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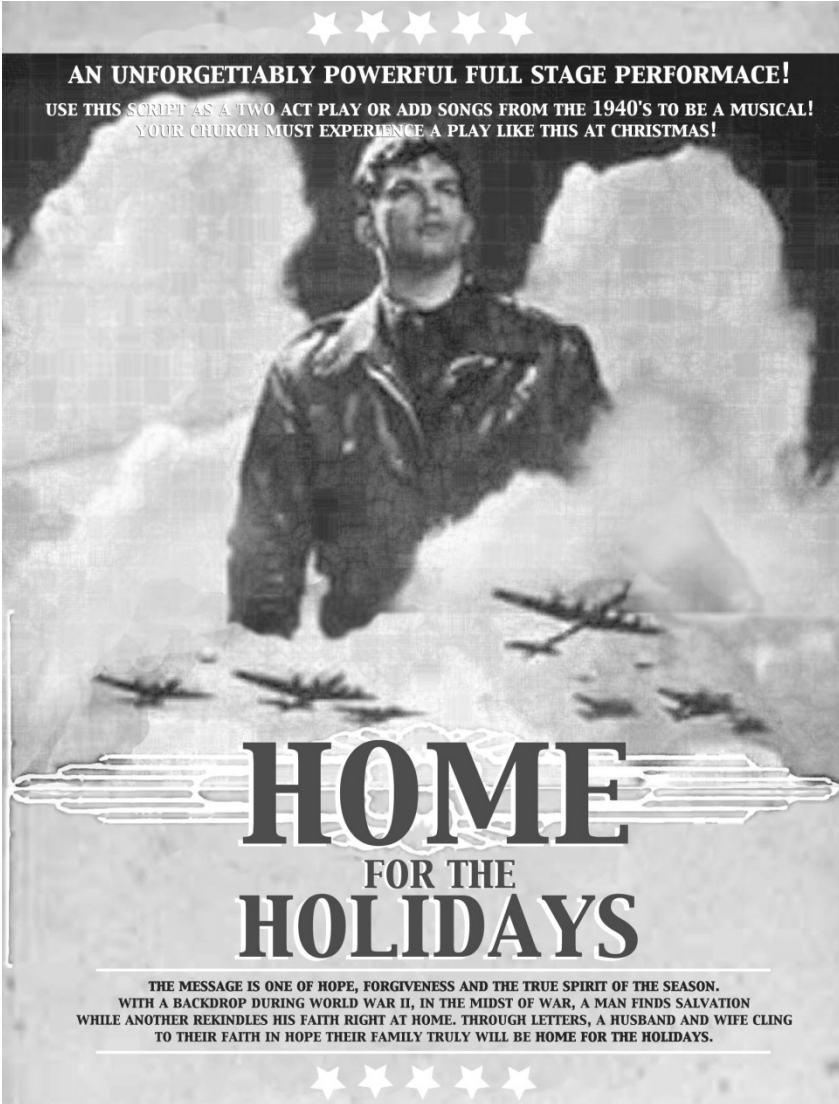


## **“Home for the Holidays”**

(A Christmas Play or Musical in Two Acts)

by

Eddie James and Chris Womack



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**AN UNFORGETTABLE POWERFUL FULL STAGE PERFORMANCE!**  
USE THIS SCRIPT AS A TWO ACT PLAY OR ADD SONGS FROM THE 1940'S TO BE A MUSICAL!  
YOUR CHURCH MUST EXPERIENCE A PLAY LIKE THIS AT CHRISTMAS!

# **HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

THE MESSAGE IS ONE OF HOPE, FORGIVENESS AND THE TRUE SPIRIT OF THE SEASON.  
WITH A BACKDROP DURING WORLD WAR II, IN THE MIDST OF WAR, A MAN FINDS SALVATION  
WHILE ANOTHER REKINDLES HIS FAITH RIGHT AT HOME. THROUGH LETTERS, A HUSBAND AND WIFE CLING  
TO THEIR FAITH IN HOPE THEIR FAMILY TRULY WILL BE HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS.

