FULL SCRIPT

SCENE 1

NARRATOR (Radio):

Today, children everywhere are making preparations for an event of world-shaking significance...The annual visit of Santa Claus. Informed sources report that junior citizens are making monumental efforts not to cry and not to pout. Meanwhile, letters by the thousands have been flooding postal facilities at the North Pole.

NARRATOR

Well, hello there! I'm your Mailman!
Oh, I've got lots of letters for Santa today, and every year, they're the same.
Some ask for toys, but a lot ask questions.
Like, this one…I bet one of you wrote it.

"Dear Santa, why do you wear a red suit?"

And this one…"Dear Santa, "why do you come down the chimney when I'm asleep?"

Why do you have whiskers?

Why do you live at the North Pole?

Why do you leave presents?

Why do you always come on Christmas Eve?

Why do some people call you Kris Kringle?

Now, I can answer all these questions because I know everything about Santa…including, that Santa is a very busy man.
You see, he has no time to play.
As he's got millions of stockings to fill on Christmas day.
So you'd better write your letter now and mail it right away,
because Santa's getting ready with his reindeers and his sleigh.

Santa Claus Is Coming To Town - Iris

SCENE 2A

NARRATOR

So you want to know all about Santa, eh? The best place to start is at the very beginning, when Santa was just a little baby.
Years and years ago, in one of the northern countries, there was a small city called Sombertown.
It was a cold, cold place which shivered in the shadows of the strange Mountain of the Whispering Winds.
Now, the main reason for all this gloom was the mayor... a mean old grouch of a fellow who was known as Burgermeister Meisterburger.

ENTER Burgermeister and Grimsley

Grimsley:
Herr Burgermeister! Look what was discovered on your front stoop!

Burgermeister:
What Grimsley? The milk? The daily paper?

Grimsley:
No, sir... a baby!

Burgermeister:
Oh, is that all?… *Wait, WHAT?!!!* A baby?!

Grimsley:
And there's a note.
"Please, sir, take care of my child, and protect him from the dangers of the Mountain of the Whispering Winds. He will be exceptional if only given the love he needs."

Burgermeister:
I, Burgermeister Meisterburger, take care of a baby? Outrageous! What's its name?

Grimsley:
This is the only clue, sir. It says, "Claus."

Burgermeister:
Oh, take the little baggage to the orphan asylum. That's the proper place for foundlings, anyway.

EXIT All

SCENE 2B

NARRATOR

But in route to the orphanage, the unthinkable happened!
A terrible snowstorm developed and suddenly the sleigh carrying the baby... well it broke away! And that strange wind blew the little sleigh right up to the Mountain of the Whispering Winds - which was the home of the awful, the terrible...Winter Warlock…- the strange hermit of the north who lived alone in a ghostly palace of ice.

Luckily, the forest animals found the baby first and whisked him away to a safe place. You see, just beyond the Mountain was the the Rainbow River Valley…and the home of a jolly family of Elves named Kringle.

The elf queen, Tanta Kringle, was delighted!

ENTER Tanta

Tanta:

A baby! How splendid! He shall live with us and sleep with us and drink warm cocoa with us. But what will we call him?
Hmmm His license says, "Claus."
An unusual name. However, we shall call him Kris... Kris Kringle.

EXIT Tanta

NARRATOR

Well, those little Kringles took that baby to their hearts.
They taught him all the important things... How to read and write and talk - and how to make toys as The Kringles were toymakers.
The only problem was there were no children to give them to as, you remember, Sombertown was on the other side of the Mountain of the Whispering Winds and the little elves just couldn't make it past the Winter Warlock.
But then Tanta had an idea…she thought maybe, when Kris was big enough, he could help transport their toys over the mountain!

The First Toymakers To The King - Jam

SCENE 3

NARRATOR
Well, as the years went by, the Kringles taught Kris everything they knew about making wonderful toys. And one day when he had grown into a fine young man, it was decided that he would take the toys across the Mountain of the Whispering Winds to Sombertown.

ENTER Kris and Tanta

For the journey, Tanta Kringle made Kris his own Kringle suit!
And he's always worn one just like it, right to this day.
Well, Kris said good-bye to all his friends…

EXIT Tanta

…and just as he started to make his way through the forest, he met a little guy.

ENTER Topper

Kris:
Hey! Why... why, you're a penguin. Well, what is a penguin doing here?

Topper:
* Honk *
(miming the South Pole)

Kris:
You're looking for a stick? A log? A pole? The North Pole? No?
The South Pole! - Well, little feller, that's on the other end of the Earth.
You're just about as lost as you could get.
You better travel with me. You need someone to take care of you.
Do you have a name?
(*Topper shrugs*)
Oh I know! Topper! I'll call you Topper. Ok? This way, little feller.

