

SANTA GOES TO COURT

Characters

The Judge

Santa Claus- The Defendant

Dusty- The Bailiff

Officer Shea—A Policeman

Mrs. Claus

Hiele Unlikely- Attorney for the Defendant

Perry Ironside- Prosecuting Attorney

(The setting is a courtroom. There is a raised bench for the judge. There are several chairs arranged to indicate a courtroom. The judge enters in his ill fitting, oversized robe to preside over the court. Santa is brought in handcuffs by the policeman. Both attorneys take their place before the bench, and Mrs Claus stands with Hiele Unlikely. Dusty the Bailiff stands next to the judge's bench as he announces the judge's entrance. Judge trips en route to the bench, then he regains composure and sits behind judge's bench)

Dusty- All rise!

Judge- They're already standing, you moron.

Dusty- Oh...well, then all be seated. (All sit) All rise! (All stand)

Judge- I can see this is going to be one of those days! I hate working on the holidays. Everybody please be seated. (all sit) What's the first case Dusty?

Dusty- (reading from paper) Your Honor, this case involves a Mr. Nicholas Claus with illegal parking and assaulting an officer of the law.

Santa- That's Santa Claus...I don't go by Nick anymore. Causes too much confusion.

Judge- Yeah, sure. Go on Dusty.

Dusty- That's it, Sir.

Judge- Very well...(to Claus) Mr..."Santa Claus"...you are charged with illegal parking and assaulting an officer of the law. How do you plead?

Santa- Why, both, your Honor.

Judge- (confused) I beg your pardon?

Santa- Both, sir.

Judge- Would you mind explaining yourself, Sir?

Santa- Well, I am guilty of assaulting the nice policeman, but I was not illegally parked, so I guess that's both.

Judge- I see.

Mrs. Claus- Ahem....

Judge- Who's that?

Santa- My Wife Sir.

Judge- Mrs. Claus...You wish to make a statement before the court?

Mrs. Claus- No, I just wanted to say something .

Judge- (scratching his head) What did you want to say?

Mrs. Claus- Well, it's just that (the city) has very limited parking and it seems people need to leave a down payment in order to park anywhere.

Santa- Dear, Shhhhhhh, please.

Mrs. Claus- I will net "Shhhhh". How much do you pay for parking your Honor?

Judge- Ummm...ahem...Mrs. Claus, that's none of your business.

Mrs. Claus- I thought so. Let's go Santa. (turns to leave with Santa in arm. Stopped by policeman)

Judge- Mr and Mrs Claus, these are very serious charges, and I think you better consult with your attorney, MS Hiele Unlikely, before making any further statements before this court.

Hiele- I'll keep them in check, your Honor.

Judge- Very well, now officer Shea, your report, please?

Shea- Well...(takes out notepad, then points to Santa) He hit me.

Judge- And???

Shea- That's it.

Judge- Officer Shea?

Shea- Yes?

Judge- (shouts) Could you give me a little more to work with, her?!! What about the illegal parking?

Shea- Oh yeah. Well, he was parked in a handicapped spot.

Judge- Really? Mr. Claus is this true?

Santa- Why yes your Honor. But there was a good reason for this.

Judge- Well?

Santa- Well, Dasher hasn't been himself since the operation...he is unfortunately a little lame in his left hoof...

Judge- Hoof? Who's Dasher?

Santa- One of my reindeer.

Judge- Reindeer?

Santa- Yeas sir...a flying reindeer...

Judge- Of course.

Santa- I have eight pulling this great big sleigh full of toys.

Judge- This is for whatever business you're in?

Santa- Well I guess you could say that.

Judge- Now, you parked your sleigh with eight reindeer in a handicapped parking space in town? How'd they all fit?

Santa- Well they're eight ***tiny*** reindeer...

Judge- Sigh... but one of them is handicapped, is that it??

Santa- Yes sir, Dasher.

Judge- And Officer Shea saw this and was giving you a ticket when you say you "accidentally" hit him?

Sant- Yes, Sir.

Ironside- Your Honor, the prosecution means to convict Mr Claus and see him punished to the full extent of the law for his heinous act against Officer Shea.

Judge- What's that supposed to mean, Mr Ironside?

Ironside- We'll hit him.

Judge- Ironside?

Ironside- Yes sir?

Judge- Sit down. (Ironside sits) Now, Mr. Claus, you were saying?

Claus- Well the nice Officer came over to my sleigh just as I was getting out of the sleigh of the sleigh with my bag of goodies when all of a sudden the bag slipped...

Judge- And accidentally hit Officer Shea?

Claus- Well, no, not exactly, your Honor. You see, as the officer explained to me that he was writing out a ticket, my wife, who I try to leave at home I these "business trips", as you call them, was putting the bag back into the sleigh. As she was doing this, a ball fell out of the bag, bounced off the pavement

and struck the Officer on the head quite hard. So you see, it all really is such a misunderstanding, your Honor.

Judge- I believe you, Mr Claus. Nobody could make up a story like this one. Officer Shea?

Shea- Yes sir?

Judge- Please seek medical attention at once.

Shea- You mean for my bump on the head?

Judge- Yeah...sure...we'll say it's for that, case dismissed!!

Ironside- Rats. (Hiele Unlikely sticks tongue out at him)

Judge- Next case Dusty?

Dusty- The next case, your honor involves a Mr Peter Rabbit....

Judge- Oh, no.... (black out)