

MERRY MAGIC Script Excerpt

HERBERT: Louise! I think you're trying to sneak Christmas in on me, over my objections.

LOUISE: Oh Herbie, what objections? You always liked Christmas. Remember all the wonderful times we had with the kids?

HERBERT: Yes I do. And that's...well, I've already explained this to you. I don't want to talk about it again. LOUISE: Remember the magic of it all? The lights and the colors, the smells of Christmas trees and cookies baking, and the kids rushing out to the tree at 5:00 in the morning...

HERBERT: And the mess of all that ripped up wrapping paper and boxes...it was all a big fuss...(pause) but I kind of liked it...then...

LOUISE: Oh, Herbie. (hugs him)

HERBERT: Well it won't be the same this year, Louise, with the kids not coming...I mean they live so far away now, and David and his wife and kids spending Christmas back east with her parents and Janet and family all doing a ski holiday for Christmas...I mean with no one coming, no grandchildren, no happy laughter, I just...I couldn't...I mean, what was the point?

LOUISE: The point is that Christmas counts, even if the kids aren't here.

HERBERT: Yes, but---

LOUISE: We're here, Herbie. Us. You and me. And even if it was just me, all by myself, I'd still celebrate.

HERBERT: You would? Without me? Without your Mr. Humbug?

LOUISE: Yes, my dear. Because Christmas isn't just for kids, it's for everyone. You know what I mean. The anticipation of something wonderful about to happen, the belief that life is good, that feeling inside that hopes and dreams can still come true. The magic is still here if you just look for it.

HERBERT: And where are you going to look for it, Louise?

LOUISE: I don't know. In my heart? (looks out the window)

HERBERT: Is it out the window, Louise? Just waiting out there for you to find it?

LOUISE: Maybe it is. (pause) Herbert, what's that out in the street? Herbert, come here. (HERBERT goes to her at the window) Look, what is that out there in the gutter?

HERBERT: It looks like a Christmas tree. (walks back to his chair)

LOUISE: Already? It's just now Christmas and someone has already thrown out their Christmas tree?

HERBERT: (sits, sips his coffee) Maybe they decided it was too much fuss and decided to go fishing instead.

LOUISE: How could they just throw out a Christmas tree so soon? Poor little thing.

HERBERT: Hmph.

LOUISE: Herbert, go get it and bring it inside.

HERBERT: Louise, you're acting like it's a stray puppy that needs to be rescued.

LOUISE: Well it does. Go get it.