

"CHRISTMAS AT GATE B5"

By
Terry Stanley

Synopsis

Passengers are stranded at the airport on Christmas Eve. All flights have been cancelled because of a snow storm. Although the passenger's spirits are low they decide to have a Christmas celebration while they wait out the storm.

Ministry Lesson

The joy of Christmas is not based on where we are or what gifts we receive. The joy of Christmas is based on God's love for us through the gift of His Son. We can celebrate Christmas wherever we are, even in an airport.

Ministry Focus: Christmas

Genre: Comedy

Main Cast/Approximate Age:

Cleaning Lady	- 40	- Easy going, content with life
Grandma	- 65+	- Slightly off, her age is showing
Carla	- 25	- Energetic, loves to have fun (grandchild)
Lisa	- 30	- Level headed, the big sister (grandchild)
Mrs. Alston	- 40	- The Diva, Rich, eccentric, a Drama Queen
George	- 40	- Mrs. Alston husband and biggest fan
Agent	- 20+	- Dingy and quirky. The dump-blond type
Tasha	- 30	- Loving mother
Kira	- 8	- Very impressionable
EJ	- 13	- Hip-hop wanna-be rapper

Supporting Cast:

Passengers	- Any number of people can serve as the passengers at Gate B5. Six will have one scripted dialog line. Two will lead a song. Most will serve as background to the play and join in the all-cast songs during the celebration
The Band	- Use the actual musicians as passengers. They will offer to play the music since they are stuck in the airport with the others

Costumes:

Agent	- Blond wig; big ear-rings, dressed in light blue blouse and dark skirt.
Mrs. Alston	- Impeccably dressed and wearing a fur coat.
All Others	- Normal everyday wear

Props:

Walker for Grandma
Carry-on bags for all passengers
Stack of autographed pictures of Mrs. Alston
Chair back cover with the word "Diva"
Cloth with the words "Diva Crossing" printed
Ticket Podium
Boarding Passes
Karaoke Machine
Hand microphone

Time: 60 minutes.

Scenery: Decorate your church/stage to look like the inside of an airport gate waiting area. Minimally you need two signs; one showing "Gate B5" and one showing "Gate B6". You can also

"Christmas at Gate B5"

1.

include a banner that states "Celebration Airlines".
Strategically position large luggage on stage.

CHRISTMAS AT GATE B5

INT. AIRPORT GATE WAITING AREA

Setting: The scene takes place at Gate B5 of Celebration Airlines. There are several passengers already sitting at gate B5 for their flight to depart. The ticket counter is positioned downstage to the left. The Ticket Agent is working behind the counter.

THERE ARE SEVERAL PEOPLE IN LINE TO CHECK-IN.

THE AGENT SPEAKS WITH A HIGH-PITCHED VOICE AND GIGGLES OFTEN DURING HER DIALOG

AGENT

You're all set Mrs. Jones. Here's your boarding pass. Just take a seat in the waiting area. Your flight should be leaving soon and have a Merry Christmas.

MRS. JONES TAKES A SEAT.

TASHA, EJ (HER TEEN SON) AND KIRA (HER YOUNG DAUGHTER), APPROACH THE COUNTER. EJ IS ENGROSSED IN HIS CELL PHONE.

AGENT

Welcome to Celebration Airlines. Your name?

TASHA

Tasha Harris, and this is Earl Jr., and Kira. (Shows Agent ticket on her cell phone and Driver's license).

AGENT REVIEWS TICKETS AND LICENSE.

AGENT

Three for Orlando Florida?

TASHA

Yes, we're going to visit their grandparents for Christmas.

AGENT

Oh that's nice. Leaving the snow and going to sunny Florida for the Christmas holiday. I meet my boyfriend in Florida.

KIRA

Mommy, I don't want to go to Florida.

TASHA

Why honey?

KIRA

I won't get any toys from Santa.

TASHA

Yes you will. Don't you want to see Nana and PopPop?

KIRA

No. EJ said Santa doesn't visit houses where old people live.

TASHA

(Fussing at EJ) EJ! why did you tell her that?

EJ

C'mon Ma, she's still talkin' about Santa. She's too old...

TASHA

(Interrupts) Don't you worry about that.
(To Kira) EJ doesn't know what he's talking about. When you wake up at Nana's house tomorrow, you'll see all the presents Santa left for you.

KIRA

And the brick he left for EJ.

EJ TRIES TO PUSH KIRA BUT SHE RUNS AROUND HER MOTHER FOR PROTECTION.

AGENT

Here are your boarding passes. Just take a seat. You will be departing from Gate B5 and have a Merry Christmas.

TASHA

Thank you.

TASHA TAKES PASSES AND WALKS TOWARD THE GATE. EJ IS SO ABSORBED BY HIS CELL PHONE HE DOESN'T MOVE. SHE CALLS AFTER HIM.