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## ACT I

- Pre-Show:** On air light goes on, commercials play, band takes its position. Announcer introduces show. Band plays Christmas medley; choir takes its position.
- Scene 1:** The Wynn Home.  
Choir sings Winter Wonderland, no introduction.
- Scene 2:** The Wynn Home and Barracks.  
Announcer introduces "Happy Holidays/White Christmas" medley.
- Scene 3:** The Wynn Home  
Band plays Jingle Bells, no introduction. Announcer introduces Andrew Sisters. Andrew Sisters sing "Mister Santa."
- Scene 4:** Barracks  
Choir sings "I'll Be Home For Christmas", no introduction.
- Scene 5:** Radio studio and the Wynn Home.  
Interview with returning pilot. Lynne sings, "You're All I Want for Christmas," no introduction. Four Pennies sing, "I Believe," center stage of studio, Lynne is seen in home scene.

## INTERMISSION

## ACT II

- Start of Act:** Announcer introduces the start of second act/evening show. Band plays "Sleigh Ride."
- Scene 1:** The Wynn Home and Barracks.  
Announcer introduces, "O Come All Ye Faithful."  
Choir and Angel Chorale sing, "O Come All Ye Faithful."
- Scene 2:** The Wynn Home and Barracks.  
Choir sings, "Joy to the World," Wynn family sings along, Grandpa Wynn on porch. Choir sings "Angels We Have Heard on High,"
- Scene 3:** The Wynn Front Porch and Barracks.
- Scene 4:** Announcer introduces, "Once and For All."  
Choir and soloists sing, "Once and For All."
- Scene 5:** The Wynn Home.  
Choir sings reprise of, "I'll be Home for Christmas," Wynn family sings along. Announcer closes radio show. Closing comments from Cast member, Music Minister, or Pastor.

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

Lynne Wynn  
Danny Wynn  
Grandpa Wynn, Danny's father  
Grandma Wynn, Danny's mother  
Daniel Wynn, Danny's son  
Sarah Wynn, Danny's daughter  
Sean, Lynne's brother  
Nathan Cagle, Danny's army buddy  
Announcer/Clerk in "Jack Benny" skit  
Major Mike Taggart/Platoon Leader  
Bill, war buddy of Grandpa Wynn

### NOTE TO DIRECTOR: (Alternative Presentation)

You can do this play in two acts without the band and choir. The Radio Announcer takes center stage and CD's of 1940's Christmas songs are used as background music in the Wynn house and in conjunction with the announcer to transition between scenes. (If you do include a band and choir, songs are listed below along with their placement within the script.) Without the choir and band, instructions and dialogue found throughout the script to introduce acts and songs may be omitted.

To get a good feel for the Jack Benny sketch, listen to some old radio comedy tapes that can usually be checked out from your public library. The library also has good references for the style of dress and music for this time period.

### Set Design:

**Center stage** is the announcer and (if using) the band and choir members.

**Stage left** is the Wynne Home with porch area.

**Stage right** is the barracks where Danny Wynne and Nathan Cagle reside.

**Songs in order and where to find them:**

*Winter Wonderland*: WB music corporation.  
*Happy Holidays/ White Christmas*: Estate of Irving Berlin  
*Mister Santa*: Edwin H. Morris and Company, Inc.  
*I'll be Home For Christmas*: Gannon and Kent Music Co., Inc.  
*You're All I Want for Christmas*: websites available.  
*I Believe*: Cromwell Music Inc.  
*Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas*: EMI Feist Catalog, inc.  
*O Come, All Ye Faithful*: Lillenas Publishing Co.  
Three Christmas Carols:  
1. *Joy to the World*: Shawnee Press, Inc.  
2. *It Came Upon a Midnight Clear*: Shawnee Press, Inc.  
3. *Angels We Have Heard on High*  
*Once and For All*: Gaither Music Company  
*I'll be Home for Christmas* (reprise)

**SPECIAL THANKS**

**Ronny Higgins** who took the potentially "cheesy" and made it work.

**Kristy Davis** who made "mumbling" into "masterpiece."

**Chris Womack** who gave me a chance.

**Bill Johnston**, in whom I found a writing friend.

**The rest of the cast and crew** who helped make this very special.

**Stephanie James** who took the time for articulation, common sense and punctuation.

**ACT 1 – Christmas Eve**

*Center stage: On air light comes on in studio and excerpt from old news show plays to set up time period. Optional footage can usually be found in local archives or libraries. Sometimes footage can be found from people within congregation or establishment.*

**Announcer:** Live from Radio City Music Hall, it's time for our countdown to Christmas. It won't be long before jolly Saint Nick will be coming down the chimney to brighten the kiddies' faces. What a show we have for you with The Radio City Music Hall choir and band. Yours truly, Bob Wilson. So gather around the radio with your family and sit back as we spend Christmas with you...

