

## Best Christmas Pageant Ever Readers Theater Script

“The tale is unfolded with such mastery, humor, and emotional force that we are entirely within its power.” —The New York Times Book Review Features an audio read-along performed by James Earl Jones! Jonathan Toomey is the best woodcarver in the valley, but he is always alone and never smiles. No one knows about the mementos of his lost wife and child that he keeps in an unopened drawer. But one early winter’s day, a widow and her young son approach him with a gentle request that leads to a joyful miracle. The moving, lyrical tale, gloriously illustrated by P.J. Lynch, has been widely hailed as a true Christmas classic. Just when Private I thinks all is calm-now that he's cracked the case of 7 Ate 9-Question Mark storms into the office. Mark is worried. All the uppercase letters are M-I-S-S-I-N-G! But that's absurd. This is CAPITAL City! Private I is the last letter standing. Will he solve his BIGGEST mystery yet, the UPPER CASE, before it's too late?! Filled with the same humor, wit, and quirkiness of the hit 7 Ate 9: The Untold Story, comes another laugh-out-loud whodunit.

The Brewster triplets, Dawn, Darby, and Delaney, usually love Christmas. Decorations, singing carols, seeing Aunt Jane and their favorite neighbors, hot cocoa, and presents--what could be better? But this year nothing is going right, starting with their local Christmas pageant. They practiced looking wise and stroking fake beards so they could play the three Wise People, but what did they get cast as? Angels - and just because they're girls! Totally not fair. And things are going from bad to worse. No Aunt Jane, no megaphone, no Mom or Lily because of the snow--and someone is stealing decorations (and baked goods!) from their neighbors' houses. The girls don't want this to be the worst Christmas ever, but can they fix the pageant, solve the mystery, find their dad a new couch (it's a long story), and recover their holiday cheer? Three times the angels means three times the festivities in this hilarious story from Jennifer Ziegler.

Vicky Austin's family does one special thing each day of December to prepare for Christmas. This year, they're also preparing for the birth of a new brother or sister, due after the New Year. Vicky is worried that the baby will come early—what kind of Christmas Eve would it be without Mother to help them hang up stockings and sing everyone to sleep with carols? This classic story of an old-fashioned Christmas is accompanied by merry illustrations by Jill Weber. This special eBook edition includes bonus content not available in the print edition: · Christmas in New York essay by Madeleine L'Engle · Reproductions of 7 unique L'Engle family Christmas cards created and illustrated by Madeleine L'Engle· First chapter of the Newbery Award–winning *A Wrinkle in Time* A biography of the African-American woman who overcame crippling polio as a child to become the first woman to win three gold medals in track in a single Olympics.

Rose Justice is a young pilot with the Air Transport Auxiliary during the Second World War. On her way back from a semi-secret flight in the waning days of the war, Rose is captured by the Germans and ends up in Ravensbrück, the notorious Nazi women's concentration camp. There, she meets an unforgettable group of women, including a once glamorous and celebrated French detective novelist whose Jewish husband and three young sons have been killed; a resilient young girl who was a human guinea

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pig for Nazi doctors trying to learn how to treat German war wounds; and a Nachthexen, or Night Witch, a female fighter pilot and military ace for the Soviet air force. These damaged women must bond together to help each other survive. In this companion volume to the critically acclaimed novel *Code Name Verity*, Elizabeth Wein continues to explore themes of friendship and loyalty, right and wrong, and unwavering bravery in the face of indescribable evil.

Twelve-year-old Rose Brutigan has always been different from her twin brother, Thomas, but now she towers over him in too many ways. But when a serious accident changes the course of the summer, Rose is forced to grow and change in ways she never could have imagined.

"If somewhere in the afterlife Roald Dahl met Charles Dickens and they cooked up a new Christmas tale, it couldn't have much on this fleet, verbally rambunctious, heart-stealing follow-up to *A Boy Called Christmas*."—The New York Times  
Amelia Wishart was the first child ever to receive a Christmas present. It was her Christmas spirit that gave Santa the extra boost of magic he needed to make his first trip around the world. But now Amelia is in trouble. When her mother falls ill, she is sent to the workhouse to toil under cruel Mr. Creeper. For a whole year, Amelia scrubs the floors and eats watery gruel, without a whiff of kindness to keep her going. It's not long before her hope begins to drain away. Meanwhile, up at the North Pole, magic levels dip dangerously low as Christmas approaches, and Santa knows that something is gravely wrong. With the help of his trusty reindeer, a curious cat, and Charles Dickens, he sets out to find Amelia, the only girl who might be able to save Christmas. But first Amelia must learn to believe again. . . . "Matt Haig has an empathy for the human condition, the light and the dark of it, and he uses the full palette to build his excellent stories." —Neil Gaiman, Newbery-winning author of *The Graveyard Book* "With a little bit of naughty and a lot of nice, this Christmastime yarn is a veritable sugarplum." —Kirkus Reviews

The annual Christmas pageant was safe and routine until the Herdmans, the worst kids in the history of the world, land all the main parts.

