

THE CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

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INT. APARTMENT

After the opening credits, we see DAVE KINROY getting himself ready to go to church. Since he invented a tech application that helped him retire at an early age his apartment looks very high class. He is doing the usual stuff to get himself ready like bathe and get dressed.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD

This is where we see Dave drive to the church.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH

PASTOR ROBERT ELLSWORTH is finishing up his sermon. He begins to make an announcement.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

As some of you may know, it is time for our annual Christmas Eve pageant here at the church. It is one of our most popular events that attracts any and all who wish to celebrate.

Just then PASTOR ELLSWORTH goes from looking around the room to making almost direct eye contact with DAVE. DAVE goes from a little relaxed to edgy.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

So with that said we will be looking for a few volunteers to handle this years pageant. We need it now more than ever since Caroline has moved to Arizona and Mr. Presley decided he wanted to marry that 25 year old after winning the lottery and feeling like he didn't need Jesus anymore. The sign up sheet in on the bulletin board just outside the entrance to the sanctuary in the atrium. Let us pray.

While the congregation around him has their heads bowed, DAVE is sitting there with a odd look on his face.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH ENTERANCE

DAVE is seen talking to AMANDA BUTTERFIELD, who has had her eye on DAVE and also works at the church.

AMANDA

So what have you been doing with yourself since you are "retired"?

DAVE

I've been around. I took a trip to Prospect Lake yesterday and did some fishing before the snow starts to come in.

AMANDA

Fishing in November eh? Must have been cold all alone.

DAVE

No, I have a couple of buddies with me. One almost drowned.

AMANDA

Oh my goodness. Is he fine.

DAVE

Yeah, he's fine once he figured out you can't drown in 3 inches of water.

MRS. ELLSWORTH comes into the conversation. Followed by PASTOR ELLSWORTH.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Dave, it's always a pleasure to see you in church.

DAVE

Thanks. You know I wouldn't miss my buddy performing.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Performing? Why must you think I'm performing.

DAVE

Well look at you. Nice robe. Music behind you. But you need to work on it.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Oh really, why is that?

DAVE

I mean you did put the old lady I was sitting next to asleep.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

That must be Cassandra. She is ALWAYS sleeping. That woman would sleep through World War three.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

(playfully hitting PASTOR ELLSWORTH)

Oh Rob. Anyway, I was wondering if maybe Ms. Amanda here could help me with getting the snacks out for the upcoming meeting.

AMANDA

Well I was kind of busy.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

With what dear?

AMANDA

Talking to Dave.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Like I said...with what dear?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Now now Charlene, the meeting won't be within another two hours. Dave, you should join us.

DAVE

OH I can't. Told the guys I'd meet them to go to the Broncos game.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Oh that's right. You've had those tickets for some time. Well I guess I'll ask you here before you leave.

DAVE

Ask me what?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Would you mind...for this year only...taking over the Christmas pageant?

DAVE
Say what now?

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Yes...say what now?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Yeah, I think it would be great if
you gave Charlene a break here and
run the whole thing on..

DAVE starts to get antsy and nervous. MRS. ELLSWORTH starts
to get a little mad.

DAVE
Look I got to go. I'll talk to you
later. Bye

DAVE rushes away. PASTOR ELLSWORTH, MRS. ELLSWORTH, and
AMANDA are standing there trying make what just happened.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Well that was rude.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Yes it was. I wonder why he ran
like he did.

AMANDA
Probably because he had to take a
shit.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Take a what?

AMANDA
You know a shit. A crap. A poop.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
I think we know that. It's how you
just said it.

AMANDA
(realizing what she just
said)
Um...Oh...yeah. My bad. Sorry.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
It's alright.

AMANDA
I'll just go now.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
 Hope to see you in a couple
 hours...with a cleaner mouth.

AMANDA
 Yes ma'am.

CUT TO:

EXT. PARK BENCH

DAVE is sitting there by himself. He is starting to
 flashback to a Christmas in his childhood. The flashback
 begins with him and his sister sitting at a Christmas tree.

YOUNG DAVE
 So, what do you think Santa will
 bring us.

YOUNG CLARISE
 I don't know. But it better be a
 kitten.

YOUNG DAVE
 Why not a puppy?

YOUNG CLARISE
 Because puppies poop on carpets and
 kitties poop in boxes.

YOUNG DAVE
 Puppies don't poop on the floor.
 Only relatives do that when they're
 drunk.

YOUNG CLARISE
 That was a mess Aunt Jena left
 behind for us.

YOUNG DAVE
 Why does that present look funny?

YOUNG CLARISE gets to under the tree then a loud BANG is
 heard...and a snowball hits YOUNG DAVE in the face. We go
 back to DAVE on the park bench with snow on his face.

DAVE
 WHAT THE...Oh hey Amanda

AMANDA
 Hey buddy. Sorry about the
 snowball. You were zoned out and it
 was either the snowball or

(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

this...other snowball.

AMANDA sits next to DAVE on the bench.

AMANDA

You ran out of church pretty quick. I assumed you'd be on your way to Denver the way you ran out.

DAVE

Oh that, I'm not going. Just texted my buddy told him I wasn't feeling well. It's the....

AMANDA

You aren't feeling well? I call bullshit. You look fine to me. I mean, in a healthy sort of way not like in a sexual or..well you look just fine to me.

DAVE

It's just Pastor Rob kind of ruined my day a bit.

AMANDA

Why? I mean all he asked you was to run the Christmas pageant. I mean, it's not like he asked you to run an army to invade a third world country or anything like that. I will say his sermon did suck at times today.

DAVE

Yeah, that sermon did suck a plenty. Actually, it's just...

AMANDA

It's what? You can tell me. I won't say anything.

DAVE

I know you won't say anything. Let's just say me and Christmas...we don't get along to well.

DAVE gets up and goes to his car. AMANDA is left by herself pondering what did Dave mean by saying that.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. HOUSE

Pastor Ellsworth, Mrs. Ellsworth, and there two kids are getting ready to eat dinner.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

(in prayer)

And Lord we thank you for blessing us with this food. In Jesus name we pray...Amen.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Amen. Rob, why did you ask Dave that?

