

# Audition Sides - Chadwick, Walter, Matthews, Buddy

79

— and sing! —

— and sing —

— and sing —

(JOVIE kisses BUDDY on the cheek, and the Rockefeller Christmas Tree lights up.)

82

4

4

4

(#15 - BACK TO THE OFFICE begins.)

## SCENE EIGHT

(Walter Hobbs' office. WALTER is talking with CHADWICK.)

**START**

**CHADWICK**

Okay. How about this: a town populated only by tomatoes—

**WALTER**

Tomatoes.

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### **CHADWICK**

Little tomato people. They are busily preparing for Christmas, but little do they know, the mean tomato who lives on top of the mountain is planning to steal Christmas this year.

### **WALTER**

You are describing the Grinch.

### **CHADWICK**

But with tomatoes!

### **WALTER**

Greenway is going to fire us all if we don't come up with something good, you understand that?

*(MATTHEWS bursts in, carrying a small manuscript.)*

### **MATTHEWS**

I got it! You are familiar, of course, with Christopher Smith.

### **WALTER**

Are you kidding? Christopher Smith was the greatest writer of Christmas stories who ever lived.

### **MATTHEWS**

Mr. Hobbs, I met this guy who recently acquired a desk once owned by one Christopher Smith and in a secret drawer he finds a manuscript.

### **WALTER**

A lost Chris Smith Christmas story?

### **MATTHEWS**

A lost Chris Smith Christmas story!

*(MATTHEWS hands WALTER a small, yellowing manuscript.)*

### **MATTHEWS**

Be careful. It's the only copy.

*(Suddenly, BUDDY, in his business suit, bursts into the conference room, having just come from his date.)*

### **BUDDY**

I'm in love! And I don't care who knows it!

### **WALTER**

Buddy, please. We're very busy.

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**BUDDY**

Dad, I need a table for two at Tavern on the Green, seven o'clock, Christmas Eve. And four hundred dollars.

**MATTHEWS**

The guy's waiting in the lobby, Mr. Hobbs.

**WALTER**

*(to BUDDY)*

Buddy. We'll talk about this in a minute. Just, do me a favor and sit there in that chair. Amuse yourself.

**BUDDY**

Oh, okay, Dad.

**WALTER**

*(to MATTHEWS)*

Well, bring the guy up here. I want to thank him personally.

**MATTHEWS**

He's not waiting for a thank you. He's waiting for \$300,000.

*(WALTER puts down the manuscript.)*

**WALTER**

What?

**CHADWICK**

Mr. Hobbs, we've been trying to come up with an idea for a story but we got nothing.

**MATTHEWS**

We're idiots!

**CHADWICK**

And then this comes along: It's a gift from God!

**MATTHEWS**

And God gets mad when you don't accept his gifts.

**WALTER**

Fine. I'll write the guy a check.

**END**

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*(WALTER walks behind his desk and takes out his checkbook. CHADWICK and MATTHEWS congratulate each other. BUDDY notices the manuscript on the desk. BUDDY wanders over to it and picks it up.)*