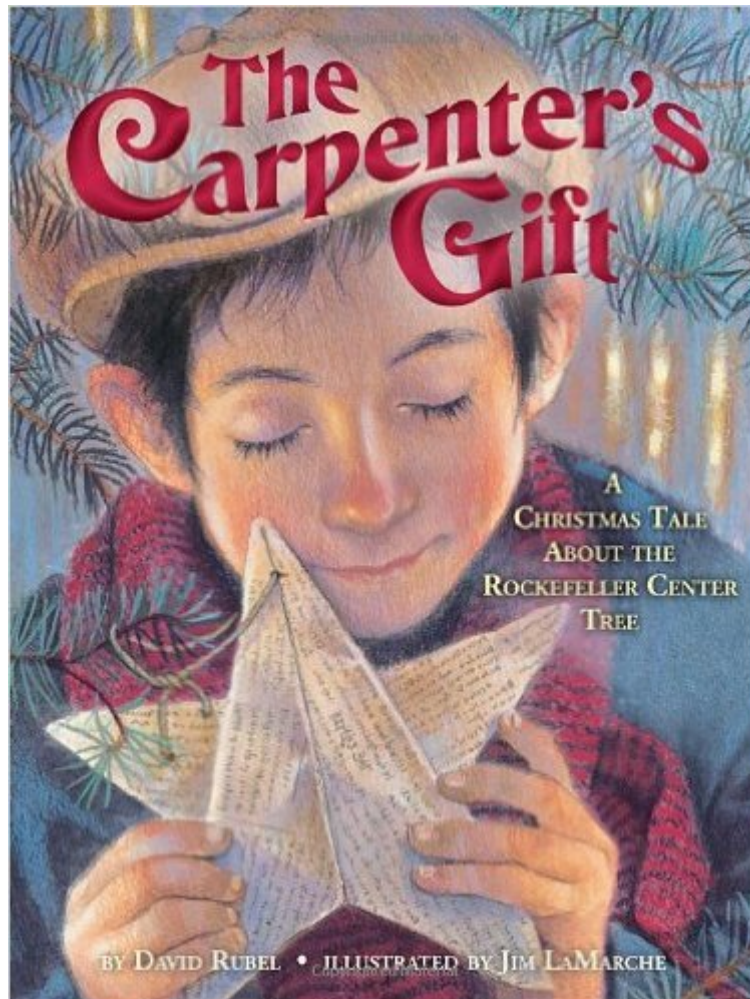


The book was found

# The Carpenter's Gift: A Christmas Tale About The Rockefeller Center Tree



## Synopsis

This new classic Christmas gift book "brings together two great traditions: the Rockefeller Center Christmas tree and the neighbor-helping-neighbor program of Habitat for Humanity." Opening in Depression-era New York City, *The Carpenter's Gift* tells the story of eight-year-old Henry and his father selling Christmas trees. They give a Christmas tree to construction workers building Rockefeller Center and celebrate together. Through the kindness of the construction workers and neighbors, Henry gets his wish for a nice, warm home to replace his family's drafty shack. He plants a pinecone from that first Rockefeller Center Tree. As an old man, Henry repays the gift by donating the enormous tree that has grown from that pinecone. After bringing joy to thousands as the Rockefeller Center tree, its wood will be used to build a home for another family in need. Written by children's nonfiction author David Rubel in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity. Gorgeous illustrations crafted by Jim LaMarche.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD740L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (September 27, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0375869220

ISBN-13: 978-0375869228

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 11.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (95 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #190,093 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #249 in [Books > Children's Books](#) > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1900s #538 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Values](#) #589 in [Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Christmas](#)

Age Range: 5 - 9 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 4

## Customer Reviews

"The Carpenter's Gift - A Christmas Tale About the Rockefeller Center Tree" is a delightful historical fiction children's Christmas picture book with a wonderful message for all. Written by children's historian David Rubel in collaboration with Habitat for Humanity, the heartwarming tale combines

two wonderful traditions --the Rockefeller Center Tree and the work done through the Habitat for Humanity programs. The author, David Rubel, did research on the famous Rockefeller Christmas tree tradition which had its start in 1931 and wove the historical facts into a touching fictional Christmas story. The 11 3/4 inch by 8 3/4 inch book has a most wonderful eye catching dust jacket depicting the main character, Henry, holding a handmade Christmas ornament. The book's title on the dust jacket is embossed in red shiny foil and will capture the attention of most children. The illustrator, Jim La Marche, has rendered the historical period and emotions of the characters in what appears to be beautiful pastel drawings. Every other page is a full color full page drawing that accurately conveys the emotions of the characters and meanings of the text. The story begins at the height of the Great Depression in 1931. Henry lives in an unheated shack with his parents. One day his father borrows a truck and invites Henry to go with him. They drive to an area where many spruce trees are growing. Henry and his father cut down many trees and transport them to New York City where they sell them as Christmas trees. When they had finished selling the trees for the day, there were several large trees left over. Henry's father donates them to the construction workers who were kind enough to let Henry and his father sell trees on their building site.

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