

A MOST UNLIKELY ANGEL

by James Brock



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**A MOST UNLIKELY
ANGEL**

By James Brock

2
CAST

MR. ANGELO

Chief Angel in charge of star polishing

DANA

A young angel who doesn't always follow the rules

MARJORIE

A young angel who worries about Dana

PAM

A young star polisher

ALICE

A young star polisher

JASON

A boy with polio

MRS. COOK

Jason's mother

DR. HITTLE

The family doctor

SETTING

There are indications of stars and clouds in the background. To Stage Left three large stars are suspended, one yellow, one white, one blue. Upstage Center is one large cloud (stage level) that can be pulled apart from the center to reveal a bed. To Right of Center a fourth star is suspended, this one very tarnished and unkept. Downstage Right is a medium size cloud (stage level) that can be pushed to one side.

TIME

Christmas Eve of the present year.

PLACE

Heaven.

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1 **AT RISE:** MARJORIE and ALICE are Stage Left, busily polishing
 2 their various stars. Enter MR. ANGELO with clipboard, Stage
 3 Left. He crosses to PAM and examines her star then delightedly
 4 makes a check of his roster. All are dressed in choir robes and
 5 have halos.

6
 7 **MR. ANGELO:** Good! Very good, Pam. You certainly have
 8 learned to polish stars well!

9 **PAM:** Thank you, Mr. Angelo. I enjoy it! *(MR. ANGELO crosses*
 10 *to ALICE, once more making a check on his roster.)*

11 **MR. ANGELO:** I see you got a white star today. I hope it
 12 hasn't been too much work for you, Alice.

13 **ALICE:** Not at all, Sir. I haven't minded at all.

14 **MR. ANGELO:** Good for you! The way you girls are polishing
 15 stars I venture to say this will be one of the loveliest
 16 Christmas Eves the people down on earth have ever seen.

17 *(MR. ANGELO crosses to MARJORIE and nods approvingly.)*

18 **MARJORIE:** It's not so bad, Mr. Angelo. The blue ones are
 19 so pretty once you get the tarnish off.

20 **MR. ANGELO:** So true, so true. *(MR. ANGELO makes another*
 21 *check on his roster, then looking around, spots the unkept star*
 22 *to Right of Center.)* Speaking of tarnish . . . look at that star!
 23 Heavens! What a mess. It looks like it hasn't been touched
 24 at all. Who is assigned to that star?

25 **PAM:** Oh, I think you assigned that to Da . . .

26 **MARJORIE:** *(Quickly)* I'll do it, Mr. Angelo! I'm through with
 27 my star anyway.

28 **MR. ANGELO:** No, thank you Marjorie. You've done quite
 29 enough. Besides, everyone has his own assignment. *(MR.*
 30 *ANGELO checks his roster as the girls exchange looks.)* Ah ha!
 31 I should have known. Dana! Why, he hasn't even touched
 32 that star! Where is he?

33 **ALICE:** I think he went over . . .

34 **MARJORIE:** He was just here a minute ago. I'm sure he will be
 35 right back. *(The sound of hammering comes from behind the*

- 1 *cloud, Stage Right. MR. ANGELO crosses to cloud and moves*
 2 *it aside to reveal DANA working on a wooden toy. DANA looks*
 3 *up and sees MR. ANGELO. He rises, his robe is stained and his*
 4 *halo slightly crooked.)*
- 5 **DANA:** Oh, hi, Mr. Angelo. How are tricks?
- 6 **MR. ANGELO:** And what, might I ask, are you doing back
 7 here?
- 8 **DANA:** I'm . . . ah . . . I'm making a toy!
- 9 **MR. ANGELO:** A toy? Why in heaven's name would you be
 10 doing that when you have a star to polish?
- 11 **DANA:** I don't know. I just like to build things. It's lots more
 12 fun than shining up old rusty stars. That is . . . I
 13 mean . . . stars are OK . . . but . . .
- 14 **MR. ANGELO:** Yes, I understand quite well what you mean.
 15 Here! Let me see that. *(DANA hands MR. ANGELO the wooden*
 16 *horse he has been putting together.)* What is this thing?
- 17 **DANA:** It's a horse, sir.
- 18 **MR. ANGELO:** But it's green!
- 19 **DANA:** Yeah, I know. I thought . . . well, anybody can make
 20 a regular horse. But how often do you see a green one?
- 21 **MR. ANGELO:** How often indeed! What on earth did you plan
 22 to do with it?
- 23 **DANA:** I thought I might give it to some kid for
 24 Christmas . . . or something like that.
- 25 **MR. ANGELO:** Young man, how long must you be here before
 26 you realize that this Santa Claus business is not really
 27 our function?
- 28 **DANA:** But I was kinda hoping . . . that is . . . yes sir.
- 29 **MR. ANGELO:** Well, put down that hammer, Dana, and get
 30 back to work on that star.
- 31 **DANA:** Yes sir. Right away, Sir! *(DANA drops the hammer. It*
 32 *lands on MR. ANGELO's foot.)*
- 33 **MR. ANGELO:** Ouch!! Oh! You . . . you broke my toe!
 34 You . . . *(Hopping around, MR. ANGELO grabs the injured foot.)*
 35 Oh . . . my foot . . . you . . . you! One, two, three, four, five . . .

