

## **FROM THE DIRECTOR**

Hello, wonderful auditionees! I am your director for A Charlie Brown Christmas, Renee Storm. I'm so excited that you are interested in auditioning! This is going to be "snow" much fun for the holiday season!

\*Charlie Brown\* is a classic and very nostalgic for many people, young and old, which is why my direction for this musical will mirror the original 1965 cartoon. My vision is for the characters to closely imitate the original cartoon characters. That said, I don't expect anyone to mimic a character exactly—I want to see your unique spin on them! I highly recommend watching the original cartoon. You might not find the full version online, but you can find clips on YouTube. You can also check your local library to see if they have the DVD available to rent. If you need help with that, please contact me.

I have provided a few clips that correspond with the sides I've provided for auditions.

You will find a few monologues and sides that will be used at auditions. Not every single character has a side, so make sure to look at the character list provided. Please look over the sides below—there's no need to memorize them.

**\*\*A note on Snoopy:\*\*** Snoopy is one of the most beloved characters of all time and is super important to the show, but doesn't have a ton of lines since he/she is a dog. However, the actor or actress portraying Snoopy must be able to improvise very well and be comfortable doing so. At auditions, along with the Snoopy and Lucy side, I will ask anyone who would like to improvise a dance to the \*Charlie Brown\* theme song. This can include whatever you think would be "Snoopy-like."

In addition to the sides, you will be asked to sing "Jingle Bells." No other music preparation or audition song is required.

I can't wait to see you at auditions! If you have questions, please email ([reneestorm2662@gmail.com](mailto:reneestorm2662@gmail.com)) or text or call me at 304-639-8520.

**\*\*Here are a few clips that may help you in the preparation process:\*\***

Lucy/Charlie:

<https://youtu.be/vzmidvCBeoc?feature=shared>(<https://youtu.be/vzmidvCBeoc?feature=shared>)

Snoopy:

<https://youtu.be/HkXaSgrTXSg?si=mBrjDHC3mK4CLPep>(<https://youtu.be/HkXaSgrTXSg?si=mBrjDHC3mK4CLPep>)

Linus/Lucy (Go to 1:36):

<https://youtu.be/HkXaSgrTXSg?si=mBrjDHC3mK4CLPep>(<https://youtu.be/HkXaSgrTXSg?si=mBrjDHC3mK4CLPep>)

**Side 1 – Charlie Brown**

**CHARLIE BROWN**

I think there must be something wrong with me, Linus. Christmas is coming, but I'm not happy. I don't feel the way I'm supposed to feel. I just don't understand Christmas, I guess. I like getting presents and sending Christmas cards, and decorating trees and all that, but I'm still not happy. I always end up feeling depressed.

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Hello in there! (*Without sound effects.*) Rats! Nobody sent me a Christmas card today. I almost wish there weren't a holiday season. I know nobody likes me. Why do we have to have a holiday season to emphasize it?

**Side 2 – Charlie Brown**

**LINUS**

Good grief.

*(SALLY claps her hands joyfully and walks over to LINUS and leans her head on his shoulder. LINUS hides under his blanket.)*

**SALLY**

Isn't he the cutest thing? He has the nicest sense of humor.

*(LINUS and SALLY exit.)*

**LUCY**

Lunch break. Lunch break.

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Lunch break?

*(SNOOPY enters stage left with his dish, kicking it and playing with it.)*

*(Music starts again (pick up to measure 93).)*

All right, now. There's no time for foolishness. We've got to get on with our play.

**LUCY**

That's right. What about my part? What about the Christmas Queen? Hmm? Are you going to let all this beauty go to waste? You do think I'm beautiful, don't you, Charlie Brown? You didn't answer me right away. You had to think about it first, didn't you? If you really had thought I was beautiful, you would have spoken right up. I know when I've been insulted. I know when I've been insulted!

*(LUCY exits stage right.)*

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Good grief. All right, let's take it from the top again. Places. Action.

*(Music starts again (pick up to measure 109) and the KIDS dance again.)*

Cut! Cut! No, no no! We have to practice! Stop!

*(LUCY enters stage left.)*

**Side 2 (cont.) – Charlie Brown**

**LUCY**

Charlie Brown, isn't it a great play?

*(Music stops abruptly.)*

**CHARLIE BROWN**

That does it. Now, look. If we're ever to get this play off the ground, we've got to have some cooperation.

**LUCY**

What's the matter, Charlie Brown? Don't you think it's great?

