

VIVIAN AND BILL'S 1970S CHRISTMAS PARTY!

Written by

Rick Garman

11/13/22

**TEASER**

**INT. VIV AND BILL'S KITCHEN - NIGHT**

As the lights come up, BILL COLLINS is taking a very long drink from a very full glass of whiskey.

VIVIAN enters.

VIVIAN

Bill! What are you doing in the kitchen?

BILL

What does it look like I'm doing, Viv? I'm drinking.

VIVIAN

But all the new neighbors...

BILL

Are the reason I'm drinking.

VIVIAN

Bill, I know they're a little... eccentric. But we're new in this neighborhood and we need to make a good impression.

BILL

Maybe moving here was a mistake.

VIVIAN

No! This was the right thing to do. It's Christmas Eve and we're exactly where we're supposed to be.

BILL

Hanging out with all those weirdos?

VIVIAN

They're not that weird!

Suddenly a voice is heard from the radio in the kitchen.

AGENT MANN (O.S.)

Actually, Mrs. Collins, one of them is pretty weird.

Bill and Vivian are taken aback.

BILL

Where did that voice come from?

AGENT MANN (O.S.)

I'm speaking to you through your radio, Mr. Collins. My name is Agent Mann. I'm with a top secret government agency and I'm reaching out to tell you that there is a big problem at your Christmas party.

VIVIAN

The Christmas party? What is it?

AGENT MANN (O.S.)

Is a gathering of people to celebrate the holidays, but that's not important right now. What is important is that one of your guests... is an alien.

BILL

You mean they came into this country illegally?

AGENT MANN (O.S.)

No... they came here from another planet.

Off Bill and Vivian's shocked expressions we...

FADE TO BLACK

**END TEASER**

ACT 1 SCENE 1**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT**

As the lights come up, Vivian is readying things for the party. She looks out at the audience just as Bill enters.

VIVIAN  
One hour earlier.

BILL  
What?

VIVIAN  
I was looking at the clock thinking we should've started getting ready one hour earlier. Maybe then we'd be ready for the party.

BILL  
You know, it's not too late to cancel. We could have a quiet Christmas Eve, just you and me.

VIVIAN  
But we've invited all our new neighbors. If we cancel now we'll have to move again!

BILL  
I miss Morningside Lane. I miss all our old neighbors and friends.

VIVIAN  
I know, sweetheart, but there really wasn't anything left for us there. Patty joined the convent... which is weird because we're not Catholic. Linda and Beverly bought a Subaru and moved to Vermont. After Donna had her...  
(whisper)  
...nervous breakdown...  
(normal)  
...Tom ran off to San Francisco with my brother, Charles, and they opened that "gentleman's spa," whatever that is. And we won't mention your former boss Gary and his wife Janet.

BILL  
I still think it's amazing that  
they were able to sew it back on.

VIVIAN  
We need to make a good impression  
on the neighbors. Everything has  
to be perfect. I'm so anxious!

BILL  
(embrace; nuzzle)  
You know what would relax you?

VIVIAN  
Bill! Stop. We don't have time

BILL  
It'll only take a few minutes.

VIVIAN  
That's what you always say and then  
an hour later you can barely walk  
and my throat is sore.

BILL  
Come on, Viv. Just a quick one  
before the guests arrive.

VIVIAN  
Oh... okay. Should we ask our  
housekeeper to start us off?

BILL  
Great idea. Alexa? You know what  
we like.

Alexa (aka the sound board operator), gives a thumbs up.

**SOUND CUE: "HOLLY JOLLY CHRISTMAS" BY MICHAEL BUBLE**

As the song starts, Vivian looks at the audience.

VIVIAN  
What did you think we meant?

After the song ends, we transition seamlessly into the next  
scene. There is NO BLACKOUT.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 1**

ACT 1 SCENE 2**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The sound of a doorbell is heard.

VIVIAN

Oh! It's our first guests! This is so exciting!

Bill exits to the front door. From off.

BILL (O.S.)

Hello. Merry Christmas! I'm Bill Collins. You can just leave your coats there. Come in, come in.

Bill enters again with MARTIN and SHIRLEY SANDERSON, dressed conservatively, both very stiff and proper.

VIVIAN

Hello! I'm Vivian. Welcome.

SHIRLEY

Thank you. I'm Shirley Sanderson and this is my husband Martin.

VIVIAN

Nice to meet you. Please, sit.

BILL

Can I get you a cocktail? Some of our famous Christmas punch... emphasis on the "punch."

SHIRLEY

No, we don't drink alcohol.

BILL

Never?

SHIRLEY

No.

BILL

It's going to be a long night.

VIVIAN

Can I get you coffee? Tea?

SHIRLEY

A glass of room temperature water.

MARTIN  
 (looks at Shirley)  
 I'll have the same.

Bill exchanges a glance with Vivian then goes to pour water.

VIVIAN  
 So, Shirley, Martin. Which house  
 do you live in?

SHIRLEY  
 The blue one on the corner.

VIVIAN  
 Oh, it's lovely. But you don't  
 have any Christmas decorations.

MARTIN  
 Shirley believes that if the manger  
 didn't have Christmas lights then  
 we shouldn't either.

Vivian attempts to block their view of the lit tree.

VIVIAN  
 You know, we have a festive little  
 tradition, where we ask our guests  
 to sing a Christmas song. Would  
 you like to sing something?

