

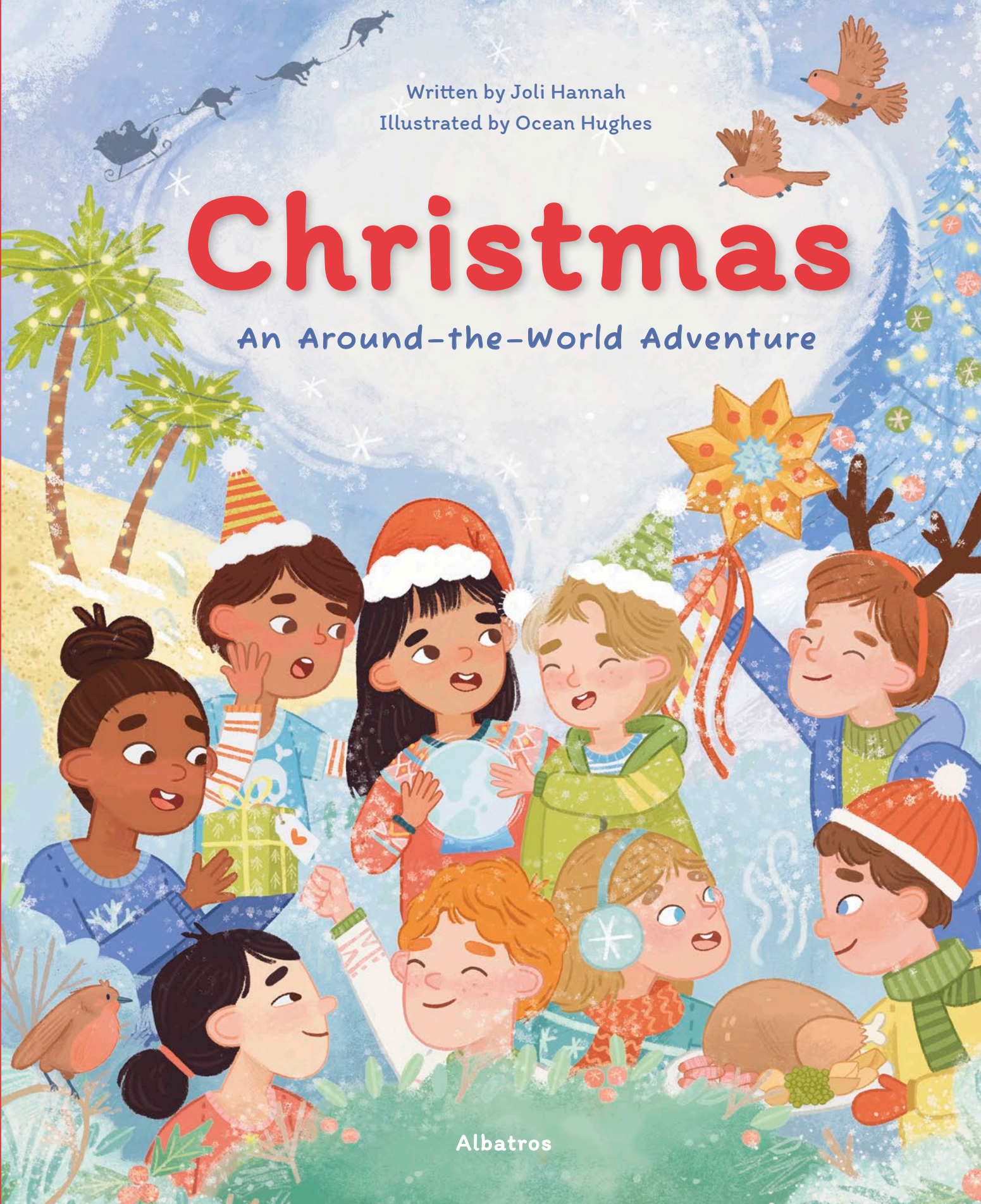
Christmas – An Around-the-World Adventure

Joli Hannah & Ocean Hughes

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Illustrated by Ocean Hughes

# Christmas

An Around-the-World Adventure



Albatros







# Christmas

## AROUND THE WORLD



Hello, little readers. Welcome to your new book about Christmas. Together with Ella and Tom, we'll go on a journey around the magical world of Christmas as we learn how Christmas is celebrated in different places on our planet.

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We wish you a Merry Christmas.





