

# **The Best Christmas Ever**

The Original Stageplay



Cleveland O. McLeish

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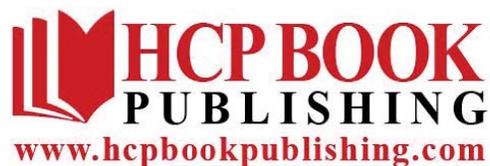
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## Characters

GRANDMA	Maurice and Nikki's grandmother. She has recently been diagnosed with cancer. She has complete trust in God.
KENDRA	Maurice and Nikki's mom. She is worried about her kids and how they are handling the pressures of their grandmother's illness. She has total trust in God.
MAURICE	A teenage boy who is starting to lose his way due to the pressures of his grandmother's illness, school, and basketball.
NIKKI	Maurice's sister. She is also having a hard time with the pressures of her grandmother's illness.
MR. STEVENS	A teacher at the school. He is concerned about Maurice and Nikki. He has full faith in God's providence.
MR. ALLEN	A teacher at the school. Non-singing part.
MR. JOHNSON	A teacher at the school who is always joyful due to his faith in Jesus.
MRS. WILLIAMS	A teacher at the school. She is very concerned about her students. She glorifies God in all she does.
TREVOR	A friend of Maurice's. He is a bit of a troublemaker.
JEREMY	Maurice's best friend. A faithful Christian.
MIKE	Maurice's friend. A faithful Christian.
MARCUS	A friend of Maurice's. Also a bit of a troublemaker.
ASHLEY	Nikki's friend. A faithful Christian.
KAYLA	Nikki's best friend. A faithful Christian.
SHAUNA	Another friend of Nikki's.
KRISTEN	Another friend of Nikki's.

## Setting

The play takes place in two locations: Maurice and Nikki's Living Room and a Classroom at the School. It is Christmas time.

## Time

The present.

## SONGS

- Song 1 TRUST IN THE LORD by Jaci Velasquez
- Song 2 MADE A WAY by Travis Greene
- Song 3 JESUS YOU'RE THE CENTER OF MY JOY by Richard Smallwood
- Song 4 WHO WOULD IMAGINE A KING by Whitney Houston
- Song 5 INTENTIONAL by Travis Greene
- Song 6 ADORE by Jaci Velasquez
- Song 7 STAND by John P. Kee
- Song 8 I SURRENDER ALL by CeCe Winans
- Song 9 YOU ARE GREAT by Juanita Bynum

## The Story

A family must come to grips with Grandma's recent diagnosis. Those most affected are the two children, but the circumstances they are facing will lead to their salvation during this Christmas season, and there is a miracle waiting for them.

## Play Details

**Cast:** 8 Males | 8 Females | Plus Extras (Male & Female)

**Length:** 60 Minutes

**Genre:** Contemporary | Biblical Drama (With Well Known Songs)

# THE SCRIPT



## ACT I - SCENE 1

### LIGHTS UP

*(Maurice and Nikki's living room. The room is small and intimate. The furniture clean, but well worn. A couch sits in the middle of the room. A worn, yet comfortable looking recliner sits angled on one side of the couch; an armchair on the other side. A small, table-top Christmas tree sits on a banged up coffee table. A small fireplace is along the back wall. Four stockings hang on the mantelpiece.)*

*(GRANDMA, dressed in a nice pair of pajamas, with a warm robe and slippers on, is reclined in the recliner with a cozy looking throw blanket on top of her. She watches as KENDRA, her daughter, hangs tiny ornaments on their small Christmas tree.)*

**GRANDMA:** *(Pointing at a spot on the tree.)* Right there's a bare spot, Kendra.

**KENDRA:** Where?

**GRANDMA:** To your left.

**KENDRA:** *(Finds the spots. Hangs an ornament.)* Nobody would have seen it, Mom.

**GRANDMA:** But I'd know. And it'd bug me. It's my OPD.

**KENDRA:** OPD? What in the world is that?

**GRANDMA:** Ornament Placement Disorder.

*(KENDRA laughs.)*

**GRANDMA:** It's a very serious disorder, Kendra. You shouldn't laugh.

**KENDRA:** Sure it is. You're gonna drive your only daughter up the wall with it. Where'd you come up with that anyway?

**GRANDMA:** I found it on the Facebook.

*(They laugh. NIKKI and MAURICE enter, dressed up. MAURICE wears a pair of dress pants with a button up dress shirt. NIKKI wears a green dress. She's fussing with her hair.)*

**MAURICE:** What's so funny?

**KENDRA:** Oh your Grandma's been getting all sorts of ideas from Facebook.

**MAURICE:** Oh no, Grandma's on the Interwebs. That means it's not cool anymore, you know.

**GRANDMA:** Are you saying I'm not cool?

*(They all laugh, except for NIKKI, who is still fussing with her hair.)*

**NIKKI:** You sure it looks fine?

**MAURICE:** Your hair looks fine, Sis. I don't know why you're so worried about it.

**NIKKI:** I don't know. I guess I thought if my hair looked good I'd feel better about going.

**GRANDMA:** Your hair looks lovely, Nikki.

**NIKKI:** Thanks, Grandma. How are you feeling today?

**GRANDMA:** Well, I woke up to a brand new day, thanks to God. So, I'm feeling great.

**NIKKI:** You're always so positive, Grandma. I wish I could be like you. *(To KENDRA)* Mom, can I borrow your pearl necklace? I think it'd look great with this dress.

