

“Too Many Santas!” (smaller cast version) words and music by Jon Shepherd

SCENE 1	<i>Santa's house.</i>
<p style="text-align: center;">SONG 1: “TOO MANY SANTAS!”</p> <p style="text-align: center;">All over Europe, Santas scratch their heads Toss and turn at night as they're lying in their beds Who will be the winner? We need the others gone! Surely there should be only one!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Santas here! Santas there! Santas almost everywhere! Too many Santas, can't you help us out? Too many Santas to count!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">So many shapes and sizes, lots of costumes too Many different colours...red and green and blue! Who will be the winner? We need the others gone! Surely there should be only one!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Santas here! Santas there! Santas almost everywhere! Too many Santas, can't you help us out? Too many Santas to count! Too many Santas to count!</p>	
<i>Narrator</i>	Welcome to the North Pole! It's December the 23rd and everyone at Santa's workshop is working hard to prepare for the most important day of the year.
	<i>Elves enter and begin moving around Santa's living room cleaning and tidying. They are wearing aprons and carrying dusters.</i>
<i>Elf 1</i>	<i>(wiping his brow)</i> Phew! Santa really is messy
<i>Elf 2</i>	Just look at these cushions...beard hair everywhere!
<i>Elf 3</i>	<i>(stops work and sighs)</i> I know! Cleaning Santa's house is really important but sometimes I wish we could work in the workshop
<i>Elf 4</i>	<i>(shocked)</i> But we're house elves! We don't know how to make toys!
<i>Elf 5</i>	<i>(sighing again)</i> I suppose you're right. We'd better get working. It's Christmas eve tomorrow.
<i>Elf 6</i>	You should know your place...right here with a brush in your hands
	<i>Santa enters the stage. He looks really fed up and tired. He stomps on and slumps down into the chair without speaking. The elves nervously look at him and then sidle over.</i>

<i>Elf 1</i>	Er...sir
<i>Santa</i>	<i>(crosses his arms)</i> Humph!
<i>Elf 2</i>	Are you ok sir?
<i>Santa</i>	<i>(louder)</i> HUMPH!
<i>Elf 3</i>	Can we help in any way?
<i>Elf 4</i>	Would you like a cup of tea?
<i>Santa</i>	<i>(angrily)</i> Tea? Tea? I can't be drinking tea! Not when it looks like Christmas is about to be cancelled.
<i>All elves</i>	What! Cancelled! Why?
<i>Santa</i>	You should be asking Jordi Wigginbottom that in the workshop. He's taken all the elves out on strike. He says I'm working them too hard.
<i>Elf 5</i>	On strike? He can't do that. It's Christmas eve tomorrow
<i>Elf 6</i>	The busiest time of Santa's year
<i>Santa</i>	That's right. And the toys aren't finished or wrapped. Without the elves there's no way we can be ready in time.
<i>Elf 1</i>	Oh no! We can't have Christmas without toys
<i>Elf 2</i>	I wish we could help
<i>Santa</i>	Sometimes I wish there were more of me, I could really sort out those troublesome workshop elves then.
	<i>At that moment there is a knock and the workshop elves enter. They march in looking unhappy. Elves 1-6 move to the back of stage.</i>
<i>Santa</i>	Oh no. Here they are now!
<i>Jordi</i>	That's it Santa. We've had enough.
<i>Workshop Elf 1</i>	You work us far too hard!
<i>Workshop Elf 2</i>	Just look at my fingers...they're worn to the bone!
<i>Workshop Elf 3</i>	I'm so tired I can't keep my eyes open <i>(starts to fall asleep)</i>
<i>All Elves</i>	We're going on strike!
<i>Santa</i>	You can't strike! Think of the children...
	<i>The elves march offstage. Santa looks sad</i>

