

“Twas the Night”

by
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What In this rhyming skit for kids, a bunch of toys waiting under a tree compete to be the best gift that year. The angel on the tree reminds them Who is the greatest gift of all.

Themes: Christmas, Gifts, Toys, Jesus, Angel, Children

Who	Speaking roles:	Non-speaking roles:
	Narrator 1	Bear
	Narrator 2	Alien
	Knight	Kitten
	Grinch	*As many other toys as needed.
	Kim (cowgirl)	
	Robot	
	Doll	
	Angel	

When Present

Wear (Props) Decorated Christmas tree
Ladder or platform for the angel
Optional large gift boxes for the toys to hide in or behind.
Performers can be dressed up as the toy they are playing.
Narrators can wear something simple or perhaps something Christmas themed.

Why John 3:16, Romans 6:23, Isaiah 9:6

How Encourage the performers to speak slowly and confidently and help them figure out the rhythm of the poem so each line flows together, especially when the verses change between characters. You may wish to have a smaller Christmas tree with a platform behind it so the angel doesn't have to be up too high. You may also have an adult hiding behind the tree in dark colours to safely assist the angel's performer. If it is too difficult to have the angel "on top" of the tree, you could have her hiding behind instead and adjust a couple of the lines.

Time Approximately 4 minutes

*Lights up on a Christmas tree with several children dressed as toys underneath and a young girl dressed as an angel on the top. **Narrator** and **Narrator 2** begin a poem.*

Narrator 1: Twas the night before Christmas,
And all through the house,
Not a creature was stirring,
Not even a mouse.

Narrator 2: The clock had struck midnight,
The kids were in bed.
A single voice could be heard...

*The **Knight** begins to move, stretching as he comes to life.*

Knight: I'm so bored!

Narrator 2: It said.

Narrator 1: The voice came not from a girl,
It came not from a boy,
Not from a human at all.
The voice came from a toy.

*The toys appear to come to life as they interact. The **Angel** on top of the tree remains still.*

Grinch: Oh, tell me about it!

Narrator 1: Another replied.

Kim: But it's Christmas tomorrow,
So get up. Look alive!

Narrator 2: A toy cowgirl named Kim
Stood from under the tree.
And waved to her friends
As she said...

Kim: Follow me.

***Kim** leads the other toys out from under the tree and they stand in a line, facing the audience.*

Narrator 1: One by one,
All the little toys stood
And moved into a line
Just as fast as they could.

The cowgirl, the knight,
Then the robot and bear.
The alien, then the kitten
And the doll with long hair.

Grinch: And me, of course!
Not that you guys would care.

Kim: Tomorrow's the day...

Narrator 1: Said Kim with a grin.

Kim: When we finally know
Which toy will win.
Tomorrow, we find out
Which toy is the best,
Which gift is the favourite
Above all the rest.

Narrator 2: The knight raised his hand
And said...

Knight: It is me.
I am brave, I am shiny
And the batteries came free.

The toys each show off their various traits as they speak.

Robot: No.

Narrator 2: Said the robot...

Robot: In fact, it is I.
I have so many buttons,
And I can fly.

Narrator 1: Next, the doll chimed in...

Doll: None of you stand a chance.
I'm pretty, I'm colorful,
And I can dance.

Grinch: But what about me?
I'm fluffy and green
And when I'm in a good mood
I'm not even mean!

Narrator 1: The toys started to fight
As they couldn't agree
On who the most favourite
Present would be.

Narrator 2: They fought for so long
And they still didn't see
Another toy hanging
Up high on the tree.

Angel: Excuse me.

Narrator 1: She said,
Her voice soft and small.
The toys look around to see who just spoke.

Angel: But none of you are
The best present at all.

*The toys look up at the tree and see the **Angel**.*

Narrator 1: The toys all fell silent
As they looked up to behold
An angel dressed in white,
Her wings lined with gold.

Kim: What do you mean?

Narrator 2: Said Kim in dismay.

Kim: A gift better than me?
Nuh-huh, there's no way.

Angel: Have you heard of Jesus?

Narrator 2: The angel then said.
Kim fell silent,
And then shook her head.

Angel: He was just a baby
That first Christmas day.
Born in Bethlehem,
In a manger of hay.
He was the first Christmas gift,
The best ever there was.
God sent him here
From Heaven because...

He loves people so much
He wants them to be free.

Narrator 1: Then the angel slowly
Came down from the tree.
The angel comes down and stands amongst the toys.

Angel: He died on a cross
So that people could live.
What greater gift
Could anyone give?

Kim: I don't know.

Narrator 1: Said Kim.

Kim: I guess maybe you're right.
The best gift was given
To the whole world that night.

Narrator 1: The angel nodded
And then the doll said...

Doll: That means Christmas is all
About Jesus instead.

Angel: Well, toys are still great
So the children can play
But Jesus is the best present
On Christmas day.

Narrator 2: One by one
They returned to the tree,
Still excited for what
Tomorrow would be.

Narrator 1: Now they knew the best gift
Came not from a store,
Because Jesus is the greatest
Present of all.

Lights out.