**KENDRA:** If you promise not to lose it like you did my earrings.

**NIKKI:** I promise.

**KENDRA:** Still don't know how you managed that.

**NIKKI:** It's my special talent, I guess. Is it in your room?

**KENDRA:** Yep. In the jewelry box. Bring it here, and I'll fasten it good and tight for you.

*(NIKKI leaves the room. MAURICE goes over to GRANDMA.)*

**MAURICE:** Have you heard anything from the doctors yet, Grandma?

**GRANDMA:** Not yet, Maurice.

*(NIKKI enters, carrying a necklace. KENDRA helps her put it on.)*

**MAURICE:** I hate that they take forever with these test results.

**GRANDMA:** Ain't nothing we can do about it, honey. Other than pray. We'll get answers when God sees fit to give them.

**NIKKI:** Are you sure you're alright with us going out?

**KENDRA:** Yes. We're sure.

**MAURICE:** It doesn't seem right. Not with you being so sick, Grandma.

**NIKKI:** Yeah. I'm not really in the celebrating mood this year. Cancer sucks. And this is going to be the worst Christmas ever.

**GRANDMA:** Don't say that. It's Christmas time. You should celebrate.

**MAURICE:** Why? What good is it?

**GRANDMA:** Because Jesus was born. That's always worth celebrating.

*(MAURICE and KENDRA exchange doubtful looks with one another.)*

**KENDRA:** One day you two will see it. And you'll be celebrating too.

**MAURICE:** I don't know how either one of you can feel like celebrating.

**NIKKI:** Aren't you sad? Or worried? Or anything?

**KENDRA:** Kids, all we can do is trust in God and pray.

**MAURICE:** I don't know how you do that when everything's been so bad lately.

**SONG 1: TRUST IN THE LORD (Kendra Sings)**

**NIKKI:** That's nice and everything, but it sure isn't easy.

**MAURICE:** No. It isn't.

**KENDRA:** You'll understand someday.

**GRANDMA:** Now go on to your party.

*(NIKKI and MAURICE look as if they are going to protest. But GRANDMA gives them a look that they dare not argue with. They go to her, give her kisses goodbye, then hug KENDRA goodbye. They exit.)*

**KENDRA:** I pray to God every day that they'll get it someday.

**GRANDMA:** Me too. And it will happen someday, Kendra. They just gotta figure it out on their own. It will happen in God's time.

**LIGHTS OUT**

## ACT I - SCENE 2

*(School classroom. The desks have been taken out to make room for the party. A whiteboard is on the back wall. Festive Christmas drawings are on it. A large Christmas tree is at upstage center, partially decorated. There is table to the side loaded with party refreshments.)*

*(Christmas music plays lightly in the background as the lights come up. MR. STEVENS, MR. ALLEN, MR. JOHNSON and MRS. WILLIAMS are busy decorating the room for the party.)*

**MR. STEVENS:** I wonder where Nikki and Maurice are?

**MR. ALLEN:** Yes. I thought they were going to be here to help us decorate.

**MR. JOHNSON:** I'm sure they'll be here soon.

**MRS. WILLIAMS:** They are going through a lot right now. With their grandma's cancer diagnosis and everything.

**MR. STEVENS:** They've taken it pretty hard.

**MR. JOHNSON:** Well, we'll just have to do what we can to cheer them up.

**MRS. WILLIAMS:** I'm really starting to get concerned about them. I've noticed such a change since their grandmother fell ill.

**MR. ALLEN:** So have I. They don't seem to care about anything.

*(MAURICE and NIKKI enter.)*

**MR. STEVENS:** There they are.

**MAURICE:** Sorry we're late. Nikki takes forever to get ready.

**NIKKI:** *(Rolls her eyes.)* And you drive like an old grandpa.

**MR. ALLEN:** Well, the decorations are in these boxes here. Better get to it. The party will be starting soon, and this room isn't going to decorate itself.

*(NIKKI and MAURICE begin helping to decorate.)*

**MRS. WILLIAMS:** How is your grandmother doing?

**MAURICE:** About the same.

**NIKKI:** We're waiting for some test results to come back, Mrs. Williams.

**MAURICE:** And then the doctors will figure out what they are going to do.

*(The kids fall quiet.)*

**MR. JOHNSON:** We're keeping all of you in our prayers.

**NIKKI:** Thanks, Mr. Johnson. I guess.

**MAURICE:** But what if those prayers don't work? They aren't like magic wishes, you know.

**MR. STEVENS:** No, they aren't. But you know what? God will always work things out the way He's going to work things out.

**NIKKI:** I just don't understand how all of you people keep faith in that.

**MAURICE:** Me either.

**MR. STEVENS:** Well, it's because God does everything for us. Everything is under His control. Everything. And if we have faith, He'll see us through anything.

**SONG 2: MADE A WAY (Mr. Stevens Sings)**

**MAURICE:** I'm glad you've got that kind of faith, Mr. Stevens. Maybe someday I can have that. But I don't know. It's a lot to ask for.

**LIGHTS OUT**