

A script from



“Merry Christmas?”

by
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- What** Can Christmas still be merry when everything seems anything but?
Themes: Joy, Perspective
- Who** Narrator 1
Narrator 2
Narrator 3
- When** Present; Christmas
- Wear (Props)** If script isn't memorized, then each Narrator should have a black binder.
- Why** Isaiah 9:6, Romans 12:2, Luke 2:10-11
- How** You can really emphasize the chaos of Christmas with the pacing of this script. During rehearsal, mark where you will grow in intensity and slow your pacing. Even if you are reading your script, be familiar with the words so you won't have to keep your head in the binder. Stay on top of your queues.
- Time** Approximately 4 minutes

Narrators stand facing the audience speaking to them directly.

Until later noted, every time a Narrator says "Merry Christmas" it is spoken in some cynical, annoyed, sarcastic or otherwise tongue in cheek tone.

Narrator 1: The lights I bought for the tree aren't supposed to blink but they started blinking. Like, strobe light blinking. I can't make them stop. They keep blinking and blinking and blinking. Merry Christmas.

Narrator 2: The heads of my little gingerbread men cookies I made keep breaking off. It makes my three-year-old scream...every time. Merry Christmas.

Narrator 3: My secret Santa bought me deodorant. *(Pause)* Deodorant. *(Pretending to hand someone a gift)* Merry Christmas.

Narrator 1: My kid wants that talking toy bear thing they keep advertising with that annoying jingle that I can't get out of my head. Y'know. *(Singing and snapping ending in a pose with "jazz hands")* He'll dance into your heaaaart. *(Not singing)* They're sold out...everywhere. *(With jazz hands and posing)* Merry Christmas.

Narrator 3: My boss may have let slip at our company Christmas party that there will be cutbacks in the new year. *(Two thumbs up)* Merry Christmas.

Narrator 1: *(Singing annoyingly and snapping)* He'll dance into your heaaaart. *(Jazz hands)*

Narrator 2: Another band concert listening to yet another earsplitting rendition of Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer. *(Covering ears)* Merry Christmas.

Narrator 3: The kids want a dog and somebody promised them Santa would bring one. Merry Christmas.

Narrator 1: The in-laws are coming...for three weeks. *(With a big fake smile and feigned cheer)* Merry Christmas.

Narrator 2: What?

Narrator 1: You don't celebrate Christmas?

Narrator 3: Oh, uh...well then...

Narrator 2: Happy Holidays!

Narrator 1: Seasons Greetings!

Narrator 3: Merry Winter Solstice!

Narrator 2: Good Yuletide to you and yours!

Narrator 1: Happy Festivus!

Narrator 3: *(Pronouncing the "X")* Merry XMas?

Narrator 1: *(With great energy)* Happy New Year! *(Very matter of fact to the audience)* Playing it safe.

Pause

Narrator 2: I've gained ten pounds since October.

Narrator 3: The tree is drying out.

Narrator 1: I can't remember where I hid all the gifts.

All: Merry Christmas.

Narrator 2: I'm getting an ulcer.

Narrator 3: My credit card is maxed out.

Narrator 1: I burned the mashed potatoes.

Narrator 3: How do you burn mashed potatoes?

Narrator 1: I don't know, but I did.

All: Merry Christmas.

Narrator 3: I forgot about the homemade cookie exchange. *(Pondering to self out loud)* Do Oreos look homemade?

Narrator 1: I didn't get the Christmas cards out in time. I guess it's *(using air quotes)* "Happy New Years cards" for everyone.

Narrator 2: I fear those bell ringers outside of all the stores. I swear! I don't have any change on me! Who carries cash? Please don't think I hate the needy.

All: Merry Christmas.

Narrator 2: Batteries not included?

Narrator 3: Merry Christmas.

Narrator 1: Your flight is canceled.

Narrator 2: Merry Christmas.

Narrator 3: This song is on again?! Ugh.

Narrator 1: *(Singing)* Merry Christmas.

Narrator 3: I forgot the cranberry sauce.

Narrator 2: I forgot to get my wife something.

Narrator 1: I forgot...I forget what I forgot.

All: Merry Christmas.

Narrator 3: I haven't wrapped a single present. *(Pause)* It's Christmas Eve.

Narrator 2: I haven't bought a single present.

Narrator 1: It's Christmas Eve!

Narrator 2: I know it's Christmas Eve!

All: Merry Christmas.

Narrator 3: The kids are fighting dressing up for the service.

Narrator 1: I have to thaw the turkey first?

Narrator 3: We're going caroling tonight. I can't sing. And it's raining.

Narrator 2: They better not run out of hot chocolate and cookies afterwards like they did last year.

Narrator 1: They're out of hot chocolate and cookies.

Narrator 3: *(To Narrator 2)* Merry Christmas.

Pause as they all are exasperated and overwhelmed for a moment and begin to think to themselves...

Narrator 2: Why is it so hard to find joy in the world during this season?

Narrator 3: Why is the decking of halls and the jingling of bells making me so crazy when Christmas gave us the Prince of Peace?

Narrator 1: Who took the Merry out of Christmas?

Pause.

Narrator 3: And who will put it back?

"Merry Christmas?"

Pause

Narrator 1: I will.

Narrator 2: I will.

Narrator 3: I will.

Narrator 1: So what if the cat keeps eating and then throwing up the tinsel hanging on the Christmas tree. *(With sincere jubulance)* Merry Christmas!

Narrator 2: And so what if the kids insist that transformers and Pokémon sit on the mantle right next to Jesus in the manger scene. *(Sincerely)* Merry Christmas!

Narrator 3: And so what if the sermon on Christmas Eve is so long it puts me to sleep.

Pause as they look at one another and then agree.

All: *(Ad lib)* No, actually that's not ok. No, definitely shouldn't ramble on too long. That's just not acceptable. That's too far. etc.

Narrator 1: As long as Jesus is still the reason for the season it's sure to be a...

All: Merry Christmas!

Exit.