

The Greatest Christmas Stories

Some of the stories and poems inspired by Christmas and its traditions have contributed richly to implantation of the ideal of "Peace on earth, good will to men" around the world, among both Christian and non-Christian readers. They are found in the literatures of Bulgaria, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Netherlands, Russia, Spain, England, Ireland, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, France, Italy, Costa Rica, Mexico, Brazil, Yugoslavia, Switzerland, and the Orient, as well as the United States. They appeal to readers both young and old.

A Christmas Carol, one of two dozen Christmas stories by Charles Dickens, naturally heads the list.

A Visit from St. Nicholas, by Clement Clarke Moore, the verses also known as "The Night Before Christmas."

Noel for Jeanne Marke, by Francoise Seignobosc.

The Birds' Christmas Carol, by Kate Douglas Wiggin.

Christmas 1863, by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, the poem usually entitled, "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day."

Jest 'Fore Christmas, by Eugene Field, with the ringing refrain, "Jest 'fore Christmas, I'm as good as I kin be!"

Merry Christmas, by Herman Melville. This is a passage from his classic novel, *Moby Dick*.

Gift of the Earth, by Pachita Crespi, a tale from Costa Rica.

An Empty Purse, one of the most impressive of the short stories by a brilliant New England writer, Sara Orne Jewett.

Christmas Every Day, by William Dean Howells. The first great realistic novelist in America wrote sentimentally of Christmas in *St. Nicholas* magazine.

Arctic Christmas, by Gontrain De Poncius.

Christmas at Orchard House, by Louisa May Alcott, of "Little Women" memory.

Old Christmas at Bracebridge Hall, by Washington Irving, from his enduring omnibus, *The Sketch Book* (which has other chapters on Christmas as Irving found it in England).

Happy Christmas, by Daphne DuMaurier.

The First Christmas Tree and the Other Wise Man, by Henry Van Dyke.

The Fir-Tree, by Hans Christian Andersen and the same author's *The Little Match Girl*.

Kerst and St. Nicholas, by Hilda Van Stockim.

Christmas Whale, by Roger Duvoisin.

A Christmas Sermon, by Robert Louis Stevenson.

The Stable at the Inn, by Thomas Nelson Page.

The Legend of the Christmas Rose, by Selma Lagerlof.

The Gift of the Magi, by William Sydney Porter ("O. Henry").

The list could be prolonged, for few of the Western World's great writers and poets have not penned notable Christmas sentiments or reflections.

All those mentioned are to be found individually in inexpensive paperback reprints, or in anthologies, of which *The*

Fireside Book of Christmas Stories, by Edward Wagencnecht, and Daniel Foley's **Christmas in the Good Old Days**, are good examples. Mr. Foley also brought forth two other charming albums, **The Christmas Tree and Toys Through the Ages**.

Appropriately, Asa Don Dickinson and Ada M. Skinner compiled **A Children's Book of Christmas Stories**, and Robert Lothman assembled a volume, **Christmas Tales for Reading Aloud**. Christmas is a time for reading aloud, for opening the way for boys and girls to the treasures that lie within pages of literature.

Robert Louis Stevenson's memorable lines on joys of *The Land of Story-Books* are evocative of many tales taken to heart by youthful readers. There in the night, where none can spy,

As! in my hunter's camp I lie,
And play at books that I have read

Till it is time to go to bed,
Who would not place Allice's

Adventures in Wonderland, the tale Lewis Carroll wrote as a Christmas gift for a little girl, first among all the gift books that made it exciting to learn to read for one's self?

Who has not cherished early acquaintance with *The Wind in the Willows*, by Kenneth Grahame, with illustrations by E. H. Shepherd, who also assisted A. A. Milne in making Winnie-the-Pooh the unforgettable teddy bear? Incidentally, Mr. Grahame also composed ringing verses entitled "Christmas Carol."

Who has not regarded as good fortune a discovery in his early years of Robinson Crusoe and Swiss Family Robinson?

