



A Christmas Carol

Charles Dickens



A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens.

An adaptation of
A CHRISTMAS CAROL IN PROSE. BEING A GHOST STORY OF
CHRISTMAS
by Charles Dickens

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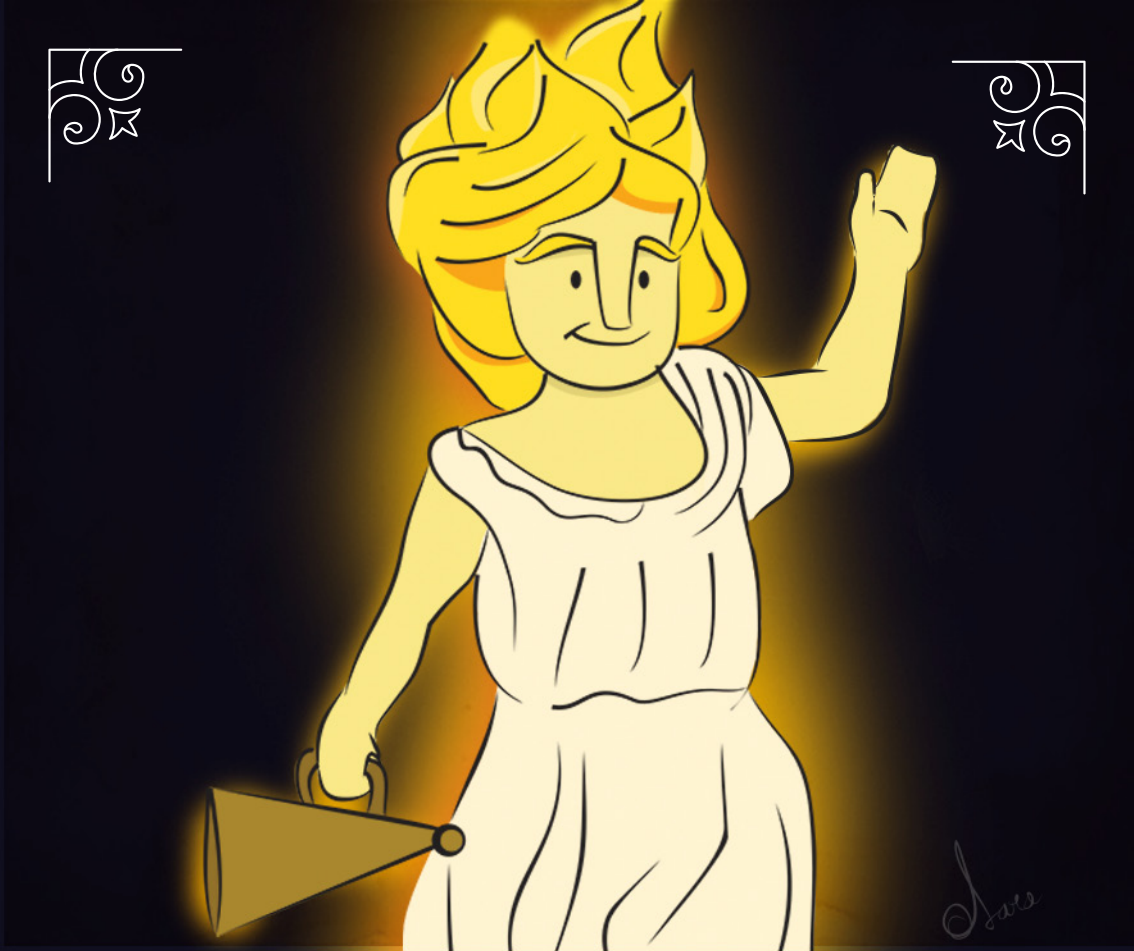
INTRODUCTION