BOBBY

Mom, could you pass the potatoes before you argue with Dad?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Oh Bobby, we aren't going to argue.

BOBBY

Yeah, but she went right into a question before even telling us who wants this and that. So I assuming you guys are about to fight.

RONNIE

Don't assume Bobby.

BOBBY

Why?

RONNIE

Because you'll make an ass out of you and me..and mom...and dad.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

BOYS! First of all we don't use that kind of language at this dinner table and secondly your mother and I are not about to argue just because she asked a simple question.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

(with a very stern look on her face.)

Why...did...you...ask...Dave...that...question...at...church?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH and the boys know what is about to come down.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Say boys, why don't you take your dinner to the living room and watch some TV.

RONNIE
Yes sir. Come on Bobby, this might get ugly.

The boys leave the room with their dinner leaving PASTOR ELLSWORTH and MRS. ELLSWORTH alone at the dinner table.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Look Charlene I thought it might help him out.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
You know exactly how Dave feels around Christmas time and you also know that I always ALWAYS run the Christmas pageant.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
I know this Charlene. I felt like maybe this year you take a break and let Dave run it.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
I don't need to take a break from those wonderful children who look forward to seeing me run that pageant. And also, giving this kind of a job to Dave is like you want to set off a walking psychological time bomb.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
You make it sound like what I am doing is a bad thing.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Maybe it is. Maybe you don't see what you are doing could, in essence, ruin someone's Christmas.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH sits there and thinks about something. He then get up from the table and goes to the door.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Where are you going?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Going...for a walk.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Can't you do it after dinner?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
No. No I can't.

Door closes behind PASTOR ELLSWORTH. MRS. ELLSWORTH is sitting there by herself until one of the kids come in the room.

BOBBY
So, where did Dad go?

MRS. ELLSWORTH
He went to take a walk. Why don't you and Ronnie come back in here. Things are okay now.

BOBBY
We can't.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Why?

BOBBY
Because we're done eating.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Well that was quick.

BOBBY
I have been your son for around eleven years now. Ronnie for nine. You should know by now we are very fast eaters.

MRS. ELLSWORTH sits there and smiles at Bobby.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT

DAVE is in his apartment alone. He begins to have another flashback. The flashback begins with YOUNG DAVE and YOUNG CLARISE sitting at the coffee table.

YOUNG CLARISE
So...what do we do now?

YOUNG DAVE
I don't know. So do you think Santa
will still visit us?

YOUNG CLARISE
(beginning to tear up)
Hopefully.

YOUNG DAVE
Hey hey, don't cry. Everything is
going to be okay.

YOUNG CLARISE
Will it Davey? Will it?

We then hear loud footsteps coming towards the children.
This knocks DAVE out of the flashback to present time to
hear knocking at his door. He opens the door. It's PASTOR
ELLSWORTH.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Mind if I come and visit?

DAVE
Yeah, sure come on in.

PASTOR ELLSWORHT walks in. Sits down on the couch. DAVE sits
in a chair to his right.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
So...how was the game? The Broncos
win?

DAVE
I didn't go.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Why is that?

DAVE
I didn't feel up to going.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
I think I have a pretty good reason
why.

DAVE
You do?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Yeah. I threw that offer to run the pageant at you completely forgetting how you feel around this time of year.

DAVE

Look, it's fine. I'll get over it.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Will you? I mean, you seem like that day still haunts you. I'd thought you'd be over it by now.

DAVE

Just some things you can't get over easily.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Look, the offer is still there. And frankly doing this may help you in the long run.

DAVE

How? How is it going to help me?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Well, it could get that horrible day out of your memory so you can enjoy the holidays again.

DAVE

I enjoy the holidays just fine.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Yeah.

(walks over to a
breakfast nook with
bottles of liquor on it)

Looks like you enjoy the holidays just fine. I am looking out for you. I've known you since high school...

DAVE

Oh we're doing that speech again? Look, save it.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Fine. But I have put you in charge of the Christmas pageant and you will run it. Man up and do it.

DAVE
ALRIGHT! FINE! I'll do
it.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Just don't do it when you've hit a
couple of these (grabs one of the
liquor bottles). Leave the drinking
to Charlene. Because she is sure
going to down some tonight when I
tell her.

DAVE
Have some before to help with the
pain.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Be at the church. 3pm to set up.
Thanks again.

DAVE
Yeah. Hope I don't screw it up.

CUT TO:

EXT. CHURCH PARKING LOT

It the next day. DAVE has arrived a little early to start
the process of setting up. Some kids walk towards him.

KID #1
So YOU'RE the man running this.

DAVE
Excuse Me?

KID #2
You know what we're talking about.
Or should we (picks up some snow,
about to make a snowball) refresh
your memory.

DAVE
Whoa WHOA there little tiger. If
this is about the pageant,
then...yes I am.

KID #1
(playfully smiles)
See, a little reinforcing always
helps a man remember.

DAVE

What...what are you talking about?
You sound like midget gangsters
looking to whack someone.

The kids stare at each other confused.

KID #1

What's a gangster?

KID #2

What's a midget?

DAVE

A gangster is someone who...

Out of the corner of his eye he notices AMANDA walking in to the church.

DAVE

Look guys, I have to go set up. Why
don't you just Google it like all
good kids do these days.

KID #1

Geez mister. Sorry if you are in a
hurry. We just want to know why
Mrs. Ellsworth isn't doing the
pageant.

KID #2

Yeah. You don't need to break our
balls about it. I mean, I'm already
pressured to tell Santa I want a
corvette. I don't need this.

DAVE

You're eight years old. What are
you going to do with a corvette?

KID #2

I'll think of something.

KID #1

(goes over to Dave,
whispers)

Don't mind him. He heard his dad
say it and he thinks Corvettes are
cool. But they are not.

DAVE

(whispers back to Kid #1)
You see that car over there?

KID #1
Yeah. Looks pretty cool.

DAVE
THAT is a corvette.

KID #1
It is?

