

Christmas Eve Eve

Christmas Eve eve! Christmas Eve eve!
We're so excited, it's Christmas Eve eve!
Christmas Eve eve! Christmas Eve eve!
We're so delighted, it's Christmas Eve eve!

All the bells are ringing.
All the jingles jingling.
It's the jolliest, merriest, second best eve of all!
Christmas Eve eve!

Christmas Eve eve! Christmas Eve eve!
We're celebrating, it's Christmas Eve eve!
Christmas Eve eve! Christmas Eve eve!
We're decorating, it's Christmas Eve eve!

Feel the joy it's bringing.
Ev'ry heart is singing.
It's the jolliest, merriest, second best eve of all!
Christmas Eve eve!

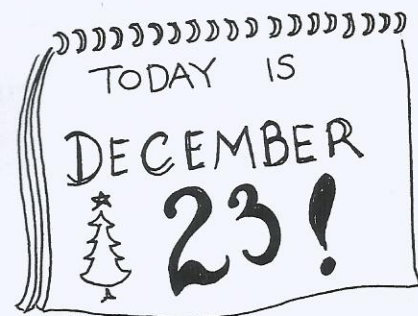
It is our fav'rite time of year,
so filled with happiness and cheer.
So filled with hope and joy, and peace and love,
and all good things we're dreaming of!

Christmas Eve eve! Christmas Eve eve!
We're so excited, it's Christmas Eve eve!
Christmas Eve eve! Christmas Eve eve!
We're so delighted, it's Christmas Eve eve!

All the bells are ringing.
All the jingles jingling.
It's the jolliest, merriest, second best eve of all!
Christmas Eve eve!

Only one more day till Christmas Eve!
Two more days till Christmas Day!
It's the jolliest, merriest, second best eve of all!
Christmas Eve eve!

Christmas Eve eve!



After the opening song, Santa and Mrs. Claus can move more toward the center of the performance area (casually) while the first lines are delivered.

Santa: *(into phone – slow, rich voice)* Ho, ho, ho! That sounds wonderful. Uh-huh. Right. I'll bet California is beautiful this time of year. Ho, ho, ho!

Elf #1: Who is Santa talking to?

Elf #2: I don't know, but it seems pretty important.

Elf #3: I thought I heard him say something about California.

Elf #4: California?!

Elf #3: Yes, California.

Elf #2: You know, I just love California.

In walks Herbie, the elf.

Herbie: I want to be a dentist!

Elf #5: Yes, we know...

Elf #6: And we're all cool with that.

Herbie walks out with a big smile on his face.

Santa: *(still on the phone)* Great! I'll have the reindeer there on time!

The reindeer are seen walking in together. The elves do not see them yet. The reindeer overhear the elves talking. (They react by tilting their heads, cupping their ears, etc., to "listen well.")

Elf #1: Why is Santa taking the reindeer to California?

Elf #2: Well... I've heard they have reindeer ranches in California.

Elf #3: You mean the kind where reindeer go to... retire?

Elf #4: Oh no! If they retire, Santa will have to replace the reindeer!

All Elves: Replace the reindeer?! *(ad libs: Wow, really?, I didn't see that coming!, What a shock!, Bummer!, etc.)*

The reindeer stand up straight (rigid and frozen in place at first) with wide-eyes. They look at each other with worried expressions. Some can be doing the "Home Alone" gesture or other silliness. Feel free to let some of them ham it up a little. Just then, Santa hangs up. He and Mrs. Claus, who have been oblivious to the action/dialog with the elves and reindeer, walk over to the reindeer.

Santa: Hello, team! It's time for our pre-Christmas Eve flight check. Let's go to the sleigh and go for a test-flight.

All the reindeer begin quickly shaking their heads back and forth as if to say "No way!" Santa and Mrs. Claus look very puzzled.

Elf #5: (to reindeer) Come on, you guys! You know the drill!

Reindeer shake heads again.

Elf #6: (pulling reins of one of the reindeer who won't budge; ad lib struggling noises) Come on!

Optional: You could have a comic routine here where various elves try to move the reindeer to no avail. Be mindful that slapstick is sometimes physical, so don't let anyone get hurt. Plan the actions for humor, but keep safety in mind.

Mrs. Claus: Santa, something is wrong! The reindeer won't fly!

Santa: The reindeer won't fly!?!?

All Elves: (looking at the reindeer, hands on hips or out in air to side, shaking heads in disbelief, etc.) Why won't you fly??

SONG: Why Won't You Fly?

Why Won't you Fly?

Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen.
If you could talk to us, you know that we would listen, listen.
You have our full attention. We're all ears, and did we mention?
If we could hear you speak, we'd understand your apprehension.

