

THE CONTEST

'T WAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS AND ALL THROUGHOUT SEM • TEN CREATURES WERE STIRRING; WE'LL MEET EACH OF THEM

THE STOCKINGS WERE TAPED ON THE CHIMNEY WITH CARE • THE GIRLS ALL HAD MILLIONS; BUT IN DAVE'S - COAL WAS THERE

JUANA AND LORI, NESTLED SNUG AT THEIR DESKS • HAD VISIONS OF HEATERS AND WARM SWEATER VESTS

CARLA WAS IN HER KERCHIEF AND WHILE DEBORAH TOOK A NAP • SHE BUSILY ORDERED BOTTLES AND LABELS AND CAPS

WHEN OUT ON THE LAWN THERE AROSE SUCH A CLATTER • WE SPRANG FROM OUR DESKS TO SEE WHAT WAS THE MATTER

AWAY TO THE WINDOW WE FLEW LIKE A FLASH • GOVIND WAS PEEKING TO SEE IF WE'D WON THE CASH

THE SUN, IT WAS BRIGHT AND THERE WAS NO SNOW • OUR WORK WAS ALL DONE, WE WERE READY TO GO

WHEN WHAT TO OUR WONDERING EARS SHOULD APPEAR • BUT A VOICE IN THE HALL THAT RESOUNDED WITH FEAR

AHA! IT WAS BETTY, ESCAPED FROM THE LAB • SHE KNEW WE WERE WINNING, HER ROOM WAS SO DRAB

MORE RAPID THAN EAGLES DOWN THE HALL THEY CAME • THEY WHISTLED AND SHOUTED AND CALLED US BY NAME

NOW JUANA, NOW DEBORAH, NOW CARLA, NOW LORI • THIS IS ALL TRUE, WE'RE NOT TELLING A STORY!

FROM THE TOP OF THE DOOR TO THE END OF THE HALL • WE DASHED AWAY, DASHED AWAY LIGHTS ON THE WALL

AND THEN IN A TWINKLING WE HEARD, AS BEFORE • SOME KNOCKING AND SCRATCHING AND CLAWING THE DOOR

WE DREW IN OUR HANDS AND THEN TURNED AROUND • SANTA GOT STUCK UP THE CHIMNEY, HIS HINEY WAS ROUND

HE WAS DRESSED ALL IN FUR FROM HIS WAIST TO HIS FOOT • BUT HIS CLOTHES WERE STILL CLEAN - WE HAD FAKE SOOT

A BUNDLE OF GOODIES WAS FLUNG BY HIS SIDE • PLUS, A CASE OF CHILI BEEF WAS ALONG FOR THE RIDE

HIS EYES LOOKED LIKE DAVE'S, AS YOU WOULD SUPPOSE • HIS CHEEKS WERE LIKE ROSES. GET A LOAD OF HIS NOSE!

HIS MOUTH WAS WIDE OPEN, WITH TEETH SHINY BRIGHT • AND HIS EYEBROWS WERE ALMOST A DARK SHADE OF WHITE

A CAN OF SPAGHETTIOS WAS TUCKED NEXT TO HIS BELLY • THAT SHOOK, WHEN WE POKED HIM, LIKE A BOWLFUL OF JELLY

HE WAS CHUBBY AND PLUMP, DUE TO FOAM PEANUT STUFFING • WE LAUGHED WHEN WE SAW HIM, TIL WE WERE HUFFING & PUFFING

A WINK OF HIS EYE AND A TWIST OF HIS HEAD • WOULD MAKE HIM FALL OFF AND LOOK LIKE HE WAS DEAD

HE SPOKE NOT A WORD AND HE MADE NOT A SOUND • HE WAS NAILED TO THE DOOR, FOUR FEET FROM THE GROUND

STEVE LAID A FINGER ASIDE OF SANTA'S NOSE • BILL TOUCHED HIS BEARD, AND PACO MESSED WITH HIS CLOTHES

WE SPRANG OUT OF OUR SEATS TO CHASTISE THEM ALL • WE WERE SO FRIGHTENED THAT SANTA WOULD FALL

WE HEARD RICK EXCLAIM AS HE WALKED OUT OF SIGHT • Y'ALL WIN THE CONTEST, YOU GUYS ARE ALRIGHT!