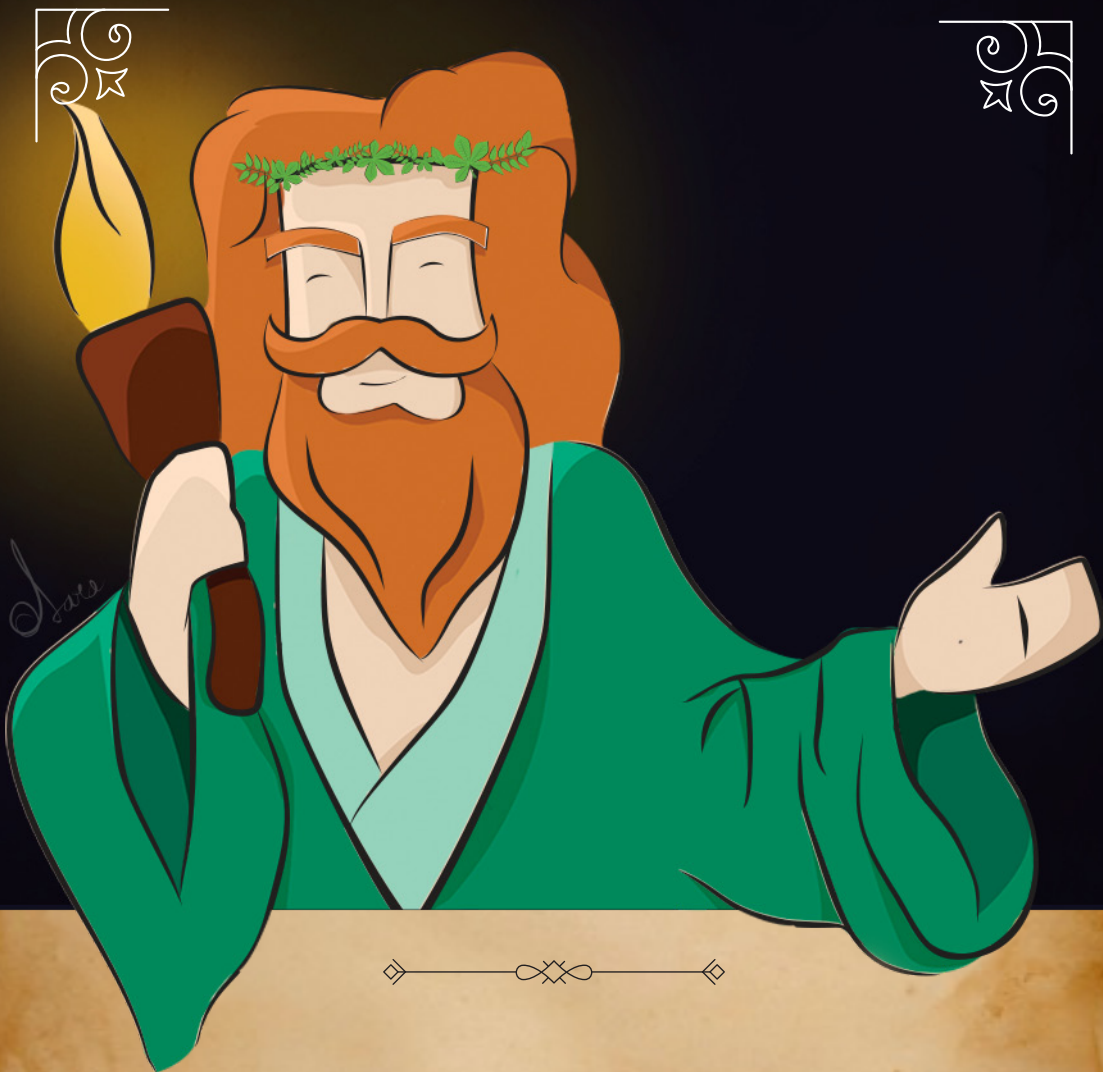
A Christmas Carol is a Ghost-story of Christmas written by the famous English writer Charles Dickens, it was published in the year 1843 during the Victorian era.



