

## WHO KILLED SANTA?

## ACT ONE

1.1 **Glenda Drake:** As an artist I'm sick to death of drawing Santa. A few years ago, I applied to be one of Santa's little helpers, but I didn't get the job. But now as a wife and mother, I feel like I'm just an unpaid elf. When I asked Santa why I didn't get the job of being one of his helpers, he couldn't give me a proper answer. I think it was female discrimination but I couldn't afford to take him to court over it.

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1.3 **Nick Finn:** Running this business keeps me as busy as a tinsel maker around Christmas. It makes me go grayer (*point to your beard*). Santa had a great job – playing with toys all year and delivering them at Christmas. I want his job! Why not? The position's vacant now, isn't it?

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1.5 **Rudolph** (*or anyone \_\_\_\_\_ if he isn't present, say "I heard Rudolph say"*): I'm a reindeer. Some of the countries we travel to are really hot at Christmas. We pleaded with Santa that we didn't want to go there, but he just ignored us.

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1.7 **Barret Norcott:** I have a lot of relatives and friends who are overweight and I'm not that thin myself and I think Santa is a bad role model for "dieters".

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1.9 **Rosemary Piper:** As a boss of a TV station, I've been swapping persona's depending on which politician I've been dealing with.

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1.2 **Anyone \_\_\_\_\_:** Why can't we have celebrations all year round instead of everyone wanting everything at the same time? It's crazy. By the time Santa comes to my house, I'm too tired to put out any milk and cookies for him. This should be a real celebration now that Santa isn't around to bother us.

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1.4 **Josh Fraser:** Technically I am an account executive, but the real truth is that I'm Rudi Valentino in disguise.

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1.6 **Ebony Sutherland:** I think Santa was cruel for making those poor little reindeer pull him and all his presents all over the globe. I try to get my husband who is a cop to arrest people who abuse animals.

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1.8 **Reg Wells:** I'm the President of Gas Plus More convenience stores and gas stations and I admit that yesterday I officially banned Santa from our stores.

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1.10 **Rudolph** (*or anyone \_\_\_\_\_ if he isn't present, say "I heard Rudolph say"*): Santa was always receiving food and drink everywhere. But he never gave us anything to eat – only a bit of water now and then and a few measly carrots.

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1.11 **Anyone** \_\_\_\_\_: I'm so confused about politics and life in general – sometimes I think I'm Santa myself. Just don't poke me in the belly or I'll go "ho ho ho".

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1.13 **Anyone** \_\_\_\_\_ (*except Reg*): I saw Reg taking down all the Santa decorations at all the Gas Plus More convenience stores and gas stations, yet in the past Reg liked the stores to display lots of Christmas spirit. You seemed to have become real nasty towards Santa Claus. Why was that Reg?

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1.15 **Anyone** \_\_\_\_\_: Santa didn't have any kids of his own, so he didn't know what it's like to be a parent. He just dumps the toys for the kids to fight over and clears out before dawn.

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1.17 **Lorenzo Giueni** (*or anyone* \_\_\_\_\_ *if he isn't present, say "I heard Lorenzo say"*): Santa generally had brunch at Chatties after he had delivered his presents on Christmas day. No matter what fancy dishes were on the menu, he always ordered a hot dog.

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1.19 **Nick Finn**: The Police said we should tell you all about our hobbies so that you get to know us a bit more. My hobbies are learning sign language and playing classical guitar. Because of my guitar playing I have long fingernails – see. I try and avoid breaking them. I also like fishing and I think it's time we all did a bit of fishing, but this time fishing for clues rather than fins.

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1.12 **Winnie Bailey**: My life is a constant cycle of poo-poo – sorry baby talk has gone to my head. Sometimes I tie my husband and child to the running machine and I have a lie down. Because of my diaper expenditure, I can't afford to buy presents. I was afraid Santa would not come down my chimney and my kids would be disappointed. So now I'm glad he's dead as that solves that problem.

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1.14 **Reg Wells**: I saw Santa shopping across the street at one of our competitors. So now you know the real truth – Santa had bad taste.

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1.16 **Rosemary Piper**: Everyone wanted Santa in their TV ad, but his agent charged an absolute mint for his personal appearances. So after they've paid that much, advertisers didn't have much money to spend on the rest of their TV ad, so they end up with tacky lists of products, and our ratings fall as a result. My producers made it very clear that if the ratings didn't improve, I'd be out of a job.

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1.18 **Anyone** \_\_\_\_\_: Santa came to my house and he broke the chimney. And he didn't have any public liability insurance!

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1.20 **Winnie Bailey**: My main hobby is softball. It keeps me fit. Sometimes I also kick boxes. No – I mean I do kick-boxing. But the birth of my second child has slowed me down a bit. I should take herbs or vitamins as well, but to be honest I just can't afford them – not with my diaper bill. I also like reading murder mystery novels and action-packed stories.

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1.21 **Josh Fraser:** I generally workout at lunchtime and whenever I can, so I've bought a few weights with me. Hope you guys won't mind me pumping a bit of iron while I'm sitting here. Us heartthrobs have to keep fit.

