



Norman Rockwell's Christmas Book

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A Christmas book which includes stories, poems and carols (with music). The contributors range from William Shakespeare to Ogden Nash and include Hans Christian Andersen, Robert Frost, Langston Hughes and Louisa May Alcott. The book closes with the recipes for Fannie Merritt Farmer's Christmas Dinner, from her 1896 cookbook.

Norman Rockwell's Christmas Book Details

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Author : Norman Rockwell , Molly Rockwell , Robert Peter Tristram Coffin , Ogden Nash , Saki ,
Langston Hughes

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From Reader Review Norman Rockwell's Christmas Book for online ebook

Lalita says

I enjoy this book whenever I get the whim to open it again. It brings back so many happy, comfy, childhood memories. I love Christmas and Norman Rockwell so it's the perfect combo. It helps keep the fun feeling of the holidays in my heart.

P.S. Winn says

This book has a bit of everything, stories, poems, illustrations and even some great recipes.

Megan says

This is another book that I grew up with, and always remember reading during the holidays. It's chock full of songs, poems, stories and of course lots of beautiful Norman Rockwell art celebrating the Christmas season. A great book to put on your coffee table in December.

Alicia says

I grew up with this book and remember my dad reading us "The Boy who Laughed at Santa Claus." I took the book with me when I got married 25 years ago, and our family has enjoyed this book and its beautiful Norman Rockwell illustrations. This book is a treasure! (and with recipes, carols, and selections by Shakespeare and John Milton, this treasury is good for all ages, even people like us who no longer have small children in the home)

Our family's favorites that we've read aloud many times:

"The Boy Who Laughed at Santa Claus" by Ogden Nash (<https://westegg.com/nash/santa.html>)

"Mr. Edwards Meets Santa Claus" by Laura Ingalls Wilder (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kY6kP...>)

"Christmas Every Day" by William Dean Howells (<https://public.wsu.edu/~campbelld/wdh...>)

Others I enjoyed:

The Fir Tree by Hans Christian Andersen

A Pint of Judgment by Elizabeth Morrow

A Miserable, Merry Christmas by Lincoln Steffens

The Miraculous Staircase by Arthur Gordon

The Gift of the Magi by O. Henry

My Christmas Miracle by Taylor Caldwell

The Legend of the Christmas Rose by Selma Lagerlöf

A Christmas dream, and How it came True by Louisa May Alcott

Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus by Francis P. Church

A Surprise for the Teacher by Sam Levenson
A Gift of the Heart by Norman Vincent Peale
Christmas this Year by Booth Tarkington
Susie's Letter from Santa by Mark Twain

The saddest story in the book (shows the racism of the 1933 south): <https://literaryfictions.com/fiction-...>

Linda says

This book was a gift from my husband once upon a Christmas. I grew up knowing Rockwell through his Saturday Evening Post covers and didn't really think of him as an artist in the sense of Van Gogh or Rembrandt for example - just a great illustrator. While in Washington D.C. (1972) there was an exhibit of his paintings at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, and I totally changed my feelings about Norman Rockwell. The Four Freedoms is timeless, the little girl walking to school surrounded by ?? National Guardsmen spoke eloquently of America in the 1950's. A picture truly can say a thousand words; Rockwell captured earlier 20th century America beautifully.

Rod says

The Boy Who Laughed at Santa Claus (aka *Dont F*** with Santa Claus--He Don't Mess Around*)

by Ogden Nash

In Baltimore there lived a boy.
He wasn't anybody's joy.
Although his name was Jabez Dawes,
His character was full of flaws.
In school he never led his classes,
He hid old ladies' reading glasses,
His mouth was open when he chewed,
And elbows to the table glued.
He stole the milk of hungry kittens,
And walked through doors marked NO ADMITTANCE.
He said he acted thus because
There wasn't any Santa Claus.

Another trick that tickled Jabez
Was crying "Boo" at little babies.
He brushed his teeth, they said in town,
Sideways instead of up and down.
Yet people pardoned every sin,
And viewed his antics with a grin,
Till they were told by Jabez Dawes,
"There isn't any Santa Claus!"

Deploring how he did behave,
His parents swiftly sought their grave.
They hurried through the portals pearly,
And Jabez left the funeral early.

