

1 THE LIFE OF RILEY
2 NO CHRISTMAS BONUS THIS YEAR
3

4 CAST

5 ANNCR

6 RILEY

7 PEG

8 JUNIOR

9 BABS

10 GILLIS

11 MILLIE

12 STEVENSON

13 DIGGER

14 I.B.

15 MAN 1

16 MAN 2

17 MAN 3

18 WOMAN
19

20 MUSIC: FANFARE

21 ANNCR: Prell brings you The Life of Riley!

22 MUSIC: THEME

23 ANNCR: Prell, the shampoo that removes unsightly
24 dandruff in as little as three minutes,
25 leaves hair more radiantly clean,
26 radiantly lovely presents The Life of
27 Riley.

28 MUSIC: THEME

1 ANNCR: Well, it's Christmas Eve and in the Riley
2 house there is peace and good will
3 towards all men. But this was definitely
4 not the case a few days ago when Riley
5 was a man sorely beset by troubles. It
6 began one evening when our hero, a pencil
7 stub in his hand and a dazed look on his
8 face was going over the monthly bills.

9 RILEY: (MUTTERING) Seven -- Six-forty -- Two-
10 nineteen--

11 PEG: Riley, haven't you finished adding those
12 bills up yet?

13 RILEY: It takes time, Peg. I ain't an adding
14 machine. I only got ten fingers. Let's
15 see -- electricity, that's okay - gas,
16 okay. Hey, what's this? Twelve dollars
17 for a pair of pants?

18 PEG: For Junior.

19 RILEY: But he just got a pair of pants last
20 spring.

21 PEG: I know but he's awfully hard on pants.
22 It's those school benches, sliding in and
23 out all day long. It just wears out the
24 seat of his pants.

25 RILEY: Well, it's gotta stop. I send that kid
26 to school to use his head.

27 PEG: Well, how much longer are you going to be
28 with those bills?

1 RILEY: I'm all through, Peg, and this month for
2 a change we ain't in the red. We're even
3 two bucks ahead! A nice little reserve
4 for a rainy day - well, anyway, a
5 drizzle.

6 PEG: But dear-

7 RILEY: This is what happens when I'm in charge
8 of the budget because I plan, I maneuver.
9 From now on I'm the treasurer in this
10 family, yes sir!

11 PEG: But, Riley, what about Christmas
12 presents? We'll need at least fifty
13 dollars.

14 RILEY: I hereby resign as treasurer.

15 PEG: It's only a few days off.

16 RILEY: Falls kinda early this year, doesn't it?

17 PEG: It's the same as every year.

18 RILEY: Gee, I forgot it was next week. Two
19 dollars and I promised Junior a bike and
20 Babs a wristwatch; they're expecting it.
21 Well, Peg, we'll just have to borrow.

22 PEG: Oh, I don't like it. Besides, who'd lend
23 us money?

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1 RILEY: What do you mean, "who'd lend us money"?
2 Our friends, that's who! I got lots of
3 friends and my credit's good with them!
4 All I gotta do is call up Johnny Vendrin
5 and say, "Johnny---" Oh, no, I still owe
6 him from last Christmas. Oh! I can call
7 Lou Bidian - no, I still owe him for the
8 tickets for the Dempsey/Firpo fight.
9 Well, I can always call up Sammy Roberts.
10 He---- You know, we gotta make some new
11 friends! We're in a rut!

12 PEG: Riley, I could write to my father for a
13 loan.

14 RILEY: Oh, no. I don't take charity from
15 relatives. I got my pride you know.

16 PEG: But what will we do-

17 RILEY: Don't you worry; I'll get dough. I ain't
18 so far gone I can't raise some dough to
19 buy my family Christmas presents.

