I was on a crowded flight to Texas. A woman boarded with a very upset 3 year old who was crying and carrying on. You could tell she was already at her wits end. A flight attendant walked over and asked the baby's name, which turned out to be Elias. A few moments later, a voice came out from the cockpit on the PA system.

"Elias? This is Santa."

The little boy sat up, focused on the disembodied voice.

"Elias, I want you to be a good boy so I can bring you something really good at Christmas, so no crying or fussing, OK?"

The little boy was wide-eyed as he nodded. He was quiet the whole flight.

The pilot had really banged the plane onto the runway and was dreading having to stand at the door and thank the passengers as they exited. He was certain someone would have a comment, but no one did. He started to relax when everyone had gotten off except a little, old lady with a walker. But when she finally made it up the aisle, she stopped and asked, "Did we land or were we shot down?"

As a plane was flying it started shaking very badly and soon the pilot got on and announced I'm very sorry folks but we have just lost power to one of our engines we are going to try and restart it please remain calm .. a terrified man shouts out please tell us how far will one engine get us ? Pilot pauses then answers the man, "All the way to the crash site."

I had a late-night Southwest flight to Rochester NY last week. It was the terminus for a long flight that had stopped twice. The pilot thanked the passengers and then said: "Now I want to tell you the same thing my father told me on my 18th birthday. Get your stuff and get out!" and for the children onboard, we are nearly there and will remain nearly there till we get there!

This is your captain speaking. I'm working from home today. Have a safe flight!"

About half way between London and Paris on Christmas Eve the pilot came on the PA with an announcement:

"Ladies, Gentlemen and especially children: I've just seen Santa and his reindeer pass by our aircraft and wave to me, if the children will look out your windows now you might still get to see him."

I'm not a child but I still looked.

We were waiting to take off at around midnight from LAX to New Zealand—a very long flight almost entirely over water with virtually no land in between. We were delayed because of a "malfunction." The pilot came on the intercom and explained that he was waiting for a replacement part and that it would be arriving shortly. Groans were audible throughout the full 747. He then said: "Ladies and gentlemen, I share your disappointment. But we're going on a long flight, and I can assure you that I would rather be on the ground wishing I were in the air, than in the air, wishing I were on the ground." After a moment of stillness, applause erupted.

It actually came from a flight attendant about 15 years ago. "We have a woman pilot and a woman copilot on this flight. You are flying in an unmanned plane."

Years ago, there was a very low cost airline called PSA (Pacific Southwest Airlines). The other airlines hated the cheap competition. Once, I was on a United Airlines flight. As we flew over the Sacramento area, the pilot announced "If you look to your right, you will see PSA passengers deplaning from their flight." Looking out the windows, we saw a group of skydivers jumping out of their plane.

{ Last one, but a good one! }

After an international flight of over twelve hours, everyone was eager to disembark as soon as we landed. However, we had a long taxi to the terminal and then a long wait for another plane to leave so we could taxi to the assigned gate. In spite of the flight attendant's announcement asking everyone to stay seated until the captain gave the signal that we were stopped, several passengers unlatched their seat belts and stood up to retrieve baggage from the overhead bins.

At that point the captain's voice came over the loudspeakers. "Ladies and gentlemen, as you might imagine, after such a long flight with hundreds of passengers, the lavatories are in terrible shape. If

you would like to help us out, please stand to indicate your willingness to help clean them."

Everyone was seated immediately.