

# **Father Christmas**

A Musical Fantasy in Two Acts By

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## Father Christmas Characters

Father Christmas	fat, jolly, white bearded manager of the Toy Factory. Baritone
Norman Gnome	a young gnome with a secret past, in love with Daughter Christmas. The only 'worker' in the Toy Factory. Light Baritone
Sir Rupert Murdo	very rich and very wicked. Wants to take-over Christmas. Baritone
Chief Gnome	shop steward of the gnomes. Rather self important and a bit silly. Baritone
Chief Fairy	shop steward of the fairies. Rather self important and equally silly. Contralto
Daughter Christmas	Father Christmas's daughter. Young, beautiful, in love with Norman Gnome, and rather naive. Soprano
3 Professional Escorts	Sexy bodyguards who accompany Sir Rupert Murdo. One short song
3 Toys	Rather shabby and broken. Jack-in-the-box, Puppet and Teddy Bear. One song
Chorus of Gnomes	Self important and silly gnomes who are all foremen.
Chorus of Fairies	Self important and silly.
Chorus of Carol singers	Four carols

# Songs

## ACT 1

1	Hard workers are we gnomes	(Patience)	Chief Gnome & Gnomes
2	We toil all day	(Mikado)	Chief Gnome and Gnomes
3	We are cheap	(Mikado)	Professional escorts
4	I pride myself in thinking	(Mikado)	Rupert Murdo
5	Equal rights for fairies	(Pr. Ida)	Fairies
6	When fairies spread their wings	(Pr. Ida)	Gnomes and Fairies
7	We fairies have a lot to say	(Patience)	Chief Gnome & Chief Fairy
8	A gnome of all singers above	(Utopia)	Norman
9	Prithee pretty maiden	(Patience)	Norman & D.Christmas
10	Its clear of all the toys made here	(Patience)	Toys
11	I remember Christmas time	(Sorcerer)	Father Christmas
12	Finale		
	All of your workers are discontent	(Iolanthe)	Gnomes & Fairies
	What am I to do	(Pirates)	Father Christmas
	When things seem bad	(Pinafore)	Rupert Murdo
	It seems that I have won	(Sorcerer)	Rupert Murdo

## ACT 2

13	Carols		Carol Singers
	God rest you Merry Gentlemen		
	Silent Night		
	Good King Wenslas		
	With Christmas no more		
14	If you would please to pity me	(Ruddigore)	Daughter Christmas
15	I believe we should not tarry	(Mikado)	Norman & D.Christmas
16	Let all your doubts take wing	(Utopia)	F. Christmas & R. Murdo
17	Here's a how-de-do	(Mikado)	FC , DC & Norman
	Finale		
18	Kind sir we did take leave	(Utopia)	Gnomes and Fairies
19	With sorrow deep we yearn	(Utopia)	Chief Gnome & Chief Fairy
20	What am I to do	(Pirates)	Father Christmas
21	Do not despair	(Pinafore)	Norman
22	We never did doubt your reality	(Utopia)	All
23	Oh treacherous workers are thee	(Ruddigore)	Rupert Murdo, Gnomes & Fairies
24	We wish you a Merry Christmas	All	

## Act 1 The Toy workshop

ENTER Gnomes

### Song 1

Chorus            Hard workers are we Gnomes  
 In wood and string and leather.  
 Our fingers to the bones,  
 We really are so clever.  
 But there are many people,  
 Who think that we are lazy.  
 We don't agree with them  
 We think they must be crazy.

Chief Gnome      If you want a receipt for that popular mystery  
 Known to the world as a hard working gnome.

Chorus            Yes, yes, yes, etc

Chief Gnome      A gnome who is slaving in squalor n'misery  
 Making the presents to come to your home

Chorus            Yes, yes, yes, etc

Chief Gnome      Just take a look at a few of the famous,  
 The popular heros who people like best.  
 If you think we're bragging you really can't blame us  
 For we know a secret that few would have guessed.  
 That Andrew Lloyd Weber was being so clever  
 And Gazza's new haircut is just a disguise.  
 And even John Ketley's not under the weather  
 And old Mr Spock has a new enterprise  
 The reason why Elton has such a big hat on  
 Is answered by seeing the ears that it sat on.  
 You may think these people were small for their size  
 But there's something about them you don't realise.  
 The greatest of heros the world's ever known,  
 All to a man they were really a gnome.

Knowing these facts you will find it foreseeable  
 Why we are awkward and so disagreeable.  
 Sons of the famous who grumble and groan.  
 And a hard working Gnome  
 Has the right to moan.

Chief Gnome Brother Gnomes.  
Too long has the gnome not known his own home.

Gnomes Hooray!

Chief Gnome The way to higher pay is here today I would say.

Gnomes Hooray!

Chief Gnome We're discontent with employment that leaves us bent and weary spent.

Gnomes Hooray!

Chief Gnome My brothers. Is it not true, with all we do, we should be rich men on a great revenue.