**CHARLIE BROWN**

It's all wrong.

**LUCY**

Look, Charlie. Let's face it. We all know that Christmas is a big commercial racket. It's run by a big eastern syndicate, you know.

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Well, this is one play that's not going to be commercial.

**LUCY**

Look, Charlie Brown. What do you want?

**CHARLIE BROWN**

The proper mood. We need a Christmas tree.

**LUCY**

Hey, perhaps a tree. A great, big, shiny aluminum Christmas tree. That's it, Charlie Brown. You get the tree. I'll handle *this* crowd.

*(The GROUP gathers around CHARLIE BROWN and LUCY.)*

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Okay. I'll take Linus with me. The rest of you, practice your lines.

**LUCY**

Get the biggest aluminum tree you can find, Charlie Brown. Maybe paint it pink.

Side 2 (cont.) – Charlie Brown

**PATTY**

Yeah. Do something right for a change, Charlie Brown.

*(Music starts again (pick up to measure 147).)*

*(CHARLIE BROWN and LINUS move stage left and look to the sky as the rehearsal dissolves. Everyone exits stage right taking the piano with them. SHERMY takes off the director's chair and megaphone stage left. Music in.)*

*(We are outside as a number of Christmas trees appear stage right center upstage. CHARLIE BROWN and LINUS walk to them.)*

**CHARLIE BROWN**

I don't know, Linus. I just don't know. Well, I guess we'd better concentrate on finding a nice Christmas tree.

**Side 3 – Linus**

**LINUS**

Sure, Charlie Brown. I can tell you what Christmas is all about.

*(LINUS walks to center stage, dragging his blanket.)*

*(Optional sound effects: Add reverb to LINUS's voice.)*

Lights, please?

*(The lights dim. In a solo spot, LINUS begins telling his story.)*

*(The KIDS enter quietly from stage left, one by one, and gather around the stage to listen.)*

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field,  
keeping watch over their flock by night.

And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them,  
and the glory of the Lord shone round about them,  
and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them,  
“Fear not: for, behold, I bring you tidings of great joy,

which will be to all people.

For unto you is born this day  
in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you.

Ye shall find the babe wrapped in  
swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.”

And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude  
of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”

*(LINUS picks up his blanket and approaches CHARLIE BROWN. Sound effects is off.)*

That's what Christmas is all about, Charlie Brown.

**Side 4 – Lucy**

**LUCY**

That's right. What about my part? What about the Christmas Queen? Hmm? Are you going to let all this beauty go to waste? You do think I'm beautiful, don't you, Charlie Brown? You didn't answer me right away. You had to think about it first, didn't you? If you really had thought I was beautiful, you would have spoken right up. I know when I've been insulted. I know when I've been insulted!

*(LUCY exits stage right.)*

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Good grief. All right, let's take it from the top again. Places. Action.

*(Music starts again (pick up to measure 109) and the KIDS dance again.)*

Cut! Cut! No, no no! We have to practice! Stop!

*(LUCY enters stage left.)*

**Side 5 – Lucy and Charlie Brown**

**LUCY**

Are you afraid of staircases? If you are, then you have climacophobia. Maybe you have thalassophobia. This is fear of the ocean, or gephyrobia, which is the fear of crossing bridges. Or maybe you have pantophobia. Do you think you have pantophobia?

**CHARLIE BROWN**

What's pantophobia?

**LUCY**

The fear of everything.

**CHARLIE BROWN**

*(Shouts.)* That's it!

*(LUCY is blown off her chair onto the ground.)*

Actually, Lucy, my trouble is Christmas. I just don't understand it. Instead of feeling happy, I feel sort of let down.

**LUCY**

You need involvement. You need to get involved in some real Christmas project. How would you like to be the director of our Christmas play?

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Me? You want me to be the director of the Christmas play?

**LUCY**

Sure, Charlie Brown. We need a director. You need involvement. We've got a shepherd, musicians, animals, everyone you need. We've even got a Christmas Queen.

**CHARLIE BROWN**

I don't know anything about directing a Christmas play.

**LUCY**

Don't worry. I'll be there to help you. I'll meet you at the auditorium. Incidentally, I know how you feel about all this Christmas business, getting depressed and all that. It happens to me every year. I never get what I really want. I always get a lot of stupid toys or a bicycle or clothes or something like that.

**CHARLIE BROWN**

What is it you want?

**LUCY**

Real estate.



