

# Santa Forgot A Reindeer

*A Christmas musical play for young performers*

Words and music by Cenarth Fox

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# *Christmas Musicals*

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**Some reviews of these very popular musicals staged in many countries**

*Santa Forgot A Reindeer*, *Christmas Pudding* and *Christmas Decorations* are brilliant!  
**Burrawang Public School**

Thank you for your wonderful plays. We loved *Santa Forgot A Reindeer* and will soon be staging *Christmas Decorations*. Your stage directions are very helpful  
**Yarramalong PS**

We thoroughly enjoyed *Christmas Presents*. Thank you!  
**Booleroo Centre PS**

My entire Infants' Department presented *Santa Forgot A Reindeer* as the finale to our Christmas concert this year. It was easy to rehearse with the children loving each song and putting actions to them. As a director of my own Kids' Theatre and being a person heavily involved in all areas of theatre, both professional and amateur, I must congratulate you on the suitability and great entertainment value of the play. It is always extremely difficult to find a play which involves a large group of children and is easy to teach. *Santa Forgot A Reindeer* fulfills every need. PLEASE publish more like it. PLEASE let me know whenever other such musicals become available. A purchase is guaranteed  
**Ettalong PS**

We loved *Christmas Pudding*  
**Durrumbul PS**

*Christmas Pudding* sounds wonderful and is just what we needed  
**Kay Kendall**

Thanks very much for *Santa Forgot A Reindeer*. The kids have really enjoyed it  
**Nicholson PS**

We performed *Christmas Pudding* last Friday. It was a super success! Thanks.  
**Burraboi PS**

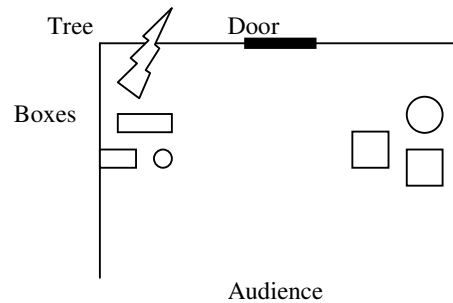
## SANTA FORGOT A REINDEER 2

### Cast

One reindeer [two actors, top 'n tail, non-speaking but should be able to dance or move well]  
Toothbrush, Spotless, Drippy, Whacko, Ping and Narrators\* [Scramlet is one of the company of elves]  
Santa's elves – approximately 400 but a few more or less is fine  
Mary, Joseph, the baby Jesus, shepherds and wise men  
*\*You could use other actors to speak the Narrator lines*

### Set

The interior of Santa's workshop at the North Pole. Where else? Lots of coloured boxes stacked upstage and to the sides. A Christmas tree in one corner. It's snowing outside. Below is an illustration of how your set might look.



### Time

Christmas Eve just after Santa has left to deliver the toys.

### Notes for the Teacher/Director

There are five main speaking parts. These characters always or nearly always speak in the same order. If you have very young performers who are not sure when to speak, placing them next to the person giving them their cue may help. You can add extra speaking parts by using other elves as the narrators in the Christmas story at the end.

There is a student version of the script with very few stage directions. This version may be copied. The children could write any relevant moves on their script. This is good training for later acting roles. The teacher's script contains directions, ideas, etc. Naturally these are optional and each director should stage the musical to best suit their performers and situation.

Very young performers can be used in the section following the first song. The actors need to know their name, how they have behaved in class this year and what they would like for Christmas. There should be much fun and laughter in this situation where the child on stage is telling its parents [in the audience] that he or she [the child] is well-behaved and would like such-and-such for Christmas.

The musical will run for ever if you allow every elf to speak about the toy they helped make for Santa. If you have a smallish cast, everyone speaking may be fine. With a large or very large cast, you may need to select only a few – some from each class or area. If you stage more than one performance, you can change the speaking elves for each performance.

The elves may be male or female. Change him/her and he/she where required.

The first and third songs allow for some dancing. The final song can be used to take bows. The verses in *The Reindeer Rap* should be performed by students with good diction and rhythm skills.



