

Group Activity Audition Extract: A Christmas Carol

[Note: The Carol is the narration of the play. These lines can be divided amongst the company in whatever way works best for the production, which might include some being spoken in unison.]

The Carol Scrooge lived in chambers which had once belonged to his deceased partner. They were a gloomy suite of rooms, in a lowering pile of building. It was old enough now, and dreary enough, for nobody lived in it but Scrooge, the other rooms being all let out as offices.

The yard was so dark that even Scrooge, who knew its every stone, was fain to grope with his hands. The fog and frost hung about the black old gateway of the house.

Now, it is a fact, that there was nothing at all particular about the knocker on the door, except that it was very large. It is also a fact, that Scrooge had seen it, night and morning, during his whole residence in that place; also that Scrooge had as little of what is called fancy about him as any man in the city of London.

Let it also be borne in mind that Scrooge had not bestowed one thought on Marley, since his mention of his seven years' dead partner that afternoon. And then let any man explain to me, if he can, how it happened that...

Scrooge finds his key in his pocket and when he looks back up at the door to open it, he sees Marley's face in the knocker. He creeps slowly forward to investigate. It opens its mouth in a dreadful, eye rolling grimace. Scrooge backs away in fear. But the face disappears as quickly as it came and the door returns to normality. With shaking hands Scrooge unlocks the door and enters.

Scrooge Humbug!