The Call of the Wild, by Jack London, Mark Twain's masterpiece, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* . . . The exciting tale Robert Louis Stevenson first entitled "The Sea-Cook," now known the world over as *Treasure Island* . . .

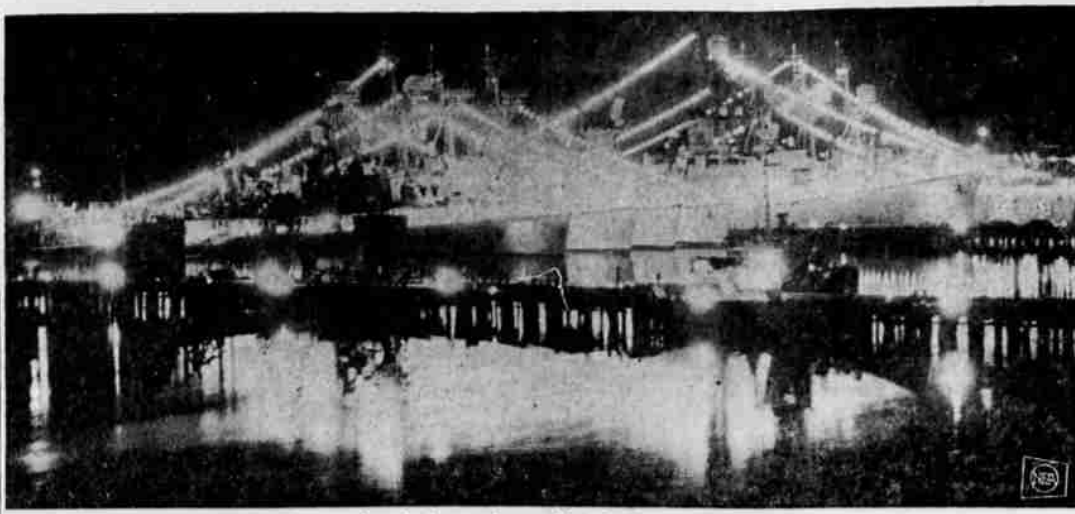
Kipling's *Just-so Stories* and *Jungle Book* . . . The Count of Monte Cristo, and another Dumas thriller, *The Three Musketeers* . . . High Water at Catfish Bend and the following stories in that stirring amusing saga by Ben Lacia Burman, illustrated by Alice Caddy . . .

Pinocchio . . . King Arthur and His Knights . . . Robin Hood . . . The Arabian Nights . . . Gulliver's Travels . . . The Parloined Letter and Mystery of Marie Roget, geneses of all deductive - mystery fiction, and other of the tales of Edgar Allan Poe, who also inspired Jules Verne's projections of the fantastic future.

All those mentioned here are stories that need to be part of any child's background. Most can be understood and enjoyed by children long before they can read for themselves.—C.K.

The first "enveloped" greeting card was a Christmas card. Greeting cards were not placed in envelopes until Rust Craft introduced the first "enveloped" Yule card in 1908.

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NAVY CHRISTMAS—Atlantic Fleet cruiser-destroyer force ships illuminate the harbor at Newport, Rhode Island with multicolored Christmas lights. This year the ships of the cruiser-destroyer force, wherever they may be, will be lighted during the evening hours from December 22 through January 5.

Boulder Ranger Tends Tree Cutters

BOULDER, Colo. (UPI)—If U. S. Forest Service Ranger Thomas Pender breathes a sigh of relief every Christmas, it is because he managed to get several thousand Christmas tree seekers through another season

Christmas was denounced by the early Puritans. The General Court of Massachusetts passed a law in 1659 making the observance of Christmas a penal offense.

Legend holds the Christmas Rose, a winter blooming plant, first sprang from the tears of a little girl who cried because she did not have a gift to offer the Christ child.

Each December, the service sets aside two weekends and allows families to go into the 600 acre area. For a small price, they can select any one of 300,000 trees.

In the past, setting aside only two weekends has been something like trying to pour a gal-

lon of sand into a pint jar.

