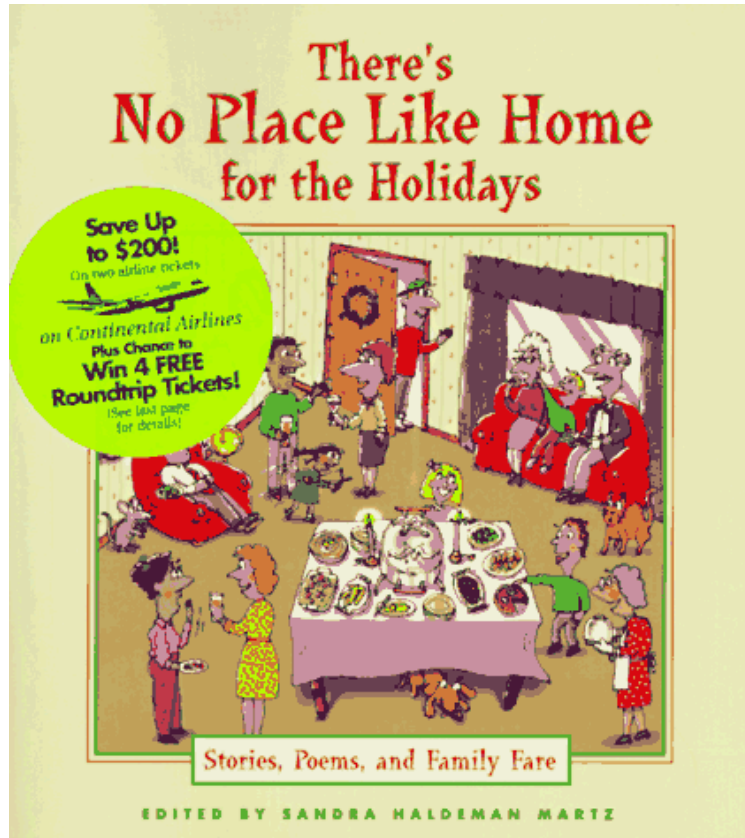


[Ebook free] There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays

## There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays

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**From Papier-Mache Press :** **There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays** before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised *There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays*:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A great holiday gift idea! By A Customer This book is a light, entertaining hodgepodge of holiday poetry, short stories, recipes, and brief explosions of memory related by writers ranging from 3 to 93 years (members of the Papier Mache staff also contributed, no doubt lending a warm "family" feel to the project). Not necessarily limited to yarns of Christmas reunions, *No Place* covers Thanksgiving and Jewish High Holiday get-togethers--many humorous and predictably disasterous, other poignant and serious. SuzAnne C. Cole's "The One-Sweet-Potato Holiday" chronicle one couple's first holiday dinner in an empty nest, while another favorite of mine, "If Diamonds Grew on Orange Trees" by Pamela Ditchoff, reveals the labor of love behind a simple dessert made once a year (Ditchoff even provides the recipe). The verse ranges from sing-song rhyme (Charlotte A. Cote's "Eternal Optimist", a saga of a whirlwind Christmas vacation, could have been a children's book) to clipped freestyle verse. Almost resembling a holiday family reunion, *No Place* has the look of being thrown together--frenetic, yet in the end very much appreciated. Buy one as a gift, or for yourself to read on the plane trip home. 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Excellent gift for the holidays! By A Customer A compilation of poems, stories

(and even recipes) related to the holidays--a great gift for grandparents or parents.

