

# **ANIKA**

Written by

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INT. TAILORS OFFICE IN SANTAS WORKSHOP- DAY

ANIKA a spunky female elf is hurriedly hand sewing a pointy hat alone at a messy table full of green and red felt fabric scraps.

ANIKA

(singing)

Got to get this just right, so my  
boss looks outta sight.

And older balding elf with an overly creased forehead sticks his head into the room.

OLDER ELF

Ok kid, Santa wants to see you,  
now.

ANIKA

(surprised)

The Santa? What for? Did I win a  
prize?

OLDER ELF

I don't know Anika, one of us might  
have. Just heard he wanted to see  
you personally. You said you wanted  
a change and I'm guessing this is  
that change.

ANIKA

How exciting! I've never met him  
personally. What is he like?

OLDER ELF

Oh I'd describe him as jolly, very  
jolly.

ANIKA

Sweet.

OLDER ELF

That too, but more on the jolly  
side of the candy cane stripe

ANIKA

It'll be a jolly 'ol change! Oh  
hey, I just finished your hat.

Anika excitedly flips the hat to her straight lipped elf boss. He examines it over holding it high, then pulls it on his bald head. The brim sinks down over his eyes to his jaw line.

ANIKA (CONT'D)  
Maybe just one slight adjustment.

                  OLDER ELF  
Nothing has changed.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

We hear the sounds of grunts and groans.

SPLAT!

Santa is sitting on his bottom, shocked and flummoxed looking out on the Christmas decorated living room.

                  SANTA  
                  (with jolly laughter)  
Oh no, no, no what did I just sit  
in? Did they leave me a fruitcake.  
You mention once at a party you  
tried some once.

Santa climbs out of the chimney entrance dragging his black bag through something orange and slimy.

Santa feels his wet bottom and shakes his head back at the fireplace.

                  SANTA (CONT'D)  
Well happy Halloween and trick or  
treat. That's a first, left me  
their old pumpkin. Parents on the  
naughty list next year.

Santa open his bag on the floor and lifts out four presents and places them quickly around the tree.

                  SANTA (CONT'D)  
Oh the elves forgot to mark these.

Santa takes off a glove and hangs it on the tree.

Jombling over to the fireplace he wipes his finger with soot.

Santa hums over to the presents writing from Santa on two presents and from Mom and Dad on the other ones.

                  SANTA (CONT'D)  
There's your raise Mrs. Fontaine.

Santa takes out a pouch from his coat pocket, pulls it open, dips a finger in and flings swirls some golden glitter high in the air.

Suddenly in the shimmer appears Anika, who immediately thuds to the hard wood floor.

ANIKA

Ow! I bruise like a banana here.

SANTA

Oh no, I'm so sorry. It's a new trick. They always take me a couple years to perfect. I have to remember to throw the glitter closer to the ground. Hi, Ho, Ho.

Anika hops right up dusting off the glitter.

ANIKA

It's ok just a little turbulence. I am ready to go!

SANTA

That's great, you remember what to do right?

ANIKA

I most certainly do Santa Sir.

SANTA

You need to go over anything before I leave?

ANIKA

Nope I got it.

SANTA

You sure?

ANIKA

As sure as diamonds are made out of lumps of coal. This is going to be fun!

SANTA

Ok, I'll pick you back up before sunrise.

ANIKA

Save me some cookies and milk--hey your bottom is wet and--

SANTA

I made you some pumpkin pie, it's in the chimney.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

Anika paces in front of the Christmas tree always looking back at the presents Santa left.

She goes over to a big present and tightens its bow.

Anika widens her pacing going back and forth across the whole room, always glancing back at the presents.

Stepping on something she jumps and suddenly the TV comes on with the yule log on screen and the speaker blasting out jingle bells.

Anika Quickly reaches down grabbing the remote.

ANIKA  
(hurriedly annoyed talking  
to herself)  
Dancer and Danner and Donner and  
Blitzen.

Pushing and punching every combination of buttons until the "dashing through the snow" suddenly falls silent, leaving only the flickering of the fire on the yule log.

Anika stands perfectly still with her pointy ears flexing.

ANIKA (CONT'D)  
Whew no ones awake.

SQUEAK.

