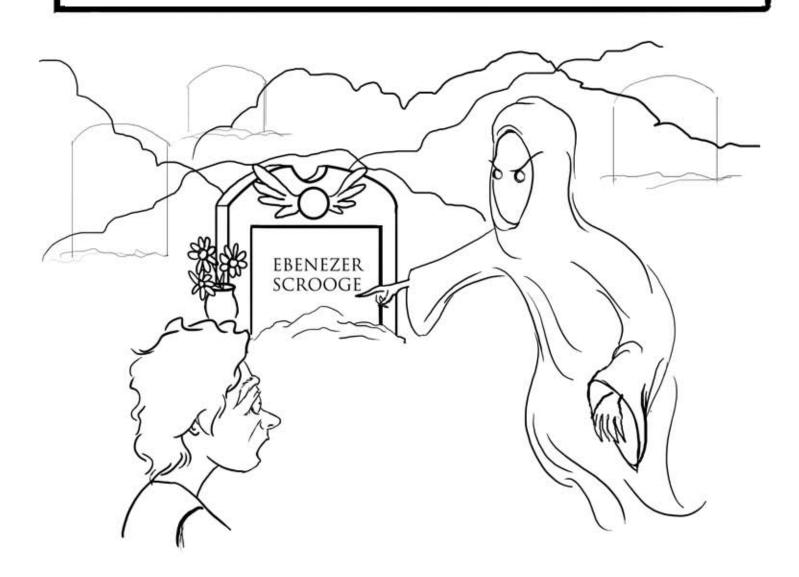


Scrooge was confused. The cloaked spirit took him to watch many other conversations just like that one. Scrooge saw many people he knew, though they all looked much older - his nephew, Bob Cratchit... They all seemed much happier that this awful old man had passed away. Slowly, Scrooge began to understand... "Please spirit," Scrooge said sadly, "Don't show me any more. I cannot take it!" But the spirit kept going. Scrooge followed him into a graveyard, and watched with dread as the spirit pointed a bony finger at one of the gravestones. "No, no, no!" cried Scrooge as he fell to his knees. The gravestone read EBENEZER SCROOGE.

"Spirit," begged Scrooge, "please, I do not want this! You have my word, I will forever be a changed man. Please take me back!"



A Christmas Carol page 9