

## **Christmas AUDITION READINGS**

### **Females** – elementary & middle school age

*Please prepare one of the following monologues from the “Charlie Brown” characters, as well as the part of “Tootie” in the “Meet Me in St. Louis” scene (we may not need you to read the scene, but look it over in case we ask you to read at least part of it)*

#### **FEMALE CHARACTER MONOLOGUE OPTIONS (“Charlie Brown Christmas”)**

**Lucy Monologue #1:** Well, as they say on TV, the mere fact that you realize you need help indicates that you are not too far gone. I think we’d better pinpoint your fears. If we can find out what you’re afraid of, we can label it. Are you afraid of responsibility? If you are, then you have hypengyophobia. How about cats? If you’re afraid of cats, you have ailurophasia. Are you afraid of staircases? If you are, then you have climacophobia. Maybe you have thalassophobia. This is fear of the ocean, or gephyrobia, which is the fear of crossing bridges. Or maybe you have pantophobia. Do you think you have pantophobia?

**Lucy Monologue #2:** You need involvement, Charlie Brown. You need to get involved in some real Christmas project. How would you like to be the director of our Christmas play? We need a director. You need involvement. We’ve got a shepherd, musicians, animals, everyone we need. We’ve even got a Christmas Queen. And don’t worry. I’ll be there to help you. I’ll meet you at the auditorium. Incidentally, I know how you feel about all this Christmas business, getting depressed and all that. It happens to me every year. I never get what I really want. I always get a lot of stupid toys or a bicycle or clothes or something like that. But what I really want is real estate.

**Sally Monologue:** I’ve been looking for you, big brother. Will you please write a letter to Santa Claus for me? You write it and I’ll tell you what I want to say. “Dear Santa Claus, how’ve you been? Did you have a nice summer? How is your wife? I have been extra good this year, so I have a long list of presents that I want. Please note the size and color of each item and send as many as possible. If it seems too complicated, make it easy on yourself. Just send money. How about tens and twenties?”

**Female Character Monologue (Frieda, Violet, Patty):** Boy, are you stupid, Charlie Brown. What kind of tree is that? You were supposed to get a good tree. Can’t you even tell a good tree from a poor tree? I told you he’d goof it up. He’s not the kind you can depend on to do anything right. You’re hopeless, Charlie Brown. Completely hopeless. You’ve been dumb before, Charlie Brown. But this time, you really did it. What a tree! We’re doomed! This will be the worst Christmas play ever.

**Females** – high school / adult

*Please read the part of Esther in this scene (younger females MAY be asked to read for Tootie)*

ESTHER: Tootie, you're still awake.

TOOTIE: (UPSET) I can't go to sleep, I can't! Oh, Esther, how will Santa Claus know where to find us next year? We'll be in New York.

ESTHER: Aw, you can't fool him! He can find anybody he wants to find.

TOOTIE: If he brings me any toys, I'm taking them with me! I'm taking my dolls -- and the dead ones, too! ... I'm taking everything!

ESTHER: Of course you are. You won't have to leave anything behind -- except your snowmen, of course.

TOOTIE: My snowmen!

ESTHER: We'd look pretty silly trying to get the snowmen on the train, now wouldn't we?

TOOTIE: (DISTRESSED) Snowmen! My snowmen.

ESTHER: Tootie, come back here.

TOOTIE: My poor little snowmen! What's going to happen to them? (MOVING OFF, HYSTERICAL) Snowmen! Snowmen!

TOOTIE: (CRYING, CONTINUES IN BG)

ESTHER: (SOOTHING) Tootie darling, it's all right. It's all right.

ALONZO: (QUIETLY WORRIED) But what on earth happened, Esther? What was Tootie doing in the backyard?

ESTHER: She just ran out, papa, and started to smash all her snowmen.

TOOTIE: (THROUGH SOBS) Nobody's gonna have my snowmen! Not if we're moving to New York!

ESTHER: Oh, don't cry, darling! You can build other snowmen in New York.

TOOTIE: No, you can't! You can't do anything in New York like you can in St. Louis! (CONTINUES TO SOB IN BG)

ALONZO: You sure she'll be all right?

ESTHER: Yes, papa, you go back to bed. I'll take care of her.

