



JACMUN 2024

**Ad Hoc:
Turmoil at the North Pole**



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Land Acknowledgment

We would like to acknowledge that John Abbott College was built upon the unceded Indigenous lands of the traditional territory of both the Kanien'kehá:ka, "Mohawk," and the Anishinabeg "Algonquin," peoples. We are grateful for the opportunity to gather there, and we thank the many generations of people who have taken care of this land and these waters. Tiohtiá:ke, Montreal, is historically known as a gathering place for diverse First Nations; thus, we recognize and deeply appreciate the historic and ongoing Indigenous connections to, and presence on, these lands and waters. We also recognize the contributions Métis, Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples have made in shaping and strengthening our communities.

It is JACMUN's great honour to be able to host its conference on this territory. We commit to building a sincere relationship with Indigenous peoples based on respect, dignity, trust, and cooperation, in the process of advancing truth and reconciliation.





Introduction to the Committee

Dearest Delegates,

Welcome to JACMUN 2024's Ad Hoc committee. Over the course of this weekend, you will be welcomed to embark on a journey of magic and whimsy, diplomacy and debate, all in the heart of the North Pole. In taking up the mantles of prominent elves in Santa's snowy village (though it is arguably a self-governing city-state; the details and semantics will be discussed below), members of this committee are confronted with an unprecedented challenge: ensuring the survival of Christmas with Santa's mysterious disappearance as a backdrop. Although this may sound silly to some, make no mistake: if Christmas were to fail, elves, their magic, and their very *raison d'être* would be no more, and this would engender an apocalypse in its most proper sense for the beings of the North Pole.

In going back to December of 1980 and adeptly manoeuvring through the complex webs of elven politics, bureaucracies, and yearly planning, you must come together in order to ensure that children across the globe wake up on Christmas day joyful and content, despite Mr. Claus' absence.

The following guide will provide you with all that is necessary to understand the geopolitics of the Christmas village, and both the dais and backroom will happily answer your questions during the reading period, whether they pertain to the situation itself or the very mechanisms of a Model UN crisis.

Welcome to the North Pole and may your journeys be fruitful and joyous,

Dais and Backroom




History of Christmas



DISCLAIMER

Although this committee centres around Christmas, we urge delegates to consider its disambiguation from the religious celebration. Without rebutting the holiday's Pagan and Christian ties, the committee aims to focus on its lore and culture specifically centred around the legend of Santa Claus in its many iterations. A simplified overview of the contested historical origins of the celebration is provided below to serve as a guide for the understanding of the evolution of the role of Christmas primarily in Western cultures over the centuries. In the context of this crisis, these roots provide an explanation for the magical phenomena discussed in the committee, without, however, meaning to disrespect the holiday and its meaning to those who observe it in a religious setting. Additionally, certain parts of the history of Christmas have been fictionalized for the purposes of this committee.



The celebration of Christmas — before it was even known as such — can be traced back to at least 5,000 years ago, during the Neolithic period (ca. 7000–1700 BCE). On and around December 21st — the day of the winter solstice, or the ‘midwinter’ — humans celebrated, feasted, engaged in games, sport, and dancing, and, most importantly, often partook in gift-giving, hence the holiday is associated with presents to this day (1). Interestingly, the celebration's ties to natural events resulted in many cross-cultural similarities across time and space in the Northern Hemisphere: from pre-Christian Englishmen observing the sunrise on solstice day by Stonehenge, to Romans, who celebrated a week-long Saturnia festival, to Medieval Christians, celebrating the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, the winter solstice has long marked an event worth celebrating, as it meant being a step closer to spring and away from the harsh realities of winter (1, 3).

The modern, Western, iteration of Christmas is largely based on a combination of Medieval European Christian celebrations with a confluence of Germanic and Saxon cultural elements. During the medieval period, Christmas was a time of joyous celebration across Europe. Festivities lasted for twelve days, filled with feasting, music, and pageants: monarchs hosted lavish feasts, and communities crowned chosen "Christmas Kings", adding to the merriment and sense of community during the holiday season which persists to this day (1). Germans introduced the iconic Christmas tree, adorned with candles and ornaments, which gained popularity worldwide in the 19th century (2,3). Other German customs, such as Advent wreaths and nutcrackers, also became integral parts of the holiday celebration.

In the 20th century, during which this committee is set, Christmas was an increasingly secular holiday. In the originally North American custom, the figure of Santa Claus, based on the 4th-century bishop Saint Nicholas, known for his generosity and care, emerged, recognizing the millennia-long efforts of Father Christmas in bringing joy to children worldwide. Although it is not known how exactly Santa's identity was revealed to the world, or how humanity learned about the invaluable efforts of the elves in Mr. Claus' workshop, Christmas was better off for it, as, due to numerous events throughout the late nineteenth and early to mid-twentieth century, Christmas spirit was slowly dwindling away, as humans began to lose their merriment and joy. Santa and the elves being revealed to the world (even though most believe them to be fiction) reinvigorated the North Pole and allowed it to enter a renewed era of toy production and whimsical merry, as the Spirit of Christmas was restored.

