

**The Will**  
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**Purpose:**

This play can be performed for Easter or for Christmas. It is an allegory of the life and purpose of Christ, set in modern times. Though he spurns help when freely offered, Alle is humbled when he discovers just who his benefactor really was. Just like we now spend our lives in humility, knowing we can in no way repay the gift we were so unworthy to receive, so does Alle.

**Characters:**

**Alle Homos** -- A father who has the responsibility of his children. He is also greatly in debt. No matter what he tries, it never seems to be enough to keep the Dark Man from the door.

**Kid** -- The child of Alle

**Dark Man** -- The property owner to whom Alle owes a debt. He is a representative of Satan.

**Chris** --A seeming beggar who offers assistance to Alle, but is bluntly turned down. He finally gives his life for Alle. A type of Christ.

**Lawyer** -- Tends to the affairs of Chris

**Urchin** -- Carries the news of Chris's death to the lawyer

**Props:**

Backdrop of the outside of a house or just a dilapidated door. This will need to change to a freshly painted look for the last scene. Possibly roll down a paper or sheet with the newly painted door on it.

Street scene with trash and such.

Lawyer's office with appropriate furnishings.

**SCENE 1:**

*Scene opens as Alle Homos and his kid stand before a dilapidated door. DM is walking up behind hi. Chris is lying in the street..*

**Alle:** *(Shivers)* Well kid, here it is, our new place. It isn't much, but it's all I could buy. At least this Christmas, we'll have a roof to keep snow off our heads.

**Kid:** Are we going to celebrate Christmas this year?

**Alle:** *(Clears throat)* Son, this is our celebration of Christmas. It took all I had. *(Dark Man has come behind him)* But look at the bright side. This is more than God had at Christmas.

**Dark Man:** Actually, Alle, it's more than you have too! *(Laughs)* Have you forgotten what you owe me? *(Chris in the street gutter looks up at this)*

**Alle:** Look, we can deal with this after the holidays. I don't owe that much yet. My kid and I need to get in out of the cold. Now! *(Alle moves kids toward the door, but the Dark Man steps in front of the door, blocking it.)*

**Dark Man:** Not so fast, Alle! *(Turns as the beggar rises)* Stay out of this, Christopher Omni! You have neither reason or right to interfere. *(Turns to Alle)* As for your “little” debt, I have a list I’ve been keeping. *(He unrolls a long piece of paper with scribbling on it, hands it to Alle)* As I am sure you can’t pay for these, your home is mine by Law.

**Alle:** Please, whatever it takes, I’ll pay it. Have mercy for my child’s sake.

**Dark Man:** If you had all of eternity, little man. No sacrifice you could make would ever be enough. *(Laughs as he puts a padlock on the door)*

**Chris:** *(Approaches)* Maybe I can help?

**Dark Man:** *(Contemptuously shoves him down)* Maybe you’d like to die? Again! *(The Dark Man leaves - Alle and his kid turn to go)*

**Chris:** *(From prone position)* I can help you!

**Alle:** *(Furious)* What do you know, Beggar? You were probably born in the gutter. How could you begin to know what it’s like to have a fine home, then lose it? *(Leaves as lights fade)*

## SCENE 2:

*Scene opens in lawyer’s office with lawyer and Alle.*

**Lawyer;** *(Angrily waving list)* Why are you bothering me, Mister? It is an open and shut case. Your home went to pay off your debt.

**Alle;** We did nothing to incur debt. Nothing!

**Lawyer:** Inherit, incur, makes no difference. It’s the Law. You owed it the minute you were born. Don’t blame me. Don’t blame the system. Blame your ancestors.

**Alle:** But we’ll die if we’re forced out in the street. It’s not fair to me or my son.

*(The door bursts open. An urchin rushes in, shouting)*

**Urchin:** Mr. Lawyer, come quick! Mr. Omni’s in trouble! He’s getting beat up. Really bad!

**Lawyer:** Run and get the commander of his troops. Quick, Lad. They can handle this better than we can. *(Urchin runs out as Lawyer turns to Alle)* Why does he continually provoke the gangs? He knows they control this turf!

**Alle** His troops? What are you talking about? He’s just a crazy bum. Offered to pay off our debt this morning. I almost beat him myself for mocking me. He certainly can’t pay for protection.

**Lawyer:** I really don’t understand it all. But Omni is incredibly wealthy. It’s just tied up somehow in court. He also commands a huge army, but refuses to use it in his personal battles. And likes to come here and slum with us. I can’t figure him out either.

**Alle:** Christopher Omni has money? This is a bad joke.

**Lawyer:** No. It's just that his money's tied somehow to him obeying his father. I've got his Dad's will here. Just never had time to study it.

*(Urchin bursts in again)*

**Urchin:** Sir! The troops! They came, but they're just watching. Won't do anything unless Christopher asks for help. He's just laying there. Taking it. Bleeding ... and smiling. They're killing him ... and he seems okay with it. *(Urchin runs out crying)*

**Alle:** Aren't you going to do something?

**Lawyer:** Yes. I'm going to close my window. Must be a storm coming. Getting really dark outside.

**Alle:** You're worried about the weather? We've got to save him!

**Lawyer:** Can't you hear what their screaming? It is too late. He's dead now. Don't worry about it. It's to your benefit.

**Alle:** *(Shocked)* My benefit?

**Lawyer:** *(Picks up a Bible)* He left instructions. Said give you this in the event of his death. It's his "father's will". It came into effect when he died. Part of his inheritance passes to you.

**Alle:** What's in it? What did he have to give?

**Lawyer:** *(Opens Bible and begins reading)* I, Christopher Omni, being of sound mind ... and so on ... having submitted myself to the provisions of my father's will, do hereby bequeath to.... and he goes on to list more people than I care to read, but here's the important part .... to Alle Homus, total payment of his debts, both those incurred by him (Here Alle covers his face) and those inherited at his birth.

**Alle:** *(Eyes tearing up)* I treated him so bad!

**Lawyer:** The right to live without fear *(Alle begins to cry)* and a place for he and his children to live forever. Wow! What'd you do to deserve this?

**Alle:** Nothing! I don't deserve it! I can't accept this. How could I live with myself when I did nothing for Him?

**Lawyer:** You can't live at all without this gift. His death made it possible. Take this! *(Tries to hand Alle an envelope)* It's a deed to the home of your dreams and wealth for a lifetime.

**Alle:** How can I?

**Lawyer:** Would you make his death pointless? *(Alle reaches for the envelope as the lights go out)*

**SCENE 3:**

*Scene opens like Scene 1, but door is freshly painted and decorated. Alle and the kid stand in front of it.*

**Alle:** Well, here it is! Home! And no one can ever take it from us. *(The door opens and Christopher, cleaned up, steps through it to hand him the key)*

**Christopher:** Mr. Alle. I believe this is yours? Take care of it. Cherish it. *(Turns back through door)*

**Kid:** Dad! He looked just like that old bum. The one who died and gave us this.

**Alle:** *(Frowns)* Just a coincidence! I think! I'll never be able to forget him though. He made a new life possible for us..

**Kids:** Maybe we can tell everyone his story. Every year at this time! Keep his memory alive. He sure made this holiday special.

**Alle;** Somehow, wherever he is, I'm sure he'd be pleased. To be a part of our holiday celebrations. *(All exit through door, leaving stage empty)*