# So Many Scrooges

A Ten Minute Play.
By Drew Stutz.

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## *CAST*

Scrooge ’51
Scrooge ’84
Scrooge ’09
Duck Scrooge
Bob Cratchit
Everyone Else

## *SETTING*

Wherever, Whenever.

## *FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT*

Don’t you think that there may be one too many film adaptations of *A Christmas Carol*? Hollywood doesn’t think so. In fact, as of 2022, IMBD has on record over 140 movies either retelling or based on the story of *A Christmas Carol.* So what better way to make fun of that than by retelling the story of *A Christmas Carol* AGAIN!

The show features four incredible Scrooges from the years 1951, 1983, 1984, and 2009 (as well as a beloved “special guest”). While each of our actors represents Ebenezer Scrooge as a whole, they are very much their own being in their own reality with their own thoughts, styles, and ways of life (it’s like that *Into The Spider-verse* thing for all you kids out there.)

And then there’s Everyone Else. Yes. That’s her legal name. What kind of poor-excuse -for-parents names their child “Everyone?” Even as the playwright I have no clue what they were thinking! But regardless of whether she was named for a throwaway quick joke; Everyone Else is glue that brings the Scrooges together and is the spark of joy that we long for in the holiday season.

May your days be merry and bright. Happy holidays to you and your cast.

*So Many Scrooges* was first performed as part of The University of Northwestern - St. Paul’s 2024 Christmas Bathrobe Festival.

***Special Thanks to:***

MATTHEW BRANDS the first voice of *Scrooge ’51*, 2024 Debut Production.
KATIE SIMON the first voice of *Scrooge ’84,* 2024 Debut Production.
JOSH SCHONBERG the first voice of *Scrooge ’09*, 2024 Debut Production.
SIERRA McCUNE the first voice of *Duck Scrooge*, 2024 Debut Production.
ALAINA POSAVAD the first voice of *Everyone Else*, 2024 Debut Production.
KAYLEE SELIN the first puppeteer and voice of *Bob Cratchit*, 2024 Debut Production.
And MITCH GEIKEN for his help throughout the entire process.

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**So Many Scrooges**

*Stage is set with a single headstone that reads "JACOB MARLEY." A figure enters. This is* **SCROOGE '51**. *He speaks with a British accent.*

SCROOGE '51: Marley was dead, to begin with. There is no doubt whatever about that. The register of his burial was signed by the clergyman, the clerk, the undertaker, and the chief mourner. Scrooge signed it. And Scrooge's name was good upon 'Change, for anything he chose to put his hand to. Old Marley was dead as a door-nail.

Scrooge knew he was dead? Of course he did. How could it be otherwise. Scrooge and he were partners for I don't know how many years.

*As Scrooge '51 speaks, another figure enters. They look very similar. Identical but… not? This is* **SCROOGE '84.** *He also speaks with a British accent.*

SCROOGE '84: Marley was dead… to begin with. There's no doubt whatever about that.

*Scrooge '51 is confused but tries to ignore him and continue his monologue.*

SCROOGE '51: Scrooge was his sole executor—

SCROOGE '84: The register of his burial was signed by the clergyman—

SCROOGE '51: His sole administrator—

SCROOGE '84: The clerk. The undertaker. And the chief mourner.

*Scrooge '51 is getting annoyed. He is about to say something when suddenly* **SCROOGE '09** *enters. He wears a blue bodysuit with white motion capture balls attached. He speaks quickly and with a "British" accent.*

SCROOGE '09: Marley was dead to begin with! There's no doubt whatever about that!

SCROOGE '84: Old Marley was dead—

SCROOGE '51: Wait. No. I—

SCROOGE '84: As a door nail.

SCROOGE '51: I'm sorry. Hold please.

SCROOGE '09: Old Marley was dead as a doornail!

SCROOGE '51: Lights! Please I'm sorry. I just—

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*Work lights flash on. Scrooge '84 and '09 are blinded. They loose their accent as they speak.*

SCROOGE '84: Gah! What the heck!?

SCROOGE '09: My eyes!

SCROOGE '51: I'm sorry. Apologies. Really, but I just… Who… Who are you?

SCROOGE '84: What?

SCROOGE '09: What?

SCROOGE '51: Who are you? What are you doing here?

SCROOGE '84: Why I'm Ebenezer Scrooge! The bitter protagonist of Charles Dickens' famous story *A Christmas Carol.*

SCROOGE '51: Well I'm sorry, but that just can't be.

SCROOGE '84: Why not?

SCROOGE '51: Because I am Ebenezer Scrooge, the miser protagonist of Charles Dickens' famous novella *A Christmas Carol.*

SCROOGE '09: Now hold on, hold on, hold on. You two can't be Ebenezer Scrooge from *A Christmas Carol* because I'M Ebenezer Scrooge from *A Christmas Carol!*

*Scrooge '51 and '84 simply look at '09. Pause. Then laugh.*

What?!

SCROOGE '51: Well that's just malarkey.

SCROOGE '09: What do you mean?!

SCROOGE '84: Look at you, kid! You're blue! Ebenezer Scrooge isn't blue!

SCROOGE '51: I should know, he's me.

*Scrooge '09 gets self conscious and flustered.*

SCROOGE '09: Well that's— … It's… It's just the motion capture suit!!! They'll animate the rest in later!

SCROOGE '51: … Right. Well you're weird.

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SCROOGE ’84: So hang on! I gotta ask; If you’re Ebenezer Scrooge, and bluey over here is *also* Ebenezer Scrooge, and I’M Ebenezer Scrooge… Who’s the real Scrooge?

SCROOGES: I am!

SCROOGE ’51: Well there can’t be *three* Scrooges!

**DUCK SCROOGE** *suddenly enters. He is a duck and speaks with a Scottish accent.*

DUCK SCROOGE: Old Marley was dead to begin with, he died seven years ago today.

SCROOGE ’51: NO!

DUCK SCROOGE: I say! Is there a party going on?

SCROOGE ’84: We’re trying to figure out who the real Scrooge is.

DUCK SCROOGE: Well that must be me old boy! Hoo-ooh! Scrooge McDuck, the rich protagonist from *Mickey’s Christmas* Carol, at your service.

SCROOGE ’51: Four! Four Scrooges. Of course. Because why not!?

SCROOGE ’09: Wait! I figured it out! I know how to find out who the real Scrooge is!

SCROOGE ’84: How’s that?

SCROOGE ’09: It’s so simple. Whoever tell’s the story of *A Christmas Carol* the best is clearly the real Scrooge.

SCROOGE ’51: And thus, the BEST Scrooge! Alright, I’m in. This is your last chance to back out and spare yourself from a humiliating loss to me.

SCROOGE ’84: I want in. I wanna know who’s the best Scrooge.

DUCK SCROOGE: Oh what fun! Of course I’m in.

SCROOGE ’09: *A Christmas Carol* speed run! *(à la Jim Carrey)* Allllllrighty then!

*Scrooge ’09 snaps and the lights go out.*

SCROOGE ’84: Who’s going to play everyone else?

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