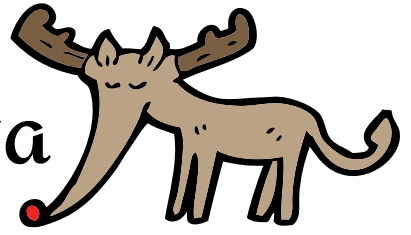




Santa's Little Barista

A JOPLIN TOAD MAD LIB BY F.C. SHULTZ



INSTRUCTIONS

1) FIND A FRIEND AND GO THROUGH THE MAD LIB READING THE PROMPTS AND FILLING IN THEIR ANSWERS.

2) SUMMON ALL OF YOUR CHRISTMAS CHEER AND RECITE THE STORY BELOW AS IF YOU HAD TINY TIM ON YOUR KNEE.



The night was December 24th, and all through Joplin Avenue Coffee Company, not a creature was stirring not even a cat. The barista, _____, a short fellow with _____ ears and _____ stood polishing a mug when the bell from the door made a loud _____ sound.

_____ **COLOR** _____ **ITEM OF CLOTHING** _____ **PERSON'S NAME** _____ **ADJECTIVE**

“_____ Christmas,” the barista called out. A windblown, snow-covered man with a red hat came to the bar. “What can I getcha?” the barista asked.

“It ain’t for me, _____ . It’s for the big man.” Refusing to be robbed of his Christmas joy, the barista looked around, puzzled, but there was no one else in the room. The only thing in the shop was the art display, which consisted of _____ hanging from the ceiling.

_____ **ONOMATOPOEIA** _____ **JOKEY NAME WHEN YOU'RE INSULTING SOMEONE**

“I’m sorry—wait,” the barista replied, a light bulb turning on. “I know you.”

“Heh, I wouldn’t bet my _____ on it. The big man needs his double _____, iced _____, with a hint of _____.”

_____ **FRENCH WORD** _____ **CHRISTMAS TREAT** _____ **4 LETTER WORD** _____ **CHRISTMAS DECORATION**

“You’re _____, from up north.” The barista winked.

“Well I’ll be _____’s _____ . I take it you used to work for the big man?”

“Up until Christmas _____,” the barista replied. He filled the mug and mixed the drink as he continued. “Been working here ever since. Best job I ever had.”

“I’ve been thinking of getting out myself.” The man took off his hat, which revealed his elf ears pointier than a _____ . “The hours are rough. And, he only pays in _____ .”

_____ **SOMETHING SHARP** _____ **PLURAL CHRISTMAS** _____ **TREAT**

“Ah, I’d forgotten about that. I gave all mine to _____ as soon as I got out.” The barista set a steaming mug on the counter. The elf reached in his pockets. “It’s on me,” the barista replied.

“Appreciate it, _____.” “We elves gotta help it other out,” the barista replied. He held up his _____ in solidarity. Just then a loud stomping noise came from the ceiling, followed by bells.

_____ **AFFECTIONATE PET NAME** _____ **BODY PART**

“I should go. We’ve got _____ houses to hit tonight. Ha, you know what am I saying, you get it.”

“Make sure to stop by next time you’re in the area,” the barista replied. “I’ll do that.” The elf grabbed the mug and made for the door. The bells rang again, but the elf stood in the doorway. The barista looked up just as the elf spoke his parting words, “Oh, and _____ Christmas.”