Gnomes Hooray!

Chief Gnome And look at the past, the bold and steadfast, I would forecast our fortunes should be vast.

Gnomes Hooray!

Chief Gnome But look at our state. Its a terrible fate, that few 'preciate, being honest, hardworking and auriculate.

Norman Sorry, I didn't hear that last point.

Chief Gnome Auriculate. It means to have ears - like you. (aside) I read it in the Beano.

Norman Oh, thank you. You were saying?

Chief Gnome Its all so unfair that few people care for the burden we bare.

Gnomes Hooray!

Chief Gnome Now is the hour for the oppressed proletariat, whose exploitation is the epitome of parasitism, to rend asunder the asphyxiating domination of the tyrannical bourgeoisie.

Gnomes Eh, what?

Chief Gnome In short.....

## Song 2

Chief Gnome We toil all day you'll understand  
Why more money is our demand.  
It does make sense to give more pence  
It pays us to work harder.  
And so you see a word from me  
And everyone on strike would be  
To gain our way resolutely  
We wouldn't budge one yar - d

And I expect this point you'll see  
And with us you will all agree.  
And I am right and you are right  
And all is right as right can be.  
But as it is we hard do work.  
Our duty we will never shirk.  
And what we did to ease out id  
For everyone but Norman.  
If we can't get a few more bob  
At least we'll get a better job

For every gnome that's in our mob  
Is every others foreman

And I tell him, and he tells me  
And everyone tells somebody.  
And I tell him  
And he tells me.  
And nobody gets anywhere-e.

ENTER Professional Escorts (female)  
Song 3

Prof Escorts      We are cheap and we are nasty  
Sing an introducing song.  
For to say our master's coming  
Won't be long.  
He's returned from a visit to Hong-Kong.

ENTER Sir Rupert Murdo

Song 4

Rupert Murdo    I pride myself in thinking I'm a great philanthropist.  
I'd help anybody to make me some lolly, I'm called a capitalist.  
It is my very humane endeavour to make to some degree  
A small fortune for everyone and a very big one for me.

My object all sublime, is really not a crime,  
To make a profit on Christmas time , a profit on Christmas time.  
And every penny spent I hope to represent  
At least a profit of ten percent, a profit of ten percent.

I see you stare, I know you're thinking I'm cruel and mean and cold.  
But a revelation, in my circulation there beats a heart of gold.  
That's why I've decided my evil ways I am very soon going to ditch.  
For I saw a light that was moral and right and a very quick way to get  
rich.  
And so I have built a toy factory from a plastic model kit.  
Although its machines are the best to be seen I have no one to work in  
it.  
My new machines make working so easy you need not be strong or tall.  
And every day you get double pay (but you work twice the hours n'all)

My object all etc.....

Chorus            His object all etc.....

RM                So ! This is the famous Father Christmas. A rather small place I think.  
And these are the famous hardworking gnomes. I could do with some

/

of them. In fact I could do with all of them. Ha ha ha . (Demonic laughter).

CG Excuse me there, but we couldn't help overhearing what you were saying just then.

RM Yes, my good honest hardworking artisan (grease grease).

CG Well Sir, its like this. We gnomes are very discontent with our lot.

RM (And what a lot they are too!) Is this so for all you stout fellows?

Gs It is.

RM But what of this youth who hides himself at the end there?

CG Oh, he's not really one of us Sir. He is a new gnome. Arrived a few months ago. A novice gnome you might say.

RM A novice gnome ?

CG A novice gnome

RM A novice gnome. I know this gnome...from somewhere. But I can't think why. Sirs, your troubles are over, for I have a solution to help you all (and me especially). You see my factory (heavily subsidised with rate payers money), the most modern, best equipped, up to date in the world, is about to launch into the toy making business. It lacks just one thing - expert toy makers.  
And as I wandered around the desolate and lonely enterprise zones of the North, Peterlee, Sedgefield, Sunderland, a great burden was upon me.  
"Where" I thought, "Where will I get expert toy makers from"

(silence)

**"Where"** I thought, "Where will I get **expert toy makers** from"

CG Ah - that's us. We're expert toy makers.

RM You are! What a suprise.  
But then in this quaint little workshop, with your old fashioned tools and happy gnome ways, and jolly Father Christmas to command you, I don't suppose..., no its not possible...., you would ever consider leaving to work for me.

(silence)

There could not be the least possibility of your ever wanting to leave..., at all..., ever....never..

CG Ah well. It just so happens we were considering just that.

RM You were - what a relief, I mean suprise.

Well this is too good to be true. And so is my contract that I just so happen to have with me. If you would care to sign now and read through the small print later it saves so much time.....

Enter Fairies

## Song 5

Fairies            Equal rights for fairies.  
 Strike a deadly blow.  
 Really most unfair is  
 What we have to show.

We are filled with thunder.  
 And there is no wonder.  
 Long we've been put under.  
 Off our chains we throw.

