

**IT** Charles Dickens in *A Christmas Carol* introduces Ebenezer Scrooge, a cold-hearted miser who appears destined for eternal unhappiness. **TS** With the help of four ghosts who visit him, Scrooge transforms into a happy, generous soul who embraces the wonders of Christmas, family, and children. **I** In Stave One, a visit of the ghost of his dead partner Jacob Marley provides hope for a man who has somehow lost all appreciation for the gifts of Christmas and life. **II** The Ghost of Christmas Past reminds Scrooge of his long buried past, and as he remembers, he begins to regret some of his recent actions. **III** As he remembers those regrets of the past, Scrooge travels with the Ghost of Christmas present and witnesses scenes of family and children at Christmas that inspire him to become a new man. **IV** His journey with the Ghost of Christmas Future provides him the final inspiration to execute the changes that need to be made. **CS** When he finally wakes up on Christmas morning of the present, Scrooge immediately ceases the opportunity before him and becomes then and in the future a man who celebrates Christmas and cherishes family and children.