep it away from Claude Tigger!

Claude Tigger Here we go again.

Ron He'd eat it.

Sister Suzy Yeah with some chips!

All (all laugh) Ha, ha, ha.

Tilly (sadly) Come on, Claude Tigger.

Tilly and Claude Tigger exit.

Sister Suzy What's the matter with him?

Brad Dad Oh, he'll be fine. Now, where were we?

Oh yes, we would like to wish you all a very merry Christmas.

He raises his cup and everyone follows suit.

All Merry Christmas!

Brad Dad How about a Christmas sing-song!

WE WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS

We wish you a merry Christmas, We wish you a merry Christmas, We wish you a merry Christmas, And a happy new year!

Good tidings we bring
To you and your kin.
We wish you a merry Christmas
And a happy new year!

We all want some figgy pudding, We all want some figgy pudding, We all want some figgy pudding, And a cup of good cheer!

Good tidings we bring To you and your kin. We wish you a merry Christmas And a happy new year!

And we won't go until we've got some, We won't go until we've got some, We won't go until we've got some, So bring some out here!

Good tidings we bring
To you and your kin.
We wish you a merry Christmas
And a happy new year!

Molly Mom (yawning) Gosh, it must be nearly bedtime.

Cousin Jack Sounds good to me. Where's the dog kennel?

Everybody laughs as they head to their various sleeping places, improvising a bit of chat. Some stay within the living room. Tilly fetches some milk and a biscuit for Santa, and some carrots for the reindeer, then exits.

George Crinkle steps forward.

George Crinkle As the world tried to sleep,

Tried to count up its sheep,

So the big fella came

And the presents were lain.

Jumpers, scarves, gloves and hats, Games and books, balls and bats.

And dear little Tip had thawed out of his pickle,

No longer was he a poor mousicle!

Tiny Crackle Then . . .

With a biff and a bang and a boing and a boof,

The sleigh landed safely on Tilly's red roof.

Sound Effect - Sleigh Landing, CD Track 18

It was cold and wet and really quite windy, As Tip followed Santa down into the chimney.

SCENE SIX

Tilly's house. Santa, with Tip following closely behind unseen, moves through the house, creeping around looking at all the sleeping people.

Santa Goodness me, all of these people. I hope I've brought enough presents.

He begins putting presents under the tree.

Santa Right, glass of milk (he drinks). Biscuit (he eats). Carrots for Donna, Blitzen

and Rudolph. Good, off we go.

He makes to leave when Tip suddenly appears behind him.

Tip Wait!

Santa (shocked) Wooooah! Goodness me, you gave me such a shock!

You should be asleep little mouse.

Tip Hello Santa.

Santa (kindly) Hello? I've no time for hellos, I really must get on, and you should go

back to sleep.

Tip But it's me, Tip, the mouse. I live in your house. I help to keep it clean. I

eat all the crumbs that fall on the floor.

Santa Oh no, no, no, I have an elf, Honey Banjo, he cleans the floor. Live in my

house? Ha, ha, I don't have a mouse. I have reindeer. Mice are much too

small to pull a sleigh. Now, I must fly. Merry Christmas!

Tip But . . .

Santa exits

Tip Don't leave me here. Don't go away.

Abby Crotchet But Santa had gone, from chimney to sleigh,

In the blink of an eye he was rooftops away. Tip was upset and he missed Santa's sack.

Would he ever return? Would he ever come back?

It was cold and rainy and windy outside, So Tip looked around for a safe place to hide.

Tip (*looking around*) Oh dear, oh dear. What a mess I'm in. And where's a mouse

supposed to sleep? There's not a mouse-hole in sight! I wish Santa hadn't left

me here. What's he doing anyway? I really don't understand.

WHY?

Tip

Santa's on his way now. Why? Santa's on his way now. Why?

It's Christmas time;

He'll be flying round the world,

Delivering the presents to all the boys and girls.

Wave goodbye to Santa. Why? Wave goodbye to Santa. Why?

The reindeer are waiting to pull the heavy sleigh,

He's climbing up the chimney,

He'll soon be on his way.

There's no need to worry. Why?
There's no need to worry. Why?

This house is warm and cosy,
There are crumbs for you to find
And a comfy little mouse hole, you can rest inside.

(sung or spoken by Tip - or all)

I'd really like to stay here for a week or two.

Maybe even longer, I'll have to think it through.

I'm feeling very tired now, I'll close my eyes so tight And sleep all through the night.

As song ends, Claude Tigger appears but doesn't see Tip.

Tip Oh no, what's that? Oh my goodness, it looks like a lion!

Unseen by Claude Tigger, Tip runs and hides among the presents behind the Christmas tree.

Claude Tigger (looking at the empty milk glass) It's always the same: every year I sneak down

here to have that lovely milk and Santa beats me to it every time.

