



I'll Be Home For Christmas

Holly Hobbie

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Loving piggy pals Toot and Puddle are back--well, actually, Toot isn't back yet. As in Holly Hobbie's earlier *Toot and Puddle*, Toot has the travel bug while Puddle contentedly tends the home fires. In his postcard from Scotland, Toot promises to be home for Christmas. But ice storms and delayed flights threaten to spoil the holiday plans... until an unexpected fellow traveler saves the day.

Hobbie's marvelous illustrations are filled with telling details and subtle wit: Toot caroling his heart out in an Edinburgh blizzard with a few sheep buddies; Puddle curled up in an armchair with crayons and holiday cards (signed with a blank space before "and Puddle," in anticipation of Toot's signature). The devotion the pigs share for each other is sweet, never sickly, and young readers with best friends will know exactly how they feel, being apart at a most important time. Several more Toot and Puddle titles will also enchant, including *A Present for Toot* and *You Are My Sunshine*. (Ages 3 to 7) --*Emilie Coulter*

I'll Be Home For Christmas Details

Date : Published (first published 2001)

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Author : Holly Hobbie

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Kristi says

Again, my love of original illustrative style is realized in this Toot and Puddle book. The story is told mostly through correspondance between the two main characters as one is traveling close to Christmas-time. The illustrations and travel locations make for interesting discussions that grow with the child's knowledge/years. Of course, I like this book and this author's others for myself!

Margaret Chind says

This is the cutest Children's Christmas book that I have ever read!

Having family and friends together is important to everyone, especially friends Toot & Puddle. With one visiting a great-great-aunt in Edinburgh and the other home in Boston, only a miracle can bring them together in time for Christmas.

This is the perfect snuggle read for anytime. The pictures and story will make you smile and be full of delight. I highly recommend it!

Kathryn says

This was cute and I probably would have liked it better if I was already a fan of the series. This is my first Toot-and-Puddle, although I've been a Holly Hobbie fan for years (ever since her girls with the big sun bonnets!) If you like pigs, you will probably like these books!

Cecily says

This is a BEAUTIFUL picture book. The story isn't as clear as some of Hobbie's other Toot and Puddle books, but the pictures are wonderful and it has a big airplane, which makes it important reading at Christmas time.

Amanda Hicks says

Toot promises Puddle that he will be home for Christmas. However, when Toot faces terrible weather, he doesn't know if he will make it back in time for Christmas. With the help of his Great Great Aunt Peg and her lucky nut, things begin to look up for Toot.

Lauren Kramer says

Toot and Puddle are back in a brand new adventure in I'll Be Home for Christmas by Holly Hobbie. Toot is in Edinburgh at a family reunion. His Great-Great Aunt Peg has just turned 100 years old! Christmas is just days away, but he has promised Puddle that he will be home in time to share the holiday.

Back in Woodcock Pocket, Puddle eagerly prepares for Christmas and Toot's arrival. With the assistance of his feathery friend, Tulip, the pair have pulled out all the stops to celebrate in style. The only thing that's missing is Toot.

Suddenly, a dangerous ice storm hits Edinburgh. All flights are delayed. Will Toot miss spending Christmas with his best friend?

I adore this book! Hobbie's story is full of cheer and heart. Her classic Toot and Puddle characters truly shine in this heartwarming tale. I absolutely love the humor that is sprinkled throughout the story. From calling Great-Great Aunt Peg an "ancient aunt" to the gift of a "lucky nut," I found myself laughing out loud several times while reading.

Another aspect of the story that I love is how the story toggles between Toot's journey homeward and Puddle's Christmas preparations. Starting off the book with a postcard is such a fun and unique idea. I also like how Hobbie leaves room for the imagination. I don't want to give anything away, but pay close attention to the ending.

Hobbie's illustrations are gorgeous. Toot and Puddle could not be any cuter. She really makes the scenes come alive with the use of warm colors for Puddle's story and cool colors for Toot's story. Hobbie also keeps things fresh by alternating between single page illustrations, multiple vignettes, and double page spreads.

This is a fantastic, festive book for readers of all ages.

Janet says

Delightful is this title. I loved the illustrations, especially Puddle sitting in the overstuffed wingback chair signing Christmas cards. This is an "I'll be home for Christmas" theme. As Toot is away and will he make it for the big day and just who is that mysterious man in a sleigh that assists him. The ending is super about how it isn't easy to fall asleep on Christmas Eve. I enjoyed this picture book so much.

Tatiana says

A very cute Christmas story with the piggy bromance of Toot and Puddle. As usual, Toot is traveling, but it's only days before Christmas and he encounters every possible challenge in getting back home to Woodcock Pocket where Puddle is preparing with Tulip. Can a mysterious friend and a familiar sleigh help Toot be home for Christmas? You'll just have to read and find out!

Emilee M. says

This was a cute book with some rhyming and wonderful illustrations. I read it to a 3 year old and he loved learning why the plane could not fly in the snow storm and though it was cool that Santa clause was in it.

babyhippoface says

Puddle is preparing Woodcock Pocket for Christmas while Toot is trying hard to get home by Christmas Eve. Toot has been in Scotland visiting his great-great-aunt Peg. She gave him her lucky nut as a parting gift. (How cool is a lucky nut, huh?)

But Toot meets all kinds of obstacles on his trip home: his flight is cancelled due to snow. (He is so full of Christmas spirit that he makes the best of it by singing carols with some sheep, though.) Taxis and buses aren't running, and the snow is too deep to walk far. Can he ever make it home by Christmas Eve?

Meanwhile, back in Woodcock Pocket, Puddle has signed the Christmas cards, gathered firewood, chopped down and decorated a Christmas tree, and made 9 loaves of Toot's favorite fruitcake, all while anxiously waiting for Toot to come home. Will he and Tulip the parrot have to spend the holiday without Toot?

The Toot and Puddle books are sweet and sentimental, with adorable illustrations of the best-pal pigs. The only problem I have with this particular book is that is just sort of *starts*. You have to surmise where Toot has been, that they are best friends, things like that. Sort of like a page fell out of the book. Hmmm...maybe I'd better go back and make sure one didn't fall out of my copy....

Linda Lipko says

As energy allows, I'm sorting through my Children's Illustrated library and placing books in order. When I found this one, I had to stop and read it.

It is a simple, delightful tale of two friends who very much want to continue to traditional of spending together. But, when one is visiting a great Aunt in Scotland, and a sudden storm appears, all flights are cancelled.

Somehow, he vows to get home to his friend, and he does with great celebration.

Clwseattle says

My Grandson loves the Toot and Puddle books. Toot and Puddle: I'll Be Home for Christmas is no exception.

Kristine Hansen says

Preparing not just for the arrival of Christmas but also for the arrival of your best friend is the subject of this book. With just a hint of magic to carry the story off, it's about the effort we go to for those we love. Beautiful story!

Rosa Cline says

Toot & Puddle are best friend that live with one another.. Christmas is coming but one of them is stuck in the city and can't make it home. But he sends a message to say he will be home for Christmas! An ice storm comes and delays him even more...but he gets a very special lift home on Christmas Eve by a special someone!

Dolly says

I've really enjoyed the Toot & Puddle stories I've read, but for some reason our girls are much more ambivalent about them. This is a sweet tale about an epic journey to make it home in time for Christmas. The story is entertaining and the illustrations are sweet. I liked it, especially since it features two of my favorite locales (Scotland and New England), but our girls weren't as thrilled.