ENTER Warlock

Winter Warlock:
Who nears my mountain? Go back... Or you are doomed!

Kris:
Run Topper! Run!

EXIT Kris and Topper

Winter Warlock:
I shall get him when he returns. He's got to cross my mountain on the way home, and then... (Ha ha ha) No more being Mr. nice guy.

EXIT Warlock

NARRATOR
And so as Kris and his new Penguin friend Topper fled the mountain and made their way toward Sombertown, the Winter Warlock retreated back into his ice palace. His mountain - the Mountain of the Whispering Winds - was an eerie, yet magical place. Cold and frozen, harsh and foreboding, it was a land where trees assumed human actions - their branches like arms capable of grasping and holding and trapping anyone who dared to trespass. The mountain teemed with mystical and enchanted spirits. It was a place of miracles, magic and wonder.

Mad Russian Christmas - Amethyst

SCENE 4

NARRATOR
Kris and Topper arrived at the gates of Sombertown.
True to it's name, it was a gloomy, gray, sad looking town.
Yet they were excited to bring the kids their Kringle toys!
But what they didn't realize was at that very moment in the
Sombertown City Hall…

ENTER Burgermeister (on crutches) and Grimsley

Grimsley:
Burgermeister Meisterburger! You've broken your funny bone!

Burgermeister
Ohh...What caused me to trip, Grimsley?

Grimsley:
This, sir.

Burgermeister
Hmm? A toy? As I suspected. I hate toys, and toys hate me. Either they are going or I am going, and I am certainly not going, Grimsley.

NARRATOR
And so a decree was issued banning all toys, and the confiscation began…

ENTER Orchid Kids (handing over their toys)

Grimsley:
You heard him! No holdin' back, now.
Hand over all your toys, by order of the Burgermeister.

Child:
We'll never play again.

EXIT All

NARRATOR
How cruel! How mean! Does the Burgermeister have any heart at all?
Come to think of it…you know who he reminds me of?

SCENE 5A
ENTER Kris and Orchid Kids (doing chores)

Kris:
Ho ho ho ho ho!
Hi there.
Well, what's going on here?

Child:
We're doing our chores.
Child:
Yeah, and no more playing.

Kris:
No playing, eh? Are you washing out... stockings?

Child:
Uh-huh. It's one of our daily duties.
Child:
Then we hang them by the fireplace so they dry overnight.

Kris:
Is that so? Well, uh, you don't have to look so glum about it.
Now, I got some real nice goodies for you, but not if you look like this.
You better watch out. You better not cry. You better not pout.

Child:
Why?

Kris:
I'm telling you why! 'Cause I came to town, and look what I brought.

Child:
Real toys!

Kris:
Why, sure... Compliments of the Kringles.

Child:
But... but what about the Burgermeister?

Kris:
What about him? If he wants a toy, he may have one.
I'll save him a big red yo-yo.

Child:
Come on. Let's play!

ENTER Jessica (running in)

Jessica:
Wait! You must not play with toys.

Kris:
And, uh, who are you?

Jessica:
I'm Miss Jessica, the new schoolteacher.
And what do you mean by giving the children toys? Don't you know toys are against the law?

Kris:
What? Gee. That's kind of a silly law.
What do you say you help me hand out these presents, huh? It's too big a job for one oversized Kringle and a little lost penguin.

Jessica:
Well, maybe it is a silly law. Ok, I'll help you.

EXIT Kris and Jessica

SCENE 5B
Orchid Kids are still playing with toys and having fun
(No Topper, no Grimsley)

ENTER Burgermeister

Burgermeister:
Ah, a perfect day. Everybody is glum.
Ah, see? All the little children are playing with their toys.
[Sputters]
Wait - What?!! Playing with their toys?! Stop... in the name of the law!
You brats are under arrest! Take them away.

ENTER Kris

Kris:
Don't arrest those children! It was my fault. I gave them the toys.

Burgermeister
You?! How dare you? You are obviously a nonconformist and a rebel!
Arrest this man immediately.

Kris:
WAIT! For you.
(Gives him a toy)

Burgermeister:
GASP
A yo-yo? I love yo-yos! I used to be able to do all kinds of tricks.
Whee! Hoo hoo hoo! Hee hee! Hoo hoo hoo!

Child:
Excuse me, sir, but you're breaking your own laws.

Burgermeister:
What? What are you saying? What?
[Sputtering]
Ooh... Ooh! Ooh, I have been bamboozled! Arrest him! Arrest him!

