WINGS OF CHRISTMAS

By Cheryl A. Harrison

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STORY OF THE PLAY

Marcy Bradford, a self-centered movie star, is distraught over being delayed at an airport on Christmas Eve with the possibility of being late for her Christmas performance. Add to that the antics of three senile, sweet old ladies, two small-time thieves, and a doctor and his wife trying to get away on a long overdue vacation, and you see the tension rising.

Marcy's mother and secretary try to remind her of what Christmas used to be like before her fame. With the help of a missionary couple, coming home after four years in Africa, and Jimmy, a homeless man, (really an angel) they all learn the true meaning of Christmas. Willie and Johnny are going to give up a life of crime and get real jobs. Marcy asks forgiveness and wants to put God first in her life. Don and Beth decide to go to Africa like Bob and Cindy to help in the mission hospital. This light-hearted comedy has a strong message of Christ's love.

PROPS - Carry-on luggage for all passengers, coffeepot and cups, magazines.
Don and Beth - Items for a beach vacation.
Jane - Clipboard and pen, three airline tickets.
Marcy - Hand-held mirror, purse, cellular phone, paper and pen.
Willie - Two airline tickets.
Hazel - Purse, pills.
Bob - Bible.
Bertha - Eyeglasses.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

(7 m, 9 w)

CHRIS: Angel/airline personnel.

PETER: Looks like a businessman but is really a death angel (but really a nice guy).

WILLIE: Small-time thief.

JOHNNY: Willie's sidekick.

BOB: Missionary on way home from Africa.

CINDY: Bob's wife.

HAZEL: Older woman flying home to see her children.

BEULAH: Another.

BERTHA: Another.

DON: Doctor with struggles from the past.

BETH: Don's wife.

MARCY: Self-absorbed movie actress.

MARTHA: Marcy's mother.

JANE: Marcy's secretary.

JIMMY: Homeless man (secret angel).

MR. JONES: Airline executive.

SCENE 1

(AT RISE: CHRIS and PETER enter talking from the aisle. A SPOTLIGHT hits them.. Each group of characters can walk up the aisle and stop in the spotlight for conversation. They should carry some luggage and enter as if in a hurry to catch a flight.)

CHRIS: Pete, I was so excited when I saw that we were assigned to the same flight. It's been years since we've worked together.

PETER: I know. So, Chris, what have you been up to lately?

CHRIS: Oh, just the usual angel things. Trying to keep up with these humans down here on earth. I tell you, it will be a great and peaceful day when all these humans reach eternity, won't it? Enough about me. I am just so glad to see you. I want to hear all about what you've been doing.

PETER: Well, it is good to hear that someone is glad to see me. You know these humans certainly are not very happy when I come for a visit. Just because I'm the death angel doesn't mean that I'm a bad guy.

CHRIS: Yes, it must be very frustrating, but you shouldn't take it personally.

PETER: I know, they just don't understand. They don't see death like we do. I can understand those sinners...having me show up is not a good thing for them.

CHRIS: I know. You'd think that anyone in his right mind would take a free offer of eternal life in heaven.

PETER: The Christians can give you a hard time, too. That doesn't usually last long. Once they get inside those pearly gates they're tickled to death to be there. No pun intended.

CHRIS: That should make you feel good.

PETER: Not always.

CHRIS: How's that?

PETER: Some of them actually get upset with me because I didn't come and get them sooner. I just can't win. Next

year I'm transferring to Guardian Angel Squad. Everyone is always glad to see their guardian angel coming.

(A VOICE is heard over the airport's loudspeaker.)

VOICE: Flight 706 to Atlanta is now boarding. Will all passengers quickly move to Gate 7 for departure?
CHRIS: Well, that's my flight. See you later. Have a great trip.
PETER: Yeah, you too! See you later.

(THEY exit. BETH and DON enter carrying items for a beach vacation.)

BETH: Hurry, Don. Our flight was already called. We don't want to miss this one, *(Sarcastic)* do we?
DON: *(Defensive)* No, of course not, Beth, and it wasn't my fault last time either. I can't help it if my patient had to have emergency surgery the last time we planned to go away. I am a doctor, you know!
BETH: Yes, all too well. Come on and hurry. I won't feel good until we are on that plane. You didn't wear your beeper, did you?
DON: No, I am officially on vacation. No one even needs to know that I am a doctor. I can't wait. Those Bahaman beaches are calling my name. Let's go.

(THEY hurry off. MARCY, MARTHA and JANE enter. Jane is walking behind, carrying a clipboard, trying to write as Marcy dictates orders. WILLIE and JOHNNY are following them at a distance.)

MARCY: *(Primping in a mirror)* Now Jane, you do have our tickets, don't you?
JANE: Yes, Miss Bradford, I have them all. *(Showing HER the tickets)* Here's yours and your mother's...in first class, as usual.
MARCY: What about your ticket? Did you get it, too?
JANE: Yes, right here. In third class, as usual, ma'am.

MARTHA: Marcy, you could have at least bought Jane a first class ticket. It's not like you can't afford it. You two were best friends growing up.

MARCY: Really, Mother, she works for me now. She is only my secretary. *(Stage whisper to MARTHA)* You treat them too good and they forget their place. *(Talking to JANE)* Jane, did you make arrangements for the limousine to pick us up when we land? Last time it was late I had to take a taxi and I dooon't want that to happen again. Do you understand? Make a note of that!

JANE: *(Writing)* Yes, ma'am.

MARTHA: Come on, Marcy, couldn't you lighten up a little? It's Christmas, you know. Remember how we used to spend Christmas going to plays and special services at church? I miss those days.

MARCY: Christmas or not, Mother, you must remember that I am a star and I have obligations to my fans. Movie stars can't take holidays like regular people. Really, Mother! Christmas is just another day to me.

MARTHA: *(To JANE)* Movie stars!!!

JANE: *(Laughs)* I know what you mean.

MARCY: Come on you two, let's hurry, that was the last call for our flight. Do you have everything, Jane?

JANE: Yes, Marcy, everything is under control.

(THEY exit. WILLIE and JOHNNY, who have been several steps behind, now enter the spotlight.)

WILLIE: Did you see those dames, Johnny? One of them is some kind of movie star! I bet they're loaded.

JOHNNY: I'd say you're right, Willie.

WILLIE: Yes sir, Johnny, this is going to be a merry Christmas after all. Didn't I tell you that airports during holiday time are a thief's paradise?

JOHNNY: Just remember, Willie, we split everything 50-50.

WILLIE: That's 70-30, Johnny. You must remember that I am the master. Stick with me and I will make sure you have a very merry Christmas.

End of Freeview

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