

# THE FLIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS

The Original Stageplay

**Christian Playwright**

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## **SAMPLE SCRIPT**



## SCENE 1

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### LIGHTS UP

*An elderly couple sits together with luggage at their feet. The husband, GREG, reads from the local newspaper. His wife, SANDRA, fidgets on a cell phone.*

*There is a homeless man, SAM, crouched in a corner. A child, TOMMY, sits alone close to the elderly couple. A woman, GRACE, adorned in purple is by herself on her iPad.*

*A family of three walks in with their luggage and finds a seat. The husband, PHIL, allows his wife, AMANDA, to enter the row first followed by their teenage daughter, STACY.*

**STACY:** Why is it so cold?

**PHIL:** The air condition is on. You know they assume everyone is a foreigner in this place.

**AMANDA:** It's a multi-national hub. Why would they assume everyone is a foreigner?

*They sit. Amanda gets on her iPhone.*

**AMANDA:** Can you please give that phone a break.

**STACY:** It's my link to the outside world.

**AMANDA:** I told you not to buy her an iPhone.

**PHIL:** Everybody has an iPhone.

**STACY:** Exactly.

**AMANDA:** I don't.

**PHIL:** Because you don't want one.

*A hardnosed security officer, JAY, walks in with his baton in hand. He heads for SAM. SAM gets up and quickly dashes offstage with JAY hot on his heels.*

**GRACE:** I need to get on my plane now. I can't take all this drama.

*Greg looks up from his newspaper at Sandra sitting beside him.*

**GREG:** Who are you?

**SANDRA:** Your wife.

**GREG:** I'm married?

**SANDRA:** Yep.

**GREG:** Cool.

*Greg goes back to reading his paper.*

*Amanda looks across at Tommy.*

**AMANDA:** Why is that little boy here sitting alone?

**PHIL:** Whoever he's with probably went to the bathroom.

**AMANDA:** They shouldn't have just left him sitting there all by himself. Someone may kidnap him.

**PHIL:** This is Orlando. Kidnapping is not a part of our culture.

**AMANDA:** Well, I think parents need to be more responsible.

**GRACE:** Does she ever stop talking?

*Amanda whips around at Grace.*

**AMANDA:** Who are you?

**GRACE:** Lady, I don't see you.

*Phil turns Amanda around and gestures for her to be calm and quiet.*

**AMANDA:** I hope we're not on the same flight.

**PHIL:** I wish you would try a little harder to be like your mother. It's Christmas. A time to be merry.

**AMANDA:** Okay. You are right. I will not lose sight of what is important. Why is it so cold in here?

**STACY:** Exactly.

**AMANDA:** If I didn't know any better, I would think it's snowing outside.

**PHIL:** Yeah, right. Snow in Florida. The day that happens, Jesus must really soon be coming back.

**AMANDA:** Anything is possible in this day and age.

**PHIL:** Anything but snow in Florida. It never snows in Florida.

*Greg looks up from his newspaper at Sandra sitting beside him.*

**GREG:** Who are you?

**SANDRA:** Your wife.

**GREG:** I'm married?

**SANDRA:** Yep.

**GREG:** Cool.

*Greg goes back to reading his paper.*

*An Attendant walks out with a clipboard in her hand.*

**ATTENDANT:** Attention all passengers on Flight 555. We are experiencing a little bit of delay and ask that you bear with us.

