



THE GREAT  
CHRISTMAS TREE  
ROBBERY

The Musical

STAGING THE  
PRODUCTION

BY

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3	SYNOPSIS
4	CHARACTER PARTS
5	CHARACTER DESCRIPTION, COSTUMES AND MAKE-UP
6	AUDITIONS
7	SONGS AND MUSIC
8	DANCE
9	SCENERY AND PROPS

## Synopsis

Pam discovers an old book at a jumble sale. It's called THE GREAT CHRISTMAS TREE ROBBERY. She is so gripped by the story that she cannot put it down.

Pam's family buys a huge Christmas tree and decorate it together. When Pam and her two brothers get up the next day, they find the Christmas tree has gone. When they switch the TV on they discover that there has been a "Great Christmas Tree Robbery" during the night. Pam realises that she has been reading all about this in her book.

When she goes to find the book she discovers a fairy sitting on it. The fairy tells Pam that she is the only person who can solve the mystery of the missing Christmas trees.

With the help of the Fairy, Pam and her brothers go in search of the missing trees. They follow a trail of clues through Pantoland to the Forest of Grump. On the way, the children are helped by familiar, pantomime characters, they have loved each year at Christmas time.

In the Forest of Grump they finally find the missing trees stolen by the evil Grump and his band of Grumpies. They discover that Grump wants to spoil everyone's fun because he never had a Christmas as a boy.

The Pantofolk and the children feel sorry for Grump. All ends well when Grump and his Grumpies are invited to take part in a Pantomime as the evil characters, and to join the others in celebrating a real Christmas

## Character Parts

Speaking Parts	Number of words	Scenes they appear in	Group or individual songs
<b>Narrator</b> (Split Part into 4)	<b>583</b>	<b>All</b>	
<b>Pam</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>All</b>	<b>She's a bookworm. Our lovely Christmas Tree. We're too clever by half</b>
<b>Zac</b>	<b>294</b>	<b>2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 &amp; 10</b>	<b>Football Our lovely Christmas Tree We're too clever by half</b>
<b>Bob</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>3,4,5,6,7,8, 9 &amp; 10</b>	<b>We're too clever by half</b>
<b>Fairy</b>	<b>238</b>	<b>5,6,7,8 &amp; 9</b>	<b>We're too clever by half</b>
<b>Aladdin</b>	<b>197</b>	<b>6,7,8 &amp; 9</b>	<b>We're too clever by half</b>
Genie	128	6	
<b>Sleeping Beauty</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>7,8 &amp; 9</b>	
<b>Ugly sister 1</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>8 &amp; 9</b>	
<b>Ugly sister 2</b>	<b>52</b>	<b>8 &amp; 9,</b>	
<b>Prince Charming</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>8 &amp; 9</b>	
<b>Cinderella</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>8 &amp; 9</b>	
<b>Grump</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>I Hate Christmas</b>
Grumpies	26	9	
Mum	151	2,3	Our lovely Christmas Tree
Dad	69	3	Our lovely Christmas Tree
Nan	98	1	She's a bookworm
Newscaster (Can be read)	84	4	
Jumble Sale Lady	18	1	
Fairy 2	122	9	
Fairy 3	48	9	
Teddy 1	16	9	
Fairy Light 1	21	9	
Bauble 1	23	9	
Snowperson 1	20	9	
<b>NON-SPEAKING PARTS</b>			
Fairies		9	Dance
Fairy Lights		9	
Baubles		9	
Snowpeople		9	

## CHARACTER DESCRIPTION. COSTUMES AND MAKE-UP

Character	Description
<b>Narrator(s)</b> (Split Part into 4)	<b>Storyteller - could read parts but it looks better if they know the lines and can act them.</b>
<b>Family</b>	<b>Mum, Dad, Gran, Pam - oldest and lead character. Shee's abookworm. Zac - Football mad and a joker, Bob - youngest and very attached to his brother.</b>
<b>Pantomime Characters</b>	<b>Friendly team of Panto folk that take the children through Pantoland and help them with the clues. They feel sorry for Grump and befriend him.</b>
<b>Fairy</b>	
<b>Grump</b>	<b>Evil character that never had a Christmas as a boy.</b>
<b>Grumpies</b>	As above - copycat versions.
<b>Newscaster</b>	This part could be read off stage in a clear, strong voice.
<b>Jumble Sale Lady</b>	Cheerful salesperson
<b>Tree Decorations</b>	They've been locked up for a long time and are relieved to be released. Complain about their treatment.

Nan, Mum and jumble sale Lady - adult clothes and light makeup

Dad - Sweater, trousers and moustache

Pam, Zac and Bob - casual children's clothes - boys in football strips.