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The Life of Elves

Elven Lifecycle

The majestic North Pole, where infinite expanses of snowy scenery may be viewed, is home to the mystical elves. These tiny beings have fascinating lives full of wonder and significance. They have pointed ears and gleaming eyes. But instead of taking place in the frozen tundra, the elf's life story begins in the distant world of mortals. There is a story that says a child's soul looks to the delicate petals of a snowdrop flower for comfort when it passes from this life. This flower, known for its resistance to the hardship of winter, takes the child's spirit to the North Pole, an ethereal region.

The soul finds a new home and embarks on an amazing journey here, tucked away among the snowy peaks and brilliant auroras. An elf imbued with the spirit of the child from whence it sprung is born when the snowdrop blossom opens. The elf materializes with every exquisite flower, ready to reveal the secrets of their new existence. Elves go off on a journey of exploration as soon as they wake up, learning about the wonders of their magical homeland and the special abilities that lurk within.



Early on, elves avidly follow their passions and aptitudes, anticipating the day when their gift mark is disclosed. No matter what kind of skills an elf possesses—building toys, making music,

telling stories, or something else entirely—the moment of their discovery sweeps them into Santa's workshop. Their skills are honed and discovered in the North Pole Institute of Magic, an important stage in every elf's life. The Institute serves as both an educational and social facility, with lessons in magic, friendship, and gift-giving being core parts of the curriculum. Rumour has it that if an elf has passed Professor Griswald McNicholas' Friendship and Elven Mores 200 class, they are destined for greatness.

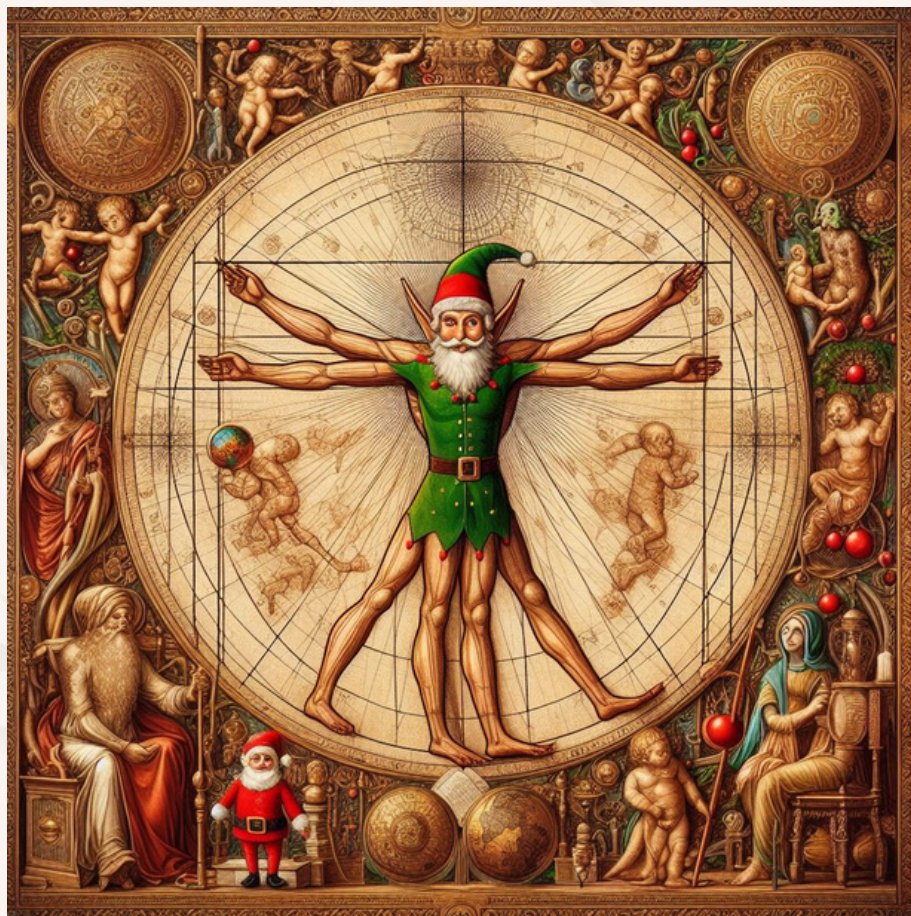
Once their powers are known and developed, elves devote themselves fully to their craft, using all of their creativity and labour to create toys and gifts for children worldwide. They spread the Christmas enchantment far and wide by making many people happy with their delicate fingers and boundless ingenuity.

Nevertheless, the elves never lose sight of the grave duty that forms the basis of their existence: to honour the memory of the children from whom they were created and to perpetuate the Christmas Spirit for all eternity.

So, as snow gently falls upon rooftops throughout the world and the sound of sleigh bells fills the crisp winter air, the elves of the North Pole continue their ancient custom, weaving their magic into the fabric of the holiday season and preserving the ageless spirit of Christmas for future generations.

Elven Magic IOI

As elves are in and of themselves made of magic, it so follows that they are capable of wielding certain magical abilities. Each elf has an innate propensity toward a certain type of magic, though they must work hard to discover where their talents lie. At the North Pole Magical Institute, those who have shown extensive ability are often separately trained to foster their unique talents; many elves whose capabilities are recognized in such ways end up going far, with many joining the reconnaissance elves or the weather control group. Despite the social recognition given to the more powerful magic users, no elf on their own can produce enough magic for substantial results; like all things elf, magic is a collaborative affair, and teamwork and cohesion are of utmost importance.