*The Wynn family is at home (stage left) putting the finishing Christmas decorations around the house and tree, awaiting Danny's arrival.*

**Scene 1**

**Grandma:** Let's hurry now...I want everything to look just right. I hope Lynne thinks we have everything done. *(Yelling offstage to Grandpa Wynn)* Henry! Henry! Have you found the wise man? I'm missing the wise man to the nativity! *(To herself, looking at nativity)* I'm also missing a sheep and a cow. Now where did I put that wise man, the sheep and the cow?

**Daniel:** *(Enters with piece of chocolate cake, sees Grandma Wynn talking to herself, looks at her for a little bit)* Who you talking to, Gramma?

**Grandma:** None of your concern. Take that on into the kitchen. You know you're not supposed to eat in the living room. Your mom has worked very hard to get this house looking good for when your Daddy comes home.

**Daniel:** I'll miss the show if I go in there, Gramma. Please, let me eat in here. I promise I won't make a mess.

Grandma Wynn: You think you can give me those puppy dog eyes and I'll do whatever you want, is that it? *(Beat)* All right, go on. If I see one crumb...

**Sarah:** *(Runs through the house, interrupting Grandma Wynn's train of thought)* Gramma! Gramma! Guess what I am?

**Grandma:** What are you?

**Sarah:** I'm a princess. Mommy helped me make this outfit for Daddy. Daddy always says I'm his little princess, so I wanted to look just right for when he comes home. Do you like my dress?

- Grandma:** I think you are the most beautiful princess in the whole world. Your Daddy is going to be so happy to see you!
- Daniel:** *(Turns around from the radio with chocolate all around his face)* What about me Gramma? Is Daddy going to be happy to see me too?
- Grandma:** Well, first he's going to have to recognize you. Let's get you in to the bathroom and get you cleaned up.
- Daniel:** See, I didn't drop any crumbs on the floor.
- Grandma:** No, you managed to get them all stuck nicely to your face.
- Daniel:** *(Smiling)* I'm getting better, huh?
- Grandma:** Words can't describe Daniel. Words can't describe. *(Both exit into hallway)*

*Sarah is still in living room and has gone over to table to look at the nativity, which Grandma Wynn is trying to put together. Sarah takes another of the wise men and sticks him in a plant.*

- Sarah:** There you go Mr. Wiseman. This is your new home. You're probably getting tired of going to that barn year in and year out, huh? Now you can live in the jungle.
- Lynne:** *(Voice starts from offstage)* Sarah sweetheart, come here. I need you. Baby, I want you to go upstairs and clean up your room so daddy can see what a pretty bedroom you have.
- Sarah:** Princesses don't do rooms.
- Lynne:** *(Sternly but smiling)* This princess does. Now go on.
- Sarah:** Yes, Mama. *(Exits)*
- Grandma:** *(Enter with Daniel from kitchen, runs and hides behind couch)* Daniel where are you? Daniel, don't run away from me. I see you! There you are... come on. You've got to go get cleaned up.
- Lynne:** Look at your face. Go on upstairs and clean up. Then put on those clothes I laid out for you. Sarah will help you. *(Yelling offstage to Sarah)* Sarah, help your brother!
- Sarah:** *(Offstage)* Princesses don't help brothers!
- Lynne:** My princess does.