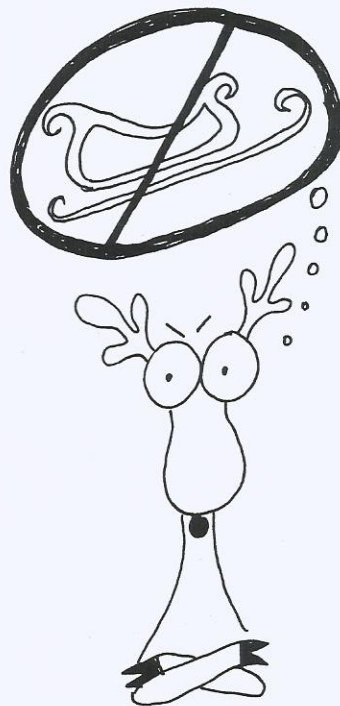
Why don't you, why won't you fly?
Like a birdie in the sky.
Why don't you, why won't you fly?
Like a birdie in the sky.

Magic reindeer meant to fly,
won't you soar up to the sky?
Christmas Eve is almost here.
It can't happen without reindeer flying.

Dasher, Dancer, Prancer, Vixen, Comet, Cupid, Donner, Blitzen.
We're not completely clear, but we know something's missin', missin'.
We need some information, if you have the inclination.
We really need you for our airborne Christmas transportation.

Why don't you, why won't you fly?
Like a birdie in the sky.
Why don't you, why won't you fly?
Like a birdie in the sky.

Why?



After the song, Santa is looking very concerned.

Santa: Well, I've never see this before. The reindeer won't fly!

Elf #1: What are we going to do?

Elf #2: Tomorrow is Christmas Eve!

Mrs. Claus: Oh, Santa... We have to do something!

Everyone seems to be pondering (except the reindeer, of course). They rub their chins, scratch their heads, put their hands on their hips and furrow their brows while shaking their heads, etc. Action continues until Elf #3 speaks up in an "Aha!" fashion.

Elf #3: I know! Let's call the Reindeer Whisperer!

All Elves: The Reindeer Whisperer?

Elf #3: Yes, the Reindeer Whisperer.

Elf #4: Haven't you seen his TV show?

Elf #5: Oh yeah, the Reindeer Whisperer.

Herbie walks in again.

Santa: Herbie, do you know how to get in touch with the Reindeer Whisperer?

Herbie: I want to be a dentist!

Santa: Yes, well, I ah... *(to Mrs. Claus)* I thought we already had this cleared up.

Mrs. Claus: Yes, dear...

Herbie walks out again, with a big smile on his face.

Elf #6: *(snapping shut his cell phone with a large gesture so the audience can see)* Santa! I called the Reindeer Whisperer and he's on his way!

Santa: Great! I sure hope this fella can help us.

Mrs. Claus: By the way, does this whisperer-person have a name?

Elf #2: Well... I think it's... Cesar Salad.

Elf #4: Cesar Salad??

Elf #2: *(with a little giggle)* Yeah, Cesar Salad.

Enter the Reindeer Whisperer. He walks to center stage. A stately, distinctive guitar strum is heard as he walks in. (He could be playing the guitar himself, or someone onstage could play it, or it could just be a musical sound effect. Use a prop guitar unless you have a real live performer.)

MUSIC: Guitar Strum 1

Reindeer Whisperer: (*very slowly and deliberately, with great enunciation and a bit of a Spanish accent*) That's Sa-laad! Cesar Sa-laad is my name. Whispering to reindeer is my game. ¡Olé!

MUSIC: Guitar Strum 2

All the elves, Santa, and Mrs. Claus react with lots of "ooohs" and "ahhhs" and murmuring, *ad lib.*

Elf #1: (*or a young, tiny elf*) Can you please save Christmas, Mr. Salad??

All Elves: (*optional, use an "Elf Group" you select instead of all elves if it's easier*) Please help us, Mr. Salad! (*a mix of "Salads" and "Sa-laads"*)

Reindeer Whisperer: (*firmly, in an exasperated tone*) Sa-laad!

MUSIC: Guitar Strum 3

All Elves: Pleeese?

SONG: Can You Please Save Christmas?

During the song, the elves, Santa, and Mrs. Claus are directing their pleas to the Reindeer Whisperer. Feel free to have singers use gestures to amplify the melodrama. You could also create specific group movement for specific words or phrases using mostly arms and hands. Silly, over-the-top performances are fine for this tune as long as it's not upstaging the relevant continuation of the story. The Reindeer Whisperer reacts stoically, taking it all in until he decides what to do. He appears "quietly sage."

Can You Please Save Christmas?

