

CHRISTMAS MIRACLES (TALES OF THE INCANDESCENT ILLUMINATION NUMBER ONE)

Written by

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X gazes into the incandescent light emanating from Y's GIANT LIGHT-BULB and what she experiences can only be described as "a Christmas miracle".

BRIGHT LIGHT OF THE BULB FADES SCENE IN:

EXT. SNOWY RURAL BACKROADS - DAY

We see a family MINIVAN driving and hear

DAD (V.O.)

The best thing about Wyoming is the snow, kids!

INT. THE MINI VAN - DAY

Two kids in the backseat MARK(14) and JARED(11) are looking out the window. Average looking MOM and DAD are in the front seat. Dad is driving.

MARK

As long as I don't have to shovel it.

JARED

I've never like built a snow man or anything before!

MARK

Yo dad let's stop somewhere I gotta piss.

MOM

Mark! Watch your language it's Christmas!

DAD

Haha, it's okay, hun, I gotta pee too. We'll stop at the next gas station.

Mom shakes her head. Dad and Jared laugh. Mark continues to look out the window.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. SHABBY MOUNTAIN GAS STATION - DAY

Mark is looking at a curly slim Jim.

DAD

You kids get whatever you want, alright?

MARK

Yeah, whatever's edible.

Mom is in the corner looking at some Holiday themed racks.

WE SEE A VERY VERY LARGE STOCKING.

MOM

Look at these. They're huge.

DAD

We don't need any decoration type stuff, hun, the place I rented comes fully lit up and decorated, all we gotta get is the tree, but leave that to the men.

MOM

No, that's not what I mean I'm just saying this thing's big enough to fit a whole toy store in! This is a weird gas station.

JARED

A whole toy store!?

MOM

Look at these huge stockings, hun.

MARK

They're like, for giants.

DAD

We all set here?

MARK

I'm good.

DAD

You don't want a stale honey bun or anything, Jared?

JARED

No way!

Dad laughs.

MARK

I might get the expired slim Jim.

The whole family laughs.

WE SEE THE STORE OWNER ROLL HIS EYES AND RETURN TO WATCHING HIS LITTEL TV. (ANCIENT ALIENS IS PLAYING)

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SNOWY RURAL BACKROADS - EVENING

We see the minivan as it drives through more scenic roads.

INT. THE MINI VAN - EVENING

DAD

Nobody around for miles, fresh clean mountain air, and wait till you guys see the cabin!

The kids aren't paying attention they're both looking out the window.

DAD

We're lucky we got to book this place when we did because --

MOM

Ed stop!

A REINDEER IN THE ROAD!

EXT. THE MINI VAN - EVENING

The minivan swerves and breaks hard as everyone screams.

INT. THE MINI VAN - EVENING

MOM

Are you guys okay!?

JARED

I'm fine

Mark Nods.

WE SEE THE REINDEER STANDING IN FRONT OF THE CAR.

JARED

There's real reindeer in Wyoming too, dad?

MOM

I ... don't think so.

DAD

They ... probably escaped from some Christmas exhibit somewhere. But wow! What a Christmasy thing to happen right guys!?

JARED

What? Almost get in a car crash?

WE SEE THE REINDEER STANDING THERE ONE LAST TIME, THEN IT TAKES OFF INTO THE WOODS.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CHRISTMAS CABIN - NIGHT

The minivan pulls up. Family gets out.

The place is already all lit up with Christmas lights.

JARED

(sarcastic)

Wow dad.

DAD

(shrugging)
Go big or go home!

They all start to unpack.

MOM

Your dad just thinks we deserve a real Christmas for once. You guys are always at school and practice, we're always at work, this'll be nice.

We watch the family walk up to the cabin.

INT. CHRISTMAS CABIN - NIGHT

PAN AROUND THE ROOM SHOWING HOW CHRISTMASY ITS DECORATED.

The family sets their bags down.

MARK

Where's the tree?!

DAD

I told you guys we're gonna go out and find the tree ourselves. The trees a big deal! That's why I bought all this fancy mountaineering equipment.

Jared rolls his eyes.

Dad sits in a comfy chair and turns the TV on.

There's wifi and all too obviously. You kids take your bags up to whatever rooms you want.

MOM

Such a big counter-top too! I can wrap presents here tomorrow morning while you guys are out and look out this big window at the snow. Oh it'll be so Christmasy.

