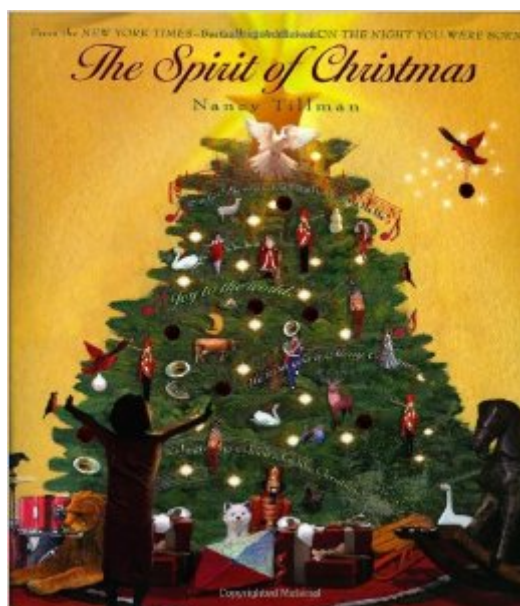


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# The Spirit Of Christmas



## Synopsis

Bells jingle, sleds dash through the snow, trees are topped with sparkling stars, and children everywhere dream of candy canes and presents. But the best gift of all-the most magical gift of the season-is when we spend Christmas with those we love.Once again, this New York Times-bestselling author and artist has created a special, beautiful book that families will want to share year after year. (And readers will want to look for the Spirit of Christmas image that Nancy Tillman has hidden on every page!)

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

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Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.4 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (166 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #16,062 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #60 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Stories In Verse #61 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Christmas

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

I purchased several books hoping to better explain Christmas to my 2 year old. The other books were all classics but this one was the best of the lot. The book had a message that applied to both my 2 year old daughter and my 29 year old daughter. It was beautiful and I found myself tearing up at the end of the book. My daughter loved the pictures and has had me read the book to her quite a few times.

Every year I give my children, who are all over 21 now, a Christmas book. When I read "The Spirit of Christmas" I knew it was the one for this year. It is rhyming, which I love, and told in first person by a mother, or grandmother, or a favorite aunt, or simply the giver of the book. The spirit of Christmas comes to her and tries to help her feel the spirit of Christmas. He names several things the spirit of

Christmas brings: "Bells, he said, Jingle bells! Bells right away! Bells on a one horse galloping sleigh" and "Snow that lies silent, As quiet as a mouse, And roads that all lead to your grandmother's house." Near the end he reminds her that the season was started by a child and that's when it dawns on her, "That's when I got it! That's when I knew! The thing that was missing from Christmas was you!" My daughter-in-law read it and I ask her what she thought of it and she said, "I think you love us." That is true.

This book is nice and has beautiful illustrations, but I noticed that it seems geared toward a child who has either grown and left the house, or a child who has shared custody and doesn't live with the parent reading the book. I say this because the point of the story is that something is missing that is making it not feel like Christmas. They get to the end of the book and realize that the thing missing from Christmas is you (the child). And makes reference to wanting the child under the tree, and no matter how far they roam, to always consider this home. This message seems a little odd for me to read to my child who lives at home with me...however, she apparently thinks nothing of it. She likes this book (she is 3), but it would also be quite nice for older children.

Nancy Tillman has created the most beautiful Christmas book ever! I purchased one for my little niece and I look forward to reading it to her at Christmastime. This book is an absolute MUST for everyone's library! I would suggest that you buy one for someone you love AND buy one for the gift giving that is available in all of our cities for the underprivileged children. The Spirit of Christmas has messages that will warm your heart. Sure, the children definitely "win" by having this book read to them, or by reading it themselves, but as an adult, you will find your spirit deeply touched by these words. Heck, you may even want to buy a copy for an adult who still has that "child-like" spirit -- I'm sure they'll love it too. Peggy McColl, [...]

My husband read this book to our two year old for the first time. His comment, "This book is creepy." On many pages, you vaguely see The Spirit's face blended into the illustrations. Like a ghost. Kinda creepy indeed. Regardless of the creepiness, this book isn't actually written for children. It seems to be written for parents who are missing their children, or for grown children who have moved away from home. The sentiment of the story is sweet, but really just doesn't apply to our family as we sit together and read a Children's book to a toddler. In a way, it is similar to the book "I'll love you forever." Both books have a sweet sentiment about a parent's love for a child, but in the end, they aren't really books the child can understand until they are grown. So really, it's a

beautiful picture book for adults who miss their children, or children who are away from home and miss their parents. But for my toddlers... they don't understand or appreciate it.

After reading other reviews I purchased this book and am now planning on ordering a few more for gifts. This book is perfect for our family (5 year old daughter) as we are spiritual (Christian base) but not practicing. The book gives an idea to children and a reminder to adults that Christmas isn't just about the gifts, lights, and jingle bells but something more. My daughter especially likes to look for the "spirit" on each page. Can't go wrong with this one!

I bought this book for my Dad because it tears me up when I read it! Such a touching story about how Christmas is really about the people we share it with and how as children grow it's not quite the same! I can't read it without getting misty eyed! It also has beautiful illustrations!

This is such a beautifully written and illustrated book. The words are complete poetry and conjure up beloved memories of my own childhood Christmases. But the thing I like best about this book is the fact that it mentions the very reason we celebrate Christmas in the first place....the birth of Jesus Christ. In a world where Christianity and our Heavenly Father are repeatedly disregarded, disrespected and even denied, it's so refreshing to find those that still have the courage and conviction to pay tribute to the very reason we are all here in the first place....something that should never be forgotten! May "The Spirit of Christmas" become a favorite for your family and may the words of this beautiful book fill your hearts with a message of love, peace and an undying hope for the goodness in all mankind as it takes you home Christmas after Christmas.

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