

Sample page #1 of "Season's Beatings: Live from Downtown."

WALLY: *(He stops a passing pedestrian, the Old Lady.)* Excuse me! Wally W. Wigwhacker of WWW News. Would you mind sharing your Christmas joy with our viewing audience?"

Old Lady: "You want me to have joy? Then gimme some money, mister! I'm trying to live on my sorry social security and my sorry late husband's sorry pension from that sorry job he worked at for 30 sorry years. You know what he did for 30 years, mister TV man?"

(Wally shakes his head.)

Old Lady: "He stood around making faces all day."

Wally: "Really?"

Old Lady: "Yeah, he worked in a clock factory! Now here it is Christmas, and I've got 23 greedy grandkids swarming my doorstep like locusts, all yapping for cash – "Nana, buy me the new PS5!" "Nana, send me some money to my CashApp!" "Nana, I need therapy 'cause you knitted me all those ugly sweaters!" And me? Flat busted broke. In fact, here's all the holiday cheer I could afford myself this yuletide. Here's my Christmas dinner! *(Takes a loaf of bread out of her bag.)* Now you want me to talk about joy? Get real, sonny!" *(She whacks him with the loaf of bread and stalks off.)*

(FADE OUT THE TRACK PLAYING AND CUE UP THE NEXT TRACK AND PAUSE IT.)

Wally: *(Rubbing his head, he recovers with an attempt to lighten the moment.)* "Well, it was nice of her to share her dinner with me. It seems that finding the Christmas spirit may be a little harder than I thought. But, we won't give up! Let's see if we can't snag someone overflowing with the merry mood of Christmas.

***(Begin Track #3 on the soundtrack.)** (Young Person With Phone's music; a danceable version of Jingle Bells. Watch the level; have it a little louder as she comes dancing in, then reduce it to play under all the action, and back up as she leaves, then fade down and pause it. Go ahead and cue up the next track and pause the CD or get ready to play the next track from the PC.)*

(The young teenage girl, carrying a shopping bag, is looking down at their phone as she bops to the music she is playing on it. When Wally steps up to them, blocking her way, she tries to avoid Wally at first, showing irritation. But when he sticks his microphone up to her, forcing her to look at him, she recognizes him, taking off her headphone and talking to him)

Young Person with phone: "Would you get out of my way..." *(seeing him and recognizing him)* "...NO WAY! You're that guy on the TV news, aren't you?

Wally: "Yes, Wally W. Wigwhacker! Do you mind..."

Young Person with phone: "My friends will never believe this... wait, let me get a selfie with you!"

(Wally obligingly poses with them as they draw close and hold up the phone to get the photo of them together. Although he smiles, she sticks out her tongue in a comical manner.)

Young Person with phone: "Hey, are we live on the air right now?"

Wally: "Yes we are! You can see this very report live on our app!"

Young Person with phone: "Yeah, yeah, yeah, I got it on my phone already, wait... OK, there it is, let me open it... Yeah! Hey, there we are! I can see myself on the app!" *(Looks up at the camera and dances.)* "Hey, everybody! I'm on TV! Woooo!" *(Keeps dancing.)*

Wally: "Now, tell us all about..."

Young Person with phone: *(Freezes in the middle of a dance move and shouts.)* “Wait, this could go viral! I gotta do something crazy on Tik-Tok! All my friends are gonna go nuts!”

Wally: Okay, then how about sharing with our viewers what Christmas means to you?

Young Person with phone: *(She grabs his microphone, and standing beside him, she thrusts it into his face and says mockingly in a nasal voice.)* “How about sharing with our viewers what Christmas means to you? Look at me! I’m Wally Wigwacker! I’m a nerd who likes to ask strangers stupid questions! *(She sticks out the mic to a passing person.)* “Excuse me, why you so ugly?” *(The person looks stricken and hurries off.)*

Wally: *(Trying to get his microphone back)* “Hey, let me have that!”

Young Person with phone: “Wigwacker, what kind of name is that? And look at that stupid hat! *(She flips the fluffy tassel ball on the top of the Santa hat several times, then stuffs it in his mouth.)* There, much better! Hey, the 80’s called, they want their suit back! Where do you get your haircut, in the stylist shop at Wal-Mart? And that voice! *(Looks at her phone and gets excited.)* “Wow, over 20,000 views already! I’ve gone viral! Hashtag “Teen Roasts Reporter on Live TV!” *(Shows Wally the phone.)* “Look, you already become a meme! You’re famous! I’m famous!” *(She starts dancing around him, while pulling the shoulders of his suit jacket down around his arms so that he can’t move them. She puts his microphone back into his hand upside down, and plants a big kiss on his cheek, then she takes one final selfie as she gives a peace sign and sticks out her tongue.)*

(Right then, several people that were passing by looking at their phone suddenly stop to also film, laughing as they scream, “Look! It’s the Roasted Reporter from the meme!” And they start doing their own selfies with him and the teen as Wally struggles to get the jacket off his arms and remove the hat tassel from his mouth. The teen and those filming suddenly run off laughing, leaving him standing there, finally getting the jacket back on properly. He straightens the Santa hat and his tie, then turns back to the camera/audience.)

(FADE OUT THE TRACK PLAYING AND CUE UP THE NEXT TRACK AND PAUSE IT.)

Wally: “Well, it seems we just had an encounter with one of our city’s more colorful characters. But, what’s Christmas without a fruitcake? Christmas joy. It seems to be a rare commodity here in the big city. But everywhere are blinking lights, a light snow is falling, and the sound of carols being sung is in the air.”