

The Night Before Christmas

by

Wee Willie

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EXT. QUIET SUBURBAN STREET - NIGHT

Light snow falls. Neat houses with front gardens decked out for Christmas.

A bright colored bauble bedecked tree here; some snowy figures there, tiny tasteful lights - enchanting, Xmassey.

EXT. CLARK GRISWOLD'S HOME - CONTINUOUS

The roof is amassed with a grid pattern of many thousands of small white bulbs. Garlands and oversized baubles hang haphazardly from the window ledges.

A small army of illuminated snowmen flicker on high alert. Right at the front FIVE REINDEER are ready to leap into the skies pulling Santa's sleigh. (Santa is missing in action!)

The lead reindeer DASHER speaks softly to his two by two fellows PRANCER, COMET, VIXEN and BLITZEN.

DASHER

Is anyone looking?

Prancer looks around, then following his lead so do the others.

PRANCER

Why?

COMET

Seems quiet.

VIXEN

Too quiet -

BLITZEN

It's all clear. Are we going to take to the skies?

DASHER

Not just yet. I'm desperate for a pee. I've been holding it in all year.

PRANCER

You're not just gonna go - right here on the lawn!

DASHER

What do you suggest? I knock on the door and ask to use their rest room?

COMET

When you've gotta go -

DASHER

I think the coast is clear. I  
really can't hold much longer!

VIXEN

We'll form a group around you.

BLITZEN

A reindeer modesty shield. No  
one's going to see you now.

They quietly move into a tight huddle around Dasher.

DASHER

Thanks guys. This is such a  
relief.

His water hits the ground with violence.

COMET

It's a gusher!

PRANCER

Can't you pee more quietly!

DASHER

No - this is bliss.

VIXEN

You're melting the snow!

DASHER

Don't care. Can't stop!

BLITZEN

At least spread it around a bit.  
Write your name!

VIXEN

He hasn't got the dexterity -

DASHER

Read 'em and weep. Here's a D --  
A -- S --

PRANCER

You've splashed me! Yuck !!

VIXEN

Me too! Double yuck!!

BLITZEN

I wouldn't even try with my  
complicated name.

COMET

I suppose boys will be boys.

DASHER  
Slowing now.

BLITZEN  
We can see. We don't need a  
running commentary.

PRANCER  
I didn't need to go before. I  
think I do now!

COMET  
I've just a little urge.

VIXEN  
Now that you've mentioned it. I  
could void a little.

Dasher's flow slows to a trickle - then a few short jets.

DASHER  
Phew! What a relief!  
Thanks guys for helping out.

BLITZEN  
After your lengthy experience I  
think we all need to go now.

DASHER  
Okay. Let's move towards the  
shrubs. I seem to have left quite  
a trail.

PRANCER  
If we get a cold night you've  
made a great yellow ice rink!

DASHER  
No. It won't freeze tonight.  
Follow me.

They move in formation to the shrubs around the windows.  
The sleigh tracing their journey in the light snow. It  
clanks and rumbles slightly as it's dragged over the melted  
snow of the front path.

Dasher looks around.

DASHER  
You are good to go.

Three streams burst forth.

VIXEN  
Sorry I'm pee-shy. I can't go  
with you all watching.

DASHER

Boys - look through the window.

They all do.

DASHER

What are they watching on that box?

Blitzen cranes his long neck to gain a better view.

BLITZEN

It seems to be an anime about exploding crows.

PRANCER

Those humans will watch anything. It's hardly Studio Ghibli.

VIXEN

I adore Kiki's delivery service.

COMET

Me too. I love how she flies through the air with her adorable talking cat Jiji.

DASHER

A girl who flies?!

BLITZEN

A cat who talks?

COMET

Everyone's a critic!

DASHER

Right let's move back into position before Clark turns on the Xmas light show.

ALL

Okay.

The move back and stand sentinel.

DASHER

Merry Christmas everyone!

The suburban street is bleached with intense light as the Griswold House illuminations begin. It snows harder.

Dasher smiles slightly, winks, then is completely inert.

FADE OUT.