One Christmas **Eve**, Scrooge received the visit of the ghost of his only partner, Marley, who announced him the visit of three spirits: the spirit of the past, the spirit of the present and the spirit of the future.



◆ ——— ◆
The spirit of the past **took** Scrooge for a
trip into his childhood.



The spirit of the present showed Scrooge his **harsh** reality. Scrooge saw people celebrating Christmas, **despite** their difficulties. But he was alone.



◆ ———— ∞ ———— ◆
The terrible and dark spirit of the future
showed Scrooge the **bitterness** of his life.



The intention of this Ghost-story was to teach values such as: generosity, goodness, love and compassion.

This Ghost-story was also an urgent call to pay attention to social problems and to look for the best solutions. It may be the story of our time.



Marley's Ghost visits his old partner, Scrooge.

Marley was dead.

Scrooge and Marley were partners for many years.

Scrooge was not sad by his death, so he stayed in his office working on the day of Marley's funeral.

Scrooge was an ambitious man and so unfriendly that people usually tried to **avoid** him.

On Christmas Eve, when the weather was cold, and the sky was dark, families got together to celebrate **humbly** with their warm and generous hearts.

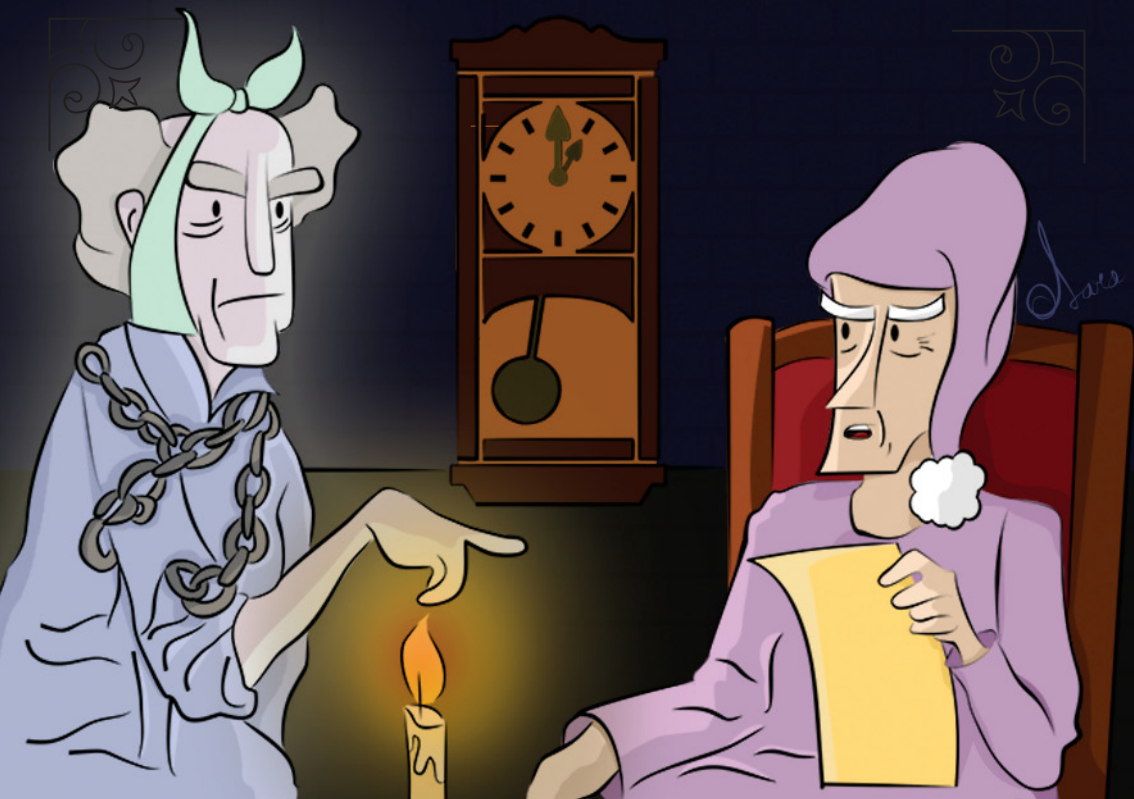
Scrooge's nephew, Fred, came to the office to wish his lonely uncle a Merry Christmas, and to invite him to have a Christmas dinner with him and his wife in his poor house.