<i>Santa</i>	I'm off to bed...wake me up on boxing day <i>(during the song the Elves 1-6 help him to bed and cover him a duvet/fetch pillow etc)</i>
<p style="text-align: center;">SONG 2: "SLEEP TIRED SANTA"</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sleep tired Santa, try to rest You've worked so hard this year, you've tried your best Sleep tired Santa, close your eyes Sleep through the night 'til the morning sunrise</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Go upstairs to bed, you know you really should A good night's sleep will make you feel so good Go upstairs to bed with a stretch and a yawn Perhaps things will seem much better in the morn</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sleep tired Santa, try to rest You've worked so hard this year, you've tried your best Sleep tired Santa, close your eyes Sleep through the night 'til the morning sunrise</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sleep...hush! Sleep...hush! Sleep...hush! Sleep...hush!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">HUSH!</p>	
	<i>Everyone leaves the stage and the scene ends</i>

SCENE 2	<i>Outside Santa's workshop</i>
Narrator	Seeing Santa so tired and unhappy made the Elves sad. They really wanted to help him!
<i>Elf 1</i>	We have to help. We can't let Christmas be cancelled
<i>Elf 2</i>	But what can we do?
<i>Elf 3</i>	I think I have an idea. We should call the Spirits of Christmas
<i>Elf 4</i>	But how do we do that?
<i>Elf 5</i>	We wish upon the Christmas star...that's how
<i>Elf 6</i>	Come on then lets do it
	<i>They all screw up their eyes and wish. There is a pause and nothing happens. They cautiously open up their eyes and look around...</i>
<i>Elf 1</i>	Well that didn't work...what now?
<i>Elf 2</i>	What do we do now?
<i>Elf 3</i>	We could phone them!
<i>Elf 4</i>	Yes...I have the number
<i>Elf 5</i>	How did you get that?
<i>Elf 6</i>	Never mind. Just make the call...
	<i>The elves go over to the side of the stage take out a phone and make the call...Song/dance 3: The Spirits of Christmas starts and the spirits enter and dance.</i>
<p>SONG 3: "THE SPIRITS OF CHRISTMAS"</p> <p>Look at us dance! We are the Magical Spirit Sprites Of Christmas time!</p> <p>Spreading the word! Our good news, our good news message To the world!</p> <p><i>Peace and Love To all people Help each other Please be kind</i></p>	

	<i>Song ends and the spirits move to the front of the stage to speak</i>
Spirit 1	Your wish is kind, your hearts are pure We'll grant your wish, if you are sure
Spirit 3	That Santa really knows his mind 'Cos with more Santas, he might find
Spirit 5	One Father Christmas is enough And life might soon get very tough...
	<i>The spirits waves their wands and there is a magical sound. The spirit leaves the stage. Santa 2 enters the stage. He looks cross...</i>
Santa	What's all this noise about? I'm trying to sleep.
	<i>Suddenly, there is a magical sound and one after another the four European Santa's enter the stage...from Spain (El Niño Jesus), Germany (der Wehrnachtsmann), Sweden (Tomte) and Italy (Babbo Natale). Santa looks confused.</i>
Santa	What is the meaning of this? Who are you all?
	<i>Each of the Santa introduce themselves in turn</i>
El Niño	I am El Nino Jesu: from Spain, and I am the best Santa (<i>bows</i>)
Weihnachtsmann	I am der Weihnachtsmann: from Germany, and I am the best Santa. (<i>bows</i>)
Tomte	I am Tomte: from Sweden, and I am the best Santa. (<i>bows</i>)
Babbo Natale	I am Babbo Natale: from Italy, and I am the best Santa. (<i>bows</i>)
Santa	But why are you here?
El Niño	We are all part of you
Weihnachtsmann	The Christmas spirits split you up
Tomte	You wished for more Santas and here we are
Babbo Natale	We're here to help you with the elves. But first we must sort out who is the best Santa...
	<i>The Santas group together and start to argue</i>
Santa	<i>(looking at elves)</i> Did you elves have anything to do with this?
Elf 1 and 2	Er...yes...sorry Santa
Elf 3 and 4	We were only trying to help

