

A Country Christmas

Cast

Meryl (Meemaw) - Evelyn Rivas

George (Peepaw) - Christian Rodriguez

Cynthia (Mom) - Isabella Rodriguez

Henry (Dad) - Noah

Daisy - Maria

Lucy - Elianna Diaz

Willa - Amaya

Wren - Ellie H.

River - Josiah

Dancers

Choreographer - Jocy Garcia

Lillian

Aryanna

Moriah

Leya

Amelia

Ellie H.

Amaya

Elliana

Maria

Carolers

Lillian

Aryanna

Moriah

Leya

Amelia

Micah

Aliya

Hannah

Elija

Jared

Scene 1

Dance - Christmas Is by Francesca Battistelli

** Meemaw is frantically getting things ready for the family that will be arriving shortly for their annual Christmas dinner**

** Meemaw is asleep in the recliner in the living room**

** Meemaw is talking to herself going over everything that has been done and will need to be done before the family arrives**

Meemaw: OKAY! Roast is in the oven, table is set, presents are under the tree, stockings are filled and hung, Beds are made up for the kids, toys are set out, what else could I possibly be missing? Oh, I need to get the nativity out. Oh, and George, did you move the truck and trailer so everyone can park in the driveway?

Peepaw is still asleep and snoring

Meemaw: George?..... George!..... GEORGE!!!!

Peepaw is startled. He wakes up in a dramatic, frantic and confused state and starts yellin

Peepaw: HEY NOW! I DIDN'T DO IT!! I WAS FRAMED!

** Meemaw walks slowly over to George and puts hands on her hips**

Meemaw: Didn't do what exactly, George?

Peepaw I- I dunno, whatever it is I'm being accused of?

Meemaw: George!! How long have you been asleep for?

Peepaw: I wasn't sleeping! I was just resting my eyes...

Meemaw: Mhm, yeah, okay, and how long have you been "resting your eyes" for?

Peepaw: Only about 5 min.... to an hour-ish..

Meemaw: Okay, well, I hope your eyes feel well rested, the family will be here any minute. Did you move the truck and trailer?

Peepaw: I sure did! Just like you asked!

Meemaw: Oh, really?

Meemaw walks to stage left and looks out imaginary window

Meemaw: So did our neighbors two miles down the road just suddenly need to park their truck and trailer in our driveway for convenience?

Peepaw walks over to look out imaginary window with her

peepaw: If I said yes, would you believe me?

They both start giggling; Grandma wacks him with oven mitt

Meemaw: Would you just go move it please!

Peepaw: Alright, alright, I'll be right back!

Meemaw walks around, glancing over the beautifully decorated house and begins to pray.

Meemaw: Lord, thank you for this day, thank you for this home. Thank you for this blessed life you've given to us. Lord, may we never take them for granted and may we always put you first. Father, I pray that as we sit and feast and fellowship with one another, that you will be glorified. Help us to remember that it's You we are celebrating. It's not the gifts, or the decorations, or the stockings or food. It's you. Help my grandkids to grow and learn that too as we read about you tonight. Let us never forget the gift of Noel. In Jesus name, amen.

Dance: Noel by Lauren Daigle

Scene 2

Peepaw: Truck and trailer have been moved, anything else Darlin'?

Meemaw: No, I don't think so, just go put on that sweater I got for you. Oh and please bring out the nativity. I know how much the kids love to look at it. That heirloom wasn't passed down for generations just to be sitting in a box on Christmas Day.

Peepaw: Alrighty, ill be right back!!

Doorbell rings

Meemaw: OH! The kids are here!!!!

** Meemaw goes to open the door while primping herself**

Everyone shuffles in, greeting each other and Meemaw

Meemaw: Hello hello, come in! Come in! How I've missed you guys. Lucy, Daisy, Wren, Willa, River! Hows everyone doin'?

Lucy: I was the lead in the school play.

Daisy: I became captain of the hip hop team.

