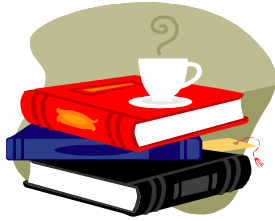


Holiday reading



Aunt Dimity's Christmas

Lori has inherited a delightful cottage in an English village and is looking forward to Christmas as never before. The arrival of a homeless stranger at her door puts a different slant on the celebrations. *Mystery/Atherton, Nancy*

The Shepherd, the Angel and Walter the Christmas Miracle Dog

Doug is a shepherd in the Christmas pageant at his church and his little sister Becky is playing an angel. The director has theatrical pretensions and yells a lot. The family dog is doing poorly and Doug and his family don't know how they are going to tell Becky. *Fiction/Barry, Dave*

A Highland Christmas

It's wet and wintry in the highland village of Lochdubh and Hamish McBeth, the local constable, finds that crime does not take a holiday. The local Calvinists are not inclined to celebrate Christmas but perhaps Hamish can bring a little yuletide cheer where it's needed. *Mystery/Beaton, M.C.*

The Christmas Quilt

Sylvia Bergstrom has inherited her ancestral home late in life. As her young friend Sarah searches old trunks full of holiday decorations she comes across an unfinished Christmas quilt. The incomplete quilt blocks help to bring back memories of Christmases past. *Fiction/Chiaverini, Jennifer*

A Christmas Carol

Mr. Scrooge has no room in his life for anything but business. He is alone in his house on Christmas Eve having rejected his family's attempts to include him in their celebrations. A visit from a series of ghosts helps him to understand what he has lost and that it is never too late to do some good. *Fiction/Dickens, Charles*

Visions of Sugar Plums

Fugitive apprehension agent Stephanie Plum is not ready for Christmas. She hasn't bought any presents and her apartment doesn't have a tree or a single string of twinkling lights. What she does have is a strange man in her kitchen, but can he help her find an old toy maker who has skipped bail? *Mystery/Evanovich, Janet*

A Redbird Christmas

After a discouraging diagnosis from his doctor, Oswald leaves the cold Chicago winter behind and goes to spend what he believes will be his last Christmas in the small town of Lost River.

The people of the sleepy little southern Alabama community are warm and welcoming and Oswald enjoys getting to know them. Fiction/*Flagg, Fannie*

Skipping Christmas

Luther and Nora Krank have decided to avoid the crowded malls, office parties and unwanted gifts. On December 25th they will be setting sail for the Caribbean and leaving all the holiday frenzy behind them, or so they think. Fiction/*Grisham, John*

How Mrs. Claus Saved Christmas

In 1647 the British Parliament, under the control of the Puritans, passed a law to punish anyone found celebrating Christmas, but they had reckoned without the formidable Mrs. Claus and her courageous friends. Fiction/*Guinn, Jeff*

Christmas in Harmony

In Harmony, Indiana, there are ambitious plans afoot for a progressive nativity scene that will involve the whole town. Meanwhile the Quaker minister worries that his gift to his wife may be too lavish. Fiction/*Gulley Philip*

Family Blessings

Just before Thanksgiving a tornado destroys Loretta Cisco's home of fifty years. Not only that but the younger members of her family are having troubles of various kinds. While the townsfolk help her re-build her home in time for Christmas, Loretta is determined to restore harmony to her nearest and dearest. Fiction/*Michaels, Fern*

The Stupidest Angel

In the little town of Pine Cone, California, folks are busy getting ready for the holidays. When little Joshua sees Santa get whacked on the head with a shovel he makes a heartfelt wish and is unlucky enough to be heard by an incompetent angel. Fiction/*Moore, Christopher*

The Christmas Letters

Four generations of a family gather and Christmas Eve. In the midst of the celebrations Grandpa calls for everyone's attention and gives each family member a personal letter with an important message. Fiction/*Nicholaus, Bret*

Zanna's Gift

In 1938 the Pullman family lose their eldest son to a sudden illness just before Christmas. His little sister Suzanna had made him a drawing as a gift, but he never saw it. The drawing is preserved and, for years to come, gives solace to the family. Fiction/*Richards, Scott*

The Christmas Hope

Against her better judgment a social worker bends the rules and takes five year old Emily into her own home at Christmas. She and her husband have not found the holiday to be meaningful for a long time, but that may change. Fiction/*VanLiere, Donna*

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