SHIRLEY  
 What do we look like? Circus folk?  
 Certainly not. We'll just sit here  
 quietly and enjoy the water.

Martin and Shirley take slow drinks of the water in unison.

There is a beat of silence and then doorbell rings.

BILL  
 Oh, thank God. I'll get it.

Bill starts to exit before he can, DIANE and JUDY PARRISH enter. They are in their 50s, big hair, dressed in identical (except different colors) leisure suits, and always have (unlit) brown cigarettes in their hands. They sing...

DIANE  
*Merry Christmas!*

JUDY  
*Merry Christmas!*

DIANE  
*Merry Christmaaaaaas!!*

JUDY (CONT'D)  
*Merry Christmaaaaaas!!*

DIANE (CONT'D)  
 (spoken)  
 Hi, I'm Diane.

JUDY  
 (same)  
 And I'm Judy.

DIANE  
 And we're the Parrish Twins.  
 Identical. Wink.

JUDY (CONT'D)  
 And we're the Parrish Twins.  
 Identical. Wink.

VIVIAN  
 (to Bill)  
 What's happening?

SHIRLEY  
 They're... entertainers.

DIANE  
 We sure are! You can catch us in  
 the lounge every Monday night at  
 the Holiday Inn on Route 93.

JUDY  
 Right after bingo!

DIANE  
 Hey, Diane.

JUDY  
 Yes, Judy?

DIANE  
 Why don't we boogie on down and get  
 to know some folks?

JUDY  
 Great idea.

Judy goes to Vivian as if she has a microphone.

JUDY (CONT'D)  
 What's your name?

VIVIAN  
 Oh, hi. I'm Vivian Collins.

JUDY  
 Hi, Viv. Can I call you Viv?  
 Where are you from?



VIVIAN  
Uh... here?

DIANE  
(to Bill, leering)  
Hey, hot stuff. What's your name?

BILL  
Bill. Collins. Vivian's wife.  
Husband, I mean.

DIANE  
10-4 good buddy! Keep on truckin!  
Hey, Judy?

JUDY  
Yes, Diane?

DIANE  
I think we should sing a little  
something to get everybody in the  
holiday spirit, don't you?

JUDY  
If it's okay with Bill and Viv.

BILL  
Sure, of course. We have a lot of  
records we could put on for you...

DIANE  
Geez, dad! Get with the times!

JUDY  
We brought an 8-track!

Judy pulls out an 8-track cassette out of her bosom and hands it to "Alexa."

JUDY (CONT'D)  
Hit it!

**SOUND CUE: "SLEIGH RIDE" BY THE RONETTES**

During the song, Bill and Viv enjoy it and then join in doing the "ring a ling a ling" part at the end. Martin looks like he is enjoying it, then sees how much Shirley decidedly isn't and tries to temper his enthusiasm.

After the song, Bill & Viv applaud. Martin & Shirley don't. The scene continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 2**

ACT 1 SCENE 3**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Diane has noticed that Shirley didn't applaud.

DIANE

Oh, look, Judy. It's Shirley and Martin Uptighterson.

SHIRLEY

I do hope if you're going to sing again, that perhaps you'll do something a bit more classic?

JUDY

The song we just sang is from 1963 - fifteen years ago! It is classic.

SHIRLEY

I'm sorry, did I say classic? I meant classy.

DIANE

You know, Marty. I bet you'd be pretty fun if your wife didn't have that stick shoved so far up her...

VIVIAN

So... you all know each other then?

SHIRLEY

We do. And Mrs. Collins, I have to say that if this is the caliber of the guests that you have invited...

VIVIAN

Oh, no. We have lots of people coming. All the neighbors.

The sound of the doorbell is heard.

BILL

Perfect timing. I'm sure this is someone you'll get along with, Mrs. Uptighterson... Mrs. Sanderson.

Bill rushes off to answer the door.

SHIRLEY

Well, as long as it's not that Hall character from down the street.

JUDY  
Phillip? We love Phillip! What's  
wrong with him?

SHIRLEY  
He's... well... you know... do I  
have to say it out loud?

DIANE  
Apparently.

SHIRLEY  
He's... light in the loafers.

VIVIAN  
I... I don't know what that means.

DIANE  
He's a homosexual. Loosen up!  
It's 1978. The times they are a-  
changing. I'm sure in another  
forty years or so, nobody's gonna  
care about people being gay.

Bill enters, wide-eyed, with an 8-track and a piece of paper.

VIVIAN  
Bill, what... Who was at the door?

BILL  
Our neighbors Frank and Kathleen.

SHIRLEY  
Oh, no!

DIANE  
Oh, yes! Now the party can start!

VIVIAN  
Well, where are they?

BILL  
They wanted to make an entrance.

He hands the 8-track to "Alexa" and reads from the paper.

BILL (CONT'D)  
They were going to go to Studio 54  
tonight, but instead they put on  
their best threads and boogied on  
down to our pad. Ladies and  
gentleman here's Frank "Boogie Man"  
and Kathleen "Disco Queen" Murphy.

**SOUND CUE: "RUDOLPH THE RED NOSED REINDEER" BY THE MISTLETOE  
DISCO BAND**

KATHLEEN and FRANK MURPHY enter for the song, each dressed in their very finest Disco finery.

