

Happy Christmas!

TINY TIM

Mr. Scrooge!

(upset to see his employer.)

CRATCHIT

(MRS. CRATCHIT holds her children protectively.)

Cratchit!

(sternly)

SCROOGE

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What's wrong?
CRATCHIT

SCROOGE
(feigning anger)
Where've you been? I thought I told you to come in early?

CRATCHIT
But, but...That's tomorrow! Today's Christmas! It's Christmas Day!

SCROOGE
Christmas?

CRATCHIT
Yes, sir.

SCROOGE
Christmas, Bah! Come Here Cratchit!
(CRATCHIT timidly approaches him)
Now, I'll tell you what, my friend, do not make too much of this Christmas silliness, you understand?
Because if you are late tomorrow you know what I'll do?

CRATCHIT
No, sir-

SCROOGE
If you are just one second late....I will.....
(SCROOGE moves into CRATCHIT)
I will...
(CRATCHIT swallows)
I will...RAISE YOUR SALARY!

CRATCHIT
What?

SCROOGE
A raise Cratchit!

(CRATCHIT Faints)

MRS CRATCHIT
Bob! *(She goes to him)* Bob, Bob?
(CRATCHIT starts to come to)

SCROOGE

Is he alright?

CRATCHIT

Yes, Mr. Scrooge, I'm fine- I think. Am I dreaming?

SCROOGE

(comes down to CRATCHIT & MRS. CRATCHIT who are still prone)

Merry Christmas, Bob! A merrier Christmas than I have given you for many a year. I'll raise your Salary and endeavor to assist you and your struggling family from now on.

CRATCHIT

I don't know what to say Mr. Scrooge-

Mrs. CRATCHIT

(taking SCROOGE's hand)

Thank you, Mr. Scrooge. Thank you.

SCROOGE

No, I thank you madam and I will do what ever it takes to make sure Tiny Tim becomes healthier and healthier and grows to ripe old age.

(Mrs. CRATCHIT is overwhelmed and can't stop herself from hugging SCROOGE. CRATCHIT has gotten up and shakes hands with SCROOGE)

CRATCHIT

A very Merry Christmas to you, Mr. Scrooge.

TINY TIM

A very merry Christmas Mr. Scrooge!

SCROOGE

(picking TINY TIM up)

Merry Christmas, my Boy.

(During this SCROOGE has winked secretivly to JONATHON, proding him on. JONATHON approaches CRATCHIT)

JONATHON

Excuse me, sir this is to be delivered to you...anounomosly.

CRATCHIT

What?

MRS. CRATCHIT

The prize turkey!