Anika quickly ganders back around the room stopping the gaze on the coffee table full of every snow globe imaginable. One snow globe is a face with really big eyes in it.

ANIKA (CONT'D)  
That's almost too much Christmas  
there.

Anika spins back towards the tree.

ANIKA (CONT'D)  
Oh no Santa forgot his glove.

RAY (O.S.)  
Run! Run! Run!

Anika quickly turns around.

ANIKA  
What?!

ELK, a huge bulky brown cat with white antler markings on its forehead is bounding hard towards Anika.

RAY, another smaller elf jumps off of the coffee table and runs straight for Anika.

Anika is frozen, deer in the headlights.

RAY  
Run it's Elk!

Anika spins back towards the presents.

Ray come charging up hard and pushes Anika out of the way just as Elk claws and pounces on the spot where they were.

Both elves slide across the floor.

RAY (CONT'D)  
Elks coming back around!

ANIKA  
Who are?--

Ray pushes Anika with his feet launching her spinning across the floor.

RAY  
Roll under the coffee table and grab the scotch tape on top.

ANIKA  
What is that thing?

RAY  
That's a cat, well I'm mostly sure.  
Grab the tape!

Elk comes rombling fast up behind Ray.

ANIKA  
Who are you?--look out!

Ray turns fast and does a superb matador move just twisting out of the way.

RAY  
Ole!

Elk falls, frumps and skids on it's belly into the wall.

ANIKA  
Hi Ole, is this your nice kitty?

RAY  
Oh that's my best, best friend in  
the world, and I'm Ray?

ANIKA  
Hi Ray. Not Ole? I'm Anika.

RAY  
(speaking fast)  
Hi Anika, now grab the TAPE.

ANIKA  
Where did you come from?

RAY  
I'm in the Christmas box in the  
attic around eleven months a year.  
But I've been getting out earlier  
and earlier each year.

Elk stiffen stretches to its feet hissing at Ray.

RAY (CONT'D)  
Grab The Tape!

ANIKA  
Why do that? Are we going to wrap  
the cat as a present?

Elk starts racing towards Ray.

RAY  
Please just grab it...

Anika clumsily reaches up on the coffee table and snatches  
the tape.

ANIKA  
Now what? This is the best idea?

Elk dives at Ray as he once again spins out of the way.

RAY  
Ole!

Elk tumbles by.

ANIKA  
Got the tape.

RAY  
You got the tape!

Elk crashes into the fireplace. Quick to his feet he flips his tail wildly all around trying to fling off the pumpkin guts.

ANIKA

I'm putting the tape back.

RAY

Just start tearing off pieces and throwing them out on the floor.

Elk give his tail once last lick and starts on a charge again.

RAY (CONT'D)

Just do it before we make cat dodging and Olympic sport.

ANIKA

What will that do?

RAY

Please now! You listen so well.

ANIKA

Ok, OK.

Elk this time dives low as Ray jumps high. Elk slides underneath thudding hard into the wall

Anika starts tearing off pieces of tape, tossing them in the air and blowing them out on the floor.

ANIKA (CONT'D)

That was gold medal form there.

RAY

Keep tearing.

ANIKA

The best plan ever!

Ray starts hissing at Elk as he gets up.

Ray holds out and flaps his imaginary matador cape.

RAY

Her Elk. Nice Kitty.

Elk goes perfectly still.

RAY (CONT'D)

Stop tearing.



ANIKA  
Keep tearing, stop tearing.

The last piece of tape flutters to the floor in the open space between Elk and Ray.

RAY  
Hear kitty, nice kitty.

ANIKA  
It doesn't seem nice. I wonder why it's so mean?

RAY  
Instinct.

Elk coils and starts dashing towards Ray.

ANIKA  
I wonder if love is instinct?

Ray doesn't move, Elk charges harder.

ANIKA (CONT'D)  
Ole, Ole!

Elk suddenly hops high in the air with a piece of tape stuck to its front paw.

Elk land again sticking another piece of tape to a different paw. Up and down over and over, one piece sticking to its whiskers as Elks rolls and paws its face.

RAY  
(laughing)  
Here kitty, kitty, nice kitty.

Elk hissing and dancing the hi hop around, spins out of the living room.

ANIKA  
I see the genius of the tape Ray.

RAY  
That should keep old Elk busy for a few hours.

