

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