What happens when kids who have never heard the story of Christmas interpret it for their new church? Setting: Contemporary Pgs: 56

The Herdmans plus Halloween have always spelled disaster. Every year these six kids -- the worst in the history of Woodrow Wilson School, and possibly even the world -- wreak havoc on the whole town. They steal candy, spray-paint kids, and take anything that's not nailed down. Now the mayor has had it. He's decided to cancel Halloween. There won't be any Herdmans to contend with this year, but there won't be any candy, either. And what's Halloween without candy? And without trick-or-treating? The Herdmans manage to turn the worst Halloween ever into the best Halloween ever in this uproarious sequel to *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*.

*The Best Christmas Ever! Storybook Greetings*

From the author of the beloved New York Times bestseller *Wicked*, the magical story of a toymaker, a nutcracker, and a legend remade . . . Gregory Maguire returns with an inventive novel inspired by a timeless holiday legend, intertwining the story of the famous Nutcracker with the life of the mysterious toy maker named Drosselmeier who carves him. Hiddensee: An island of white sandy beaches, salt marshes, steep cliffs, and pine forests north of Berlin in the Baltic Sea, an island that is an enchanting bohemian retreat and home to a large artists' colony-- a wellspring of inspiration for the Romantic imagination . . . Having brought his legions of devoted readers to Oz in *Wicked* and to Wonderland in *After Alice*, Maguire now takes us to the realms of the Brothers Grimm and E. T. A. Hoffmann-- the enchanted Black Forest of Bavaria and the salons of Munich. Hiddensee imagines the backstory of the Nutcracker, revealing how this entrancing creature came to be carved and how he guided an ailing girl named Klara through a dreamy paradise on a Christmas Eve. At the heart of Hoffmann's mysterious tale hovers

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Godfather Drosselmeier-- the ominous, canny, one-eyed toy maker made immortal by Petipa and Tchaikovsky's fairy tale ballet-- who presents the once and future Nutcracker to Klara, his goddaughter. But Hiddensee is not just a retelling of a classic story. Maguire discovers in the flowering of German Romanticism ties to Hellenic mystery-cults-- a fascination with death and the afterlife-- and ponders a profound question: How can a person who is abused by life, shortchanged and challenged, nevertheless access secrets that benefit the disadvantaged and powerless? Ultimately, Hiddensee offers a message of hope. If the compromised Godfather Drosselmeier can bring an enchanted Nutcracker to a young girl in distress on a dark winter evening, perhaps everyone, however lonely or marginalized, has something precious to share.

From the celebrated creator of Red and Lulu comes the story of a brave little doe who meets Santa and changes Christmas forever. Dasher is an adventurous young reindeer with a wish in her heart. She spends her days with her family under the hot sun in a traveling circus, but she longs for a different life -- one where there is snow beneath her hooves and the North Star above her head. One day, when the opportunity arises, Dasher seizes her destiny and takes off in pursuit of the life she wants to live. It's not long before she meets a nice man in a red suit with a horse-drawn sleigh -- a man named Santa. And soon, with the help of a powerful Christmas wish, nothing will be the same. Could it be the night before a Snow Day? It's nighttime and snow is falling hard. Will the town be snowed in? Will there be a snow day? Odds are looking good in this newest Night Before book for the kids who dream of snowball fights, sledding, and the possibility that it may snow again tomorrow!

Jan Brett's beloved character the Gingerbread Baby returns in a fun-filled Christmas caper! Gingerbread Baby and his friend, Matti, take his gingerbread band to the Christmas Festival where they are a hit until the aroma of gingerbread reaches the children, signaling that it is time to run away. Clever Matti uses snow to disguise the gingerbread instruments while Gingerbread Baby leads the audience on a merry chase to the smartest hiding place ever--a giant Christmas tree.

It's Christmastime in 1946, and all Addie wants is a pair of cowboy boots and a Christmas tree Ten-year-old Addie lives in Clear River, Nebraska, population fifteen hundred, with her stoic but loving father and quirky grandmother. Carla Mae is her neighbor and best friend in the fifth grade. Carla Mae's house is different than Addie's—she has five siblings and another on the way, while Addie is an only child. It's the week before Christmas, and shopping lists are at the front of the girls' minds. Addie's house doesn't have a tree—her dad says they are a waste of money, and they'll be opening presents at Uncle Will's anyway. Uncle Will has a tree, but to Addie, it doesn't feel like Christmas without a tree of their own. Then she comes up with the perfect plan. Will it make this the best Christmas they've ever had, or will her father never forgive her?

Peppa and her friends go on an Easter egg hunt adventure! Includes stickers!

Paint jolly holiday fun with stickers! Step 1: Find the sticker Step 2: Peel the sticker Step 3: Place the sticker ...and watch your Christmas painting come to life! Includes everything you need to create ten sticker paintings on study card stock. Plus, all the pages are perforated—making it easy to tear out each finished work to frame and share!

The six mean Herdman kids lie, steal, smoke cigars (even the girls) and then become involved in the community Christmas pageant.