ANIKA  
Though that was mean don't you think?

RAY  
You're welcome for saving you.

ANIKA  
Oh yeah, thanks for sure.

RAY  
So I saw Santa left you. Are you  
one of his elves?

ANIKA  
Yes I am.

RAY  
Are you some kind of elf cat  
rangier apprentice I'm supposed to  
teach?

ANIKA  
I'm from Santas tailor shop.

RAY  
Here to darn some socks, sew me  
some new duds?

ANIKA  
Oh no, though I could, mostly, for  
the most part. I'm here in the new  
position of "Present Protector Elf  
Number One"

Elk hisses from far off in another room.

RAY  
Number one sounds fancy.

ANIKA  
It's my first time.

RAY  
Maybe that's what number one means.

Anika straightens to attention and salutes.

ANIKA  
I just stand here and watch the  
presents Santa left.

RAY  
There's a need for that? Here?

ANIKA  
It's new program. Santas idea to  
make sure the surprise of Christmas  
day remains a thing, a tradition.

RAY

That is the magic, but who--

ANIKA

Kids trying to take a peek in the middle of the night, sibling jealousy that kind of thing.

RAY

Elk the cat.

ANIKA

That thing could pull Santas sleigh. He should put it on the payroll.

RAY

I'll bet Santa is just trying to protect his cookies and milk.

ANIKA

You might be right, he never misses a cookie or the occasional odd pumpkin. All I know is I just make sure Santas bow stays tied nice and tight.

RAY

He ties them all himself?

ANIKA

Every single one, all year long.

RAY

I always wondered what he did on the other days of the year.

ANIKA

Yeppers, that and karate.

RAY

Karate?

ANIKA

Santa's black belt is a black belt.

Ray sits down under the Christmas tree with his back up against the presents.

RAY

Well take a load off, no need for a high roundhouse kick under this tree.

ANIKA

I'd better stand at attention, I have to do the best job. This is my big chance.

RAY

Relax, Santas not gonna give you the tough present to guard first time out. This is just to see if you can stay awake.

ANIKA

You're probably right and I have you to keep me awake.

Anika pulls the bows tighter and plops down next to Ray.

RAY

Nice twinkle of the tree lights, the mellow glow of the yule log TV.

ANIKA

It is peaceful.

RAY

They have the yule log TV up at the north pole?

ANIKA

No TV, we read books.

RAY

I'd read books about TV.

ANIKA

I've never scene TV. You just watch the yule log thingy instead of the fireplace?

RAY

Oh no! We got lots of story shows, some based on books! One year they forgot to put me in the Christmas box in the basement and left me on the mantle and I got to watch eleven months worth of shows. That was sweet as a gum drop tree.

ANIKA

That must be awful being in a box most of year.

RAY

If you like dark, lonely and musty  
it's a good time. I just count the  
seconds until I get out each  
Christmas.

ANIKA

That's a long game of bottles of  
pop on the wall.

RAY

Twenty eight million nine hundred  
and thirty thousand exactly. This  
family is strict with tradition.

ANIKA

Just straight through huh.

RAY

Straight through.

ANIKA

I couldn't take being in a box that  
long.

RAY

But you're so celebrated when you  
get out it's almost worth it.

ANIKA

I suppose... lot's of love.

RAY

When you're out all year the love  
comes in the form of yelling  
mostly.

(Pause)

ANIKA

That is a nice Yule log TV fire.

(Pause)

RAY

(yawning)

Just takes you to places in your  
mind...

(Pause)

ANIKA

(yawning)

Nothing but sugar plum fairies...

(Pause)

RAY  
Nothin to worry about...  
(Pause)

ANIKA  
Not a care pole to pole...  
(Pause)

RAY  
(eyes closed)  
Even Horn's quiet tonight...  
(Pause)

ANIKA  
(eyes closed)  
Even horn... Zzzzz.

RAY  
Zzzzz.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. LIVING ROOM - LATER IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

HORN  
BLASTOFF!!!!

HORN, a homemade stuffed alien creature, white with a hand drawn rainbow across his chest and a grand slightly crooked yellow unicorn horn jutting out of its forehead, bounds high over Anika and Rays pointy hats, holding a rocket ship atop his one bent antenna.

HORN (CONT'D)  
We are go for atmosphere!!!