<i>Santa</i>	But you've just made it worse. They're all just arguing with each other! YOU'LL have to find the Christmas Spirits and get them to sort this out.
<i>Elf 5 and 6</i>	Let's phone them again
	<i>The elves use the phone to ring. There is a pause and the spirits appear on stage.</i>
<i>Spirit 1</i>	The Christmas spirit that you seek,
<i>Spirit 2</i>	Is here and there this festive week.
<i>Spirit 3</i>	And time is short 'til Christmas Eve
<i>ALL SPIRITS</i>	To find the hearts that still believe!
	<i>The Spirits leave the stage</i>
<i>Santa</i>	You'd better hurry if you're going to save Christmas. Off you go while I try to stop these Santas from arguing with each other
	<i>Everyone leaves the stage and Scene ends</i>

SCENE 3	<i>Back inside Santa's workshop. Santa 2 enters and sits on his chair at the back of the stage</i>
Narrator	While the Elves looked for Christmas spirit, the new Santas told everyone about celebrations in their own countries
Santa	Ok, let's hear about Christmas in Spain and Germany then!
	<i>Spanish dancers come out and song starts. El Niño Jesus first:</i>
<p>SONG 4: EL NINO JESUS vs DAS WEIHNACHTSMANN</p> <p>El Nino Jesus is my name And I bring gifts in sunny Spain But I don't come on Christmas Day I'll visit your home at Epiphany</p> <p>We celebrate Holy Innocents A young boy is looked for and found And for one day, that boy's in charge He can boss everybody around! Around! He can boss everybody around!</p> <p>El Nino Jesus is my name And I bring gifts in sunny Spain But I don't come on Christmas Day I'll visit your home at Epiphany</p> <p><i>(Spanish dancers leave the stage. German dancers enter)</i></p> <p>Christmas-time in Germany Is such a jolly place to be It's so fine! At Christmas-time And I am...Das Weih-nachtsmann</p> <p>Sing to the beat of the marching band Advent wreaths and red candles in hand Street markets to honour St Nick Now I've eaten so much I feel sick! Come quick...'cos...</p> <p>Christmas-time in Germany Is such a jolly place to be It's so fine! At Christmas-time And I am...Das Weih-nachtsmann</p>	
	<i>Song ends and they all leave the stage. Scene ends</i>

SCENE 4	<i>The shopping mall</i>
Narrator	The Elves decided to start searching for Christmas spirit at a nearby shopping centre
	<i>Elves 1, 2 and 3 enter. They are dressed in hiking gear and looking at a map. They look lost.</i>
Elf 1	Santa said to start looking for Christmas spirit here
Elf 2	At the shops?
Elf 3	Look at all these people Christmas shopping
Elf 4	All those presents to buy!
Elf 5	Surrounded by all these wonderful things!
Elf 6	They MUST have Christmas spirit
	<i>Shopper 1, 2 and 3 enter and look flustered and annoyed. They are carrying shopping bags.</i>
Shopper 1	Move out of my way...I've got six more people to buy for before the shops close
Shopper 2	I need to find a ninja assassin doll otherwise my son will have a tantrum!
Shopper 3	My daughter has to have a baby nappy change doll and I can't get one anywhere! I hate Christmas!

SONG 5: "CHRISTMAS SHOPPING"

**Have you done your Christmas shopping?
When you gonna sort it out?
Gotta do some Christmas shopping
Isn't that what...Christmas is all about?**

**I don't want to buy any old tat
I want some of this and I want some of that.
Feeling stressed by Christmas shopping
When am I...gonna sort it out?**

But something inside me is telling me something
A voice inside is asking me why?
If the meaning of Christmas is really the shopping
I can't listen 'cos I've got too many...
Gifts...left...to...buy

CHORUS

***Slow down...look around
Christmas Spirit can be found
Find the nearest exit door
Come with us...1, 2, 3, 4! (Repeat x4)***

***Ready? Yeah!
Set? Yeah!
Ok? Yeah!
1, 2, 3, 4!***

**Have you done your Christmas shopping?
When you gonna sort it out?
Gotta do some Christmas shopping
Isn't that what...Christmas is all about?
Isn't that what...Christmas is all about?**

The shoppers shake their heads and hurriedly rush offstage. The Elves watch them leave

Elf 1

I don't think Christmas spirit here. Let's go somewhere else.