## Song 6

Gnomes            When fairies spread their wing  
 And all seems dull as night for it.  
 There's nothing but to fight for it.  
 So hear their voices sing.  
 They hardly ever hit a note,  
 They all have got a frog in throat.  
 It sounds quite frightening.

Oh you fairies love to prattle,  
 You are like a herd of cattle,  
 And in all your tittle-tattle  
 There is little relevance.  
 We would really like to clout you,  
 We would quickly sort you out you,  
 We would really go about you  
 With a lot of violence.

Gs & Fs            While fighting for their/our right  
 We/You gnomes are vehement.  
 You're full of spite  
 And impolite  
 And so malevolent.

Chief Fairy        Ha! Look at them, the hardworking gnomes. I've seen harder working  
 gravestones.

Chief Gnome        At least we don't look like them.

Chief Fairy        Oh you insolent chauvinist ruffian. Take that !  
 How long do you think you can keep we fairies under your male  
 domination? Take that !  
 How long can this perpetual bullying and discrimination go on !

Norman            Not much longer.

Chief Fairy            We fairies are noble free delicate beings. We are overworked and underpaid compared to you unmentionable sweepings of the festering gutters.

Chief Gnome            Now just a minute, we don't agree with that, do we.

1st Gnome              We don't agree with that.

2nd Gnome              No we don't.

3rd Gnome              We certainly don't.

Chief Gnome            Tell her we don't agree with that.

Norman                 They...er...We don't agree with that.

Chief Fairy            Oh! You unfeeling freaks. You should all be in a zoo, or the speed you move a museum would be more appropriate.

Gnomes                 Gasp!

Chief Gnome            We are cut to the quick.

Gnomes                 (mumbling) To the quick.

Chief Gnome            Don't just stand there, insult that fairy.

1st Gnome              Insult that fairy.

2nd Gnome              Insult that fairy.

3rd Gnome              Insult that fairy.

Norman                 Er....You rotten old fairy.

Chief Fairy            Really !

1st Gnome              Anyway, we've never noticed you lot do anything.

Chief Fairy            On the contrary. We work fairy hard.  
We flit here, we flit there.....

Chief Gnome            They're every flitting where.

Chief Fairy            We see to the secretarial and administrative duties. Work which requires high intelligence.

1st Gnome              So that's why there's so many of you.

Chief Fairy            We say a fairy days work for a fairy days pay.

And, as an added free bonus, who is it who brings delight to the eye  
and sweet music to the ear where ever we go?

Chief Gnome I can't guess.  
1st Gnome That's a hard one.  
2nd Gnome Got me there.  
3rd Gnome Tell her we don't know.  
Gnomes Tell her we don't know.  
Norman Er....Can I come back next week.  
Chief Fairy Enough of these jabberings, you lice ridden long eared layabouts.

### Song 7

CF We fairies have a lot to say concerning things political.  
CG Sing hey to you, Good-day to you, and that's what we all say.  
CG We think think that our equality is really rather critical.  
CF Sing baa to you, ha-ha to you, and that's what we all say.  
CF In short for what we're asking is a fairy liberation,  
And equal pay for fairies is our greatest expectation.  
We're better than these lazy gnomes who show degeneration.  
CG Sing boo to you, etc...  
CG You do need liberating dear from your enormous vanity.  
CF Sing boo to you, etc  
CG And no one is your equal dear in matters of insanity.  
CF Sing baa to you, etc....  
CG To say you're wanting equal pay is quite a proposition  
It may well be it could mean we are heading for collision.  
And my advice is to think twice about your bold decision.  
Chorus Sing hey, etc.....

EXIT Gnomes and Fairies

Rupert Murdo    Ha-ha ! Splendid, splendid. Everything's going fine. I couldn't have written it better myself.  
Oh - but what am I saying? I can do anything better myself.  
Being as great as me you sometimes underestimate yourself.

EXIT Rupert Murdo

Norman            This is terrible. Everything is going wrong.  
First the gnomes threaten to strike, then the fairies demand equal pay, and then he turns up and starts his evil meddling. No wonder so many people have fallen asleep I must repeat the whole story again.  
I thought I had run away to better things. But my life is near ruin. The gnomes and fairies all pick on me and make me work hardest of all.  
And indeed my wages are the lowest of the low.  
What is more I have fallen in love, with a maid who does not even know I exist. I am thoroughly miserable. Even my singing is affected.

## Song 8

A gnome of all singers above  
 (This doesn't admit of a question)  
 Should keep himself quiet  
 Attend to his diet  
 And carefully nurse his digestion;  
 But when he is madly in love  
 Its certain to tell on his singing-  
 You can't do chromatics  
 With proper emphatics  
 When anguish your bosom is wringing!  
 When distracted with worries in plenty,  
 And his pulse is a hundred and twenty,  
 And his fluttering bosom a slave of mistrust is,  
 A gnome just can't do himself justice.

Now observe - (high note)  
 You see, I can't do myself justice!