Anatomy of an Elf, c. 1600, Artist Unknown



What is Christmas Spirit?

Christmas Spirit is at the core of the elves' existence, fueling not only their magic but also their very being. Spirit is intangible to all but Santa Claus and the appointed Spirit Keeper, but is rumored to be fuelled by the joy and cheer stemming from the celebration. The more people delight in and enjoy the festivities, the stronger the Spirit and the happier the elves. Without it, the North Pole would be naught and the thousands of years of happiness we, elves, brought, would be forgotten.



Welcome to the North Pole!

In the heart of Santa's workshop lies a sprawling chamber adorned with glittering crystals, where a team of skilled elves harnesses magic to control the weather. Their meticulous adjustments ensure the ideal conditions for Santa's journey, while a group of specially trained reconnaissance elves stands ready to ensure safe travels through the wintry landscape. It's a place where the delicate balance between magic and practicality creates an enchanting atmosphere, despite the frozen mishap of an ambitious elf's backyard igloo attempt. Adjacent to the weather control chamber is a bustling workshop, where brilliant minds design and create the wondrous toys that bring joy to children worldwide. Led by a visionary architect and engineer, this hive of creativity buzzes with activity as elves bring intricate designs to life.

The hum of machinery mixes with the excited chatter of the toy designers, though a tragic incident involving a choking hazard serves as a sombre reminder of the importance of safety in their craft. In another corner of the workshop, a grand hall serves as the headquarters for the Naughty & Nice Committee. Here, meticulous evaluations of children's behaviour take place, overseen by a figure of influence with considerable clout. Scrolls and lists bearing the names of children and their deeds line the shelves, while lively debates ensue among the elves tasked with determining who belongs on which list. Despite the gravity of their task, the festive decorations and twinkling lights lend an air of holiday cheer to the proceedings.

High above the workshop, atop a snow-capped mountain, lies the Spiritual Observatory — a sanctuary where nightly rituals honour the celestial wonders that illuminate the North Pole sky. Led by a revered spiritual leader, elves gather to commune with the stars and auroras, their melodic chants echoing through the dome-shaped chamber. It's a place of reverence and wonder, though a comical incident involving a starfish serves as a reminder of the whimsical nature of their cosmic pursuits.



Nearby, nestled among the evergreen forests, lies a sprawling complex of reindeer stables and training grounds. Here, under the watchful eye of their captain, elves tend to Santa's loyal companions, grooming them to perfection and practicing sleigh maneuvers in preparation for the big night. The scent of pine and hay fills the air as the reindeer prance and play, though the spiky horns serve as a reminder of the importance of caution in their care.

Amidst the hustle and bustle of the workshop, a sophisticated executive office suite serves as the nerve center of administrative affairs. From coordinating with other holiday entities to managing schedules and external relations, the executive assistant ensures smooth operations year-round. Diplomatic treaties adorn the walls, reflecting the ambassadorial origins of one who fell in love with Christmas and chose to make the North Pole her home.

Finally, at the heart of the operation lies a bustling logistics hub, where the coordination of Santa's expeditions takes place. Led by a skilled navigator, elves load sleighs with meticulously wrapped gifts, double-checking lists to ensure no child is overlooked. Maps and delivery schedules cover the walls, guiding the merry missions that spread joy across the globe. Amidst the flurry of activity, the sound of jingling bells serves as a reminder of the magic that fuels their endeavours.



Society and Politics

Political Organization

While Santa Claus holds an esteemed position within the political framework of the North Pole, decisions are not solely administered on his behalf. In order to effectively advocate and care for all of his elves, he relies on the support of his administrative council, his cherished wife, Mama Claus, and various committees and councils, all geared towards ensuring cohesion and success come Christmas time.

As the primary orchestrator of Christmas, Santa occupies the highest rank of authority. This role grants him several privileges, one of them being veto power. Although Mr. Claus carefully considers the opinions voiced by his council of elves, he ultimately has the authority to veto their decisions and prioritize his personal judgment. Revering him as their great leader, the elves hold Santa's opinion to the highest degree, explaining his possession of the final say in all societal matters. However, certain secrets remain confined within the community. Insights into internal affairs such as the mystery of magic and time travel have been transmitted through Claus generations for centuries. When a reigning Santa retires and his successor assumes the mantle of Father Christmas, he passes down the knowledge necessary to manage the Pole effectively. This succession is a meticulous process due to the careful evaluation of all prominent elves aspiring to take on the demanding role of Santa. Moreover, Santa alone cannot decide on his successor, as this power ultimately lies in the Christmas Spirit, which is governed by humans' happiness and elves' kindness.

