

“CHRISTMAS COURT TV”

By
Terry Stanley

Synopsis

This script is parody of the popular TV court shows, like Judge Joe Brown and Judge Judy. Who can better testify of the birth of Christ than an actual eyewitness...a sheep. Mrs. Shirley the Sheep is suing Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer claiming that the Reindeer stole the true meaning of Christmas.

Scripture(s)

Luke 2:8-16

Ministry Lesson

More than ever before the true meaning of Christmas is getting lost in the commercialism of the holiday season. We must always remember that Christmas is the celebration of the birth of the Christ.

Ministry Focus: Christmas

Genre: Comedy

Cast

- Announcer - Male or Female
- Judge Brown - Male or Female
- Shirley the Sheep - Female or Male
- Rudolph the Reindeer - Male
- Bailiff - Male
- Elf - Male

Costumes

- Judge - Judge's robe
- Sheep - a sheep head-dress with white clothing; or an entire sheep costume
- Rudolph - a reindeer head-dress with brown clothing; or an entire reindeer costume
- Elf - an elf's hat with big ears and green clothing; or an entire elf costume.
- Bailiff - Guard uniform

Props

- Judge podium or desk and chair
- Two podiums; for the sheep and reindeer.
- Gavel
- A large picture in an envelope
- Three newspapers
- Wine bottle in a brown paper bag

Sound Effect: Theme tune from the Court TV show

Time: 15 minutes

Director's Notes: Take this sketch over the top. You can simply have the actors wear a head-dress (sheep ears/nose and reindeer antlers and a red nose). However for big laughs, have adults dress up in animal costumes. The more elaborate the costume the better.

CHRISTMAS COURT TV

INT. COURT ROOM

THE STAGE IS SET: THE JUDGE'S DESK OR PODIUM IS POSITIONED STAGE RIGHT. THE PLAINTIFF (SHEEP) PODIUM IS BACK STAGE LEFT AND THE DEPENDENT (REINDEER) PODIUM IS FRONT STAGE LEFT. POSITION THE PODIUMS AT A 45-DEGREE ANGLE TOWARD THE AUDIENCE. THE BAILIFF IS STANDING SLIGHTLY TO THE LEFT REAR OF THE JUDGE'S DESK.

TV ANNOUNCER STANDS FRONT CENTER STAGE

ANNOUNCER

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen and welcome to the court of Judge Jenine (or Joey) Brown. The case you are about to hear is true, the participants are real, and the verdict is binding.

BAILIFF

All Rise! (motions audience to stand)

JUDGE BROWN ENTERS AND TAKES HIS/HER SEAT.

BAILIFF

You may be seated. (motions audience to sit).

SOUND EFFECT: TV TUNE PLAYED AS THE PARTIES OF THE SUIT ENTER.

ANNOUNCER

Meet the Plaintiff, Mrs. Shirley the Sheep.

SHIRLEY ENTERS AND STANDS BEHIND THE REAR STAGE PODIUM. Shirley was one of the original sheep

that heard the angels proclaimed the birth of the Christ child to the shepherds. She is claiming the plaintiff violated her rights as the Christmas mascot.

She is suing to reclaim her rightful status and for the restoration of the true meaning of Christmas.

BAILIFF

(Approaches Sheep) Raise your right hoof. Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

SHEEP

I do.

BAILIFF

Thank you.

ANNOUNCER

Now, meet the Defendant, Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer.

RUDOLPH ENTERS AND STANDS BEHIND THE FRONT STAGE PODIUM
Rudolph claims that he is innocent of any violation. The Sheep is simply jealous because he is popular, good-looking, and has his own Christmas song. He is counter-suing for deformation of character.

BAILIFF

(Approaches Rudolph) Raise your right hoof. Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth?

REINDEER

I do.

BAILIFF

Thank you. (returns to Judge) Judge, all of the parties have been sworn in.

JUDGE

Thank you Bailiff. Okay, let's get started. (flipping papers) I have read your complain and (to Rudolph) your rebuttal. Mrs. Sheep let's start with you. What seems to be the problem?

SHEEP

Your Honor, it's that Reindeer! (pointing to Rudolph). He stole Christmas from me and everyone else.

REINDEER

That's the problem with sheep, they think they own everything.

SHEEP AND REINDEER BEGIN TO ARGUE - AD-LIB

JUDGE

(Bangs gavel) Order in the court! Order in the court! (Everyone gets quiet). You two are acting like animals and I won't have it in my court. Now, Mrs. Sheep, tell me exactly what happened.

SHEEP

One quiet night, over 2,000 years ago, my sheep friends and I was grazing in the fields when we saw a bright light appear in the sky. Then we heard a voice say, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy. For unto you is born, this night in Bethlehem, a Savior which is Christ the Lord." All of the shepherds were terrified and kneeled down.

SHEEP(cont'd)

We didn't know what was going on.
That's when we saw the Angel standing on
the hill.

JUDGE

And how do you know it was an Angel?

SHEEP

Because the glory of the Lord was all
around him. Then a great multitude of
angels started appearing in the midnight
sky saying, "Glory to God in the
highest; peace on earth; and goodwill to
all men."

JUDGE

(writing) And what happened next?

SHEEP

Then the shepherds started herding us to
Bethlehem to find the baby Messiah.
When we arrived, it was just as the
angel said. There was a little baby boy
lying in a manger wrapped in some old
raggedy clothes.

JUDGE

Do you have any proof of this event?

SHEEP

Yes Your Honor (pulls out a picture)
One of the angels took a picture.

HANDS PICTURE TO BAILIFF WHO GIVES THE PICTURE TO THE
JUDGE.