I could sing if my fervour were mock,  
 Its easy enough if your acting.  
 But when ones emotion  
 Is born of devotion  
 You mustn't be over-exacting.  
 One ought to be firm as a rock  
 To venture a shake in vibrato.  
 When fervours expected  
 Keep cool and collected  
 Or never attempt agitato.  
 But of course when his tongue is of leather,  
 And his lips appear pasted together,  
 And his sensitive palate as dry as a crust is,  
 A gnome just can't do himself justice.

Now observe - (cadence)  
 Its no use - I can't do myself justice.

Daughter Christmas (off stage)

Father. Father Christmas

Norman

It is her - Father Christmas's daughter - Daughter Christmas. Oh how my heart beats to hear her voice.

ENTER Daughter Christmas

## Song 9

- N           Prithee pretty maiden - prithee tell me true.  
 (Hey but I'm doleful, willow willow waly!)  
 Is there anything a gnome could do for you?  
 Hey willow waly O!  
 (What I'd like to ask her  
 Is a fearful task-a)  
 Hey willow waly O!
- DC           This is the reply sir, I must tell to thee,  
 (Hey but he's doleful, willow willow waly!)  
 There is nought a gnome could ever do for me.  
 Hey willow waly O!  
 This alas is so true,  
 I can never know you.  
 Hey willow waly O!
- N           Prithee pretty maiden , If I had my way,  
 (Hey but I'm hopeful, willow willow waly!)  
 More than any other to you I'd like to say,  
 Hey willow waly O!  
 Though I'm deep in strife will  
 You please be my friend still.  
 Hey willow waly O!
- DC           Gentle sir a friend to you I'll always be,  
 (Hey but I'm hopeful, willow willow waly!)  
 As I am a friend to the flower and the tree.  
 Hey willow waly O!  
 Though I think much of them  
 I could never love them.  
 Hey willow waly O!
- DC           (Oh how I love this gnome. And yet it could never be. I could never  
 marry a gnome - what ever would the neighbours say?)  
 Have you seen my father Father Christmas?
- N           (Oh how I love this maid most dearly with all my heart. And yet, should  
 I be discovered, all would be lost)  
 No, I am very sorry, I have not seen your father Daughter Christmas.
- DC           (If only I could speak to him. But he must hate me for I am always  
 most sharp with him while hiding my love)  
 Surely you mean my father Father Christmas?
- N           (Oh she must think me a fool. I am always so blind with love when she  
 is near me)  
 Yes of course - father Father Christmas Daughter Christmas.

DC            So you have seen him?

N             Who?

DC            My father

N             Er...No.

DC            But where are your brothers, the other gnomes, Norman?

N             Oh, they have gone to an emergency meeting, a very important meeting. I cannot go for I am only a novice.

DC            But this is most distressing. There is lots of work to be done and here is the workshop empty; with just you and me.....alone.....by ourselves.....

N             Yes, it is.....

DC            Yes?

N             It is.....a very nice day today.

DC            Yes.

N             (Oh will she never know!)

DC            Pardon?

N             Er.....The North wind doth blow.

DC            (Oh how I love him so!)

N             What was that?

DC            Er...And we shall have snow.  
But I cannot delay to talk of the weather. I must find my father to tell him of this situation.

              Last verse SONG 9

DC            As he is a gnome my love must be denied.

N             Hey but I'm doleful, willow willow waly!

DC            Were it not for that I'd gladly be his bride.

N             Hey willow waly O!

N&DC        Though you may ignore me,

I will still adore thee.  
Hey willow waly O!

EXIT Norman and Daughter Christmas Opposite sides of stage

SONG 10  
ENTER 3 Toys

Toys                   Its clear of all the toys made here we're really not the best.  
That's why we're on the reject pile - we failed to pass the test.  
But now we find the reject pile is getting very small.  
We're on a Toy retraining scheme - there's no rejects at all.

                          We thought that we were scrap  
But suddenly we find  
If things aren't really what they were  
Then no one really minds.

Toy 1                 I've got a sticky spring,

Toy 2                 And I've got grubby fur,

Toy 1 & 2            But worsts of all's the marionette  
You know what's wrong with her.

Toy 3                 Mummy

Toys                   and so in a few days we go to little girls and boys.  
We'll hold our heads up high because we're Father Christmas toys.  
We think in a short time that something might go badly wrong.  
We'll end up in the dustbin 'cos its where we all belong.

                          We thought that we were scrap  
But suddenly we find  
etc.....

Toy 3                 I wanted to be Arnold Scharzenegger.

EXIT Toys

ENTER Father Christmas

Father Christmas Ho ho ho. Ho ho ho, and how are my merry gnomes? Ho ho - Oh!  
 Where are my merry gnomes? Gone again.  
 Oh dear. Its only \_\_\_ days to Christmas and the gnomes and fairies  
 aren't working. Things are getting bad in the real toy business. So many  
 people go in for cheap plastic nowadays.  
 Its seems the old Christmas charm is wearing a bit thin. It seems the old  
 Christmas is wearing a bit thin. Ah, .....but I remember the old times. I  
 remember, not so long ago .....