Anika jumps up fast startled and wide-eyed. She immediately starts grabbing and swatting toward the presents, only catching scattered ribbon and paper.

HORN (CONT'D)  
The rockets mine to fly and rule  
the universe!!

Rays eyes suddenly open big.

RAY  
Oh no you don't.

Ray jolts up grabbing at Horn, just missing him.

RAY (CONT'D)  
Oh yes you do.

Anika spins around grasping at air.

ANIKA

We fell asleep! Who is that? That rocket's the little boys.

RAY

That's Horn, he's the little girls alien stuffed toy her and her Mom made.

Anika and Ray tear out chasing after Horn.

ANIKA

Very nice rainbow and that unihorn.

RAY

Bring those up with him, he so loves talking about them.

Ray grabs Anika's hand pulling them to a screeching halt as Horn comes charging back at them.

RAY (CONT'D)

Red rover, red rover send--

ANIKA

What?

HORN

Watch the rocket fly over!

Horn catapults high over them landing up in the Christmas tree.

ANIKA

Give that back why are you doing this.

RAY

Instinct.

ANIKA

(to Ray)

It's a--

(to a climbing Horn)

That rocket is property of NASA!

Anika and Ray look up high to the star on top of the tree.

HORN

One giant leap for alien kind.

RAY

I just don't think he cares about  
NASA.

ANIKA

Bring that down and be careful,  
that's the little boys.

RAY

Come on Horn, Come down and we'll  
mail you to space camp.

ANIKA

We can do that?

RAY

With no return address.

ANIKA

Come on Horn, why are you doing  
this it's Christmas?

HORN

Just another day for the ruler of  
the universe.

Horn zooms the rocket hand to hand.

ANIKA

(to Ray)

Has he always been like this?

RAY

Well the ruler of the Universe  
there mostly attends a lot of  
ceremonial tea parties. Always sits  
in between the Drink and Wet doll  
and Barbie fashionista.

ANIKA

Oh I see.

RAY

It's sure fun to watch. Sometimes  
he drinks seventy five cups of tea  
at one soiree.

ANIKA

That's a lot of wet.

RAY

Little girl even holds his pinky  
out tipping the cup.



HORN

Where are my mighty legions of  
doom!?

MINTY

I will help sir!

Anika and Ray turn around. A little green plastic sea monster thingy with a top heavy medusa head is helplessly graboiding at Anika's leg with the two remaining medusas tentacles it has left.

ANIKA

What is that?

MINTY

I must attack! Conquering my  
courage from the mighty deep Sir!

RAY

Uh, that would be Minty.

ANIKA

Eww, it's little mouth could use a  
few swallows of the brown  
mouthwash.

RAY

It is a quite formable secret  
weapon.

Holding onto the star, Horn merry-go-rounds the top of the Christmas tree.

HORN

So loyal is he.

Minty salute waves with his two snaking tentacles.

MINTY

My liege.

Minty goes in for the full lipped gum biting attack.

Anika shakes her leg out while holding her nose, giving Ray the side-eye.

ANIKA

It's little mouth slobber is  
starting to burn my skin.

RAY

Two day bath soak in vanilla  
extract is the only cure, trust me.

ANIKA

It's the only hope I have.

All of the sudden Christmas ornaments come firing down from the top of the tree.

HORN

Meteor attack! Meteor attack! Make  
a wish elfin Earthlings!

Anika and Ray dodge out of the way as ornaments, baubles and balls rain down upon them, bobbling across the floor after crash landing.

RAY

Catch them and throw them back.

ANIKA

No don't, if Horn falls it might  
break the rocket.

Horn climbs above the star and zoom booms the rocket around his horn.

HORN

I have discovered no intelligent  
life. Ah, Ha, Ha, you'll never  
catch me!

Anika, still trying to shake Minty loose falls back finally dislodging him.

Minty slides back across the floor tumbling to a stop.

ANIKA

I can breathe, that stink is so, so  
real.

RAY

Well now what?

ANIKA

Shake the tree and catch him. But  
catch the rocket first.

HORN

You will never dislodge me! I am  
Christmas past, present and future.  
Again Minty, Again! Ho, Ho, Ho Hee!

RAY

That Ho, Ho, Ho just ain't right,  
just ain't right. That's Santa  
sacred call.