20 PEG: But where will you get it?

21 RILEY: I got my resources. I'll get it. See
22 you soon.

23 SFX: FOOTSTEPS AWAY

24 PEG: (SIGHS) Bills, bills, bills.

25 JUNIOR: (OFF) Mom, help! Pops opening my piggy
26 bank!

27 RILEY: (OFF) Junior, be quiet.

28 JUNIOR: Pop, give it to me. It's my money!

29 RILEY: Let go of it, let go of it.

1 PEG: Riley! Let go of that bank!

2 RILEY: Oh, alright. Keep you old bank! This
3 kid is money mad.

4 JUNIOR: Gee, Pop.

5 PEG: Riley, how could you?

6 RILEY: It was just a loan and it's only for his
7 benefit-

8 PEG: That's still no excuse.

9 RILEY: Okay, okay. I forgive you, Junior. Now
10 let's forget it.

11 SFX DOOR OPENS & CLOSES

12 BABS: Oh, hi. Daddy, would you hand me that
13 vase on the mantle?

14 RILEY: This one?

15 BABS: Yes, I left some money in here and-

16 RILEY: Holy smoke, look at that bank roll! That
17 dough's been in there all the time?

18 BABS: Yes.

19 RILEY: Babs, you shouldn't leave a roll of dough
20 lying around like that. It might be
21 stolen by some crook.

22 PEG: Well, if it is, it'll be an inside job.

23 RILEY: That's not fair, Peg. -- Uh, listen,
24 Babsy - sweetheart-

25 BABS: I'm sorry, Daddy, I need this money.

26 RILEY: You might at least wait until I ask you.

27 BABS: I've got to get the girls at school some
28 Christmas presents.

1 RILEY: Alright, alright; keep your money. It's
2 a fine Christmas spirit -- a fine way to
3 pay me back for all I've done. When you
4 were little, who dressed up in a red suit
5 every Christmas with a beard and a wig
6 and pretended to be a big fat jolly Santa
7 Claus?

8 PEG: I did!

9 RILEY: Yeah? Well who stuffed the pillows down
10 your pants? I did! All I ever done for
11 you kids is work, work, work. I put in
12 eight hours a day working at that plant
13 for that ingrate Stevenson just so's I -
14 -- Stevenson! I forgot! Peg, we got
15 nothing to worry about - the bonus!

16 PEG: What bonus?

17 RILEY: I forgot all about it. Stevenson is
18 going to give all the guys in my
19 department a big bonus. He does it every
20 Christmas.

21 BABS: Oh, Dad, that's wonderful.

22 JUNIOR: That's great.

23 RILEY: Yeah, ain't he a doll of an ingrate?

24 MUSIC BRIDGE

25 GILLIS: I say it's a dirty trick, fellas.

26 MAN 1: You're right, Gillis!

27 MAN 2: You said it!

28 MAN 3: Sure is!

1 GILLIS: First, Stevenson says we're gonna get
2 bonuses if we work hard and then after we
3 fall in the trap and work hard, he
4 reneges. No bonus! I tell you guys---
5 MAN 1: Hey, here's Riley. Does he know yet?
6 GILLIS: No.
7 RILEY: Hi, fellas.
8 GILLIS: Hey, you're late, Riley.
9 RILEY: Yeah, I know. I stopped off to put a
10 deposit on a bike I'm getting my kid for
11 Christmas. Boy, that bonus we're getting
12 sure is a---
13 GILLIS: Uh, Riley--
14 RILEY: We're lucky we're working for a guy like
15 Stevenson. What a sweet type--
16 MAN 2: But, Riley--
17 RILEY: It ain't every boss who'll hand out
18 bonuses just like that.
19 GILLIS: Look, Riley--
20 RILEY: Remember how I always stuck up for
21 Stevenson when all you guys said he was a
22 rat? Well, this just goes to show that
23 he---
24 GILLIS: We ain't getting no bonus!
25 RILEY: He's a rat! No bonus. Why?
26 GILLIS: Because he's a miserly miser, that's why.
27 RILEY: Why, he can't get away with this. We've
28 been counting on this bonus--
29 MAN 2: That's all I've been living for.

1 RILEY: We ain't gonna take this lying down,
2 fellas. We gotta stick up for our
3 rights. We oughtta send a delegate up to
4 him and demand a bonus!

5 ALL: Yeah!

6 GILLIS: Wait! Wait minute, guys. He might get
7 sore and fire the delegate.

8 RILEY: Oh, what's a job compared to your self
9 respect? There comes a time when you
10 gotta fight for your rights. Besides
11 we'll elect a delegate so it'll be
12 democratic.