- 1 **DANA:** Gosh! I'm sorry, Mr. Angelo. I didn't mean to hit your
2 foot!
- 3 **MR. ANGELO:** Here. Take this thing! (*MR. ANGELO thrusts*
4 *the green horse at DANA, then hobbles Offstage, still counting*
5 *to control his temper.*) Six, seven, eight, nine . . .
- 6 **DANA:** I'll get back to that star now, Mr. Angelo. Yes, sir!
7 Sure thing . . . (*DANA gives up as he sees his words fall on*
8 *deaf ears. MARJORIE crosses to DANA, sympathetically.*)
- 9 **MARJORIE:** Hi, Dana.
- 10 **DANA:** Hi, Marjie. Well . . . it looks like I blew it. And on
11 Christmas Eve, too.
- 12 **MARJORIE:** Oh, don't worry, Dana. It'll be all right. Come
13 on, I'll help you clean up that star if you like.
- 14 **DANA:** Naw, it's OK. I should have done it earlier.
- 15 **MARJORIE:** That's a nice toy you made.
- 16 **DANA:** (*Putting horse back behind cloud*) Mr. Angelo didn't seem
17 to think so. Gosh, I never do anything right according to
18 him.
- 19 **MARJORIE:** Come on now . . . it's not that bad.
- 20 **ALICE:** Hey, Marjie, Pam and I are going to go fly around
21 down by the moon for a while. Want to come along?
- 22 **MARJORIE:** Later. I'll be along later.
- 23 **PAM:** OK. Bye! (*PAM and ALICE exit.*)
- 24 **DANA:** You don't have to hang around here on my account,
25 Marjie. It's OK.
- 26 **MARJORIE:** I don't mind. I guess it's kind of lonely for you
27 up here in this section. I mean without any other guys
28 around.
- 29 **DANA:** Yeah . . . I guess. Hey, do you know how to play catch?
- 30 **MARJORIE:** No, I don't think so.
- 31 **DANA:** Aw, Gee . . . nothing ever works for me up here!
- 32 **MARJORIE:** But I'm willing to try . . . if you would teach me.
- 33 **DANA:** Really? Hey, that's great, Marjie. I got a ball and a
34 couple of gloves stashed away someplace . . . (*DANA begins*
35 *rummaging around behind the cloud Stage Right, then comes*