"Many of the anecdotes deal with food and are accompanied by family recipes certain to interest readers who enjoy cooking holiday fare." -- Publishers Weekly, 8/18/97

The editor who brought us a million-plus selling anthology on women and aging, *When I Am an Old Woman I Shall Wear Purple*, has produced a new, and equally promising book on holidays and the family. Martz has gathered together a fine collection of stories, family remembrances, recipes and poems from authors who span an age range from young children to seniors in their '90's, with many who are seasoned writers Possesing a keen eye for detail. The result is delightful, because the authors and editor understand several fundamental truths - 1) few things can bind or drive family members nuts like the holidays; 2) home is, as Robert Frost once wrote, a place where when you go there, they have to take you in; and 3) traditions are as unique as the people who make them. There are few of the pieces in this work that don't reinforce all these points. From children's versions of holiday recipes to great suggestions for leftovers, from the sharing of rituals and traditions covering Thanksgiving to Passover, from the memories of a newlyweds' first holiday away from the family to someone being the butt of an annual holiday joke, each piece has flair, personality and humor. Get a copy and bring it out at your next Thanksgiving, Passover or Christmas celebration when the stomach is full, but the heart is still open for laughs and nurturing. It could become a tradition. -- From Independent Publisher

From the Publisher Robert Frost said, "Home is the place where, when you go there, they have to take you in." In a humorous departure from her bestselling anthologies on aging, Sandra Martz (editor of *WHEN I AM AN OLD WOMAN I SHALL WEAR PURPLE*) serves up the quintessential book about holidays and family. Authors aged 3 to 93 recall the chuckles, exasperation, tenderness, and belly laughs of traditional family get-togethers. This is "...a charming selection of stories, poems and anecdotes relating to the traditional holidays of Christmas, Passover and Thanksgiving." (Publishers Weekly) And we've included a generous helping of mouthwatering family recipes to top off those holiday memories. "In her very fine collection of short holiday pieces, Sandra Haldeman Martz offers balm for the troubled holidays to come. The result is many laughs-and the heartening realization that there are holiday gatherings worse than your own." (San Francisco Bay Area Reporter) "...each piece has flair, personality and humor. Get a copy and bring it out at your next celebration when the stomach is full, but the heart is till open for laughs and nurturing. It could become a tradition." (Independent Publisher)

From the Author Last December my husband and I packed our bags and headed to Yosemite to rendezvous with my in-laws for the holidays. We had reservations for a cozy two-bedroom cabin nestled under snow-covered pines. We'd decided against renting separate cabins since, according to the brochure, some had a fireplace. We pictured the four of us curled up in front of a shared fire, sipping a little Yuletide cheer. Our first hint of trouble came when we noted the small cabin was marked with two cabin numbers. Entering the door on the left we found one 10 x 12 "two bed" room, a tiny bathroom, an even smaller closet, and almost enough room between the two full-size beds to throw four wet coats. This promised to be family intimacy beyond our wildest imaginations. Love and a sense of humor prevailed. We organized a schedule for the bathroom, ignored each others' unladylike (ungentlemanly?) noises, ate out a lot, and cut our three-day stay to two days. Moving quickly past the initial disappointment, we agreed that what really mattered was being together. We weren't likely to repeat the adventure, but we couldn't wait to get home and share our outrageous experiences with others. Back in the office after New Years, I noticed a similar urge among other Papier-Mache folks. Anecdotes entertained and paid homage to our families. Most included vivid descriptions of family members and depicted even the most frustrating events in a humorous light-a safe venting of leftover stress and strain. Without such storytelling, I wondered, would we e as prepared to venture forth the next year? Our acquisition team began to envision a collection of these stories. We sent a letter to authors we'd published in the past and posted the idea on the internet. Within weeks family anecdotes poured in. To our delight the subject and the submission process drew in some writers we hadn't reached in the past: a fifteen-year-old writer from New York, a ninety-three-year-old newspaper columnist from Ohio, one of our own staff members. Writers from across the country recalled the joy and madness, the tenderness and exasperation, of dealing with family members against the backdrop of Thanksgiving, Christmas, Passover, and other traditional family get-togethers. Rather than following the calendar, we've let the work flow like a leisurely holiday meal, serving course after course of laughter, poignancy, and appreciation of those rituals and traditions that simultaneously unite us and showcase our uniqueness. There's a dash of healthy cynicism here and there and a gentle reminder that others don't always have families to go home to. There's also a generous helping of family recipes sprinkled throughout. Try them. They're delicious. Read the stories aloud to your family. Consider it an investment in your own holiday memories And remember: There's No Place Like Home for the Holidays.