



COMPARING CHRISTMAS One Act Play

6 Actors

RUNTIME: 16 Minutes

from

COMPARING CHRISTMAS One Act Musical

written by

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Faith Based Student Musicals

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THEME

COMPETITION AND COMPARISON IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

"Now you are the body of Christ, and each one of you is a part of it."

"For we each have different work to do." 1 Cor. 12:27; Rom. 12:4-5

SYNOPSIS

What happens when highly competitive cousins, Greta and Ruth, face off? How do these arch rivals work through their personal insecurities to find the greater good?

CAST

GRANDMA (F) loving, festive, hip, wants Grandkids to love and honor each other and the Lord.

SPIKE (M/F) strong leader, most respected cousin. Cool, laid back, EmCee type, "Let's get this party started." Supporting.

GRETA (F) highly competitive, over-achieving oldest cousin at the Long Family Cousin's Christmas Tournament and Sleepover. Threatened by her cousin, Ruth.

RUTH (F) next oldest cousin. Accustomed to dominating. Must prevail.

GRAYSON (F/M) Greta's younger sibling. Engaging, charming, disarming, underdog, truth-teller.

RIDLEY (M/F) Ruth's younger sibling. Speaks and acts like an attorney in the making. Intelligent, formal, comedic. Strong character actor.

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SCENE ONE - EVENING, DECEMBER 25 AT GRANDMA AND GRANDPA LONG'S HOUSE

GRANDMA'S family room may be fully set, or minimally suggested with a couple of chairs.

GRANDMA enters and sits. She's reading a book with a title such as, "A Survivor's Guide to Grandparenting," "Grandparenting for Dummies," or "When Grandma Needs Guts."

Periodically, GRANDMA discreetly pops a bite of snack in her mouth from her pocket. Throughout the play, this is a running bit for her; whenever she has a private moment, she sneaks a bite. This is clearly seen by audience but unseen by other characters.

SPIKE enters carrying red and green bandanas and singing.

SPIKE

(singing, a cappella)

THE LONG FAMILY ANNUAL
TOURNAMENT AND CHRISTMAS GAMES.

OK Grandma, got the bandanas.

SPIKE puts bandanas on the table and separates into red and green.

When's everybody supposed to get here? We're ready to start the Tournament.

GRANDMA

(without looking up from book)

Soon enough, I bet.

GRETA and GRAYSON enter and stop outside Grandma's door.

GRANDMA and SPIKE freeze.

GRETA

Now remember what Mom said: Just stick with me and do what I say.

GRAYSON

Finally, my first year to stay up all night at Grandma and Grandpa's Cousin's Christmas Sleepover!

GRETA

Tournament and Sleepover. And who cares about the sleepover?

GRAYSON

I do. You would too if all your childhood sleepovers passed you by because of a stupid peanut allergy. The sleepover is the fun part.

GRETA

Winning the games is the fun part.

GRAYSON

Yeah, when you and Ruth lead the teams. I **love** Ruth.

GRETA

What did you say?

GRAYSON

(backpedaling)

Yeah?

GRETA

After that.

GRAYSON

(worried, hesitant)

I love?

GRETA

Yes? You love **who**?

GRAYSON

Uhhh...I said...I love **you**!

GRETA

I'll let it go this time. But for this Tournament, you must be 1000% loyal to **me**. Got it?

GRAYSON

OK, got it.

GRETA

And here's why: You know that in this family everybody is **obsessed** with being **better** than everybody else.

GRAYSON

I know **you're** obsessed.

GRETA

And every year **Ruth** is determined to beat me, because she **always** tries to **out-do** me at **everything** – like she has since the day she was born.

GRAYSON

You're also **paranoid**.

GRETA

(unfazed)

I mean, naturally, I tend to dominate, that's understandable. Since I **am** the oldest cousin.

GRAYSON

I thought you and Ruth were the same age?

GRETA

Excuse me? Have you forgotten? **I'm 2 weeks older!** Two weeks and 3 days to be exact.

Plus all the hours and minutes.

(rambling with increasing tempo)

See **I** was born at 4:15am on a Wednesday – actually, it would have been 4:**13** if it wasn't for the Doctor running out of the delivery room on a Code Blue – whatever that is. If he hadn't delayed my arrival, I would be **much** older – and Ruth wasn't born until 7:19**pm** – and since **pm**, means nighttime, that actually means-

GRAYSON

(over it, interrupting)

OK, I believe you.