Year after year after year,
seems like there's trouble with Christmas.
But now it's perfectly clear,
this time it really might miss us.
Can you imagine how sad it would be
with nothing from Santa Claus under the tree?

spoken solo: Noooo! That's impossible!
(*optional, ad lib other comments, wailing, etc.*)

Can you please save Christmas? (*spoken solo:* Please?)
Can you, pretty please? (*spoken solo:* Pretty please?)
Think of Saint Nich'las having no Christmas!
Can you help us please? (*spoken solo:* Pleeease?)

(*ad lib whimpering, crying, etc.*)

Year after year after year,
Christmas has some kind of danger.
Blizzards, amnesia, or fear,
comets, or alien strangers.
This time we're certain catastrophe's here,
and it could keep Christmas from coming this year!

spoken solo: It really could! Ahhhh!
(*opt., ad lib other comments, wailing, etc.*)

Can you please save Christmas? (*spoken solo:* Please?)
Can you, pretty please? (*spoken solo:* Pretty please?)
Think of Saint Nich'las having no Christmas!
Can you help us please? (*spoken solo:* Pleeease??)

This much is certain, Christmas is curtains!
Can you help us please?
Can you please save Christmas?

all, shout: Please!?



Reindeer Whisperer: (to Santa) Well, this sounds very, very serious. I will do my best to help you save Christmas. So, what seems to be the problem?

Santa: Well, it's the reindeer...

Reindeer Whisperer: Yes, I kinda figured that. What exactly is the problem with the reindeer?

Herbie walks in again.

Herbie: I want to be a...

All Elves, Santa, Mrs. Claus: Not now!

Herbie, with big smile on face, walks back out.

Santa: Anyway, you see...

Mrs. Claus: The reindeer won't fly!

Reindeer Whisperer: They won't fly, you say? Interesting, interesting...

The Reindeer Whisperer walks around a bit studying the situation. He's pondering, thinking. (Says "hmmm" and "mmm hmmm" a few times, freely.)

Then he goes over to the reindeer (who are standing in a row, facing the audience). He whispers into the ear of the one at the end of the row. The reindeer then whisper to each other one at a time, down the line. The end reindeer nods his head, thinks for a moment, then whispers to the reindeer next to him and on down the line – and back to the Reindeer Whisperer.

During this section, you can have your reindeer make nonsense whispering sounds (one at a time) into each others' ears as they share information up and down the line.

Reindeer Whisperer: I see, I see... Well, I can certainly understand why you feel that way. Yes, indeed.

Elf #3: What's going on?

Elf #5: What are they saying?

The Reindeer Whisperer walks over to Santa and Mrs. Claus.

Reindeer Whisperer: The reindeer are upset that you are sending them away to California, and that you are going to replace them.

Santa and Mrs. Claus: WHAT!!!

Santa: Whatever gave them that idea??

Mrs. Claus: Who would say such a thing??

The elves look at each other, up to the sky, down to the ground. Some are shuffling their feet. They can be humming, clearing their throats, or ad libbing things like: "Busted," "Awkward," "Oops," or "Who, me?" One or two could also whistle in fake innocence.

Santa: (hands on hips, to the group of elves) Do you have something you'd like to say?

Elf #6: We're sorry, Santa.

Elf #1: (regretfully) Oh... We overheard you talking on the phone.

Elf #2: We heard you say something about California.

Elf #3: And the reindeer.

Elf #4: We guessed that maybe you were going to replace the reindeer.

Elf #5: And send them to California to retire.

Santa: I see. Well, let me say that nothing could be further from the truth.

The reindeer look very relieved. They could sigh or even let out a quiet, "Whew!" (No vocal cords.)

Elf #6: (hugging one of the reindeer) Oh, that's a relief!

Add other signs of affection, relief, etc., between the elves and reindeer – high fives, wiping of brows, hugs, etc. If you have one hammy character, have her sob, blow her nose loudly, wipe a tear away with a large colorful hanky, and/or give some other outrageous and exaggerated response.

Mrs. Claus: (to the elves, scolding pose) You have to be careful about the things you say.

Elf #1: (sheepishly) We know.

Elf #2: We didn't mean it. It was a mistake.

Reindeer Whisperer: (slowly, professorially with deliberate enunciation) Ah, but you must realize that words can have great power.

Mrs. Claus: And sometimes, even if you don't mean it, words can hurt.

SONG: Words Can Hurt

Words Can Hurt

solo (optional):

Words can hurt. Be careful what you say.
Try to think before you speak. There is a better way.

all:

We all have feelings. That's a thing we share.
Sometimes we just forget we should try to care.

Our words have power, maybe good or bad.
Sometimes our words can make somebody sad.

Oh, words can hurt. Be careful what you say.
Try to think before you speak. There is a better way.