## Side 6 – Sally and Charlie Brown

*(SNOOPY is at the dog house, center stage, hammering the wood and making noise; then applying Christmas decorations to his doghouse. If lights are used, SNOOPY takes the extension chord offstage and plugs in the lights after decorating. SNOOPY admires the doghouse. CHARLIE BROWN watches for a moment. Music plays under dialogue.)*

**CHARLIE BROWN**

What's going on here?

*(SNOOPY hands CHARLIE BROWN a piece of paper.)*

What's this? *(Reading.)* "Find the true meaning of Christmas"? "Win money! Money! Money! Spectacular, super-colossal, neighborhood Christmas lights and display contest." *(Looks up from the paper.)* Lights and display contest! Oh, no... *(Pause.)* My own dog, gone commercial. I can't stand it! Ughhhhh.

*(Music fades. CHARLIE BROWN throws the paper in the air and walks stage right toward his mailbox. SNOOPY picks up the paper and stands admiring his work during the following dialogue. CHARLIE BROWN meets SALLY who enters holding a clipboard and pen.)*

**SALLY**

I've been looking for you, big brother. Will you please write a letter to Santa Claus for me?

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Well, I don't have much time. I'm supposed to get down to the school auditorium and direct the Christmas play.

**SALLY**

You write it and I'll tell you what I want to say.

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Okay, shoot.

**SALLY**

Dear Santa Claus, how've you been? Did you have a nice summer? How is your wife? I have been extra good this year, so I have a long list of presents that I want.

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Oh, brother.

**Side 6 (cont.) – Sally and Charlie Brown**

**SALLY**

Please note the size and color of each item and send as many as possible. If it seems too complicated, make it easy on yourself. Just send money. How about tens and twenties?

**CHARLIE BROWN**

Tens and twenties? Oh, even my baby sister!

**SALLY**

All I want is what I have coming, to me. All I want is my fair share.

*(CHARLIE BROWN exits stage right. SALLY stays on stage as music starts and begins to dance with the other characters as they appear.)*

**Side 7 – Linus and Lucy**

**SNOOPY**

Aagh!

*(CHARLIE BROWN gets his megaphone.)*

**CHARLIE BROWN**

All right, all right, script girl. Continue with the scripts.

*(LUCY walks over to LINUS.)*

**LUCY**

Linus, you've got to get rid of that stupid blanket. *(Hands LINUS a script and costume.)* And here, memorize these lines.

**LINUS**

I can't memorize these lines. This is ridiculous.

**LUCY**

Memorize it and be ready to recite when your cue comes.

**LINUS**

I can't memorize something like this so quickly. Why should I be put through such agony? Give me one good reason why I should memorize this...

**LUCY**

I'll give you five good reasons. *(Makes a fist, one finger at a time.)* One, two, three, four, five.

**LINUS**

Those are good reasons. Christmas is not only getting too commercial, it's getting too dangerous.

**LUCY**

And get rid of that stupid blanket! What's a Christmas shepherd going to look like holding a stupid blanket like that?

**LINUS**

Well, this is one Christmas shepherd who's going to keep his trusty blanket with him. *(Quickly drapes his blanket over his head.)* See? You wouldn't hit an innocent shepherd, would you?

**LUCY**

Okay, Mr. Director. The cast is set. Take over.

**Side 8 – Lucy and Snoopy**

**LUCY**

Shermy, you're a shepherd.

**SHERMY**

Every Christmas it's the same. I always end up playing a shepherd.

*(Discontinue music any time after measure 67. Repeat measures 60-67, if necessary.)*

*(LUCY walks over to SNOOPY and hands him a script.)*

**LUCY**

Snoopy, you'll have to be all the animals in our play. Can you be a sheep?

**SNOOPY**

Baaaaa!

**LUCY**

How about a cow?

**SNOOPY**

Mooooo!

**LUCY**

How about a penguin?

*(SNOOPY growls at LUCY, mugs around with his arms stiffly at his side, clicking sounds with his feet.)*

Yes, he's even a good penguin.

*(SNOOPY mugs around, acting out different animals, and lands on LUCY's feet.)*

No, no, no!

*(SNOOPY stands behind LUCY and imitates her as she speaks to the group.)*

You've got to take direction! You've got to have discipline! You've got to have respect for your director! *(Turns around and catches SNOOPY making fun of her.)* I ought to slug you!

*(SNOOPY ducks and kisses LUCY.)*

Ugh! I've been kissed by a dog! I have dog germs! Get hot water! Get some Get some disinfectant! Get some iodine!