13 GILLIS: I nominate Riley.

14 RILEY: Now wait a minute, guys.

15 MAN 2: I second the motion.

16 RILEY: Now, wait a minute—

17 GILLIS: All those in favor of Riley!

18 RILEY: Now, just a minute—

19 ALL: AYE!

20 GILLIS: Riley, you're elected delegate!

21 RILEY: I demand a recount!

22 MUSIC: BRIDGE

23 MILLIE: Mr. Stevenson will see you now, Riley.

24 RILEY: Thanks, Millie. Well, here goes.

25 MILLIE: Good luck. I hope you get the bonuses
26 for the boys.

27 RILEY: Oh, I'll get 'em alright. I'm gonna be
28 tough and I ain't taking "no" for an
29 answer. I'll show him!

1 SFX: FOOTSTEPS - DOOR OPENS

2 RILEY: Mr. Stevenson—

3 STEVENSON: Ah, Riley! Come in!

4 RILEY: (MEEKLY) Uh, Mr. Stevenson—

5 STEVENSON: Sit down, Riley.

6 RILEY: (MORE MEEKLEY) Mr. Stevenson—

7 STEVENSON: Have a cigar, Riley?

8 RILEY: Thanks. Have a Lifesaver? Mr. Stevenson—

9 STEVENSON: Here, let me light it for you.

10 RILEY: (TREMBLING) Boss, I come to demand a

11 bonus.

12 STEVENSON: Speak up, Riley, speak up.

13 RILEY: It's about the bonuses Mr. Stevenson.

14 STEVENSON: Oh, yes, yes. I understand the men are

15 quite upset about that.

16 RILEY: Yeah, well—

17 STEVENSON: Riley, I'm glad you brought this up. I

18 want you to understand how I feel about

19 this whole problem of bonuses. Now, try

20 to put yourself in my place.

21 RILEY: But, but, Boss—

22 STEVENSON: Here, here - come here. Sit behind my

23 desk. There! Now, you're the boss and

24 I'm the worker.

25 RILEY: Okay, boss, sir.

26 STEVENSON: No, no, no, no, no - you're the boss.

27 RILEY: Okay, worker, sir.

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1 STEVENSON: Now look, Riley, you're the boss. You've
2 got the interests of your employees at
3 heart. You want to do something nice.
4 Christmas is coming so you think of a
5 bonus. Go on Riley, give me a bonus.
6 What would you say?

7 RILEY: Well, I'd say, uh, Stevenson, you've been
8 a good worker, loyal all year and you're
9 underpaid so I feel you deserve a bonus.
10 Here's a check for fifty - no, a hundred
11 dollars! And Merry Christmas!

12 STEVENSON: You offer me a check for a hundred
13 dollars? I'm insulted! Here I am a self
14 respecting American workman doing an
15 honest day's work for an honest day's pay
16 and you offer me this - this - this tip?
17 You've insulted me!

18 RILEY: Well, I'm sorry.

19 STEVENSON: Oh, well you meant well, Riley, but as
20 boss all you can think of is money,
21 money, money.

22 RILEY: Yeah, I'm a greedy pig.

23 STEVENSON: You can't understand that as your
24 employee I have something better than
25 money - pride.

26 RILEY: Yeah, pride.

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1 STEVENSON: And what kind of a workman - what kind of
2 an American - would I be coming in here
3 to ask you for a tip? What would you
4 think of me?

5 RILEY: You're a greedy pig.

6 STEVENSON: Right! After all, we're partners -
7 equals. You have your job here in this
8 office and I have mine out by my machine.
9 But we're still partners; this is our
10 plant. Those are our machines. Those
11 are our planes that we are making. Now,
12 do you see why you shouldn't offer
13 bonuses?

14 RILEY: Well, yeah but, but-

15 STEVENSON: But what?

16 RILEY: What'll we tell our wife and our
17 children?

18 STEVENSON: Oh, Riley, they'll understand. Now,
19 don't you feel a lot better about not
20 getting the bonus?

21 RILEY: Oh, yeah. What a relief!

22 STEVENSON: Fine.

23 RILEY: But the boys-

24 STEVENSON: Oh, don't think I'm going to forget the
25 boys. I'm going to throw a big Christmas
26 party right here in the plant and they're
27 all invited.