Like whooping cough, from child to child,
He sped to spread the rumor wild:
"Sure as my name is Jabez Dawes
There isn't any Santa Claus!"
Slunk like a weasel of a marten
Through nursery and kindergarten,
Whispering low to every tot,
"There isn't any, no there's not!"

The children wept all Christmas eve
And Jabez chortled up his sleeve.
No infant dared hang up his stocking
For fear of Jabez' ribald mocking.
He sprawled on his untidy bed,
Fresh malice dancing in his head,
When presently with scalp-a-tingling,
Jabez heard a distant jingling;
He heard the crunch of sleigh and hoof
Crisply alighting on the roof.
What good to rise and bar the door?
A shower of soot was on the floor.

What was beheld by Jabez Dawes?
The fireplace full of Santa Claus!
Then Jabez fell upon his knees
With cries of "Don't," and "Pretty Please."
He howled, "I don't know where you read it,
But anyhow, I never said it!"
"Jabez" replied the angry saint,
"It isn't I, it's you that ain't.
Although there is a Santa Claus,
There isn't any Jabez Dawes!"

Said Jabez then with impudent vim,
"Oh, yes there is, and I am him!
Your magic don't scare me, it doesn't!"
And suddenly he found he wasn't!
From grimy feet to grimy locks,
Jabez became a Jack-in-the-box,
An ugly toy with springs unsprung,
Forever sticking out his tongue.

The neighbors heard his mournful squeal;
They searched for him, but not with zeal.

No trace was found of Jabez Dawes,
Which led to thunderous applause,
And people drank a loving cup
And went and hung their stockings up.

All you who sneer at Santa Claus,
Beware the fate of Jabez Dawes,
The saucy boy who mocked the saint.
Donner and Blitzen licked off his paint.

Heather says

My very favorite Christmas Book. This is a memory of Christmas every year from the time I was nine until today. We pull it out in December and read the stories and poems over and over.

Deyanne says

I was gifted this newer edition of this book this year. Maybe it is that I am indeed growing "older" but the nostalgia for me was tender and enjoyable. I realize that for me Christmas is indeed layered with music and stories and poetry and traditions. Perhaps it is the timing, but this newer edition with fifteen additional timeless pieces of art and eight pop-out art pieces that could be framed appealed to me. This is a season that I savor and love and Norman Rockwell masterfully captured it with his lasting art. This is a treasure that I can get lost in for hours.

Jennifer says

There are some Christmas stories I have never heard of, and that is a pretty incredible feat. So many selections popular now (here's hoping Elf on a Shelf) will be obsolete in fifty years, just as many of these literary selections are unrecognized now. If you see this, pick it up and get it out every year with the stockings and ornaments and Great Aunt Edna's fruitcake. And then, if you're daring, make the full dinner listed in the final section of the book.

Cathi says

I know it's a bit early in the season to be reading a book like this, but it caught my eye at the library (part of a lovely holiday display). What can I say? I've always enjoyed Rockwell's illustrations, with all their detail, cleverness, and good humor. This book also contains a nice collection of Christmas stories, poems, and songs. What a great way to get in the Christmas spirit, even though it's not quite Thanksgiving yet.

F.J. Commelin says

Some stories or poems are better than others, but i love it alone for the fabulous illustrations.
I take it every christmas from the shelf

Deyanne says

Traditional classic. The art is truly magnificent. This is a bygone era. The stories are "old fashioned" yet charming. The weakest section for me was the poetry. Actually, I enjoyed the recipes on how to truss a goose and how to make "plain paste". Children can get lost in the details of Rockwell's art. Fun memories.

Amberly says

I probably shouldn't say I've read this since all I have done is look at every page a handful of times and read a few things here and there. This is such a lovely book. Each page has beautiful detail. The cover has red foil holly and ivy around the edges. There are delightful sections including songs, recipes, poems, stories etc. Definitely worth adding to the collection.

Elizabethtabor says

This was my Christmas book for 2015, and I loved it. It's a collection of some familiar and some unfamiliar stories, poems, and artwork. If you're a fan of Norman Rockwell then you'll most likely be a fan of the traditional Americana spirit that accompanies this Christmas collection.

Jojobooks Higgins says

Just bought this book and read through it! This was a tradition to have out at Christmas growing up and I'm so excited to share it with my kids! I love that there are traditional Christmas stories, carols AND classic N.R. art work all in one book!
If you need to buy a gift for someone this is something that people will pull out every year and cherish!