## SANTA FORGOT A REINDEER 4

**PING** *[The ELVES raise their hands wanting to be chosen]* Peanut. *[PEANUT or CRUNCHY, or ZAK, IPPY, SNOOZER, PIKELET, FIZZA, TWINKLE, PIP, TOFFEE, CHAMP, QUACKY, WHOSHER, SLURP, SCRAMLET, BIMBLE, YABBIE, SPARKLET, DING-DONG, UMPEE, KACKLE, GRUMBLE-BOT, FRECKLES, ROUGH-ROUGH, RIFF-RAFF, TWIDDLE-TWADDLE, ZEP, MUSHY, NUTTY, DOTTIE, SQUASH, TICKLE, PEPPER, FOB, HAPPY, YIPPEE, CUDDLES, POPPET, DAFFY, GOOSEY, MARMALADE, BUZZIE, HUBBA-HUBBA, SOCK, JUMBLED, UPPITY, BOSH, ABSOLULU, WHISTLING-RUFUS, BEETLE-JUICE, CRABBY, TUF, FURROSHUS, SNEEZY, POWDER-PUFF, TIPPY, BOOM-BOOM, GALOSHES, FRIPPITY, CRUMPET, PEA-SOUPER, HOPPY, CACTUS, JUMPING-BEANS, BEEPER, TOOTLE, LOTSA, PETAL, BRUMPISH, HOT-SPOT, WHISKERS, DIPPEE, SWISH, FOSSICK, HOBLEDEE-HEE, TOP-POP, SCRIMPY, AZZY, BOSH-LOSH or FFORBES-HYPHEN moves DC. OTHERS sigh/groan their disappointment then fall silent and watch]*

**PEANUT** My name is Peanut and I helped Santa make a toy for ..... *[States own name]*  
**T'BRUSH** And what does ..... want for Christmas?  
**PEANUT** ..... wants a .....  
**SPOTLESS** And has ..... been good this year?  
**PEANUT** Yes. I think so.  
**DRIPPY** Did his/her family say he/she was good?  
**PEANUT** Yes.  
**WHACKO** Did his/her teacher say he/she was good?  
**PEANUT** *[Enthusiastic]* Oh yes. Very good.  
**PING** Okay. Next. *[ELVES raise their hands wanting to be chosen]*

*[This routine is repeated as many times as you like. The only things that change are the names of the elves and their requested toys. Some may want the same toy. If you have a "lively" student, his/her alter ego could pause before announcing that he/she has been good. Milk it.]*

*Once the above routine is complete, the story continues. As soon as the last elf has said, "Oh yes. Very good." We hear the sound of knocking on the door upstage. EVERYONE stops, turns and looks upstage]*

**T'BRUSH** There's someone outside in the snow.  
**SPOTLESS** *[Calling upstage]* Come in. The door's not locked.  
*[Pause. Nothing. The ELVES begin to worry. They whisper amongst themselves]*  
**DRIPPY** I'll see who it is. *[DRIPPY heads upstage]*  
**WHACKO** *[Calling]* Be careful, Drippy.  
*[DRIPPY arrives at upstage door, reaches up to turn handle then slowly opens the door a small amount. DRIPPY peers outside – only s/he can see outside. The OTHERS are frozen in anticipation. Suddenly DRIPPY slams the door shut and falls back against it facing front. DRIPPY is frightened. The OTHERS are frightened. What did DRIPPY see?]*  
**PING** Something's wrong! Drippy, what's the matter?  
**T'BRUSH** Come back, Drippy. Now! *[DRIPPY recovers and moves back to the ELVES]*  
**SPOTLESS** Tell us. What did you see?  
**DRIPPY** *[Pause. Very serious]* There's a reindeer outside! *[Huge gasp from shocked ELVES]*  
**ELVES** A reindeer!?  
**WHACKO** You mean, Santa forgot a reindeer? *[DRIPPY nods. The ELVES murmur]*  
**PING** A reindeer! We must tell Santa! *[MUSIC BEGINS]*

## OH SANTA

**Elves** Santa, Santa. Can you hear us? Santa, Santa. Are you there?  
Santa, Santa. Are you near us? Santa, Santa. Do you care?  
Have you lost your marbles? Have you lost your mind?  
You have gone and left one of your reindeer behind?  
Santa, Santa. Can you hear us? Santa, Santa. Are you there?  
Santa, Santa. Are you near us? Santa, Santa. Do you care?  
Oh Santa. Oh Santa. Oh Santa. Santa!

*[Song ends. ELVES freeze and look out above the audience. Did Santa hear them? Will he return for the reindeer?]*

## SANTA FORGOT A REINDEER 5

**T'BRUSH SPOTLESS DRIPPY** *[Breaks the freeze and the others follow] I don't think Santa heard us. [ELVES groan]*  
Let's bring the reindeer inside.  
We'll need some helpers.  
*[Two of three elves move UC. The OTHERS turn and watch. The door is opened. Pause. We see nothing. Suddenly the REINDEER steps into the doorway. Gasps from the ELVES. The REINDEER consists of two students, the first standing and wearing a reindeer's head. The second student is bent over with hands on the hips of the first student thus making the body and back legs of the animal. Appropriate but simple costuming is used. The ELVES gently escort the REINDEER into the room – they may have to be careful the antlers don't snag – and the ELVES watch spellbound as the group makes its way DC. Some ELVES move in behind and around the main party around C once the group has moved downstage]*

