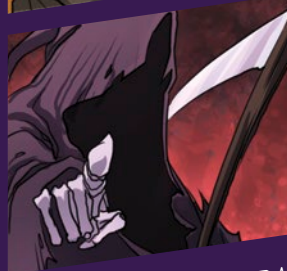


CHARLES DICKENS'S

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

A GRAPHIC NOVEL



BY HARPER & ALMARA

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A CHRISTMAS CAROL AND CHARITY

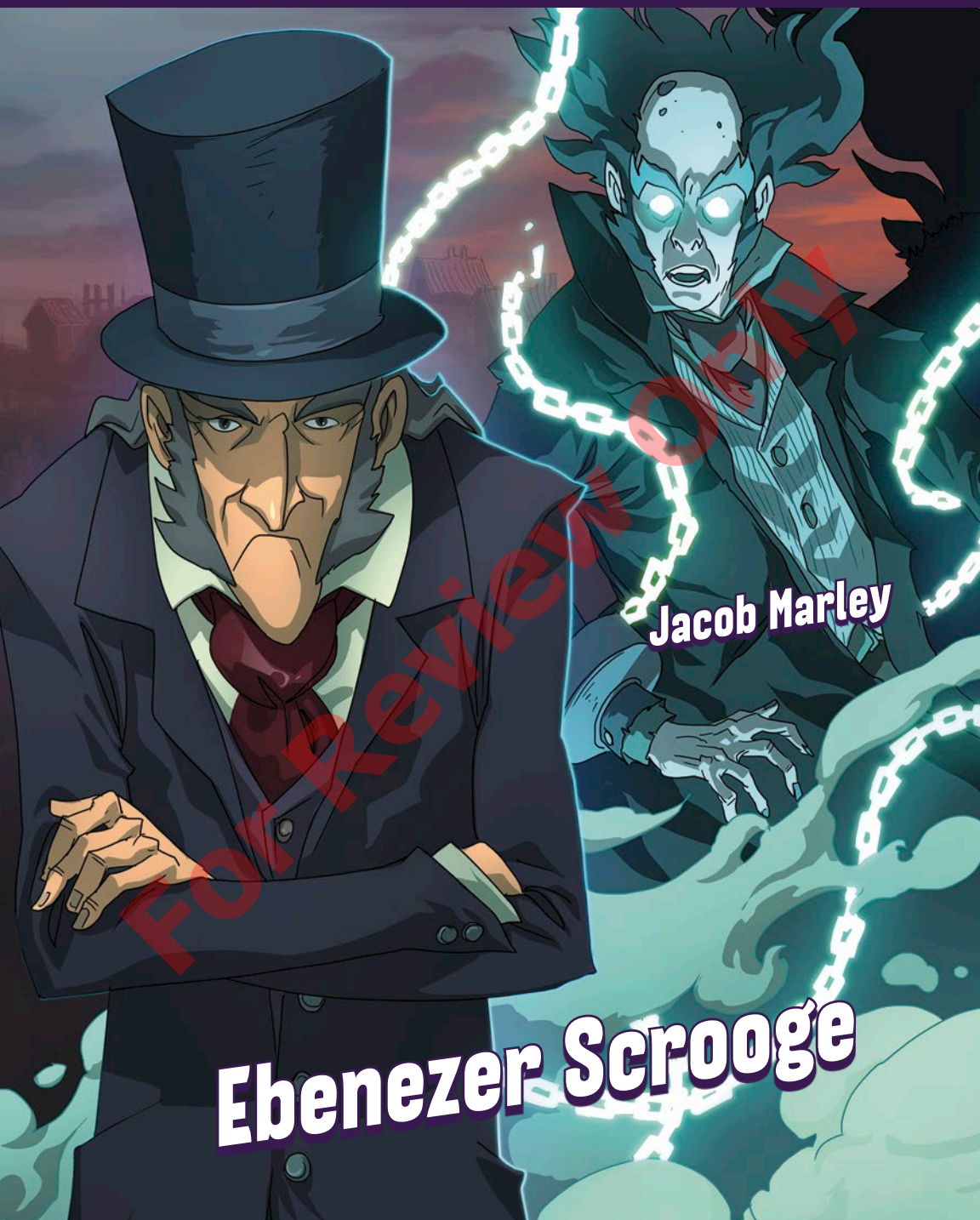
Charles Dickens's *A Christmas Carol* was published on December 18th, 1843, in London, England. The novella tells the tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, a bitter old man with no interest in charity or the so-called "holiday spirit" of Christmas. However, Scrooge soon learns the value of charity and kindness — a message Charles Dickens felt was necessary to share during the bleak and poor state of London in his time. Thankfully, the story had several big effects on readers, some of which have spread around the world and continue to this day!

The phrase "Merry Christmas" first became popular after the publication of the story. Ever since, the moniker "Scrooge" and the phrase "Bah humbug!" have become popular labels for those types of people who express dislike of the holidays (or even just for making fun of people with a poor attitude about anything in general).

Less than one year after the publication of *A Christmas Carol*, several important people made charitable donations after being inspired by Dickens's tale. Robert Louis Stevenson, a famous writer, made public vows to give to charities. And in America, a man named Mr. Fairbanks closed his factory on Christmas and sent turkeys to all of his employees in honor of the spirit of the tale. A soldier named Captain Corbett-Smith even told the story to his men between battles in the trenches of World War I.

Some experts have even linked the Western world's modern day Christmas customs of giving and charity to Dickens's tale. Festive feasts, family gatherings, and a general attitude of giving and kindness grew in popularity in response to the positive message of Dickens's story!

CAST OF CHARACTERS



Ebenezer Scrooge

Jacob Marley



Bob Cratchit

Tiny Tim

Old Jacob Marley was dead as a doornail.
He had died seven years ago to the day!

Scrooge had been his
business partner, his
only friend, and the sole
mourner at his funeral.

HERE LIES
JACOB MARLEY
(1767 - 1833)

Scrooge had never removed Marley's name from the door. It would have cost too much. Sometimes Scrooge's new customers called him Marley.

He didn't mind...
as long as he got
their money.

People who passed by did not
say hello to Mr. Scrooge.

Children ran
from him.

Beggars didn't beg him.

This suited Scrooge just fine. He edged his way along the crowded
paths of life, warning all human sympathy to keep its distance.

CHAPTER 1

CHRISTMAS EVE

A detailed illustration of Old Scrooge in his countinghouse. He is an elderly man with a long white beard and glasses, wearing a dark suit. He is leaning over a desk, writing with a quill pen in an open book. The desk is cluttered with numerous stacks of gold coins and papers. In the background, there are more stacks of coins and a window showing a dark, cold exterior.

It was a cold and dismal afternoon. Old Scrooge was busy working in his countinghouse.

A detailed illustration of Bob Cratchit at his desk. He is a man with blonde hair, wearing a brown coat and a red scarf. He is sitting at a desk, warming his hands over a single lit candle in a brass holder. The desk is covered with papers and a quill pen. The background shows a stone wall and a window.

Scrooge's clerk, Bob Cratchit, sat at a small desk copying letters.

He warmed his hands by a candle, since Scrooge refused to pay for firewood.

A detailed illustration of Fred Cratchit entering the office. He is a young man with brown hair, wearing a dark suit and a red tie. He is walking towards the desk, holding a top hat in his right hand. He has a cheerful expression. In the background, Bob Cratchit is sitting at his desk, and Old Scrooge is standing behind his desk, looking at Fred. The office is dimly lit, with a single candle on the desk.

A cheerful voice broke the freezing gloom of the office.

Merry Christmas, uncle!

Bah! Humbug!