28 RILEY: Boy, that's swell-

1 STEVENSON: And there will be a big tree and
2 refreshments and entertainment.
3 RILEY: A show with live actors?
4 STEVENSON: No, something more appropriate. I'll
5 read Dickens' Christmas Carol. They tell
6 me I'm another Lionel Barrymore. There
7 will be a nice little gift for everybody,
8 too. What do you think the men would
9 like, Riley? How about a wallet?
10 RILEY: A wallet? Just what they need - they can
11 use them for tobacco pouches!
12 STEVENSON: Fine! Suppose you pick them out. Get
13 fifty good wallets - real leather - about
14 a dollar apiece. I'll tell Millie to get
15 you the check.
16 RILEY: Oh, boss, this is swell of you.
17 STEVENSON: Do you think the boys will appreciate all
18 this?
19 RILEY: Appreciate it? You take it from me,
20 boss, don't let them catch you alone
21 under the mistletoe. Well, so long,
22 partner.
23 SFX FOOTSTEPS - DOOR CLOSED
24 GILLIS: Well, Riley? Well? Well? Well?
25 RILEY: Boys, have I got news for you.
26 GILLIS: You hear that, guys? I told you to leave
27 it to Riley.
28 MAN 1: Attaboy!
29 MAN 2: Alright!

1 MAN 3: Way to go, Riley!

2 GILLIS: How, how much is the bonus?

3 RILEY: The what?

4 GILLIS: The bonus! The bonus!

5 RILEY: Oh, that.

6 GILLIS: Whaddya mean, "oh that"? we're getting
7 the bonus, ain't we?

8 RILEY: The question is - do we really want a
9 bonus?

10 GILLIS: Do we want the bonus!?

11 MAN 3: What's the matter are you crazy?

12 RILEY: Now, fellows, wait a minute. You don't
13 understand. A bonus is un-American and,
14 well, if we take a bonus we're -- well,
15 we ain't Americans anymore.

16 GILLIS: Shake hands with a Hungarian.

17 RILEY: Fellows, we ain't getting no bonus.

18 MAN 1: What?

19 MAN 2: No bonus?

20 RILEY: No, but we're much happier without it.
21 Believe me. Look, I'm happy. (SICK
22 LAUGH)

23 GILLIS: Yeah. For a guy who ain't getting a
24 bonus, you're a little too happy.

25 MAN 1: Riley, you wouldn't sell us out would
26 you?

27 MAN 2: How much is Stevenson bribing you, Riley?

28 RILEY: Nothing, fellow, honest!

1 MAN 3: All of a sudden he's pals with Stevenson.
2 Look at his pocket's bulging with cigars.
3 RILEY: But fellows, you know me. I wouldn't do
4 nothing crooked.
5 GILLIS: Where did you get them cigars?
6 RILEY: I - I stole 'em.
7 MAN 2: You sold us out.
8 GILLIS: Now, wait, wait, wait. If Riley says he
9 didn't sell us out, I believe him. He's
10 my oldest and dearest friend and I know
11 he ain't that low a scum.
12 RILEY: Thanks, Gillis. Honest fellows, I did my
13 best but cheer up. You ain't gonna be
14 forgotten. There's gonna be something in
15 your stockings on Christmas.
16 MAN 1: Yeah, feet!
17 RILEY: The way I look at it-
18 MILLIE: (APPROSCHING) Oh, Riley-
19 RILEY: Oh, hello, Millie.
20 MILLIE: Mr. Stevenson asked me to give you this.
21 It's for the you know what.
22 GILLIS: Let me see that-
23 RILEY: Hey, hey, hey - that's mine!
24 MAN 3: A check!
25 MAN 2: Fifty bucks!
26 GILLIS: Signed by Stevenson.
27 RILEY: Wait a minute, fellows. You don't
28 understand. That's for the you know
29 what-