Scrooge was unpleasant and **sent** his nephew away.

Then two gentlemen entered the office to ask him provision for people in need, but he **sent** them away too.

He was so cruel, that he said poor people should die so that population could decrease.



Although Scrooge did not want to, he gave his **clerk** the day off for Christmas.

When the **clerk left**, Scrooge closed the door of the office and went to his cold home.

It was **Christmas Eve**, then. Scrooge received the visit of the ghost of his only partner, Marley, who announced him the visit of three spirits: the spirit of the past, the spirit of the present and the spirit of the future.

The First of the Three Ghosts: The Ghost of the Past

The first ghost introduced himself as the ghost of past Christmas, he put Scrooge's hand in his heart and **took** him to a past where everything seemed better.

These trips made Scrooge's heart softer remembering such amazing good times when he was kinder and innocent.

In the past he saw his lonely childhood and his beloved sister, Fan, who died **giving birth** to his nephew, Fred.

In addition, he **witnessed** a Christmas party organized by his former boss, Mr. Fezziwig, who treated Scrooge as his son.

The ghost also made Scrooge remember his girlfriend, Belle, who abandoned him because he **turned himself into** a work addict.



Scrooge loved money more than he loved Belle.

Finally, the spirit showed him how Belle married another man and formed a great and happy family.

Belle's husband entered the room and told Belle of Marley's **death** and how Scrooge was now all alone.

Scrooge was sad and implored the ghost to take him back.

When Scrooge came to his room he **sank** into a heavy sleep.

The Second of the Three Ghosts: The Ghost of the Present



Scrooge was expecting the second ghost, when he saw a shining light coming from the next room, and a voice inviting him to enter.

In the room, Scrooge discovered abundant Christmas food surrounding a jolly giant, who presented himself as the Spirit of Christmas Present.



Immediately, the spirit asked Scrooge to touch his robe, and they magically appeared in Bob Cratchit's home.

There, they **saw** that Bob's family was poor but **cheerful**. Tiny Tim was Bob's son. He was sick. But, he was happy.



Scrooge felt worried about the future of the boy, so the Ghost said that, **unless** the future changed, Tiny Tim would die.

After this, the Ghost **took** Scrooge to a desolate place. There, a family of miners was celebrating Christmas.

They were friendly and helpful to each other.

Then, the ghost **took** Scrooge to his nephew's house.

The family was enjoying the Christmas night together.

Fred had **pity**. He knew that Scrooge was rich but unhappy.

Scrooge realized how lonely he was. He looked around desperately for the Ghost of the Present, but he had disappeared.



Finally, Scrooge was back in his room again.

IV

The third of the three Ghosts: The Ghost of the Future



The third spirit appeared, and Scrooge was scared, because of his dark and mysterious shape.

This ghost didn't speak.

He **took** Scrooge to the city and placed him in front of a shop where people were having a conversation.



So, Scrooge **thought**: what was the ghost's purpose?

Then, Scrooge realized that people were talking about the **death** of an unknown man.

They said nobody went to his funeral.

Who was him?

Scrooge started to think of himself and his selfish actions.

And he was scared to have the same end of that unfortunate man.

Scrooge discovered, to his great surprise, that the dead man was himself.

He **vowed** to be a better man from then on.

He promised to honour the sense of Christmas all year round and to remember all the lessons he had learned.



The end of the story



Magically, Scrooge woke up in his bed, happy to see that everything was normal again.