EXIT all - (Kris runs off, Burgermeister chases)

NARRATOR
And so Kris ran off, with the Burgermeister in hot pursuit.
Although Kris easily outran him, the Burgermeister was not deterred.
He declared Kris an outlaw and sent his soldiers out to find him.
They scoured the countryside, but luckily Kris managed to evade the troops and made his way into the forest.
But make no mistake, Kris was officially labeled a fugitive, a law breaker.
He was a toymaker - on the run.

Mix re. Break the Law - HH Mulberry

SCENE 6

NARRATOR

Kris, in his desperate attempt to escape, unfortunately ran right into the worst possible place - that's right, he ended up in the forest of the Whispering Winds. And soon he came across a sign that said: "You are trespassing on the lands of the Winter Warlock". He tried to turn back, but the evil Winter Warlock ensnared him in the branches of his mystical trees. He then emerged from his ice palace and called out to Kris…

ENTER Warlock

Winter Warlock:

Kris Kringle... You've disturbed me for the very last time. Now I have you... And you'll never get away! [Laughing evilly]

NARRATOR

He ordered the trees to release their grasp and had Kris brought before him.

ENTER Kris

Kris

Look, uh, before you do me in, I have something for you.
I managed to save one little toy... And I'd like you to have it.

Winter Warlock:

You... You wish to give me... A present? A... A toy?
But... nobody ever gives mean old Warlock... a toy.
(Kris gives Warlock a toy train)

Winter Warlock:

A choo-choo! I've always wanted one. [Sobbing]

My icy heart. It's…it's melting.
Oh, yes! Suddenly, my whole outlook has changed from bad to good.
Ah... but will it last? I really am a mean and despicable creature at heart, you know. It's so difficult to... Really change.

Kris

Difficult? Ha ha ha! Why, look here. Changing from bad to good is as easy as taking your first step.

One Foot In Front Of The Other - Orchid

SCENE 7A
ENTER Warlock and Kris and Topper

Winter Warlock:
Well, there are all kinds of ways we can help each other. You can bring me nice, new toys and... I can assist you with my magic. Here, I'll show you. Gaze into my magic crystal snowball. Someone is looking for you.

Kris
Why, that's Jessica walking alone in the forest. She's looking for me!
Let's go Topper!

EXIT Warlock (Kris and Topper cross)

SCENE 7B
ENTER Jessica

Jessica:
Oh! I thought I'd never find you again. I wanted to bring you these...
Letters and notes from the children of Sombertown, asking for more toys.
You see, the Burgermeister destroyed the ones you brought.

Kris:
You tell those young'uns there'll be plenty of toys, but only if they behave themselves.
No cryin' or poutin' or... Oh, I... I'll know. I got ways of knowin'.
(*Kris uses a magic ball*)
My, uh, personal friend, the Warlock, taught me this.
Yes, I can see 'em when they're sleepin', and I know when they're awake.

Jessica:
My goodness. You know if they're bad or good?

Kris:
Uh-huh. So you tell them to be good, for goodness' sake.

Jessica:
Oh, thank you, Kris. For being so kind, and…for just being you.

Kris:
Gol-Lee, you're so sweet Miss.Jessica. Now, uh... About the toys... I'll have to kind of slip 'em in after dark, when the Burgermeister is asleep, so you tell all the boys and girls to leave their doors unlocked tomorrow night.

EXIT Jessica

NARRATOR
Kris made a list of all the children and the toys they wanted.
He checked it over once, then checked it over twice.
He tried to figure out just who was naughty and who was nice.

Kris:
Well, I guess they're all pretty nice. Let's go…off to Sombertown!

EXIT Kris and Topper

SCENE 7C

NARRATOR
So Kris delivered his presents to the homes of the town's children in the dark of night. But when the Burgermeister found the children yet again playing with toys the next morning, he made another decree: all the town's doors and windows were to be locked tight against the prowler!

When Kris arrived the following night, he was stumped.
How could he get the toys to the children?

ENTER Kris and Topper

Topper:
Honk!

Kris:
Topper. What is it? You have an idea... How to get into the house, but not through the door? Up? The sky? The moon? The stars? The chimney?
Go down the chimney? Great idea! Well... Here goes.

Up On the Housetop - Adult Tap

SCENE 8A

NARRATOR
When the Burgermeister discovered more toys by the hearths and the mantel pieces, he declared that each house in Sombertown would be searched before dawn. And if any more toys were found by the fireplace, they were to be confiscated and the children severely punished!

But those letters just kept right on coming.

ENTER Kris and Topper

Kris:
Doggone, how can I get the toys to them? They have got to have toys. Otherwise, their life will be nothing but school and chores and washing their stockings and...The stockings. The stockings! Take this to Jessica. She'll know what to tell the children.

NARRATOR
The next morning, the Burgermeister arrived for his daily inspection.