During the song, Diane and Judy love it - even joining in a bit of "do the hustle" style dancing in the dance break. Bill and Viv are confused, mostly, but also start to enjoy it and try to join in the dancing.

Shirley is horrified, of course. Martin looks like he wants to join in, but doesn't.

After the song, Diane, Judy, Bill, and Viv all applaud.

The scene continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 3**

ACT 1 SCENE 4**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

BILL

Well, that was... something.  
Wasn't it, Viv?

SHIRLEY

Sacrilegious if you ask me.

MARTIN

Shirley, maybe we should just...

DIANE

It's a song about a reindeer. You  
really need to take a chill pill.

KATHLEEN

(reaches for her bag)  
Oh, I have a lot of those. Anybody  
want one?

SHIRLEY

Certainly not!!

KATHLEEN

Oh, well, then how about some of my  
special "brownies."

Kathleen pulls a container of brownies out of her bag and  
hands them to Bill.

JUDY

(takes one)  
Yes! You make the best "brownies."

BILL

Really? I love brownies.  
(takes one; offers one)  
What about you, Shirley?

SHIRLEY

Well, I suppose so...  
(takes one)  
But I'll save mine until later and  
eat it when it is a more  
appropriate time to have dessert.

Bill is about to take a big bite but doesn't.

FRANK

You know what I want for dessert?

KATHLEEN

I sure do!

Frank and Kathleen start kissing passionately. We hear a pounding on the window, a flashlight shines in...

RHONDA (O.S.)

Oh, hell no! Nuh-uh. Not in my neighborhood!

Moments later MISS RHONDA enters wearing a house coat, her hair in curlers, carrying a big flashlight.

BILL

Wait a minute. Who are you?

RHONDA

Who am I? Who am... did he just ask who I am? Is that what just happened? Did this jive-talking honky just ask ME who I am?

Frank breaks out into a bit of "Jive Talkin'" by the Bee Gees and he and Kathleen do a dance in their own little world.

VIVIAN

He didn't mean any disrespect.

RHONDA

He better not'n have. 'Cuz everyone else in this room knows who I am, don't they?

SHIRLEY

Unfortunately.

RHONDA

(to Shirley)

You want start with me? 'Cuz I'll take off my earrings right now.

(off her lack of response)

That's what I thought. Okay, for the new people... My name is Miss Rhonda. I am the head of the neighborhood watch and I did not like what I was watching in this neighborhood.

BILL

You were looking in our window?

RHONDA

Yes! I will look in your window  
and I will see what I got to see.  
And if I don't like what I see,  
Imma come in and break it up.

VIVIAN

What if you do like what you see?

RHONDA

Then Imma go home and open a bottle  
of wine and a jar of Vicks VapoRub.  
Now what you got going on up in  
here with these disco balls mashin'  
up against each other?

VIVIAN

It's just a Christmas party.

RHONDA

I guess my invitation got lost in  
the mail.

VIVIAN

Oh, I'm sure it was an oversight.  
We'd love to have you stay. In  
fact, we've all been singing songs.  
Would you like to sing something?

RHONDA

Oh, no, I couldn't possibly... I  
must look a fright.

Diane, Judy, Frank, and Kathleen all ad lib encouragement.

RHONDA (CONT'D)

Oh, all right... maybe just  
something simple...

**SOUND CUE: "SANTA CLAUS IS COMING TO TOWN" BY MARIAH CAREY**

As the opening refrain starts, Miss Rhonda turns her back to the audience, does a few quick moves to shed the curlers and the robe, and turns back around, ready for the spotlight.

Toward the end of the song, a person dressed like Santa Claus enters greets people, shakes hands, and nods appreciatively to the song. This is actually PHILLIP HALL.

The song ends to great cheer. The scene continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 4**

ACT 1 SCENE 5**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

PHILLIP  
Merry Christmas. Ho, ho, ho!

RHONDA  
Who you callin' a ho?

PHILLIP  
Not you, Miss Rhonda. Never.

RHONDA  
Damn. I was hoping someone was going to slide down my chimney tonight if you know what I mean.

DIANE  
Sister, you and me both.

RHONDA  
(looks at her)  
Don't do that.

KATHLEEN  
You can slide down Frank's chimney. He kinda likes it, right Frank?

Frank breaks out into a bit of "That's the Way I Like It" by KC and the Sunshine Band and he and Kathleen are lost in the disco groove again.

JUDY  
Santa, did you bring us any presents to put under our tree?

PHILLIP  
I did. I brought a song. Would anyone like to hear a Christmas carol?

SHIRLEY  
Yes. Something tasteful, please?

PHILLIP  
Oh, Santa is always tasty. Isn't that right Marty?

Martin figures out who this is.



MARTIN

Oh, no.

**SOUND CUE: "RUN RUN RUDOLPH" BY KELLY CLARKSON**

As the songs starts, "Santa" rips off his costume to reveal Phillip underneath in a stylish Santa-esque suit.

Shirley is even more horrified than she has been. Martin tries to hide. Everyone else loves it.

The scene continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 5**

ACT 1 SCENE 6**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

After the song and the applause, Phillip goes to Bill.

PHILLIP  
Well, hello there. Phillip Hall.

DIANE  
Don't bother, Phillip. I already  
tried. He's married.

VIVIAN  
Yes, to me.

