

HARK from the HERALD



WRITTEN BY
Pastor Karl Bastian, The Kidologist

Published by Kidology Inc.
www.kidology.org



<h2 style="margin: 0;">SCENE ONE: HARK, EDITOR IN CHIEF, NEWSROOM STAFF</h2>
--

*Setting the Stage: PASTOR gives a brief welcome to the audience, and when he exits, **HOUSE LIGHTS GO COMPLETELY DARK** (except for a few side lights along wall), the News Room Staff come out and take positions, **SPOT LIGHT COMES ON** when they are ready, **SPOT is WIDE AND WHITE**, then EDITOR comes out and play begins*

Scene opens with lots of activity in News Room. Reporters scurrying about, a writer busy at a typewriter, another on the phone, others scurrying about. a janitor sweeping with a broom, and the editor in chief barking orders in the center.

EDITOR: HARK! Get in here! HARK! (*turns to a reporter*) WHERE'S MY COFFEE? WHERE IS HARK? (*yells*) HARK!

HARK: (*comes stumbling in*) Hark, here sir. (*spills the coffee he was bringing the editor!*) Look, I'm almost done with that time travel piece, I'm meeting with Dr. Wipplestowski later today....

STAGEHAND dressed as a janitor mops up spilled coffee during next few lines, then exits with mop to change back into stagehand attire(all black).

EDITOR: Forget that crazy inventor, I'm pulling you from that piece and giving you a new assignment.

HARK: A new assignment? But..... (*obviously disappointed and frustrated*)

EDITOR: Every year that old guy comes up with something new and it never works!

HARK: But this time I think he's **really** on to something! (*eagerly trying to convince*)

EDITOR: Fine, you can continue working on that **AFTER** this story..... this story must be done now! Christmas is only a few days away and I need this done in time for the Christmas Day Edition.

HARK: Oh, great, do I have to go interview the Santa at the Mall again?

EDITOR: No, that's just it! There's got to be more to this holiday than just some old guy in a silly red suit, shopping, candy canes and stockings.

HARK: Fruit cakes? (*sarcastically*)

EDITOR: Hark, I'm serious. I want you to investigate the *true meaning* of Christmas. Find out where all this began. Make it good, I want this year's Christmas Day Edition to be special.

HARK: Where do I start?

EDITOR: How should I know, you're the reporter. (*sarcastically*) Why don't you use that crazy inventor's time machine and go back to the first Christmas! Ha, ha, ha!
(*turns and leaves*)

HARK: Ha ha ha (*mimicking editor*) Very funny. Now what am I going to do? What do I know about Christmas? Maybe Dr. Wipplestowski knows something. I got nothing better to do!

SPOT LIGHT GOES OUT, NEWS STAFF exit toward stable, taking props with them, leaving them in back room, **STAGE HANDS** clear tables/desks to behind choir divider, **BUT LEAVE NEWS ROOM DIVIDER**. Hark leaves as **POEM READERS** walk up and stand in a line on the stage to recite the following poem taking turns saying the verses: **SPOT COMES ON WHEN THEY ARE READY TO BEGIN:**

WHY CHRISTMAS?

The good news is that Christmas is here at last!
The bad news is that also it soon will be past.

Tinsel and Garland now hang everywhere,
And stockings are hung by the chimney with care.

Folks are making their lists and checking them twice,
Hoping their friends to them will be nice!

A picture with Santa you can get at the malls,
As well as supplies to deck all your halls.

Wreaths on the doorways, and carols I hear,
But, "Christmas," I wonder "Why you do you come every year?"

Every store is decorated with red and with green
But does anyone STOP, to ask, "What does it mean?"

Wish lists and sales and shopping galore!
BUT WHAT IS CHRISTMAS, I ask you once more!

Commercials and Specials and gifts of all types,
It's nice, but what's the *reason*, for all the hype?

Snowmen stand watching while snowballs fly about,
I wish *they* could tell me what Christmas is about!

How did it start? This wonderful season?
It would mean so much more if I just knew the reason.

LIGHTS OUT (stage dark) as **POEM READERS EXIT** by going behind manger curtain to back stage. Any Reciters who are Shepherds or Angels need to change. **STAGE HANDS** set up Doc's Props, **When the stage is ready SPOT LIGHT ON** wide and white in center stage