As previously established, Mr. Claus consults his council of elves for crucial advice when making decisions which could impact the greater good of the North Pole and everyday leadership matters. This council comprises several committees, whose members are all elected by elves, and each is dedicated to the five pivotal facets of Christmas. First, the gift committee has the responsibility of respecting gift-giving traditions and establishing an equitable and fair distribution of gifts to all children of the world. Next, the miracle committee preserves the essence of a Christmas miracle, which occurs annually. Then, the behaviour department standardizes the good and bad actions of both the elves and the children in order to establish an effective protocol for gift allocation and naughty list positioning — this committee is colloquially known as the Naughty & Nice Committee and holds a lot of sway in the North Pole. The letter department maintains important communication between the outside world and the North Pole by organizing proper correspondence, mainly through mail and telegraph. Finally, the decorations committee

maintains a positive and festive environment all year round, crucial as Christmas decorations are an important part of elf culture. Each of these committees holds special importance within the social fabric of the North Pole, underscoring the importance for Santa to hear and consider them all when making decisions. To facilitate this, the council convenes once a month to discuss important issues within their respective domains and relay these decisions to Mr. Claus. Starting in December, council meetings occur on a weekly basis.



Photograph: Mr. Claus convening with department heads

Another critical pillar of the political organization at the North Pole is Mama Claus. Seen as an important and wise figure within the community, Mrs. Claus holds the crucial role of maternal figure to all. Serving as a compassionate therapist, Mama Claus provides support and helpful advice to any elf in need. Once she's addressed issues such as mental health, social awareness or proper representation, she relays the significant and problematic trends to Santa, thereby playing a pivotal role in maintaining peace and cooperation among all the residents of the North Pole.

Christmas aside, the North Pole operates much like a sovereign city, with a mayor, elected every decade, aided by councilmen and women, governing the city and its daily goings. Whether it be urban planning, disputes over gingerbread disposal, or antagonizing snowball fights, the mayor and the town council are there to help. As Santa is busy with Christmas preparations year-round, these elves serve as his proxies and hold a significant say over the day-to-day life of elves. The mayoral elections are a major event, as the winner of the race, after long bouts of campaigning, becomes not only closer to Santa but also is granted the ability to bring great change to the North Pole's way of life. In the decades leading up to this committee's 1980 events, mayors have industrialized the North Pole and allowed for urban development in line with that of humans. The development and civil entrepreneurial sectors have largely evolved thanks to favourable by-laws and subsidies given to innovators through the mayoral office.

The leaders of the 4 Sacred Realms (Santa Claus, The Tooth Fairy, The Easter Bunny and The Dream Sandman) , even if they are friends and meet in case of emergencies, have no authority against each other and therefore cannot take decisions on behalf of someone else's realm.

Lastly, the courts of the North Pole serve as powerful representations of justice by enforcing the rules listed on the Golden Scroll. This scroll contains the list of good deeds, as well as the naughty ones which allows the courts to place individuals on their respective naughty and nice lists. Performing any action that will get an elf put on the Naughty List is the equivalent of breaking the North Pole law. Those deemed very bad may face harsh realities such as exile from the North Pole. However, forgiveness is possible and elves may move back to the Good List position, once they have offered the community and Santa a proper apology. The courts are strictly bound by the rules of the scroll in order to ensure both fairness and justice.



Lifestyle and Social Organization

The living and working conditions at the North Pole are carefully designed to foster a welcoming and festive environment amongst the hard-working individuals who consider the wonderland home. Nestled among the snowy landscape, elves reside in small wooden cottages, adjusted to fit their small frames and highlighting a cozy and charming feel. As the weather in the North Pole is quite cold, it is of utmost importance that the homes of elves offer a sense of warmth. These cottages are organized in neat districts, all according to the elf's respective work departments; all elves working in the toy decorating industry live close together just as all elves working in the letter-writing departments are neighbours. Thus, work colleagues are often neighbours, highlighting the importance of teamwork and collaboration. Although this arrangement has persisted for hundreds of years, in more recent times there has been transience amongst districts, particularly within what is considered the elite: why should a famous elf live in mediocrity like his less important brethren, when times are changing and gingerbread McMansions are popping up in luxurious parts of town?

In this unique community, wealth and prosperity among the elves is not directly measured by material possessions, but rather by their representations of goodwill and kind actions. Individuals who perform exemplary behaviour and selfless acts will find themselves on the esteemed Good List, where the better their actions, the higher their placement on the list, and, consequently, the higher their Christmas Spirit. The elf's ranking on this list influences both their wealth and their standing within the community; the North Pole uses the Spirit (\$) as its main currency, although elves that travel outside of the winter wonderland also dabble with human money.

Through this system of distribution, the wonderland works hard to reward important values such as generosity and compassion. However, over the centuries some elves have found ways around the system. Elven society is highly appearance-based, and the truth is not always what it seems; goodwill and kindness lend themselves to subjectivity in certain situations. Elves, though magical beings are as flawed as humans, if not perhaps worse, though the masks of goodness they wear camouflage the cracks in North Pole society.

Mirroring the unique air of the surroundings, the culinary delicacies of the North Pole are both festive and delightful. The Food Department harvests and prepares nourishing sustenance infused with the spirit of Christmas. The typical wonderland diet consists of rich foods such as freshly baked sugar cookies and creamy milk adorned with locally harvested candy canes. With every meal, the elves are reminded of the joys of the holiday season and the sugary palate sustains them throughout their hard work preparing for Christmas year-round.

Workplace Politics!

