

Christmas Party Program

Couple comes out, man is dragging two heavy suitcases and the wife is walking briskly ahead of him and has several bags she is carrying. She sets down her bags and pulls out a sheet of paper as if looking for information and up at the airport monitors.

Man: What do you have in these bags??

Woman: Oh, the just the necessities! Here's our airline, (act like you are getting in line. Be inching forward while you talk) It's so fun to be traveling for Christmas! Oh look, they even have mistletoe over the baggage counter!

Man; Yah! That's so you can kiss your luggage goodbye!

Woman: (Not noticing) Airports are so exciting and busy at this time of year. Where is everyone going?

Man: Home for the holidays...I guess.

Woman: These people must be traveling all over the world.

Man: Probably...

Woman: Wouldn't it be exciting to go to Spain, or France, or China and see how they celebrate Christmas?

Man: (Drops something. Distracted) What...?

Woman: I mean maybe we should try that sometime...travel for Christmas.

Man: (Looking a little upset) You know...We don't have to travel the world at Christmas. Our Christmas is filled with foreign traditions. Did you know that families in America actually dance around their Christmas tree on Christmas Eve just like their Danish ancestors?

Woman: What do you mean "dance around their tree"?

Man: See that tree over there? Imagine a family joining hands and singing...

(A spotlight is on the tree and family holding hands and walking around the tree. They sing a Christmas carol of their choice for about 1 minute,)

Woman: Why do they do that?

Man: Because their Danish ancestors sang and danced and finally families just joined hands and sang and walked around the Christmas tree. It became a tradition.

Woman: Hey! That Christmas tree reminds me that in choir we sang an old German song, 'O Tannenbaum,' which means 'O Christmas tree.' She sings jubilantly:

Song: O Tannenbaum, o Tannenbaum,
wie treu sind deine Blätter!....ummm, I can't remember it any more...

Man: And....'We Wish You a Merry Christmas' is from England and 'Deck the Halls' is an old song from Wales. I love that song.

Song: Deck the Halls: Audience sing-along

Man: Did you know that the idea of Santa Clause came from the Dutch. There was a kind and generous Catholic Bishop name St. Nicholas who gave gifts to children.

Woman: Really? I guess when I think about it, lots of people sing Christmas carols all over the world in their own special way. (Spotlight moves to each area separately.)

(Choose two or three familiar Christmas carols from around the world. Perhaps Hawaii, Brazil, or France.)

Man: I went on my mission to Brazil. In that country children put out their shoes out for Father Noel (Father Christmas) to put their presents in. In Brazil, they call Father Christmas 'Papai Noel'.

Woman: How sweet. One of the sweetest Carols of all is from Austria. It's called 'Still, Still Still?' I just love it.

Song: Still, Still, Still SATB choir or group

Woman: We shouldn't forget that the most important place in the whole world is where the Savior was born, in Israel. I get such a reverent feeling when I think of that first Christmas.

Man: You know the song, Silent Night? It's the one that I like best when I think of Mary and Joseph kneeling by the manger. It was actually written by an Austrian Priest Father Joseph Moher and he wrote it in German. (Music begins)

Song: Silent Night in German

Woman: I just love Silent Night. (She sings Silent Night softly as the spotlight goes to the manger scene). The audience joins in.

Song: Silent Night

Man: There's our flight!

Woman: I like to remember what Norman Vincent Peal said, "Christmas waves a magic wand over this world, and behold, everything is softer and more beautiful."

Man: (Dragging the bag) Well, that is probably true but sometimes a Christmas **vacation** just seems like a period of travel where you take twice the clothes and half the money you need. (Picks up the suitcases) I rest my case...

Woman: What did you say sweetheart...?