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A Short Christmas Play

by

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CAST: BUCK, 40's, working class guy
TURGE, 8, an excitable boy, son of Buck
HOLLY, 20's, Hall of Holidays employee, perky
ANNOUNCER

TIME: The Year 2025

PLACE: A small multi-media room at the Hall of Holidays facility owned and operated by World Earth Media who own and license the holidays.

Christmas Day, the year 2025. A bare stage. A large projection screen upstage, a riser to one side with a small computer screen and keyboard mounted on a stand. On the other side, two, three-foot circles on the ground, a railing in front of the circles, two pairs of silver hand grips extend from the railing. Lights up to half.

VOICE OVER

Good evening, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to "©2025 Christmas. All Rights Reserved." Patrons are reminded that all creative content, text, dialogue, action, movement, sound, lights, scenery, ideas, themes and concepts relating to the metaphysical concepts of Christmas, Christmas Holiday, Holiday Season, The Most Wonderful Time of the Year or any such nomenclature referring to quote unquote, "Christmas," whether explicit, inferred, implied, suggested or hinted at, are the exclusive property of Christmas Corp., World Earth Media and it's parent company, Universal Corporation of Infinity. Patrons are reminded that any unauthorized use in any print or electronic form, and/or in any social, familial or business setting, of the property, "©2025 Christmas. All Rights Reserved" will result in criminal prosecution to the fullest extent of the law. Patrons are granted a one-time response license to tonight's performance only, limited to three vocalized sentences, within fifteen minutes after close of curtain and only on theatre property. Thank you for not smoking or talking. Enjoy your viewing.

HOLLY enters and takes her position at the keyboard.

She is dressed in futuristic holiday attire with a big shiny name tag, and wearing a headset. BUCK and his son TURGE enter and stand in the circles. TURGE toys with a plastic candy cane with a flag attached which reads: Christmas Corp Kid! A lame version of "Happy Holidays" plays.

ON SCREEN: A CORPORATE LOGO:
"CHRISTMAS CORP. A DIVISION OF
WORLD EARTH MEDIA. A UNIVERSAL
CORPORATION OF INFINITY COMPANY".

Lights up to full.

HOLLY

Happy Holidays from Christmas Corp! Part of the Family of Holidays fully owned and operated by World Earth Media, a Universal Corporation of Infinity company. My name is...

HOLLY presses the keyboard.

ON SCREEN: HOLLY'S NAME AND
PICTURE APPEAR ON THE SCREEN,
WAVING AND SMILING.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

Holly! And I'm pleased to be your station host for...

HOLLY presses the keyboard.

ON SCREEN: "CHRISTMAS. SEASON OF
JOY."

HOLLY (CONT'D)

Christmas. Season of Joy. Brought to you by Christmas Corp. For your merriest of merriest yule tide magic, it's Christmas Corp. All rights reserved. At this time, please place your right hand on the identity scanner near the Real Touch Poles.

Turge and Buck do so. Turge waves his candy cane.

TURGE

I got a Christmas Corp. Candy Cane!

HOLLY

That you do, um...

ON SCREEN: HEADSHOTS OF TURGE AND
BUCK OUTLINED IN HOLIDAY WREATHES
WITH THEIR NAMES UNDERNEATH.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

Turge Lundersen! And your father, Buck Lundersen. Turge, that's an interesting name.

TURGE

I wanted Tommy but dad didn't have enough money for it.

BUCK

They tripled the license fee... Can we just start?

TURGE

I love Christmas!

HOLLY

You do?

TURGE

Yeah! It's my favorite fifteen minutes of the year!

HOLLY

Well I'll make sure this is the best fifteen minute Christmas you ever had!

BUCK

Yeah, great, now can we just get going?

HOLLY

Certainly, Mr. Lundersen. May I have your World Earth Media Holiday Money Card?

Buck crosses, hands Holly the card, which she swipes.

BUCK

I got the Home and Hearth thing.

HOLLY

Yes, I have it right here, thank you.

TURGE

Merry Christmas!

BUCK

Turge! What did I say?!

TURGE

But I just wanted to say Merry...

Buck quickly covers Turge's mouth.

BUCK

Does it look I got a thousand bucks in my back pocket?

TURGE

Sorry.

HOLLY

Oh, now don't you worry, Mr. Lundersen. World Earth Media allows our little elves under a ten, three complimentary Merry Christmas greeting licenses. A \$75 value.

BUCK

Gee whiz, how generous.

HOLLY

It's World Earth Media's special way of saying, thank you, to our family of licensed users.

TURGE

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

BUCK

Okay, Turge. You got one more. Be careful.

TURGE

Can I see some Reindeer and trees and lights and can we get snow? Are we gonna have snow? Huh, dad? Huh, huh?

BUCK

No, I can't...

TURGE

But, last year we had snow. It's not Christmas without snow.

BUCK

Well, it's just going to have to be. I can't afford it.

TURGE

Mom always gets me snow.

BUCK

That's BECAUSE your DAD doesn't SLEEP WITH the PROGRAMMERS at HOLIDAY INTERACTIVE over in NANOTECH CITY!

