

SCENE TEN

SCROOGE

Spectre, something informs me that our parting moment is at hand. I know it, but I know not how. Tell me what man that was whom we saw lying dead?

Let me behold what I shall be in days to come.

Before I draw nearer to that grave to which you point, answer one question. Are these the shadows of things that Will be, or are they the shadows of things that May be, only?

Men's courses will foreshadow certain ends, but if the courses be departed from, the ends will change. Say it is thus with what you show me!

No, Spirit! Oh, no, no! Spirit! Hear me! I am not the man I was. I will not be the man I must have been but for this encounter. Tell me I may sponge away the writing on this grave! Why show me this if I am past all hope?

(He collapses at the grave. The company comes on holding candles and singing as Scrooge's room is restored. Scrooge rises- renewed.)

ALL IN HARMONY (IN ROUND)
 DONA NOBIS PACEM, PACEM
 DONA NOBIS PACEM
 DONA NOBIS PACEM, PACEM
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 DONA NOBIS PACEM, PACEM
 DONA NOBIS PACEM
 DONA NOBIS PACEM, PACEM
 DONA NOBIS PACEM

I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it all the year. I will live in the Past, Present, and Future. The Spirits of all three shall strive within me. I will not shut out the lessons that they teach. Oh Jacob Marley! Heaven, and Christmastime be praised for this! I say it on my knees, old Jacob, on my knees!

(He is back in his room.)