The vast majority of elves spend their days toiling away in the Christmas Workshop, which is situated in the centre of the city. Their days comprise of song, work, and sweet little treats, all of which culminate in the great products that make up the magic of Christmas. General labourers, singer-songwriters, designers, painters, and marshmallow tasters: all have a role to play in bringing joy to children worldwide. Their cohesion is ensured by the Workshop Manager, an elf that exhibited great leadership skills, innovation, amicability, and insight. This role is highly demanding, but,



A young toy designer hard at work

having been selected personally by Santa, the Manager is sure to have the skill, experience, and respect required for the daunting task. However, the Manager is not alone in helping organize the Workshop; seeing as none is infallible, the Manager's powers can be curtailed by the Elven Labour Union (ELU), which is headed by the Union President. The President's job is to ensure the happiness and respect of elves at work, and to speak on their behalf if issues arise with either their department heads, the Workshop Manager, or even Santa! The Union President is the quintessential good elf: they are an individual loved by all, nominated and elected by a majority. Although electoral guidelines do exist in the event of an election passing with no obvious majority, they have never been used in practice as every election since the ELU's founding in the late 19th century has had a near unanimous result.

Tensions

While the North Pole is widely regarded as a peaceful winter wonderland, harsh realities have led to the emergence of tensions due to many internal and external challenges. Within the elf population, disputes have arisen due to seemingly unfair rankings of the Good List. Growing resentment simmers among certain elves stemming from their social standing and slow climb up the social ladder, no matter their consistent number of acts made in good faith. With others remaining at the top while committing what some may consider to be naughty acts, the millennia-old system is increasingly being questioned.

Additionally, the influence of human society on North Pole customs and way of life has begun to be regarded as either a blessing or a plague, depending on whom one asks. Some elves firmly believe that the increasingly mercantile, borderline capitalist, system which is beginning to be set in place at the North Pole is a danger to the Spirit of Christmas. Others, notably developers, and those with more contact with the outside world see it as a necessary development to ensure Christmas' long-term survival.

Externally, the effects of global warming have made their mark on the North Pole, striking the village with extreme snowstorms of unprecedented force and overwhelming both the elves and the nature surrounding them. The resulting power imbalance amongst the different departments, each voicing different approaches to fix the issue, has furthered the tensions within the elves. Not only is there less light throughout the day due to heavy snow and cloud-filled skies, but more work needs to be done to shovel the excess snow and repair damaged technologies. Santa, along with his council of elves, is now burdened with the need to appease social tensions while simultaneously recovering the community to its original state.

The Krampus Threat

It is important to note that change is an uncommon, yet real, aspect of North Pole life. Though some changes are superficial, such as Santa's suit officially becoming red after one too many laundry room mishaps, other adaptations are revolutionary. The Exile of Krampus in the late 19th century was one such major turn. Krampus was a long-time companion of Santa, a figure on par with Father Christmas himself. For the longest time, his role was to punish children who had acted naughty throughout the year. Over the years, he would go from terrorizing children to simply bringing them branches and sticks. Nonetheless, despite his evolvingly demure punitive tactics, in the year 1888, Santa and his council took a unilateral decision to revoke his role in the Christmas tradition, deeming it too damaging to

Christmas Spirit overall. As such, he was given the option to reassume the role of an ordinary elf, but decided against it, and was consequently exiled from the North Pole and any of the other three magical realms. Although the Elven Elite agreed on his banishment, many common elves saw his parting as a blow to Christmas, one that could destroy the holiday. They argued that humans, especially human children, needed not only an incentive for goodness in the form of gifts but also discipline for naughtiness. Krampus left without saying or doing much, but a final note in his office read “I will come back.”

This historic event set the scene for many internal tensions over the century to come. Every decade or so, rumours of Krampus’ return hung in the air. Santa, the Tooth fairy, The Easter Rabbit and The Dream Sandman, still stay defensive to this day, seeking protection for their kingdoms.

In the year 1980, there was a reuptake in pro-Krampus sentiment, coupled with growing dissatisfaction due to the above factors. Whispers of potential rebellion against Santa Claus and his three equals linger in the shadows, with some believing that bringing Krampus back would restore the North Pole to its old ways and bring back sought-after stability.

Though Krampus’s whereabouts remain unknown, as he has not been spotted in well over 50 years, he is increasingly becoming an idea, rather than a person, and a representative for all those that feel wronged by the current system.



Current Situation

On Sunday, December 15th, 1980, Mr. Claus' absence was markedly apparent at the weekly pre-Christmas preparatory meeting. Despite searches far and wide, across the entirety of the North Pole, and the employment of both the city guard and the reconnaissance elves, Santa was nowhere to be found. On December 17th, 7 days before Christmas, Santa was officially declared missing to the higher echelons of elven society, and the North Pole entered a state of emergency; after all, the survival of the city-state and its inhabitant hinges on the spirits of Christmas of future and present, without which everything, including the elves themselves, would perish. Nonetheless, his missing status is not yet public, though the workshop elves have had their suspicions aroused by his non-appearance and the sudden heaviness in the air.

To address the situation, a secret emergency council was convened by Mrs. Claus, interim head of the North Pole. This committee is headquartered in Santa's abode in the centre of the city and, due to the unprecedented circumstances, holds temporary executive powers in Santa's stead. Despite Mrs. Claus' courage and strength in bringing together the elven community's most prominent leaders, she is stricken with grief and is solely presiding over the committee while hoping for her husband's return.