ANIKA

Yeah Horn. Sometime you just have to know when--

HORN

Ho, Ho, Ho, Hee. Ho, Ho, Ho, Hee!

RAY

That'll never be right!

Minty back up and on the attack, gum slops his little mouth brewing a fresh batch of clammy slobber.

MINTY

The floor is lava!

ANIKA

You're on the floor.

MINTY

(dancing)

Hot, hot, hot. Hot, hot, hot hee!

ANIKA

No it's not, just because you say it doesn't mean it is.

Minty takes in a huge breath and smiles a tight lipped smile.

ANIKA (CONT'D)

Well aren't you somethin'.

RAY

Get back!

Anika looks up at Horn.

RAY (CONT'D)

No!

Minty blows an air-dart cloud of foul right at Anika's face.

Anika is hit dead center by the funky foul blast of Minty mouth fog.

ANIKA

(gasping)

Brush your teeth two times a day kids.

Anika falls back flat on her back, feet stiff up in the air.

RAY

Anika!

Anika jumps quickly up looking around.

ANIKA  
Where Did He GO?

RAY  
He's taking another breath!

ANIKA  
No Horn!, he's not up the tree.

Horn immediately spins out from around the tree his arm pulse powering the rocket overhead.

HORN  
Roger Elvystons you have a problem.

Horn blasts right through Anika and Ray and hops over Minty and out of the living room just as Minty lets out another belchy beast.

Anika suddenly holds her breath as her eyes start to pop out.

RAY  
You can't out last it. It lingers  
into your skin.

Anika blows out strong, jutting her hand up to her mouth.

ANIKA  
Minty please, what will it take to  
make you stop?? We can come to some  
sort of deal. I have to get that  
rocket back it's my duty.

Minty suddenly stops sucking the fresh air from the room.

MINTY  
All of Santas cookies for the next  
three years. Ovaltine for Santas  
milk which I get half of and I  
don't have to sit at the kiddy  
table during tea parties any more.

ANIKA  
DEAL!

RAY  
Wait! That little girl has those  
tea parties well traditioned about  
where everyone sits.

ANIKA

Well, we will just have to keep you out of the box so you can make it happen.

MINTY

Anika said deal.

RAY

Deal!

MINTY

I'll be ready when you are, I hope.

Horn comes charging into the living room with the rocket spinning on a finger high over his head.

HORN

Behold my rocket power! So fast, so strong I'm unstoppable!

ANIKA

Ray, keep him in front of you.

RAY

Got it.

Ray sprints in front of the snow globe coffee table.

RAY (CONT'D)

In place.

Anika runs to the end of the snow globe ranch.

ANIKA

Now you're trapped Horn.

Horn jumps up on the couch behind the coffee table, jumping up and down higher on the cushions with each jump.

HORN

All through the house not even a mouse can catch me. Ho, Ho, Ho, Hee! I am impervious to even gravity!

ANIKA

Still not right.

RAY

Nope.

Minty bobbles in the middle of the living room as Horn bounces into the stratosphere.

RAY (CONT'D)

Now what? Horn's already jumped thirty five times.

ANIKA

Something will happen it always happens.

RAY

Something happens is your plan? Well good to know. That's a hope and a wish. That's just believing in something you don't even know.

ANIKA

That's the spirit of Christmas!

RAY

OK, the spirit of Christmas is our plan. Why not.

MINTY

Sir that is quite high. You might bump your horn on the ceiling and get an ouchie.

HORN

Never Minty my one true friend. I am in complete mission control. Watch me lose these candy brains again.

MINTY

For the spirit of Christmas cookies Sir!

HORN

(singing)

You're beginning to look a lot like losers!

ANIKA

This guys too much.

RAY

He burns himself out on reentry?

Horn starts bouncing where his horn is almost touching the ceiling.

HORN

Ten, nine, eight.

HORN AND RAY  
Seven, six, five, four,

RAY  
He counts well.

Minty vacuums in the air around him.

HORN, RAY AND ANIKA  
Three, two, one, BLASTOFF!

Horn launches high over snowglobeville and the elves with the rocket ship soaring way out in front of him.

HORN  
Look at me now Santa, look at me  
now. Ho, Ho, Ho, Hee!