1 GILLIS: We know what, alright! You sold us out!

2 RILEY: No!

3 GILLIS: For a measly fifty bucks!

4 RILEY: No, that's not-

5 GILLIS: You got your bonus alright.

6 RILEY: No, I didn't. I-

7 GILLIS: Let's get out of here, fellows and
8 breathe in some fresh air.

9 RILEY: Gillis! Gillis, wait! You've known me
10 for twenty years. You just said I wasn't
11 a skunk.

12 GILLIS: A skunk? Compared to you a skunk is
13 Chanel number five. Let's go guys.

14 RILEY: Wait, fellows, fellows! You're hanging
15 an innocent man!

16 MUSIC: BRIDGE TO MIDDLE BREAK

17 ANNCR: Prell will bring you the second act of
18 The Life of Riley in just a moment.

19 WOMAN: There's radiance for you in your first
20 shampoo!

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1 **ANNCR:** Yes, there's radiance for you in your
2 first Prell shampoo, Proctor and Gamble's
3 radiant cream shampoo in the handy tube.
4 The very first time you use Prell, you'll
5 thrill to the glamorous radiance of your
6 hair because Prell leaves hair more
7 radiant than any soap shampoo, cream or
8 liquid. It can't leave a dulling soap
9 film. Prell uncovers all the true
10 brilliance of your hair, brings out all
11 those beautiful, natural highlights.
12 Prell washed hair curls better, too.
13 It's easier to set and manage. There's
14 no worry of embarrassing dandruff either,
15 because Prell removes such dandruff in as
16 little as just three minutes, leaves hair
17 and scalp clean - delightfully fragrant.
18 Try Prell your next shampoo and see the
19 difference for yourself. Ask for it at
20 your favorite shampoo counter. Ask for
21 Prell - the radiant cream shampoo. Try
22 Prell tomorrow.

23
24 **ANNCR:** And now back to The Life of Riley who now
25 sits in his living room a bitter and
26 disillusioned man.

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1 RILEY: Friends! Fat lot of good they do you.
2 They always let you down. Well, I don't
3 need 'em. I got Peg and the two kids.
4 They're all the friends I need. Sorry
5 now I didn't have more kids. Ten or
6 twelve. Oh, well, who's counting? I'm
7 satisfied. It ain't every father who has
8 two wonderful kids like-

9 SFX: DOOR OPENS - FOOTSTEPS

10 RILEY: Oh, hello, Junior, my son.

11 JUNIOR: Hello.

12 RILEY: Well, son, what ----- Junior, where did
13 you get that black eye?

14 JUNIOR: Aw, it's nothing.

15 RILEY: Nothing?

16 JUNIOR: I had a fight with Egbert Gillis.

17 RILEY: Egbert? Are you crazy or something?
18 He's twice as big as you. You could
19 never lick him in a million years. What
20 did you take him on for?

21 JUNIOR: Well, nobody's gonna say my father sold
22 out.

23 RILEY: (LOVINGLY) Junior, you fought over me.
24 You took on this big bruiser knowing that
25 he'd beat you to a pulp. You stuck up
26 for your Pop. Oh, my wonderful son.
27 Well, I'll make it up to you, Junior,
28 I'll give you anything you want. Go on,
29 go on - ask me anything.

1 JUNIOR: Why did you sell out?
2 RILEY: What? You believe it?
3 JUNIOR: Well, I didn't want to, Pop, but, gee,
4 everybody saw the check and—
5 RILEY: I don't wanna hear no more. I got a good
6 mind to put you over my knee and give you
7 a black eye so's you won't be able to sit
8 down for a week.
9 JUNIOR: Well, Pop, if it isn't true, why didn't
10 you at least explain?
11 RILEY: Nobody will listen to me just like you
12 won't listen to me. I could explain the
13 whole thing in a second.
14 JUNIOR: I'm willing to listen.
15 RILEY: No. I've got my pride. If you have so
16 little faith in me that you can believe
17 this story, well, then I'm through. I
18 ain't explaining. You can think what you
19 want. And I hereby resign as your
20 father!
21 SFX: DOOR OPENS AND CLOSES
22 BABS: Oh, you're home, Daddy.
23 RILEY: Babsy! My only child. Babsy, I know
24 I've neglected you and I never paid as
25 much attention to you as I should have.
26 All on account of him. But I swear, I'll
27 make it up to you. I'll give you
28 anything you want, Babsy, just ask me.
29 Go on, ask me anything.

