

Albert and the school play

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"Albert's got a part in the school play" said mother
"He's going to be an elf.
He's got a couple of lines to read and a song to sing
And he's learning it all by himself."

"What play's this then?" said father
"Can we get in for free?"
"I don't know what it's called" said mother
"And no we can't, we have to pay for you and me."

"How about half price then" said father
"If I promise to leave at half time,
You can meet me down at the pub
As I'll be bored out of me mind."

But mother put her foot down and said
"We'll both be there to support the lad.
Besides, there's free tea and a slice of cake
So it shouldn't turn out that bad!"

Albert was very determined
To learn all his lines
And he turned mother and father into an audience
And went over it time after time.

Albert was very excited
When the day of the school play arrived
And father mumbled under his breath
"I don't know how I'll survive!"

"Come on father" said mother
"You don't want to go out looking a mess
Look, I'm wearing those wedding shoes
With a new cream and green dress!"

So the Ramsbottoms sat in the front row
Of the little hall attached to the school
"Now you stay awake, and no snoring" said mother
"Or we'll have to leave, that's the rules."

Luckily for father
There was a lad on stage who looked a little dim
And he kept crashing a symbol at odd moments
Making father jump out of his skin.

"If nothing else" said mother
"That'll keep you awake
Now look as though you're enjoying yourself
If only for our Albert's sake."

Albert wasn't due on stage
Until well past half way through
And father leant over to mother and said
"I can't take much more between me and you."

Then Albert made his grand entrance
In an elf suit mother had made
In one hand was his stick with the 'orses 'ead 'andle
And in the other a little spade.

Albert sang his little heart out
And someone said, "your lads in fine voice."
When the chorus joined in they sang louder still
They didn't have any choice.

When the curtain finally closed father said
"Now can we just go home.
Lets skip the free cup of tea
And make a cup of our own."

"Guess what father" said Albert
"I've been asked to be in another play.
You and mother can have front row seats
It's good news, what do you say?"

"I say I should take you fishing" said father
"Like I always promised I would.
On Saturday afternoon, instead of drama school
If I've correctly understood."

"Yippie" said Albert
With a cheeky little grin.
He'd been trying to get father to take him fishing
And he'd finally found a way to win!
