



Christmas at the Vinyl Cafe

Stuart McLean

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Come share Christmas with your friends at the Vinyl Cafe

Christmas has always been a special time at the Vinyl Cafe. For two decades, Stuart McLean travelled across the country every December with The Vinyl Cafe Christmas tour, bringing the gift of laughter and light during the darkest days of the year. The hilarious world of Dave and Morley was even more real--more vibrant--during the holidays. For many, the Vinyl Cafe Christmas stories became beloved family traditions. Now, for the first time, they have been brought together in this special collection--including the classic "Dave Cooks the Turkey," as well as five new, never before published Christmas stories. From mishaps with the Turlingtons and the tale of a young Dave's first holiday disaster to the surprising "Christmas Ferret" and the touching sign off in "The Christmas Card," these wonderful new stories will delight for years to come. Brimming with charm and humour (often at Dave's expense), these twelve stories entertain on every page, reminding us what the holidays are all about.

Christmas at the Vinyl Cafe Details

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Author : Stuart McLean

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From Reader Review Christmas at the Vinyl Cafe for online ebook

Chris Edwards says

I really liked these stories. I had read Dave Cooks the Turkey when one of my former students gave it to me for a Christmas present. I've tried to read it every year since then. When I saw this compilation of other stories, I had to read them all. One a day leading up to Christmas and New Years was a good way to do it. I'll have to read some of them to my kids next year.

Favourite Quotes:

"Desire, as it always will, had finally led him to desperation." - p. 99

"Christmas gives you permission to say things out loud you might otherwise not say." - p. 201

"But we are all foolish in our own little ways. And never luckier than when we can admit it to ourselves, and to the others around us. Never more loved, nor more loving, than when we come together in foolishness and say to one another, I love you all the same. There are many good times, but those are the best. And there isn't a better time for foolish love than during these dark days of winter." - p. 231

"You want to celebrate the small triumphs - there are more of them than the big ones." - p. 238

Kathryn says

What a lovely book. It doesn't matter how many times that I've read or heard the Christmas stories, I enjoy them immensely. I read this, with Stuart's wonderful voice in my head. And only a few tears ❤?

Jessica says

We just discovered this expanded version of our beloved stories about Dave and Morley's Christmas adventures, and it does not disappoint!

I cannot decide what I love more: Dave's Christmas Parade or Rashia, Amir and the Great Gift-Giving. Both had me laughing out loud, until I was almost crying with laughter. And now we finally know what that line about Morley and the school Christmas concert that went wrong in Ferrets for Christmas means! (Wait, Morley's Christmas Concert might be my new favorite . . .)

Jerrilynn Lilyblade says

Ever since I first heard Polly Anderson's Christmas Party, I have loved McLean's humor. I'm very sad he is no longer with us. This is a keeper book to be holiday tradition.

Lino's Version says

Christmas at the Vinyl Café

Stuart McLean

2017

What can I say? Twelve tales to make you smile, cringe, laugh, groan, remember and perhaps make you misty eyed.

When we read this book we can also hear it – admit it there are voices in your head. It is OK it is Stuart. Missed but not forgotten!

Read on!

It may not be a big book but it is small – but filled with laughs and good cheer.

5 Stars!

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<https://www.chapters.indigo.ca/en-ca/...>

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#StuartMcLean

1. Dave cooks the Turkey

a. What do Dave and Morley look like?

b. 21: "Morley could you come here?" Dave said softly. "There's something I have to tell you."

2. Polly Anderson's Christmas Party

a. 41: "Stephanie was the only kid drinking from the adult bowl," Dave said

3. Christmas Presents

a. I have a friend who thinks the reason Jacques Plante was such a good goalie was because of all the knitting. He believes the knitting improved his hand-eye coordination. ~ Dave

4. Morley's Christmas Pageant

a. Are you going to do it again next year, Miss?

i. Morley smiled. "I don't know," she said

b. I was wondering. If you do, I was wondering if I could run the sprinklers.

5. Christmas in the Narrows

- a. Of course chances are, if you were in the Narrows, it would be dark. Anyone who lived there in those days would tell you it got dark earlier back then. And that it stayed dark later.
 - b. And I don't have to tell you – three feet was a lot bigger in those days than it is today
 - c. Rutledge's: They had shirts and sofas – in matching plaid.
 - d. 94: A deluxe, club model, table-top hockey game, manufactured by the Eagle Toy Company of Montreal Quebec
 - e. 95: A defenceman in a red Montreal Canadiens sweater spun around.
 - f. 104: It was a hard way to learn that giving can be better than receiving.
6. The Christmas Ferret
- a. 125: DO NOT ENTER TOP SECRET THIS MEANS YOU
7. Christmas on the Road
- a. 150: We'll write ~ said Dave
 - b. And they will. Sam will send a postcard of the CN Tower, written in French as soon as they get home. But Dave won't write until June. Not until the sorry summer afternoon he opens the picnic cooler and finds what remains of the flattened rodent.
8. Christmas at the Turlingtons'
- a. 156: Only one candle had ever been lit. When Mary's first husband left here for his aerobics instructor.
 - b. 166: Family and friends. They sure mess up our lives ~ Bert
 - c. They sure do ~ Mary smiling now ~ they sure do.
9. Rashida, Amir and the Great Gift-Giving
- a. 173 I: I'll bake the Christmas cake ~ Dave
 - b. 175: On Grey Cup weekend, Dave and Kenny watched the entire game without touching one beer. They sucked on half a fruitcake each.
 - c. 188: Inshallah - if it is God's will
10. White Christmas
- a. 194: They enjoy these collisions. Bert is a defence attorney. Dave his surrogate judge and jury.
 - b. 195: A husband looking for a perfect present is like a knight of the Round Table on a quest for the Holy Grail....oh he had heard rumours. There was a man once, who said he heard of a fellow, who told a story about a guy, who found the perfect present....
 - c. 201: It wasn't the present that were important; it was the impulse behind them. The spirit they represented. The spirit of giving.
11. Fire and Floods
- a. Small minds are concerned with the extraordinary sweet Pea ~ Tommy's father
 - b. As far as Tommy's father is concerned, there isn't any situation that can't be improved with a good Pascal quotation.
 - c. 222: Instability. It is horrible thing to feel all that we posses slipping away ~ Pascal of course
 - d. 229: They ordered the Christmas special – a crab pizza with green and red peppers – the Santa Claws
12. The Christmas Card
- a. 249: They don't belong to you. They belong to the Queen the moment you put them in the box. They are hers until they are delivered ~ The sergeant explained
 - b. Not surprised to see you at all, Dave. Not at all.