# Map of the World

Isn't Christmas the most wonderful time of the year? Do you ever wonder how children in Africa, Spain, or China celebrate the holiday? What they eat? How they decorate? Let's travel the world and discover the magic of Christmas!





# GREENLAND

"JUULLIMI!"  
-merry christmas-

## CHRISTMAS TREE

DECORATED ON  
DECEMBER 23<sup>RD</sup>

## PRESENTS

Presenters are placed under the tree.  
They exchange small gifts,  
mainly handmade.

Reindeer and whale meat, "auks" (laridae seabirds),  
rice pudding with almonds topped with sour cherry  
juice, "muktuk" (whale skin), and "kiviak" (a dish of  
meat, fat, blood, herbs, and berries).

## TRADITIONAL FOOD

"MUKTUK"



"RICE PUDDING"



"KIVIAK"



On Christmas Eve, there's a tradition that the men  
cater to the women, serving them food and coffee.  
After the Christmas feast, games are played.



People in Greenland love to sing  
carols. There are lots of traditional  
Greenlandic carols, as well as  
their versions of famous  
Christmas songs.

# RUSSIA

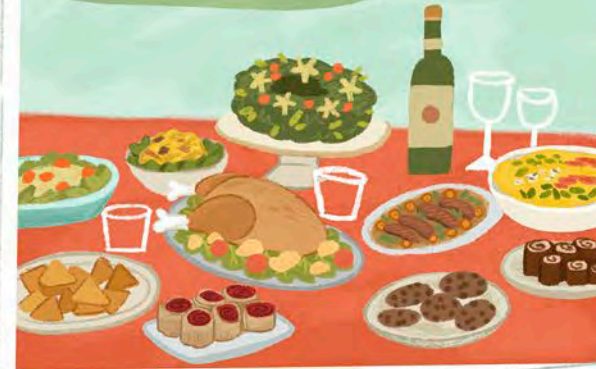
"счастливого Рождества!"  
[SCHASTLIVOGO ROZHDESTVA]  
-merry christmas-

## THE NEW YEAR YOLKA

## PRESENTS

Children used to find them under their  
pillows. Nowadays Ded Moroz and  
the Snow Maiden put them under the  
Christmas tree.

## TRADITIONAL FOOD



Roast goose cooked in sour cream sauce, stuffed  
with prunes and red cabbage, veal, fish in a savory  
jelly called aspic, varenyky (dumplings made by  
wrapping unleavened dough filled with potato,  
cheese, and mushrooms), rice, kutia (a grain dish  
with sweet gravy and honey, nuts, poppy seeds, or  
raisins), and vzvar (a dried fruit dessert).

"KUTIA"



"VARENYKY"



"VZVAR"



The Nativity Fast: Orthodox Russians fast  
from November 28th – January 6th.



Orthodox carols, symphonic  
compositions, and traditional folk  
songs with strong winter themes.





## New York, USA

A strong gust of wind blew right into Ella and Tom. "Brrrrr! It's so cold here," Tom said, rubbing his chilled ears. Ella didn't mind the cold weather at all, though. As they looked around, the first thing they noticed was that they were surrounded by beautiful, shining lights that illuminated the thin layer of snow on the ground. Soon enough, they realized that they were standing in a bustling Christmas market.

Suddenly, a loud "Ho! Ho! Ho" caught Ella and Tom's attention. It was a man in a red suit standing next to one of the market stalls. "Look, Ella! Santa's here!" Tom said excitedly. Then out of nowhere, a New Yorker rushing through the crowd accidentally bumped into Ella and knocked the globe from her hands. The children ran after it, but with all the hustle and bustle of the Christmas market, they couldn't find it. How would they ever get home now? Ella was about to cry when a man knelt down beside her. He had long white hair, a beard, and very kind eyes. "My name is Daniel. Please don't cry. I promise everything will all turn out fine. If you'd like, you can join me in celebrating an American Christmas." Ella and Tom's eyes lit up. Before they knew it, Daniel handed them each a pair of ice skates and the trio set off for Rockefeller Center. "That's where New York City puts up a gigantic Christmas tree each year," Daniel explained. As they stepped onto the rink, Tom playfully nudged Ella. "Tag! You're it!" The friends began gliding across the rink as all the decorative lights reflected in the ice.

