

Classics Illustrated: A Christmas Carol

Charles Dickens

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Extract

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A Christmas Carol

By

Charles Dickens

Adapted by George D. Lipscomb

Illustrated by Henry Kiefer

TINY TIM

THE LITTLE CRATCHITS

EBENEZER SCROOGE

JACOB MARLEY

HIS NEPHEW

BOB CRATCHIT

THE FIGURES

IN THE DREAM

THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PAST

THE IMMORTAL CHRISTMAS "GHOST STORY" PORTRAYING THE HAIR-RAISING EXPERIENCES OF EBENEZER SCROOGE, A STONYHEARTED OLD SKIN-FLINT, WHO LIVES SOLELY TO SATISFY HIS OWN MATERIAL WANTS AND SCOFFS OPENLY AT THE SPIRITUAL PLEASURES OF HIS FELLOW-MEN.

HIS PARTNER, JACOB MARLEY, A LONG TIME DEAD AND BURIED, SCROOGE CARRIES ON THE BUSINESS BY HIMSELF, EVEN THOUGH THE SIGN ABOVE THE WAREHOUSE STILL BEARS THE LEGEND "SCROOGE AND MARLEY."

ONE COLD BLEAK AND BITING AFTERNOON, THE DAY BEFORE CHRISTMAS, FINDS SCROOGE AT WORK IN HIS COUNTING-HOUSE...

WCK

SUDDENLY, HE HEARD THE CELLAR DOOR FLY OPEN WITH A BOOMING SOUND. THEN, COMING UP THE STAIRS... COMING STRAIGHT TOWARDS HIS DOOR...



It's humbug still! I won't believe it!



THROUGH THE HEAVY DOOR CAME MARLEY'S GHOST, TRAILING A HEAVY CHAIN MADE OF CASH BOXES, PADLOCKS, LEDGERS, DEEDS, AND HEAVY PURSES WROUGHT IN STEEL...



How now! What do you want with me? Who are you?



Ask me who I was! In life, I was your partner, Jacob Marley!