GRETA

And everybody knows the oldest cousin should be better at doing stuff.

(thoughtfully)

At least...that's the way it's **supposed** to be. I mean...it's **expected**.

(vulnerable)

And if this is the **last** year that Grandma and Grandpa are gonna host the Cousin's Christmas Tournament and Sleepover, then this is my last year to defend my position.

GRAYSON

What!?! This is the last year for the sleepover?!? My first year is the last year!?!?

GRETA

Word on the street is...Grandma and Grandpa are thinking about moving into an "Over 55 Active Community." And I hear these places can be pretty exotic. Waterfall pools, rock concerts, college classes, international excursions...plus Bingo.

GRETA (CONT'D)

So, remember, the main point of the sleepover is the **Tournament**, and the main point of the **Tournament** is to be sure I defend my position.

GRAYSON

Your position as what?

GRETA

My position as 2 weeks older and 2 weeks **better!!!**

GRETA and GRAYSON freeze.

RUTH and RIDLEY enter.

Dialogue can be still, or "en route."

RIDLEY

(jabbers, following RUTH)

I certainly look forward to seeing the extended family again this year.

RUTH

Do **not** let me catch you fraternizing with the enemy.

RIDLEY

Objection! The enemy? To whom do you refer?

RUTH

Duh, Atticus Finch. You've been watching too much SVU. I'm talking about **Greta! Queen** of the **Cousins!** Just because she's the oldest, she thinks she has to outdo me at everything.

RIDLEY

May I submit that there is a certain prestige – a decorum, a gravitas you might say – that comes with being the oldest?

RUTH

By 2 weeks? We're practically twins.

RIDLEY

I believe the evidence will show it's 2 weeks and **3 days**. A material difference. And shall I include the hours and minutes?

RUTH

Not if you wanna go home in one piece!

RIDLEY

Objection: Excited utterance!

RUTH

And no buddy-buddy with **Grayson** either. I heard she's coming this year.
(*sarcastically*)
Finally got a hold of that peanut allergy.

RIDLEY

Ahh, little Grayson. What a shame to expose her before the age of majority.

RUTH

Expose her to what!?!

RIDLEY

The culture of comparison in this family. How I hate to see juvenile minds corrupted by the influence of the criminal element.

RUTH

Gimme a break, Matlock.

RIDLEY

I am merely expressing-

RUTH

(interrupting)

You're always "expressing." Maybe it's time for you to rest your case and listen to **my** witness testimony.

GRETA and GRAYSON unfreeze and enter Grandma's Family Room just as RUTH and RIDLEY do the same.

All characters converge awkwardly.

GRETA

Hello, **RRRuth.**

RUTH

Hello, **Ga-Reta.**

Behind GRETA and RUTH'S back, RIDLEY and GRAYSON sneak a big, friendly gesture to one another, indicating they have a secret friendship.

SPIKE

Finally! **UNC meets DUKE!** Can we start the Tournament now?

DIRECTOR'S NOTE: Fill in your relevant teams.

Wait! First, Grammy-O, what do we have to do this year to win your Annual Cousins Christmas Sleepover Honorable Mention Award?

GRANDMA

Well you remember last year we gave the Speedy Clean Up Award?

GRAYSON

Yeah, I almost won!

GRETA

Right. Until we caught you shoving Cheetos under the white couch cushions.

SPIKE

So what's it gonna be this year, my Grams?

GRANDMA

Well kids, you know Grandpa and I normally both stay up with you all night, but now that we're getting older, we really need our sleep more than we used to-

SPIKE

(interrupting)

I got a bad feeling about this.

GRANDMA

It's OK. Grandpa and I made a deal: I will be covering the first shift – from arrival until midnight – while Grandpa sleeps. And Grandpa has kindly agreed to cover the second shift: Midnight to 6:00am.

SPIKE

OK, no crisis.

GRANDMA

-IF we do not wake him up during the first shift. So this year's theme is...

(drops her voice)

Silent Night.

GRANDKIDS do disappointed ad libs.

GRANDMA pops secret bite and puts up a "shhh" finger to her mouth.

SPIKE pulls out whistle and blows loudly.

SPIKE

(loudly)

Quiet!!

SPIKE corrects himself, blowing softly.

(softly)

Quiet!

So, fancy Granny, can we start the Tournament now?

RIDLEY assumes dramatic opening statement posture, pacing, lawyer-like.