- 1 up with the ball and gloves. He hands one to MARJORIE.) Here!
 2 OK, now . . . you take this glove and go over there and I'll
 3 pitch the ball to you.
- 4 **MARJORIE:** All right. But don't throw it hard. I've never
 5 done this before. (*DANA tosses the ball. MARJORIE closes*
 6 *her eyes and sticks out her glove. She misses the ball.*) Oh! I
 7 guess I missed it, didn't I?
- 8 **DANA:** Yeah, I guess you did. But that's OK. You toss it to
 9 me now. And really burn it in. (*MARJORIE tosses ball to*
 10 *DANA, but very girl-like. DANA rolls the ball back to*
 11 *MARJORIE and she throws it again.*)
- 12 **MARJORIE:** Gee, Dana. This is lots of fun, isn't it?
- 13 **DANA:** (*Without enthusiasm*) Sure! Real exciting.
- 14 **MARJORIE:** It's not really, is it, Dana? It would be more fun
 15 if you had someone who knew how to play well.
- 16 **DANA:** Aw, it's not your fault, Marjie. I guess you just never
 17 got interested in playing ball.
- 18 **MARJORIE:** Did you used to play ball a lot? I mean, before
 19 you came up here?
- 20 **DANA:** Sure, you bet! I played ball all the time. I used to be
 21 a shortstop, and I could really hum it in there. You see,
 22 they would hit me a grounder and . . .
- 23 **MARJORIE:** A grounder?
- 24 **DANA:** Yeah, a grounder. Here I'll show you. The ball comes
 25 steamin' along the ground . . . like this . . . (*DANA rolls ball*
 26 *along ground and fields it as if playing a real game.*) I stab it
 27 with my glove . . . and fire it to home plate! (*In his*
 28 *enthusiasm DANA forgets himself and throws the ball Offstage.*
 29 *A voice is heard.*)
- 30 **MR. ANGELO:** (*Offstage*) Ouch! (*Enter MR. ANGELO holding*
 31 *the ball in one hand and rubbing the back of his head with the*
 32 *other.*)
- 33 **MR. ANGELO:** Who threw this? Oh . . . Dana, it's you again!
- 34 **DANA:** Gosh . . . I'm sorry, Mr. Angelo. I kinda lost
 35 control . . .

- 1 **MARJORIE:** Dana was trying to teach me to play ball, Mr.
 2 Angelo. It really wasn't his fault.
- 3 **MR. ANGELO:** It's never his fault, Marjorie. But things keep
 4 happening, don't they? Dana, I'm not at all sure what I
 5 should do about you. Here! Get rid of this thing. (*MR.*
 6 *ANGELO hands DANA the baseball. DANA crosses to put gloves*
 7 *and ball behind cloud.*) Now . . . we need to get this unit
 8 organized for Christmas Eve. Marjorie, would you get
 9 the other girls up here?
- 10 **MARJORIE:** Yes sir. I'll just be a minute. (*Exit MARJORIE.*)
- 11 **MR. ANGELO:** Dana, I would like you to . . . (*MR. ANGELO*
 12 *pauses as he sees the tarnished star.*) What's wrong with that
 13 star? It's still not polished!
- 14 **DANA:** Yes sir! I mean, no sir, it isn't. I was going to get on
 15 it right after I finished teaching Marjie to play ball . . .
- 16 **MR. ANGELO:** In other words you put it off again. You never
 17 get your assignments completed. I don't know about you,
 18 Dana. I really don't know what you are doing up here. It
 19 was my understanding that people up here were going
 20 to be perfect!
- 21 **DANA:** Well . . . maybe . . . maybe I'm just a different kind of
 22 perfect than you are used to, Mr. Angelo!
- 23 **MR. ANGELO:** You certainly are, young man. You certainly
 24 are. As a matter of fact, if anyone were to ask I would
 25 have to say that you are a most unlikely angel! I would
 26 suggest that if you wish to stay here you had better begin
 27 to . . . (*Enter MARJORIE with PAM and ALICE.*)
- 28 **MARJORIE:** We're all here now, Mr. Angelo!
- 29 **MR. ANGELO:** Yes . . . very well, Marjorie. I'll deal with you
 30 later, young man. Now, come along everybody. We have
 31 a very difficult case to work with this Christmas Eve.
 32 (*MR. ANGELO begins leading the group around the stage as if*
 33 *they were traveling a great distance. They talk as they proceed.*)
- 34 **PAM:** Who do we have this year?
- 35 **MR. ANGELO:** There is a young lad named Jason . . . Jason

