

Coal For Christmas  
By Dana Hall

**Dana Hall**  
**60 Silo Ridge Road**  
**Orland Park IL 60467**  
[Magnoliawrites120@gmail.com](mailto:Magnoliawrites120@gmail.com)

**Synopsis:** When Santa goes missing the reindeer go through extreme measures to try and find him.

**Cast:**

6 open casting

**Characters:**

Comet.....A reindeer that's out of this world

Ruddy.....A reindeer formerly bullied trying to fit in, a bit naive

Vixen.....A reindeer focused on appearances, but a heart of gold

Dancer.....A reindeer performer, obsessed with Beyonce

Donner.....A reindeer, stuck in the mud, curmudgeon

Blitz..... A reindeer, the boss, a focused leader

**Notes:** All reindeer dressed in accordance with their personality. Ruddy's nose starts off red but can turn black with a piece of felt the actor sticks over their red nose during the possession. Have fun with this show and make it your own!

**Location:** Santa's workshop after dark. A few boxes of presents, wrapping paper and festive decoration is appreciated but not necessary.

**At Rise:** The reindeer are present for an emergency meeting called by Blitz.

**Blitz:** Thank you all for coming. The elves have retired for the evening so I thought meeting in the workshop would make the most sense. I have some information/

**Donner:** This better be good - I was about to soak my hooves.

**Blitz:** Yes, well- I asked you all here tonight because Santa/ (is)

**Comet:** Is totally far out/

**Ruddy:** And he believes in you when no one else does-

**Blitz:** Very inspirational but what I'm trying to say is... You see-

**Vixen:** (*nervously*) I did it!

**Blitz:** What?

**Vixen:** My hair-I'm trying something new. I was so nervous but the stylist said it accentuates my antlers.

**Blitz:** It's wonderful Vixen, but as I was saying... we're here today because-

**Dancer:** (*emotional/crying*) Because of a great travesty.

**Blitz:** Oh Dancer I know- I'm at a loss for words/

**Blitz and Donner comfort each other.**

**Dancer:** It's just Santa and I had so much to look forward to/

**Blitz:** Truly, I feel the same way-

**Dancer:** Ever since I got the email about the holiday party being canceled- I just haven't been the same.

**Blitz shocked, gets up.**

**Blitz:** Wait-you're upset because they canceled the holiday party/  
**Everyone is upset.**

**Comet:** Yeah, it's so bogus.

**Blitz:** Does anyone know *why* they canceled it?

**Donner:** Taxes! The economy has been in the tank- probably budget cuts by elves in upper management they can care less about deer morale -

**Ruddy:** But Santa loves it. I'm sure he'll help us. Is he coming to this meeting?

**Blitz:** I'm afraid Santa is not coming.

**Dancer:** Poor guy! He must really be taking this news hard. You see- we had this whole dance number planned- it's a Single Ladies remix...

**Dancer starts doing the single ladies dance as he sings.**

All the single reindeer, all the single reindeer  
 All the single reindeer, all the single reindeer  
 Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, o-ohh  
 Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, o-ohh  
 Put your hooves up! Put your hooves up!

**Blitz:** As lovely, and festive as that is... They canceled the party because no one can find Santa. I hate to tell you all in this way but -he's presumed to be dead.

**All react- gasps, oh no, not Santa, it can't be, no, what!**

**Rudy:** Dead?

**Comet:** No! That's totes terrible to the max.

**Blitz:** It is 'totes terrible.' Reports from Mrs. Claus say it appears Olive, The Other Reindeer, wandered off in the storm and Santa went to find them and/

**Donner:** No one can survive these temperatures and a man of his size on the shifting ice...

**Dancer:** What about all the children? The holiday spirit? We have to find them/

**Ruddy:** Have you seen it out there? Not even my nose will help.

**Vixen:** Tell us you have a plan Blitz.

**Blitz:** Well, Vixen I think I have a way we can reach him/

**Blitz lays out an Ouiji board.**

**Vixen: (innocent)** A board game?

**Comet:** O.M.G that's a Oijui board.

**Ruddy:** Dark magic? I don't think we should be messing with this Blitz.

**Blitz:** No reports, no sign of life, we have to know/

**Comet:** You know the elves totally refuse to make these-

**Dancer:** Why? It's nothing but a child's toy-

**Comet:** Maybe my bodacious reindeer friend, but some believe it's a powerful tool to make paranormal connections. If Santa has crossed over we should totally get a message. We just have to be careful and not to disturb the 'bad' spirits.

**Vixen:** I can see why the elves don't make these- nothing says Merry Christmas like a poltergeist.

**Blitz:** We're only asking about Santa- that's it. But we need everyone in. The more energy the greater the signal strength. Who's in?