RIDLEY

(pacing, lawyer like)

Grandma, members of Jury...cousins. If I may submit...is another competitive tournament really the method you desire for your offspring to interact?

GRANDMA

Well Perry Mason, glad you could join us on your break from Yale School of Law.

(aside, with a wink)

Some of you got that.

RIDLEY

Ah, glad you noticed my Law and Order binge is paying off. If I may proceed?

RIDLEY breaks into "Law and Order" theme.

(to cousins)

You all appear to be so obsessed with comparing yourselves. Bett-**ER**, fast-**ER**, first-**ER**, last-**ER**? Why must we all be something-**ER**?

RUTH

It's how you know where you stand...Dumb and Dumb**ER**. Win-**NER**, los-**ER**, amat-**EUR**, beginn-**ER**...that's what life's about.

RIDLEY

Objection! If I may proceed, I believe my case will prove beyond a reasonable doubt that constant comparison can be deeply detrimental to the average adolescent. In fact, to **all** human beings. How about we drop the comparison this year and just play for fun?

GRANDKIDS

Ad libs such as, "Huh?" "What?" "Are you kidding?"

RIDLEY bangs a gavel he has whipped from back pocket.

RIDLEY

Order!!! Order in the court!

SPIKE warmly approaches RIDLEY, as if persuaded.

SPIKE

Compelling argument my friend.

Beat.

But, "**No!**"

Teams, take your places!

ALL but RIDLEY ad lib loud cheering and clapping until whistle.

SPIKE blows whistle as he stands on cube or chair, if possible.

GRETA leads GRAYSON/Green Team SL.

RUTH leads RIDLEY/Red Team SR.

SPIKE blows whistle again.

SPIKE

Grandma, take your place.

*GRANDMA heads to audience and asks to sit next to a guest.
This is a good time for her to sneak another bite.*

Let the games begin!

Full Cast sings, acapella.

SPIKE blows whistle to the beat.

THE TOURNAMENT SONG

THE LONG FAMILY ANNUAL
TOURNAMENT AND CHRISTMAS GAMES.
AND NOTHING SAYS, "CHRISTMAS LOVE"
LIKE KICKIN' IT AND TAKING NAMES.
SO TO CELEBRATE THE BIRTHDAY OF THE LORD
WE COMPARE AND TRACK HOW EVERYBODY SCORED.
THE LONG FAMILY ANNUAL
TOURNAMENT AND CHRISTMAS GAMES.

*Repeat song as needed to indicate the passage of time.
GRANDKIDS might march in a circle, gradually slowing the song tempo. They might exit, still singing, then reenter, still singing much slower, exhausted, yawning. SPIKE may also indicate the passage of time with "clock arms."*

SCENE 2 - END OF TOURNAMENT

SPIKE blows whistle to begin SCENE 2.

SPIKE

(racecar announcer voice)

Ladies and Gentlemen, what do you know? For the first time in the Long Family Tournament history, after 12 rounds, there appears to be a tie between Red Team and Green Team.

To break the tie and determine the grand champion of this year's Cousin's Christmas Tournament...we now introduce our 13th and final Tie Breaker Brainiac Round.

SPIKE blows whistle.

RIDLEY rolls on or carries out small table with Chess Board set up.

SPIKE blows whistle.

SPIKE

Team Captains, take your places!

GRETA and RUTH cross to Center.

SPIKE blows whistle.

SPIKE

On your mark!

ALL cast gathers around table.

SPIKE blows whistle.

Get set!

SPIKE

And...

SPIKE blows whistle.

CAST sings THE TOURNAMENT SONG staccato with quiet, explosive intensity as they march in circle around chess table.

GRETA and RUTH take a few beats to each make a couple of moves.

CAST reacts and ad libs.

GRETA

Whoa, whoa. Hey you cheated!

RUTH

Did not! In fact, I think maybe you cheated.

GRETA

What?

RUTH

What yourself?!? I've been sitting here, playing fair the whole-

GRETA

No, you always find a way to bend the rules and-

Argument escalates between RUTH and GRETA, accelerates as CAST joins.

Ad libs: You've been doing this since we were 3.... You never want to admit....Your sister is always accusing my sister of...Remember that time you....Nobody believes you when you....

GRANDMA reenters from "house seat." She grabs SPIKE'S whistle while still around his neck, almost pulling him off his perch. DIRECTORS NOTE: SPIKE can clean whistle, or have a second whistle for GRANDMA, hidden from top of show.