## SONG 11

I remember Christmas time before they changed it.  
 I remember love and joy walked hand in hand.  
 It all went wrong, somehow they re-arranged it.  
 Why did it happen I don't understand.  
 Time was the world was happy with its living,  
 And there was love and peace unto all men.  
 And people knew no greater joy than giving.  
 Ah me, we had a real happy Christmas then.

The tide of change is hideous and drastic,  
 Old Christmas time is almost swept away.  
 A world unreal, of videos and plastic.  
 Love peace and joy are things of yesterday.  
 For now the Sony Game Boy makes your eyes sore,  
 Christmas gets a slot on News at Ten.  
 It seems that they've forgotten Christmas of yore.  
 Ah me, we had a real happy Christmas then.

## ENTER Daughter Christmas

DC Father, oh Father I've been looking for you all day.  
 All your gnomes and fairies are revolting.

FC Oh I wouldn't be that hard on them.

DC No, I mean there's industrial unrest in the toy factory. The Gnomes are  
 demanding Gnome rule, and the Fairies want to be at the top of the  
 tree.

FC Well its not an easy job you know. You have to be smarter and smarter  
 to make good toys nowadays. Maybe that's why they find it so difficult?

DC                   Its plain eco-gnomics. There's only one gnome working in the whole factory, and no fairies at all. And more orders for toys are coming in from all over the world. Here's one from Constantinople.

FC                   Istambul?

DC                   No need to swear Father, still, you know what's Bosphorus.

FC                   Well it's no use. With one gnome we'll never be able to do it.

ENTER Fairies  
Finale Act 1 (Song 12)

Fairies            All of your workers are discontent.  
                      What we ask is your solution?  
                      We will quit your employment  
                      If you make us no restitution  
                      Lives of fairies  
                      Full of care is.  
                      Plenty of reason to curse and swear is.  
                      Equal rights is what we all choose.  
                      Lazy gnomes will shake in their shoes.

ENTER Gnomes

Gnomes            All of your workers are discontent.  
                      We the gnomes have started grieving.  
                      Please our wages increment,  
                      Or with anger we will be seething.  
                      Gnomes enraging  
                      Aren't engaging  
                      And a strike we'll soon be staging.  
                      And your factory we'll finish.  
                      Here's a pretty kettle of fish.

Gs and Fs        All of your workers are discontent.  
                      What we ask is your solution?  
                      We will quit your employment,  
                      And your factory we'll finish.  
                      Here's a pretty kettle of fish.

Father Christmas   What am I to do  
                      To your anger stay.  
                      It is sad but true  
                      I can't increase your pay.  
                      While sympathy exclaims

It is far from funny,  
The awkward fact remains  
I'm very short of money.

But if you work quite hard,  
And all our orders meet,  
If you will budge one yard,  
We'll all be on our feet.  
Let us compromise,  
Let us work together.  
And you will have your rise,  
For that I will endeavour

ENTER Rupert Murdo



EXIT Daughter Christmas  
Enter Norman

RM                   And so my plans are working fine,  
                          I'm heading for a profitable Christmas time.  
                          I'm got the workers that I lacked.  
                          I would be pleased if you would sign my nice contract.

Chorus               We would be pleased if we could sign your nice contract.

RM                   Old Christmas time has had its day  
                          So buy a share of Christmas now - without delay.

Chorus               Old Christmas time ...etc

**EXIT Rupert Murdo, Gnomes and Fairies**

Norman             Oh but who would believe the disaster that has happened here tonight.  
                          What an interval there may be before all is right again.

**EXIT Norman**

**END OF ACT 1.**

## ACT 2.

Scene - Nobody Land  
 Empty Stage  
 ENTER Carol Singers

## Song 13

- A) Oh we are merry carollers who go from door to door.  
 Oh we are all so miserable for Christmas is no more.  
 And all the joy of Christmas time we wish we could restore.

Oh where are the songs we did enjoy,  
 We did enjoy.  
 Oh where are the songs we did enjoy.

And as there is no use for us in Nowhere land we be.  
 The people of this place are classed as unreality.  
 It seems that all the world has said they don't believe in we.

Oh where are the songs we did enjoy, etc....

- B) Silent night, lonely night.  
 All is wrong, nought is right.  
 No more happiness, Christmas cheer.  
 All we wish is a Happy New Year.  
 Christmas is cancelled this year.  
 Christmas is cancelled this year.

Silent night, lonely night.  
 Hearts grow cold, minds grow tight.  
 Generous Christmases we can recall.  
 Now the people give nothing at all.  
 Christmas is cancelled this year.  
 Cancelled for ever we fear.

- C) For the time that is to be  
 Not enthusiastic.  
 Christmas like your Christmas tree  
 Will be made of plastic.  
 Plastic reindeer, plastic snow.  
 Plastic beer so murky.  
 Plastic Christmas T.V. show.  
 Even plastic turkey.