DAVE
It sure is. Now what did you say
about corvettes?

KID #1
That they don't look cool.

Kid #2 hears this. Picks up some snow and starts to go after
Kid #1.

KID #1
Put it down, I'm sorry.

KID #2
Say it. Say corvettes are cool.

KID #1
Look let's not carried away. I am
only stating my...

We then see DAVE with some snow.

DAVE
Go ahead. Say it. Say it.

KID #1
Okay, corvettes are cool.

KID #2
Yell it so the whole town can hear
it.

DAVE
Actually his voice will probably
reach the Mall.

KID #2
Good point. (goes back to Kid #1)
SAY IT! YELL IT SO THE PEOPLE WHO
ARE IN THE VICINITY OF HEARING
DISTANCE TO THE MALL CNA HEAR IT!!

KID #1
CORVETTES ARE COOL. There are you
(MORE)

KID #1 (CONT'D)

happy.

KID #2

Nah. (Throws a snowball)

KID #1

YOU ASS!!!

The kids begin to snowball fight. DAVE casually walks into the church.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH

We see AMANDA getting boxes and placing them around the alter. DAVE walks in and stops to look at AMANDA in an almost loving way. Then snaps out of it.

DAVE

You need some help?

AMANDA

Hey. What are you doing here?

DAVE

I asked you first.

AMANDA

Yeah I'm going to need some help. Now to my question. What ARE you doing here?

DAVE

I took up Pastor Rob's offer. Running the pageant. I don't want to do it. But he insisted on it.

AMANDA

That's awesome. Wait, how is Charlene taking this?

DAVE

Don't know. But that makes me worried about Rob. Hope when he told her nothing bad happened to him.

AMANDA

You are talking like what Pastor Ellsworth did may be the end of his...

DAVE

Life? Not that drastic but it could be detrimental to his health taking this away from her.

AMANDA

Say, before we open these up, let's talk about how she did things.

MRS. ELLSWORTH walks in.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

How about I tell him.

AMANDA

Mrs. Ellsworth? Didn't know you were here.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Honey, my husband is the Pastor at this church. If I feel the need to come here to get away from his butt I can. And besides, I was already here waiting for Dave to arrive.

DAVE

So Rob told you?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Yes. And like you I don't want you to run it. But if he, as the Pastor, thinks it's best you run it then so be it.

DAVE

So be it.

AMANDA

So be it.

DAVE

Why did you repeat that?

AMANDA

I don't know.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Not the first time she's answered a question with that response. Oh by the way maybe I should tell you once reason she feels you ran out the other day when Rob asked you to take over the pageant.

AMANDA
 (getting embarrassed)
 Mrs. Ellsworth, please don't. Not here.

DAVE
 Oh I'd like to hear this.

AMANDA
 (getting real embarrassed)
 No, no you don't.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
 Oh yes. She said you probably ran out so quick because (whispers in Dave's ear). I had to remind her where she was when she said it.

DAVE
 (looks at AMANDA confused)
 A shit? You thought I wound up getting a case of...

MRS. ELLSWORTH
 OH FOR THE LOVE OF GOD, DOES ANYONE HAVE ANY DECENCY IN WHAT THEY SAY IN THIS CHURCH?

DAVE
 Sorry..a poop. You thought I got diarrhea or something?

AMANDA
 Well I mean that's a good reason someone hurries off like you did.

DAVE
 Good point. Besides my Aunt Jena used to crap on the carpet when she'd...

Both AMANDA and MRS. ELLSWORTH are looking at him funny. This makes DAVE stop talking.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
 Go ON.

DAVE
 No. Let's get these boxes squared away shall we?

MRS. ELLSWORTH
You two do that and I'll get the
plans from last year so you can
look them over Dave.

MRS. ELLSWORTH leaves. DAVE and AMANDA are alone.

DAVE
So where do you want this box?

AMANDA
Over there. That one box labeled
"WISE MEN" are the costumes.

DAVE
Oh really.

AMANDA
Yep. They were labeled last year so
the kids know what they need to
get.

DAVE
Like this box labeled "Jesus
Christ"?

AMANDA
That one is for our main star.
Who..we don't know who it will be
this year.

DAVE
Why is that?

AMANDA
Well the kid who played Jesus is
now in high school and none of the
kids want to play him.

DAVE
Was that because he played Jesus so
well?

AMANDA
No. It's because he's now in HIGH
SCHOOL. This pageant is for kids in
kindergarten to eighth grade.
You're not too familiar on how this
works here?

DAVE
Uh, no because for one I never have
done something like this. I'm more

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

used to technological stuff. And second...I don't like Christmas.

AMANDA

Tech stuff? Really?

DAVE

Yeah, the reason I "retired" was because I created this app that let's you lock all the doors and windows in your house. A security firm liked it and gave me five hundred thousand dollars for it. I then turned that five hundred thousand dollars into two point five million after investing in the same security firm who purchased my idea. And thus...I am "retired".

AMANDA

(looks bored)

Oh that sounds awesome.

DAVE

Thanks. I have always been into the future. Wait..you said that sarcastically.

AMANDA

Said what?

DAVE

You know. "That sounds awesome". I hinted a dash of sarcasm.

AMANDA

No, not sarcastic.

DAVE

Yeah? Because I could have sworn it sounded like it.

Just then MRS. ELLSWORTH comes in. Gives DAVE a folder.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Yes, she was being sarcastic. Who cares how you got rich. You're rich. That's all that matters, right Amanda?

AMANDA

Not the most important thing. But

(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

having money does help. What most matters is..

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Yeah yeah we know what comes next. Dave, you read these notes by Christmas Eve. Hopefully this won't turn out to be a cluster fuck.

AMANDA

A what?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

You know, a cluster...(just realized what she said) I'm just going to go to the office.

AMANDA

Yeah, don't ever get on me again about cussing in the church.

DAVE

Or anybody for that matter.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Very well. You two enjoy yourselves.

AMANDA

Oh we will.

Amanda then walks over to the boxes and Dave sits in one of the pews to look the folder over.