GRANDMA blows the whistle long and hard.

Argument dissolves awkwardly.

GRANDMA

(voice raised, takes charge)

You are out of control. You're all gettin' a chill pill. So sit down!

GRANDKIDS sit with embarrassed silence.

GRETA and RUTH look at each other with fury. Begin to sit.

GRANDMA

Not you, Greta. And not you, Ruth. You two come here.

GRETA and RUTH do a take to each other, then cross reluctantly to GRANDMA.

GRANDMA

Down in the basement, behind the staircase, under a stack of boxes covered with ancient quilts is an old Honeywell large room HEPA Air Purifier.

GRANDMA (CONT'D)

Your mission is to find, clean, and set up that rattly old sucker in the bedroom next to Grandpa's head.

And blast it on high! We could use a little white noise in there.

GRETA and RUTH do an, "Are you kidding?" take and exit.

GRANDMA

The rest of you stay down! We're gonna switch gears here.

SCENE 3 - GRANDMA AND GRANDPA'S BASEMENT

The "basement" should be established far DR or DL.

Boxes, quilts, and storage stuff should be in 2 or 3 high stacks. This can be mimed, rolled out quickly on casters, or set from top of play.

GRETA and RUTH, not speaking, are alone together working through a stack of cartons full of storage stuff.

RUTH

(sarcastically)

Of course it's under 17 boxes of memorabilia from the 1930's.

Awkward silence as they work through boxes for a few moments.

After we've felt this tension comes a box too heavy for GRETA to lift alone.

RUTH notices, takes a beat, finally helps lift. They move the box together, still in awkward silence.

Moving the box reveals a few loose pictures, now on top of the storage stack.

GRETA grabs the pictures to move them. One loose picture falls.

RUTH picks up picture and looks. She chuckles to herself.

GRETA takes a beat to decide how to respond. Finally...

GRETA

What's so funny? *(dryly)*

RUTH hands GRETA the picture.

GRETA studies it.

RUTH

Is that Grandpa in his uniform?

GRETA

(without eye contact, looking at picture only)
I would say yes.

RUTH

World War I?

GRETA

World War I? That would make them like...over a hundred years old.
Kinda harsh, don't you think?

RUTH

Kidding, of course. OK, World War II?

GRETA

Keep going.

RUTH

Iraq War? Parking Lot Wars? Star Wars?...no that's not right.

GRETA

Try Vietnam. Grandpa fought in Vietnam.

RUTH

Oh...right.

RUTH now studies another picture. This one is funnier.

Oh wow! Is this Grandma and Grandpa? In hippie costumes?

GRETA

Lemme see.

Ruth hands it off.

They study the picture together.

Those aren't costumes. That's how they dressed.

RUTH

What!?! No way!

RUTH steps closer as they marvel over the picture together.

GRETA

Looks like Grandma's wearing a Mumu.

RUTH

And Grandpa's hair is longer than hers!

GRETA

Looks like they're at a concert or something. What's that say?

They hold the picture close and squint to read, now closer together than ever.

RUTH

Something...stock...livestock? Goodstock?

GRETA

Whatever.

RUTH

Probably their idea of a "wild concert" in the olden days.

RUTH picks up the next picture.

Oh wow! Is this our Moms? It looks like a dance recital.

GRETA

Their hair...it's like a foot high. Looks like cotton candy.

RUTH

Why are the fingers cut out of their gloves?

GRETA picks up next thing on stack - a program.

GRETA

(reading)

Simmonds Dance Studio Recital 1987. **Beat It: The Music of Michael Jackson.**

RUTH

Who's that?

GRETA

We could do this all night.

Beat.

RUTH

Wanna come back when everyone's asleep?

GRETA

(noncommittal)

Maybe.

Relieving the tension, GRETA quickly puts the rest of the loose pictures in the carton and tries to pick up the next box.

RUTH sees her struggle, decides to help lift.

Even together, it feels heavy.

RUTH

It's too heavy. We're gonna have to take some stuff out.

GRETA

What's in it?

RUTH

Let's snoop.

While they open the box, GRAYSON sneaks in, unseen by RUTH or GRETA. She remains hidden, listening.

GRETA

Trophies and medals and ribbons.

RUTH

Your Mom's, no doubt.

GRETA

How do you know they're not **your** Mom's? Or Aunt Gina's or Uncle Jerry's?

They do a knowing take at mention of Uncle Jerry, no over-achiever.