Olden days are dead and gone.

This is not a bad thing.  
But as progress marches on  
It can be a sad thing.  
Though the old can ne'er return,  
Progress knows no fetter,  
Yet it seems that man must learn  
New does not mean better.

D

With Christmas no more  
Our wages are poor.  
Of no joy we will sing,  
No happiness bring.

We have travelled many miles,  
Over hedges and stiles,  
But no hope can we see  
In the land of nobody.

Father Christmas is gone.  
No feasting to be done.  
On a cold winter's night  
You must sit and be quiet.

Old Christmas is past.  
Last year was your last.  
And we bid you adieu,  
Merry nothing to you.

EXIT Carol Singers

## Enter Daughter Christmas

DC

I thought I heard singing. From this way it came. But how could I ? I am forgetting - this is Nobody Land - where all who are believed in no more must go. Nobody exists in Nobody Land, not even myself. When one does not exist, one finds it hard to remember the fact.

## Song 14

If you would please to pity me,  
 My sorry life is full of woe.  
 I'm not all that I used to be,  
 I'm really not at all you know.  
 For here I am in No-where Land  
 I really am not who I am.  
 Why I'm not me  
 I cannot see,  
 Its very hard to understand.  
 For once they called me Daughter C..  
 No nicer girl I ever knew.  
 A happy time was had by she.  
 But now they don't believe in you.  
 What course of action can I ensue  
 To dispute facts that they say are true.  
 I can't resist,  
 I don't exist.  
 Yes yes,  
 That is at least I think I do.

For now I wander lost alone,  
 I have a very great regret.  
 I was in love with Norman Gnome.  
 His handsome face I can't forget.  
 I was a little fool, so misguided,  
 For him of all I longed to wed.  
 But him to wed  
 I had a dread  
 For fear of what the neighbours said.  
 And though I love him through and through,  
 And love is blind to pointed ear,  
 There would be nothing I could do,  
 Because I really am not here.  
 And lonely must I ever go.  
 My love for him he never will know.  
 Love cannot I  
 Hard as I try.  
 Yes yes.  
 At least I think that that is so.

ENTER Norman. Not see DC



DC            You do?

N             Yes I do. For many months I have watched you, adored you, longed for you, loved you. You must exist Daughter Christmas.

DC            I must?

N             Yes - you must.

DC            Why heavens, I must.  
And you are really not a gnome.

N             As surely as you exist, I am not.

DC            Why then our happiness can be complete. I accept your offer of marriage.

### Song 15

N             I believe we should not tarry  
Ere we marry  
You and I.  
Of the feeling I inspire  
You may tire  
By and by.

              There may be many problems  
Hard to solve 'em  
That is why  
I am sure we should not tarry  
Ere we marry  
You and I.

DC            I believe we should not tarry  
Ere we marry  
You and I.  
You have conquered my resistance  
My existence  
You ally.  
If by chance we should be parted  
Broken hearted  
I should die.  
So I think we will not tarry  
Ere we marry you and I.

DC            But, oh horror!

N             What's the matter?

DC            Why I could never marry without my father's permission.

N            You could not?

DC           And my father - does not exist!

N            But, oh horror too!

DC           What's the matter

N            To marry I must receive permission from my evil uncle.

DC           Does he not exist too?

N            Far from it. He is very much in existence today. He is - Sir Rupert Murdo.

DC           Not.....

N            Yes it is he who has tricked the gnomes and fairies to work for him. It is he who has privatised Christmas and caused all this trouble. He is an evil man. He took over my family estate when my father died. He is cruel and evil. His workers work long and hard for a mere pittance. He is full of vice, jealousy and arrogance. All that is low, mean, and nasty.

DC           Is he a criminal?

N            No, he is a millionaire.  
It is part of his evil plan that he will never let me marry, for when I do so the family fortune will all be mine. But alas he, as head of the family, must approve of my bride. This he will never do.

DC           But what are we to do?

N            We must continue to believe - in each other.

EXIT DC and N

ENTER Sir Rupert Murdo

RM           Oh yes, that's right. Boo me. Yes, you can boo. Its not that I'm terribly mean, I just never give anyone anything.

But consider my plight.  
What is it like to double ones vast fortune every week. To be acclaimed as one of the richest and most successful businessmen in the world. How does it feel when everything one touches turns to gold.

Why - absolutely marvellous.

That's why I'm so miserable. I had a sure fire scheme in Christmas toys. My greatest idea since "Pie in the Sky TV". Eliminate the competition, mass produce cheap low quality toys, with sweated labour in my Plastic Factory, and make a packet.

The first part worked fine. Father C and Co. were ripe for takeover. But the second part - it seems with no Father Christmas people just aren't buying presents anymore. We seem to have hit a Christmas Recession.

But I have a plan to kick-start Christmas. And I know just the man to do it. My problem is you see, now I've got rid of Father Christmas, I've got to get him back.

