**The Christmas Deadline**

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**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.

**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.)*

**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.)*

**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.)*

**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.)*

**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