

Characters

Father Christmas (M/F)	-	Santa Claus
Elf (M/F)	-	The Safety Officer
Rudolf (M/F)	-	Santa's head Reindeer
Icemen (M/F)	-	Witnesses (Minimum 2; no maximum)
Reindeer (M/F)	-	Santa's Reindeer (Minimum 2; no maximum)

N.B. Icemen can easily double as reindeer with interchangeable hats. Rudolf has a red nose and hat with antlers.

Scene 1 – Santa’s Grotto

(Father Christmas is on stage with Rudolf. Rudolf interacts throughout.)

Father Christmas: **(To Rudolph)** Well, are you ready for the big day Rudolph? Got the team organised?

Rudolf: We’ve been getting in training. **(Does a few exercises.)**

Father Christmas: Excellent. I can always rely on you.

(SFX. Knock at door.)

Father Christmas: Come in.

(Elf enters)

Elf: Father Christmas?

Father Christmas: What gave me away? Was it the big white beard? **(he strokes his beard)** Was it the red suit? The rosy cheeks?

Elf: **(unimpressed)** Indeed

Father Christmas: Come in and make yourself at home Elf. Now tell me, how are the toys coming along this year?

Elf: Oh, the toys are coming along alright. What I’ve come to see you about is - my letter.

Father Christmas: Your letter? Oh, well I get so *many* letters; millions and millions of letters, especially at this time of the year. Which letter was yours?

Elf: It was the one asking you for something important. It had the word *important* written in red at the top.

Father Christmas: Oh Elf, as you know, you don’t always get what you ask for. You only get what you ask for, if you’ve been good, very good; and even then, not *all* the time. Perhaps you were naughty? Played one prank too many? **(Chortles.)**

Elf: **(Officially)** I wasn’t naughty Mr. Christmas! It was a questionnaire.

Father Christmas: A questionnaire! Well, I’ve been asked for some funny things in my time, but never a questionnaire! I don’t think you have to be a good elf to get one of those, do you Rudolf?

(Rudolf shakes his head.)

Elf: **(Exasperated)** It wasn’t for me Mr. Christmas, the letter contained a questionnaire for *you*.

Father Christmas: For *me*? **(Overwhelmed)** Oh how kind and thoughtful. I’ve never had one of those before, and I’m sure that Mrs Christmas will enjoy it too.

(Father Christmas and Rudolf nod at each other in agreement)

Elf: **(Patronisingly)** I don’t think you understand me Sir. It was a questionnaire for you to fill in. **(Importantly. Lifting his glasses as if to remove a disguise)** I am the Elf and Safety Officer for Christmas.

Father Christmas: **(Excitedly)** Well that sounds excellent, excellent! Whatever will you elves come up with next? **(Suddenly confused)** What does it mean?

Elf: **(Exasperated)** It means Mr. Christmas, that we need to do an Elf and Safety assessment with you; after all, we don't want any accidents do we?

Father Christmas: No. No accidents.

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(Rudolf shakes his head)

Father Christmas: Rudolf here has had a few **(air quotes)** accidents; but I never have accidents; I'm Father Christmas.

Elf: I'm afraid that we've heard otherwise. **(removes a notepad and begins flicking through it, settling on one page in particular)** We heard that you **(lifts his glasses once more and moves the page closer to his face)** got stuck in a chimney.

Father Christmas: Snow and nonsense, stuck in a chimney? **(To Rudolf)** Have you ever – I can't remember that. You'd think I'd remember being stuck in a chimney!

Elf: It was Christmas 1801, at an address in London.

Father Christmas: That recent? **(thinks)** Um – um – **(remembers)** ah! No, no, no, I wasn't stuck! I was just – well I'd eaten rather a lot of mince pies that people had kindly left out for me – and I - just fitted the chimney comfortably.

Elf: That's not what it says here on my report!

Father Christmas: Who told you I got stuck – or should I say whom?

Elf: We have witnesses!

Father Christmas: What witnesses?

Elf: The icemen. **(Beckons icemen)** Come and repeat what you heard Icemen.