PHILLIP  
Aww. Pity.  
(to Vivian)  
But you are fabulous. I don't  
suppose you have a brother?

VIVIAN  
I do! His name is Charles.

Vivian points to a picture on the mantel.

PHILLIP  
Oh my God. Charlie! I know him.

VIVIAN  
You're kidding! Small world.

PHILLIP  
Oh, there's nothing small about  
him. I think we met in the park.

Frank starts singing "Macarthur's Park" by Donna Summer. He  
and Kathleen start grooving again.

JUDY  
You know, Diane. I think it's time  
we sang another song, don't you?

DIANE  
I think you're right, Judy. How  
about something really groovy?

RHONDA  
Yes! Miss Rhonda needs a little  
Christmas Soul Train up in here.

KATHLEEN

Have you heard the Disco version of  
"O Holy Night?" It's hot!

SHIRLEY

No! No, no, no! No groovy. No  
soul. No hot. It's Christmas Eve.  
We should be celebrating the  
holiday with traditional music.  
Jesus is watching.

Everybody looks around, as if looking for Jesus.

RHONDA

Jesus ain't got no problems with me  
or my music. But if you think you  
can do better...

SHIRLEY

All right, fine. We will. Martin.

Martin joins Shirley.

SHIRLEY (CONT'D)

(to "Alexa")

A respectful version of O Holy  
Night, please...

**SOUND CUE: "O HOLY NIGHT" BY BOYCE AVENUE.**

Even though they may not want to, the rest of the group  
enjoys the performance and applauds enthusiastically  
afterward.

The action continues with a blackout.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 6**

ACT 1 SCENE 7**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

VIVIAN  
That was lovely, thank you.

SHIRLEY  
You're welcome. I hope that has helped all of you understand the true meaning of Christmas.

BILL  
It sure gave us all something to think about.

There are a few beats of silence as everyone thinks.

DIANE  
You know what I think? I think there aren't enough single, available men at this party.

Shirley throws her hands up in frustration and sits.

RHONDA  
Can I hear an amen?

PHILLIP  
Preaching to the choir.

JUDY  
We have to turn this party around.

Frank breaks out into a bit of "Turn the Beat Around" by Vicki Sue Robinson, grooving by himself in the corner. While he is preoccupied...

KATHLEEN  
You can always get your freak on with the Boogie Man.

VIVIAN  
I thought he was your husband.

KATHLEEN  
He is, but we swing.

VIVIAN  
Oh, is there a playground nearby?

Bill whispers in Viv's ear. Her eyes get wide.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)  
Oh. Well, how... modern of you.

KATHLEEN  
That's what Disco is all about.  
Being free. Using your body for  
pleasure. Everybody is doing it.

SHIRLEY  
Everybody is certainly not!

KATHLEEN  
Everybody interesting.

RHONDA  
My husband Rodney wanted to swing.  
I told him he could swing his fat  
black ass right out the door.

DIANE  
(to Kathleen)  
You're sure you don't mind?

KATHLEEN  
Go for it, foxy mama. Sing him a  
song. Works every time.

DIANE  
A song? Well, if you insist.  
Alexa!

**SOUND CUE: "MERRY CHRISTMAS BABY" BY CHRISTINA AGUILERA.**

During the song, Diane tries to seduce Frank who is a bit lost in his own little disco world.

Everyone else either watches or actively tries not to.

By the end of the song, Diane is frustrated because Frank is not paying attention to her.

The action continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 7**

ACT 1 SCENE 8**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

DIANE  
(to Kathleen)  
What's wrong with him? That was my  
best Christmas sluttyness.

KATHLEEN  
(shrugs)  
It wasn't Disco.

Vivian pulls Bill aside.

VIVIAN  
Bill, do something.

BILL  
About what?

VIVIAN  
This party! It's a disaster.

BILL  
The guests are the disaster

VIVIAN  
What if everyone leaves?

BILL  
Good. Viv, I don't like any of  
these people.

VIVIAN  
Well, I don't either but that's not  
important. What's important is  
that they like us and we fit in.

BILL  
Why?

VIVIAN  
Because it's the suburbs, Bill.  
That's what we do.

BILL  
Okay, all right.  
(to the group)  
Hey everyone.

(MORE)

BILL (CONT'D)  
How about I sing a holiday classic.  
One that everyone will enjoy?

The response from the room is tepid at best.

BILL (CONT'D)  
Alexa...

**SOUND CUE: "WINTER WONDERLAND" BY MICHAEL BUBLE**

During the song, everyone slowly comes around and is enjoying it by the end.

The action continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 8**

ACT 1 SCENE 9**VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

KATHLEEN

Speaking of "snow," I need to use the facilities.

VIVIAN

Oh, of course. The powder room is right down the hall.

KATHLEEN

"Powder room." I like that.

Kathleen exits. As soon as she is gone, Frank goes to Diane.

FRANK

Listen, your song was great...

DIANE

But not slutty enough?

FRANK

No, no, it was very slutty.

JUDY

The sluttiest, Diane!

RHONDA

If I was here in an official neighborhood watch capacity, I would've called the police.

DIANE

Awww... thank you.

PHILLIP

But it wasn't Disco enough, right Boogie Man?

FRANK

Oh, God. Please don't tell Kathleen, but... I hate Disco!

Gasps all around.