- Sarah:** *(Offstage)* Yes, Mama.
- Lynne:** Grandma Wynn. Thanks for watching the kids this morning.
- Grandma:** Not a problem dear. I live for it. Oh! If you see Henry, tell him I'm in need of a sheep and a cow.
- Lynne:** A sheep and a cow?
- Grandma:** He'll know what I mean. *(Pauses)* Oh, I've been so busy I had almost forgotten about you. Aren't you excited about Danny coming home?
- Lynne:** Yes, very. If I'm real honest, I guess I'm a little scared too. Sometimes I don't think I can remember the sound of his voice. There's something so familiar about his face that I've just forgotten. The past two years our relationship has been nothing but pen on paper and I'm so scared that I'm not going to know what to do or say when he walks through the door.
- Grandma:** *(Coming over to comfort Lynne)* The right words and the right things to do will just happen the moment he walks through that door. I promise. It always does.
- Lynne:** Is that the way it was when Henry came home?
- Grandma:** *(Uncomfortable pause)* Well, sort of. I was just glad Henry was home safe and sound.
- Lynne:** *(Feeling the awkwardness)* I guess I'll go check on the kids.
- Grandma:** No, you stay here; I'll look in on them. *(Exits)*
- Grandpa:** *(Enters, talking to himself)* Eileen! Eileen! *(Goes over to nativity)* I found your wiseman! It was in the icebox next to the lettuce. Why on earth would you put him in there? You think the cold air is going to make this statue any wiser? You have done some strange things but this one takes the cake. *(Sees Daniel's plate of cake)* Speaking of cake, don't mind if I do. *(Turns to see Lynne)*
- Lynne:** Grandpa Wynn there's a whole cake in the kitchen.
- Grandpa:** Lynne... didn't know I had an audience.
- Lynne:** *(They greet one another, Lynne is full of life and love and Grandpa Wynn is the opposite. Very sarcastic)* I haven't seen you all day.
- Grandpa:** Yes, I've been chasing a wiseman down for your mother-in-law.

- Lynne:** *(Straightening up the living room, a bit uncomfortable)* I see. Well, I think everything is ready for Danny's homecoming. I wanted everything to be just right when he comes through the door.
- Grandpa:** Don't bother too much. He'll probably be so tired he won't notice a whole lot.
- Lynne:** *(Pause)* Probably not. *(Beat)* Eileen wanted me to tell you she's in need of a cow and a sheep.
- Grandpa:** You've got to be kidding me! She's doing this to me on purpose. She thinks I don't exercise enough and she's deliberately forgetting where she puts things. Well, now if I were a cow where would I go? *(Exits out door to house while grumbling about the sheep and cow)*
- Sean:** *(Lynn's brother, Sean, enters through same door Grandpa Wynn just exits, calling to Grandpa Wynn)* Hello, Mr. Wynn. Good to see you. It's me, Sean. *(Pause)* I'm going to pick up Danny. *(Pause)* Your son. *(Coming inside the living room, to himself, casually)* Fine, don't say hello. What is wrong with him? *(Greets sister)*
- Lynne:** Nothing, actually. This is one of his better days.
- Sean:** Oh really? How's it going, sis? I don't know how you do it. Living under the same roof with these people. I mean, I must tell you Lynne... he gives me the creeps. He's so mean, always so critical. He isn't nice to anyone. There he is with that cane of his. *(Starts to imitate Grandpa Wynn)* "Mean, ol' Mr. Wynn." *(Grandpa Wynn forgets hat, comes back and stands at door listening to Sean make a fool out of himself. Lynne tries to stop him but just gets tickled by the whole spectacle)* Don't ask me to be nice to anyone, 'cause I can't. I'm "Mean ol' Mr. Wynn." What? Is that a smile I see? Well, get that off your face missy, cause I'm mean ol' Mr. Wynn. I never smile. My face would crack if I tried to do that. *(Starts to turn, sees Grandpa Wynn)* That's right, just leave me alone, cause I'm...
- Grandpa:** Mean ol' Mr. Wynn.
- Sean:** *(Totally embarrassed)* Uh, Mr. Wynn. I... I was... you see...
- Grandpa:** Yes, I saw and I heard. Don't you have somewhere to be Sean?
- Sean:** Yes, sir. Leaving right now. *(Kisses Lynne. Lynne is still chuckling)* I'll bring your husband home, promise. *(Whispers to Lynne)* Get out while you still can. *(Exits)*
- Lynne:** Sorry, Grandpa Wynn. I don't think he meant any harm.