River: I learned a new trick on my skateboard

Wren: I learned how to rollerblade

Willa: I broke my arm learning how to rollerblade

Meemaw: Oh! you kids, I just have so much joy in my heart seeing your sweet faces.

Face drops from smile to frown and yells. Startling the children

Meemaw: GEORGE!!!!!!!!!! You're kids and grandkids are here and they are adorable and you're missing it!

Peepaw yells from another room

Peepaw: I'M COMIN, JUST CANT SEEM TO FIND THAT HEIRLOOM NATIVITY!!!!!!

Meemaw turns to Cynthia and Henry

Meemaw: And y'all Honey, how are y'all doin'?

Cynthia: Oh, we're good. Just excited to have the kids at home for Christmas.

Henry: Excited? More like EXHAUSTED!!!

Cynthia: Henry, so Dramatic! thats where our Lucy gets it from. She actually did pretty well in the school play!

Meemaw: Oh! I wish I could have been there! Next time!

Henry: Well, we took a video of it and can watch it later. However, I'm sure Daisy would also love to perform the hip hop number for you two.

Meemaw: Yes! George and I would love to see that!

Cynthia: Speaking of dad, where is he?

Meemaw: Oh yeah! GEEOOORRRRRGGGGGEEEEEE!!!!!!!!!!

George enters from stage left

Peepaw: I do believe that is the sweet sound of my wife's voice.

grandkids see him and run to give him hugs* *Maybe even trampling him

Peepaw: WHOA WHOA WHOA! be careful! Peepaws joints aren't what they used to be!

Grandkids in unison

Grandkids: Sorry peepaw.

Peepaw: It's alright! Why don't y'all head to the dining room and grab your seats. Us adults will be there in a moment.

Grandkids: OKAY!

Grandkids walk over to table and take a seat

Daisy: I'm Soooo excited to chow down!!

River: Yeah, Me too!

Lucy: Me too! Especially since Wren ate ALL the snacks on our car rid up here.

Wren: I DID NOT! It was River!

River: NAW AW! I only ate the the pirates booty! It was LUCY!

Lucy: NO WAY! Daisy Mae finished off the last of the snacks!!

Daisy: Well, I'm sorry! I'm an athlete, I have to stay nourished.

Willa: Break dancing is NOT an athletic sport!

Daisy: It's HIP HOP and it Sure is! It was even in the olympics this past summer..... Okay Nevermind, forget I said that. But still! I work hard!

Wren: Anyways, I'm also so excited to hear the Bible story and and see Meemaws face light up when she sets out the nativity. Its so pretty. You know its been passed down former centuries!

Willa: Oh yeah! I'm so excited too! Hey, what do you think is taking them so long?

We now see the adults in the living room talking in hushed tones

Cynthia: Dad! What do you mean you can't find the Nativity?

Peepaw: I searched through ALL the Christmas bins and drawers in the storage closet! I can't FIND IT!

Meemaw: There's gotta be another place we haven't searched.

Peepaw: I'm tellin' ya, I've searched every nook and cranny. It's no where to be found!

Henry: Maybe it's at our house.

Cynthia: Why would it be at our house?

Henry: I don't know, maybe we accidentally scooped it up last Christmas when we were packing up to leave.

Meryl: No, no. I- I remember last Christmas I was packing everything away and actually made a donation box of different Christmas decorations. Maybe somehow it fell in?

Cynthia: Oh no, Mom, I'm so sorry. Maybe we can find a similar one? It doesn't change the story any.

Meemaw: It's alright! Lets worry about this later and go eat. I'm sure those kids are starving.

They all walk over to kitchen table where kids are readily sitting to eat.

Daisy: Hey! What took y'all so long?

Peepaw: Sorry kids, had to sort something out.

Willa: What did you have to sort out?

Meemaw: Nothing it's not important

Wren: Then why does it look like you're is about to cry?

Peepaw: Okay kids, the fact of the matter is that we cant find the Nativity.

All kids: WHAT?!

All kids talking over each other

Henry: Kids kids! Please calm down, it's gonna be okay

Lucy: Yes! It will be, cuz we'll help y'all look for it after dinner.