Elves sadly leave stage. Scene ends

SCENE 5	<i>Back in Santa's workshop.</i>
Narrator	Back at Santa's workshop, the next two Santas told everyone about Christmas celebrations in their own countries
	<i>Santa 3 enters and sits in the chair at the back of the stage, Babbo Natale (Italy) and Tomte (Sweden) enter</i>
Santa	Now let's hear all about Christmas in Italy and Sweden.
	<i>Spanish and Italian dancers enter during songs.</i>
<p>SONG 6: "BABBO NATALE vs TOMTE"</p> <p>Why don't you come with me...to Italy? For a time of devotion and prayer. Won't you travel with me...to Italy? Christmas really is special there.</p> <p>Come with me, come with me my name is Babbo Natale I bring the gifts after midnight in Italy Come with me, come with me to watch the children work hard Writing letters to say they've been good</p> <p>Why don't you come with me...to Italy? For a time of devotion and prayer. Won't you travel with me...to Italy? Christmas really is special there.</p> <p><i>(Italian dancers leave, Swedish dancers enter)</i></p> <p>Tom-te...my name is Tom-te I come from Sweden, I'm the Christmas gnome! Tom-te...the Swedish Santa I bring you presents, from my forest home.</p> <p>So when I knock on your door this Christmas to ask... "Are there any good children here?" 'Cos I have lots of presents here to leave Bringing happiness and good cheer!</p> <p>Tom-te...my name is Tom-te I come from Sweden, I'm the Christmas gnome! Tom-te...the Swedish Santa I bring you presents, from my forest home. Presents from my forest home!</p>	
Santa	I wish those Elves would hurry up. I wonder where they are? <i>They all leave the stage. Scene ends.</i>

SCENE 6	<i>A snowy forest. Animals enter and curl up around the stage. Elves enter still looking at map.</i>
Narrator	The Elves landed next in a snow covered forest surrounded by sleeping woodland creatures.
Elf 1	Where are we now?
Elf 2	In some sort of snowy forest by the look of it. Look! Some woodland creatures.
Elf 3	I bet they have Christmas spirit!
Elf 4	Let's wake them up and ask them
	<i>The Elves walk around and wake the creatures who start to sing and dance</i>
<p>SONG 7: THE WOODLAND CREATURES</p> <p>Who'd be a woodland creature? You'll find it soon would teach ya How running fast, means you survive!</p> <p>We spend the Winter waiting Freezing cold, just hibernating Working hard to stay alive</p> <p>So don't come here looking for Christmas Spirit! You've come here causing lots of fuss 'Cos no one in the woods has time for festive feelings Please walk away, don't bother us! (Repeat all)</p> <p>DON'T BOTHER US!</p>	
	<i>Song ends and Elves gather round the animals</i>
Elf 5	Can you help us? We're looking for the spirit of Christmas
Rabbit(s)	Hah! We're always freezing cold at Christmas.
Squirrel(s)	And really hungry
Mouse or Mice	And always frightened...theres always something who wants to eat you
All animals	LOOK OUT! Here comes a fox...RUN AWAY!

	<i>The animals run off stage. The elves watch them go and look sad. The fox stops centre stage and speaks to audience</i>
Fox	But I'm hungry...I've got to eat!
	<i>Fox shakes head and runs offstage after the animals. Elves watch him go sadly</i>
Elf 6	NOW what are we going to do?
Elf 1	I don't now where else we can look
Elf 2	That's it then. Christmas is cancelled.
Elf 3	We'd better go and tell Santa.
<p>SONG 8: CHRISTMAS IS CANCELLED</p> <p>Shutter the windows and bolt all the doors Take down decorations and sweep up the floors 'Cos Christmas is cancelled, and things are so bad It's all gone so wrong and we feel so sad</p> <p>Christmas is cancelled, we're feeling sad Christmas is cancelled, we're feeling sad Oh so sad!</p> <p>Repeat</p>	
	<i>After the song the elves leave the stage sadly. Scene ends.</i>