FRANK (CONT'D)

I just do it for her. She loves it and I love her, so...



MARTIN

What kind of music do you like?

FRANK

I... I... I was born to rock!  
Alexa?

**SOUND CUE: "JINGLE BELL ROCK" BY BRIAN SETZER**

Frank rocks out during the song as everyone enjoys it.

Toward the end of the song, Kathleen enters (wiping the powder off her nose) and watches, shocked.

Frank ends in a flourish.

The action continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 9**

ACT 1 SCENE 10**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

KATHLEEN

Boogie Man! What did I just see?

FRANK

Dancing Queen! I can explain.

KATHLEEN

No, I mean I just did a ton of cocaine in the "powder room" so I'm totally seeing things. Were you just making out with a reindeer?

FRANK

(beat)

Yes. Yes, I was.

KATHLEEN

Oh, good.

SHIRLEY

That's it. We're leaving. Martin, come on.

Shirley and Martin get up.

RHONDA

Don't let the mistletoe hit you in the ass on the way out.

VIVIAN

Oh, no, please stay.

SHIRLEY

Why, in the name of everything that's holy, would we stay here in this den of iniquity?

PHILLIP

Den of Iniquity! That's where I know your brother Charlie from. I mean that bar is very dark, but I'm sure of it.

VIVIAN

(to Shirley)

Please, stay. Sing another song.

(MORE)

VIVIAN (CONT'D)  
I'm sure we'd all love to hear  
another one. You have such a  
lovely voice, right Bill?

BILL  
Definitely. Like a songbird.

SHIRLEY  
(beat - consider)  
Well... all right, just one more.  
A Christmas classic. Alexa, can  
you play Jingle Bells, please?

**SOUND CUE: "JINGLE BELL BATTLE" BY VARIOUS.**

In this, everyone sings their own version of Jingle Bells,  
turning it into a "battle" of sorts as they interrupt each  
others' take on things to do their own.

Interruptions are ad lib.

During this, both Shirley and Bill start eating their  
"brownies."

The battle ends.

The action continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 1 SCENE 10**

ACT 1 SCENE 11**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

Bill goes into the kitchen eating his brownie. Vivian looks out at the audience.

VIVIAN  
Two minutes later...

MARTIN  
What?

VIVIAN  
I was just saying that I need to  
duck into the kitchen and I'll be  
back two minutes later...

Vivian goes to join Bill as we hear the agent on the radio.

VIVIAN (CONT'D)  
The Christmas party? What is it?

AGENT MANN (O.S.)  
Is a gathering of people to  
celebrate the holidays, but that's  
not important right now. What is  
important is that one of your  
guests... is an alien.

BILL  
You mean they came into this  
country illegally?

AGENT MANN (O.S.)  
No... they came here from another  
planet.

Bill and Vivian are shocked.

AGENT MANN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Are any of your guests acting out  
of the ordinary?

BILL  
Yes. All of them.

AGENT MANN (O.S.)  
It's imperative that we keep them  
all there until we arrive in about  
an hour. The fate of humanity  
depends on it.

BILL  
What do you mean?

AGENT MANN (O.S.)  
The alien is here to destroy the  
earth... tonight! Mr. And Mrs.  
Collins... it's up to you to save  
Christmas!

Bill and Vivian look at one another in shock.

AGENT MANN (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
And the planet. That's important,  
too... This is very serious!

**SOUND CUE: "JINGLE BELLS" BARKING DOGS VERSION**

Off of Bill and Vivian's shock we...

BLACK OUT.

**END ACT 1**

**ACT 2 SCENE 1****INT. VIV AND BILL'S KITCHEN - NIGHT**

Viv and Bill are still in the kitchen but Agent Mann is gone.

BILL

Viv, what are we going to do?

VIVIAN

You heard Agent Mann. We need to just act normal and continue on with the party until they get here.

Bill takes another bite of Kathleen's "brownie."

BILL

But we're all alone. What if there's more than one of them? What if they're watching us?!

VIVIAN

Bill, sweetheart, calm down. You're being paranoid.

BILL

There's an alien in our living room! I think that calls for a little paranoia!

VIVIAN

I think it calls for more crab dip. Everything is better with crab dip.

BILL

How can you be so calm about this?

VIVIAN

Librium, darling.

She kisses him on the cheek and goes into the living room.

Bill follows.

The action continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 1**

ACT 2 SCENE 2**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Viv and Bill join the others in the living room.

VIVIAN  
We're back! Crab dip?

JUDY  
Oh, I love crab dip!

Judy takes the crab dip and eats it non-stop throughout.

RHONDA  
Who doesn't? Seafood in dip form?  
It's the best of both worlds.

BILL  
Both worlds? So you're saying  
there are two different worlds?

VIVIAN  
It's just an expression, Bill.

SHIRLEY  
(takes a bite of brownie)  
You know these brownies are good.  
They're so moist! Moist. Moist.  
That's a funny word. Moist.

MARTIN  
Shirley, are you okay?

SHIRLEY  
I'm moist.

PHILLIP  
I do not want to know that.

VIVIAN  
All right, who has another song?  
We should do something we can all  
sing along to. I know! "The 12  
Days of Christmas!" Everyone can  
have a part.

KATHLEEN  
Oh, yeah! Groovy. I have a  
fantastic version of that. Strap  
on your dancing shoes!