**Grandpa:** Well, he can't help it if he's not the sharpest knife in the drawer. I guess I'll be out back.  
*(Pauses before exiting)* Danny... he's coming home. He's finally coming home.

**Lynne:** My goodness, Grandpa Wynn! Your face didn't crack after all.

**Grandpa:** What?

**Lynne:** You smiled. When you talked about Danny... you smiled.

**Grandpa:** Well, just don't tell Mother. I'd never hear the end of it. *(Muttering to himself, exiting)* She'd want me to smile more or take me to smiling conventions so I could improve on the smile I do have...

**Lynne:** *(Lynne is in living room by herself. She looks all around her. There is beauty and warmth. The radio is slowly starting to play "Winter Wonderland." She sits down with her letters and looks around at her home.)* Hurry home to me Danny. Hurry home.

## Scene 2

**Lynne:** *(Starts to read one of her letters from Danny)* March 16, 1944:  
Precious Lynne, I cannot tell you how much I miss you. What I wouldn't give to have you in my arms right now. The weather has been...

*Lights up on barracks stage right. Danny picks up the content of the letter where Lynne leaves off. Light stay on Lynne and house as she reads letter.*

**Danny:** Somewhat pleasant. Sometimes the sun is out and you can see God's beauty. More than not, all you see how terribly cruel this war is and what it's doing to people. I'm really trying to stay strong. I have to admit I can't believe some of the things I've seen. I carry your picture with me everywhere. I am really looking forward to the time when I can hold you and look into those sweet eyes of yours. Nothing is going to stop me from being there Christmas Eve. I think of the kids often. Daniel was only three when I left and my princess, Sarah, was five. I feel like I'm missing out on much of their lives. Tell them I'll be there Christmas Eve to tuck them in and kiss them goodnight. Tell them that I love them with all my heart. Please give a big hug to my mom for me. I know it's hard with my dad, but try to be patient. He means well. I love you, Danny.

*Lights out on house and barracks, go to Radio City Music Hall. If Choir is involved song would be inserted here as Lynne listens to soothing melody on radio. If no choir, go straight into Scene 3 with Grandpa Wynn entering.*

*Scene 3*

- Grandpa:** *(Still in hallway)* Lynne? Lynne? You down there? Sarah wants you...
- Lynne:** Right here, Grandpa Wynn.
- Grandpa:** Why are you sitting here all by yourself?
- Lynne:** Just re-reading some of Danny's letters.
- Grandpa:** You're wasting time with all that nonsense.
- Lynne:** It makes me feel so close to him. *(Trying to find some type of common thread of conversation)* Mr. Wynn, in this last letter it said Danny got moved to an airfield near Archbury. Were you ever around that area?
- Grandpa:** *(Sits down on sofa but is uncomfortable)* No, we never got that far. The farthest we got was South Hampton. Anyway, when I was in the war I hardly ever wrote letters to Eileen. It always seemed to upset her.
- Lynne:** Did you ever ask her if it upset her?
- Grandpa:** What's this? *(Feeling under cushion)* A cow? How did the cow get under this cushion? *(Yelling to Grandma Wynn offstage, upstairs)* Eileen, honey? I found your cow! Look, Lynne. Try to just stay focused on your kids and keeping a good home. Don't think about the war or the stuff he has had to go through. It only makes it more unbearable.
- Lynne:** Is that what you do?
- Grandpa:** Pretty much. Worrying about my boy doesn't do anyone any good.
- Lynne:** I'm not talking about Danny. I mean you. Do you try to focus on something and forget the past? Because Henry, sometimes you seem so lost in the past.
- Grandpa:** I don't think that is any of your concern Lynne. It sounds to me like you're meddling, and I don't take too kindly to folks meddling in my business. You both believe in God and all that stuff, so pray about it or do what ever you do with problems.
- Lynne:** Weren't you the one who taught Danny things about the Bible when he was little?
- Grandpa:** Where are you going with this Lynne?

**Lynne:** I was just trying to figure out where it all went...

**Grandpa:** Wrong? Downhill? Where life didn't seem to make much sense anymore? Is that what you are trying to figure out? Where I changed and became a hard, "Mean ol' Mr. Wynn?"

