

A Christmas Play

By the 7-B class with Ramona Mărginean

Celebrating Christmas at school is one of the many enjoyable presents we get in December. And what a December! We did not have to focus on restrictions or adapt to online learning changes anymore. It was the first time in a while when we could really opt for any activity we wanted to do.

The COVID-19 experience took its toll and if students had to refrain from getting into close contact to their classmates in the not-so-distant past, they now got the chance to work and enjoy time together in close proximity. This is what the students of the seventh grade B did. First, they read three Christmas plays and agreed upon “Sara finds Christmas” by Annette McDermott. Next, the hard-working team made up of Sara Frățilă, Sonia Crișan and Timea Rusu adapted the play and made it relevant to our students’ experience.

After that, each student worked hard for a certain role in the play, by learning the lines of the chosen character and presenting them in front of the class. Finally, students had the opportunity to perform in the play and even if the time for rehearsals was short, the final result was rewarding and a source of Christmas joy.

Prof. Ramona Mărginean



Last year we had the opportunity to contribute to our classroom’s Christmas play by writing the script. Having this job was a journey we had to embrace and it brought many ups and downs.

Sara Frățilă,
Sonia Crișan
and Timea
Rusu



1. Sara 1
2. Sara 2 (in the dream)
3. Sara 3 (after the dream)
4. John
5. Mom
6. Dad
7. Beth
8. Narrator
9. The Leprechaun
10. Guitarist 1
11. Guitarist 2
12. Guitarist 3
13. Singer 1
14. Singer 2
15. Kid (sitting on the lap of Santa)
16. Parent (of the Kid)
17. Santa
18. Caroler/Neighbor 1 (Mom)
19. Caroler/Neighbor 2 (Dad)
20. Caroler/Neighbor 3 (Kid)

One of the things that pressured us was time, we had just a few days and the expectations were quite high! But we managed to get over this and we were able to finish it. Another thing that made this job even more difficult was deciding what we were going to write. All three of us had different ideas and we had to choose the best one. However, in the end, we were able to combine all our ideas into one that we all agreed with. The play gave us a rough time, because the process of writing required a lot of patience and imagination, but we managed to encourage each other. Every time we thought we would fail, our friendship helped us gain more hope and energy to write a very jolly story.

Sara Frățilă, Sonia Crișan and Timea Rusu

The roles the kids had during the play

Narrator: *Once upon a time there was a little girl living in Manchester. Upon the changes that happened this year, she lost the spirit of Christmas. So let's jump on a sleigh and slide through the obstacles that she had to face to reawaken the spirit.*

(Lights come up and Sara is sitting on her bed STAGE RIGHT. She is holding John's unwrapped Christmas present and a roll of wrapping paper is on the bed next to her.)

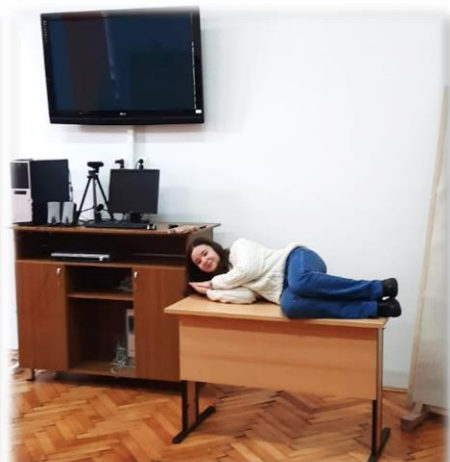
Sara: **(Wrapping John's Christmas present and sighing)**

It doesn't feel like Christmas this year. I don't feel excited at all. (Sara sighs and stops wrapping and sits in thought for a few seconds.) I wish I could find the Christmas spirit. I've tried and tried, but I just can't feel it this year. Where is it?

Mom: **(Calling from STAGE LEFT)** *Sara! Come into the living room so you and John can exchange gifts.*

Sara: *Hold on, Mom. I'm not finished wrapping his present yet! (She slowly gets up, holding the wrapped gift and goes to Mom). I'm not even looking forward to our Christmas Eve gift exchange.*

The first scene of the play



(She walks slumped and defeated STAGE LEFT to living room.
Lights go down on Sara's bedroom.)

(Lights follow Sara and come up STAGE LEFT on living room as Sara arrives. Dad is standing next to the Christmas tree arranging ornaments, and Mom and John are sitting on the couch. A plate of Christmas cookies sits on the end table. John is holding a wrapped gift.)

John: (Excited) C'mon, slowpoke! Aren't you excited to exchange gifts?

Sara: (Slumps onto the couch and shrugs) I guess so.

Mom: What's wrong, Sara? Exchanging presents with your brother every Christmas Eve is one of your favorite traditions.

Sara: I don't know... I don't have that special feeling I usually get around this time. I keep trying to find it, but I can't. I just feel blah.

