

A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens

Scrooge is a cold and hard man who loves money more than people. He hates Christmas. He wants to work at Christmas to keep making money. He also hates that Bob Cratchit, who works for him in his office, goes on holiday on Christmas Day, so he doesn't make money for him either.

On Christmas Eve, his nephew comes to his office. He invites his uncle to have Christmas dinner with them, but Scrooge doesn't want to go.

Two kind gentlemen come to the office. They collect money for the poor. But Scrooge doesn't like charity. He wants to keep his money for himself.

At home, Scrooge has one more visitor. It is the ghost of his old friend and business partner who died seven years ago at Christmas. He wants Scrooge to change his life and be a happy person. He says that three more ghosts will come to talk to Scrooge and help him change his life. Each ghost will come at one o'clock the next three nights.

The first is the Ghost of Christmas Past. He takes Scrooge back to when he was young and different. He had a good boss who loved Christmas. We can see a party where Scrooge meets a girl and they dance. But he loves money more than her, so he loses her.

The second ghost, the Ghost of Christmas Present, shows Scrooge how people are celebrating Christmas now. He can see that people can spend a happy Christmas day even without much money. They can see Bob Cratchit, his employee, enjoying Christmas with his family. The ghost also shows him that Bob's son, Tiny Tim is very sick.

The third ghost, the Ghost of Christmas Future, shows Scrooge scenes after his death. Everybody is happy that he is dead. Only the Cratchit family is very sad because their son, Tiny Tim has died. It is then that Scrooge begs the ghost to let him change such a horrible future.

When Scrooge wakes up after the visits, he realizes it is only Christmas morning. He orders a large goose and sends it to the Cratchit family, he promises to help the poor and has dinner at his nephew's house. Scrooge is now a changed man and he becomes a second father to Tiny Tim. The little boy now also has a new future, so he does not die young.