VIVIAN

Bill, why don't you point at people  
when it's their turn?

BILL

Me? Why me? What do you know?

VIVIAN

Or maybe Miss Rhonda can do it.

RHONDA

I'm very good at telling people  
what to do. That's why they made  
me head of the neighborhood watch.

PHILLIP

I thought it was because no one  
else wanted to do it.

RHONDA

They was intimidated by Miss  
Rhonda. I'm a very formidable  
woman. Alexa are we doing this or  
not?

**SOUND CUE: "12 DAYS OF CHRISTMAS" BY THE MISTLETOE DISCO BAND**

Everyone takes a part in the song.

At the end of the song, the action continues without a  
blackout.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 2**



ACT 2 SCENE 3

## INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The scene continues.

SHIRLEY

Moist!

MARTIN

Uh, you know, maybe we should be heading home.

SHIRLEY

Boo!

VIVIAN

No, you all need to stay!  
(off their reaction)  
I mean... It's Christmas Eve. We should all share what Christmas means to us. Dancing Queen? Will you go first?

KATHLEEN

Sure. I might need to visit the "powder room" again first.

BILL

Powder? Like dust? Like space dust?!

VIVIAN

(to Kathleen)  
Go ahead, dar. Tell us all about what Christmas means to you.

KATHLEEN

That's easy. Disco, baby!

JUDY

Is there any more of this crab dip?

KATHLEEN

Listen. Christmas is like Disco. It's about joy. Celebration. It's about being with the ones you love on the dance floor. And just like Christmas, Disco is timeless. It'll live forever.

FRANK

There's more to life than Disco,  
Kathleen!

Kathleen slaps him.

KATHLEEN

You shut your dirty whore mouth!

FRANK

No, I will not. I love you  
Kathleen but we need to find a life  
off the dance floor. I need more.  
I need variety. I need pants that  
aren't this tight. Seriously, have  
you ever wondered why we haven't  
had kids yet?

KATHLEEN

What are you saying, Boogie Man?

FRANK

I'm saying that Boogie Man is  
putting away his boogie shoes and  
ready to rock out this Christmas!  
And he hopes that his Dancing Queen  
will stay by his side.

KATHLEEN

Oh Frank, you really want to rock?

FRANK

More than anything in the world.

KATHLEEN

Then... I'm ready to rock, too.

FRANK

Really?

KATHLEEN

Yes! Alexa?

**SOUND CUE: "MRS. CLAUS IS BACK IN TOWN" BY BRIAN SETZER**

At the end of the song, the action continues.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 3**

ACT 2 SCENE 4**INT. VIV AND BILL'S KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

DIANE  
So, no swinging?

FRANK  
I'm afraid not. Sorry.

DIANE  
Oh, that's fine. Just fine! I'll just spend another Christmas Eve alone. Alone, sad, and pathetic.

Judy slaps Diane.

JUDY  
You shut your dirty whore mouth!

DIANE  
Judy!

JUDY  
Don't you understand, Diane? You're never going to be alone. You've got me. And crab dip.

DIANE  
Okay, yes, but Judy.... A woman has needs. A woman wants to be wanted.

Frank starts in on "I Want You to Want Me" by Cheap Trick as he and Kathleen rock out in the corner.

JUDY  
I'll tell you what you want... what you need. Vivian, you said you wanted us all to tell you what Christmas means to us. Well, this is what it means to me. It's about family. That unshakeable bond between sisters.

DIANE  
Identical. Wink

JUDY (CONT'D)  
Identical. Wink.

JUDY (CONT'D)  
You're always going to have a  
rockin' Christmas as long as I'm  
around. Alexa?

**SOUND CUE: "ROCKIN' AROUND THE CHRISTMAS TREE" BY BRENDA LEE**

At the end of the song Diane and Judy embrace.

The action continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 4**

ACT 2 SCENE 5

INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The scene continues.

Shirley starts to giggle.

MARTIN

Shirley? What's so funny?

SHIRLEY

(happy, laughing)

Oh, I was just thinking how you're all going to hell.

RHONDA

Excuse me? I am a good, Christian woman. Everyone is always saying, "Miss Rhonda, you make the best mac and cheese for the church potlucks." That's enough to get into heaven right there.

DIANE

And Judy and I have an entire section of our show devoted to negro spirituals.

JUDY

(stoned, singing)

*Go tell it on the mountain...*

RHONDA

No. Nuh-uh.

PHILLIP

Well, I'm almost certainly going to hell, but that's where all the fun people are going to be anyway.

KATHLEEN

I know, right? I bet they have the best drugs there.

(to Frank)

Wait... with this whole rock and roll thing, we can still do drugs, right?

FRANK

I think it's required.

KATHLEEN  
 (devil horns gesture)  
 Rock on, dude!

SHIRLEY  
 See! Sign of the devil!

Frank bursts into a bit of "Running with the Devil" by Van Halen. He and Kathleen rock out again.

SHIRLEY (CONT'D)  
 Oh, it will be such a wonderful thing to be in heaven looking at all of you burning in the eternal fiery lakes while Satan shoves hot pokers up your rear ends.

PHILLIP  
 Tell me more...

SHIRLEY  
 And you deserve it, too, because...

MARTIN  
 Shirley, just shut up!

SHIRLEY  
 (slaps him)  
 You shut your dirty whore mouth!