TASHA

EJ! Boy will you stop playing [Candy Crush] on that phone and come on.

EJ JOINS HIS MOTHER BUT CONTINUES TO PLAY THE GAME ON HIS PHONE.

AGENT

Next, may I help you.

ANNA MAE AND HER TWO ADULT GRANDDAUGHTERS (CARLA AND LISA) APPROACH THE COUNTER.

CARLA

Yes, we have reservations on flight 707 to Florida, under Jackson. (Shows Agent reservation on her cell phone)

GRANDMA

(Proud) Yes, my grandchildren are taking me to Florida as my Christmas gift. I always wanted to see Disney's World before I die.

CARLA

Grandma, you're not dying. (To Agent)
Excuse her.

GRANDMA

I'm expecting the Lord to call me home any day now. (Grabbing her heart)

LISA

Grandma, you've been saying that since we were eight year old.

GRANDMA

It's been that long. (Crying out to her deceased husband) Jimmy, I don't have many days left.

AGENT

(Checking system) May I see your ID please?

CARLA AND LISA RETRIEVE THEIR DRIVER'S LICENSE AND GIVES THEM TO THE AGENT. GRANDMA HAND THE AGENT HER AARP CARD.

AGENT

(Reading card) Uh Mrs. Anna Mae Davis, this is an A.A.R.P card.

GRANDMA

Well, you asked for my ID.

AGENT

Yes, but I need a government issued identification card.

GRANDMA

Oh, one minute.

RUMMAGING THROUGH HER LARGE POCKETBOOK. SHE RETRIEVE HER GOVERNMENT ID AND HANDS IT TO THE AGENT.

GRANDMA

Here you go.

AGENT

Uh, Mrs. Davis, this is a Medicare Card.

GRANDMA

Well, you asked for a government card.

AGENT

Yes, but I meant a identification card...like a driver's license.

GRANDMA

Oh I don't drive anymore. The last thing I drove was my husband to his grave. My God bless his soul.

LISA

No Grandma, she's talking about a car.

GRANDMA

(To Lisa) Why do a need a driver's license? I thought we were flying to Florida. (To Agent) This will be my first time on an "airy" plane.

LISA

We are flying on a plane, Grandma. She just need to know who you are?

GRANDMA

(To Agent) Oh, my name is Anna Mae Davis. I'm going to DISNEY'S World.

AGENT

Well, that's okey Mrs. Davis, let's not worry about the driver's license.

(Looking at Tablet) I see your reservation. Here are your boarding passes.

GRANDMA

Oh, you're so nice. Here, let me give you a little tip.

CARLA AND LISA TRY TO TELL GRANDMA SHE DOESN'T NEED TO TIP, BUT GRANDMA INSISTS. SHE PULLS OUT A LITTLE CHANGE PURSE AND RETRIEVES A QUARTER.

GRANDMA

Here you are. (Hands the Agent a quarter) Get yourself a little Christmas gift.

AGENT

(Loves it) Oh a shiney quarter, Yay!

LISA AND CARLA TRY TO HIDE THEIR EMBARRASSMENT AS THEY WALK AWAY.

LISA

Oh my goodness, she gave the woman a quarter.

CARLA

C'mon, (Change subject) Look there's a couple of open seats over there.

CARLA AND LISA USHER GRANDMA TO A SEAT.

THE ALSTONS (MRS. ALSTON AND GEORGE) ARE SEEN WALKING TOWARD THE TICKET COUNTER. MRS. ALSTON IS WALKING AS IF SHE'S COMING DOWN THE RED CARPET OF A MOVIE PREMIER.

MRS. ALSTON

Hurry up George. You know how I just loooathe these airports. I really don't understand why my agent did not reserve my private jet.

GEORGE

Because you fired the pilot dear.

AGENT

Reservation please.

MRS. ALSTON

(Turns to George) George dawwwling, be a dear and give her our reservations.

GEORGE HANDS RESERVATION (CELL PHONE) TO THE AGENT.

MRS. ALSTON

(Tapping on the counter) Young lady, young lady! When is my flight scheduled to leave?

AGENT

(Looking at reservation) Mr. Alston, I see your flight will...

MRS. ALSTON

(Flabbergasted) I beg your pardon. You mean Mrs. Alston. (Over-the-top dramatizing) Mrs. Bridgette Alston; star of stage and screen. Winner of 3 Oscars and 4 Tony Awards.

MRS. ALSTON MAKES SEVERAL POSES, THEN TAKES A FEW SELFIES. GEORGE CLAPS AND EXPRESSES HIS APPROVAL (MARVELOUS, BRAVO, ETC.)

AGENT

(Impressed) Oh my goodness, are you an actress!?