DAVE

Well this looks easy. I mean it's only two pages...three pages...four pages. Good grief did Charlene make a note for EVERYTHING about this pageant? I mean, the birth of Jesus..

AMANDA

So tell me why you and Christmas don't get along?

DAVE

How about I tell you once this gets done?

AMANDA

You know, when someone wants to change a subject, they answer a question with a question.

DAVE

If that is true then that is exactly what I am doing. My thoughts on Christmas have nothing to do with running this pageant.

AMANDA

You are running a Christmas pageant. Emphasis on CHRISTMAS! Listen, if what ever is bugging you about the holiday you need to work out before the pageant, which let me remind you falls on CHRISITMAS EVE.

DAVE

You see these notes. I have to look these over.

AMANDA

Look, just forget the notes for a second.

DAVE

Okay, let us get to those boxes. They aren't going to move on their own, unless you are a wizard then...

AMANDA

Dave, stop. I want to know what is the deal with you and Christmas. It seems like...

DAVE

I DON'T WANT TO TALK ABOUT IT!

AMANDA

If you don't want to talk about it now, when Dave? When? Jesus, trying to get you to get whatever is messing with you over with so you can run this.

DAVE

I don't need you to...I just..Amanda can we just either

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

finishes putting the boxes or look over the notes...

AMANDA

Dave, Dave I'm not trying to upset you. I just want you to just let this go. For your sake.

DAVE

You sure you want to know?

AMANDA

Yes. LET IT OUT. Right here.

DAVE

FINE. When I was little me and my sister Clarise always looked forward to Christmas. Then one day Dad lost his job and Mom wasn't working so Christmas' were getting tighter and tighter financially.

AMANDA

Remember what I said earlier about money?

DAVE

I do. But it has nothing to do about the cash. Something happened on Christmas Eve when I was twelve and Clarise was ten. Never thought it would happen in our family.

AMANDA

What was it?

We then see Pastor Ellsworth eves dropping the conversation.

DAVE

My dad got home from work and it felt like any other Christmas. Me and Clarise were by the tree wondering what our presents were when we heard a bang.

AMANDA

Did something fall?

DAVE

(Beginning to tear up a bit)

No. We heard mom scream and then

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

she came into the room crying. She told us there had been an accident with Dad. And that some guys were going to come over and..

AMANDA

Oh my god Dave. I'm so sorry.

DAVE

Listen, I don't want to really finish the story. I mean, you might have a guess as to what it ended it up being.

AMANDA

You know what, you don't have to finish the story. So...can I share one with you? I mean there was a Christmas that got ruined for me.

DAVE

Yeah sure why not.

AMANDA

So when I was seventeen, we had just got done opening present when the most awful sight I saw came into the living room.

DAVE

What was it?

AMANDA

Well...you sure you want to know?

DAVE

I told you mine, you might as well tell me yours.

AMANDA

Okay. So as the family was together my dad...came into the living room...naked.

DAVE

What?

AMANDA

Yeah, he felt the need I guess to be naked on Christmas morning. There he was with his junk all out in the open. Then Mom came

(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

in...naked as well.

DAVE

Um...I am afraid this is leading to...

AMANDA

Turns out they had a little fun Christmas eve in the Library and didn't realize my Uncles and Aunts came over early. And then that following August my little brother was born.

DAVE

They must have had a few drinks the night before.

AMANDA

My parents never drank.

DAVE

Oh good lord. Okay, how about we either look over the notes or get to work on the boxes.

CUT TO:

INT. - PASTORS OFFICE MOMENTS LATER

WE SEE MRS. ELLSWORTH AT THE OFFICE DOING PAPERWORK WHEN PASTOR ELLSWORTH COMES IN.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Looking over financials?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Yes. Seems like that is the only thing I can do right now. You know, with the whole not running the pageant and all.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Listen, remember when I told you about how this could help Dave?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Somewhat yes. Why?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Well, by the good grace of God Dave, with the help of Amanda, just let it out. And I got a feeling

(MORE)

PASTOR ELLSWORTH (CONT'D)

he...

MRS. ELLSWORTH

He told Amanda? He told Amanda everything?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Well not everything but I got the sense that while he was telling her, he was getting that weight off his chest. I have a feeling that this pageant may go off without a hitch.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

You sure? I mean would hate to see something ruin it.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Like what? Charlene if you are thinking...

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Oh no, what I mean is that if he gets to the point where...look I must agree with you. I mean if this helps him with putting this pageant together then this was the best thing to happen.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Absolutely the best.

(looks down on his phone)

Oh man, I got to leave for a bit.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Why?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Totally forgot I have to help Jerry with that heater. I told him I'd help him install it.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Will yo be home for dinner?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Did Judas turn on Jesus?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I'll take that as a yes. Be careful dear.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

I will. Love you. See you at
supper.

Pastor Ellsworth leaves. Mrs Ellsworth is left alone. She sits in deep thought. Just then a knock on the office door and she is approached by a woman.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Oh hello, how can I help you?

We see the woman at the office door. It's CLARISE KINORY, Dave's sister.

CLARISE

Is this First United?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Of course it is. I'm Charlene. My husband is the pastor. If you needed to see him he just left I'm so sorry.

CLARISE

Um...does a DAVE KINROY come to this church?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Why yes. Do you know him?

CLARISE

Yeah. I'm..I'm his sister. Clarise Kinroy.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

(Looking stunned)

Oh. Why are you looking for Dave?

CLARISE

I...I...just want to know if he worships here?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

He does. I have to ask why do you want to know this?

CLARISE

Oh...just because. Say, do you have his address? I haven't heard from him in so long.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Frankly, I am not going to give you
(MORE)

MRS. ELLSWORTH (CONT'D)

his address until I know why you want to talk to him.

CLARISE

Well...let's just say it's a family affair.

(pulls out an envelope)

I need to give this to him.

So...can I have the address?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

(grabs the envelope)

I will take this to him. If you want his address you are more than willing to...

CLARISE

(take the envelope right back)

I was told I can get his address from this church. Pastor Ellsworth said it was fine if I can get it from here.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Oh did he? Well fine then.