- 1 **Cook. It seems as though he is very sick. Critically sick,**
2 **to be truthful.**
- 3 **ALICE:** What's wrong with him?
- 4 **MR. ANGELO:** It's polio, Alice...an old disease that we
5 thought we had done away with, but people got careless.
6 They stopped taking the vaccine.
- 7 **PAM:** What's going to happen to him...this Jason Cook?
- 8 **MR. ANGELO:** Well, let's look in and find out. I think if we
9 move these clouds apart right here, we should be able to
10 see right into Jason's bedroom. (*MR. ANGELO stops in front*
11 *of the stage-level clouds Upstage Center. He and MARJORIE*
12 *pull the clouds aside to reveal a bed with JASON in it. He is a*
13 *young boy, younger than DANA and MARJORIE. MRS. COOK*
14 *and DR. HITTLE are at the foot of the bed.>)*
- 15 **ALICE:** Who's the man?
- 16 **MR. ANGELO:** That is Dr. Hittle. He's been the family doctor
17 for years.
- 18 **PAM:** And that must be Jason's mother. She looks worried.
- 19 **MARJORIE:** I wish we could hear what they are saying.
- 20 **MR. ANGELO:** Oh, that's easy to arrange. (*MR. ANGELO snaps*
21 *his fingers and DR. HITTLE and MRS. COOK, who have been*
22 *talking in dumb voice, now begin to speak audibly.>)*
- 23 **MRS. COOK:** ...and he doesn't seem to be getting any better,
24 Doctor. His breathing is so labored.
- 25 **DR. HITTLE:** Yes, it's the fever. It saps his strength.
- 26 **MRS. COOK:** I feel so helpless. If there were just something
27 I could do.
- 28 **DR. HITTLE:** We've done everything possible for Jason. It's
29 out of our hands now. We'll just have to wait and see.
- 30 **MRS. COOK:** But he's suffered so much already. First his
31 legs...and that awful wheelchair, and now the fever's
32 come back.
- 33 **DR. HITTLE:** I know, Mary. I know. If the fever would
34 break...if he would just fight it a little longer.
- 35 **MRS. COOK:** He's so tired. And I can't help him. I don't think

1 I could stand to lose him. He's all I have.

2 DR. HITTLE: If he would fight. Maybe then . . . but he doesn't
3 seem to want to.

4 MRS. COOK: It's because he knows he will be in that
5 wheelchair for the rest of his life. But that doesn't matter
6 to me. I would take care of him. I just want him to be
7 well . . . and be with me.

8 DR. HITTLE: Yes, but Jason has to want it badly enough to
9 fight for his life. So far, he just doesn't . . . (*MR. ANGELO*
10 *snaps his fingers again and DR. HITTLE and MRS. COOK*
11 *continue talking, but in dumb voices. They push the clouds back*
12 *together to close off the scene.*)

13 MR. ANGELO: Well, that's our problem for tonight.

14 DANA: Gee, that's pretty tough. Especially on a Christmas
15 Eve.

16 MARJIE: Will Jason die, Mr. Angelo?

17 MR. ANGELO: I don't know. Nobody does at this point. But
18 whatever is going to happen will happen at midnight.

19 PAM: What will we do then?

20 MR. ANGELO: Oh, the usual. Just be here to help. If Jason
21 comes over to our side, he'll be confused for a while. We
22 will help him get oriented. If he stays on the other side,
23 then we will watch over him and comfort him until he's
24 better.

25 ALICE: I hope he gets to stay with his mother. She looks like
26 a nice person.

27 PAM: Yeah! And think of how lonely she will be if he comes
28 over to our side . . . especially at Christmas.

29 MR. ANGELO: Well, we will see. Now everybody be back here
30 at twelve midnight and we will do whatever is necessary.
31 That is, everybody but Dana! I think you still have a star
32 to shine, don't you, young man?

33 DANA: Aw, can't I let that go? I want to be here when
34 Jason . . .

35 MR. ANGELO: Dana!

- 1 **DANA:** Yes, sir. I'll polish the star. (*All exit but DANA, who*
2 *returns to work on his star. After a few minutes of half-hearted*
3 *work he gets an idea. He removes his robe and halo and puts*
4 *them with his other things behind the cloud. He begins to walk*
5 *back toward JASON's area. MARJORIE enters and sees him.*)
- 6 **MARJORIE:** Dana! Dana, is that you?
- 7 **DANA:** Hush! Don't give me away.
- 8 **MARJORIE:** What are you doing? Why have you taken off
9 your robe?
- 10 **DANA:** I'm going back to see that Jason kid. Somehow I got
11 the feeling he needs some help.
- 12 **MARJORIE:** But you'll get in trouble! If Mr. Angelo finds out
13 what you are doing, he'll . . .
- 14 **DANA:** I know. I know . . . but I can't be in any worse trouble
15 than I am now. Besides, maybe if I can find a way to help
16 that kid, Jason, then I'll get back on the right side of Mr.
17 Angelo.
- 18 **MARJORIE:** But why did you take off your robe and halo?
19 You know we are never supposed to do that.
- 20 **DANA:** I know, but if that Jason kid sees me in that robe
21 outfit it will probably scare him out of his skin. I thought
22 this way I would look more normal.
- 23 **MARJORIE:** Sees you? You're not going to let him see you?
24 It's against the rules! It's . . .
- 25 **DANA:** Don't hassle me, Marjie. I'm already up to my neck
26 in broken rules now. One more isn't going to hurt at
27 this point. (*MARJORIE thinks a moment then takes off her*
28 *robe and halo and puts them with DANA's.*)
- 29 **DANA:** Hey! What do you think you are doing?
- 30 **MARJORIE:** If you are going to go back down there and see
31 Jason then I'm going, too. I'm not going to let you get
32 yourself in any more trouble than I can help.
- 33 **DANA:** But you'll get in trouble too!
- 34 **MARJORIE:** Well . . . like you said. What's one more rule at
35 this point. And if we can help . . .