SCENE 7	<i>Back in Santa's workshop. Santa 3 enters and slumps down in his chair. Jordi Wigginbottom enters with workshop elves 1 and 2</i>
Narrator	Back at his workshop Santa was exhausted but his problems were far from over...
Jordi	That's it Santa. The workshop's closed.
Workshop Elves	We're all going out on strike now!
Santa	Oh no! Surely things can't get any worse...
	<i>Elves 1-6 enter sheepishly</i>
Santa	Looks like I spoke too soon...
Elf 1	Sorry Santa. We failed you.
Elf 2	We couldn't find Christmas spirit anywhere.
Elf 3	And there's definitely none here!
Elf 4	Everyone seems to hate Christmas now
Elf 5	<i>(quietly) But I still love Christmas</i>
Santa	What did you say?
Elf 6	<i>(Louder) I still love Christmas too!</i>
All Elves	<i>(Loudly) WE ALL STILL LOVE CHRISTMAS!</i>
	<i>There is a magical sound and the Christmas spirits appears on stage</i>
Spirit 1	When winter time is cold and bare,
Spirit 2	At this the darkest time of year,
Spirit 3	The world needs just one heart to care,
ALL SPIRITS	And we'll be sure to reappear...

Santa	Can you help us Christmas spirit? We all seem to have forgotten what Christmas is all about
Spirit 1	We need to look far back in time,
Spirit 2	To the first of many Christmas days,
Spirit 3	When a special boy was born,
ALL SPIRITS	To show us loving ways...
	<i>During the song the nativity tableaux happens. All Santas, elves and spirits watch from the side of the stage.</i>

SONG 9: SONG OF THE NATIVITY

ALL: In a quiet little town called Nazareth, two thousand years ago
Mary lived a quiet life with Joseph, her betrothed.

MARY: "The Angel Gabriel brought me a message, to say I was the chosen one"

GABRIEL: "You will soon have a baby called Jesus, and he will be God's son!"

CHORUS (ALL)

**Mary, Mary, don't be scared
Be brave and you will find
Everything will be ok
And your son will save mankind!
Mary, Mary, don't be scared
Be brave and you will find
Everything will be ok
And your son will save mankind!**

JOSEPH: "We travelled far to Bethlehem, my hometown, far away"

JOSEPH & MARY: "Many weary miles we travelled just to hear innkeepers say:"

INNKEEPER: "We have no rooms available, just a stable so forlorn"

ALL: So in a lowly cattle shed, Lord Jesus Christ was born!

CHORUS

ALL: A multitude of Angels from the heavens then came down

ANGELS: "We spread good news to the Shepherds, in the fields above the town.

SHEPHERDS: "We heard the Angels singing so we covered on the ground"

ANGELS: "Fear not! Now go to Bethlehem where your saviour will be found!"

CHORUS

ALL: In the sky above the stable bare, a brand new star shone bright

To guide the wise men travelling, for many days and nights.

WISEMEN: "The journey has been long and hard but precious gifts we bring..."

When we arrive we'll kneel and worship, before our new born King!"

CHORUS

Song ends and nativity actors stay on the stage

Jordi	<i>(sheepishly)</i> Er...Santa. I think we'll be getting back to work now. We're sorry we messed you about. We've got toys to finish...
Santa 3	I'm sorry as well. I was so busy moaning about hard work I forgot the true meaning of Christmas. Could you make me whole again please Spirits?
Spirit 1 and 2	Our hard work here is almost done,

Spirit 3 and 4	Good Santa's don't compete!
Spirit 5 and 6	Watch as we wave our Christmas wands,
ALL SPIRITS	Make Santa Claus complete!
	<i>The Spirit waves wand and there is a magic sound. European Santas leave stage. Santa stretches.</i>
Santa 3	I think the world is best with ONE Santa with lots of different names! Thank you elves.
Elf 1 and 2	So does this mean Christmas is back on?
Santa	It certainly does, but there's one problem...
Elf 2 and 3	Oh no! Not another one!
Santa 3	I'm going to need some more elves in the workshop. Do you know any Elves who might be willing?
Elf 4 and 5	We'll do it! A promotion at last!
ALL ELVES	Come on guys, we've got work to do!
	<i>Everyone leaves the stage and the scene ends</i>
SCENE 8 (FINALE)	<i>During the song everyone enters and takes their bows</i>