Mrs. Ellsworth looks on the computer. Then writes on a peice of paper and gives it to Clarise.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Here is his address. I frankly would like to know what you have to do with my husband. And also what this has to do with Dave.

CLARISE

Your husband doesn't have to tell you everything. And what this has to do with Dave is honestly not something you should concern yourself with.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Fine then.

Mrs. Ellsworth turns around to go to her purse for her phone.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I'm just going to call him to double check something here. Just

(MORE)

MRS. ELLSWORTH (CONT'D)

going to let him know you stopped
by.

When Mrs. Ellsworth turns back around...Clarise is gone. She starts talking on the phone. Seems like she got someone's voicemail

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Rob, this is Charlene. A "Clarise Kinroy" came by apparently asking for Dave's address. And also we need to have a talk when you get home.

CUT TO:

EXT. CHURCH PARKING LOT

Dave and Amanda are walking to their cars.

DAVE

So we should pretty much have it all put together and ready by Christmas eve.

AMANDA

Oh yeah. I think this was the quickest we got stuff done.

DAVE

Really? Why do you say that?

AMANDA

Well when Miss Charlene ran the pageant she was always talking up a storm and then it was "Move that there! No I meant there" and what we did in an hour would take three ours to get done.

DAVE

She probably wanted to make sure it was on point.

AMANDA

Yeah but she was ridiculous about it. I think last year we moved that manger around five times before getting it right.

DAVE

Five times?

AMANDA

Oh yeah. And trying to place the marks where Jesus needed to stand took a good half hour.

DAVE

Wonder what the rehearsals were like.

AMANDA

Rehearsal? We didn't do rehearsals. We just picked the kids then we told them what to say.

DAVE

You didn't rehearse it? Not one bit?

AMANDA

No. It's a church pageant, not "Jesus Christ: Superstar". We're a church, not Broadway.

DAVE

You got a point there. Listen I want to thank you.

AMANDA

For what?

DAVE

Letting me vent like I did in there. I feel like I needed to get it out. I feel a little better about it.

AMANDA

No problem. I have learned that you can't hold something in. You have to let it go and be free. Life can get a little better that way.

DAVE

You are right about that.

AMANDA

(Grabs Dave's hand)

Say, speaking of that. Can I say something that I've been holding inside.

DAVE

I guess. And why are you holding my hand. I'm a big boy I can get to my car just fine.

AMANDA

I...I...I've sort of had this thing for you for a while now.

DAVE

What thing?

AMANDA

Dave, I like you. You know that.

DAVE

Yeah. Wait..are you telling me you like LIKE me. As in...

AMANDA

Yeah. I mean, you've kind of caught me eye when I met you. Seeing that what you told me in there showed you sort of trust me. So, I'm trusting you in saying I like you...a lot.

DAVE

My goodness. It's about time you said something.

AMANDA

WHAT?

DAVE

I kind of felt like you had a thing for me. Just wasn't sure. Now with you all grabbing my hand and saying what you said to me, it only cements what I've known.

AMANDA

So you've known that I liked you this whole time?

DAVE

Actually, no not until just now when you said that.

AMANDA

OH MY GOD! I'm sorry.

DAVE

You're sorry for liking me. Really?

AMANDA

NO NO. I'm not sorry for liking you...I'm sorry that...oh Jesus H Christ this is not how I wanted it to go down.

DAVE

How did you want it to go down?

Just then Mrs. Ellsworth comes into the scene looking a little distraught.

AMANDA

Charlene, thank god you're still here.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Why would you thank God for that? Did you do something I should know? Seems like a lot of people are leaving me in the dark about stuff.

AMANDA

I didn't do anything...and why are you feeling like your in darkness?

DAVE

That's sound pretty horrible when you ask it like that Amanda.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Maybe I am in darkness. Anyway, Dave I don't know if I should tell you but I feel like I need to tell you.

DAVE

Oh you don't have to tell me. I already know.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

You do?

DAVE

Yeah. Amanda here just told me. Charlene, Amanda here likes me in a romantic way and no need to worry if you kept the secret.

AMANDA

It's true. So we don't have to beat around the...

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Stop. Shut it. First, "romantic" is not even a real word and secondly it has nothing to do with Amanda wanting to get busy with you...even though I am glad that is now out in the open.

DAVE

Then what is it?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Dave...someone came to visit Rob and...frankly something is a miss with it.

AMANDA

Who was it?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

It was a lady named "Clarise"... "Clarise Kinroy". Dave, she says she your...

DAVE

Sister. Why was Clarise coming to see the Pastor?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I don't know. All I know is that she asked for your address and had some envelope. Dave, I don't know why but I have an eerie feeling about this.

DAVE

She had an envelope? And wanted to know my address? Last time I spoke with her was...was Christmas eve ten years ago.

AMANDA

Maybe she wants a reunion. I mean, tis the season for...

MRS. ELLSWORTH

But a reunion with an envelope? Amanda quit being so damn naive.

DAVE

What does Clarise want with Rob?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I don't know. But whatever it is, it doesn't feel right. Listen, I was thinking about it and...Dave let me take over the pageant and just handle this business with your sister.

DAVE

Wait, Pastor told me that I was running it. Something like this shouldn't stop me from running the pageant.

AMANDA

Yeah, Dave has a point. I mean, we have things under control.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I just have a bad feeling about all of this and I don't want family drama to hurt this pageant.

DAVE

It's not going to hurt this pageant Charlene. You don't know what is going on either and yet...

AMANDA

Charlene, are you going to use Dave's situation and whatever the hell is going on to try to get the pageant back?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I am NOT doing that. I am simply wanting Dave to just let me handle this years pageant while he works whatever it is out with his sister. I will definitely let his run it next year.

DAVE

NO. Pastor Rob said I was doing this and I'm doing this.

AMANDA

Whoa Dave. Look at you.

DAVE

Look at what? She's trying to use this so she can run the damn thing herself. I have my own feelings now Charlene and I say those feeling are that you want this damn pageant...

MRS. ELLSWORTH

DAVID! You will NOT talk to me like that. I am only looking out for you. Listen, go home and calm down. Me and Amanda will take over.

