

# The Other Christmas Story

by Rod Belt

Theme Christmas is a time for stories. There are films on television, books at bedtime, the family story about the overcooked festive meal. They all compete for our attention and we look forward to their familiarity. But which one is the real Christmas story?

Cast: Narrator ONE: The straight guy.  
Narrator TWO: The confused guy.

Notes: This is presented as an audience participation piece, with keywords that have actions attached. During the initial phase, where the Narrators are introducing the keywords, the script is only a guideline - they should improvise as necessary to ensure that the audience is responding. It may help if they invite (encourage, coerce) certain audience members to come out to the front to rehearse the actions and to lead the rest of the audience throughout the sketch.

ONE We want to tell you a story.

TWO A story.

ONE The Christmas Story.

TWO Because Christmas is important.

ONE But first, you need to learn some actions.

TWO And make fools of yourselves! *(At this point a small number of audience members may be invited to the front to help lead the actions.)*

ONE *(to TWO)* What actions do we need?

*(TWO and ONE confer, whispering conspiratorially)*

ONE Right, first word. VISITOR *(mime knocking on door)* Knock knock knock!

*(Ensure that audience copy words and actions)*

TWO Next, FLYING *(mime bird flying)* Flit Flit Flit!

ONE KING *(hands on head to make crown. Fanfare)* Da-dadadada-da-Daaaaa!

TWO AFRAID *(mime cowering, deep intake of breath)* Hhrrrrrr!

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ONE *PRESENTS (mime handing over a present)* Surprise!

TWO *DWARVES (bobs down. Slightly sinister chuckling)* Hehehee!

ONE Dwarves? What have dwarves got to do with it?

TWO They're an important part of the story.

ONE They are?

TWO They are!

ONE *(dubious)* Oh... Well, lets get on with it. Are you all ready?

*(At this point you could get the audience to go through all the actions again to make sure)*

ONE Right. Ladies and Gentlemen, We present The Christmas Story!

TWO *(storytelling mode. speaking quite fast, excitedly, with lots of expression.)* James Bond was in an exotic city to protect the *KING*. Suddenly, outside the door of his hotel room, he heard noises. An uninvited *VISITOR*. Bond reached the door in a stride and threw it open. Standing outside were two *DWARVES*, each armed with a gun. But James Bond was not *AFRAID*. He performed a Kung Fu kick that sent both *DWARVES FLYING*...

ONE *(has been looking increasingly surprised, puzzled, then annoyed)* Woah, woah, what are you talking about?

TWO I'm telling them the story.

ONE That is NOT The Christmas Story.

TWO *(his turn to be puzzled)* Isn't it? But James Bond is on television every Christmas!

ONE *(raises eyes skyward)* Just because you watch James Bond every Christmas Day doesn't make it The Christmas Story! Now think. Don't you know a story about Christmas?

TWO *(frowning, thinking hard)* Urm... Yes! Yes!

ONE Ahhh, we have contact. You remember the story?

TWO Yes!

ONE You want me to tell it?

TWO No, I'll start.