

# The Christmas Deadline



A performance by George Alleyne Hall

Written by: Raphiel Collins

Performed by: Drama Department

**Title:** "The Christmas Deadline"

**Setting:** A university library during the holiday season.

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**Act 1: The Problem (15 minutes)**

**Scene 1: The Library**

*(Lights up. A cluttered library table decorated half-heartedly with tinsel. Several students are seated, frantically working on laptops and papers. In the background, faint Christmas music plays from someone's phone.)*

**Characters:**

- **Alex:** The overachiever who's juggling too much.
- **Sam:** The class clown with a knack for procrastination.
- **Taylor:** The perfectionist worried about group projects.
- **Jordan:** The chill international student who misses their family.
- **Ms. Carol:** The quirky librarian with a secret love for karaoke.

**Dialogue:**

*Alex:* (Panicked) "I've got three essays, two presentations, and a lab report due by tomorrow. I can't believe I'm saying this, but I wish Christmas was canceled!"

*Sam:* (Leaning back with a candy cane) "Relax, Alex. Deadlines come and go, but Christmas? That's forever."

*Taylor:* (Typing furiously) "Some of us actually care about grades, Sam."

*Jordan:* (Looking out the window wistfully) "Back home, we'd be having a feast right now. Instead, I'm stuck here with you lot."

*Ms. Carol:* (Popping up suddenly) "Bah humbug, all of you! Christmas is no time for sulking. Maybe what you need is a little... holiday magic."

*(Ms. Carol pulls out a mysterious, glowing snow globe and places it on the table. Everyone stares at it in confusion.)*

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## Scene 2: The Snow Globe's Magic

*(Ms. Carol explains the snow globe's legend: whoever holds it will face challenges that test their holiday spirit. They scoff but agree to "try it" to distract themselves.)*

- **Taylor:** Wishes for "everything to be perfect."
- **Sam:** Wishes for "no deadlines, ever."
- **Jordan:** Wishes to bring family traditions to campus.
- **Alex:** Wishes for "super productivity."

*(As they hold the snow globe, the room spins, lights flicker, and the scene shifts.)*

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## Act 2: The Wish Chaos (30 minutes)

### Scene 3: Taylor's Perfection

- Taylor wakes up in a world where everything is perfect, but *too perfect*.
- All the decorations are symmetrical, the food is tasteless because it's "calorie-perfect," and everyone acts robotic.
- Taylor learns the importance of embracing imperfection.

### Scene 4: Sam's No Deadlines

- Sam wakes up in a chaotic university where *nothing* has deadlines.
- Classes are incomplete, professors are frustrated, and nothing gets done.
- Sam realizes deadlines give life structure and purpose.

### Scene 5: Jordan's Family Traditions

- Jordan brings their cultural traditions to campus, but everyone misunderstands them at first.
- A humorous mix-up happens with a festive dish or tradition.
- Eventually, the students learn to appreciate and embrace diversity in celebrations.

## Scene 6: Alex's Productivity Overload

- Alex becomes a "productivity robot," working non-stop.
- Friends feel neglected, and Alex burns out.
- Alex learns to balance work with rest and connection.

*(Each scene ends with the character holding the snow globe, realizing their lesson, and being transported back to the library.)*

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## Act 3: The Resolution (15 minutes)

### Scene 7: Back to Reality

*(Everyone is back in the library. The snow globe stops glowing.)*

- The group reflects on their experiences, laughing at the absurdity but appreciating the lessons.
- They decide to pause their work and host a last-minute Christmas celebration in the library.

### Scene 8: The Library Party

- They string lights, make a DIY tree out of textbooks, and share food from their cultures.
- Ms. Carol performs a surprise karaoke number, dragging the students into a festive sing-along.

### Finale:

*(Lights dim, and the group gathers to toast with mugs of hot chocolate.)*

Alex: "Okay, maybe Christmas isn't so bad after all."

Jordan: "Especially when you've got friends like this."

*(Everyone raises their mugs.)*

All: "Merry Christmas!"

*(Curtains close as the group laughs and the faint sound of a Christmas carol plays.)*

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### Additional Notes:

- **Props:** Snow globe, laptop, library decor, DIY Christmas decorations.
- **Costumes:** Casual student wear with festive accessories (Santa hats, tinsel scarves).
- **Music:** Classic Christmas carols for transitions and background, plus one energetic karaoke number.
- **Run Time:**
  - Act 1: 15 minutes
  - Act 2: 30 minutes (7-8 minutes per subplot)
  - Act 3: 15 minutes