Zac also needs a prince's costumes that he puts on in Scene 6.

Trixie the fairy - Fluffy tutu with wand.

Panto characters - Loud clothes and bright make-up. Lots of glitter.

**Aladdin** - gold outfit with Chinese hat

**Genie** - shiny outfit with turban

**Cinderella** - ball gown and see through shoes

**Prince Charming** - Snazzy jacket, Frilly shirt. Doublet & hose

**Sleeping Beauty** - traditional long flowing gown

**Ugly sisters** - Wigs, clashing colourful outfits, heavy make-up.

Grump and the grumpies - bright wigs, green faces, green tunics and loose fitting pants.

Tree Decorations - Tee shirt & leggings in colours to match the character.

With stick on patches. Head-band strips with picture of character stapled to them.

Dancers Shimmery clothes, lots of glittery make-up.

**Check that children are not allergic to make-up.**

## AUDITIONS

You could use the excerpt below, or chose one of your own.

Read the story to the children. Give them a couple of chances to read through the lines. For those who cannot read well, give them a simple line to repeat so that they can feel included.

Pick those children whose voices can be heard at the back of the hall for your speaking parts.

Pam            Zac, this is really the most amazing book I have ever read. Here let me read some of it to you.  
                  "That night when all the children were in bed the Great Christmas Tree Robbery took place."

Zac            We've just bought a new player.

Pam            Zac! I'm reading to you.

Zac            Oh, I don't want to hear a stupid Christmas story. Let me tell you about the defender we've just got. He's fantastic!

# SONGS and MUSIC

## PHOTOCOPIABLE SONG SHEET

### CD WITH:

- SONG VOCALS FOR PRACTICE
- SONG BACKING TRACKS FOR ACTUAL PERFORMANCE
- LINK-UP MUSIC

### MUSICAL SCORE

### SONGS in order of appearance :

She's a bookworm - Pam & Nan

Football Crazy - Zac

Our lovely Christmas Tree - Family

It's a night for magic - Choir

Pantoland - Choir

We're too clever by half - Children & Panto Folk

I hate Christmas - Grump

I'm a little cracker - Choir

Christmas Time, best time of the year - Everyone

Also

Link-up Music

Ball Music

All songs should be choreographed if stage performers are singing them. They can be backed by choir or sung completely by the choir if children lack confidence doing solos.

## DANCE

**She's a bookworm** - Gran & Pam do a simple tap dance.

**Football Crazy** - Group from the choir with Zac  
Synchronised movements in line with lyrics. Waving football scarves.

**Our lovely Christmas Tree** - Dress the tree as they sing.  
Mum & Dad do a quick two-step. Children dance around the tree.

**It's a night for magic** Choir sing. Could have a little group doing  
simple ballet steps.

**Pantoland** Choir sing. Dance troupe comes in for final verse.

**We're too clever by half** - Troupe, Simple choreography in line with  
lyrics.

**I hate Christmas** - Grump stomps around the stage with his Grumpies.  
Backing chorus could do a little routine.

**I'm a little cracker** - Little children dressed as crackers act out song

**Christmas Time, best time of the year** - Finale - Synchronised  
movements, lots of waving.



## SCENERY and PROPS

### Christmas Tree Backdrop

#### **Scene One - The Jumble Sale**

Jumble tables - The Great Christmas Tree Robbery book  
Sponge Cake.

#### **Scene Two - In the bedroom that night**

Two beds with covers. Football magazines for Zac. Great Christmas Tree Robbery Book.

#### **Scene Three - The Christmas Tree**

Christmas Tree with fairy lights already on but not lit.

Decorations in a box- including a little teddy, a wooden Santa and a fairy for the top. TV and couch.

#### **Scene Four - The Great Christmas Tree Robbery**

As Scene Three

#### **Scene Five - Aladdin's cave**

Aladdin's Cave - lots of boxes cover in gold around the stage.

A clock with a pendulum with Genie lamp inside it.

#### **Scene Six - Sleeping Beauty's Castle**

A low level hardboard thicket along front of stage.

Prince costume for Zac

Dog basket with toy dog and clue. (Dance until twelve your foot is just the right size.)

#### **Scene Seven - Cinderella at the ball**

Clue in Cinderella's shoe.

Enlarged clue on board -

**EHT PMA FO ETH SOETFR FO PGMUR**

**SI NI EHT HGAABND**

**FO ENO FO EHT GLYU TSSEIRS**

Map in one of the Ugly sister's bags.

#### **Scene Eight - The Forest of Grump**

Christmas trees and piles of decorations.

#### **Scene Nine - Back home again.**

Christmas tree with a miniature Grump on it. Couch, TV, Great Christmas Tree Robbery Book