



## Village Christmas

*Miss Read*

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A family new to Fairacre is viewed with suspicion by its elderly neighbors, the Waters sisters, until an unexpected turn of events works magic over both houses on Christmas Day.

### **Village Christmas Details**

Date : Published 1966 by Houghton Mifflin Company

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Author : Miss Read

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Genre : Fiction, Holiday, Christmas, European Literature, British Literature, Adult, Historical, Historical Fiction

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## From Reader Review Village Christmas for online ebook

### **Shani says**

A real Christmas story, lovely.

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### **Plum-crazy says**

A quick charming read that had me feeling warm with nostalgia. I've never read any Miss Read before & while I enjoyed this I don't think I could cope with a full-sized novel - think I would find it a bit twee! It reminded me of the short stories I used to read in my Grandma's Woman's Realms, a pleasant escape to a gentler time :o)

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### **Julie Durnell says**

A short and sweet tale of an English village life one Christmas. The birth of a baby on Christmas Day to a new family in town reveals to the spinster sisters, Mary & Margaret, as well as other villagers, that they have been harshly critical of this over-friendly large family. Time was gentle then, but our attitudes toward others are still the same today. My mother gave me this book for Christmas 1967, not sure if I read it as a twelve-year-old, but the message is timeless!

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### **Roslyn says**

There is room for all sorts in Fairacre but it took a Christmas baby to make them appreciate each other.  
Motto: Let people help you as you get older. It will enable important things to go on after up after you are gone; love for two young couples.  
Too much description of nature.

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### **Leslie says**

Nice but a bit overly sweet for me

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### **Coenraad says**

A lovely short narrative about Christmas in a fictional English village. Two spinster sisters prepare as always for the traditional things happening - and then a neighbour, who moved in three months before with three

small children and a husband and made herself unpopular by being too friendly, goes into labour with her fourth child while the husband is away on family matters. The story is simpler than the previous sentence, sweet, even cloying - yes, I know all that. Still, it's heartwarming when one needs to remember that there are good things left in the world.

Miss Read se eenvoudige verhaal oor twee susters wat 'n buurvrou te hulp snel op Kersdag is dalk soeter en warmer as wat sommige lesers sal verkies, maar dit herinner ons aan 'n warm menslikheid in 'n tyd wanneer dit al hoe skaarser blyk te word.

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### **Joyce says**

Library copy.

This book is 45 pages! Must be the shortest book ever published. It is about two spinster sisters in the village of Fairacre, at Christmas.

It's a lovely quick read, highly recommended. Amazing how the author can develop characters in so short a story, so that the reader feels they know them. Lovely.

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### **Alexandra Daw says**

Can't remember if I had read this before but I am desperate to get to my goal and it was only 53 pages or so, so I polished it off. Lovely gentle stuff. Nothing earth-shattering...but comforting nevertheless. And now I only have four books to go!

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### **Y.I. Lee says**

What a sweet story. I read it in a couple of nights.

It depicts the gentle pace of village life wonderfully. And I loved the two main characters, sisters Mary and Margaret.

I will have to look for more of Miss Read's books as I really enjoyed this one.

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### **JanB says**

I picked this up at the library after seeing it on a "best Christmas book" list. At 46 pages it was a quick read but not particularly enjoyable. This was my first Miss Read book and I'm not sure I'll try another one.

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### **Donna says**

This story is charming and short. In the quaint little village of Fairacre in the English countryside, where the

neighbors all know one another, there is a new family just moved in. This young family, the Emery's, with three little daughters under the age of 7 and a baby on the way, are from the big city, the north side of London. Of the new family "it was Mrs. Emery who provided more fodder for gossip." She was unusually friendly, smoked and "her Bohemian garments scandalized the older generation" of Fairacre. Living across the street from them are two elderly spinster sisters, Margaret and Mary Waters, who are set in their ways and, like most of the residents of Fairacre, a bit suspicious of outsiders. It is Christmas eve and with much ritual the citizens of Fairacre are preparing for Christmas. But Christmas gets interrupted when there is unexpected excitement. This story is about belonging and accepting differences in people. The language and description reminds me of the English-made programs on public TV ... beautifully done.

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### **Iru Sai says**

An adorable, short and a cozy Christmas read revolving around two spinster sisters, Margaret and Mary and a new family that has recently moved in to their neighbourhood. A family who were initially looked upon with distaste, till a baby arrives on the Christmas day to bring them all together. Loved every bit of this heartwarming tale. 5 stars!

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### **Wendy says**

I've read this little book every Christmas for years. Miss Read is my favourite author and I love her English village stories. Going for the Walk in Miss Read Country in June at Denman College near Oxford was such fun and a real treat for me. A baby boy is born on Christmas day in Fairacre. He melts the hearts of the villagers. Both he and the Christ child have changed the world.

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### **Jenny says**

This was my first Fairacre. Just delightful. And I could especially relate because I gave birth at home near Christmas, and the midwife was also late in coming- just made it, in fact!

I just loved every minute of this story!

Second read, just as lovely as I remembered it:)

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### **Marl Sale says**

#### **An enchanting story full of love**

Loved this one. A nice lighthearted look at life through the eyes of two very kind spinsters. Would recommend it to all ages.

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