

**Georgie, Mollie, Betsy (Scrooge, Solicitor)**

MOLLIE: Let's try here. (TO GEORGIE AND BETSY.) Ready?

GEORGIE: (WITH A SIGH.) Oh, I suppose. But I'm telling you, Mollie, it won't do any good.

MOLLIE: It can't hurt to try. Ready?

GEORGIE, MOLLIE, AND BETSY: (SINGING.) "Deck the halls with boughs of holly, fa la la, la la la la. 'Tis the season to be jolly, fa la"

SCROOGE: Bah! (STOMPS TO HIS DOOR, OPENS IT, SHOUTS AT THE CHILDREN.) Begone! Go away!

GEORGIE, MOLLIE, AND BETSY: (FEARFULLY.) Yes, sir.

SCROOGE: Begone, I say!

MOLLIE: Yes, sir.

BETSY: We hear you, sir.

GEORGIE: It's just a Christmas Carol, sir.

SCROOGE: Humbug! I hate Christmas Carols! Bah! Just take yourselves and your fa-la-la's off somewhere else! Do you hear me?

GEORGIE: We hear you, sir.

SCROOGE: Bah! (HE STOMPS BACK TO HIS DESK.)

GEORGIE: What a grumbler! Well, I told you, Mollie. I told you it wouldn't work. Old Scrooge would rather be boiled in oil before he'd give the likes of us any pennies.

MOLLIE: You think he'd give us one penny at least.

BETSY: (MOANS.) I'm soooooo hungry.

MOLLIE: We know, Betsy.

GEORGIE: Oh, Mollie, you know old Scrooge wouldn't give a penny even to his own mum — not even if she was dying on his ugly doorstep.

MOLLIE: He's just an awful terrible old man!

GEORGE: So? What can we do about it?

MOLLIE: (SIGHS.) Nothing, I guess.

BETSY: Mollie, I'm really hungry.

MOLLIE: I know, little sister, I know. I'm really hungry, too.

BETSY: We haven't had anything to eat all day today.

MOLLIE: I know.

BETSY: Did we have anything to eat yesterday either? I forget.

MOLLIE: I know, Betsy. Me, too.

BETSY: I'm so tired and hungry, Betsy. I think I'll just lie down here on the curb and sleep.

GEORGIE: Betsy, you can't do that!

MOLLIE: Georgie, do something!

GEORGIE: I'll try, Mollie. You know I will.

MOLLIE: (POINTS TO CHARITY COLLECTOR GROUP.) Go ask them for a few pennies. Go on. Do it.

GEORGIE: All right, all right. I will. Shall we?

GEORGIE: (TO CHARITY GROUP.) Sirs, and ladies, If you'll pardon me fer interruptin' I was just wonderin' if you could see your way clear to offerin' me a few pennies so as I can buy a bite of food for my two little sisters? We're all starving, you see, and haven't had no food for the last two days. A few pennies would be all we need if'n you c'n spare 'em, good gents and ladies, if you please.

SOLICITOR: (TO GEORGIE) Here, young man. (GIVES HIM A HANDFUL OF COINS.)

GEORGIE: Thank you, ma'am! (HE RETURNS TO HIS SISTERS AND SHOWS THEM THE COINS.) Come on Mollie, wake up Betsy, we're goin' to eat tonight!

MOLLIE: Oh, Georgie, how wonderful!

BETSY: Truly, Georgie? We're really going to have some food?

GEORGIE: Yes, indeed. Come along, Betsy. Mollie will help you.