Luther and Nora Krank are fed up with the chaos of Christmas. The endless shopping lists, the frenzied dashes through the mall, the hassle of decorating the tree... where has all the joy gone? This year, celebrating seems like too much effort. With their only child off in Peru, they decide that just this once, they'll skip the holidays. They spend their Christmas budget on a Caribbean cruise set to sail on December 25, and

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happily settle in for a restful holiday season free of rooftop snowmen and festive parties. But the Kranks soon learn that their vacation from Christmas isn't much of a vacation at all, and that skipping the holidays has consequences they didn't bargain for... A modern Christmas classic, *Skipping Christmas* is a charming and hilarious look at the mayhem and madness that have become ingrained in our holiday tradition. **BONUS:** This edition includes an excerpt from John Grisham's *The Litigators*.

The don't miss, laugh-out-loud Christmas favorite! The Herdmans are the worst kids in the history of the world. They lie, steal, smoke cigars, swear, and hit little kids. So no one is prepared when this outlaw family invades church one Sunday and decides to take over the annual Christmas pageant. None of the Herdmans has ever heard the Christmas story before. Their interpretation of the tale—the Wise Men are a bunch of dirty spies and Herod needs a good beating--has a lot of people up in arms. But it will make this year's pageant the most unusual anyone has seen and, just possibly, the best one ever. As a reviewer commented: "In the end, this is not just a funny book, but a powerful story of redemption. Through most of the book, I can't stop laughing, but by the end I am always reading through tears, even after having read it eleven times." Anita Silvey, in her guidebook *Children's Books and Their Creators*, agreed: "The book is great fun and continues to be enjoyed by readers each holiday season."

The shepherds awakened on the hillside outside Bethlehem by angels and were filled with awe. The Surprising Christmas Pageant is a comedy that gently reminds us that God's grace and love appear new to us every day. The production can be staged with as little or as many sets, costumes, and props as desired, and it can be produced with only two 2-hour rehearsals. Children's parts are reproducible. Key Features: -- All script and song texts are reproducible; leader has to purchase only one book -- Usable in smaller churches as well as larger churches -- CD with All music enclosed -- For kindergarten through 6th grade

While spending Christmas at their grandparents' farm, Lily becomes convinced that her younger brother Liam is right about White Cow being lonely and helps him seek a companion for her, leaving little time for Christmas preparations or reading.

The Worst Kids in the History of the World! When anything goes wrong at Woodrow Wilson Elementary School, from the hexing of Bus Six to the mysterious disappearance of the kindergarten gerbil, it's sure to have a Herdman behind it. The Herdmans are more than famous -- they're outlaws. They smoke cigars, lie, and set fire to things, and that's only when they bother to come to school! Then a school project forces the students to think of compliments for all their classmates -- including the Herdmans. Is it possible that behind their outrageous pranks there may be something good about this crazy clan after all?

Contains resources for teaching "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" by Barbara Robinson that provides lesson plans, vocabulary and comprehension activities, quizzes, and graphic organizers.

Now in paperback, the nationally acclaimed guide for parents listing the best children's books, complete with a treasury of

more than 400 books. Illustrated.

The Wicked Stepmother wants to do something to help people and make amends for her past. But trying to find the right job proves tricky, until the Terrible Ogre gives her an idea.

"The Calling of Dan Matthews" by Harold Bell Wright. Published by Good Press. Good Press publishes a wide range of titles that encompasses every genre. From well-known classics & literary fiction and non-fiction to forgotten?or yet undiscovered gems?of world literature, we issue the books that need to be read. Each Good Press edition has been meticulously edited and formatted to boost readability for all e-readers and devices. Our goal is to produce eBooks that are user-friendly and accessible to everyone in a high-quality digital format.

Retells the events of a special Christmas for a poor family in New York City at the turn of the century.

These fun-filled chapter books mix school, monsters, and common kid problems with hilarious results. You'll scream with laughter!

"With warm joyful art and a rhythmic, read-aloud text, here is a celebration of every festive step in taking home and decorating a Christmas tree"--flyleaf.

A beautifully illustrated celebration of bounty and gratitude, family and friendship, perfect for the holidays and every day. This is the table that Grandad built. These are the sunflowers picked by my cousins, set on the table that Grandad built. In a unique take on the cumulative classic "This Is the House That Jack Built," a family gathers with friends and neighbors to share a meal around a table that brims with associations: napkins sewn by Mom, glasses from Mom and Dad's wedding, silverware gifted to Dad by his grandma long ago. Not to mention the squash from the garden, the bread baked by Gran, and the pies made by the young narrator (with a little help). Serving up a diverse array of dishes and faces, this warm and welcoming story is poised to become a savored part of Thanksgiving traditions to come.

This funny new series features iconic holiday characters in a way that has never been done before—as superheroes! The Holiday Heroes Save Christmas is a different approach to Christmas books that will have readers laughing all season long. This just in—breaking news from the North Pole! Santa Claus can't deliver presents on Christmas Eve and he needs backup. But not just anybody can help him—he needs the Holiday Heroes! This Christmas, it's up to the Easter Bunny, the Tooth Fairy, a Witch and a Leprechaun to fill in for Santa and save Christmas. Can the Holiday Heroes deliver presents without being spotted? Will they be able to pull off Christmas in the end? Perfect books for kids 5-7: who love stories about a superhero! for the Christmas holiday!

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