MARTIN  
 No, you shut yours! Shirley, these are all good people and we should be honored to be spending Christmas Eve with them. Because that's what Christmas is about. Being around good people - your community, your neighbors, your friends...

SHIRLEY  
 These are not my friends.

MARTIN  
 Oh, Shirley, just for one night can't I get a little peace and quiet? Can't you be silent for just one night?

**SOUND CUE: "SILENT NIGHT" BY JUSTIN BIEBER (MARTIN)**

After the song, the scene continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 5**

ACT 2 SCENE 6**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

PHILLIP

Good for you, Martin. I'm glad you're finally standing up for yourself and admitting how you really feel. Maybe there's something else you might want to admit while you're at it?

BILL

Yeah, is there? There is, isn't there! I knew it was you. Vivian, I knew it was him.

PHILLIP

It is pretty obvious. Martin?

Everyone looks at Martin expectantly.

MARTIN

(beat)  
No, I'm good.

He sits.

PHILLIP

Well, I think Christmas would be the perfect time to come out... of the cold into the warm embrace of finally being who you are.

VIVIAN

Is that what Christmas means to you, Phillip?

BILL

Or do you even know what Christmas is? Do they have Christmas where you come from?

PHILLIP

Yes! It usually involves all you can drink tequila eggnog and body shots off of a hot Santa, but...

DIANE  
(to Judy)  
We're totally going there.

JUDY  
(stands)  
We're going? Can I take the crab  
dip?

Diane pulls Judy back down.

PHILLIP  
But that's the best thing about  
Christmas. We all celebrate it  
differently and that's okay.

Rhonda slaps Phillip.

RHONDA  
You shut your dirty whore mouth!

PHILLIP  
Ow! What did I say?

RHONDA  
Nothing, I just couldn't let all  
the white women have all the fun.  
But I'm sorry, Philly. Tell, you  
what... why don't we let bygones be  
gone by singing a song together?  
(to Alexa)  
Alexa!

**SOUND CUE: "LET IT SNOW" FROM GLEE (RHONDA AND PHILLIP)**

After the song, the scene continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 6**



ACT 2 SCENE 7**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

Bill looks out the window.

BILL

Oh my God... they're here!

VIVIAN

What? Who's here?

BILL

The invasion! It's started! Pods are coming down out of the sky...

VIVIAN

Bill! Sweetheart! That's snow.

BILL

Maybe that's just what they want you to think.

VIVIAN

Bill, you really need to calm down.

BILL

How?

PHILLIP

(slaps Bill)

You shut your dirty whore mouth!

(to Rhonda)

You're right, that is fun.

RHONDA

I told you. Slapping white men is my new Christmas tradition. Turkey, mistletoe, slapping.

VIVIAN

You know what I think we need? Something to celebrate the white Christmas we're going to have. We don't we have all the guys perform for us ladies?

JUDY

Yes! I have dollar bills in my bra. Oh, I'm not wearing a bra.

KATHLEEN

I never wear one. I'm very hot-blooded.

Frank starts singing a bit of "Hot Blooded" by Foreigner and he and Kathleen rock out in the corner.

DIANE

Don't worry, Judy. I have plenty of dollar bills. See?

Diane holds up a stack of dollar bills.

MARTIN

Where were you hiding those?

DIANE

Wouldn't you like to know, big boy?

VIVIAN

I wasn't talking about that kind of performances. I meant a song because it's Christmas Eve and it's snowing. Guys, what do you say?

PHILLIP

I'm in.

FRANK

Sure, why not.

BILL

Okay. Yeah, I can do that.

VIVIAN

Martin?

MARTIN

(glances at Shirley)  
No, you go ahead.

Frank, Bill, and Phillip get up and nod toward Alexa.

**SOUND CUE: "WHITE CHRISTMAS" BY THE DRIFTERS (BILL, FRANK, MARTIN, AND PHILLIP)**

During the song, Martin joins in on the high part.

The action continues with no blackout.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 7**

ACT 2 SCENE 8**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

As soon as Martin sits down next to Shirley, she stands up.

SHIRLEY

I have something to say.

RHONDA

Oh, Lord. Here we go. Girl, unless your name is Encyclopedia Britannica, you don't know everything so just hush.

PHILLIP

I agree. If I wanted to be told I was going to hell, I would've spent Christmas Eve with my family.

KATHLEEN

Yeah, your attitude is not very Disco.

FRANK

Or rock and roll.

KATHLEEN

Wouldn't it be great if they found a way to mix Disco and rock?

FRANK

That would be really hot stuff.

KATHLEEN

I want some hot stuff baby this evening.

FRANK

Looking for some hot stuff baby tonight.

KATHLEEN

We should write this down!

SHIRLEY

No, no, no. I want to say what Christmas means to me.

Everyone groans and shakes their head.

VIVIAN

No, no, let's give her a chance.

SHIRLEY

Thank you, Vivi-men. When I was a little girl I used to love to make snow angels in the front yard and my mother would yell at me and say "surely there are better ways you can celebrate the birth of our Lord and savior Jesus Christ" and I'd say to her "no there aren't and don't call me Shirley" and she'd say "your name is Shirley" and I'd say "but you didn't say Shirley like my name, you said surely like are you sure" and she'd say "no I didn't" and I'd say "are you sure?" and she'd "Shirley!" and I didn't know what she meant.