ENTER Burgermeister and Grimsley

Burgermeister:
Search the premises! If you find so much as one marble or half a Jack, the house is under arrest! Double time, hup!

Grimsley:
We can't find anything, Herr Burgermeister. Nothing but drying stockings.

Burgermeister:
Good. Very good. No toys. Just drying stockings...As is proper. Let's go Grimsley.

EXIT Burgermeister and Grimsley

NARRATOR
But as you've probably figured out by now, those drying stockings weren't empty…no - they were filled with toys! And that's how the tradition began. When the Burgermeister found toys in his town once again, he had reached his limit.

ENTER Burgermeister and Grimsley

Burgermeister:
More toys? But how? Oh! Blast it!
I will do what I should have done a long time ago. I will set a trap for that bothersome Kringle. His next visit to Sombertown will be his last.

EXIT All

SCENE 8B

NARRATOR
And unfortunately his trap worked, for the next time Kris tried to deliver presents - he, along with his accomplices - Topper and the Winter Warlock - were caught, arrested and thrown in the dungeon.

Upon hearing the news, Jessica ventured off to the jail to see if she could help.

ENTER Jessica and Warlock, Kris and Topper (in jail)

Jessica:
Oh no! I want to set you all free, but I don't know how. Can you use your magic powers Mr. Warlock?

Winter Warlock:
Alas, I've nothing but a few meager magic leftovers here in my pockets:
A short-circuited wand... useless; A dried-up magic potion... powerless;
And a few, last handfuls of magic feed corn... just junk.

Jessica:
Magic feed corn?

Winter Warlock:
Well, it's of no use to us. It can't dissolve prison walls.
All it can do is make reindeer fly.

Jessica:
Reindeer? Fly?

Winter Warlock:
Yes. Ridiculous, isn't it?

NARRATOR
But Jessica didn’t think so…she had an idea.

EXIT Jessica

Later that night, she rounded up some of Kris' reindeer friends. They just had to take one nibble of that corn, and...the reindeer carried Kris and his friends right out of prison.

And that's how Santa's reindeer started to fly…

EXIT All

Whoo-ee! Look at them go! I bet you know their names.

Rudolph - Indigo

SCENE 9

NARRATOR

Like Robin Hood of old, Kris suddenly found himself again called an outlaw. They started putting up Wanted posters all around Sombertown.

ENTER Kris and Jessica

Kris: (reading a poster)
"Wanted dead or alive, the terrible toymaker...Kris Kringle." Ho ho ho ho ho! Well, those posters are not going to do them any good now.

Jessica:

Oh, Kris, let me take a good look at it.

(*Kris turns around and he has the iconic Santa Claus beard*)

Kris

Pretty grand, eh?
Well, since I'm a Kringle, I had to grow one sooner or later.

Jessica:

Ah, but you should not use your Kringle name. It's dangerous.

Kris

Well Tanta told me she found a name tag on me when I was a baby that said “Claus”…maybe I’ll go with that!

EXIT All

Here Comes Santa Claus - HH Raisin

SCENE 10

NARRATOR

So that's where he got his name from - and it was that name he asked Jessica to share. You see, they were married and she became…Mrs. Claus. It was a lovely wedding. Yes, indeed. They held it on Christmas Eve, and since no town would welcome them, they gathered in the silent winter woods, decorated the pine trees to make a beautiful setting, and then placed their wedding gifts to each other under the trees.

Wedding Song / O Christmas Tree - Pointe

SCENE 11

NARRATOR
But there was no rest for our little group of outcasts.
Soon, they were forced up beyond the reaches of civilization...
Up, far past the most northern city, past where even most animals live, up to the North Pole. But in no time at all, they settled in and started making toys in earnest. As the years went by, animals delivered letters by the thousands.

ENTER Kris

Kris:
Oh, just look at this list. Ho ho! Ah, this is the fourth trip this month. Well... Load up the sleigh. We'll leave tonight!

EXIT Kris

NARRATOR
You see, he still had to travel by night because he was still considered an outlaw.
But as time went by, the Meisterburgers kinda fell out of power and by and by, the good people realized how silly the Meisterburger laws were.
The older Kris got, the more famous he became, and the more folks loved him. But as more and more requests from children all over the world came in, he could hardly keep up with the orders so he decided to limit his journeys to once a year. Which night did he choose? Why the night of his anniversary of course. Christmas Eve.

And that's how it all started. That is the story of Santa Claus.

Hey, it's getting late, and I've got these letters to deliver. And you better be getting home, too. But remember.. Behave yourselves, 'cause Santa can still look into his magic snowball and see just what you're up to.

And now that you know all about him, you can be darn sure that, that come snow or high water…

Santa Claus Is Coming To Town - BOWS