**Lynne:** Henry, I didn't mean to make you upset. I was trying to understand.

*Grandma enters from upstairs.*

**Grandma:** Understand What?

**Grandpa:** Nothing dear. Just small chitchat. Found your cow under my cushion.

**Grandma:** Ah, yes the cow. *(To the nativity)* Wait a minute. Where's the wiseman?

**Grandpa:** He's right where he should be.

**Grandma:** Not that one. There's another one missing.

**Grandpa:** Eileen what kind of cruel joke are you playing on me here?

**Grandma:** Sit down Henry, before you hurt yourself. It's not me, I promise. Besides, I have bigger fish to fry than finding the other wiseman.

**Lynne:** What do you mean Grandma Wynn?

**Grandma:** Well, every year I try to buy some Christmas gifts early and I put them in safe places around the house. For the life of me, I cannot remember one of those safe places. I'll start in the hall closets.  
*(Exits)*

**Grandpa:** *(To Lynne, referring to Grandma Wynn)* It's a conspiracy, I tell you. She meets with her lady friends for bridge every Tuesday and I know they sit around trying to do concoct unimaginable things to drive their husbands crazy. *(Puts on coat and heads to door)* Well, I'm off to the store.

**Lynne:** I don't think we need anything, Grandpa Wynn. I've already started Christmas dinner.

**Grandpa:** No, this one's for me. I'm going down to Rexall's drug store and stock up on nativity statues. I'll outwit her at her own game. *(Exits)*

**Grandma:** *(Offstage)* Found one! You'll never guess where I put it!

**Lynne:** *(To herself)* Hurry home, Danny. Your parents are driving me crazy.

*Lights out on house.*

#### **Scene 4**

*Lights up on barracks. Danny is writing letter. (CAUTION: Here comes very "churchy" dialogue. It will take your acting to make these words real and not allow on audience to think, "Here we go with the 'God talk.'")*

**Danny:** November 30<sup>th</sup>, 1944. Dear, Lynne. I was sitting here thinking about you. I had time before supper and the place is kind of quiet, so it seemed like a good time to write you. Christmas Eve isn't far away. We don't have to wait much longer. I'm counting the days. Anyway, I was thinking about our wedding day. Remember how you started getting sad when it finally hit you what your last name would be for the rest of your life? Wynn. Lynne Wynn. I laughed so hard. You kept going around saying your new name to yourself trying not to make it rhyme. My stomach hurt from laughing so hard. Make no doubt about it, Lynne Wynn, I'm glad your who you are and...

*Nathan enters.*

**Nathan:** *(Interrupting)* You ready to eat?

**Danny:** One minute, Nathan. Almost done.

**Nathan:** You aren't writing another one of those letters are you?

**Danny:** Yeah, I am. This may be the last letter she gets from me before I get to see her at Christmas.

**Nathan:** I've got to hand it to you, Danny. You've got it all. Even in the midst of this war, you keep living that charmed life.

**Danny:** Well, I don't know about charmed life, but hopefully it's a blessed life. I don't do anything special. I try to live out of one of the greatest commands in scripture ever written.

**Nathan:** Oh yeah, the one about "Thou shalt never dress up like Little Bo Peep?"

**Danny:** No, Nathan. The one that says, "love God, and love your neighbor as yourself."

**Nathan:** Now wait a minute, Danny! I'm going to stop you this time. I listen to you quote your scripture. And no doubt you truly believe what you're saying. But you've read the same reports I have...t hose

factories we're bombing are filled with slave labor camps from Poland, Holland and Russia. Just innocent people. Are they our neighbors?

**Danny:** But...

**Nathan:** So, don't give me that stuff Danny. That's all I'm saying. You quote the Bible and it sounds really nice but the truth is we all know it's every man for himself.

**Danny:** Hold on a minute...

**Nathan:** All I'm asking is that you think about what you're quoting. These people we're bombing... do we love them? You saw the people that have killed our men. Did Buddy Smith deserve what he got? Did Andrew Reed get what he deserved? Did they love him? Do they love us? And if that's what it's saying I have to do... I don't think that's possible.