George: Well, we think it might have been donated.

KIDS: Donated?!

Lucy falls to the ground as she says this next line

Lucy: CHRISTMAS IS RUINED!!!!

River: Your performance in the play is over Daisy, get off the floor.

Daisy: Well, I'm sorry that we cant find it Meemaw. But I know what will cheer you up! FOOD! Lets munch!

Cynthia: Be little more sympathetic. Why don't you show her your hip hop number?

Daisy: Without proper nourishment?!

Henry: DAISY!

Daisy: Okay! But after WE FEAST!

Dance - Little drummer boy by Toby Mac

Scene 3

Peepaw: HWOW! That was just the most amazing thing I've ever seen! Wasn't that just the most amazing thing you've ever seen. That was just the most amazing thing I've ever seen

Meemaw: That was amazing! You are so talented and I can tell you have worked so hard!

Daisy: I have!! That was the dance number that lead us to victory at the dance championships.

Meemaw: Well, you deserve it hun!

Lucy: So are you feeling any better?

River: Yeah, Meemaw, are you any less sad?

Wren: Any less sad at all?!

Meemaw: That was just the best! It definitely helped!

Willa: But you're not all the way happy?

Meemaw: Well, if I'm being completely honest, I'm still a little sad over the missing heirloom. But it's okay!

Daisy: Oh well, you win some, you lose some, I'm sure a nice hot meal will cheer you up! LETS PRAY!

Lucy: NO NO NO! I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT WILL CHEER YOU UP MEEMAW!

Walks to center stage and looks out into the crowd with an ominous look on her face

Lucy: ACTING! This is the monologue that got me the leading role in my last production. I call it "Christmas is"

I Love Christmas, the lights, the music, the sounds, the laughter, the good tidings of great joy! Joy, JOY! It's all just so wonderful. Until one day you're walking to school and BAM! It hits you! Christmas parties are coming, family gatherings, Church celebrations! Which all mean ONE THING! Presents! So you run to the mall. You run, run, run, as fast as you can, you cant catch me! I'm THE "Gingerbread Man". You make it to the mall. You find what you're looking for. The perfect Hat for sister, the baseball bat for brother, the charcuterie board for mom, the Astros Jersey for dad. You even find the hypoallergenic, dairy free, gluten free, non GMO, unscented, Pineapple for your friend Aubrey. You feel success, until you realize... BAM!...Christmas isn't about all this. Its not about the mall, or the lights, or the music, or the gifts. It's about the ULTIMATE GIFT. JESUS! The one who came down as a baby to be born in a stable, who was put in a manger and was surrounded by not AMAZING gifts, or lights, or decor. But by animals. *Makes animal noises* He came in such a humble way to save us and show us how to slow down, enjoy life, and be Humble.

Lucy: And SCENE!

Henry: Wow! Wasn't that something!

Cynthia: That was spectacular hun! Wasn't that spectacular guys!

motions for them to say something

everyone: Oh yeah, wow, spectacular, very moving, breathtaking, amazing! Best thing I've ever seen in my entire life.

Lucy: Thank you! I worked on that for SO LONG! I didn't want it to be boring or slow, but also not too dramatic! Some actors can just be a little too much and take things too far, ya know what I mean?

Stares at them, waiting for a reaction

mom motions for them to say something again

Everyone: Oh yeah, for sure, we know what you mean, too much? Never! That was just spot on perfection.

Daisy: So meemaw! I bet that got your tummy rumbling! Grandpa, why don't you do the honors! Everyone join hands!

Henry: NOW, now, wait a minute! We haven't asked Meemaw how's she's doing!

Lucy: Any better?

Meemaw: I mean, I am better! It brings me so much joy to see you kids perform.

Willa: Sooooo, no more sadness?

Meemaw: Well hun, It's gonna take me a while to not be sad about it. But it's okay! Why don't we just get started eating

Daisy: That's the most spectacular idea you've had!

Peepaw: I know what will make you feel better! How bout a lil song!