- 1 **DANA:** OK. Then let's get going. There's not too much time
2 left before midnight. (*DANA and MARJORIE retrace the*
3 *path back to JASON's area. They separate the clouds. DR.*
4 *HITTLE and MRS. COOK are still in the room. DANA snaps*
5 *his fingers and we can hear them talking.*)
6 **DR. HITTLE:** I must be going now, Mary. But if there is any
7 change you be sure and give me a call. Anytime . . . I'll
8 hurry right back.
9 **MRS. COOK:** All right, Doctor. I'll walk you to the door. (*They*
10 *both exit. DANA waits a minute, then moves in by the bed.*)
11 **DANA:** Hey! Hey kid! Wake up!
12 **MARJORIE:** Dana! Don't . . .
13 **DANA:** Come on, lazy bones. Wake up! What are you going
14 to do, sleep forever? (*JASON stirs then props up on one elbow,*
15 *drowsily.*)
16 **JASON:** What? Who's calling? Who are you?
17 **DANA:** My name's Dana. How you feeling, Jason?
18 **JASON:** How do you know my name? Am I supposed to know
19 you?
20 **DANA:** Not yet. I'm . . . I'm kinda like a new kid in the block.
21 This is Marjie. She's new around here, too.
22 **JASON:** Hi.
23 **MARJORIE:** Hello. How are you feeling, Jason?
24 **JASON:** All right. Gee, that's funny! A few minutes ago I felt
25 lousy. Now I feel just fine. How did you two get in here?
26 I didn't think the doctor would let me have any visitors.
27 I'm supposed to be what you call . . . contingent.
28 **MARJORIE:** (*Laughing*) You mean contagious. Don't worry.
29 Dana and I are immune.
30 **DANA:** Come on, Jason. Why don't you get out of that bed?
31 **MARJORIE:** Dana! I don't think we should be doing all this.
32 **DANA:** Sure we should. What's it going to hurt? Come on,
33 Jase!
34 **JASON:** I can't.
35 **DANA:** Why?

- 1 **JASON:** I told you. I'm sick. I got polio!
- 2 **DANA:** So?
- 3 **JASON:** So I can't walk! What's the matter with you? Didn't
- 4 you hear what I said?
- 5 **DANA:** How do you know you can't walk?
- 6 **JASON:** Because I got polio! I'm going to be in a wheelchair for
- 7 the rest of my life. Gee . . . man, are you crazy? If I tried to
- 8 get out of this bed and walk I'd fall right on my face!
- 9 **DANA:** How do you know? Have you tried it?
- 10 **JASON:** You're crazy!
- 11 **DANA:** Maybe . . . but why don't you give it a try? Maybe
- 12 you'll be surprised.
- 13 **JASON:** OK, wise guy. But boy is my Mom going to be sore
- 14 at you when she comes in here and finds me laying on
- 15 the floor!
- 16 **MARJORIE:** Dana, do you know what you are doing?
- 17 **DANA:** I think so. (*JASON has turned and is sitting on the side*
- 18 *of the bed. As he eases off onto the floor, DANA snaps his fingers*
- 19 *and JASON is able to stand . . . DANA smiles at MARJORIE.*)
- 20 I learned that one from watching Mr. Angelo.
- 21 **JASON:** Hey! I can stand! I can really stand! Look at me . . .
- 22 **DANA:** Sure you can. Come on . . . walk around a little bit.
- 23 (*JASON starts off walking cautiously, then realizing his legs*
- 24 *are all right, begins jumping around.*)
- 25 **JASON:** I can walk! Look at me, I can walk! Hey . . . I've got
- 26 to tell Mom!
- 27 **MARJORIE:** Wait a minute, Jason. You can't do that . . . not
- 28 exactly.
- 29 **JASON:** Sure I can. I can walk. See . . . I can even run. I'll
- 30 just take off downstairs and tell Mom that . . .
- 31 **MARJORIE:** No, you can't do that!
- 32 **JASON:** What's wrong with you? Sure I can. Why can't I?
- 33 **MARJORIE:** Because . . . because she wouldn't hear you!
- 34 **JASON:** Wouldn't hear me? You're crazy too, aren't you?
- 35 **MARJORIE:** Dana . . . now look what you've done.