We all are human. We can all feel pain.
Sometimes we say some things we just can't explain.

If we're not thoughtful when we speak our minds,
Sometimes we say things maybe too unkind.

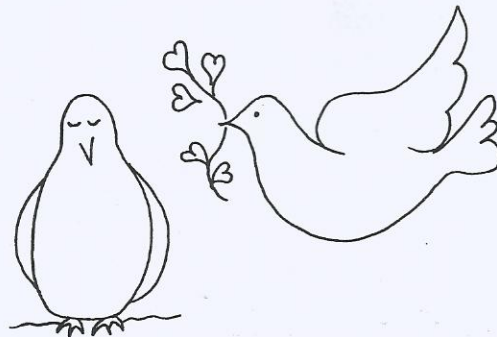
Oh, words can hurt. Be careful what you say.
Try to think before you speak. There is a better way.

Oh, words can hurt. Be careful what you say.
Try to think before you speak. There is a better way.

A better way.

solo (opt.):

A better way.



Elf #3: We're really sorry, Santa.

Santa: Don't tell me, tell them. (*points to the reindeer*)

All of the elves apologize to the reindeer, ad lib. They can use lines such as: "We're sorry," "We didn't mean it," "We'll be more careful," "We won't gossip anymore," "We should have been more sensitive," "We should have gotten our facts straight," etc.

After ad libs, the reindeer at the end of the row whispers to his neighbor, and so on down the line. Then the last reindeer whispers to the Reindeer Whisperer. You can include the whispering sounds as before, if you like, or leave them out for brevity.

Reindeer Whisperer: The reindeer say that they understand, and that all is forgiven.

Elf #4: Hey Santa, so what was that phone call to California about?

Elf #5: Yeah! What was that?

Santa: After Christmas, I'm taking the reindeer on vacation to California to see their favorite show, "Hoofin' With The Stars!"

(Since this previous line is so important to the resolution of the plot, be sure Santa says it slowly and very clearly so that your audience understands what he is saying.)

All the elves ad lib with lots of "wows" and "cools" and "yeahs," etc. Reindeer can jump up and down (mildly except for the ham/hams in the midst), clapping, pumping air, acting excited without making vocal sounds. Maybe a couple of them could be "dancing" with each other for a moment or two to punctuate the message.

Elf #6: That's a great Christmas present for the reindeer!

Elf #1: Santa always does it right!

Elf #2: He sure does!

Elf #3: And the reindeer really deserve it!

All the elves ad lib with comments like: "Yeah," "They sure do," "You said it," and so on. Add (gentle) back slapping, high fiving, nodding, etc., all around.

Mrs. Claus: Ummm, Santa... aren't we forgetting something? (*points to her watch*)

Santa: (*laughing a little*) Oh yes, we have to get ready for Christmas Eve first! Now, how about that test-flight?!

The reindeer all happily and enthusiastically shake their heads "yes." The elves cheer.

Santa waits for cheering to die down before saying his next line.

Santa: *(shaking the Reindeer Whisperer's hand)* Thank you so much, Mr. Salad.

Reindeer Whisperer: That's Sa-laad!

MUSIC: Guitar Strum 4

Santa: *(a bit flustered)* Oh, ahhh... Thank you, Reindeer Whisperer. *(switching focus to his team)* Now, we've got to get to work! Come on team...

All (except reindeer): It's time to fly!!

Since the reindeer can't say the last line, they can either just stand quietly, or they can make a big gesture on the word "fly." For example, have them thrust both hands upward, either straight above their heads or more out front in a "Superman" kind of pose. Or they could nod enthusiastically and even do a little "happy dance" to demonstrate their joy.

Be sure to sneak Herbie back onto the stage somewhere during the last scene so that he can join in the singing of the last song, too!

FINALE: It's Time To Fly!

BOW MUSIC: Reprise: It's Time To Fly!

THE END!

It's Time To Fly!

We have no wings. So what?
It's time to fly!
We're lifting off right now!
It's time to fly!
Send your worries far away.
We don't need them here today.
Grab the reigns and shout, "Hurray!"
Up up and away!"

Flying, flying, flying high!
Come with us up to the sky!
Wings don't matter, if you try.
Just believe and you can fly!
It's time to fly!

We have no wings. (*shout*: So what?)
It's time to fly!
We're lifting off (*shout*: right now!)
It's time to fly!
Send your worries far away.
We don't need them here today.
Grab the reigns and shout, (*shout*: "Hurray!")
Up up and away!"

Flying, flying, flying high!
Come with us up to the sky!
Wings don't matter, if you try.
Just believe and you can fly!
It's time to fly!

It's time to fly!

Flying, flying! We are flying!

It's time to fly!

shout: Fly!

