# HOW TO BECOME AN ELF

## A Merry Musical for Unison and 2-Part Voices

By Andy Beck and Brian Fisher

With Additional Music by Michael Souders, Mary Donnelly & George L. O. Strid, Sally K. Albrecht & Jay Althouse

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See back cover for audio track numbers.

Performance time: approximately 45 minutes

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#### **ONLINE ACCESS**

Download reproducible student pages by following the instructions on the inside front cover. Purchase of the book includes the right to print, duplicate, and project these PDFs.

#### CAST OF CHARACTERS and COSTUMES

**Eli:** A regular boy with a dream of becoming an elf. He's naturally

cheerful, jolly, thoughtful, generous, talented, creative, and loves Christmas. Dressed casually in everyday school clothes. Optional

quick-change elf costume for his finale entrance.

**Mom:** Eli's mom. She's quite busy with holiday preparations and her

professional life, but is always supportive of her son. Dressed as if coming from or heading to work, adds a kitchen apron mid-show.

**Jax:** Eli's dog and best pal. Jax doesn't talk, but communicates clearly

with canine reactions and noises. A lovable companion! Dressed

as an adorable pet. Adds reindeer antlers for the finale.

DJ, Reese,

**Riley, Logan:** Eli's school friends, any gender. They are fun, light-hearted, and

loyal. Everyday school attire.

**Santa:** The real one, with all the traditional characteristics, including the

iconic costume. Whenever Eli reads from his book, we recognize

Santa's voice as the voiceover.

Jingle

& Jangle: Actual elves and Santa's trusty helpers. Consider using character

voices for the full elf effect. They dress in festive red and green elf

attire.

**Elf Chorus:** This optional ensemble wears matching elf attire and may remain

on risers to perform their "dream" songs, or sing and dance around sleeping Eli and Jax. Feature as many singers as you'd like, or (for a smaller cast) all the Elf Chorus songs may be performed by Jingle

& Jangle alone.



#### **SETTING**

A park bench and evergreen trees represent the public park. A small bed and optional backdrop make Eli's bedroom. Incidental music allows time for Eli's room to come on and off as needed (in front of the park), or if space allows, both sets can be permanently displayed on opposite sides of the stage. Place choral risers down front, upstage, or off to the side(s) for the Elf Chorus. Optional stanchions with red ropes may be used to delineate a lineup area whenever Santa is visiting the park. His elf helpers can set and strike these each time.

#### **PROPS**

- Candy canes—for Jingle
- "How to Become an Elf" book—Jingle gives to Eli
- Backpacks—for Eli and his friends
- Popsicle stick ornament—for Eli
- Tin of cookies—Mom gives to Eli
- Paper note—slightly chewed by Jax
- Crazy Christmas sweater—preset in Eli's backpack
- Four Santa hats—Eli gives to his friends, also preset in his backpack

## **STAGING**

Complete choreography is included throughout the score. Feel free to follow the notes precisely or adapt and enhance the ideas to best fit your performers.

### **SOUND EFFECTS**

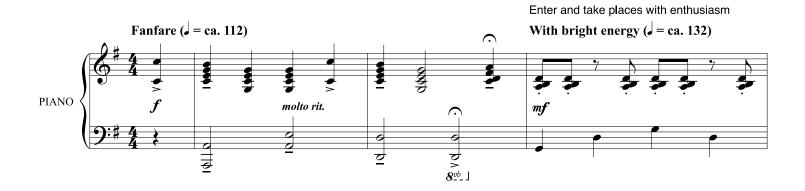
"Magic Book" and "Alarm Clock" sound effects are included with the audio.

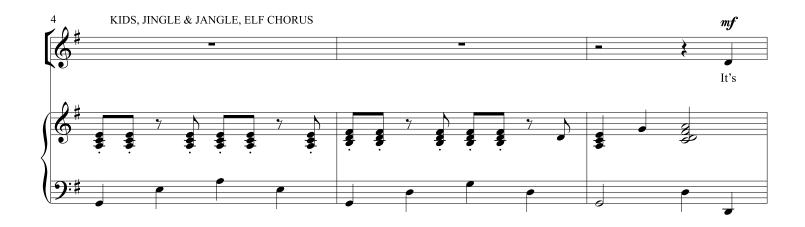
# 1. ALMOST TIME FOR CHRISTMAS

(Kids, Jingle & Jangle, Elf Chorus, Santa)

Arranged, with additional Words, by ANDY BECK and BRIAN FISHER

Words and Music by MARY DONNELLY and GEORGE L. O. STRID







# 3. ALMOST TIME INCIDENTAL



(Eli arrives home in his bedroom.)

**ELI:** (calling out) Mom, I'm home.

**MOM:** (offstage) Hey, Eli. I'll be right there.

(Eli hides the book under a bed pillow. Jax, the dog, enters barking, excited to greet Eli.)

**ELI:** Jax, old buddy, old pal. (Eli scratches behind Jax's ears.)

**JAX:** (joyful bark)

**ELI:** Attaboy. (ad-lib settling Jax)

**MOM:** (entering) Hi, honey. How was your day?

**ELI:** It was great, Mom. Couldn't ask for better.

**MOM:** Well, that's wonderful. Did you get to meet Santa Claus?

**ELI:** And a couple of elves, too!

**MOM:** That sounds amazing. Any homework tonight?

**ELI:** (answers quickly) Nope. (remembers the book) Well, actually,

there's some reading I have to do.