A pause.

HOLLY

Well, Turge. The Home and Hearth Christmas does have a warm fireplace with stockings and a Christmas tree with tinsel.

TURGE

But I want snow.

BUCK

There's only so much Christmas I can buy, Turge.

HOLLY

License.

BUCK

Just start the fucking program.

A polite bell sounds.

HOLLY

Oh, I'm sorry, Mr. Lundersen, but our Hall of Holidays facility is not licensed for profanity. The next remark will cost you a small ten dollar inconvenience fee.

TURGE

Does this mean we're not gonna get any snow?

BUCK

How many times do I got to fuc....

HOLLY

Whoa. Hold on there, Dad. Maybe World Earth Media can help.

ON SCREEN: REAL TOUCH SNOWBALL
COMMERCIAL.

HOLLY (CONT'D)

Today only, I am authorized to offer you a Real Touch Snowball made from the finest engineered snow crystals manufactured exclusively at Universal Corporation of Infinity's Mountain Range of the Himalayas for only... one hundred and fifty dollars. Half the normal price. It's not the Platinum Premium Real Touch Snow Experience but I think it will make our little licensed elf really happy.

TURGE

Real Touch Snowball! Real Touch Snowball!

BUCK

One fifty?

HOLLY

Today only.

TURGE

Please dad! Please, please!

BUCK

Paying for snow. This is such bullshit.

The polite bell rings. Holly swipes the card.

HOLLY

Well, you could always go downtown and collect public snow.

TURGE

Public snow?! But the other kids will laugh at me.

BUCK

It was fine when I was growing up.

TURGE

Public snow sucks! It's dirty.

The polite bell rings. Holly swipes the card.

BUCK

Hey, that wasn't nothing.

HOLLY

He's under ten. By the way, Mr. Lundersen, did you know public snow is known to carry 437 varieties of infectious diseases. Yuck!

TURGE

Yuck!

HOLLY

Doesn't your son deserve the best snow money can license?

BUCK

(to Turge)

This means no Party Favor Downloads in the New Year's Eve program. You understand?

TURGE

Real Touch Snowball!

BUCK

Give the kid a snowball.

HOLLY

A World Earth Media Real Touch Snowball. Now that's what I call the WEM Christmas Spirit. Merry Christmas, Turge

HOLLY swipes card.

TURGE

Merry Christmas!

BUCK

Okay, that's the last one. You can't say it anymore.

HOLLY

Your Real Touch Snowball will be waiting for you upon exit in it's own specially-designed Frost-o-Matic container which will make it last two whole weeks!

TURGE

Wow! Thanks, dad!

BUCK

Yeah, yeah, Merry Christmas.... WAIT!

Holly swipes the card.

BUCK (CONT'D)

Shit.

The polite bell sounds. Holly swipes the card.

BUCK (CONT'D)

Can we please just start?

HOLLY

Absolutely. And just a reminder, Buck and Turge, Christmas Spirit and Real Touch Snowball are the exclusive property of Christmas Corp., part of the Family of Holidays of World Earth Media. All rights reserved. Okay, Turge. Ready to celebrate your fifteen minutes of Christmas?

TURGE

Grab the Real Touch posts, dad. It's Christmas!

Buck and Turge grab the posts.

HOLLY

Hold on to your jingle bells. Here we go!

Holly keystrokes. Dramatic lighting change. Jingle bells sound, the most canned Christmas music ever recorded plays.

ON SCREEN: "A HOME AND HEARTH CHRISTMAS."

HOLLY (CONT'D)

Christmas Corp. and World Earth Media, presents: A Home and Hearth Christmas. The time is Christmas eve and it's cold outside. Let's warm ourselves up by cuddling up next to the fireplace with a big warm cup of frothy egg nog.

Holly keystrokes.

ON SCREEN: A FIREPLACE WITH
STOCKINGS.

TURGE

Oooh! It's warm, dad! Feel how warm it is!

HOLLY

And look at those bright red stockings! Stuffed with goodies and treats for... hmmm, I wonder who?

Holly keystrokes.

ON SCREEN: CLOSE UP OF STOCKINGS
WITH TURGE'S NAME.

TURGE

WOW! That's me! Is that my stocking! Is it? Is it, dad?

HOLLY

Well, I don't know, Turge. It just very, very might be.

*Holly smiles knowingly at Buck.
Exasperated, disgusted, he nods okay.
Holly swipes the card.*

HOLLY (CONT'D)

You know, Turge, Christmas is merriest, merry time of the whole year. Good friends, loving family, and of course. The Home and Hearth Christmas Tree.

Holly keystrokes.

ON SCREEN: A DECORATED CHRISTMAS
TREE WITH JUST TINSEL.

TURGE

Wow! It's the best Christmas tree in the world!

BUCK

It's the same one they had last year.

TURGE

I can feel the branches and the tinsel!

HOLLY

Well, Turge, that's not all you can touch. Let's take a look and see what's under that wonderful Christmas tree.

HOLLY keystrokes.

Wonder what happens next?

For a copy of the full script, email me at:

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Thanks!