He looked around his room with happiness, remembering the places where the ghosts had appeared.

He opened the window, **delighted** to see a **bright** Christmas day full of fresh air.



Scrooge put on his best clothes and went out into the street, saying to everyone “Merry Christmas” and everyone answered him “Merry Christmas”.

Then, Scrooge **saw** a boy on the street, and asked him to run and buy a **huge** turkey.

Soon after that, Scrooge met the two men who were at his office the night before and asked them to pardon him for the way in which he had treated them. And so, he gave them money for the poor people.

In the afternoon, Scrooge went to celebrate Christmas with his nephew, Fred, and his wife.

The morning after Christmas, Scrooge went to his office and **greeted** his clerk, Bob Cratchit, in an unusual friendly manner.





Scrooge had a surprise for him: he was going to **increase** his salary. And he promised to help him and his family.

In the end, Scrooge became a second father for Tiny Tim, who did not die.

And they lived happily, and **blissfully**.



Did you like the story?



Choose the right answer:

- 1) People usually avoided Scrooge because:
 - a) He was an old man.
 - b) He was an ambitious and unfriendly man.
 - c) He had a good sense of humour.
 - d) People were unfriendly.

- 2) Scrooge's old girlfriend was:
 - a) Fan
 - b) Belle
 - c) Alice
 - d) Ane

- 3) The Ghost of the Christmas Present was:
 - a) An ambitious man.
 - b) A Jolly Giant
 - c) A sad Spirit
 - d) A terrible Ghost



4) The ghost of the future was:

- a) Invisible and he didn't speak.
- b) Marley's ghost.
- c) Dark and misterious and he didn't speak.
- d) Happy and he talked a lot.

5) The morning after Christmas, Scrooge :

- a) Was ambitious and unfriendly again.
- b) Decided to stay at home and rest.
- c) Promised Bob Cratchit to increase his salary and help his family.
- d) Called his nephew to invite him to a party.





Glossary



Although: (Conj.) Aunque.

Avoid: (Adj.) Evitar.

Bitterness: (Sust.) Amargura.

Blissfully: (Adv.) Dichosamente. Ej. Happily and blissfully= Felices y dichosos.

Bright: (Adj.) Resplandeciente.

Cheerful: (Adj.) Sinónimo de happy= Alegre

Clerk: (Sust.) Asistente.

Death: (Sust.) Muerte. Diferente de Dead = (Adj.) Muerto. Ej. He is dead = Él está muerto.

Delighted: (Adj.) Deleitado.

Despite: (Prep.) A pesar de.

Eve: (Sust.) Víspera. Christmas Eve = Noche Buena.

Greeted: (Verb.) Pasado del verbo greet = saludar.





Giving birth: (Verb.) To give birth = parir, dar a luz.

Harsh: (Adj.) severo, cruel.

Huge: (Adj.) Enorme.

Humbly: (Adv.) Humildemente. Del adjetivo humble = humilde.

Increase: (Verb.) Aumentar.

Left: (Verb.) Pasado de Leave = salir.

Pity: (Sust.) Lástima, compasión.

Sank: (Verb.) Pasado del verbo sink = caer, hundirse.

Saw: (Verb.) Pasado del verbo see = ver.

Sent: (Verb.) Pasado del verbo send = Enviar. To send away = Echar.

Thought: (Verb.) Pasado del verbo think = Pensar.



Trip: (Sust.) Viaje, salida.





Took: Pasado del verbo take = llevar.

Turned into: (Verb.) Pasado de turn into = convertirse en.

Unless: (Conj.) A menos que.

Vowed: (Verb.) Pasado del verbo vow = prometer.

Witnessed: (Verb.) Pasado del verbo witness = ser testigo, presenciar.

Wretched: Miserable.



The background is a solid red color, decorated with numerous white snowflakes of various sizes and shapes scattered across the entire surface.

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