See, there's the baby Jesus in the
manger, with his parents and the
shepherds. I'm standing behind the
shepherd on the left.

JUDGE

(Examines picture) Oh I thought you were the sheep on the other side.

SHEEP

Many people say we all look alike.

JUDGE

So you believe this baby is the Christ, and therefore Christmas is the celebration of His birth.

SHEEP

God said it, I believe it, and that settles it!

JUDGE

Okay, Mr. Rudolph, let's hear what you believe Christmas is about.

REINDEER

Well, Your "Honoreess", Do you remember a long time ago, when you were a little girl living on McClain Street in a tiny row house? Remember that "Squeeze Me Susie" doll baby you wanted so bad. (proud) I led all the reindeer to your house just so Santa could give you that doll for Christmas.

JUDGE

(Reminiscing) Oh I forgot all about that. I loved that doll.

REINDEER

And Mr. Bailiff, remember when you were about 8 years old and you begged Santa for a new bike?

REINDEER(cont'd)

It was me, Rudolph, that found your apartment building on that cold snowy Christmas Eve.

BAILIFF

(Excited) Was that you? (Rushes over to Rudolph) Oh, thank you, thank you, thank you! Can I get your autograph?

(Rudolph signs paper)

SHEEP

(Shocked) Your Honor, this is out of order!

JUDGE

(Concedes) Okay, you're right. (bangs gavel) Bailiff! Bailiff! Please stop praising the reindeer.

BAILIFF WHISPERS A FEW CHRISTMAS WISHES TO RUDOLPH AS HE RETURNS TO HIS POST.

SHEEP

See Your Honor, this is what I'm talking about. He's trying to be the main focus of Christmas. (Mimicking Rudolph) I gave you this and I gave you that!

REINDEER

You're just mad because you did not get anything.

THEY START ARGUING WITH EACH OTHER AGAIN.

JUDGE

(bangs gavel) Order! Order! (everyone quiets down) Now, let's discuss your first complaint. Mrs. Sheep, why do you claim to be the Christmas mascot?

SHEEP

Christmas is about love, peace, joy, and sacrifice. Everyone knows that sheep are known for these godly qualities. No one thinks about a Reindeer.

REINDEER

Sacrifice! Tell me how many times you left a warm cozy barn to fly around the world in a snow storm pulling an old fat man? Now that's a sacrifice!

JUDGE

Mr. Rudolph, I understand you have a counter-suit.

REINDEER

Yes Your "Judgest". I'm suing for "desecration" of my character. Look at what the newspapers are saying about me, (reads) "Rudolph Is A Thief", the New York Times; "Rudolph Getting Rich off Children", the Chicago Tribune; and "Rudolph Under Investigate by the IRS", the Washington Post.

RUDOLPH HANDS ALL OF THE NEWSPAPERS TO THE BAILIFF WHO GIVES THEM TO THE JUDGE TO REVIEW.

This is all because of her lies!

SHEEP

Sheep don't lie.

REINDEER

Oh yeah...my first wife was a sheep, so I know that's not true.

THEY BEGIN ARGUING AGAIN.

JUDGE

(bangs gavel) Order! Order in the court! Now Ms. Sheep, deformation of someone's character is a serious charge. Do you have any proof Mr. Rudolph stole anything?

SHEEP

Just look at all those gifts in that sled. Where did they come from? He had to steal them!

JUDGE

Mr. Rudolph, do you have a receipt or proof of how you acquired so many gifts?

REINDEER

Yes, Your Highest. I have a witness that can testify on my behalf.

JUDGE

(Looking at papers) Yes, I see you do have a witness. (hands paper to Bailiff) Call this witness to the stand.

BAILIFF

(reading) Will Ed the Elf come forward.
(pause) Mr. Ed the Elf!

ED STUMBLES TOWARD THE STAGE. IT'S APPARENT THAT HE'S A LITTLE INTOXICATED. HE'S CARRYING A BOTTLE WRAPPED IN A BROWN BAG. HE STANDS NEXT TO RUDOLPH.

BAILIFF

Raise your right hand.

ED LIFTS UP THE BOTTLE IN HIS RIGHT HAND.

REINDEER

(fussing) Put the bottle away.

ED PLACES RIGHT HAND BEHIND HIS BACK AND HOLDS UP HIS LEFT HAND.

BAILIFF

Do you promise to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

ELF

(drunk) I...I will!

BAILIFF

(return to position) Judge, the witness has been sworn in.

JUDGE

What is your occupation Mr. Elf?

ELF

(drunk) I'm a ta...ta...toy maker.

JUDGE

Now Mr. Elf, what is your relationship to Mr. Rudolph.

ELF

He's my Elf, and I...I...I'm his deer.

REINDEER

Nooooo. You're the Elf and I'm the deer.

JUDGE

Now, Mr. Elf do you know how Mr. Rudolph came in possession of hundreds of gifts?

ELF

Yes I do Miss Honor. I made them and gave them all to Rudolph.

SHEEP

Your Honor, he's drunk! He can't testify as a witness.

JUDGE

Mr. Elf, are you drunk?

ELF

Drunk! Oh no. I'm just a little intoxicated.

JUDGE

(disgusted) Be seated.

ELF STUMBLES OVER TO A CHAIR TO SIT.

This mascot suit and counter-suit is nonsense and I won't hear anymore about it. (To Sheep) What is your second complaint?

SHEEP

Your Honor, Mr. Rudolph is the reindeer ring leader of this Santa Claus fairy tale about Christmas. He has misled the world about the true meaning of Christmas.

JUDGE

And exactly how has Mr. Rudolph misled the public?

- End of Preview -

Do you want to know how this script ends?
There's a wonderful ministry message at the end.

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