1 BABS: Daddy, why did you sell out?
2 RILEY: What? You believe it, too?
3 BABS: But, Daddy—
4 RILEY: I don't wanna hear. My own two kids
5 believe it. And I wanted to have twelve
6 kids, yet! That's all I need - a jury!
7 To convict me!
8 BABS: Daddy, wait and listen to me.
9 RILEY: I don't wanna listen. I never thought
10 that I'd live to see the day—
11 SFX: DOOR OPENS - PEG ENTERS
12 PEG: What's all the yelling about?
13 RILEY: I got plenty to yell about - those two
14 kids of yours. The boys at the plant got
15 a crazy idea I sold 'em out so's I could
16 get a bonus while they didn't. They're
17 telling the whole town. And those kids
18 believe it.
19 PEG: Junior! Babs! How could you believe
20 such a thing about your own father
21 knowing the man he is? How could you
22 think he'd do such a terrible thing to
23 his friends?
24 BABS: But, mother—
25 PEG: Not another word! I'm disappointed in
26 both of you. Now go to your rooms this
27 instant!
28 JUNIOR: Sorry.
29 BABS: I'm sorry.

1 SFX: FOOTSTEPS - DOOR CLOSES

2 PEG: Riley --- Why did you sell out?

3 RILEY: What? Peg, you think ---Oh, what's the
4 use?

5 PEG: I only want to get to the bottom of this.
6 I didn't believe it at first but when I
7 found out you cashed a check from
8 Stevenson for fifty dollars at the market
9 I-

10 RILEY: But, Peg-

11 PEG: Now, don't try to deny it. I know you
12 did-

13 RILEY: Well, sure, I cashed a check. But look
14 what I bought with it. Here, I'll show
15 you.

16 SFX PACKAGE OPENING

17 RILEY: There! Wallets for all the men!
18 Christmas presents from Stevenson. And
19 now they all go around saying-

20 PEG: Oh, Riley! Oh, I'm sorry, dear. I
21 should never have doubted you. Oh,
22 Riley, I'm so ashamed.

23 RILEY: That's alright, dumpling. Don't cry.
24 Dry your eyes.

25 PEG: Lend me your handkerchief.

26 RILEY: I ain't got one. Here, use this blotter.

27 MUSIC: BRIDGE

28 SFX: FOOTSTEPS ON PAVEMENT

1 RILEY: Oh, what a mess! A fine Christmas this
2 turned out to be.

3 SFX: BELL RINGS

4 RILEY: Oh, there's a Santy Claus on the corner.
5 I think I'll give him a buck. It'll help
6 somebody else to have a nice Christmas.

7 SFX: BELL RINGS

8 RILEY: Holy smoke, look at that! That's the
9 first time I ever saw a Santy Claus
10 wearing a black costume and a black
11 beard. Uh, merry Christmas, Santy Claus.

12 DIGGER: A Merry Christmas to you, Riley. You're
13 looking fine - very natural.

14 RILEY: It's you, Digger!

15 DIGGER: Yes, it is I, indeed. Digby O'Dell, the
16 friendly undertaker.

17 RILEY: Well, what are you doing, Digger, all
18 dressed up like Santa.

19 DIGGER: I'm collecting money for the U E P G B C
20 C

21 RILEY: U E P G B C C?

22 DIGGER: The Undertakers, Embalmers and
23 Pallbearers Give a Box for Christmas
24 Club. We give out food parcels to needy
25 families. Our motto is, "the good that
26 you do unto people will come back to you
27 in the end --- and so will the people".

1 RILEY: Well, it ain't much of a Christmas for
2 me, Digger. All of my friends have
3 dropped me - except you.

4 DIGGER: I'll never drop you until it's absolutely
5 necessary.

6 RILEY: You heard what the boys are saying about
7 me, Digger.

8 DIGGER: Ah, yes. What a vile slander. Riley, we
9 must clear you. Nobody's going to throw
10 dirt in your face while I stand around
11 doing nothing.

12 RILEY: Thanks, Digger, but I'll handle this
13 myself.

14 DIGGER: You must strike back, Riley - fight.
15 Fight to the last ditch. That reminds
16 me, I have an appointment. Well,
17 cheerio. I'd better be shoveling off.

18 MUSIC: BRIDGE

19 SFX: DOOR OPENS

20 MILLIE: Mr. Stevenson.

21 STEVENSON: Millie, I told you I don't want to be
22 disturbed. I've got to rehearse the
23 Christmas Carol for the party tonight.

