

Children's Audition Scene 1

Scrooge My old school. But everyone's gone.

Ghost of Christmas Past It is not quite deserted . A solitary child, neglected by his friends, is left there still.

Young Scrooge enters, holding a book. He sits down, reading, and Scrooge sits beside his younger self. There is a moment. (The ensemble create the books' characters coming to life in the next section.)

Scrooge You are mistaken spirit. I was not quite alone. For look, it's dear old

Young Scrooge and Scrooge (together) Ali Baba!

Scrooge Yes, yes, I know! One Christmas time, when this solitary child was left here all alone, he did come, for the first time, just like that. Poor boy!

Young Scrooge And there's the Parrot!

Scrooge Green body and yellow tail, with a thing like a lettuce growing out of the top of his head; there he is! Poor Robin Crusoe, he called him, when he came home again after sailing round the island. 'Poor Robin Crusoe, where have you been, Robin Crusoe?' The man thought he was dreaming, but he wasn't. It was the Parrot, you know. There goes Friday, running for his life to the little creek! Halloo! Hoop! Halloo!

Ghost of Christmas Past Let us see another Christmas!

A girl, Little Fan, runs in

Little Fan Ebenezer!

Scrooge Fan! Is that you?

Little Fan I have come to bring you home, dear brother!

Young Scrooge Home?

Little Fan Yes! Home, for good. Father is so much kinder than he used to be, that home is like heaven! He spoke so gently to me one night, that I was not afraid to ask him once more if you might come home; and he said yes, you should; and sent me in a coach to bring you. And you're to be a man!

Young Scrooge A man?

Little Fan But first, we're to be together all the Christmas long, and have the merriest time the world!

Young Scrooge You are quite a woman, Little Fan!