**GRACE:** How long will this delay be?

**ATTENDANT:** It's possible that the Flight will not leave before tomorrow morning.

**EVERYONE:** What?

**ATTENDANT:** Uhm, well, I would have suggested we all go home, but that may not be possible either.

**AMANDA:** What are you saying?

**ATTENDANT:** Well, strange enough, it's kinda snowing.

*Pause.*

**PHIL:** Snowing?

**ATTENDANT:** A huge snowstorm just came out of nowhere, so we are snowed in.

**PHIL:** Lady, this is Florida. What are you talking about?

*An air hostess, SHEILA, comes in covered in snow.*

**SHEILA:** What on earth is going on? Snow in Florida? I don't believe this.

**PHIL:** This is not real.

*Stacy jumps with excitement.*

**STACY:** Can we go see?

**AMANDA:** No.

**ATTENDANT:** I think it best we all just stay right here until this strange phenomenon blows over.

*A loud whooshing sound fills the room. Some cower in fear.*

**AMANDA:** That's probably a good idea.

**GREG:** What was that?

**SANDRA:** I think it's a snow storm.

*Pause.*

**GREG:** I thought we were still in Florida. I don't remember getting on a plane.

**SANDRA:** Do you remember what you did last night?

**GREG:** Of course I do. We, I --- strange. I just drew a blank.

*Sandra shakes her head.*

*Amanda turns to Phil.*

**AMANDA:** I guess we should be looking to see Jesus make His appearance sometime soon.

*Pause on Phil's expression.*

**LIGHTS FADE**

## SCENE 2

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### LIGHTS UP

*Later in the day.*

**AMANDA:** *(looks over at Tommy)* You still think his parents went to the bathroom?

**PHIL:** They would be very sick to be gone this long.

**AMANDA:** I'm going to talk to him.

*Amanda tries to get up, but Phil holds on to her arm.*

**PHIL:** I think we should mind our own business.

**AMANDA:** He probably needs help.

*Amanda frees her arm and goes over to sit beside Tommy.*

**STACY:** You know better, Dad.

**AMANDA:** *(to Tommy)* Hey.

*Tommy looks up at her, then looks away.*

**AMANDA:** What's your name?

**TOMMY:** Tommy.

**AMANDA:** Hi Tommy. I am Amanda.

*No response.*

**AMANDA:** Are you here with someone?

**TOMMY:** I'm waiting for someone.

**AMANDA:** I don't think anyone is coming here soon.

**TOMMY:** I am patient.

**AMANDA:** Okay. Well, if you need anything, I'm just over there.

*Pause. No response.*

**AMANDA:** Alright. Nice talking to you.

**TOMMY:** Bye.

*Amanda goes back to her seat.*

**AMANDA:** He's a bundle of joy.

**PHIL:** Is he lost?

**AMANDA:** I don't know. I don't see any luggage or anything, but there must be a reason why he's here.

**PHIL:** Looks like we will be spending Christmas here.

**SHEILA:** Did someone say Christmas?

*Phil is not sure if he should respond.*

**SHEILA:** Christmas is for fools.

**PHIL:** I guess you don't go to church.

**SHEILA:** For what purpose? So, someone can exploit my meager salary.

**AMANDA:** I think the church is much more than that.

**GRACE:** Hello! Other people who would prefer not to hear about church is sitting here.

**PHIL:** Listen. We are all stuck here. Best we make use of the time we have together, considering we will never exactly see each other again.

**GRACE:** I would rather this storm just past so that I can be on my way. I don't mix with the lower class.

**AMANDA:** How are you still alive with a mouth like that?

*Grace stands up.*

**GRACE:** What's wrong with my mouth?

*Amanda stands to challenge her.*

**AMANDA:** It's filthy.

*Jay barges in.*

**JAY:** There will be no fighting in this airport on my watch.

**PHIL:** No one here is fighting, Officer. We're just cold and a little bit frustrated.

**JAY:** I have eyes everywhere, so keep the peace.

*Jay exits.*

*Sam peers in. Satisfied that Jay is gone, he walks in.*

**SAM:** Anybody have a few spare dollars to spare. I would love to get me one of them drink from the vending machine.

*Grace turns her face away in disgust.*

*Amanda fishes for some coins from her bag.*

**PHIL:** Don't give this man any money,

**AMANDA:** He looks like he needs it.

**PHIL:** He's going to use your money and buy drugs.

**SAM:** You do realize I can hear you, right?

**PHIL:** So, are you on drugs?

**SAM:** No. And I don't drink and smoke either. I am a Christian just like you.

**GRACE:** A Christian on the road begging?

**SHEILA:** Bah!

**SAM:** I don't have much, but I am happy.

**GRACE:** How can you find happiness in your pitiful state?

**SANDRA:** I can relate to what this man is saying. I learned a long time ago that life is much more than just acquiring stuff.

**GRACE:** None of you know the value of life. We're here to make money. Lots of money. It's the only way to be happy.

**SAM:** You don't seem happy.

**GRACE:** My only discombobulation right now is being stuck here with you people. Don't be fooled by my expression. I am very much happy.

**SAM:** And alone.

**GRACE:** Excuse me.

**SAM:** You are a lonely woman.

**STACY:** Dad, what's discombo---comba---

**PHIL:** Ask your mother.

*Pause.*

*Jay barges in. Sam sees him just in time. Jay chases him through the exit.*

**STACY:** I knew trying to travel on Christmas Eve would have been a bad idea.

**AMANDA:** We planned this trip all year.

**PHIL:** We just had to wait to accumulate enough money to buy the tickets.

**GRACE:** There goes my point. I bet the both of you are working and can't make ends meet.

**PHIL:** I lost my job six months ago.

**SANDRA:** That's terrible.

**PHIL:** Yep. It has been rough.

**GRACE:** I bet it put a strain on your marriage, that your wife or girlfriend has to foot all the bills.

**PHIL:** It's my wife, and we are doing okay.

**GRACE:** She wants you to believe that.

**PHIL:** We're okay, right honey?

**AMANDA:** We can talk about this when we get home.

*Pause.*

**PHIL:** So, we need to talk about this? You said you were fine paying all the bills and stuff until I can find a job.

**AMANDA:** I didn't think it would take so long. You haven't even sent out an application in two months.

**PHIL:** You have been carrying this for two months?

**AMANDA:** I'm just saying that I need some help, and you'd rather be home watching television, than out there looking for a job.

**PHIL:** I don't believe this.

**AMANDA:** Let's talk about this at home.

**PHIL:** You have said enough. I need to use the bathroom.

*Phil exits. Grace is laughing.*

*Amanda jumps at her. Stacy and Sheila grab her and pulls her away from Grace.*

*Greg looks up from his newspaper at Sandra sitting beside him.*

**GREG:** Who are you?

**SANDRA:** Your wife.

**GREG:** I'm married?

**SANDRA:** Yep.

**GREG:** Cool.

*Greg goes back to reading his paper.*

**LIGHTS FADE**

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