AMANDA

She's right Dave. Go home, come back tomorrow and we'll finish the set up.

DAVE

Yeah. Your right. I'll see you tomorrow Amanda.

Dave walks off to his car. Amanda and Mrs. Ellsworth are left alone to talk.

AMANDA

Why did you do that to Dave?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Do what? Let him know his sister wants to see him. I did not know he would act like that.

AMANDA

Bullshit. You knew exactly how he would act. Why didn't you wait until AFTER the pageant?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I am being honest. I didn't know he would react like this. Seriously. I have to admit, he acted like he wants to run this thing.

AMANDA

He does. Please Charlene, don't try to ruin this.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I won't. But again, this thing with his sister needs to get settled.

(MORE)

MRS. ELLSWORTH (CONT'D)

Whatever it is...

AMANDA

Let's just hope for the best.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Yeah. Let's hope.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT - APARTMENT

It's evening now. And Dave is at home just sitting there with a drink in hand, holding a picture of him and his sister when they were little in front of a Christmas Tree. A knock is then heard at the door. Dave goes to answer it.

DAVE

Well...long time no see. I was thinking about you.

CLARISE

Hey little bro. Yeah, long time no see as well. Can I come in?

DAVE

Yeah, sure.

They head to the living room.

DAVE

Offer you a drink?

CLARISE

Yeah sure. What do you got?

DAVE

Coffee. Tea. Water. Um...bourbon.

CLARISE

I'll take a water thank you.

DAVE

So heard you wanted to see Pastor this afternoon.

CLARISE

Who told you?

DAVE

Charlene, pastors wife. She acted like she saw...

CLARISE

A ghost. Yeah, she did. But all I wanted was to get an address and get out of there.

DAVE

I hate to call you a liar but...you're a liar. You have my address.

CLARISE

Okay, fine. But I DID want to see the Pastor.

DAVE

Why? You just skipped seeing me first and went..

CLARISE

That is what I wanted to do. Dave, Pastor Ellsworth called me and told me you were going to run a pageant..or play or something like that. And he thought it would be a good idea to have me come and check it out.

DAVE

Why didn't you call me? I mean, for pete's pickle you have my phone number.

CLARISE

Yeah, well it would have ruined the surprise.

DAVE

What surprise?

CLARISE

(pulls the envelope out)
Here, this is the surprise. Was going to give it to you the day of the pageant but...

DAVE

(reading a letter from envelope)
Oh my god...

CLARISE

All these years you hated Christmas
(MORE)

CLARISE (CONT'D)

and yet you REALLY didn't know. I
got this from...

DAVE

Let me guess...Pastor Ellsworth?

CLARISE

Yeah. I guess he wanted to..

Just then Dave gets up in a hurry, grabs his jacket

CLARISE

Hey, where are you going?

DAVE

I got to talk to someone.

CLARISE

What am I going to do here?

DAVE

Um...watch some television. Maybe
have another bourbon?

CLARISE

I'm drinking water.

DAVE

Okay then fix yourself a bourbon. I
got to take care of this.

CLARISE

Oh god, go then. Sorry.

Dave goes out the door. Leaving Clarise by herself. She see
the pic of that Dave was looking at earlier. Gets a little
misty eyed.

CLARISE

This finally will be a good
Christmas for you little bro.

CUT TO:

INT. HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Pastor Ellsworth is sitting in the living room with Mrs.
Ellsworth.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I am going to ask you again...what
does that young lady want with you?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Sweetie, I wish could tell you. And
I will at the right...

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Time? Are you and this lady...you
know.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
You..you think we're SLEEPING
TOGETHER?

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Actually...I was NOT thinking that.
Is there something else you might
want to tell me?

The doorbell rings. Pastor Ellsworth is a little relieved
and goes to answer the door.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
DAVE? So glad you came by!!!

DAVE
What is this?
(shows Pastor Ellsworth
the letter and envelope)
What is this?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
It's...an envelope and letter.

DAVE
Well yeah, clearly it is...but what
DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THIS?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
See you put the letter in the
envelope and..

DAVE
Good gravy Rob...really?

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Dave, why don't you come in. We can
BOTH grill Rob on this.

They go back into the living room. Dave and Mrs. Ellsworth
comically force Pastor Ellsworth back to the couch.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
Alright, you hooligan...what's
going on?

DAVE

Damn Charlene, no need to say it to him like that. But yeah Rob...what IS going on?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Fine, I have planned to give Charlene the year off from the pageant for some time now. And felt like you'd be perfect to take over.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Yeah, we already know this.
 (grabs the letter from
 Dave, shoves it in Pastor
 Ellsworth's face)
 Why don't you tell us about THIS!
 WHY? TELL US YOU SON OF A ...

DAVE

OKAY, you know what Charlene go over there and calm down just a bit. I got this from here. Just take a chill pill or something.

Mrs. Ellsworth walks away continuing to give a comical "stink eye" to Pastor Ellsworth.

DAVE

Wow...wee. She is really feisty about this.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

See why I wanted to keep this from her.

DAVE

Keep what? Keep what from Charlene?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

I just wanted to make you feel important this year since all the other Christmas' have been somber and sad. And seeing that doing the pageant..

DAVE

Okay pageant yada yada yada. But what about this letter and doing stuff with my sister.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

(clears throat)

I know that you and your sister have different views about what happened that Christmas. And knowing that it kept you guys apart for so long I thought, kind of like those Christmas movies, I'd try to get you guys reunited.

DAVE

Rob, this isn't the Hallmark Channel. This is real life...to an extent.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

True. But while I was talking with her, she mentioned a letter she found under the tree. Your mom wrote it and Clarise...just kept it.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

(walking back in)

What else do you know heathen?

DAVE

Charlene, for the love of GOD sit down! I got this.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I want answers.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

Well I'd give the answers if you quit acting like your panties are in a bunch and SHUT THE HELL UP FOR ONCE!!!

They all pause for a minute. Mrs. Ellsworth composes herself. Starts to leave the room.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

If you need me, I'll be in the study. Just...going to call mom to see how's she's doing.