Although the search for Santa continues, the fate of Christmas 1980 is uncertain: will the elven elite gather the strength and bring much-awaited joy to Earth's children, or will they falter under the pressure, letting the holiday spirit wither away?

With only a week before the fateful day, the council must finalize preparation for the annual journey.

The other realms, in state of panic are defensive and are seeking protection and safety for their own leader.

And, most importantly, a Santa must conduct the journey. Whether Mr. Claus is found on time or the council breaks all precedents by sending someone out in his stead is up to this committee, but delegates, heed this warning: an unsuccessful Christmas will bring about total devastation in the Winter Wonderland.

State of Preparedness

As mentioned above, preparation for the journey is not yet complete. Santa's disappearance and subsequent search efforts have significantly derailed plans and a lot is up in the air. The Naughty & Nice List, though completed, has not been finalized or authorized by Father Christmas; his signature is a must for the gifts to be finalized! Speaking of gifts, although the workshop is largely self-sufficient, worker elves have been greatly demotivated by the absence of Santa's presence and praise, so productivity is down, and efforts in the coming week must be doubled to attempt to catch up to schedule. Moreover, if further resources were to be allocated to the search for Santa, others would necessarily be pulled off from Christmas preparation, so difficult decisions must be made. As the 24th dawns, much remains to be completed, and only the courageous elves on this committee will be capable of saving Christmas.



Questions to Consider

- What are the North Pole's priorities in light of Santa's absence? With 7 days to go and a finite amount of resources, should efforts be put into the search for Mr. Claus or into preparation for the annual journey?
- If Santa Claus were to remain missing on the 24th, who would take up his mantle for the duration of the trip, and what would be the potential repercussions of such a decision?
- Do regular elves have the right to know that their beloved leader is missing? Should his absence be downplayed until he is hopefully found?
- What is the role of the Good List in North Pole society? Is it an antiquated idea keeping a majority of elves subservient or is it a tool to ensure peace and prosperity in the North Pole?
- What is the best course of action to ensure the success of Christmas 1980 and the continued longevity of the Christmas Spirit, which is the lifeblood of magical beings?
- And, most importantly, what happened to Santa?



Character List

1. Archimedes Borealis

Coordinator for Stars and Auroras, North Pole's Spiritual Leader

Spending his days in seclusion at the Spiritual Observatory, Archimedes has long devoted himself to the study and coordination of celestial events. Aided by a team of elves excelling in the magical arts, he uses stars and auroras to guide Santa Claus on his journey and bring beauty to the North Pole. His great insight into affairs of the soul has made him the elves' spiritual leader: all can come to Archimedes to get advice or get their fates read in the stars. When the current Santa was chosen, Archimedes personally swore him into the role, highlighting his importance in the Winter Wonderland. Though he may be respected for his intellect and magical capabilities, Archimedes seems to rank surprisingly low on the Good List, making many wonder about the fairness of the system. Not the most outspoken or sociable elf, Archimedes is content in his seclusion, but will never not lend a helping hand to a friend (if he has any, that is).

2. Beniamino 'Ben-Ben' Benvolio

Elves' Labor Union President

"A vote for Ben-Ben is a vote for your benefits!" was the slogan that got Ben-Ben nominated and elected as Union President. A charismatic and friendly elf, he has made a name for himself as a wondrous helper and marvellous friend. He has been a strong proponent for change in the North Pole, swearing to lead his fellow workers into a new era of prosperity. Though working conditions at the North Pole have been consistent since the dawn of time, Ben-Ben firmly believes that increased industrialization and robotification in the Workshop would allow for better work-life conditions and overall higher productivity. What he lacks in skill and experience he makes up with passion, sheer willpower and perseverance; Ben-Ben is a force to be reckoned with when he puts his mind to something. With droves of elves seeing him as their voice, the Union President is a key player in any decision that will affect the lives of all elves.

3. Klaus de Kringle

Elder Elf and Santa's Closest Friend

Wrapped in the tapestry of time, Klaus de Kringle stands as a stalwart figure in the annals of North Pole lore. From time immemorial, he has graced the icy landscapes, a steadfast companion to Santa Claus through epochs of yuletide cheer. As an elder elf, his presence serves as a bridge between the past and the present, his wisdom sought after by both seasoned artisans and wide-eyed newcomers alike. In his youth, Klaus harboured ambitions of assuming the mantle of Santa himself, fueled by a fervent desire to spread joy across the globe. Yet, despite his unwavering dedication and tireless efforts, his perennially low placement on the good list remains a poignant reminder of the elusive nature of recognition. Nonetheless, Klaus's spirit remains unbroken, his commitment to the spirit of giving transcending the confines of any list or designation. Throughout his storied existence, Klaus has borne witness to the ebb and flow of countless Santas, each leaving their indelible mark upon the fabric of Christmas tradition. Yet, amidst the ever-changing landscape of the North Pole, one thing remains constant: Klaus de Kringle, a paragon of elfish virtue and a guiding light for generations to come.

