



December 2018
Clausplex Central
Special Operations

Dear Festive Friend,

Oh, it's terrible! Santa is in a real tizzy and it's all my fault! I'm the elf responsible for deploying Christmas - it's super easy; you just have to log in to the Central Clausplex Computer and press a button - but it's been a year since I last did it (obviously!), and that's given me enough time to do the unthinkable. That's right, you guessed it: I forgot my password!

Here's the problem. After several security breaches in previous years, the Clausplex has been much more strict about the safe-keeping of passwords. We are absolutely, positively, under no circumstances meant to write them down.

The thing is, there are so many passwords we have to remember at the North Pole these days. Work-related passwords like this one, passwords for the sugarplum vending machines, daily passwords we have to use when we greet each other in the street (just because all of us in Cyber Ops are shy and it helps to have a conversation-starter of sorts). Anyway, I know myself. As soon as one password goes into my brain, another goes out. So I flouted the rules and wrote it down. Kind of.

I mean, I knew I'd get in loads of trouble with the Big Red Suit if anyone saw a password as important as this one just written down on a sheet

of paper or something. So I obfuscated it. And when I say obfuscating, well...I obfuscated it so well that I don't have a clue what I was on about. It may be the sleepless nights racking my brain trying to remember the password, or it may be all the eggnog. Whatever the case, I can't for the life of me figure out what my password is! All I know is that it's there, in the document, along with the link to the Clausplex Mainframe (erm...did I mention I forgot that too?).

Can you help me figure out my password and then log in to the system and deploy Christmas? I can't ask anyone else as there's no way I can admit to anyone here that I wrote down my password. They'd send me to the Candy Cane Mines...or worse! Please please please help me - the fate of the world rests on your shoulders; if we don't figure out my password, Christmas will be spoiled for everyone...forever!

Please help me, and quickly. There is no time to lose!

Yours in secrecy,
Elfie Elkins