(Icemen enter and sing 'When Santa Got Stuck up the Chimney', in high squeaky voices. They could encourage the audience to join in depending on your production and even have the words printed out on an A1 chart or in a program etc. When Santa is singing alone, Icemen bob to the rhythm. Rudolf can bob about too, and just join in the 'Atchoos'.)

Icemen: When Santa got stuck up the chimney
He began to shout,

Father Christmas: You girls and boys won't get any toys,
If you don't pull me out.
My beard is black,
There's soot on my sack,
My nose is tickly too!

Icemen: When Santa got stuck up the chimney,

All: Atchoo, Atchoo, Atchoo!!

Icemen: When Santa got stuck up the chimney,
He began to yell,

Father Christmas: Oh hurry please it's such a squeeze,
My sack is stuck as well.
Oh dear, oh dear, it's cold up here,
And Rudolph's nose is blue!

Icemen: When Santa got stuck up the chimney,

All: Atchoo! Atchoo! Atchoo!

(End of Song)

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Father Christmas: Thunder and Lightning! I was only having a rest!

Elf: (Sneezes) Oh dear, this is a real elf and safety tissue! You'd better sing it again please icemen.

(Repeat song)

Father Christmas: Well I can't really have been stuck can I, because I got out again? I was just having a little rest inside the chimney.

Elf: That's not what we heard.

Father Christmas: Heard from who? Oh bother, whom?

Elf: Witnesses.

Father Christmas: What witnesses? I was all alone in the chimney. Well, all alone, apart from Rudolf and his team skating about on the roof.

Elf: Exactly! This is what the Icemen heard when they saw the reindeer drop a rope down the chimney, and pull you out. It went like this.

(Reindeer enter.)

Rudolf: Take it away Reindeer!

(Rudolf and Reindeer sing the 'Reindeer Cokey' to the tune of the 'Hokey Cokey', while making movements as if hauling Father Christmas out of the chimney. Icemen bob around in rhythm while reindeer are singing.)

Reindeer: You put your hooves in
You put your hooves out
You put your hooves in
And you shake 'em all about
You do the reindeer cokey
And you turn around
That's what it's all about.

You put your antlers in
You put your antlers out
You put your antlers in
And you shake them all about
You do the reindeer cokey
And you turn around
That's what it's all about.

You put your tail in
You put your tail out
You put your tail in
And you shake it all about
You do the reindeer cokey
And you turn around
That's what it's all about.

(End of Song)

Elf: And then you (**checks his notepad once more. Reads**) popped out of the chimney, like a – what does that word say?

(Shows the notebook to Father Christmas)

Father Christmas: (**reads**) Plum

Elf: – plum from a pudding.

(Icemen make a popping sound together.)

Father Christmas: Tittle tattle and mistletoe! Witnesses indeed! The reindeer were just having a sing song on the roof. Weren't you Rudolf?

(Rudolf coughs tactfully or grooms his/her antlers in an embarrassed way.)

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Father Christmas: I really think this is a bit much. In fact I could scream.

Icemen: Oooh, ice cream!

Father Christmas: (**To icemen**) No, that's not what I meant.

(All look at Father Christmas with doe eyes)

Father Christmas: Oh, alright. I admit it. I got stuck.

Elf: I knew it! That's all I needed you to do Mr. Christmas. Tell the truth and we can help you not to have any more accidents!

Father Christmas: You can?

Elf: That's what the questionnaire is for. So if you just fill it in and pop it in the post we can all have a safer Christmas.

Father Christmas: Ok Elf. But do you promise to be good this year?

Elf: Of course! How else would I deserve all that figgy pudding?

Father Christmas: **(To audience)** Have you all been good this year boys and girls?

(Audience react)

Father Christmas: Is there anybody here on my naughty list?

(Audience react)

Father Christmas: That's good to hear. Merry Christmas Everyone!

Icemen: Merry Christmas!

Elf: Merry Christmas!

Rudolf: Merry Christmas!

(Depending on your production, you could end with a rousing Christmas song such as 'Merry Christmas Everybody' by Slade or 'I wish it could be Christmas every day' by Wizzard.)

THE END