OK, probably not Uncle Jerry's. But how do you know they're **my** Mom's?

RUTH

Oh, c'mon, Greta, you know it was **your** Mom who won all the awards in this family.

GRETA

What are you talking about?

RUTH

(escalating undercurrent)

My Mom says she didn't stand a chance at being noticed if **your** Mom showed up. Honor roll, basketball, talent show, boyfriends...you name it. My Mom said that's why she went into ROTC...to avoid competing with **your** Mom.

GRETA

Are you sure? I've never heard that.

RUTH

Oh I'm sure. Don't forget we lived here with Grandma and Grandpa when our dad first left. Grandma and Grandpa practically raised us until Mom could get her life together. I've heard **lots** of stories. Ridley was little, but I was old enough to remember.

Why do you think I participate in, like, 17 sports and activities? Because my Mom wants me to "excel." That's code for: do better than other people.

GRETA

Well you're good at a lot of stuff. So I hope you're not complaining.

RUTH

Not complaining. I just feel like...if I don't do better than other people, I'll disappoint my Mom. It's a lot of pressure.

RUTH (CONT'D)

You're good at a lot of stuff too.

GRETA

I'm **supposed** to be good at a lot of stuff. I'm the oldest. But I'm not as good as everyone expects me to be.

RUTH

(frustrated)

What do you mean? You win practically everything.

GRETA

I did until you came along.

RUTH

(sarcastic)

Two weeks later?

They make eye contact, both realize how ridiculous this is.

GRETA

Ah, my two weeks of glory.

RUTH

I wish I didn't compare myself all the time. I wish it wasn't so important to me. It feels like being better at stuff is sort of becoming...what I'm known for. And if I'm not always better, then no one knows who I am.

GRETA

Really? Well I feel like I'm not allowed to fail. Other people can try things and it might not go so well and that's OK for **them**. But I can't afford to be average. Everyone **expects** me to be better.

GRAYSON pops out from her hiding place.

GRAYSON

What about me?

RUTH AND GRETA do a stunned take that Grayson has been listening.

GRETA

Grayson, what are you doing here?

GRAYSON

I like to be with the big kids.

GRETA

Yeah, well you're a **little** kid. So go back upstairs.

RUTH

Greta, wait.

(to Grayson)

What did you mean, "What about me?" "What about you, **what?**"

GRAYSON

Being "better" at something. I'm not "better" at anything. Nobody notices me.

GRETA

I notice when you annoy me. Like right now.

RUTH

Greta, c'mon.

RUTH drops to GRAYSON's level for sincere eye contact.

You're important, Grayson. We notice you.

GRAYSON

But I'm not that great at anything. I'm never the best. I'm always just on the team, maybe helping a little, like passing the ball for someone **else** to score. I'm never one of the best ones. Just one person on a great big team.

RUTH

Grayson, you **are** important.

Beat.

And you just taught me something important.

GRAYSON

Like what?

RUTH

You have a lot of special gifts, Grayson. You're kind, and you always encourage other people, and you don't have to be the center of attention. And everybody likes you. I wish I could say that about myself.

Beat.

Right, Greta?

GRETA

OK, I guess everybody does like you. Even me – most of the time. Now enough Kumbaya. Upstairs, Grayson.

GRAYSON

(relenting)

Ooo - kay.

GRAYSON exits the basement.

Beat to ponder as they continue working.

RUTH

Maybe we should think about what Grayson said.

GRETA

Please. Give me a break.

RUTH

No, I mean – think about it. We're not that happy needing to be the best all the time. But maybe it's not about being best. Maybe it's more about what we bring to the team.

Beat for both to ponder.

GRETA

I sometimes wonder: If everybody wants to be "the best," like I always do, how is that even possible? How can everybody be the best?

RUTH

I'd love to stop worrying about trying to outdo everybody all the time.

GRETA

I can't imagine how that would feel.

RUTH

Maybe there is something to that team work thing.

GRANDMA "peeks in" on RUTH and GRETA in "basement," sees she's interrupting, retreats.

RUTH sees her.

RUTH

It's OK, Grandma. You can come in.

GRANDMA

What? Did you find an old bottle of "Let's All Get Along?"

GRETA

No but we did find some very interesting stuff.

RUTH

Or you could say incriminating...maybe good for blackmailing you.

GRANDMA

Try me. I hate to tell you how little I care what people think about me. It's one of the hidden pleasures of aging.

That, and elastic waistbands.

