



# A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens



## Female Characters

<b>Fan</b> 	Ebenezer's younger sister whom he loved dearly but who died young. She was the mother of Ebenezer's nephew, his only living relative.	Love Youth Optimism
<b>Belle</b> 	Belle is the young woman who once loved and was loved by Scrooge. Unfortunately, his love for her was replaced by his love	Emotion Family Damaging effects of greed and gain
<b>Mrs Cratchit:</b> 	A model wife and mother who embodies the Christmas spirit. She is an idealised representation of the poor.	Optimistic Good natured Strong
<b>Martha Cratchit:</b> 	Bob and Emily Cratchit's eldest child. Who is working at a milliner's up until Christmas Day.	Hardworking The working poor Exploitation
<b>Belinda Cratchit:</b> 	Second-born child of Bob and Emily Cratchit, and has a close relationship with her family.	Hope Gender assigned duties
<b>Mrs Dilber / Charwoman:</b> 	Scrooge's laundress and cleaner that stole his belongings and took them to Old Joe's to make a profit.	Destitution Poverty
<b>Mrs Fezziwig</b> 	Warm, fun and welcoming wife to Mr Fezziwig . Ideal relationship between husband and wife.	Compassion Love Humanity
<b>Caroline</b> 	A poverty-stricken woman who has young children and is indebt to Scrooge. Her and her husband rejoice at Scrooge's death.	Poverty Social class/injustice Moral failings of society

## Minor Characters

<b>The two portly gentlemen</b> 	Two men collecting donations for charity come to Scrooge expecting that such a wealthy businessman will contribute to their cause, but Scrooge refuses.	Social responsibility Transformation Charity
<b>Dick Wilkins</b> 	Scrooge's friend and fellow apprentice at Fezziwig's	Symbolic of a better and more forgiving time in Scrooge's past
<b>Ignorance &amp; Want</b> 	Allegorical symbolic figures who are two small children. They have been created by mankind's sin.	The neglected underclass The issues that plague society.

## Dickens' Big Ideas

- The story is set during the Christmas season, emphasising the importance of goodwill, generosity, and compassion.
- The transformation of Scrooge from a miserly, selfish man to a kind and generous person highlights the theme of redemption.
- Dickens criticises the harsh treatment of the poor and the lack of empathy from the wealthy.
- The importance of family bonds and relationships is evident throughout the novella.
- Scrooge's redemption involves forgiving others and being forgiven himself.

## Key Vocabulary

Penitence  
 Parable  
 Avarice  
 Sentimental  
 Epiphany  
 Altruistic  
 Philanthropic  
 Salvation  
 Hypocrisy  
 Didactic  
 Antithesis  
 Sabbatarianism  
 Vignette  
 Benevolence

Transformation	Compassion	Childhood/Youth
Christmas Spirit	Religion	Moral failings of Soci
<b>Themes</b>		