MRS. ALSTON

(With Pride) I prefer the term (strikes a pose) DIVA!

AGENT STEPS AWAY FROM THE PODIUM AND GIVES A CURTSY TO MRS. ALSTON

AGENT

Welcome to Celebration Airlines Mrs. Alston-Diva. (Returns to podium) Your flight will be departing shortly.

MRS. ALSTON

(Satisfied) Very well. (Looking around) It's awfully crowded here.

AGENT

Christmas Eve is one of our busiest travel days. I guess everyone is going to see their love ones.

MRS. ALSTON

Such a waste of time. I prefer to vacation. Christmas is so "demode".

AGENT

(Mispronouncing) Demode, what's that?

Oh, that's "old fashion" in French.

AGENT

But we're in the United States. But don't worry, here are your boarding passes. (Hands them to George)

MRS. ALSTON

Dear, where is your private waiting lounge?

AGENT

It's just down the corridor to the left.

MRS. ALSTON

Very well. (Begins to leave, then stops) Oh, it's good to know we have people *like you* to do "this" type of work. (To George) George dawwwling, give this young lady an autographed picture of me.

AS MRS. ALSTONS DRAMATICALLY WALKS TOWARD GATE B5, GEORGE RETRIEVES A STACK OF AUTOGRAPHED PICTURES FROM HIS CARRY-ON BAG AND HANDS ONE TO THE TICKET AGENT. HE HURRIES TO CATCH UP TO MRS. ALSTON.

THE CLEANING LADY IS BUSY SWEEPING AROUND THE WAITING AREA, AND NOTICES THE ALSTONS HEADING FOR THE LOUNGE (ACROSS STAGE_).

CLEANING LADY

Oh, excuse me. Excuse me! (The Alstons stop) You folks going down to the private lounge?

MRS. ALSTON

Why yes we are? (Expecting to be served) Oh, yes, I'm very sorry, you may show us the way.

CLEANING LADY

Oh, I'm not showing you the way. I just want to let you know the lounge is closed. The toilet overflowed.
(Admiring her shoes) And I don't think you want to get those fancy shoes wet.

MRS. ALSTON

Well, where am I going to retire until my flight leaves.

CLEANING LADY

Well, I don't know where you are going to "retire" but you can wait here with the rest of the people.

MRS. ALSTON

Here!?! (Looking at other travelers)
With them?

CLEANING LADY

(Sarcastically) Tell you what, let me clean off this chair in front so you'll feel like you're in First Class.

MRS. ALSTON

Dear, I prefer the seat over there at the next gate. I'm not supposed to mingle with fans.

LISA AND CARLA BEGIN TO MURMUR; FANS? WHO DOES SHE THINK SHE IS!?

CLEANING LADY WALKS OVER TO DUST THE CHAIR IN THE FRONT ROW IN GATE B6

MRS. ALSTON

Geoorge, be a dawwwling and prepare the chaaair.

GEORGE PULLS OUT A BLACK CLOTH (FROM HIS CARRY-ON) WITH THE WORD "DIVA" WRITTEN ON FRONT TO COVER THE BACK SEAT OF THE CHAIR. THE OTHER PASSENGERS LOOK IN MURMUR

GEORGE

You can sit down now dear.

GEORGE GUIDES MRS. ALSTON TO HER SEAT.

MRS. ALSTON

Thank you Dawwwling!

GEORGE SITS NEXT TO HIS WIFE. THE CLEANING LADY RETURNS TO SWEEPING AND DUSTING AROUND THE AREA.

CLEANING LADY

Lord, I've seen a lot of strange things
in this airport, but THAT is a first!

THE AGENT TAPS THE MICROPHONE TO MAKE GET EVERYONE'S ATTENTION.

AGENT

Hello! Hello Passengers for Flight 707
to Orlando Florida. We are experiencing
a slight delay. The pilot misplaced his
contact lenses. As soon as he finds
them, we'll begin boarding.

CLEANING LADY

Oh, y'all must be flying with John
Jenkins. He's a good pilot, but he's
blind as a bat without his contacts.

CARLA

Well, I sure hope he finds them soon so
we can leave. The snow was getting
heavy when we got here.

LISA

(To Carla) I thought the weatherman said
we were only going to get a slight
dusting.

CLEANING LADY

These weathermen just say anything. The only thing they know for sure is that it's hot in Africa and cold in Alaska!

LISA

Y'all know I don't like flying: (To Carla) and you got me out here flying in the snow. Girl, we could die!

GRANDMA

Child, you're not gonna die until the Lord says it's your time.

LISA

How will I know when it's my time?

GRANDMA

When you're dead!

- End of Preview -

The fun and laughs are just beginning as the passengers soon learn they will be stranded in the airport.