24 MILLIE: Riley left this box. Here. It's the
25 wallets for the men.

26 STEVENSON: Oh, good. Well, very nice. I think the
27 men will like them. Don't you?

28 MILLIE: No.

29 STEVENSON: No?

1 MILLIE: Not after you promised them a bonus.
2 They think it's unfair and I can't blame
3 them. Frankly, it's not like you, Mr.
4 Stevenson.
5 STEVENSON: Millie, you don't understand. It's a
6 matter of principle with me. The
7 American worker should retain his dignity
8 and a bonus is nothing but a tip - a
9 bribe. I've always maintained that no
10 self-respecting American - I don't care
11 what his job is - should accept one. And
12 furthermore--
13 SFX: TELEPHONE RINGS - PICKED UP
14 STEVENSON: Hello.
15 I. B.: (FILTER) Hello, Carl?
16 STEVENSON: Oh, hello, I. B. Merry Christmas.
17 I. B.: (FILTER) Same to you, Carl. Carl, I've
18 just come from a board of directors
19 meeting. The board feels you've done a
20 great job this year keeping costs down
21 and we voted you a little bonus - ten
22 thousand dollars. (PAUSE) Hello? Carl,
23 are you still on?
24 STEVENSON: Yes. I - I don't know what to say, I. B.
25 Thanks.
26 I. B.: (FILTER) That's alright, my boy, you've
27 earned it. See you tonight at dinner.
28 Goodbye.
29 STEVENSON: Goodbye.

1 SFX: PHONE HUNG UP

2 STEVENSON: Um. Millie, I've been thinking it over.
3 After all, it is Christmas. Put a fifty
4 dollar bill in each wallet. I guess I'm
5 just an old softie.

6 MUSIC: BRIDGE

7 BIZ: A PARTY

8 PEG: Well, it looks like a very nice party.
9 Mr. Stevenson certainly didn't skimp on
10 food.

11 RILEY: Ah, so what? Nobody's having a good
12 time. Look at Gillis and the boys over
13 in the corner. They look at me like they
14 look at the time clock in the morning.
15 And I'll bet they'd like to punch me,
16 too.

17 PEG: Well, then why don't you go over and
18 explain what happened. I keep telling
19 you—

20 RILEY: No! They'll have to come to me.

21 PEG: Oh, you're so stubborn.

22 STEVENSON: Ah, here you are, Riley. Riley, I think
23 it's time we handed out the wallets.
24 Then I'll do The Christmas Carol.

25 RILEY: Boss, Boss, I think maybe you ought to
26 skip it. I don't think the boys would be
27 a good audience on account of not getting
28 the bonus—

1 STEVENSON: Oh, ho-ho. Don't you worry about that,
2 Riley. Just hand out those wallets and I
3 guarantee they'll be a good audience.

4 RILEY: Okay, it's your party. (UP) Hey, fellows
5 - fellows can I have your attention,
6 please? Fellow, Mr. Stevenson asked me
7 to hand out the presents, now.

8 GILLIS: Just a minute, Riley, before you hand out
9 any presents, we got a little present
10 we'd like to hand out.

11 RILEY: Now, wait a minute, Gillis-

12 GILLIS: It's for you, Riley.

13 RILEY: For me? A present for me?

14 GILLIS: Yeah. All the boys chipped in and bought
15 you a sweater - special - made to order
16 for you. Merry Christmas.

17 SFX: UNWRAPPING PACKAGE UNDER

18 RILEY: A sweater? You guys chipped in and
19 bought me a sweater? I gotta try it on.
20 Peg, what did I tell you? I told you
21 they'd come to me. Stand aside, Peg, I
22 want to look in the mirror Oh, it's
23 beautiful fellows - black - my favorite
24 color. I like that white stripe running
25 down the back. Look, it even has a bushy
26 tail. Oh, thanks fellow! This shows
27 what you really think -- No! No,no,no,
28 say it's a mistake, fellows. Fellow, I
29 didn't-

1 STEVENSON: Riley! Riley, it's getting late. I've
2 got to do that Christmas Carol.

3 RILEY: You! You and your Christmas Carol. You
4 want a Christmas Carol? Alright I'll
5 tell you one, you tightwad!

6 STEVENSON: Riley!

7 RILEY: Pipe down! This here Christmas Carol is
8 about a guy called Scrooge Stevenson, an
9 old miser who wouldn't give the guys who
10 slaved for him a measly bonus.

