

another man from what I was, I am prepared to bear you company. Will you speak to me?

*Still the Phantom gives no reply, but lifts one of its shrouded arms and points towards the window out into the night. Scrooge nods timidly and scrambles after him, nightcap askew*

The night is waning fast, and I know it is precious time to me. Lead on, Spirit, lead on!

*The Phantom raises both arms skyward. Thunder and lightning fill the night sky. A howling, icy gale blows through the room. Scrooge stands shivering in his long nightgown, his teeth chattering with a combination of cold and terror. The force of the wind increases until it is a typhoon. With a wild cry of fear, Scrooge is whirled around until he is dizzy*

*The Lights cross-fade to:*

## SCENE 5

*The street outside Scrooge's office*

*Scrooge stands beside the Phantom, slightly removed from a crowd of people gathered outside his office. Tom Jenkins polishes the gleaming brass "Scrooge & Marley" nameplate with his shirt-sleeve*

**Tom Jenkins** There it is, friends, shinin' as bright as the 'appy thoughts the mere mention of the name Scrooge brings to our minds! (*Addressing the Crowd*) Ladies and gentlemen. We are gathered 'ere today because we are united by a common bond——

*The Crowd raises a cheer*

——namely our feelings of gratitude to Mr Ebenezer Scrooge.

*The Crowd roars its raucous agreement*

I don't think any one of us could ever' ope to find the words to describe the true depth of our feelings towards 'im!

**Scrooge** (*to the Phantom*) Is this the future?

*The Phantom nods. It is clear that Scrooge, already in a highly emotional condition, is deeply touched. He starts to move among the Crowd*