Then mom goes and sits in dads lap. They kiss,

DAD

Merry Christmas, hun.

MOM

Merry Christmas.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CHRISTMAS CABIN - NIGHT

WE SEE THE CABIN AND HEAR GENTLE JINGLE BELLS.

Then we

SLOW TIME LAPSE TO MORNING.

EXT. CHRISTMAS CABIN - MORNING

We see Mark outside grabbing something out of the mini van.

He looks down when he closes the door and he sees reindeer hoof prints in the snow by the back of the car.

Mark looks around at the snowy scenery.

INT. CHRISTMAS CABIN - MORNING

Mom is having coffee sitting at the counter. Jared and dad are getting dressed.

Mark walks in.

MARK

Hey dad?

DAD

Come on, get dressed.

MARK

I think that reindeer followed us up here last night. There's tracks outside by the car.

DAD

Maybe it's one of Santa's reindeer coming to check up on you guys!

Mom laughs. Sets her coffee on the counter. Then she gets up.

MOM

Okay you big strong men go get me a Christmas tree.

DAD

Mark, get dressed.

MARK

Okay.

Mom looks out the big kitchen window.

MOM

I hope some reindeer do come back. So festive!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CHRISTMAS CABIN - DAY

Mom is wrapping presents and having a glass of wine at the counter. She's looking out the window and listening to Christmas music.

CLOSE UP HER SMILING FACE. CHANGES TO WIDE EYES AND OPEN JAW IN SHOCK.

then

THROUGH THE WINDOW WE SEE BIG FOOT DRESSED IN HIS DARK GREEN AND GOLD DRUID CLOAK CHASING EIGHT TINY REINDEER THROUGH THE SNOW AND GROWLING!

Mom stairs out the window after he's gone for a moment then,

She takes a big swig of her wine. Then she looks back at the window.

MOM

Ha ... haha ... hahahaha!

HARD CUT TO:

EXT. SNOW COVERED FOREST - DAY

Dad and the boys are walking through the snow. Dad has a big backpack on him.

JARED

These are all too big, dad.

DAD

I know.

They continue to walk. Jared is in front of mark.

We see a snowball fly past mark and hit Jared in the shoulder!

JARED

You little turd!

MARK

(looking behind himself.)

It wasn't me!

JARED

Right it was Santa's elves then?

DAD

You guys can play in the snow when we get back. You don't wanna get all wet before we find a tree.

DAD TURNS BACK AROUND A SNOWBALL SMACK IN HIS FACE!

JARED

Oh shit!

MARK

See! I told you it wasn't me!

More snowballs suddenly start flying out of every random direction and hitting them!

MARK

Dad!

DAD

Run!

They all run and continue to be pelted with snowballs!

JARED

What's going on!?

DAD

I don't know!

They continue to run from the snow ball onslaught.

And continue,

And then,

They stop because,

WE SEE THE PERFECT TREE, IT HAS A SILLY SPOTLIGHT ON IT FROM NOWHERE AND GLOWS AND BIRDS CHIRP AROUND IT AND HOLY HYMNS ARE HEARD AND A HARP PLAYS!

DAD

Guys ... look!

Jared looks back the way they came, peering into the woods to see who or what was throwing the snow balls. He sees nothing.

MARK

What just happened!?

DAD

I have no idea.

MARK

It was kinda fun! And we found a tree!

DAD

Okay ... okay yeah let's cut it down and get outta here.

Dad takes off his backpack. He takes out an ax.

Then he starts to chop at the tree.

He huffs and puffs.

The kids watch as he chops.

He continues to huff and puff.

Dad steps back and looks at the tree.

Maybe I should have brought a chainsaw.

JARED

Wow dad, just wow.

Dad looks around the woods.

DAD

It's gonna be dark out by time we get this thing cut down. I don't wanna have you guys out here in the dark.

MARK

What about the tree, dad!?

DAD

We'll come back first thing in the morning with a chainsaw.

Jared rolls his eyes again.

MARK

Santa won't know where to leave the presents though!

DAD

Don't worry, he's Santa I'm sure he's run into this kinda thing before, he'll figure it out.

JARED

Yeah if we can find our way back.

DAD

We will. Don't worry. Come on guys.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. SNOW COVERED FOREST - SUNDOWN

Dad and the boys are walking through the snow.