Vinyl Cafe Fans
 @VinylCafe_
 #StuartMcLean #VinylCafe

Roseanne Venables says

The Christmas At The Vinyl Cafe was an enjoyable, familial reading experience. People from so many walks in like, sharing similar experiences, which aren't always bad things. This collection is a fabulous tribute to an endearing man. Stuart had a gentle, , calm, familiar, and humourous narrating style. His voice suited his writings perfectly.... or is it that his writings suited his narration perfectly? Stories do a lot to bring back memories. Wonderful memories plucked somewhat from each of our lives. It has been said that we often forget the voice of a loved-one who has passed on. I doubt that could ever happen with Stuarts voice. His voice lives within the reading of his heart-warming stories. His stories will forever keep him with me.

Gail says

I read this book with a smile on my face, cherishing the words of Stuart McLean as he once again drew me into the whimsical world of Dave and Morley. This collection of short stories includes five that I hadn't read before, which was an unexpected delight. My favourite (although it's hard to choose) is The Ferret. I'll be re-reading this collection fondly at Christmas in years to come.

Ryan Goebel says

Great Christmas story collection from one of the best storytellers of our time.

Grey853 says

If you like humorous and outrageous Christmas stories, you might enjoy these. Some of the funniest ones are about the immigrant family who starts a whole flood of unexpected neighborhood gift giving and the one about the disaster that is the school Christmas pageant. Then there is the more poignant story such as the one about being a young boy wanting a hockey game and being torn about whether to buy it for himself or to use his money to buy gifts for his family. He learned quite the lesson.

Tara says

heartwarming and funny. I can hear Stuart McLean's voice in my head as I read.

Catherine says

This is the Christmas book that I have been looking for! It's full of little stories that remind me of all the crazy Christmas stories that happen with my own family. These may be a little further off the wall than the

stories I have with my own family and it may be a little crazy to believe that all of these things would happen to the same people over the years, but I loved it.

I was not previously a fan of Vinyl Cafe. I have never listened to it or read any of the books, but I may have to pick some up now. I can tell you that I am sad to have only discovered this treasure after Stuart McLean died, because I am sure I would have delighted in his Vinyl Cafe Christmas show.

Tyler G says

Quick and easy read with funny stories, I enjoyed it.

❀ Susan G says

<https://ayearofbooksblog.com/2017/12/...>

It is not very often that I rate a book 5 stars, but this Christmas at the Vinyl Cafe is a fantastic collection! The stories are heartwarming and made me laugh out loud at the antics of Dave, Morley, Stephanie and Sam... or really, mostly the antics of Dave. Christmas at the Vinyl Cafe, written by the late Stuart McLean, will become an annual tradition for me and I will encourage you all to read it or listen to the podcasts. It is sad to think that this brilliant storyteller has been silenced yet as I read each story, I could hear his voice telling the tale.

The book started off with Dave Cooks the Turkey, a story that is well-known and funny no matter how many times I have enjoyed it. What could possibly go wrong when Dave is assigned this important responsibility? The next story describes what can go wrong when Dave is asked to add the rum to the adult punch bowl at Polly Anderson's Party. Readers can certainly connect to Morley's wish to make Christmas Gifts more meaningful with homemade presents and laugh along at the hilarious mishaps in the tale of Morley's Christmas Pageant. I was curious about The Christmas Ferret which reminded me of the time our hamster spent roaming the house night after night after its great escape. The funniest stories were Rashida, Amir and the Great Gift Giving, Fire and Floods and The Christmas Cards. I truly can picture an inept chef trying to speed up cooking using the self-clean function and Dave crouched up in a mail box.

I hope that everyone will take the time to read or listen to at least one of Stuart McLean's stories. He truly was a genius storyteller and these tales will make you smile, laugh and look forward to the holiday season – even with all its challenges, busy days and mishaps!

Click here for links to CBC's Vinyl Cafe with Stuart McLean which includes many of these Christmas tales. The whole family will laugh along!!

Steven says

Such a cute collection of little stories about a delightfully dysfunctional loving family. Each one read like a little Christmas sitcom episode and each one was perfect. I think reading this in December is going to be a new Christmas tradition for me

Cairine says

Loved, loved, loved this collection. I saved it and read it at Christmas. I listened to the last story on a Podcast and cried because it was the last performance Stuart gave. Such a beautiful story teller whose stories made me laugh out loud and cry in the same short reading of them. The older I get, and the more reflective I am of family and memories of them, the more I enjoy Stuart's stories. There is such a beauty in the simplicity of the plot and characters that I am often overwhelmed by the emotional response upon reading them. So glad to have read these stories, to know the characters, and to have been so deeply moved by them.