Mrs. Ellsworth leaves the two alone.

DAVE

I...I have a feeling you're in trouble.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
The holidays do that to you. You should know that.

DAVE
Uh yeah...but not like this.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Well Charlene is just...so about this letter here.

DAVE
Oh yeah. SO you were talking to Clarise about this...letter from Mom.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
I asked her why she didn't give it you then. Clarise told me it was her mother's wishes not to have you see it. And frankly it I believe she should not have seen it was well.

DAVE
So that's when she felt the need ot come into town.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Yes. Dave, it was just to give you guys a reunion. After she told me about the letter, I told her to come see me first thing BEFORE she saw you again.

DAVE
Why? Why see you first before seeing me?

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Because I wanted to see if she was going to use this letter against you or not. Knowing the somewhat jealousy she had for you, I was worried that she could deter you from doing this pageant..and frankly making already miserable Christmas' even more miserable. I was looking out for you.

DAVE
Rob, you don't know what this
(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

really means to me. All these years I thought my mom was a monster for doing that to dad. And on Christmas Eve no less. Now reading some of this, I see she was just trying to protect us.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

You know, I think there is someone else you should go grill...um...I mean question..ah you know what I mean.

DAVE

Yeah, I do. Hey, before I leave are you going to be okay here. You know...with the Charlene is.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

I'll be fine. Not the first time I've seen her like this. But jsut in case...

(writes on a piece of paper, hands it to Dave)

Here is Rev. Barrett's number. If I don't make it through the night, have him do the service for me.

DAVE

(laughing a little bit)

Sure thing. And thanks again. I will try not to disappoint you tomorrow.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

I know you won't. I got faith in you. Now you, young fella, need to go on your way. You have some business to finish.

Pastor Ellsworth shows Dave to the door. Dave leaves and Mrs. Ellsworth enters.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I am always amazed with you Rob. Even after all these years.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH

What?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I heard everything.

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
So you didn't call your mother.

MRS. ELLSWORTH
No...not yet. Waited until Dave
left. Now that he is gone...

PASTOR ELLSWORTH
Oh boy....

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT

Amanda is in her apartment and she seems to be looking at something or someone. There is knock on the door. She goes and answers it.

AMANDA
Dave. What brings you by.

DAVE
Honey, I got to tell you some
stuff. And felt like coming to you
was the only option.

AMANDA
Well come on in.

Amanda leads Dave to the couch. He notices...the picture he was looking at earlier.

DAVE
Holy crap where did you get this?

AMANDA
Your sister, Clarise. I stopped by
your place to check on you and the
door was open. She let me in, told
me to tell you she loves you and
left.

DAVE
Yeah, about her. Seems she kept
something from me.

Gives the letter to Amanda. Amanda starts to read.

AMANDA
Oh my gosh. This is from your mom.

DAVE
Yeah. Want to hear the whole story
(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

now.

AMANDA

Yeah. So...what did happen?

DAVE

Okay. So we did not have very good Christmas' anyway. I mean, my dad was working non stop for really peanuts. He would come home and would treat all of us very badly. At times even being violent. To my sister he still could do no wrong. Then on that fateful Christmas Eve, my mom decided he wanted to give my dad a "present".

AMANDA

What kind of present?

DAVE

All she told us before that was Dad was going to "get the present he had coming to him". Turns out she got sick and tired of his ways and shot him. Point blank. I got this from the police report. She did this while me and Clarise were distracted by the glow of Christmas cheer. For so many years I thought mom did it because she was selfish. But turns out after reading this letter Mom was only protecting us. Mom got life in prison.

AMANDA

Why would your sister keep this letter from you?

DAVE

Well because she thought the same way I did. But my sister held the biggest grudge. Mom took her hero away and she felt angry. My sister got even more angry when she heard how successful I was.

AMANDA

Did you speak to your Mom at all?

DAVE

No. As a matter of fact I found out
(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

my Mom died in prison. She killed herself.

AMANDA

When?

DAVE

Christmas Day 3 years ago. So that is why, for so many years I didn't like Christmas. But now after reading this letter...maybe I was too harsh on the holiday.

AMANDA

Sounds like you were more harsh on yourself than anything.

DAVE

I guess you're right. This changes everything.

AMANDA

For the better?

DAVE

I will say yes for right now. But we will see.

AMANDA

I have a good feeling it will be better. Now you can enjoy Christmas. And all that is offers.

DAVE

Yeah...well except for the family part.

AMANDA

Dave, you may not know this but you've had family here for quite a while now. With Pastor Ellsworth, Mrs. Ellsworth, Mrs. Granderson who always gave you a pound of cole slaw every fourth of July.

DAVE

And you?

AMANDA

Oh yes. Most definitely me.

Just as they are about to go in for a kiss, frantic knocking is at the door.

AMANDA

Who could that be?

Amanda answers the door. It's Mrs. Ellsworth

AMANDA

Charlene, what are you doing here?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

I need to find Dave.

AMANDA

Here right here.

Mrs. Ellsworth sees Dave. Nearly runs to him.

DAVE

Charlene what's going on?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Oh my god OH MY GOD I can't believe this.

AMANDA

What is it?

DAVE

Yeah, what is it? Something happen to Pastor Rob?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

No. Rob is fine. It's the church though.

AMANDA

What happened with the church?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

A water pipe busted. Luckily it didn't hit the sanctuary. But...it did some damage.

DAVE

Oh man. What kind of damage?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Someone must have put the props for the pageant near the basement because they have been completely destroyed.

AMANDA

No way! I didn't put the boxes

(MORE)

AMANDA (CONT'D)

away. You put them away right Dave.

DAVE

I...may have. No wait, I put them near the sanctuary. Have you gone to the church yet?

MRS. ELLSWORTH

No. I haven't. Oh my god...

AMANDA

Look, me and Dave will go. Why don't you get back home and we'll let you know what is up.

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Okay. Good lord, this is what happens when I take a break from anything. Chaos and madness and...

DAVE

Charlene, would you go home now? Please? We need to leave and...