The rink was full of snowflakes and smiling children enjoying the holiday cheer. Daniel skated up to Ella and Tom and said, "Would you like to see my neighborhood? It's covered in Christmas lights and decorations. It's called Dyker Heights and it's in Brooklyn." When they arrived, Ella and Tom couldn't believe their eyes. They saw everything from mechanical polar bears to shooting stars to Santa and his flying reindeer. Further down the street sat a small house that wasn't totally covered in lights, yet it was the prettiest one in the neighborhood. It was Daniel's house. As they walked up to get a closer look, the door swung open and a jolly woman with white hair appeared. "Oh, good. I've been waiting for you," she said. As she welcomed Ella and Tom inside, they were amazed by the beautiful wreath on the door and the giant Christmas Tree in the living room. The banisters were wrapped with green garland and the smell of pine needles drifted in the air.





# Toronto, Canada

In the blink of an eye, Ella and Tom were standing in a different living room. “Remember, Ella,” Tom reassured, “Abby said that time isn’t really passing while we travel.” Suddenly, they heard footsteps and shouting coming down the stairs. “I bet I got more presents than you,” said a boy. “No, I bet I got the most,” replied a girl. As soon as the boy and girl saw Tom and Ella, they froze. With wide eyes they asked, “Are you elves from Santa’s workshop?!” “No, we’re just regular kids,” Tom laughed.

“My name is Peter, and this is my sister, Jane. Um, what are you doing in our house?” Ella changed the subject. “Aren’t you going to open your presents?” she asked. “Oh, we’re just waiting for our parents to get up,” Peter said. “So, you also open presents in the morning?” Tom asked. “Yes. Santa puts them under the tree while we’re asleep. Look – Santa ate the cookies and milk,” Jane said, pointing at the crumb-filled plate and empty glass. “Canada is huge, and there are lots of different cultures mixed together here. But Christmas here is very similar to how it is in the United States. Our houses are decorated, we have turkey for dinner, and we sing carols. We also have a huge Santa Claus parade that’s been taking place for over 100 years!” Just then, Peter’s excitement got the best of him, and he dove under the tree to open a present. “Wait for Mom and Dad,” Jane snapped. But Peter had already torn through the paper and opened the box. Inside was a beautiful globe just like Ella’s! Peter was comparing the two globes in amazement when one of them started blinking. Before Ella and Tom could warn him, he touched the blinking light . . . and disappeared.







# Thank you



We would like to thank the talented creatives who contributed their expertise and creativity to this book. Without their invaluable contributions, this title would not have come to fruition.

First and foremost, we owe a debt of gratitude to Joli Hannah. Her creative vision and passion for creating an engaging learning experience for children inspired the inception of this book. Her belief in the power of shared reading experiences, where adults can discuss their own adventures, has deeply shaped the essence of this title.

We are also indebted to Ocean Hughes, whose vibrant illustrations breathed life into our main characters and evoked a wide range of emotions. The captivating visuals they created add depth and resonance to the title, making it an engaging experience for young readers.

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VV

Additionally, we express our gratitude to Scott Alexander Jones, whose careful attention to detail ensured that this book is enjoyable for children and a captivating read for parents.

Lastly, we extend our warmest thanks to all the creatives involved for your hard work, dedication, and unwavering commitment to creating a book that will resonate with young readers. We hope that this book brings joy, laughter, and a myriad of positive emotions to all who read it, whether it be at bedtime, in the car, or in the comfort of a hammock.





# Christmas

## An Around-the-World Adventure

Embark on a magical Christmas journey with Ella and Tom! Join them as they explore enchanting destinations across the world, guided by their mystical globe. Discover captivating stories and fascinating facts about Christmas traditions in different cultures and lands. Ignite your child's curiosity and imagination as they learn about the wonders of Christmas celebrations worldwide.

9+

TARGET GROUP



SOCIAL  
EDUCATION



FUN TO READ

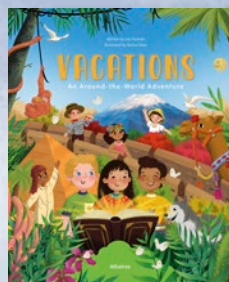
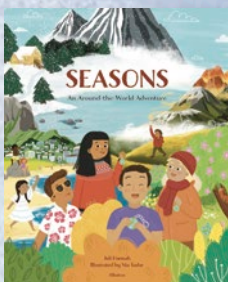


VOCABULARY



LEARNING

Collect all four titles in this captivating series:



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