4. Capt. Raudolphus Antlerheart

Every time an elf hears a swish, or even a swoosh, they know that Captain Antlerheart's been passing by. As a trusted caretaker of the reindeer, Raudolphus Antlerheart is of great help, no matter the reindeer situation; he's seen it all, and he's helped them all. When it comes to dealing with these animals, his number one advice is to become one with the deer. Utilizing this now popular motto to its fullest extent, the Captain made a name for himself as the quickest reindeer rider at the North Pole. Not only did this impress all the ladies, but it piqued Santa's attention as well, and Mr. Claus promoted him to Head of Security for his home. Entrusted with the important task of guarding Mr. Claus's house, he takes his work very seriously and spends nearly all day circling the abode. However, only one thing's in the way of making him the perfect security elf: his fear of spiky reindeer horns. After accidentally being poked by one of his deers, the Captain hasn't been able to look at their horns without flinching. This is a secret that few are privy to, as he will not allow his pristine image and heroism be tainted.

5. Commissioner Elvis Chillyjoy Moroz

Chair of the Naughty & Nice Committee

Husband to famous singer Dandy Gingersnap (currently on tour in Thanksgiving Town), Commissioner Moroz is somewhat of a celebrity in his own right. Having chaired the Naughty & Nice Committee for over two centuries, he is a well-established figure in elven society. He is highly conservative in his beliefs and is of the opinion that tradition is the best way to ensure elven prosperity. He is also very popular with older generations of elves, who see him as the voice of reason in the ever-progressive North Pole. In his years as Commissioner, he has amassed quite a lot of Spirit (\$), and, coupled with his famous wife, is said to live the dream life in dreamland. His high rank on the Good List is well deserved, as he has long been the greatest bringer of joy in the Workshop, having worked as a Chocolate Guru prior to his appointment on the Naughty & Nice Committee.

6. Dame Felicity Merryshine

Mrs. Claus's Executive Assistant and External Coordinator of the North Pole

Originally hailing from Easter Land, Dame Merryshine arrived at the North Pole in the 17th century as an ambassador of the Easter Bunny. However, upon stepping foot in the Winter Wonderland, she instantly fell in love with the spirit of cheer and joy in the air, and simply never left. Having grown close to the current Mama Claus in the centuries since her arrival, she now serves as her executive assistant. Additionally, her experience as a Holiday Ambassador made her the most obvious candidate for the role of External Coordinator in the North Pole, making her a prominent figure in the Mail Department. Felicity Merryshine truly lives up to her name; a charismatic figure that seems larger-than-life, she attracts elves from all walks of life. As she is not a traditional Christmas elf, her place on the Good List has always been uncertain. However, her actions speak for themselves: she may not be acknowledged in the list for her good deeds, but she is known as a benevolent figure, always ready to lend a hand. Some may say that the list is flawed, but Dame Merryshine is content with simply serving her community.

7. Daedalus Twinkletoes, PhD

Head Toy Designer and Engineer

Dr. Twinkletoes is believed to be the most gifted student in the Magic Institute's history. His many achievements include a prototype for forever chewable gum and a thesis titled *The Intersection of Engineering and Earthly Color Theory in Determining Optimal Gift-Giving Outcomes*. Having occupied the position of Head Toy Designer and Engineer at the Workshop for less than a year, he is eager to prove himself and bring his inventions to light. Jolly of spirit and nimble of mind, Daedalus is a respected visionary, though some still question his abilities in performing his demanding job. Sometimes, his inventions are avant-garde, perhaps too much so for the average elf. But who knows, perhaps Dr. Twinkletoes will bring with him a new dawn of gift-giving innovation...

8. Commissioner Angél Seraph

Propagandist, Keeper and Guardian of Christmas Spirit for the Miracle Committee

Commissioner Seraph has long laboured to ensure the prosperity of the Christmas Spirit. As the longest-standing member of the Miracle Committee, he alone, alongside Santa, can observe the Christmas Spirit in its tangible form, and make decisions to circumvent its decline. It is rumoured that he was responsible for revealing Santa's existence to the human world, thus making him a household name, though rumours are never to be trusted. As Propagandist and Guardian of the Spirit, he works hard to keep Christmas in a good light in the human realm, sometimes going a bit too far... He is a lonely elf, and while some believe him to be rash and manipulative, the results he obtains are unarguable. His collaborative campaigns with human companies, such as Coca-Cola, have undoubtedly made their mark in spreading Christmas cheer. However, some elves believe his actions to be perversions of the principles of the holiday.

9. Griswald McNicholas

Dean of Academics, Cheer, and Magic at the North Pole Magic Institute

Even if no one is listening, Griswald McNicholas proudly hums the North Pole Magic Institute's cheer. Without the leadership and encouragement of Mr. McNicholas, this school, where each elf had grown up, would not have maintained its reputation as such an elite institution. Due to his many years at the college, he has been awarded the prestigious title of Dean of Academics, Cheer and Magic. This elf has become an academic touchstone for all, having taught and researched for a multitude of classes at the Institute. In fact, the NPMI students have chosen him as their best overall teacher! Griswald's reputation as highly educated, due to his extremely fast research methods, had made him a powerful figure for the elves at the North Pole.