Claude Tigger exits and the lights dim further.

SCENE SEVEN

Tilly's house. Everybody is awake and presents from the Christmas tree are being handed out.

Amy Crimble Morning arrived, Christmas bells started ringing,

Breakfast was eaten and presents were given: Cousins to aunties and sisters to brothers.

Grannies to grandpas and daughters to mothers.

But Tilly looked sad. Oh dear, what a grouse, He knew in his heart

He would not get a mouse.

Molly Mom (passing three presents to him) Here, open your presents, Tilly.

Sister Suzy Let's see what you got.

Tilly (*sadly*) Okay then.

He unwraps the first of the three presents and pulls out a pair of socks.

Tilly Socks.

All Ooh, socks!

Tilly opens a second present and pulls out a pair of pants.

Tilly Knick-nocks.

All Ooh, Knick-nocks!

Molly Mom One more.

George Crinkle As he picked up the present, Tip jumped out!

There was whooping and screaming as he ran all about.

He ran around uncles and cousins and Gran, Who stood on a chair fending off with a pan. He continued to run until Dad shouted STOP!

Dad STOP!

Abby Crotchet And all was quiet until Tilly spoke up . . . **Tilly**

You did it, you did it, you got me a mouse! He's not very well wrapped.

Tilly I wonder if he has a name.

Ron (to Tip) What's your name?

Abby Crotchet Tip dared not move.

Tip (*frightened*) Tip.

Ron Merry Christmas, Tip.

Sister Suzy (*climbing down off the chair*) Poor little mouse, he's frozen to the spot.

Tip Oh no, you see I was frozen, but now I'm warm.

All You were frozen?

Tip Yes, I was a mousicle!

All (*laughing*) A mousicle?

Brad Dad (raising his voice to get their attention) Now listen here everyone, I want to

know how this little mouse ...

All interrupt.

All Tip!

Brad Dad Yes alright, Tip. How did Tip end up in this house? Was it you, Molly

Mom?

Molly Mom No, Brad Dad, I've no idea where he came from.

Tip I know where I came from. I'm the mouse that lives in Santa's house.

All Pardon!

Tip Yes, I live with all the elves in Santa's house and I help keep the house

clean.

Molly Mom And how do you do that?

Tip I eat all the crumbs that fall on the floor.

Sister Suzy Well if you live in Santa's house, what on earth are you doing in this

house?

Tip I fell asleep on Santa's sleigh, on top of the sack, and he flew off and then he

landed here on your roof and I woke up and followed him, but he said he didn't need a mouse in his house, because Honey Banjo cleans the floor you see . . .

Claude Tigger He cleans the floor with a Honey Banjo?

Tip (*continues*) So he doesn't need me anymore and now I've nowhere to

live.

Tilly So . . . you're not my present?

Claude Tigger Well he sort of is, isn't he? I mean, you wanted a mouse for Christmas and

now Tip is here. All Molly Mom and Brad Dad have to say is "here's the mouse you wanted for Christmas, and by the way his name's Tip" and that's

it. Sorted . . . Yeah?

All look at Brad Dad and Molly Mom.

Brad Dad What do you think, Molly Mom?

Molly Mom I don't know: would you like to live in this house, Tip?

Tip I don't know: do you have any crumbs?

Tilly There are always plenty of crumbs.

Sister Suzy Oh yes, what with all the mince pies and toast and sandwiches and

everything.

Tip But what about the scary lion?

Claude Tigger (frightened) Where? (realizing) Who, me? Youdon't have to worry about me. Number

one, I'm not a lion, and number two, I do not eat mouses.

Sister Suzy (correcting) Mice.

Claude Tigger Them neither. It's strictly tinned food for me. (to Tip) You'd be perfectly

safe

Tip But where would I sleep?

Tilly You could sleep in my room. There's a perfect corner with a blanket and soft

pillow and everything you could ever need. Come on, I'll show you.

Tip Alright.

Tilly and Tip begin to exit.

Brad Dad Wait! (*Tip and Tilly stop in their tracks*) Are you sure about this, Claude

Tigger?

Claude Tigger Course I am, as long as he doesn't nick my bed.

Brad Dad What about you, Molly Mom?

Molly Mom Well, Tilly's happy and Claude Tigger's happy, so I'm happy. The

question is . . . are you?

Everyone turns to look at Brad Dad. Pause.

Brad Dad Go on then. After all, if you can't have a mouse in your house at Christmas,

when can you!

Tilly Thanks, Dad. This is the best Christmas ever.

Ron Three cheers for the mouse that lived in Santa's house, Tip, Tip,

All Hooray.

Ron Tip, Tip,

All Hooray.

Ron Tip, Tip,

All Hooray!

END