RUTH

Greta and I were just talking about how I-

GRETA

(correcting)

how **we** always compare ourselves.

GRANDMA

(sarcastic)

What!?! You two? I can't imagine?

RUTH

And it turns out Grayson gave us some things to think about.

GRANDMA

Grayson? Like what?

RUTH

Like maybe we should be less worried about making ourselves so important.

GRETA

Maybe we could think more about the team.

RUTH

Grandma, what was that saying you had when I was little? Something about everybody doing their part?

GRANDMA

Many parts, one Body?

RUTH

Yeah! That's it!

GRANDMA

True confession: I didn't write that. Pretty sure it's in the Bible.

RUTH

Oh yeah! I remember that song you taught us when we were little. About the hands and the eyes.

GRANDMA

Do Your Job?

RUTH

Yeah! Do you still know it?

GRANDMA

That's a **great** idea!

RUTH

What's a great idea?

GRANDMA

For you two. To teach it to the cousins.

RUTH AND GRETA*(overlapping)*

Wait! What?
Who said anything about the cousins...
I don't even know that song...

GRANDMA prompts them to pick up the humidifier and move along.

GRANDMA

You'll find everything you need in a blue folder under my Bible, up in my bedside drawer.

Right after you get that humidifier up and running.

Ruth and Greta do a take to each other.

GRETA

Did we just get devotion duty?

RUTH

You gotta watch Grandma...she's tricky like that.

GRETA and RUTH wrestle the humidifier/carton into their arms to carry together.

SCENE 4 - GRANDMA'S FAMILY ROOM**GRANDMA**

How'd it go? That old sucker rumbling in Grandpa's ear?

RUTH

Sorry Grandma, we couldn't get the humidifier going, but we're kinda ready with the song.

GRANDMA

OK, we'll be ready for that in a few minutes. First, pass around this basket of stocking stuffers. Everybody please take one.

GRANDMA hands them a basket full of small gifts wrapped in newspaper or burlap.

As GRANDMA speaks, RUTH and GRETA pass the basket around so each GRANDKID takes a gift.

GRANDMA

Now you know Grandpa and I cannot afford to buy presents every year for you and all the other grandkids.

(Aside)

If we could, would we be hosting this backbreaking event?

OK, let's start with you.

GRAYSON opens gift.

GRAYSON

It's baking soda.

All react confused, disappointed.

GRAYSON thanks GRANDMA.

RIDLEY opens gift.

RIDLEY

A measuring cup? Of course, because my speech is measured.

SPIKE opens gift.

SPIKE

Butter?

OK Graham Cracker. We get it. These are ingredients for baking cookies, right?

GRANDMA

Right. Anybody want a bite of baking soda?

GRANDKIDS ad lib "No." Disgusting.

OK, then let's bake the cookies without the baking soda?

GRETA

I think you have to have soda.

GRANDMA

OK, then who wants to take a bite off a stick of butter? Or spoonful of raw egg?

RUTH

Disgusting!

GRANDMA

Then let's just skip the egg and the butter, OK?

GRETA

I don't think you can skip the egg and the butter.

GRANDMA

Why not?

RUTH

Because you need all the ingredients.

GRANDMA

So the soda has a **job** to do in those cookies, right? And the butter? And flour? Would it be fair to say that each ingredient has a job to do?

Let me go one step further...could we say that, "All the ingredients are needed, and all the ingredients work together to make something much better than any ingredient alone?"

SPIKE

OK! We get it, Grameo! Greta, Ruth, do you two goofballs get the point? Since I'm pretty sure you're the reason we're going down this Betty Crocker path.

GRETA and RUTH show understanding.

GRANDMA

(to RIDLEY)

Motion dismissed?

RIDLEY

Yes! You may rest your case.

RIDLEY bangs gavel.

GRANDMA

OK then everybody bring your sweet selves, and your special contribution, and let's head to the kitchen.

All begin exit to "kitchen."

GRAYSON

Wait a minute! We're missing the most important thing. The chocolate chips!

GRANDMA

Of course. How silly of me. I've got ya covered.

GRANDMA reaches in her pocket, pulls out bag of chocolate chips, opened and torn. She turns it upside-down. A few remaining chips fall out.

I've been robbed!!! OK, who ate all these chocolate chips?

GRANDKIDS and GRANDMA laugh and ad lib as they exit to the "kitchen."

GRAYSON

There's no peanuts in there, right?

THE END

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