All of the sudden Minty lets loose with a bucket mouth blast so foul that paint begins to peel off of everything is slimes on.

HORN (CONT'D)  
Ho, Ho Noooo!!!!

Horn curls in midair and begins to drop like a rock.

ANIKA  
Minty the rocket! Catch the  
rocket!!!

Ray turns to help and Minty dances and bobbles around under the rockets growing shadow above him.

ANIKA (CONT'D)  
The rocket!

MINTY  
(over and over)  
The spirit of Christmas...

Minty lies flat on his back with all appendages up waving in the air and he huffs and puffs.

ANIKA  
Rocket!

Minty blast out a belchorama funkenstein.

The rocket racing and plunging into the immovable force of stink and stunk.

ANIKA (CONT'D)  
I can't watch.

RAY  
 (quickly)  
 Five, four, three, two, One!

At the last second the rocket quietly rest gently onto Minty's trembling two tentacles and bipeds.

ANIKA  
 The spirit of Christmas!--look  
 Out!!

Ray swoops in just in time pushing a hurdling Horn from crushing Minty and the rocket sending Horn speed crashing towards the fireplace.

RAY  
 (to Anika)  
 Look out!

Anika does a matador move just in time while grabbing Horns rainbowed chest, slowing him down as Horn booms down and skids across the floor.

ANIKA  
 (winking back at Ray)  
 Ole!

HORN  
 My rainbow?!

Anika looks down stunned, clutching the hand drawn prism in her hand.

HORN (CONT'D)  
 Why Minty why.

ANIKA  
 Oh no... I'm so sorry...

Anika starts to fully tear up.

MINTY  
 I'm sorry to Sir, Santas cookies  
 Ovaltine and I no longer have to  
 sit at the kiddy table at tea  
 parties.

HORN  
 That's a good deal my friend, I  
 whole heartily forgive you.



MINTY

Thank you Sir, we'll have tea together. And I'll share one cookie.

ANIKA

(beside herself stunned)  
I'm supposed to protect, not hurt anyone? What have I done? What have I done?

RAY

I'd say Anika one, Horn zero. Nice use of super powers Minty.

MINTY

Thank you Ray, a cookie for you to.

Horn barely holding his head up looks at his belly where all of his stuffing is burst out around him.

HORN

My stuffing is purple. I knew I was royalty.

RAY

You were right about that Horn.

MINTY

A boo, boo!

ANIKA

I just can't believe it.

Minty starts to run towards Horn with a tear in his eye, his tentacles drooping.

HORN

(picking at his chest)  
Iv'e lost a lot of stuffing buddy, not enough good stuff to put back in.

MINTY

We can try my friend Sir.

HORN

Between the both of us we don't know how to sew half a stich.

ANIKA

(snapping out of it)  
I can sew? I can sew! It used to be my job.

HORN

I feel like I ate a Santa sack of  
candy...

ANIKA

Ray does the Mom sew.

RAY

Sewed my belt back on!

ANIKA

Go get a needle and some thread.

RAY

On it like strips on a candy cane.

HORN

I see memories...

MINTY

Oh Sir.

Horns head falls back against the floor and he starts to pant heavily. A low sad horn sound bellows into the room.

HORN

uh hooooog, uh hooooooooooooog...

ANIKA

Minty, throw pillows!

Minty bobbles to the couch.

ANIKA (CONT'D)

It's going to be ok, this isn't  
that bad.

HORN

(faintly)

Your super power must be  
optimism...

Minty with his two now mighty tentacles begins throwing pillows off the couch all around the room.

ANIKA

No! Don't throw pillows, bring me a  
throw pillow for the stuffing.

MINTY

Oops, Bringing!

HORN

He follows orders exactly. A great number two

ANIKA

Gotta have the nose for it.

Minty bobbles over bouncing the biggest pillow above his little big green head.

ANKIA

Thanks Minty, I'll take that.

Anika unzips the pillow. Thousands of small feathers burst into the air.

MINTY

It's snowing Sir.

HORN

I see that Minty, the spirit of Christmas.

MINTY

The spirit of Christmas Sir.

ANIKA

Quick Minty, grab as many feathers from the air as you can and stuff them in fast.

Minty and Anika grab all around the swirling plumes, as they begin stuffing feathers into Horn.

