

The Grinch Who Tried to Steal Valentine's Day

Puppet Show Script

By Tammy D. Choleva

Characters:

Joe

Carly

Narrator

(Joe by himself on stage)

Carly: *(Entering stage)* Hi, Joe! I've been looking all over for you. Happy Valentine's Day!

Joe: Ah, Valentine's Day, Schmalentine's Day! Who needs all that lovey, dovey, heartsy, fartsy stuff! Yuck. Whoever invented Valentine's Day anyway?

Carly: Actually, there are quite a few legends on how Valentine's Day started, but I have my personal favorite. You want to hear it?

Joe: Not really, but I have a funny feeling you're going to tell me anyway.

Carly: Well, if you feel that way about it, I won't tell you about the legend of a guy named Valentine who was beheaded and martyred for his Christian faith on February 14th, around the year 270 during the rule of the Roman Emperor Claudius II.

Joe: What did I tell you, Miss Walking Encyclopedia? Now that you've told half the story, you might as well tell the rest of it.

Carly: Joe, you sure are a grump today. I'm going to call you "The Grinch Who Stole Valentine's Day."

Joe: Very funny.

Carly: *(Sounding disappointed)* Well, I hope your Valentine's Day gets better, Joe. I guess I'll see you around. *(Turns to walk away)*

Joe: Wait a minute! Where are you going? Aren't you going to finish telling me your favorite Valentine's legend?

Carly: *(Slowly turns back and says...)* Oh, sure. You didn't sound too interested, so I figured you just wanted to be left alone.

Joe: Nah. Hey, sorry I have the grumps today. Go ahead. Finish your story.

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Carly: Great! Let me see, where did I leave off? *(Pauses)* Oh, yeah. You see, there was this guy named Valentine who was a Christian during the rule of the Roman Emperor Claudius II. This emperor Claudius was really mean to the Christians. Claudius ended up having Valentine captured and put into prison, just because Valentine was a Christian who tried to help other people. According to the legend, the prison master had a beautiful, blind daughter. It is said that God used Valentine to heal the young girl of her blindness. Well, Claudius had ordered Valentine to be beheaded. The legend says that before Valentine was executed, he handed the prison master's daughter a note that said, "From your Valentine." That was supposedly the first Valentine note. Isn't that so romantic???

Joe: Oh, for crying out loud. You're such a softy for romance. It's just a legend, Carly.

Carly: I know. But there could be some truth behind the legend.

Joe: Yeah, yeah, yeah; whatever.

Carly: Well, Mr. Grinch, I guess I really should be going now.

Joe: Wait a second. Didn't you say you were looking all over for me? What did you want me for?

Carly: *(Hesitatingly)* Oh... well ...you've been such a grump about Valentine's Day that I'm not so sure I should give you what I came to give you.

Joe: Give me something? Don't tell me you have a Valentine card for me!

Carly: Well, yeah, I do.

Joe: Really? For me? *(Somewhat quietly)* No one ever gave me a Valentine's Day card before.

Carly: No one? *(Turns toward audience and mutters to herself, loud enough for the audience to hear)* I guess that would explain the grumpy attitude. *(Turns back to speak to Joe)* In that case, I guess I will still give it to you. *(Hands Joe a card)* Here. *(Turns to walk away)*

Joe: *(Softening his attitude)* Why are you rushing off? Aren't you going to wait for me to open the card?

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Carly: Nah. I know how you don't like all that ushy, gushy stuff. Besides, I'm gonna be late getting back home if I don't get going. You can open it after I leave.

Joe: *(Disappointed)* Okay. Well, thanks, Carly. I really mean that.

Carly: You're welcome. Bye, Joe! *(Leaves)*

Joe: *(Opens card and reads it out loud)* Dear Valentine, I just wanted to tell you how much I love you!

(Shouting and looking out to audience) How much she loves me!?? Yikes! I thought we were just friends!

(Looking back at card, continuing to read) I love you so much that I gave up everything just for you, including my very life, so that if you put all your trust in Me, you can live with My Father forever.

(Looks out to audience again, speaks in confused voice) What is she talking about?

(Continues to read) Turn to Me and this will be your best Valentine ever. Love, Jesus.

(Sounding very confused) Love Jesus? Is this some kind of joke?

(Shouting to Carly, who is off stage) CARLY!

(Realizing Carly is too far away to hear him, looks back at card and turns it over) Wait a minute! She wrote something on the back of the card. It says, "Hey, Joe. This note's from me. We've been friends for a while now, but I got to thinking how I really haven't been such a great friend because I haven't ever told you how much Jesus loves you. I wanted to make things right today. So, I figured, what better day to tell you about the greatest love story of all than on Valentine's Day. 'For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that all who believe shall not perish but shall have everlasting life.' Now that's the greatest love story of all, Joe. Happy Valentine's Day! Love, Carly"

(Joe looks out to audience, back at card, and back out to audience)

Narrator: *(New voice heard in background)* That did end up being the happiest Valentine's Day of Joe's life!