

# CHRISTMAS DEADLINE

A Christmas Duet

by  
Peg Ratliff



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ELF 1: It's about that time again.

ELF 2: The elves are busy helping Santa get ready.

ELF 1: And some of them are better at it than others.

ELF 2: Christmas Deadline.

ELF 1: By Peg Ratliff.

(ELF 1 is sitting in a chair working on a toy. He/she may whistle a familiar Christmas tune. ELF 2 enters looking worried and begins to pace.)

ELF 1: Almost finished.

ELF 2: (Absent mindedly; pacing) Great.

ELF 1: I think Santa will like this one.

ELF 2: Um hmmm.

ELF 1: (Looks at the audience, then back at the other elf.) The sleigh has been replaced with the Super Sonic Transport.

ELF 2: (Still not paying attention) Great. That's great.

ELF 1: Hey!

ELF 2: (Stopping and looking at him.) What?

ELF 1: You haven't heard a word I've said.

ELF 2: Did you say something?

ELF 1: You weren't listening!

ELF 2: How can I concentrate when I'm in such trouble?

ELF 1: What kind of trouble?

ELF 2: The worst! It could mean my career!

ELF 1: You mean being an elf?

ELF 2: Yes, being an elf!

ELF 1: It's not like you are a neurosurgeon.

ELF 2: (Standing up straight, hand over his heart.) It's a true calling and my life's work.

ELF 1: Isn't this your first assignment?

ELF 2: Yes, and it could be my last.

ELF 1: Okay, whatever. Who are you in trouble with? Dasher?

ELF 2: No! The boss.

ELF 1: Oh, Blitzen.

ELF 2: No! Santa!

--- END OF FREE PREVIEW ---