- 1 **JASON:** Hey...you two guys are nice and all that...but
2 you sure say some goofy things. (*Enter MRS. COOK. She*
3 *crosses to bed and looks down as if JASON were still there.*)
4 Hey, Mom...look! I'm OK now...I can walk!
5 Hey...Hey! (*MRS. COOK doesn't respond at all to JASON.*)
6 Wait a minute. What's going on here?
- 7 **MARJORIE:** It's like I was telling you, Jason. She can't hear you.
- 8 **JASON:** I don't understand this. She keeps looking at the
9 bed like I was still in it.
- 10 **MARJORIE:** Dana!
- 11 **DANA:** OK...OK...cool it, Marjie. Look, Jase...you are
12 still in bed...OK?
- 13 **JASON:** What? You're crazy! You are really crazy, do you
14 know that?
- 15 **MARJORIE:** I told you, Dana. We shouldn't have done this.
16 Now we've really made a mess of things.
- 17 **DANA:** Now don't go getting all excited, Marjie.
- 18 **JASON:** Hey, Mom! Look over here...it's me...Jason!
19 Hey...I'm not in that bed...I'm over here! Hey! (*JASON*
20 *waves his arms at MRS. COOK, then when she doesn't see him,*
21 *he turns to MARJORIE.*) What is this? Am I asleep?
- 22 **MARJORIE:** No, not exactly.
- 23 **DANA:** Look, Jason. What Marjie means is that this is kinda
24 like a dream. That's why your Mom can't see you over
25 here. Don't sweat it, Jase. It's OK, I promise you.
- 26 **JASON:** Then it is a dream. And when I wake up, I'll still be
27 crippled. Aw, man...that's lousy!
- 28 **DANA:** Come on, Jase...don't worry about that now. You're
29 here with us and you can walk so why not take advantage
30 of it?
- 31 **JASON:** But it's not real. It's all made up!
- 32 **DANA:** Who cares? It seems real, doesn't it?
- 33 **JASON:** Yes, I suppose so. How did you two get in my dream
34 anyway? Did I just make you up, too?
- 35 **MARJORIE:** This is getting us in deeper and deeper, Dana!

- 1 (*DANA turns aside to MARJORIE and speaks confidentially.*)
2 **DANA:** Too late to worry about that now! (*Turning to JASON*)
3 Yeah, now that you mention it, I guess I'm just made up,
4 like you said. Hey, Jase . . . as long as you were making
5 me up, why didn't you make me about six-foot-four with
6 a build like Superman or Tarzan? I mean, you could have
7 made up something better than this!
8 **MARJORIE:** Yeah, Jason. That goes for me, too!
9 **DANA:** I don't think you would look very good as Tarzan,
10 Marjie!
11 **MARJORIE:** Oh, you nut! I didn't mean that!
12 **JASON:** Hey, you two are fun. I'm glad I made you up.
13 **DANA:** Great! Now come on. We got some real neat stuff to
14 show you.
15 **JASON:** Do you think it's OK? I mean, to go off?
16 **DANA:** Sure. Come on. We'll have you back by midnight!
17 **JASON:** Why? What happens at midnight?
18 **MARJORIE:** Nothing . . . especially. It's just . . . this is
19 Christmas Eve. You want to spend Christmas with your
20 mother, don't you?
21 **JASON:** Yeah, OK. But Mom won't worry, will she? I mean
22 with me being gone?
23 **DANA:** She doesn't know you're gone. Come on, let's go. (*As*
24 *they walk past the clouds, JASON looks about, amazed.*)
25 **JASON:** Wow! This is some place. What's that over there?
26 **MARJORIE:** It's a star. This one is a blue one. I polished it
27 myself.
28 **JASON:** It sure looks nice. What's wrong with that one over
29 there? It's all cruddy!
30 **MARJORIE:** Yeah. Someone keeps goofing off and never gets
31 around to polishing that one!
32 **DANA:** Very funny!
33 **JASON:** How do you clean them up? Is it hard?
34 **DANA:** Well, it's not easy . . .
35 **MARJORIE:** Oh, don't be silly. There's nothing to it. Come

