A Tale of Two Ornaments By Claudia I. Haas

Copyright 2014 All Rights Reserved

CHARACTERS: 3

Gloria (f): ageless! a handcrafted elegant, beautiful ornament and she knows it

Ernst (m): ageless! a proper British ornament – maybe a Palace guard, a Shakespearean

character

Vixen (m or f): young; a busy little kitten

PLACE: In someone's decorated Christmas tree*

TIME: Christmas Eve

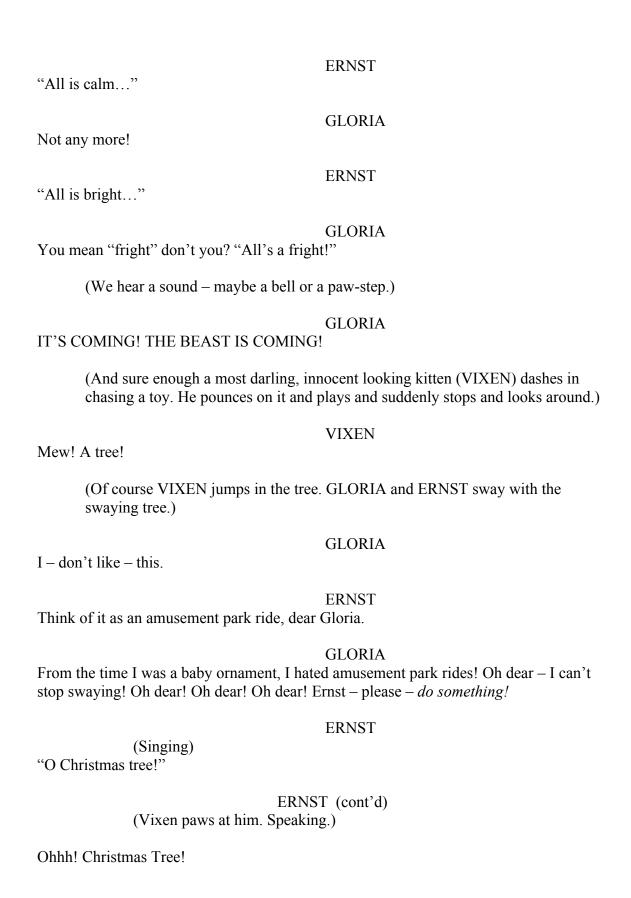
SYNOPSIS: Merry Catmess! That's what Christmas Eve is for two ornaments being terrorized by Vixen the Kitten.

*The Christmas tree can simply be a ladder. Feel free to stick branches or lights or garlands around it. Or have the ornaments hold on to or wear branches. Just evoke the fact that the characters are on the top part of a Christmas tree. The sillier the better.

A Tale of Two Ornaments

AT RISE GLORIA and ERNST are hanging in a Christmas tree. It is Christmas Eve. All is calm.

It's too quiet. Evil is in the air.	GLORIA
It's a perfectly charming night. Christmas Ev	ERNST ve always is.
It's our last Christmas Eve! The beast is lurk	GLORIA ing!
Nothing bad can happen on Christmas Eve.	ERNST
The beast is coming!	GLORIA
Dear Gloria – all is calm.	ERNST
To shake us!	GLORIA
All is bright.	ERNST
To destroy us!	GLORIA
Don't fret! Ernst is here! I shall protect you!	ERNST "Silent night"
Not for long!	GLORIA
"Holy night"	ERNST
Evil! It's evil!	GLORIA



Meoooow! Sparkly!	VIXEN	
(VIXEN paws at GLORIA.)		
Not the paw! Not the evil paw!	GLORIA	
(VIXEN cocks his head and paws again.)		
Ernst! Don't let him do that!	GLORIA (cont'd)	
All right. If you say so. I say, dear cat – don	ERNST 't do that, please.	
Meow?	VIXEN	
You're frightening the dear lady.	ERNST	
(VIXEN gives a playful slap at ERNST but in doing so falls out of the tree – as kittens do. VIXEN spooks himself, jumps up in the air emitting a "kitten noise" and scampers away. ERNST is visibly shaken!)		
Why, Ernst – you risked your life – for me.	GLORIA For little old me.	
ERNST I did, didn't I? Yes, I did! I most certainly did!		
I didn't know you had it in you!	GLORIA	
There's a lot of things you don't know abou	ERNST t me Gloria dear Gloria	
GLORIA After being stored away in a box for a solid year, Ernst – I'm pretty sure I know all there is to know about you. You do tend to chatter.		
But – you don't know the important things!	ERNST	

	GLORIA	
Such as?		
	ERNST	
How I feel about you		
(Suddenly VIXEN gets the zoomies a Around the room, around the tree.)	and starts dashing and darting everywhere.	
Earthquake!	GLORIA	
It's just the zoomies. Hold on tight.	ERNST	
The "zoomies?"	GLORIA	
	ERNST	
It's a kitten thing. He'll exhaust himself. If v		
(Terrified and shaking, ERNST and GLORIA hold on tightly to the tree, eyes closed and shaking. They hands will – almost meet. Then, suddenly right on cue, VIXEN stops in his tracks and plops on the ground – exhausted.)		
My hero!	GLORIA	
(ERNST opens his eyes and is visibly relieved to see VIXEN asleep.)		
	ERNST	
It was nothing.		
How did you know about the zoomies?	GLORIA	
I errr that is – I know things. I've beer	ERNST "around the block" one might say.	
I think you're simply wonderful. It's amazin together and I never noticed you. Of course,	- -	
I – noticed you! In fact –	ERNST	

Yes?

(VIXEN will slowly wake up and stretch and just sit quietly, head-cocked watching the two ornaments.)