Everyone sits there for a moment. Diane turns to Martin?

DIANE

Can I slap her? Because I haven't gotten to do one yet.

MARTIN

Go for it.

Diane slaps Shirley.

DIANE

You shut your dirty whore mouth!

SHIRLEY

(no reaction)

See that's what Christmas always meant to me. What my mother told me it meant. Now, listening to all of you and hearing your beautiful songs... I think I've learned that all that's important is that we're happy. I just want everyone to have a merry little Christmas.

**SOUND CUE: "HAVE YOURSELF A MERRY LITTLE CHRISTMAS" BY SAM SMITH**

After the song the action continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 8**

ACT 2 SCENE 9

## INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The scene continues.

VIVIAN  
That was beautiful, Shirley.

SHIRLEY  
Moist you very much.

VIVIAN  
But I have to say, I'm still not convinced.

BILL  
Convinced of what?

VIVIAN  
What Christmas really means. So far I've heard joy and celebration. Being with the ones you love. The unshakable bond of family. Community. Friends. Neighbors. Being accepted for who you are. Being happy. But all of that is just like... I don't know. It's like the things you'd hear in some silly made-for-TV Christmas movie.

RHONDA  
Filled with nothing but white people.

PHILLIP  
Straight white people.

DIANE  
Who are all impossibly good looking.

FRANK  
And they have to save a Christmas festival or something.

KATHLEEN  
That they have in some perfect small town.

MARTIN  
And they fall in love.

SHIRLEY

And kiss at the very end.

JUDY

But what's wrong with that?

Everyone looks at Judy.

JUDY (CONT'D)

No, seriously? It's easy to make fun of movies like that, but I wish there was a TV channel where you could watch nothing but Christmas movies 24-hours a day. They make people happy. They give people a little bit of joy. Isn't that what Christmas is really all about?

RHONDA

I still say they need more Black people, but I hear you... we do need a little more joy in this world. Ladies? Let's sing a song.

**SOUND CUE: "JOY TO THE WORLD" BY ARETHA FRANKLIN (RHONDA, VIVIAN, DIANE, JUDY, KATHLEEN, AND SHIRLEY)**

After the song the action continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 9**

ACT 2 SCENE 10**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

VIVIAN

I get it. I finally get it! I understand what Christmas means. Thank you. Thank you, everyone. You have no idea what you've done for me... for all of humanity.

BILL

Vivian, what are you talking about?

VIVIAN

Bill... there's something I need to tell you. Or maybe it'll be easier if I just show you.

Vivian whips off part of her hair to reveal alien antennae underneath. Everyone gasps.

BILL

You're the alien!?

DIANE

Alien?! Oh my god! Miss Rhonda, do something!

RHONDA

Me? Why me?

PHILLIP

You're the head of neighborhood watch.

RHONDA

I can't even get that bitch Mrs. Jenkins down the street to take in her trash cans at night. You think I know how to deal with an alien?

VIVIAN

No, it's all right. You're not in any danger.

BILL

But the guy from government... he said you were here to destroy the earth.

VIVIAN

I was. You see, I came here a few months ago to study your planet to determine if you were a peaceful, loving people that we could befriend.

KATHLEEN

And what did you decide?

VIVIAN

Oh, you're just awful. No, seriously. Dreadful. You're doing terrible things to your planet. You're mean to each other. You do take away rights from people who need them. You're greedy. All the money and power is in the hands of a few people and you don't help the most vulnerable amongst you. I thought you totally deserved what we were going to do to you tonight.

JUDY

What were you going to do?

VIVIAN

Blow up the earth. See, that's why we moved here. This house sits right on the bullseye, so to speak, and I needed some humans here for them to get the aim right. They were going to beam me up and then beam you out, if you get my drift.

FRANK

Wow, would you look at the time...

Everyone starts for the front door.

VIVIAN

No, it's okay! I've changed my mind. You all changed my mind. You helped me understand what Christmas is about... it's about people. And all I want to do now is go home to mine...

**SOUND CUE: "I'LL BE HOME FOR CHRISTMAS" BY BETTE MIDLER**

After the song, the action continues without a blackout.

**END ACT 2 SCENE 10**



ACT 2 SCENE 11**INT. VIV AND BILL'S LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

The scene continues.

BILL

Wait, the real Vivian... Is she...

VIVIAN

Oh, she's fine. I just replicated her body and all of her memories. She's safe on my home planet. It's never been tidier.

BILL

I want her back! When you "beam up" or whatever, I'm going with you to save her.

VIVIAN

Well, all right, but we'll have to hurry. The whole "blow up the planet" thing is happening in like fifteen minutes.

DIANE

Oh, well, then we have time for a few more songs, don't we?

VIVIAN

(to the audience)

I don't know. Do you want us to go save the planet or hear a few more Christmas songs?

Regardless of what the audience says...

**SOUND CUE: "ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU" BY MARIAH CAREY**

**SOUND CUE: "THE CHRISTMAS SONG" BY NAT KING COLE**

**SOUND CUE: "IT'S THE MOST WONDERFUL TIME OF THE YEAR" BY ANDY WILLIAMS**

Toward the end of the last song, Bill and Viv exit and we hear the sound of a spaceship as the others watch and wave.

BLACKOUT

THE END