**WHACKO PING T'BRUSH SPOTLESS** Good evening, Reindeer. Are you well? *[Pause. No reply]*  
Good evening, Reindeer. Is your name Rudolf? *[Pause. No reply]*  
Maybe he only speaks Reindeer.  
Maybe he's shy or a she.  
*[DRIPPY and WHACKO move closer and, cupping their hands, whisper (briefly, one at a time) in the REINDEER'S ear. DRIPPY and WHACKO then place an ear each close to the REINDEER and listen. We can't hear any sounds. The duo face the other ELVES]*

**DRIPPY WHACKO** He is shy. *[Buzz from the ELVES]*  
He talks like this. *[WHACKO demonstrates]* Two stamps for yes. Three stamps for no.  
*[Another buzz from the ELVES. This is interesting]*

**PING** I've got a question. *[To REINDEER]* Are you a reindeer?  
*[ELVES turn and face REINDEER. Pause. Slowly the REINDEER stamps twice. Buzz from ELVES]*

**T'BRUSH SPOTLESS** Do you help pull Santa's sleigh? *[REINDEER stamps twice. Buzz from ELVES]*  
Did Santa really forget you?  
*[REINDEER stamps twice, pause, then a third time. Big buzz from ELVES]*

**DRIPPY** Was that yes or no?  
*[WHACKO moves close to the REINDEER and listens. WHACKO steps back and speaks to ELVES]*

**WHACKO ELVES PING** Santa forgot the reindeer because the Reindeer was doing a dance. *[Big buzz from ELVES]*  
Doing a dance?  
This is a dancing deer! *[ELVES buzz]* Come on Elves. Let's do the Reindeer Rap! *[MUSIC BEGINS]*

## THE REINDEER RAP

**Elf [Solo 1]** *Shake 'em high, shake 'em low  
Shake 'em everywhere you go  
It's a cinch, it's a snap  
Come on and do the Reindeer Rap*

**Company** *Rap Rap – Reindeer. Rap Rap – Reindeer  
Rap Rap – Reindeer. Rap Rap – Reindeer*

**Elf [Solo 2]** *Rap it soft, rap it loud  
Do it well, make us proud  
Full of zip, full of zap  
Come on and do the Reindeer Rap!*

*[The REINDEER raps a little, the company repeats the refrain and everyone is bubbling and happy. Suddenly the REINDEER is heard crying. ELVES hear this and stop. EVERYONE turns to face the REINDEER DC]*

**T'BRUSH SPOTLESS DRIPPY** Look! The Reindeer is crying. *[ELVES sigh in sympathy]*  
He should be happy. He's very good at dancing.  
I'll see what's wrong. *[DRIPPY goes to REINDEER and listens. Pause. DRIPPY tells all]* He hasn't got any work.

**WHACKO** Never mind, Reindeer. *[Leading REINDEER aside]* We'll find something. Come this way.  
*[The REINDEER is escorted off and the ELVES quickly forget him when PING makes an announcement]*

**PING** Come on, Elves. It's time for our Christmas play!

## **SANTA FORGOT A REINDEER 6**

*[Big cheer from ELVES. Instant lighting change. BLACKOUT. Those on stage remain still. The only actors to move are those required for the Christmas story. In fact these actors may already be offstage. A spotlight comes on DR. TOOTHBRUSH steps into the light]*

**T'BRUSH** *[As Narrator]* Our Christmas play has just begun  
When Mary gave the world a son

*[Another spotlight comes on DL. It shines on a manger surrounded by straw. The manger has been concealed during the play by a box or presents which are quickly removed in the blackout. An ELF dressed as MARY enters the DL lit area holding a baby (doll) wrapped in swaddling clothes. Joseph follows. It is important to maintain a steady pace here. Each speech must not be rushed and there must be a distinct scene/tableau after each speech. But don't drag. TOOTHBRUSH steps out of the spot DR and SPOTLESS takes his/her place]*

**SPOTLESS** The parents both were very poor  
They filled the manger up with straw

*[JOSEPH places straw in manger. MARY places baby in manger. DRIPPY replaces SPOTLESS DR]*

**DRIPPY** And baby Jesus joy did bring  
This child of God was born a King

*[Sound of baby crying is heard. MARY and JOSEPH show concern for infant. WHACKO new narrator]*

## **PREVIEW BREAK**

### **CHRISTMAS OUR CHRISTMAS**

**Company** *Christmas, our Christmas  
A time we hold so dear  
Christmas, our Christmas  
A time to bring good cheer  
Christmas, our Christmas  
A time for love sincere  
Let's make our Christmas  
Last all throughout the year*

*[During this song the principals and the entire COMPANY including the REINDEER take their respective bows. You could even have the COMPANY march off to a repeat of the final song, waving and wishing the audience "Merry Christmas" as they go]*

**The End**

***There are several short Christmas musicals published by FOX PLAYS  
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