**Comet puts a hoof on the pointer and everyone else is reluctant.**

**Blitz:** Come on- everyone put both your hooves on the pointer.

**Everyone puts their hooves on the pointer.**

**Dancer:** We should leave it to the authorities not trust a piece of plastic-

**Comet:** It's actually called a planchette- that's the small like heart-shaped piece/

**Donner:** Comet— I mean this in the jolliest of ways- shhhhut the/

**Blitz:** Hey. I know it's out of the norm, but we're desperate. Christmas is counting on us.

**Comet:** Yes, but we should be careful- because some think ouija boards could cause like spiritual possession.

**Blitz:** That's right Comet so no one takes their hooves off or they may become a target/

**Dancer:** I'm not afraid of some parlor trick- it's copyrighted to Hasbro come on!

**Rudy takes their hooves off to comfort the board.**

**Rudy:** Don't upset it! Hey - we're just here to talk to Santa- don't listen to them, our little demonic alphabet board-

**Vixen:** Darling hooves on!

**Rudy:** Sorry- I didn't want it to have hurt feelings.  
**Puts hooves back on. All reindeer wait in silence.**

**Vixen:** Are we supposed to feel something?

**Donner:** Maybe all the spirits are on with other people.

**Blitz:** Everyone clear your minds and think about Santa.

**Pause.**

**Blitz:** Ok. Dear Ojiou board, should we worry about Santa *crossing over*?

**Dancer:** See Nothing. It's a hoax.  
**They all get jerked to YES.**

**Ruddy:** Yes? No, no- This can't be- he can't be gone.

**Comet:** Well- technically energy never dies it just life shifts soooooo/

**Donner:** Oh stop with your hippie-dippie deer stuff already. (*in a scary voice*) Ohhhhh... sacred cardboard - What messages do you behold for us -

**Blitz:** Maybe we shouldn't condescend to the spiritual guide?  
**Ouji board pulls them into spelling.**

**Ruddy:** C.

**Comet:** O.

**Blitz:** It may be telling us where Santa is!

**Comet:** Or it wants to like chat me up because I'm so in tune with my like energy guides-I'm here board - C-O- (*predicting*) M/

**Donner:** Easy there. Oh look no 'M' - looks like it's an 'A'-

**Comet:** You moved it because you're like jealous and cynical.

**Donner:** Yea well-Maybe you could manifest your head out of your/  
**The pointer moves while they are arguing.**

**Vixen:** Stop! Guys look. It just moved to the L.

**Rudy:** What does that spell? C-O-A-L/ Coal?

**Dancer:** It's what we're all getting in our stocking for this nonsense. Can we stop now?

**Blitz:** Yes- I think that's all it has for us. I'm sorry but it looks like Christmas is canceled.  
*'They take their hooves off the board. All very sad.'*

**Ruddy:** No, it's not. (*moves center stage*) Santa once told me that coal is a gift. It's left for those that need to keep their fire burning. It's not a punishment but an offering to keep family coming together, to feel the joy and warmth within. This is a sign that we have to stay together and as long as we do we can save Christmas.

*Donner starts slow clapping.*

**Donner:** That's a nice little story you got there but without the big guy Christmas is sunk.

**Vixen:** Oh Donner stop. Ruddy is right- Santa may be reminding us Christmas is bigger than any one person that- it's about love.

**Dancer:** He's really gone.

*A somber moment befalls the group then a Ho, Ho, Ho!*

**Dancer:** Santa!

**Blitz:** Sorry, just my ringtone. Really bad timing I know- I should've changed it...  
I gotta take this—(**Blitz is talking on the phone.**)  
Uh, huh - yes it's Blitzen... I'm meeting with the others now. News? No, I haven't heard.  
Wait what- they found him? Where? ....Oh- that's such a relief - ok thanks I'll let them know.

**Comet:** They like found him?

**Blitz:** Yes-an elf told Mrs. Claus his hat was found outside the tavern at the far end of town- turns out after he found Olive, The Other Reindeer, they had a few too many 'root beer floats' and decided to sleep it off when the storm came in!

**Rudy:** I'm so relieved!

**Donner:** Rudy, your nose isn't glowing.

**Rudy:** I'm just worn out/

**Donner:** It has been one hell of a night.

**Comet:** Outside of Xmas eve, this is the first time we've really come together-

**Blitz:** Yea, and since we're all up and the lodge is still open, we should celebrate!

**Dancer:** Oh!! Let's go! You're all going to love my routine.

**Donner:** How far is it to the snowy tavern where no one could reach Santa?

**Blitz:** Very funny Don but we're in this together. We'll meet you across the way in a few? And- no one goes wandering off!

*All exit but Blitz and Rudy. Rudy has a black nose. (It can be a stick on piece of paper easily switched by the actor on stage.) He is visibly agitated.*

**Blitz:** Hey, Rudy- you ok? I know how close you and Santa are- what you said about the coal was really beautiful.

**Rudy:** The what?

**Blitz:** The meaning of it - all of us coming together like a family around the fire, supporting each other...

**Rudy:** Yes- that was something- uhh- ooh is it getting hot in here?

**Blitz:** You don't look so good, maybe you should lie down before coming over. Hey-I'm proud of you kid. You really kept us together. Rest up - see you in a few.

*Blitz leaves. Rudy has an internal struggle depicted by moments where Rudy uses a different voice as if possessed.*

**Rudy:** Who's there?... What? ....*Kill Santa* - who said that - me? What?- I love Santa, why would I want to - '*crash the sleigh*' no- no all my friends and the presents, it would ruin Christmas- get out of my head. Stop yelling at me! What's happening to me...am I being possessed!?

Oh no! I made up that story to make the others feel better but I know who you are -you're what makes naughty children naughty- you're **Coal** - the dark side of Christmas- - get out of me- I won't *hurt my friends*! I won't-

*Rudy starts singing Jingle Bells in a creepy tone.*

Jingle bells, jingle bells.

Jingle all the way, oh what fun it is to—

***CRASH THE SLEIGHHHH!***

*Ruddy now fully transformed into Coal laughs menacingly.*

*Coal picks up scissors from the wrapping paper...He holds it up as he leaves to go to the party.*

**-End Play-**