

(Pdf free) The Truth About Santa Claus

The Truth About Santa Claus

James Cross Giblin

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#5943396 in Books Harpercollins 1985-11Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 9.50 x 7.50 x .50l, Binding: Library Binding86 pages | File size: 19.Mb

James Cross Giblin : The Truth About Santa Claus before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Truth About Santa Claus:

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. A good non-fiction book for upper elementary about St. NickBy X. LibrisThis 86 page non-fiction chapter book for upper elementary readers was published in 1985. It's illustrated throughout with black and white photos and illustrations, including classic images of Santa Claus, Sinterklaas (the Dutch version of Saint Nicholas), and images from stained-glass windows and religious art.As an elementary school librarian, I've traditionally read the introductory chapters of this informative volume to sixth grade classes each year in the weeks preceding Christmas. Many students are amazed to learn that the fairy tale of Santa Claus is based on a tradition that goes back to a real person, who was a priest and bishop in the early Christian church. They love to hear the story about when young Nicholas secretly provided the dowries for three young women who were about to be sold into slavery by their poor father. Students immediately see the connection between this story and the Santa they are more familiar with.I've always viewed this as a lesson in history, and as a way to replace the myth many of them have held with information on a person who really lived.The book continues to discuss the origins of many Santa Claus traditions. Things are presented in a factual manner, and while religion is mentioned, it is not a religious book. It appears that this book is now out of print, which is unfortunate. Hopefully it can be updated and republished with color illustrations. There is another book with the same title listed here, which appears to cover some of the same territory, but in a picture-book format.Another interesting book worth investigating is "The Saint Nicholas Secret," by Dennis E. Engleman, which discusses the author's rediscovery of the real Saint Nicholas as an adult.3 of 4 people found the

following review helpful. *The Truth About Santa Claus* By Jennifer R. Lewis Giblin begins by providing a biography of the real person upon which the Santa Claus myth is based: Saint Nicholas of Asia Minor. He includes stories about how Nicholas became popular through his kindness and generosity. Even after his death, as a saint, he was called upon to help sailors, marriageable maidens, and children. The book is organized chronologically and traces the evolution of this yuletide character from Saint Nicholas to today's jolly Santa Claus. Although this book could be dangerous to a young child, it is fascinating reading for upper elementary youngsters who know the truth about Santa Claus! I found the book to be very informative and entertaining. My family celebrates Saint Nicholas Day every December 6th, and the book gave me insight to our annual tradition. This book would be a great read aloud for my class in December.

Explains how historical facts, religious mythology, folklore, tradition, and commercial promotion have combined to give us the modern figure of Santa Claus.

From Publishers Weekly Giblin's new book is meant for young readers but adults can learn from it a great deal about the jolly fat man in the red suit. Like the author's *Chimney Sweeps, Walls: Defenses Throughout History*, etc., this book is based on solid research and illustrated by period and contemporary pictures. The text starts with an investigation of St. Nicholas who lived in Asia Minor circa a.d. 280. A bishop, Nicholas was known for his generosity to needy folk and credited with miraculous powers. Giblin traces the evolution of Santa Claus down the centuries to Father Christmas in England and Sinter Claes in Holland. He became our Santa Claus in America during the 1800s, thanks to four men whose efforts ensured acceptance of the Yuletide gift-giver: John Pintard and Washington Irving of the New-York Historical Society, Clement Clark Moore and cartoonist Thomas Nast. Their histories alone make an absorbing read. Copyright 1985 Reed Business Information, Inc.