Oh not that there's anything selfish about this. In fact he's always been one of my favourite characters...er...people. Why shouldn't such a nice person exist...and advise the public to buy my toys. I'm doing all this for the public good in order to restart the economy.

I must find Father Christmas and persuade him to work for me. Why what a nice person I am to help him out of this mess. Where would he be without me.

ENTER Father Christmas

But soft. Here he is now. I'll go about this with a great deal of tact. He may not see the good in my plan. Father Christmas.

- FC                    They did once call me that, but no more.
- RM                    (The soft sell approach) Oh take heart old chum. I have given your problem much thought and can see,at little inconvenience to myself, a way for you to regain your identity.
- FC                    What is this?
- RM                    (The hard sell) Work for me! One hundred K P A, house, car; sign on the dotted line.
- FC                    Sky TV ?
- RM                    Oh - sorry. Always carry a spare.
- FC                    But what is all this?

- RM                    Why I have become sentimental (and desperate). I have decided to help you (and me). Sign and you will exist. Think of all you'll get out of it.
- FC                    What ?
- RM                    Why money of course (the man's a fool).
- FC                    I am not interested in your money.
- RM                    Good Sir, do you think me mad. It's not my money. It's their money. And just think. There'll be no doubts of your existence when your face appears on the telly, on radio, on films. When every bill-board, every tee-shirt, every video- game has your face on it, selling my toys.
- FC                    If that's your existence you can keep it.
- RM                    Oh my friend, you're a household name. Your reputation, and my brain - we could make a financial killing.



That I employ  
 For you to glance  
 At my reply  
 For what I state  
 To guess you can  
 (DANCE)

It means I hate  
 Your evil plan

Both Of course it does .....etc

RM Baa Father Christmas. You're a fool. There's no Sanity Claus in my contract.

EXIT RM

ENTER Norman and DC

DC Oh father. Would that you were really here and I could tell you all that has happened.

FC But my daughter, and with Novice Norman Gnome.

DC Yes. Thanks to Norman I exist again. I am here, it is really me. We are in love and would to be married.

FC What! Marry a Gnome. What ever would the neighbours say.

DC But father, he's not a gnome, and besides, we haven't got any neighbours.

FC Hmm, I never thought of that.

DC But my heart is almost broken. For though we would be married I need my father's permission. And my father - does not exist!

FC Yes. It is most unfortunate.

## Song 17

DC	<p>Here's a how de do,          For to marry you,          I must ask my dad's permission,          Very hard for his condition          Makes it a taboo.          Here's a how de do.</p>	
N	<p>Here's a pretty mess.          Though she had said yes,          I would marry her today but          My uncle must have his say his          Answer I can guess.          Here's a pretty mess.</p>	
FC	<p>Here's a state of things,          Non-existence brings.          How am I to interfere          When they say I not really here.          Its not to my likings.          Here's a state of things.</p>	
N&DC	<p>With a passion that's intense          intense          I worship and adore.          But the laws of common sense</p> <p>We oughtn't to ignore.          As what I say is true          I cannot marry you.</p> <p>Here's a pretty state of things          Here's a pretty How do do !</p>	<p>FC With a passion that's</p> <p>They worship and ignore          But the laws of common sense</p> <p>They oughtn't to ignore.          As what I say is true          He cannot marry you.</p>

ENTER Fairies and Gnomes

## FINALE

## Song 18

Chorus      Kind sir we did take leave  
 For which we deeply grieve.  
 We hope you will receive  
 Us back to your toy factory.

For when we went elsewhere,  
 We found conditions there  
 Were really most unfair  
 Within the Plastic Factory.

So down with it,  
 Down with it.  
 It's most unsatisfactory.

So down with it,  
 Down with it.

Down with the Plastic Factory

## Song 19

CG	<p>With sorrow deep we yearn,          To be in your employ.          Our master new is very mean,          His speeches are not worth a bean.          We all are growing thin and lean          Which we do not enjoy.</p> <p>We do.</p> <p>We do.</p> <p>Too true.</p>	<p>CF</p> <p>We do.</p> <p>We do.</p> <p>Too true.</p> <p>We wish we could return          To work for you again.</p> <p>For we have found equality          Means gnomes can do our jobs you see,</p> <p>While we must labour wearily,          With lots of stress and strain.</p> <p>Too true.</p>
Both	<p>For this mustn't be and          This won't do.          We all agree and come to you,</p>	

To work for you  
To work for you.

## Song 20

FC           What am I to do  
 To your wishes grant.  
 Would it could be true,  
 Sadly though it can't.  
 You can't return to me,  
 I say with deep regret.  
 I don't exist you see,  
 A point you did forget.

Ch           Yes, Yes,  
 A point we did forget.

## Song 21

N           Do not despair, we believe in you.

Ch           We do, we do, we do.

## Song 22

CG           We never did doubt your reality,  
 It was only an accidentality  
 You became a removed personality.

