



I'was the night before Christmas

(POLITICALLY CORRECT VERSION) by Harvey Ehrlich

'Twas the night before Christmas and Santa's a wreck... How to live in a world that's politically correct? His workers no longer would answer to "Elves", "Vertically Challenged" they were calling themselves. And labor conditions at the north pole Were alleged by the union to stifle the soul. Four reindeer had vanished, without much propriety, Released to the wilds by the Humane Society.

And equal employment had made it quite clear That Santa had better not use just reindeer.

So Dancer and Donner, Comet and Cupid, Were replaced with 4 pigs, and you know that looked stupid!

The runners had been removed from his sleigh; The ruts were termed dangerous by the E.P.A.

And people had started to call for the cops When they heard sled noises on their roof-tops.

Second-hand smoke from his pipe had his workers quite frightened.

His fur trimmed red suit was called "Unenlightened."

And to show you the strangeness of life's ebbs and flows,

Rudolf was suing over unauthorized use of his nose And had gone on Geraldo, in front of the nation, Demanding millions in over-due compensation. So, half of the reindeer were gone; and his wife, Who suddenly said she'd enough of this life, Joined a self-help group, packed, and left in a whiz,

Demanding from now on her title was Ms. And as for the gifts, why, he'd ne'er had a notion That making a choice could cause so much commotion. Nothing of leather, nothing of fur,

Which meant nothing for him. And nothing for her. Nothing that might be construed to pollute.

Nothing to aim. Nothing to shoot.

Nothing that clamored or made lots of noise. Nothing for just girls. Or just for the boys.

Nothing that claimed to be gender specific.

Nothing that's warlike or non-pacific.

No candy or sweets...they were bad for the tooth.

Nothing that seemed to embellish a truth.

And fairy tales, while not yet forbidden,

Were like Ken and Barbie, better off hidden.

For they raised the hackles of those psychological Who claimed the only good gift was one ecological. No baseball, no football...someone could get hurt; Besides, playing sports exposed kids to dirt. Dolls were said to be sexist, and should be passe; And Nintendo would rot your entire brain away.

So Santa just stood there, disheveled, perplexed; He just could not figure out what to do next.

He tried to be merry, tried to be gay,

But you've got to be careful with that word today. His sack was quite empty, limp to the ground;

Nothing fully acceptable was to be found. Something special was needed, a gift that he might Give to all without angering the left or the right.

A gift that would satisfy, with no indecision, Each group of people, every religion;

Every ethnicity, every hue,

Everyone, everywhere...even you.

So here is that gift, it's price beyond worth...

"May you and your loved ones enjoy peace on earth."

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Jan 23-25, 2006 - AHR Expo and ASHRAE Winter Meeting Engineering Chicago, Illinois

Feb 5-8, 2006 - Cooling Technology Institute (CTI) Houston, Texas

Mar 19-23, 2006 - Mechanical Contractor's Assoc. Annual Conference Wailea, Maui, Hawaii.

Mar 28-30, 2006 - ACCA Conference and Indoor Air Expo San Jose, California

Jun 8-10, 2006 - American Institute of Architects (AIA) Meeting Los Angeles, California

Jun 24-27, 2006 - 2006 BOMA Meeting

Dallas, Texas

All I Needed to Know About Life I learned from Santa

Encourage people to believe in you.

Always remember who's naughty and who's nice. Don't pout.

It's as much fun to give as it is to receive. Some days it's ok to feel a little chubby.

Make your presents known.

Always ask for a little bit more than what you really want. Bright red can make anyone look good.

Wear a wide belt and no-one will notice how many pounds you've gained. If you only show up once a year, everyone will think you're very important. Whenever you're at a loss for words, say: HO, HO, HO!"

- You reuse last year's Christmas cards and send them out under your own name. (5 points) You steal light bulbs from you neighbor's outdoor display to
- replenish your own supply. (5 points, 10 if neighbor's whole light sets or lighted Santa goes out) 3. You have dressed a dog or cat as Santa Claus, elf helper, or
- reindeer. (10 points for each; if you dressed an endangered species, 5 extra points) 4.
- You put out last year's stale candy canes for children. (1 point for each piece of sticky candy). If you put out a chocolate or marzipan Santa also, add 10 points
- You enclose a shoddy and inferior gift from Target, Walmart, or K-Mart in a Lord & Taylor or other prestige box to impress your friends. (5 points for each infraction).
- You make collect long distance phone calls to your family on Christmas day. (5 points, 10 if from a cell phone). claiming you are stuck in a phone booth)
- At the office Christmas party, you horde huge stockpiles of goodies for later consumption at home. (5 points; 15 points if you use this stuff for your own party)
- 8. You steal the wreath from a parked car to use on your own . (5 points)
- After an invitation to a friend's house, you bring a commercially produced fruitcake and try to pass it off as home made. (5 points; 15 points if the fruitcake is from last year)
- Any stealing from the Toys-for-Tots collection bins is a definite no-no. (20 points) 10.

Evaluate your score on the "Grinch Scale" from 20 to 100

20-30: You are just a humbug.

30-50: You are an apprentice in Yuletide larceny and are probably wanted by the police for overdue parking tickets.

50-100: Grinch, move over, your replacement has arrived.

Top Ten Things To Say About a Christmas Gift You Don't Like...

10. Hey! Now there's a gift! Well, well, well..

- Boy, if I had not recently shot up 4 sizes that would've fit. This is perfect for wearing around the basement.
- Gosh. I hope this never catches fire! It is fire season though
 - If the dog buries it, I'll be furious!
- I love it but I fear the jealousy it will inspire.
- Sadly, tomorrow I enter the Federal Witness Protection Program.
- To think I got this the year I vowed to give all my gifts to charity
- I really don't deserve this.

ave dinner on Solve the word Riddle below and you could WIN DINNER for TWO

What nationality is Santa Claus?

E-mail or FAX your answer to our office. If more than one correct answer is received, a winner will be selected at random. If you e-mail your entry, please address it to janette@mulvaneyinc.com . You must write "NEWSLETTER CONTEST" in the subject line to avoid our SPAM filter.

The answer from the word jumble from last time was "George W. Bush". No one submitted a correct answer.



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