

### A Very Short Christmas Story

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Once upon a time a little girl named Natalie was so excited about Christmas, that she and her little sister, Lisa begged their mother to sleep under the Christmas tree with its cozy, twinkling lights, on Christmas Eve.

You see the snow was falling outside. Inside, the only lights burning were the little ones on the tree. So it was very, very snug.

In fact, the sisters begged to open the brightly-wrapped presents immediately, but Shelby, who was one year older than Natalie, and a very disciplined young girl, said "No, we will open our gifts on Christmas day." She had the voice of authority even before she was 10 years old.

Shelby wanted a good rest in her own bed. She thought part of the Christmas fun was knowing you had to wait to open your gifts. In fact, waiting made the fun better.

The three had another sister named Tracy. She was between Natalie and Lisa in age. They also had a little brother Weston. Their brother Seth was born later.

Tracy was just as excited as her

sisters, but she also enjoyed sleeping in her own comfy bed. So even though she loved cuddling under the tree in her flannel nightie, Tracy didn't insist on sleeping there

cy didn't insist on sleeping there.
Natalie, (nickname "Boombie
Dawn") had less control over her
Christmas excitement than the
others. Sister Lisa (nickname
"Kitch Ann"), was almost as bad.
Like urchins, they crawled around
under the tree, handling the gifts
until some of the pretty paper tore

at the corner.

"Oops! well, since it's ripped, we'll just peek through the hole for clues," they said, with sneaky grins.

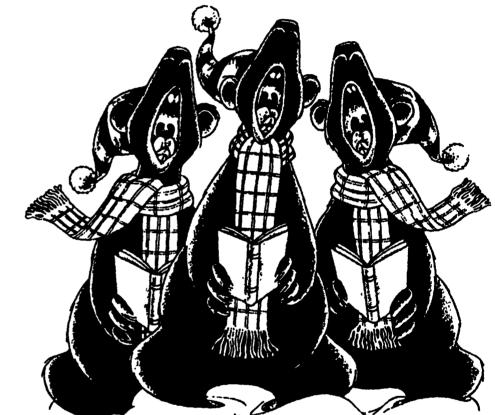
Their mother wanted all her children to be happy. So when Christmas day arrived, sometime after midnight, after everybody had a little nap but it was very dark outside, the family gathered around the beautiful Christmas tree.

Presents were passed out. Bows

and paper went flying. When it was over, there was no place to walk because the floor was covered with discarded boxes and wrappings.

Everybody was happy. Even the little mouse that sneaked in sometime and stole the chocolate Hershey Kisses taped to one present. Bad mousie. Well, at least he left behind the foil wrappings. That way they knew he'd called at Christmas.

### A BEAR-Y MERRY SEASON



## Can You Choose The Correct Answer?

(check in the Bible, Luke 2)

1. WHO GOT SCARED ONE NIGHT IN FIELDS NEAR BETHLEHEM?

A. coyotes B. soldiers C. Angels D. shepherds 2. WHY WERE THEY IN THE FIELD?

A. guarding sheep B. looking for treasures

C. traveling to church D. waiting for robbers

3. WHAT UNUSUAL THING DID THEY SEE?

A. northern lights B. an angel C. falling stars

D. a jet airplane

4. WHAT UNUSUAL MESSAGE DID THEY HEAR?

A. a storm was coming B. a new president was elected C. new missionaries arrived D. a Savior was born

5. WHERE WOULD THEY FIND THE SWEET NEW BABY?

A. in the nearby hospital B. in a lowly manger C. in the king's castle D. in a crib.

6. WHAT MADE SO MUCH NOISE IN THE SKY
THAT NIGHT?

A. the Lancaster Mennonite school chorus B. the heavenly host praising God C. Boston Symphony Orchestra D. A comet shooting across the sky

7. WHAT WAS THE NAME OF JESUS' MOTHER?

A. Elizabeth B. Mary C. Martha D. Lydia

8. WHERE DID JOSEPH AND MARY GO TO OFFER A SACRIFICE TO GOD?

A. the sea of Galilee B. temple at Jerusalem C. a Nazareth carpenter's shop D. Mount Sinai

# Circle Your Favorite Answers

- 1. KINDS OF CHRISTMAS TREES
  - A. shiny white B. fresh evergreen C. shiny silver D. artificial green
- 2. FAVORITE TREE DECORATIONS
  - A. popcorn balls B. twinkling lights
  - C. tiny animals D. Angels
- 3. BEST TIME TO TRIM THE TREE
  - A. Christmas Eve B. after Thanksgiving C. two weeks before Christmas D. a week before Christmas
- 4. FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SMELL
  - A. pies baking B. oyster stew C. turkey/ham
  - D. homemade cookies
- 5. FUN PLACES TO BE ON CHRISTMAS DAY
  - A. cousin's B. Dad and Mom's C. Grandparents
  - D. friend's house

Games

- 6. WHAT KIDS DO ON CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON
  A. go sled riding B. play new games C. electric train D. chase each other through the house
- 7. THINGS ADULTS DO ON CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON
  - A. rest B. visit C. wash stacks of dishes D. tell the rowdy youngsters to settle down
- 8. DIGNIFIED THINGS DONE AT CHRISTMAS
- A. church programs B. singing hymns C. saying prayers D. giving food, money and gifts to needy people

#### Christmas Word Find

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Snow

Worship

Words are up and down, across, backward and diagonal. Gifts Angel Manager Star **Ornaments** Baby Jesus Grandma Trees Bethlehem Greetings Pretty paper Vacation Carols Lights Wise Men Skates

Love

GREETINGSTOYIWRSEMAG
PPUEBEAGUPRRPOGECANE
MKNAMPMNIIJFNUOFVTGC
ESEERTSHAFATMASKATES
HXMMPYSTLMTCNMMTCDLA
EKEOFREOFOXSXOXEXOSM
LWSIOVACATIONOXXNOXD
HEIWONSXOXMANGEROTXN
TXWLOMJREPAPYTTERPSA
EPCAROLSOVIMGSRATSOR
BWEBABYJESUSOSTHGILG

### Gingerbread Jamboree

HERSHEY (Dauphin Co.) — Gingerbread Jamboree is a museum program that includes the classic movie for children, The Gingerbread Man, and gives each family the opportunity to make an individualized Gingerbread person to take home. The film will be shown at 1:30 and 2:30 p.m. followed by the craft activity on December 28 and on December 31

Families will enjoy this activity which is free with museum admission.

The Hershey Museum is a nonprofit organization, administered by the M.S. Hershey Foundation and is located at the west end of the Hersheypark Arena.

For more information contact The Hershey Museum at (717) 534-3439.

