

The Lights darken on the flailing figure of Scrooge. He continues to cry for help. His voice echoes and re-echoes away into the darkness as Hell disintegrates around him. The Lights cross-fade to:

SCENE 9

Scrooge's bedroom

His bed magically returns to him as the Lights come up. Scrooge, heavily entangled in sheets and blankets, is fighting to free himself

Scrooge Where am I? I'm in my own room. I'm not in hell! I'm not dead! *(He throws off the sheets)* I haven't got any chains! Perhaps it didn't happen after all ... perhaps it did ... But I'm alive! I'm alive! I've got a chance to change, and I will not be the man I was!

The music builds under

No. 22: "I'll Begin Again"

Scrooge

I'll begin again.
I will build my life.
I will live to know
That I've fulfilled my life.
I'll begin today —
(He gets off the bed) Throw away the past —
And the future I build
Will be something that will last.

I will take the time
I have left to live,
And I'll give it all
That I have left to give.

I will live my days
For my fellow men,
And I'll live in praise
Of that moment when
I was able to begin again!

I don't know what to do. I'm as light as a feather. I'm as happy as an angel. I'm as giddy as a drunken man. A merry Christmas, everybody! Oh, Jacob Marley, wherever you are, you shall see a change in me, I swear!

He throws back the curtains and looks out at the world, a new man. Daylight floods into the room. He puts on his dressing-gown and bedroom slippers, and moves downstairs. The bedroom dissolves behind him and he steps into the blinding light of a dazzling new day. He drinks in the glorious morning

I'll begin again
I will change my fate!
I will show the world
That it is not too late!
I will never stop —
While I still have time —
Till I stand at the top
Of that mountain I must climb!

The Ghosts of Marley, Christmas Past and Present are seen through Scrooge's mirror, nodding approval

I will start anew.
I will make amends.
And I'll make quite certain
That the story ends
On a note of hope —
On a strong amen —
And I'll thank the world
And remember when
I was able to begin again!
I'll begin again!

Scrooge, still in his nightclothes, stands in the middle of the street, laughing and crying with joy. The church bells merrily chime nine o'clock

The Lights cross-fade to:

SCENE 10

A London street — Cheapside

A small boy trudges through the snow along the street. He stops and stares in amazement at Scrooge in his nightclothes

Scrooge Boy ... Boy! What day is it?