- 1 **on, I'll show you.** (*MARJORIE and DANA take JASON over*
2 *and begin working on the star, removing the tarnish and adding*
3 *glitter.*)
- 4 **JASON:** Boy, look at it shine! This is fun, isn't it?
- 5 **DANA:** Sure. Say, we do stuff like this all the time up here.
- 6 **JASON:** Up here?
- 7 **DANA:** Look over here a minute, Jase. I want to show you
8 something. (*DANA crosses to get his green horse. He holds it*
9 *out to JASON.*) How about that! I made it myself.
- 10 **JASON:** What is it?
- 11 **DANA:** What-da-ya mean, "what is it?" It's a horse! What do
12 you think?
- 13 **JASON:** But it's green! If it's a horse, why is it green?
- 14 **DANA:** Because that's the way I made it! Anybody can make
15 a regular horse.
- 16 **JASON:** OK . . . if you say so. But, do you know something?
17 I'm puzzled. If this is my dream . . . and I made it all up . . .
18 why don't I remember having you make that horse?
19 Surely I'd remember a green horse.
- 20 **MARJORIE:** Listen, Dana . . . ahh, maybe Jason would like
21 to play catch with you. Dana tried to teach me but I'm
22 afraid I wasn't very good at it.
- 23 **DANA:** Yeah! Hey, that's a great idea! Here . . . I got a couple
24 of mitts and a ball right over here.
- 25 **JASON:** But won't that hurt? I mean . . . my legs . . .
- 26 **DANA:** Here, take this glove and I'll show you my curve.
27 (*DANA tosses the ball to JASON and he returns it.*) Now for
28 my super deluxe special sizzler! Ready?
- 29 **JASON:** Sure. Fire her in! (*DANA overthrows and the ball goes*
30 *Offstage. There is a loud "Ouch!" as we hear MR. ANGELO.*)
- 31 **MR. ANGELO:** (*Offstage*) *Ouch!!! Dana!!!*
- 32 **MARJORIE:** Oh, my goodness! Now you've done it!
- 33 **JASON:** Done what? Who was that?
- 34 **DANA:** Oh boy. He'll come looking for me for sure now!
- 35 **MARJORIE:** And we don't have on our robes . . . or our halos!

- 1 **JASON:** Halos? Hey, wait a minute . . . what's . . .
- 2 **DANA:** Let's get him out of here. Quick. Come on over here.
- 3 **JASON:** I don't understand this. Something's funny.
- 4 **MARJORIE:** Never mind that now. Hurry! (*JASON, DANA*
5 *and MARJORIE hurry to cloud and hide behind it as MR.*
6 *ANGELO enters with PAM and ALICE.*)
- 7 **MR. ANGELO:** That's twice in one day! He must be throwing
8 this ball at me on purpose!
- 9 **ALICE:** Dana wouldn't do it on purpose, Mr. Angelo. Do you
10 think?
- 11 **MR. ANGELO:** I don't know what to think. But I'm
12 getting a little tired of his pranks, I'll tell you that much!
- 13 **PAM:** Oh, look over there. Dana's star . . . it's all polished up.
- 14 **MR. ANGELO:** I don't believe it! (*Looks*) What do you know!
15 Miracles do happen. Perhaps I've misjudged the boy after
16 all. Well . . . come along girls, we will have to be going
17 down to check on Jason soon. Let's get everyone together.
18 Now where have Marjorie and Dana gone off to? (*Exit*
19 *PAM, ALICE and MR. ANGELO. DANA, MARJORIE and*
20 *JASON creep out from behind the cloud.*)
- 21 **MARJORIE:** That was too close for comfort. I was crazy to
22 let you talk me into this!
- 23 **JASON:** What's going on? What did that fella mean about
24 going down to check on me?
- 25 **DANA:** Aw, don't worry about that!
- 26 **JASON:** No. I want to know! And why did they all have robes
27 on . . . and those little halo deals over their heads. What's
28 going on?
- 29 **MARJORIE:** Well, Jason . . . it's hard to explain . . . exactly.
- 30 **JASON:** This is heaven . . . or some place like that, isn't it?
31 I'm dead! I've died, haven't I?
- 32 **DANA:** Now calm down, Jase . . . not yet you haven't!
- 33 **JASON:** Not yet? If I'm not dead how come I can walk? How
34 come I can run, and play ball and all that stuff?
- 35 **DANA:** Well . . . this is kinda a trial run.