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1.23 **Ebony Sutherland:** My main hobbies, when I get time, are taking pictures and traveling. I am an animal lover and I have two cats and two dogs. Oh and I also have a one-year old baby which makes traveling difficult.

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1.25 **Reg Wells:** My main hobby is flying my plane. I also walk a fair bit and work out periodically. Ebony also has an interest in travel, so we often talk about all the places I have been to in my plane.

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1.27 **Winnie Bailey:** I should take herbs or vitamins as well, but to be honest I just can't afford them – not with my diaper bill.

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1.29 **Anyone** \_\_\_\_\_ (*except Barret*): I agree with Barret when he says that Santa wasn't a very healthy role model. It would have been good for Santa to pull that sleigh himself sometimes, and he could certainly have done with a better diet.

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1.22 **Glenda Drake:** I love to paint – trees mainly. I am trying to get fit by walking.

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1.24 **Anyone** \_\_\_\_\_ (*except Ebony or Reg*): They say that people who are obsessed about traveling constantly around the world are a bit psychologically unbalanced. They are trying to run away from themselves and their problems, although of course it never works as they take "themselves" with them on the trip. I think Santa was like that.

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1.26 **Rosemary Piper:** My nickname is "Voo-doo doctor" because I am into natural medications and remedies. My other hobby is doing "crafty" things around my home. And I mean things like painting flowers on pots, not sneaky things.

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1.28 **Barret Norcott:** My hobbies are playing football and eating pasta and pizza and night clubbing. Of course, I only eat pizza when I'm not on a diet and I'd never have eaten it at all, if it weren't for Santa's bad example of course.

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1.30 **Rudolph** (*or anyone* \_\_\_\_\_ *if he isn't present, say "I heard Rudolph say"*): We reindeers were fed up with all the hard work we had to do and how Santa never paid us anything – just gave us a few carrots. So we formed a union.

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1.31 **Nick Finn:** I don't exercise a lot, but the good news is that I have given up smoking. So I won't be contributing to any smoke going up our chimney this year.

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1.33 **Anyone \_\_\_\_\_:** I have always wondered at the mental stability of Santa. Grown men don't usually go about saying things that have no meaning like "ho, ho, ho".

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1.35 **Barret Norcott:** I didn't ask you about brake cables. You must have not heard me right. I asked you about break dancing.

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1.37 **Rudolph** (or anyone \_\_\_\_\_ if he isn't present, say "I heard Rudolph say"): Yes, but in some countries, Santa got really upset because they leave out better food and drinks for the man who collects their trash than they do for him.

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1.39 **Anyone \_\_\_\_\_** (except Nick): I overheard Nick on a phone call with a travel agency. He was booking a relaxing holiday on a yacht in the Bahamas leaving tomorrow, yet this is usually his busiest time.

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1.32 **Winnie Bailey:** Last time I saw Santa I'd had a bit too much to drink, so I confused him for a Red-Butt Baboon. I told him to go swing in the trees and he gave me a really dirty look.

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1.34 **Anyone \_\_\_\_\_** (except Barret): Barret cornered me when I came into the office. He wanted to know how you would go about cutting the brake cables on a sleigh.

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1.36 **Lorenzo Giueni** (or anyone \_\_\_\_\_ if he isn't present, say "I heard Lorenzo say"): Santa was so full of the cookies and cake and drinks that people had left out for him, that he never appreciated what he ate at Chatties.

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1.38 **Anyone \_\_\_\_\_** (except Josh): Just before the party, I heard Josh saying to Santa something about how he had something to show him.

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1.40 **Nick Finn:** You must have misheard the dates. I am planning a trip to the Bahamas, but it is for February not December.

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1.41 **Anyone** \_\_\_\_\_ (*except Winnie*): It's obvious to me that some sort of cocktail has gone on here today. What with people like Winnie around, there has to have been some mixing of spirits and motives hasn't there?

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1.43 **Anyone** \_\_\_\_\_ (*except Ebony*): I saw Santa ditching his reindeer for a new motorcycle. He took it to a gas station to fill it. He should have taken it to a Gas Plus More but he didn't – the fool! I had to reassure Ebony that we would find a good home for Santa's reindeer, which Santa had traded in on the deal to buy a motorcycle. She seemed quite hysterical in her concern for those reindeer.

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1.45 **Mrs. Claus** (*or anyone \_\_\_\_\_ if she isn't present, say "I heard Mrs. Claus say"*): Santa was the kind of husband every woman wants – one that is away from home a lot.

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1.42 **Rudolph** (*or anyone \_\_\_\_\_ if he isn't present, say "I heard Rudolph say"*): Judging by the large number of kids who received play station games from Santa last year, I think Santa was probably corrupt. He was probably doing a deal with one of the large games manufacturers.

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1.44 **Rudolph** (*or anyone \_\_\_\_\_ if he isn't present, say "I heard Rudolph say"*): I'm just glad that Ebony was kind enough to care about us. No one else did. Thanks Ebony. That reindeer retirement farm you have arranged for us sounds really great.

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1.46 **Anyone** \_\_\_\_\_: I love to walk my very large dogs though often I feel a bit like Santa's sleigh being dragged around the neighborhood. If Santa has magical powers like everyone thinks he has, why doesn't he just "zap" from house to house?

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