**Danny:** Listen, I don't have all the answers. I can't help what is going on around us. Somehow I have a peace in the midst of all this. God somehow gives me a peace. I can't help it but it's the way I feel. I am here for you. I do want to get home for Christmas but I'm not done yet and I know... somehow, some way God is in control.

*To read the rest of this script and perform it, download the full version at  
SkitGuys.com!*

**ENDING:**

*Lights out on front porch and lights on to barracks.*

**Danny:** Do something with this fear Nathan.

**Nathan:** It's not fear. It's just common sense.

**Danny:** Look, the one thing that has gotten me through this war has been my faith in God.

**Nathan:** I know. I don't want it. It may work for you but it doesn't for me, Danny.

**Danny:** Then what is holding you back if it isn't your fear?

**Nathan:** Danny, please stop. I'm really tired and I just want to go home.

**Danny:** That's another thing. We've been fighting together for two years. I don't even know where your home is.

**Nathan:** It's all over. My parents both passed away when I was real young. Got passed from orphanage to orphanage.

**Danny:** Is that it, then?

**Nathan:** Is what it?

**Danny:** Is that what's holding you back?

**Nathan:** Stop it already.

**Danny:** You have never realized how much your Heavenly Father could love you since your earthly father was taken from you.

**Nathan:** Danny...

**Danny:** What you're missing out on is that God gave the ultimate sacrifice, His son, so we could live. Our Heavenly Father gave His own son so that we may have life and that love cannot be taken from you.

**Nathan:** I guess I don't feel that lovable. There, I said it.

**Danny:** Nathan, it's called grace. It's undeserved favor.

**Plat Leader:** Lieutenant Cagle.

**Nathan:** Sir.

**Plat Leader:** We brief in fifteen minutes. Your last mission will be flown in O-eight-hundred hours. It will be the worst mission yet, so get some sleep. Danny, congratulations on thirty-five. You'll be missed around here. Have a good Christmas. One last favor... make sure he gets some sleep.

**Danny:** Yes, sir.

**Nathan:** How's my co-pilot?

**Plat Leader:** I'm sorry; he's in critical condition. He'll be flying home early for Christmas. But you'll have a replacement before morning. Briefing in twelve minutes. *(Exits)*

**Danny:** What happened to your co-pilot?

**Nathan:** Our last mission he was shot pretty bad from the back.

**Danny:** I'll fly with you.

**Nathan:** Are you crazy?

**Danny:** No, just committed.

**Nathan:** Uh, that's what they do with crazy people.

**Danny:** No, I'm committed to you. To you getting through this war. You know as well as I do that if they put an inexperienced pilot with you you're probability of surviving goes down to zero.

**Nathan:** Your time is done. You're supposed to be home Christmas Eve. You already accomplished your 35<sup>th</sup> mission.

**Danny:** I know. But it looks like I have one more mission to fly.

**Nathan:** You're serious?

**Danny:** Yes, I am.

**Nathan:** You'd do that for me?

**Danny:** Yes. That's what we do for one another.

**Nathan:** What do you want in return?

**Danny:** Nothing.

**Nathan:** Kind of like your God.

**Danny:** What?

**Nathan:** Kind of like God giving his son Jesus. Asking nothing in return but for us to just accept his gift of life.

**Danny:** I couldn't have said it better myself. *(Pause)* You ready?

**Nathan:** Yeah, I am.

**Danny:** Let's do it. *(Starts to walk out of barracks. Sees Nathan bending down as if praying)*

**Nathan:** Let's do it.

**Danny:** Nate, what are you doing?

**Nathan:** I'm ready. Isn't this the ready position?

**Danny:** Yeah, it's the greatest position you'll ever be in your whole life. I want to lead you through a prayer.

*As lights fade out as you can hear Danny leading Nathan through prayer.*

**Scene 4 - Radio studio**

**Announcer:** From Radio City Music Hall, we want to make sure you know what Christmas is truly about...

*Go into song, "Once and for All."*

**Scene 5**

*Lights up on house after song - Christmas Eve Night*

**Grandma:** Well, I think we are getting somewhere. I've found the gifts, the nativity set is the way it should be, and we are ready to have Christmas whenever you're ready Lynne.