ALONZO: Well -- good night, Esther. (EXITS, BUT STAYS WITHIN EARSHOT)

ESTHER: Good night.

ESTHER: Oh, Tootie darling, New York's a wonderful place! Wait till you see the fine home we're going to have, and the friends we're going to make. (EMOTIONAL) But the main thing, Tootie, is -- we're all going to be together just like we've always been! That's what really counts. We could be happy anywhere -- as long as we're together!

## **Christmas AUDITION READINGS**

### **Males** – elementary / middle school age

Please prepare one of the following monologues from the “Charlie Brown” characters, as well as one of the characters in the “Best Little Christmas Pageant” scene (we may not need you to read the scene, but look it over in case we ask you to read at least part of it)

#### **MALE CHARACTER MONOLOGUE OPTIONS**

**Charlie Brown Monologue #1:** Well, it’s real good seeing you all here. As you know, we are going to put on the Christmas play. Due to the shortage of time, we’ll get right down to work. One of the first things to ensure a good performance, pay strict attention to the director. I’ll keep my direction simple. If I point to the right, it means focus attention stage right. If I make a slashing motion across my throat, it means cut the scene short. If I make a revolving motion with my hand, it means pick up the temp. If I spread my hands apart, it means slow down. It’s the spirit of the actors that counts. The interest that they show in their director. Am I right? I said, am I right?

**Charlie Brown Monologue #2:** I guess you were right, Linus. I shouldn’t have picked this little tree. Everything I do turns into a disaster. I guess I really don’t know what Christmas is all about. Isn’t there anyone who knows what Christmas is all about? I won’t let all this commercialism ruin my Christmas. I’ll take this little tree home and decorate it, and I’ll show them it really will work in our play. (*Charlie Brown picks up an ornament, hangs it on the little tree. Tree slumps over from the weight of the ornament.*) I’ve killed it! Oh, everything I touch gets ruined!

**Linus Monologue:** Sure, Charlie Brown. I can tell you what Christmas is all about. Lights, please? *And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, Keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord shone round about them, and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, “Fear not: for, behold, I bring you tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you. Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” That’s what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown*

Christmas audition scene from "Best Little Christmas Pageant Ever"

*(two males – please be prepared to read if we ask)*

CHARLIE. Hey, Leroy, you give me back my lunch!

LEROY. Sure, kid, here. *(hands him a lunch bag)*

CHARLIE. *(looks inside)* You stole my dessert again!

LEROY. How do you know?

CHARLIE. Because it isn't here.

LEROY. What was it?

CHARLIE. Two Twinkies.

LEROY. That's right. That's what it was. *(starts to leave)*

CHARLIE. Hey, Leroy! You think it's so great to steal my dessert every day and you know what? I don't care if you steal my dessert. I'll even give you my dessert. I get all the dessert I want in Sunday school.

LEROY. *(interested in this)* Oh, yeah? What kind of dessert?

CHARLIE. All kinds. Chocolate cake and candy bars and cookies . . . and Twinkies and Big Wheels. We get refreshments all the time, all we want.

LEROY. You're a liar.

CHARLIE. . . . and ice cream, and doughnuts and cupcakes and . . .

LEROY. Who gives it to you?

CHARLIE. *(momentarily stumped)* Uh . . . the minister.

LEROY. Why? Is he crazy?

CHARLIE. No. . . . I think he's rich.

LEROY. *(pause)* . . . Sunday school, huh?

## **Christmas AUDITION READINGS**

**Males** – high school / adult

### **Scene from “It’s a Wonderful Life”**

**George Bailey:**

“Just a minute, Mr. Potter. You’re right when you say that my father was no business man. Why he ever started this Building and Loan, I’ll never know. But you can’t say anything against his character. Why, in the twenty-five years since he and Uncle Billy started this thing, he never once thought of himself. But he did help a few people get out of your slums, Mr. Potter. And just remember that this rabble that you’re talking about do most of the working and paying and living and dying in this community. Well, is it too much to have them work and pay and live and die in a couple of decent rooms and a bath? My father didn’t think so. People were human beings to him, but to you--a warped, frustrated old man--they’re cattle! In my book he died a much richer man than you’ll ever be!”