HORN

Uh hooog, uh hooooooog...

ANIKA

These down feathers will have to do Horn, You'll fly a little light now.

HORN

I love the fowl.

MINTY

Thank you Sir.

ANIKA

Wait a minute? There's a kazoo in you. That must be why you're making that uh hooog sound. You want me to take it out?

HORN

No leave it in. The little girl  
must have put it in there for a  
reason.

Anika suddenly looks up at the living room bay window.

ANIKA

Is that the sun starting coming  
up!? Santa is going to be here any  
second to pick me up.

HORN

And the children will come running  
in too.

Ray comes racing into the living room carrying a needle and a  
flowing ribbon of thread.

RAY

RUN!!!

Anika and Minty twist around while Horn barely lifts his  
head.

RAY (CONT'D)

Elk is right behind me! Elk is  
right behind me!

Anika quickly takes the needle and thread from Ray.

ANIKA

We have to do this now, hold him  
off somehow.

MINTY

That antler furred meany chewed off  
most of my tentacles.

Anika quickly eyes the needle, places the rainbow on Horns  
chest and begins to stitch.

ANIKA

Sorry if it hurts. This will put  
the bounce right back in you Horn.

HORN

I can see the surface of Mars...

RAY

(talking fast)

Minty I have calculated that if you  
take in twenty quick deep breaths  
you will have the power to knock  
Elk back with a funkified breath  
blow.

Elk pounces wildly into the room claws splayed, talons out.

MINTY

(patting his belly)

To all that is foul and funk, the  
churning fruitcake in trunk!

Horn raises his head higher.

HORN

That finally explains it.

Elk is charging harder towards them, hissing and grunting.

Minty starts hurriedly breathing in, his little belly  
expanding out into the room.

RAY

Seventeen, eighteen, nineteen--

ANIKA

It's gonna blow!

HORN

Uh hooooog!

RAY

To the power of fruitcake!

Elk bounces a mighty leap, claws wide out front scratching at  
the air.

Minty, head back, belly taught like a big bass drum, stands  
proud and perfectly still.

MINTY

BLOACH!!!!!!

A mighty, mighty funk fruity blast launches from deep inside  
minty, hitting Elk hard midair.

Anika ties and tightens the last stitch on Horns rainbow with  
a good tug and a smile.

ANIKA  
 (looking up)  
 Oh Wow!

RAY  
 That can't be good?

Still soaring Elks fur suddenly turns bright white and poof puff up and out.

HORN  
 Like a firework.

RAY  
 Ho, Ho, Ho, Hee!

Elk drops and thuds straight down to the ground.

MINTY  
 (licking his lips)  
 Tasty.

HORN  
 You did it my friend.

RAY  
 Does Santa need a cat?

ANIKA  
 That is very, very white.

ELK  
 (like a kitten)  
 Meow.

Elk starts to take a tongue bath.

MINTY  
 I call it seashell white.

We hear a rustling from up in the chimney.

SANTA  
 Ho, Ho, Ho.

ANIKA  
 Oh no, no, no, he's here. The  
 rocket ship! I had one job.

Minty quickly grabs the rocket ship with his tentacles and zooms towards the boxes under the tree.

RAY  
 That Minty kid need a medal.

ANIKA

Only I know how to tie Santas bow.

Ray helps Horn up to his feet and Horn salutes Minty.

HORN

He is special.

Anika hurry's over to the Christmas tree just as Minty finishes wrapping, tentacles in a whirl.

SANTA

(still coming down the chimney)

Hi, Ho, Ho, Ho. Anika it's a bit tighter fit this time with all the cookies I ate tonight.

Anika grabs the end of the bow ribbon.

ANIKA

Minty, tentacle.

Minty slaps a tentacle down on the ribbon and off just as Aniks cinches it tight

Santa plops down on the floor of the chimney.

SANTA

Ho, Ho, Ho. Well look at you all having a party and no one cleaned up the pumpkin pie.

ANIKA

Hi Santa how was the night?

SANTA

You know, cookies, milk and fruitcake.

MINTY

Hi I'm Minty, I love fruitcake.

SANTA

Well good for you little buddy, that's one in a row. You sure are a scary view.

HORN

Wow! Santa in the flesh, I'm Horn.

