

THE LIBRARIAN

*(Off-stage)* The Library? Oh, my word! *(Entering)* That's where I come in!

**[SECTION 7]**

*As The New York City Library set is revealed, THE LIBRARIAN enthusiastically greets VIRGINIA and OLLIE.*

THE LIBRARIAN

*(With a grand gesture)* Welcome to The Library! *(Realizing where she is)* Shhh. Shhh. Shhh. *(Pointing to sign)* "No shouting. No talking. No whispering." *(with a smile and shrug)* Rules you know. *(She snaps her fingers.)*

**SONG: "SANTA BY THE BOOK"**

*Library Patrons & Singing Books (in hushed tones):*

FA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA...

THE LIBRARIAN

*(Over music)* Here on these magical shelves, you can find out anything about nearly everything. And when it comes to Santa Claus himself... Why, he can be found in an entire world full of books. And not just by the name Santa. Children know him by many, many different names. There's Babbo Natale in Italy. Weihnachtsmann in Germany. And Dun Che Lao Ren in far-off China!

VIRGINIA

But is he real?

*The Librarian:*

CHILDREN ALL AROUND THE WORLD

SEE SANTA THEIR OWN WAY.

AND NO MATTER HOW THEY SAY HIS NAME,

HE SHARES THAT SPECIAL DAY.

SANTA'S ALL AROUND THE WORLD...

SOMETIMES WITHOUT HIS SLEIGH!

OH, HE'S EVERYWHERE YOU LOOK.

*(with enthusiasm)* HE'S RIGHT HERE INSIDE THE BOOK!

*Eight AROUND-THE-WORLD SANTAS – England's FATHER CHRISTMAS, France's PERE NOEL, Holland's SINTERKLAAS, Armenia's GAGHANT BABA, Hawaiian Islands' KANAKALOKA, Sweden's JULTOMTEN, Russia's DED MOROZ & The United States' ST. NICK – appear.*

*Librarian:*

SO MANY BOOKS! SO MANY LOOKS!

SO MANY NAMES TO KNOW!

*Father Christmas:*

IN ENGLAND, FATHER CHRISTMAS

BRINGS THE GIFTS THROUGH ICE AND SNOW.

*Pere Noel:*

PERE NOEL IS FOUND IN FRANCE!

*Sinterklaas:*

I'M SINTERKLAAS IN HOLLAND!

*Ollie:*

*(Reading book)* BUT WHO IS GAGHANT BABA?

*Gaghant Baba:*

WHY, I'M SANTA CLAUS IN TALIN!

THE LIBRARIAN

Talin is a town in Armenia. Not to be confused with the capital of Estonia.

VIRGINIA & OLLIE

Where?

THE LIBRARIAN

Moving on.

*Kanakaloka:*

IN HOT HAWAIIAN TROPICS,  
KANAKALOKA SAILS A BOAT.

*Jultomten:*

JULTOMTEN LIVES IN SWEDEN...

*Ollie:*

*(Reading book)* WHERE HE RIDES A GREAT BIG GOAT!

*Ded Moroz:*

IN FAR-OFF RUSSIA, DED MOROZ  
WALKS WITH A MAGIC STICK.

*The Librarian:*

AND IF YOU ASKED ME, I WOULD SING...

All:

THREE CHEERS FOR OLD ST. NICK!

*St. Nick (American Santa Claus):*

Ho! Ho! Ho!

*Virginia & Ollie:*

Santa!

*The Librarian, Virginia & Ollie:*

HIP-HIP-HOORAY!

HIP-HIP-HOORAY!

*All:*

HIP-HIP-HOORAY!!!

*Singing Books:*

FA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA!

#### THE LIBRARIAN

I really do love it when books fly off the shelves!

*A lively DANCE SEQUENCE follows.*

*The Librarian, Virginia & Ollie:*

CHILDREN ALL AROUND THE WORLD

SEE SANTA THEIR OWN WAY,

AND NO MATTER HOW THEY SAY HIS NAME

*Library Patrons & Singing Books:*

FA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA-LA...

HE SHARES THAT SPECIAL DAY.  
YES, SANTA'S ALL AROUND THE WORLD  
INVITING US TO PLAY  
WITH EACH NEW GIFT-WRAPPED TOY.  
HE GIVES A LIFT TO GIRL AND BOY.  
THERE'S SO MUCH TO ENJOY  
ON CHRISTMAS DAY!

*General merriment as song ends. VIRGINIA looks about her for a moment and then...*

VIRGINIA

*(Interrupting the merriment)* Wait! Stop!

*For a moment, everyone freezes in place. AROUND-THE-WORLD SANTAS look at each other and realize it's time to exit.*

FATHER CHRISTMAS

*(Exiting)* Well, I guess it's back to the books.

ST. NICK

*(Exiting)* Time to feed the reindeer.

JULTOMTEN

*(Exiting)* And my goat!