

# Who Stole Christmas

The Original Stageplay



Cleveland O. McLeish

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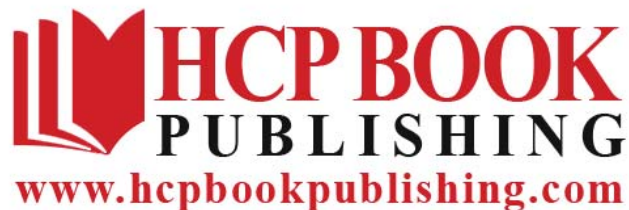
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## Characters

JOHN	-	Adult Role (Male)
ANNA	-	Adult Role (Female)
MARY	-	Child (Female)
JUNE	-	Child (Female)
PAUL	-	Child (Male)
SAMUEL	-	Child (Male)
RICKY	-	Child (Male)
JAMES	-	Adult Role. Ricky's father.
MARSHA	-	Adult Role (Female)
JILL	-	Adult Role (Female)
JACK	-	Adult Role (Male)
MARK	-	Adult Role (Male)
STACY	-	Adult Role (Female)
EXTRAS		

## Settings

The stage should be designed with a living room Stage Left or Stage Right, and a section representing the outdoors for community gathering, and even a family bar-be-que.

You are limited only by your imagination.

## The Story

This is the story of parents who cannot afford to buy the gifts their children want and children who believe that Christmas without presents is no Christmas at all. This Christmas, these parents have a plan that will force their children to seek out the real significance of Christmas.

In the end, they learn that it's not about the material gifts they receive during this season, but Christmas is about the greatest gift we have ever received.

## Play Details

**Length:** 30-45 Minutes

**Cast:** 4 Males, 4 Females, 5 Children, Plus Extras

**Audience:** Children, Teens & Adults

**Genre:** Contemporary Drama

# THE SCRIPT





## SCENE 1

**LIGHTS UP**

**CAPTION: CHRISTMAS DAY**

*Two children, Mary and June, runs onstage. They are crying.*

*Their father, John, enters.*

**JOHN:** What's going on, girls?

**MARY:** Dad, you promised.

**JOHN:** What are you talking about?

**JUNE:** You didn't put out the stockings.

**MARY:** Santa Claus has come, and he left nothing. No gifts.

**JUNE:** Our Christmas is ruined.

**MARY:** Why, Dad? Why?

*Pause.*

**JOHN:** I did put out the stockings the day before Christmas Eve.

**MARY:** Well, there is no stocking, and there are no gifts.

**JUNE:** Our Christmas is ruined.

*Their mother, Anna, enters.*

**ANNA:** What's going on, John?

**JOHN:** I think someone stole Christmas!

**LIGHTS OUT**

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**CAPTION: THREE DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS DAY**

**LIGHTS UP**

*Mary, June, Paul, and Samuel are onstage. Paul and Samuel are the kids from next door.*

**PAUL:** This is gonna be the best Christmas ever.

**SAMUEL:** I hope Santa Claus got my list early.

**MARY:** He better. I have an iPod and iPhone on my list.

**JUNE:** Tommy Hilfiger top, bottom and shoes for me. I'm changing my look for the new year.

**PAUL:** X-box, a touch screen LG cookie and a Toshiba Satellite State of the art laptop is just a few of the things I am expecting this year.

*Pause.*

**PAUL:** What about you, Samuel?

**SAMUEL:** I just need a car.

**MARY:** You are only ten. Whatcha doing with a car?

**SAMUEL:** I'll have my drivers license in six years.

**JUNE:** Be realistic, boy. Santa Claus not bringing a car for no ten year old.

**SAMUEL:** But, I've been good. I tried to brush my teeth and take a bath at least once a day. I help my mom with chores once a week, and I helped an old lady cross the street in June.

**MARY:** Wow. Impressive, Sam. Maybe Santa will bring you one of those cars you pull back and let go.

**PAUL:** If you're that lucky.

**SAMUEL:** You guys are always making fun of me.

**JUNE:** That's cuz your head is stuck in the clouds.

**SAMUEL:** We'll see who gets the last laugh this Christmas.

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*John enters holding decorations.*

**JOHN:** Okay. Which one a you kids gonna help me put up the decorations?

*Pause. No response.*

**JOHN:** Which one a you kids gonna help me put up the decorations for a fee?

**MARY:** The going rate is ten to one.

**JOHN:** Ten dollars for one hour?

**JUNE:** Take it or leave it, dad.

*Pause.*

**JOHN:** You guys drive a hard bargain but since I can't do this myself, we have a deal.

**MARY:** And, dad, you promised to put up the stockings last night. Santa is coming in three days.

**JOHN:** Yeah, doesn't that mean I have three days to do it?

**JUNE:** Dad, you procrastinate too much.

*The kids take the decorations and exit leaving John slightly speechless.*

**JOHN:** That sounds like something your mother would say. *(sighs)* Kids!

**LIGHTS OUT**

## SCENE 2

**CAPTION: TWO DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS DAY**

**LIGHTS UP**

*Anna & John are onstage going over their daughters Christmas list.*

**JOHN:** Have you seen this list?

**ANNA:** Yes I have.

**JOHN:** We can't afford to buy these this year.

**ANNA:** I know. But they will be devastated if they wake up on Christmas morning and there are no gifts.

**JOHN:** I don't even know what an iPod is! And the prices on these items is ridiculous. If we buy anything from this list, we're gonna be flat broke.

**ANNA:** We can't spoil their Christmas.

**JOHN:** When did Christmas become about buying expensive gifts? That's not how we were grown.

**ANNA:** Our kids are born into a new generation. The traditional celebrations don't appeal very much to them.

*John gets up. He's frustrated and confused.*

*A few other parents come over.*

*Jack & Jill, Stacy and Mark & David and Marsha. They are all holding lists.*

**DAVID:** What's wrong with kids these days? An x-box? Do you guys have any idea how much that thing costs?

**STACY:** This is a catastrophe.

**MARK:** Our own children are gonna force us into bankruptcy.

**JACK:** It's hard enough already to meet the bills.