Daisy: Okay! One more number and then WE DINE!

Dance - Angels we have heard on high by Christian Rodriguez

Scene 4

Meemaw: That was just the most beautiful performance. Thank you George!

Peepaw: Anything for you darlin'!

Daisy stands up and claps loudly

Daisy: Beautiful! Absolutely beautiful, wish we could hear more but the foods getting cold. LETS DEVOUR!

Lucy: Now hold on a minute! MeeMaw, how do you feel?

Meryl: Much much better,

River: Just not 100%?

Meemaw: Not quite, but I just know that after some family time and reading the word I'll feel a whole lot better.

Daisy: What better way to spend time with family than sitting around the table EATING!

Meemaw: Okay, everyone joins hands. George, why don't you do the honors?

Peepaw: OKAY!

doorbell rings

Daisy: AWEEE C'MON!

Lucy: Now who's being dramatic?

Daisy Gives her side eye

Peepaw: Now who on earth could that be?

Henry: Were y'all expecting company?

Cynthia: On Christmas day?

Meemaw: Oh, it might be some people from the church. I know a group was going around handing out treats and caroling. They probably thought for sure we'd be finished eating by this time.

Daisy: Yeah, ME TOO!

** Meemaw opens the door**

Carolers: GOD REST YE MERRY GENTLEMEN, MAY NOTHING YOU DISMAY! REMEMBER CHRIST OUR SAVIOUR WAS BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY! TO SAVE US ALL FROM SATANS POWER WHEN WE WERE GONE ASTRAY. O TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND JOY, COMFORT AND JOY, O, TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND JOY.

Family claps

Meryl: That was wonderful!!! Please come in! Warm up for a moment!

Caroler (Ary): Well, we wanted to not only sing to you and bring y'all some treats, but also just wanted to share how much you and George mean to us.

Peepaw: Oh, how nice!

Caroler (Jared): Yes! We've known y'all for a long time and y'all have always been the kindest, warmest people. Always making sure to bring breakfast on Sundays, food to different events and leading different ministries. You guys always lend a helping hand in some way or another and we just really appreciate the both of you!

Meemaw: Oh, thank you so much. I'll be honest, I've kind of been having a difficult day and struggling with keeping my mind on what's important this Christmas.

Caroler (Jared): Well, thanks to you we always remember what's important

Caroler (Micah): JESUS!

Caroler (Ary): Exactly! We love whenever you read us the birth story of Jesus every year, so we wanted to come and read it to you!

Meemaw: That would just warm my heart Dearly!

Lucy: May we join you?

Caroler (Jared): Absolutely!!

All read Luke 2

Peepaw: Well that was just beautiful! Don't you think Meryl?

Wiping her tears

Meemaw: Absolutely! Thank you so much for reminding me what Christmas is all about! I'm so sorry, everyone, for not focusing my mind on where it should be. Christ. Jesus is who we should be celebrating and praising for coming down all those years ago in a humble way. No decorations, no lights, no feast, not even a warm bed. Yet somehow, without all those things, it became one of the greatest stories and is the very reason we're all here today.

Peepaw: That's alright, we all have our moments when we're a little sad. We just have to remember that Jesus is greater than any sorrow we feel here on earth. We'll find a new family heirloom!

Caroler (Ary): OH! Before we head out!! We Brought y'all a little gift. We found it while thrifting and thought y'all just had to have it!

Grandma opens the gift.

Meryl: OH MY GOODNESS!! It's the Nativity heirloom!!

Family rejoices

Lucy falls to the ground

Lucy: IT'S A CHRISTMAS MIRACLE!!!!!!!!!!

Meryl: Well, I don't know about that. But it is a blessing for sure! It honestly doesn't even matter to me anymore. What matters is Jesus. It's because of Him that I have such a blessed life. You carolers want to join us for dinner?

Carolers nod and speak out in agreement

Carolers: Absolutely! We would love to!

Daisy: LETS EAT! But first, one last dance number.

Dance - What a Glorious Night by Sidewalk Prophets

Bows

THE END