

14. The Best Christmas Pageant Ever - Bb

from "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical"

Malcolm Hillgartner

CUE: GRACE: Well, be at the church tomorrow at 5 pm just in case. [GO]

OLLIE: "Do we need a baby Jesus? I can get one from the grocery store. There's lots of 'em just sitting around in grocery carts."

GRACE: "Thanks, Ollie, but I don't think it's necessary. Do you have a doll?"
(IMOGENE holds up the most beat-up shabby doll on the planet...no hair, no clothes...it's clearly been through six kids)

IMOGENE: "Just this one."

GRACE: "He's perfect."

CLAUDE: "Do you need a cat?"

GRACE, BETH & CHARLIE: "NO!"

GRACE: "I mean, thank you, Claude, but we don't."

BOB: (calling again) "Grace? Kids?"

BETH: "Coming! Sorry we gotta run!"

(grabs CHARLIE'S hand and pulls him away)

CUE: CHARLIE: Bye!

OLLIE: Bye! [GO]

TRACK 35

♩ = 152

(BETH and CHARLIE run to parents at the fence.)

GRACE: "Charlie told the Herdmans we're doing the pageant—"

BOB: "Charlie, no!"

BETH: "I'm glad he did!"

BOB: "But Reverend Hopkins already cancelled."

CHARLIE: "Then he should un-cancel. It was the church ladies' cakes that burnt."

BOB: "What?"

13 **TRACK 35A** **2** **TRACK 35B** **CHARLIE:** **BETH:**

17 **BETH AND CHARLIE:**

21 **CHARLIE:** **BETH AND CHARLIE:**

26 **BOB:**

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30 CHARLIE AND BETH: CHARLIE: CHARLIE AND BETH: BETH:

— Give them a chance. They can do it. — Give them a chance. — We can make it right.

34 CHARLIE AND BETH: CHARLIE: CHARLIE AND BETH:

— Give them a chance — and may - be, just may - be — we'll have the

GRACE: "Bob, the kids are right. We have to do the pageant."
 BOB: "It's your decision. What can I do?"
 GRACE: "Go home."
 BOB: (*surprised, shrugs*) "Works for me."
 GRACE: "And be ready to alert the phone tree."
 BOB: "Got it."
 GRACE: "Kids...we have to talk to the Reverend. To the church!"
 CHARLIE: "All right!"
 BETH: "Better hurry!"
 GRACE: "Bob, wait for my call!"
 BOB: (*Calling after the family as they run off.*)
 "Hey! Does this mean I have to—?"
 GRACE, BETH & CHARLIE: "Yes!"
 (*GRACE, KIDS head for church...BOB exits other way*)

37

Best Christ-mas Pag-eant Ev-er — to - mor - row night! —

(TRANSITION into next scene.) **TRACK 35C**
10 Vamp **2**

(*REVEREND HOPKINS is at the podium, checking the list to make sure he delivered all of the baskets. GRACE and KIDS run in.*)
 GRACE: "Reverend Hopkins!"
 REVEREND HOPKINS: "Grace! What's the matter?"
 CHARLIE: "The Herdmans had nothing to do with the smoke last night."
 REVEREND HOPKINS: "What?"
 GRACE: "It was Betty's applesauce cakes that burnt."
 BETH: "So now we can do the pageant!"
 REVEREND HOPKINS: "But Imogene ... that cigar..."
 BETH & CHARLIE: "It wasn't her!"

52

p — — — — — **4** Vamp **TRACK 35D** *mf* GRACE:
 It's a shame those

61 BETH AND CHARLIE: GRACE:

kids were blamed. They did - n't start the fire. — And if we don't tell — the

65 **CHARLIE AND BETH:** **REVEREND: "That's strong."** **GRACE:**

world the truth we real-ly will be li - ars. Who are we to hurt their feel -

69 **GRACE, CHARLIE AND BETH:**

- ings. How can we be so small? In spite of it all, they should have a

74 **REVEREND: "Now wait a minute."** **BETH AND CHARLIE:**

cur-tain call! Give them a chance. They de-serve it. Give them a chance.

78 **GRACE:**

They may sur-prise us all. Give them a chance to know that they mat - ter.

REVEREND HOPKINS: "I have to say Elmer was pretty disappointed the pageant was cancelled, which was a big surprise."

CHARLIE: "He was glad to finally not have to play Joseph."

BETH: "Even Alice spent all week sewing sequins on her angel costume."

GRACE: "If you don't let us do the pageant what does that say about us? That we let a bunch of kids take the blame for something they didn't do."

REVEREND HOPKINS: "Now, hold on—"

82 **GRACE, BETH AND CHARLIE:** **TRACK 35E**

Let them do the pa-geant af-ter all!

90 **REVEREND HOPKINS:**

I'll ad-mit I wan-ted to quit, but it just is-n't fair. It's up to

95

me to fix this prob - lem and let them know we care. I thought we

99

had to stop this pa - geant, but now I see I was wrong. It's clear to me now

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104

GRACE, CHARLIE AND BETH: CHURCH LADIES: HELEN: REVEREND:

the show must go on! Yes! What? No! We'll give them a chance.

108

HELEN: CHARLIE, BETH, GRACE: CHURCH LADIES:

What are you think - ing? Give them a chance. — You real - ly let us down.

111

REVEREND, GRACE, CHARLIE, BETH: HELEN: ALL:

— Give them a chance. — Well, you can be cer - tain this pa-geant's gon-na be the —

115

CHURCH LADIES AND HELEN: REVEREND, GRACE, CHARLIE, BETH:

— talk of the town! — Why give them a chance? They can be he -

119

CHURCH LADIES AND HELEN: REVEREND, GRACE, CHARLIE, BETH:

- roes. There's not a chance — that they will be — six of the stars — shin-ing the bright-

123

CHURCH LADIES AND HELEN: GRACE CHARLIE BETH: CHURCH LADIES HELEN:

- est — in the Best Christ-mas Pa-geant Ev-er! — Worst Christ-mas Pa-geant Ev-er! — Best! Worst!

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GRACE CHARLIE BETH: CHURCH LADIES HELEN: TOP: CHURCH LADIES BOTTOM: CHARLIE, BETH, GRACE: HELEN: REVEREND:

Best! Worst! Best Christ-mas Pa-geant Ev-er! — Wait and see! — Good Lord, what-ve I done?!!