



OTHER AIRINGS: DEC. 10 AT 7:30 P.M. ON TBS; DEC. 14 AT 8 P.M. & 8:30 P.M. ON TNT



As for that “mean one, Mr. Grinch,” the popular Dr. Seuss story made its 1966 television debut on CBS, with horror-movie icon Boris Karloff supplying the voice of the title character. Since then, it has made the television rounds, going to TNT and TBS, then to what was The WB Network, then to ABC ... and having landed there in 2015, NBC remains its home for at least this year and next, per a deal with Warner Bros. Television (which has the rights to most of the library of MGM, the studio that originated the special).

Directed by celebrated animator Chuck Jones, “How the Grinch Stole Christmas” – which director Ron Howard would turn into a live-action, Jim Carrey-starring 2000

movie – tells of the Grinch’s plan to steal the holiday and its inherent joy from the residents of Whoville, including young Cindy Lou (voiced by another cartoon veteran, June Foray), until they show him it’s not material gifts but the spirit of Christmas that matters most.

One “Grinch” aspect cherished by those in the television know involves one of its composers: Albert Hague, who later would gain fame as an actor as music teacher Mr. Shorofsky in the movie and series versions of ... well, “Fame.” Thanks to his efforts and those of his fellow “Grinch” talents, the program endures a half-century later, and the same goes for those who first gave the world a “Wonderful Life” seven decades ago.



Tony the Tiger says:  
“GR-R-REAT”

## Green with envy

The classic song “You’re a Mean One, Mr. Grinch,” was sung by Thurl Ravenscroft, though his name wasn’t mentioned in the credits. He was also the well-known voice of Tony the Tiger in the Frosted Flakes commercials. Grr-r-reat job!



## The Grinch isn’t so scary ...

Before narrating this great classic, Boris Karloff played the role of Frankenstein’s monster in “Frankenstein” (1931) and reprised his role in “Bride of Frankenstein” (1935) and “Son of Frankenstein” (1939). He was considered one of the top horror film stars of his time, next to Bela Lugosi (“Dracula”). After “The Grinch” story was released as a record, Karloff received a Grammy for best recording for children. Oh, the irony!