CF           We were forced to unwilling complicity,  
 We were fooled by the cunning publicity,  
 But we never did doubt your vitality.

FC           Though you reasons have sense olefactory,  
 Your conclusions are most satisfactory.  
 As I'm here you can all come and work for me.

And as now I have my credibility  
 My permission I grant with facility,  
 And I hope that you quickly will married be.

Observe this dance,  
 That I employ  
 When I by chance  
 Go mad with joy.  
 What sentiment  
 Does this express?

(DANCE)

Supreme content and happiness.

CF&CG  
N&DC            Of course it does  
Supreme content and happiness.

All                And from our troubles we will learn  
Our foolish ways we have to spurn.  
In joyful dance we do express  
Supreme content and happiness.

ENTER RM

RM                So!  
You are content with employment from which you went and do  
repent that statement you said and meant.

CG                You tricked us.

1st Gnome        Deviously.

2G                Deliberately.

3G                Decidedly.

4G                Deplorably.

RM                Don't dictate disrespectfully. Due deliberation will be delivered to  
your demeanour. (I didn't read that in the Beano)

CF                We are all slaves in your factory.

RM                Well, that's equality for you.

CG                What of our pay rise?

RM                You'll get it next Christmas.

CF                There isn't any Christmas.

RM                Oh, goodness me!

Fairies            We want to work for Father Christmas again.

RM                But you can't. He doesn't exist.

N                 Oh yes he does

RM                Oh no he doesn't ...etc

So! You think you have won eh?

## Song 23

RM

Oh treacherous workers are thee

I see why they call you lazy,  
 You all should be working for me

Return to my factory now quick.

It's a very unfortunate state.

You all had to choose your own fate.

Don't grumble at what's on your plate

When you get the rough end of the stick.

But who is this man that I see

That I think that a gnome used to be

He is somehow related to me

His name I'll recall if I try

Most selfish of nephews art thou

Much sweat have I wrought from my brow

He has never liked me somehow.

Indeed I cannot think why.

I hear you're to marry today

But I think you had better delay

For to wed you must note what I say

And wedding to her I refuse.

And stupidist fairies and gnomes

Small print on your contract atones

Your bodies and souls I both owns.

Ch Maybe.

Who we?

Not me.

I'll say.

No way.

Low pay.

That lad

How sad

That's bad

Oh my!

Fie-fie

Ah why.

Tis so.

What ho!

Oh no!

See here.

Oh dear.

We fear.

And so, I have won and you lose.

RM Ha ha ha !  
 You are all in my power. My pseudonomish nephew. You can never marry when I will never allow it. If you never marry you can never inherit your father's fortune.  
 Besides - you couldn't marry a Christmas, what would the neighbours say!  
 And you, oafish gnomes and festering fairies, your names here mean I literally own you. You cannot work for anyone but me.  
 Ha ha ha ! Father Christmas - you're still finished.

FC On the contrary, it is you who are finished.

RM I am ?

FC Yes, for you see no one believes in you.

RM Oh yes they do !

DC Oh no they don't ....etc  
 It is you who do not exist.

RM I don't ?

CG And this makes your contract null and void.

RM It does ?

N And you can't prevent me from marrying.

RM Oh goodness me - they're right. I never thought of that.  
 But what am I saying. I can't give up this easily. I do exist. I am here. It is me. I'm not unreal .....etc

Ch Boo boo - off off off OFF OFF OFF

RM I'm very much in existence, Its me, you'll pay for this. Just you wait.  
 You'll all pay.....

**EXIT RM**

FC Well now that's settled we can return to our happy old ways.

DC We can be wed.

CF We can return to work for you.

FC And Father Christmas is back in business. There must be a moral here somewhere.

## Start Song 24 - (intro only)

- CG But wait !  
What about all the shareholders. Christmas was privatised  
remember. You just can't go back that easily.
- N Perhaps I can help here. With my new found fortune I shall buy all  
the Christmas shares on the Stock Exchange. As owner of the  
Christmas International I shall then place all the shares in a pension  
fund for the benefit of all my gnomes and fairies.
- Ch Hooray !
- DC Oh Norman. How wonderful you are.
- N And please don't call me Norman anymore. That was only my name  
in hiding. My true name, by which I will henceforth be known, is  
Sir Robert Maxwell.

## Song 24

- FC We wish you a Merry Christmas.  
We wish you a Merry Christmas.  
We wish you a Merry Christmas.  
And a Happy New Year.
- N A pension I bring  
DC And I'll wear your ring  
N&DC We wish you a Merry Christmas  
And a Happy New Year.
- Ch We wish you a Merry Christmas.  
etc....
- CG Our jobs are secure  
CF With you we are sure.  
CG&CF We wish you a Merry Christmas.  
And a Happy New Year.
- Ch We wish you a Merry Christmas.  
etc....
- FC And for the last time  
Its just a pantomime  
We wish you a Merry Christmas.  
And a Happy New Year.
- Ch We wish you a Merry Christmas.  
etc

**THE END**