MRS. ELLSWORTH

Oh yeah. Please let me know what happens.

Everyone leaves.

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH ENTRANCE

Dave and Amanda are standing at the entrance assessing the undamaged boxes. They can't believe their eyes.

DAVE

She said they were destroyed. She did say they were destroyed, right?

AMANDA

Yeah. I mean she acted like armageddon arrived and destroyed Christmas.

Dave looks over. Sees some lights. Observes them.

DAVE

Well something did get wet.

AMANDA

What? What got wet?

DAVE

These string of lights that was going to go over the...well very wet manger.

AMANDA

So I guess there was some damage.

DAVE

Oh it's not too much to fix. Come on. We have some shopping to do.

CUT TO:

INT. STORE

Dave and Amanda are waiting to check out after buying a string of lights and a manger.

DAVE

So...were we going to kiss back at your place?

AMANDA

I think so. We won't know now. I mean, that moment is gone.

DAVE

What do you mean it's gone? I could kiss you right now.

AMANDA

Right here? In this line waiting to be checked out? Seriously?

DAVE

Yeah. I always see it. Couples are having that moment with there basket full of Cheez-its and soda. They feel the moment come and they kiss.

AMANDA

Well those are couples doing...wait you think me AND you are a couple?

DAVE

Oh sorry, I thought that..wait I'm not sorry I'm just...

CASHIER

Are you guys ready to check out or are you going to keep standing

(MORE)

there arguing about love?

DAVE

We're ready to check out.

Cashier begins checking their items out.

DAVE

What I meant to say was...

AMANDA

I know what you were going to say. You with what has gone on, getting a girlfriend for Christmas may be the cherry topping for your Sundae.

CASHIER

I got a girlfriend once for Christmas.

DAVE

Excuse me?

CASHIER

Yeah, tall blonde. Very sweet. Then St. Patrick's Day rolled around and...

AMANDA

Is that when you guys broke up?

CASHIER

Yeah. But to my defense I didn't know she was a drunken racist until then.

DAVE

So...how much do we owe you?

CASHIER

Oh yeah, twenty seven fifty. Anyway, after that been single ever since.

AMANDA

What does this have to do with our purchases?

CASHIER

Nothing. Just felt like wanting to join in on a conversation. Well anyhow, Merry Christmas and thank you for shopping at Target.

Then the cashier turns his back to the two. You hear faint crying from.

DAVE

You have a...are you crying?

CASHIER

No. No. Nope. Just got something in my eyes. You two have a wonderful holiday.

AMANDA

You...

(the cashier begins to comically cry and run away)

Too.

DAVE

Poor kid. Hope he gets a girlfriend for Christmas.

AMANDA

Me too. Come on. We need to get back to the church and set up.

DAVE

Yeah.

FADE OUT

FADE IN

INT. CHURCH

It's Christmas Eve and time for the pageant. The kids are getting themselves ready while Dave and Amanda direct them.

DAVE

Okay, you know what to say after what Bobby says.

RONNIE

Yes sir.

DAVE

Good. Now after that I want you to...

RONNIE

Mister, I got to go pee.

DAVE
Now? Like right now?

RONNIE
Yeah. I mean when Mother Nature
calls, can't send her to voicemail.

DAVE
(sighs)
Fine. But hurry up.

BOBBY
You can't rush it you know. You
have to let it flow.

DAVE
That was...very punny Bobby.

BOBBY
Thank you. Here comes your
girlfriend.

Dave sees Amanda walking up.

DAVE
Listen, she's not my...
(Amanda walk in)
Hey Amanda you got your side ready?

AMANDA
Sure do. Say, where's Ronnie?

BOBBY
He went to go piss.

DAVE
Uh, you don't say that in here.

BOBBY
Oh yeah sorry. He went to pee.

AMANDA
Oh okay. You ready over here?

DAVE
Yes ma'am. Just going over a couple
more things with Bobby here while
Ronnie does his business.

BOBBY
Yeah, like he was saying how you're
not his girlfriend.

AMANDA

Oh really? I mean not that it means anything but...

DAVE

I, in actuality, was going to correct Bobby here and say that yes that is my girlfriend and how I'm lucky for once this Christmas.

BOBBY

You're so full of crap.

AMANDA

Hey, who wants to not do the pageant and sit with there mother after I tell them the language you're using?

DAVE

(looks over at Bobby)
She's talking to you little bro.

BOBBY

Fine.

Ronnie comes back into the scene.

DAVE

You ready now guys?

RONNIE

Yep. You ready Bobby?

BOBBY

Yep. And please, refer to me as "Joseph".

RONNIE

Whatever you say.

DAVE

Good.

(motions to everyone)
Hey guys come here real quick.

Everyone starts to gather around Dave.

DAVE

The order goes choir will sing one song, then the birth of Jesus play will happen, then afterwards the choir ends the show. Are we ALL

(MORE)

DAVE (CONT'D)

clear about this?

Everyone nods.

DAVE

Good. Now let's give them a show!

CUT TO:

INT. CHURCH - MOMENTS LATER

The pageant is about the end with the choir ending it.
Amanda is sitting next to Dave.

BOBBY

(playing the role of
Joseph)

And this day forward, as the Lord
so told me we shall name him Jesse.

Everyone begins a little laughter

RONNIE

(dressed as one of the
wise men)

It's Jesus. The baby's name is
JESUS.

BOBBY

Oh yeah. Jesus.

Everyone begins to applaud. Amanda stand up and addresses
the crowd.

AMANDA

Ladies and gentlemen, to end our
pageant our choir will sing Silent
Night.

The crowd gets quiet. Then the choir begins to sing Silent
Night.

DAVE

(leaning into Amanda to
whisper to her)

Except for the Jesse part, this
went off without a hitch.

AMANDA

(Whispering)

It did. Good work partner.

DAVE
Good work indeed.

Amanda goes in for a fist bump.

DAVE
Nah, forget that. Come here.

Amanda leans in. Dave and Amanda kiss. The choir finishes up
Silent Night.

FADE TO BLACK.

END OF MOVIE.