John: Well, while you're looking, let me open my present!

Sara: (Sara hands John his present) Here you go. At least someone has the Christmas spirit around here.

John: (Opens his gift) Wow! Thanks, Sara! I really wanted this! Here's your gift. (Hands Sara her gift)

Sara: You're welcome. (She opens her gift and stares at it.)

John: Why are you staring at it? Don't you know what it is?

Sara: (Replies with little emotion) Of course. It's a diary. Thanks, John. I really wanted one.

(The doorbell rings and dad opens the door.)

Neighbor 1 (Mom): Merry Christmas! May we share our carol singing with you?

Dad: Sure, go ahead!

(They start singing Deck the Halls. After they finish, mom takes some cookies from the table and shares them with the neighbors)

Mom: Merry Christmas! You shall have a rich Santa this year!

(Mom winks at Neighbor 3, the Kid)

The second scene of the play



Scene 3:

(She goes back to her room, sits on her bed, glances at the gift on her desk and falls into a deep sleep)

Narrator: *And while she was asleep, a little mystic creature crawled into her room and made his way to her desk. There he took his pen and started scribbling something in her journal.*

Narrator: *Now, we shall dive into Sara's dream.*

(Sara 2 enters the scene)

We are looking forward to new opportunities to write more stories”.

The third scene of the play

Scene 4:

(Sara 2 is walking down the street and spots the band formed of the guitarists and the singers. The band is preparing to sing White Christmas.)

Singer 2: *Merry Christmas, young lady!*

Singer 1: *What are you doing, alone, on the street, on Christmas Eve this late at night?*

Sara 2: *I don't even know...(sighs)*

Guitarist 1: *How about a Christmas song to cheer you up?*

(They start singing the first three chords of the instrumental.)

Sara: *You don't have to, I am fine.*

The fourth scene of the play, (first part)



(They start singing anyway. After they finish, Sara leaves without any words. Then she walks further and she unintentionally hears the discussion between Kid 1 and Santa Claus.)

Narrator: *As she continues walking down the street, a discussion between a youngster and Santa Claus picks her interest.*

Santa: *Hello, little friend? Have you been good this year?*

Kid: *Hmm... I don't know... Daddy, have I been good this year?*

Parent: *Yes, dear/darling, you have been extremely good.*

Santa: *In this case, what would you like for Christmas?*

Kid: *I haven't thought about that... I just miss my mommy... Can you bring her back?*

Santa: *Well...(Looks at the father) Do you believe in Christmas miracles? If you do, then you must know that around this time of the year everything is possible!! (Santa smiles at the Kid.)*

Kid: *Really?! (Smiles back) You're amazing, thank you Santa!*

Santa: *Anytime! Merry Christmas! Ho, ho, ho!*

Kid: *Bye! Merry Christmas!*

Parent: **(whispers)** *Thank you!* **(out loud)** *Merry Christmas!*

Narrator: *And after hearing the discussion, Sara felt a queer emotion sneaking into her heart. That made her realize what Christmas is really about. Apart from the presents and the shiny decorations, it's about the time spent together with loved ones, recalling memories of the past and feeling that you found yourself a tiny place inside others' hearts.*

(Sara 2 turns back to the guitarists and the singers, and gives them some gingerbread.)

Guitarist 2: *Thank you very much! I can see that the Christmas spirit has gotten to you.*

Guitarist 3: *In token of our gratitude, shall we sing to you one more time?*

Sara 2: *No, thank you. I just remembered I have to do something important.*

Singer 2: *Oh, dear! Then go get it done. Good evening!*

(Then Sara 2 runs out of the scene.)

The fourth scene of the play, (second part)



(Sara 3 wakes up, rushes to the desk, takes her diary, and goes to the homeless shelter. She meets with Beth who is sitting down.)

Narrator: *After she wakes up, she runs to the homeless shelter to meet with an old friend.*

Sara 3: *Hey Beth! How's your Christmas so far?*

Beth: *Well... I'm spending it in a homeless shelter... so... terrible...*

Sara 3: *I'm sorry to hear that! I brought you something to make you feel better.*

Beth: *What is it? Show me!*

Sara 3: *It's a diary. I'm sure you will put it to good use.*

Beth: *You're amazing, Sara! Thank you very much!*

(Sara 3 gives her the diary and Beth puts it on the table.)

(The lights turn off.)

Narrator: *Then they both spend a lovely day singing carols, playing games, chatting and sharing the spellworking of Christmas. And as the night comes and Beth wants to go to sleep, she decides to take a closer look at the diary Sara gave her. Once she opens it she notices a radiant title: "Sara finds Christmas"... And the story goes on with their yet to come adventures.*

(The actors and staff members come back to the scene and they start singing Merry Christmas.)

The fifth and last part of the play