1 **MARJORIE:** Dana, it's time we were getting Jason
 2 back...before Mr. Angelo and the others come. It's
 3 almost midnight!

4 **JASON:** What's so important about midnight? You said
 5 earlier that you had to get me back by midnight. Why?
 6 What happens at midnight?

7 **DANA:** Nothing much. Don't sweat it, Jase!

8 **MARJORIE:** No. This isn't going to work, Dana. We have to
 9 tell him.

10 **DANA:** OK, OK! Look, Jase...you're not dead...and you're
 11 not alive. You're kinda at a halfway point.

12 **JASON:** But I die at midnight, is that it?

13 **DANA:** No. Not necessarily. We don't know what is going to
 14 happen at midnight. But whatever happens, we're
 15 supposed to be there to help. I just kinda jumped the gun
 16 a little!

17 **MARJORIE:** You still may get well, Jason. And if so, we'll be
 18 there to help you recover...but you won't be able to see
 19 us!

20 **JASON:** But, will I be able to walk?

21 **DANA:** We don't know that either, Jason. No one does.

22 **JASON:** The doctor does! He's already told me I won't walk.
 23 He says that I'll be in a wheelchair for the rest of my life!

24 **MARJORIE:** But you'll be with your mother!

25 **JASON:** I'll be in a wheelchair! I won't be able to play
 26 ball...or run...or do anything. I'll be a cripple!

27 **DANA:** Well, now...don't get all riled up!

28 **MARJORIE:** Hurry, Jason. You must go back now. We're
 29 running out of time!

30 **JASON:** But...I don't want to go back.

31 **MARJORIE:** You have to! *(DANA gets the robes and halos as*
 32 *they hurry JASON along back towards his bed.)*

33 **DANA:** Here, we better get back into these before Mr. Angelo
 34 gets here. *(As they reach the Center Stage clouds and separate*
 35 *them, JASON balks.)*

- 1 JASON: I don't want to go back!
- 2 MARJORIE: You have to. You have no choice about that!
- 3 JASON: OK . . . I'll go back. But I'm not staying. I don't want
4 to be a cripple for the rest of my life. (*MARJORIE and*
5 *DANA push JASON into his bed, then reclose the clouds.*)
- 6 MARJORIE: I'm sorry I helped you! I'm sorry now that I
7 didn't stop you from getting Jason.
- 8 DANA: Why? What's wrong with you? Jason seemed to have
9 a great time. He won't be scared now. When he comes
10 over he'll feel right at home.
- 11 MARJORIE: But that's just it. Who says he's supposed to
12 come over? What if he stays behind?
- 13 DANA: Gosh . . . I never thought of that. I mean, with him
14 being crippled and all, I just naturally thought it would
15 be better . . .
- 16 MARJORIE: That isn't your decision to make, Dana. And
17 what about his mother? What's she going to do if he comes
18 over?
- 19 DANA: Well . . . I don't know . . . she'll manage.
- 20 MARJORIE: But Jason is all she has. She'll be left all alone
21 if he comes over.
- 22 DANA: Gosh, Marjie . . . you're messing up everything. Don't
23 you see . . . if Jason comes over, he'll be able to play
24 ball . . . to build things . . . to move around. He won't be a
25 cripple anymore.
- 26 MARJORIE: You mean he will be able to play ball with
27 you . . . build things with you! Face it, Dana, you want
28 Jason to come over for your own sake, not for his! You're
29 thinking of yourself . . . not Jason or his mother. Isn't that
30 the truth?
- 31 DANA: No. I . . . I didn't mean that. I just thought . . . wait!
32 Look out . . . here comes Mr. Angelo and the others. (*Enter*
33 *MR. ANGELO, PAM and ALICE.*)
- 34 MR. ANGELO: Dana, there you are. About that star of
35 yours . . .



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