SONG 10: FINALE MEDLEY

**Have you done your Christmas shopping?
When you gonna sort it out?
Gotta do some Christmas shopping
Isn't that what...Christmas is all about?**

**I don't want to buy any old tat
I want some of this and I want some of that.
Feeling stressed by Christmas shopping
When am I...gonna sort it out?**

But something inside me is telling me something
A voice inside is asking me why?
If the meaning of Christmas is really the shopping
I can't listen 'cos I've got too many...
Gifts...left...to...buy

CHORUS

***Slow down...look around
Christmas Spirit can be found
Find the nearest exit door
Come with us... 1, 2, 3, 4! (Repeat x4)***

***Ready? Yeah!
Set? Yeah!
Ok? Yeah!
1, 2, 3, 4!....***

All over Europe, Santas scratch their heads
Toss and turn at night as they're lying in their beds
Who will be the winner? We need the others gone!
Surely there should be only one!

**Santas here! Santas there!
Santas almost everywhere!
Too many Santas, can't you help us out?
Too many Santas to count!**

All over Europe, Santas scratch their heads
Toss and turn at night as they're lying in their beds
Who will be the winner? We need the others gone!
Surely there should be only one!
Surely there should be only one!..

**We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year**

Good tidings we bring
To you and your kin
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year!

ALL: HAPPY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!

CAST LIST AND NUMBER OF LINES IN SCENES (ordered by most lines to least)

Character	Notes	Sc1	Sc2	Sc3	Sc4	Sc5	Sc6	Sc7	Sc8	Total
Santa	<i>Father Christmas</i>	9	5	1		2		6		23
Elf 1	<i>Santa's house elf</i>	4	3		2		2	3		14
Elf 2	<i>Santa's house elf</i>	4	3		1		2	3		13
Elf 3	<i>Santa's house elf</i>	3	3		1		2	3		12
Elf 4	<i>Santa's house elf</i>	3	3		1		1	3		11
Elf 5	<i>Santa's house elf</i>	3	3		1		1	3		11
Elf 6	<i>Santa's house elf</i>	3	3		1		1	3		11
Christmas Spirit 1	<i>Spirit of Christmas</i>		3					6		9
Christmas Spirit 2	<i>Spirit of Christmas</i>		3					6		9
Christmas Spirit 3	<i>Spirit of Christmas</i>		3					6		9
Narrator	<i>GOOD READER!</i>	1	1	1	1	1	1	1		7
Jordi	<i>Chief Workshop Elf</i>	2						3		5
Workshop Elf 1	<i>Makes toys for Santa</i>	2						2		4
Workshop Elf 2	<i>Makes toys for Santa</i>	2						2		4
Workshop Elf 3	<i>Makes toys for Santa</i>	2						2		4
El Niño Jesus	<i>Spanish Santa</i>		2							2
Weihnachtsmann	<i>German Santa</i>		2							2
Tomte	<i>Swedish Santa</i>		2							2
Babbo Natale	<i>Italian Santa</i>		2							2
Rabbit 1	<i>Woodland creature</i>						2			2
Rabbit 2 (optional)	<i>Woodland creature</i>						2			2
Squirrel 1	<i>Woodland creature</i>						2			2
Squirrel 2 (optional)	<i>Woodland creature</i>						2			2

Mouse 1	<i>Woodland creature</i>						2			2
Mouse 2 (optional)	<i>Woodland creature</i>						2			2
Shopper 1	<i>Christmas shopper</i>				1					1
Shopper 2	<i>Christmas shopper</i>				1					1
Shopper 3	<i>Christmas shopper</i>				1					1
Fox	<i>Woodland creature</i>						1			1
	<i>26 or 29 speaking parts (inc optional)</i>									
Also non-speaking but important (can be played by shoppers perhaps?)										
Mary	<i>Optional solo</i>						x			
Joseph	<i>Optional solo</i>						x			
Gabriel	<i>Optional solo</i>						x			
Innkeeper	<i>Optional solo</i>						x			
Wiseman or Wisemen	<i>Optional solo</i>						x			
Shepherd or Shepherds	<i>Optional solo</i>						X			