10. Lt. Noel Frost

Head Weather Controller and Defacto Leader of the Reconnaissance Elves

Lt. Frost has established herself as a skilled magic user, strategist, and leader. Having risen through the ranks of the reconnaissance elves after having been directly scouted from the Institute of Magic, she has devoted her life to weather conditions and Santa's safety on the journey. Throughout the year, she works on establishing a safe route directly from the weather control station, and, on the journey, rides ahead of Santa to keep him out of danger. Stern, responsible, and highly principled, Lt. Frost is both feared and respected by the entirety of the North Pole. She is well acquainted with the human world and is highly suspicious of everything both humans and elves may do. Ironically, she has little to no experience with traditional elf jobs and ways of life, as she is said to live in the Weather Control Station.

11. Rosalinda Evergleam Jinglebells III

Keeper of the Sacred Good List and Workshop Manager

Third of her name and third generation list keeper, Rosalinda is a symbol of law and order at the North Pole. As the official listkeeper, she holds the symbolic position of Santa's right hand and makes official announcements about everyone's standing on the Good List. As its Keeper, she must be ranked first, for if the Keeper Elf were to fall down the list for long, they would be replaced. Her principle and work ethic have also seen her appointment to the prestigious position as Workshop Manager. In the time since she took up the position, productivity has been sky-high, though not without consequences: elves have steadily been filing complaints about her for uncheery workplace behaviour. These complaints have not resulted in changes for Rosalinda, as she believes in her righteousness, emboldened by her top spot on the Good List; the Goodest of Good elves cannot be wrong, after all. She may not be everyone's best friend, but Rosalinda gets results, and even her enemies acknowledge that (and enemies she has indeed). Highly ambitious, Rosalinda aspires to be Mayor of the North Pole. Despite her many electoral losses, she retains political aspirations.

12. Northstar Swiftride

Chief of Logistics and Santa's Companion on the Journey

Northstar is many things, but a coward is not one of them! This adventurous elf is a staple of Christmas preparations, as every year, when the 24th of December dawns, he reappears and takes charge. Gifts? Check. Provisions? Check. Santa? Check (though this point may be more difficult this year). If Santa needs it, Northstar's got it. His organizational skills and methods may be questionable, but none dare to question the Northstar Swiftride, who has made a name for himself as Santa's optimal journey companion. As the sled's co-pilot, he holds a lot of respect within the community, and many young elves aspire to one day be like him. Once humanity began experiencing its superhero craze, Northstar, too, became epitomized in young elves' figurines. An elf of legend, his stature makes heads turn wherever he goes, and Santa is always willing to listen to his trusted companion. However, not much is known about his life outside of December, as he seems to disappear. This air of mystery keeps his fans going, and amateur sleuths have taken it upon themselves to uncover his secret life.

13. Titanium 'Tiny' Giftfoot

North Pole Councilman and Real Estate Developer

Known for his towering stature and even larger ambitions, Tiny Giftfoot is not your average business owner in the North Pole. With a keen eye for opportunity, he believes in expanding the Pole's horizons by forging alliances with humans, a notion that sets him apart from tradition-bound peers. As a shrewd member of the town council, Giftfoot's proposals often raise eyebrows, hinting at a shadowy network of connections, rumoured to extend to the enigmatic Christmas Mafia. Yet, despite the whispers, his vision for the future resonates with some, especially those enticed by the promise of his opulent organic gingerbread condos, offering unparalleled views of the majestic glaciers to the west. Giftfoot's presence looms large in the Pole's development landscape, a polarizing figure whose ambitions could reshape the very fabric of their cherished community.

14. Gloria Yule

Carol Writer and Musical Icon

No one in the North Pole can go a day without hearing one of Ms. Yule's greatest hits. Her stardom has made her a household name and revered icon. Singer-songwriter of humble origins, Gloria first began working as a toy-stuffer, before being recognized for her musical abilities on the production line. From there, she was urged to return to the Magic Institute, where she honed her craft and released her debut album, *Gingliest Bells*. It was an instant hit and suddenly threw her into the spotlight, something which she humbly admits to being a big shock. Gloria's talent was recognized in the North Pole and, thanks to a budding businessman, her music was released in other holiday lands, making her a cultural ambassador for Christmas. She largely owes her success to the capitalistic expansion of North Pole culture, as her musical predecessors could never have dreamed of such heights and resources. Some may even say that her fame is undeserved, as her place on the Good List is not exactly exemplary. Nonetheless, she remains an icon for many and is constantly accosted by paparelves (yes, even elves struggle with paparazzi) outside her luxurious organic gingerbread McMansion in the Miracle District (not that she spends much time there, as she has admitted to preferring her rosy cottage in the romantic Valentine land).

15. Gerald, Just Gerald

Just Some Guy

At first glance, he appears to be just Gerald, an unassuming figure blending seamlessly into the backdrop of everyday life. Yet, beneath the surface, lies a mystery waiting to be unravelled. Is there more to Gerald than meets the eye? Some whisper of hidden depths, of untold stories waiting to be discovered. Perhaps he's a master of disguise, a secret agent navigating the mundane with effortless grace. Or maybe, just maybe, he's exactly who he seems to be: Gerald, no more, no less. But in a world filled with intrigue and possibility, one can never be too sure.



THANK YOU FOR
ATTENDING JACMUN 2024

**We hope to see you
again next year!**