SANTA

You are quite the fantastical sight. That Horn is great!

(MORE)

SANTA (CONT'D)  
I could use you sitting on  
Rudolph's head as a cloud breaker.

HORN  
I'm newly sewn up, looking tight.

Horn slaps his belly with both hands and a small feather pops  
out of a stitch.

ANIKA  
He had a minor accident with a  
rocket. My tailor skills sure came  
in handy.

HORN  
Ready to launch again.

SANTA  
As long as the rockets ready for  
lift off.

ANIKA  
(nervously smiling)  
Your bows are ready for the kidies.

RAY  
You are much shorter in person.

SANTA  
Oh and I'm rounder to, Ho, Ho, Ho.

ANIKA  
Minty here helped me guard the  
presents.

RAY  
He has a secret weapon.

HORN  
A great defender.

ANIKA  
Can bring a tear to your eyes.

RAY  
Powered by fruitcake!

MINTY  
Did I mention I love the fruitcake?

Santa reaches in his pockets.



SANTA

I might have some left over for you...

RAY

Oh no that's OK please don't.

ANIKA

Yeah Santa Sir he's had plenty.

SANTA

Ho, Ho, Ho. Well maybe someday I can teach you some karate moves.

Santa starts whipping and swing his arms and legs showing off some lumbering kicks and jabs.

MINTY

That would be so fun Mister Santa Dude.

HORN

Minty!

SANTA

I love Santa Dude. Next year I'll fly in early and we'll give it a go, Ho, Ho, Ho.

Ray

Kung Fu Christmas.

SANTA

Indeed! Ho, Ho, Ho. Well Anika it looks like you did your duty and made some good friends but the kids will be coming down any second.

ANIKA

It was fun, I'm going to miss you all.

SANTA

So Horn the offers open if you still want to ride on Rudolph's head?

HORN

As nice as that offer is, I would miss my friend Minty to much.

MINTY

Thank you Sir.

ANIKA

I could show you around the North Pole.

HORN

No thanks, the little girl would miss me at her tea parties. My pinky out and bib on, she lives for it. Maybe when she's older.

RAY

She put him in a dress once.

MINTY

He looked pretty nice indeed.

Horn rolls his eyes at Minty.

SANTA

And that's ok, Ho, Ho, Ho.

MINTY

I no longer have to sit at the kiddy table with the Fisher-Price gang.

SANTA

Good, good, Ho, Ho, Ho. Well we really need to get the sleigh in the air.

ANIKA

Sorry Santa, but could Ray go with us? He's in a dark damp box most of the year.

HORN

I hear the children upstairs!

Santa opens up his bag.

SANTA

Better hop in Anika.

ANIKA

He could work in the toy workshop.

SANTA

If you're sure, there's no coming back 'till next year. The more the merrier. Ho, Ho, Ho.

HORN

We will sure miss you at Halloween  
and Thanksgiving.

RAY

Can be an accountant?

MINTY

They're coming down the stairs  
Mister Santa Dude.

ANIKA

An accountant?

SANTA

Sure, we have a lot of toys to  
count. It's in the bag! Ho, Ho, Ho.

Anika quickly runs and gives Horn and Minty hugs.

ANIKA

Bye Horn, bye Minty. I'll miss you.

HORN

Uh hoooooooooooooooooga! Ho, Ho, Ho  
Hee!

SANTA

Anika did you miss a stitch?

ANIKA

That's his magic of Christmas.

MINTY

Santa, Ray loves watching the yule  
log TV, I hope you have that  
channel.

SANTA

I secretly have the extreme cable  
polar package.

Anika and Ray with one last wave hop in the bag.

Santa throws the black bag over his shoulder and races for  
the chimney.

SANTA (CONT'D)

Trick or treat.

Santa stops, reaches up on the mantle piece, grabs a glass  
and take a quick gulp of milk.

SANTA (CONT'D)

Belch!

MINTY

Hey that's my milk! I made a deal.

SANTA

That's for next year my Minty  
friend, Santa knows all.

SANTA (CONT'D)

(smiling back at Minty)

Belch!

MINTY

(Minty smiles back big)

BLOOooooOAAACH!

Santa disappears up the chimney.

SANTA (O.S.)

Oh my, that'll melt snow!

**THE END**