Last year, for instance, more than 7,000 trees were taken out of the area and nearly 5,000 families decided to get their trees on the first weekend. It became so crowded that cars had to be turned away two full hours before the normal cutting period was over.

Once the cars get into the area, it really becomes Pender's headache. His main problems involved lost children, dogs and

husbands, stalled cars and over-ambitious tree hunters.

Two years ago he learned the wisdom of never separating a man from his wife.

"We let husbands go up ahead to cut trees and then let the wives drive in with the cars," he said. "The wives, of course, didn't know where their husbands were. As a result, we had quite a time trying to get husbands, cars and kids together again."

Merry Christmas
VALLEY PUMP
AND EQUIPMENT CO.
Complete Pumping Service — All Makes Repaired
TU 4-9776 Merrill-Lakeview Jct.—Next to John Deere

HAPPY Holidays
We'll be open Christmas Day for your shopping convenience
FRANK & EILEEN
UNIQUE MARKET
129 South 9th St.

Joy AT CHRISTMAS
Really "Happy Holidays" to you, our wonderful customers, and please accept our great big THANKS!
Klamath Radiator Works
1901 So. 6th TU 4-6942

Season's GREETINGS TO ALL
We sincerely hope that this Christmas rings in a new era of peace and good will for all the world and much good fortune and joy for you and your family.
from the friendly people at . . .
J. W. COPELAND
Lumber Yard
66 Main, K. Falls - Chiloquin

Santa Took Century To Develop

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (UPI)—It took more than 100 years for Santa Claus to develop into the roly - poly, rosy - cheeked, twinkly - eyed seasonal visitor we know today.

Since the early 1800's Santa has posed in the guise of a tiny pixie - like midget, a black bearded buccaneer, a twirly-moustached dude, a wispy-haired beardless giant, a sand-dle-shod ghost, a bald elfin with a large turned up nose, a giant stringbean, and a host of other apparitions.

Artists of the mid-19th century must have been rugged individualists since they refused to take their cue from the now classic description of Santa in Clement Moore's "The Night Before Christmas." Moore's poem, originally titled "A Visit From St. Nicholas," was published in 1823. St. Nick, wrote Moore, was chubby and plump, merry, lively and quick. "A right jolly old elf."

But Santa remained consistently inconsistent with Moore's description until the 1890's when a famed caricaturist of that period, Thomas Nast, began drawing Santa Claus on magazine covers.

One of Nast's Santas, reproduced this year by Hallmark Cards, established the popular notion of Santa Claus that eventually led to the present-day conception.

Special Christmas Dinner
ROAST TURKEY
With all the trimmings
Served from the buffet
\$1.50 per plate Children's plate 75c
BONANZA CAFE

We MOVE . . . to Wish You
A Very Merry Christmas

PEOPLES WAREHOUSE
"SINCE 1918" — Only Locally Owned Movers

To you and yours,
the peace and joy of Christmas
with sincere best wishes from us.

WE WILL BE CLOSED
DEC. 25th Through
JAN. 1st
Jack's Color Chip
Town & Country Shopping Center

Christmas Joy
In tune with the spirit of Christmas we extend holiday greetings to all our friends. It is our hope that this will be a most joyful Yuletide for everyone.

CLOSING NOTICE!
In order that our employees may spend the holiday with their families, the Round Table and the Coffee Shop will be
CLOSED CHRISTMAS DAY
Winema Motor Hotel
1111 Main Street



—Photo by Chris Hollenbeck.

You can see whether Jonathan Hollenbeck was disappointed when he came face-to-face with the jolly old man of whom he'd heard in readings of *A Visit from St. Nicholas* and other Christmas verses and tales during the nightly story-hour.

O, come all ye faithful

Church bells ring . . . choirs of jubilant voices proclaim the glory of the Day. We too speak out to wish our friends all good things. May this Christmas season bring much happiness and great joy of spirit to you and those dear to you.
Roy McDaniels and all the Crew
Grigsby's Smokehouse
Old Midland Road Phone TU 2-0769