DAD

See if we can find our way back then we can find our way back again tomorrow too.

JARED

You make no sense, dad.

Sure I do.

MARK

It's getting dark.

DAD

I know. The cars right up here.

We watch them struggle up a snowy hill. The minivan is on the other side.

MARK

Dad it's too steep!

DAD

(reaching for marks

hand.)

You got this come on.

They get to the minivan and

DAD

See, we made it.

They get inside the minivan.

They drive away and

CAMERA PANS DOWN WE SEE A BIGFOOT FOOT PRINT RIGHT NEXT TO THE END OF THEIR TIRE TRACK IN THE SNOW.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CHRISTMAS CABIN - NIGHT

Dad and the boys walk through the front door.

DAD

Hey hun, bad news ... Hun?

We see mom sitting in the comfy chair with a bottle of wine laughing to herself. The counter has half wrapped presents still.

Dad approaches mom.

DAD

Jared take your brother upstairs and wash up.

Dad takes the wine from moms hand and sets it down on an end table.

Honey? What happened? Are you okay?

MOM

Hahaha. Yeah ... I saw, hahah, Bigfoot.

DAD

The climate must be getting to you with the wine.

MOM

He was chasing eight tiny reindeer. Hahahaha. Right outside our window.

DAD

I think the climate is getting to me and the boys too, probably saw those exhibit deer again and got spooked and had a hallucination. Honey go upstairs and lay down. I'll go call the game warden about the deer.

Mom laughs to herself in the chair.

MOM

You're probably right.

DAD

I am.

MOM

Did you get a tree?

DAD

No that's a long story for tomorrow. For now just rest, hun. I'm gonna go call the warden.

He kisses her and walks out of scene.

Mom laughs to herself again, slouched in the chair.

Dad walks into the kitchen and looks out the window and takes out his phone and types on it.

GAME WARDEN (V.O.)

Hello, county game warden.

Hi, I just wanted to let you guys know that there's some runaway reindeer prowling around up here, they've scared my wife and almost wrecked my car. You should get someone up here to handle them before they cause some real damage.

GAME WARDEN (V.O.)

Sir, is this a joke? I appreciate the festive theme but there are no reindeer up here, we have a lot of species and there are deer, but not reindeer.

DAD

It's not a joke. I think they escaped from some kind of Christmas exhibit nearby.

GAME WARDEN (V.O.)

There's no Christmas exhibits going on up there sir and we haven't gotten any calls in about any escaped livestock. Best I could do is call some neighboring counties.

DAD

(rolls his eyes)
Okay. Thank you for your help.

GAME WARDEN (V.O.)

Merry Christmas.

DAD

Yeah you too.

Dad hangs up. He goes back to check on mom. She's asleep in the chair now. Dad smiles and kisses her on the cheek.

Then we hear a thud from outside the house.

Dad's face-'man on a mission'

EXT. CHRISTMAS CABIN - NIGHT

Dad runs outside. Jared emerges behind him. They look at each other.

JARED

Dad the deer!

I know!

They run out into the snow. Dad runs around one side of the house. Jared runs around the other. Camera stays at the front. They're gone for a moment, then they both emerge from opposite sides.

They're both gasping for air.

JARED

You see them?

DAD

No.

JARED

Me either.

DAD

I'm gonna call the game warden back. Go inside with your brother.

JARED

Okay.

Jared goes inside.

Dad takes out his phone again and redials. But he hangs up before someone answers because

JARED (O.S.)

(from inside the cabin)

Dad!

Dad runs inside.

INT. CHRISTMAS CABIN - NIGHT

WE SEE THE HOODED BIGFOOT FROM BEHIND. HE'S STANDING IN THE CENTER OF THE ROOM HOLDING THE TREE FROM BEFORE OVER HIS SHOULDER AND BREATHING HEAVY. AS HE DOES, THE TREE RISES AND LOWERS WITH HIS BODY AND BITS OF DIRT SHAKE OFF OF THE ROOTS.

MARK

It's Santa!

Jared whips his phone out and starts recording.

Dad is trembling.

Bigfoot turns around and we see

BIGFOOT'S BIG GRIZZLY HAPPY GRIN! HE SLAMS THE TREE DOWN!

BIGFOOT

Ho ho ho ho!

DAD

Its ... it's ... a Christmas miracle!

END.