**Lynne:** I know we didn't open presents this morning but I just wanted to hold out for Danny.

**Grandma:** It may be good for the kids if we did honey.

**Lynne:** I guess I'm being selfish, huh?

**Grandma:** No, just very human.

**Lynne:** You're right. Daniel, Sarah?

**Daniel/Sarah:** Now can we open our presents?

**Lynne:** Just one. We'll open more tomorrow. Besides, we know the true meaning of what Christmas is all about, don't we?

**Sarah:** I do! I even helped baby Jesus find a new home.

**Grandpa:** So, you were the one.

**Grandma:** I'm forgetful Henry, but not that forgetful.

**Lynne:** Let's open some of these gifts, shall we? Daniel, this one is yours. Sarah, here's yours.

**Grandpa:** Before we do that, I think there is one thing we need to do.



**Lynne:** What's that Grandpa Wynn?

**Grandpa:** I think we need to pray. *(Everyone stares at him)* I know I haven't modeled a lot of this... but under the circumstances... I think we need to come together... as a family... and pray...

**Lynne:** I'd like that.

**Grandma:** Kids, come quickly. Something's happened to Grandpa.

*Family joins in circle for prayer. As Grandpa Wynn starts to pray Sean, Nathan and Danny walk in door.*

**Grandpa:** Lord, it's me. I know we haven't talked in awhile. I've got no excuses for you. I'm here though, to ask for strength for my son. Faith for our family. Something I've been missing for quite a long time now.

**Danny:** Glad to see you finally getting it back.

*Everyone looks up from prayer and runs and greets and hugs.*

**Lynne:** Where were you? I was so...

**Danny:** I'll explain everything later. The important thing is I'm home. Do we have room for one more for our Christmas supper?

**Grandma:** Always room for one more.

**Daniel & Sarah:** Come see my room, Daddy!

**Danny:** I'll be there in a minute. But first I have a bag of goodies for both of you. Go upstairs and I'll be up in a minute. Nathan, I'd like you to meet my wife, Lynne.

**Nathan:** Nice to meet you. Nathan Cagle.

**Lynne:** I've heard about you from Danny's letters. Welcome.

**Sean:** You should have seen my look when I saw him get off the train. I had waited there all day and was just about to call it a day... and then he walks through the gates.

**Lynne:** So glad you did. Thanks Sean for waiting and keeping a look out for him.

**Sean:** Not a problem. Gave me something to do besides listening to Henry. No offense, Henry.

- Grandpa:** None taken. I realize I've been a bear to be around.
- Sean:** A bear? I don't even think that would even be the right animal to describe how you've been... I mean...
- Lynne:** Sean, isn't there something you should be doing?
- Sean:** No, can't think of anything. I mean I've been waiting at that depot for a long time. All I want to do is sit back... *(Sees Lynne looking at him with a stern face)*... and help Grandma Wynn start supper.
- Grandpa :** *(Hugs Danny)* Welcome home, son. I have to admit, I didn't know what to...
- Danny:** It's okay, Pop. The important thing is you're finishing strong.
- Grandpa :** Yeah. Nathan, how about coming to the front porch with me and telling me about your flights. That stuff fascinates me. I remember in World War I... *(Starts walking out front door)*
- Nathan:** So, this is what being a part of a family is like?
- Danny:** Go easy on him. He's new at being nice.
- Grandpa :** I heard that.

*Lynne and Danny are the only ones left in house.*

- Danny:** So, Lynne Wynn. Did you miss me?
- Lynne:** Not really. I've been busy.
- Danny:** I see.
- Lynne:** Did you miss me?
- Danny:** Pretty busy, too. You know - with all the guns and planes and war and stuff.
- Lynne:** I see.
- Danny:** Lynne?
- Lynne:** Yeah.
- Danny:** Promise me something.
- Lynne:** Anything.

**Danny:** Promise me that we never have to miss each other this badly ever again.

**Lynne:** Promise. I promise.

*They kiss each other and choir sings "I'll be home for Christmas." All family comes in and joins in reunion.*

*After song is over, Announcer may dismiss the audience saying it's the end of the broadcast. "Goodnight, so long." A few words from Music Minister, or Pastor can also be used at end of show.*

*The end.*