11 STEVENSON: Riley!

12 RILEY: Pipe down! And on Christmas eve Scrooge
13 Stevenson is at home, lying in his bed
14 made of solid gold when suddenly there's
15 a knock at the door. And who do you
16 think it is?

17 STEVENSON: Who?

18 RILEY: Pipe down! It's a ghost - the ghost of a
19 Christmas yet to come - and the ghost
20 says, "Scrooge Stevenson, you miserable
21 old skinflint, come with me and I'll show
22 you how you're going to wind up some
23 day." And the ghost takes him to Forest
24 Lawn. And he points out a lonely grave.
25 And on the grave there's a tombstone.
26 And on it there's engraved an epithet.
27 And the ghost says, "Scrooge Stevenson,
28 read your epithet." And you read it.
29 And you know what it says?

1 STEVENSON: What?

2 RILEY: Here lies Stevenson, he's gone and he's
3 forgotten, he gave us each a wallet, and
4 in it there was nuttin'.

5 STEVENSON: Riley, I ought to fire you for this.
6 You're lucky it's Christmas. Now, hand
7 out those wallets.

8 RILEY: Oh, no, I won't. I ain't gonna insult my
9 friends handing out those cheesy wallets.

10 STEVENSON: Riley!

11 RILEY: I'll show you what I think of you and
12 your cheap wallets. I'm throwing them in
13 the fireplace.

14 STEVENSON: Stop it!

15 RILEY: Right in that roaring fire. There!
16 There! There!

17 STEVENSON: Riley, you idiot! There's a fifty dollar
18 bonus in every one of those wallets.

19 BIZ: CROWD REACTS

20 RILEY: What? A bonus? Oh, no! What did I do?
21 I threw them in the fire! Don't worry
22 fellows. I'll get them back for you.
23 Stand back everybody. I'm going into
24 that roaring blaze and I ain't coming out
25 till I have those wallets. Goodbye, Peg!

26 PEG: Riley! That's no fire. It's an electric
27 log with colored lights. (LAUGHS)

28 BIZ: CROWD LAUGHS

1 RILEY: You mean --- that it's --- Well, Merry
2 Christmas, everybody!

3 MUSIC: FLOURISH AND BRIDGE

4 RILEY: Folks! Attention, please. It's
5 Christmas Eve and we're all having a good
6 time and we're all friends and that's the
7 way it should be. Christmas eve is a
8 solemn occasion.

9 SFX SPOON TAPPING GLASS

10 RILEY: Will the fellow in the back there kindly
11 break up that crap game. Thank you.
12 Now, as I was saying, I want to say that
13 there's a man here tonight who's been
14 terribly misjudged.

15 STEVENSON: Oh, come now, Riley, that isn't
16 necessary.

17 RILEY: No, let me finish, Mr. Stevenson. He's
18 been called all kinds of nasty names.

19 STEVENSON: Oh, Riley, I really don't mind-

20 RILEY: Yeah, but now you all know what a sweet,
21 lovable guy he really is.

22 STEVENSON: Riley, you're making me blush-

23 RILEY: And you all owe him an apology. So I'm
24 asking you to all join in and wish him a
25 Merry Christmas. Well, come on - all
26 together. Let's hear you say it -
27 "Merry Christmas"

28 ALL: Merry Christmas

29 RILEY: And a happy new year.

1 ALL: And a happy new year.

2 RILEY: To Chester A, Riley!

3 ALL: To Carl Stevenson!

4 RILEY: It's a losing fight!

5 MUSIC: CLOSING THEME

6 ANNCR: Proctor and Gamble invites you to join us
7 again next week to hear The Life of
8 Riley. And remember, for more radiant
9 hair, free of unsightly dandruff, get the
10 shampoo in the tube - P R E L L - Prell
11 Shampoo.

12
13 This is NBC, the National Broadcasting
14 Company.

15
16 (NBC CHIMES)

17
18
19 NOTE:

20 This script is transcribed from an AFRS recording. It
21 is NOT a 100% accurate depiction of the actual
22 commercial broadcast. Commercials taken from the
23 preceding week's show were added to restore the "
24 "commercial feel" of the program. They have been
25 edited slightly for this purpose.

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