



# THEME: Change



Throughout the story, Scrooge undergoes a change as he is shown the error of his ways by the spirits, and sees how his behaviour impacts both others and himself.

By the end of the story, Scrooge is like a completely different man. In Stave 1 he is **mean**, **selfish** and **miserable**, but by Stave 5 he has become **happy** and **generous**.

Scrooge's **fate** also changes. In Stave 1, we find out from Jacob's ghost that those in life who live selfishly end up as miserable spirits in chains after they die. Worse than this, Jacob's ghost tells Scrooge that Scrooge's chain is already longer than his own. But there is a way to change this – Marley's ghost says Scrooge has a 'chance and hope of escaping (his) fate' if he listens to the three spirits that will visit him. By Stave 4, when the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come shows Scrooge that nobody is affected by his death, Scrooge begs the ghost to tell him if he can **change the future** and stop this outcome. Waking up, he discovers that he can. Scrooge does end up learning the lesson from the spirits that Marley's ghost wanted him to learn, and does change his fate.

## Quotes about change:

Stave 2

Our contract is an old one. It was made when we were both poor and content to be so, until, in good season, we could improve our worldly fortune by our patient industry. You are changed. When it was made, you were another man.



NARRATOR

Stave 4

(Scrooge) had been revolving in his mind a change of life, and thought and hoped he saw his new-born resolutions carried out in this.

Stave 4

Men's courses will foreshadow certain ends, to which, if persevered in, they must lead.... But if the courses be departed from, the ends will change. Say it is thus with what you show me!

Good Spirit... Your nature intercedes for me, and pities me. Assure me that I yet may change these shadows you have shown me, by an altered life!

Stave 4

