



## The Christmas Train: A True Story

*Thomas S. Monson , Dan Burr (Illustrator)*

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In this children's picture book, President Thomas S. Monson recounts a Christmas memory from his childhood. As a boy, he yearned for an electric train. To his delight, on Christmas morning he got exactly that—a train that operated through the miracle of electricity. Then he noticed a second train that his mother had purchased for the boy down the street whose family was struggling. Although it was only a wind-up train, it had a beautiful oil tanker car, which little Tommy wanted for his own. Soon after, Tommy's mother invited him to accompany her to the neighbor's home to deliver the gift. Young Mark was thrilled with his new train and, of course, didn't notice the missing train car. However, a remorseful Tommy did. What happened next will bring the spirit of Christmas into every heart and home. Illustrated by renowned artist Dan Burr, The Christmas Train is sure to be a classic Christmas story and a beautiful addition to every Christmas library.

## **The Christmas Train: A True Story Details**

Date : Published October 15th 2012 by Shadow Mountain (first published October 9th 2012)

ISBN : 9781609071820

Author : Thomas S. Monson , Dan Burr (Illustrator)

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## **From Reader Review The Christmas Train: A True Story for online ebook**

### **Saralyn says**

My three year old was enthralled and wanted to hear the story over and over.

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### **Sally Clark says**

Easily understandable for children, beautifully illustrated. Would like to buy.

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### **Shauna says**

This is such a sweet, true story!

When President Monson was a little boy he was given an electric train set for Christmas...

Along with that train his mother purchased a wind-up train set for a neighbor boy...

When the young Tommy saw the one car in the wind-up set that he really wanted his mother allows him to keep it...

Not to give the ending away...let's just say...

President Monson learned a very valuable lesson on "service" and "reaching out to the one" during that Christmas season.

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An added bonus:

With this book you get a CD with President Monson reading to you.

Using an interactive iPad App -- President Monson will read the book to you AND you can make the tree light up, the train move and watch young Tommy run back to his house, etc.

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### **Teri says**

Great story that was especially endearing to my girls because the author is Thomas S. Monson.

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### **Debby Baumgartner says**

Based on a true story, Thomas wants an electric train for Christmas. He is thrilled when he receives it. His mother has also purchased a wind up train for the neighbor boy. This train has a car that Thomas's train set does not have and he begs his mother until she gives it to him. Will Thomas ever understand the true spirit of giving - read to find out.

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### **Andrea says**

Beautifully told and illustrated Christmas experience from President Thomas S. Monson's childhood. The story on CD is especially wonderful to listen as President Monson tells the story in his own voice--very beautiful true Christmas story illustrating the fact that "it truly is better to give than to receive!"

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### **Alisa says**

Not only is the story of a little boy learning to give is more than receive, the highlight of this book (since I have heard the story) is the gorgeous illustrations. What a marvelous story and pictures!

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### **Kathryn Cunningham says**

Little Tommy finally gets a brand new electric train set this Christmas. He watches with deep satisfaction as it goes round and round its track independently, not like his old wind up engine. The only thing his perfect new set is missing is an oil tanker, and the wind up train set his mother is wrapping up for their less fortunate neighbor boy has one. Tommy must decide this Christmas whether it is better to give or to receive, and see if he can find that deep joy and Christmas spirit he's been told about his whole life.

This is a classic spirit of Christmas story, and I love it. It's a great message with a great spirit, written by a great man. Our children need, need, need to remember to look outside of themselves, and Christmas is the perfect time to refocus their eyes away from their own interests and towards joy that comes from giving to others. Tommy's mother in this story is such a perfect example of good parenting, not preaching and scolding, but bringing her son into opportunities to be his best self. We can trust our children to be generous and kind if we give them the opportunity and show them good examples, and the feelings they have through these experiences will change them forever set the tone for their whole lives. Little Tommy grew up to be Thomas S. Monson, president of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, and a better man does not walk the earth today.

<http://childrensbooksonadime.wordpress...>

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### **Taylor says**

Sweet story that embodies the Christmas Spirit.

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### **Leslie says**

A great story where little Tommy learns about giving and not receiving. I loved hearing my little boy share this book with his 2nd grade class and to hear the other kids get the message of the story.

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### **Gato says**

I happened upon this book completely by accident while looking for the Baldacci book of the same title. What a gorgeously illustrated book summing up the true meaning of Christmas and the love thy neighbor commandment. Excellent for kids!

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### **Jennie says**

This book is a true keeper both for the touching sweet story and the fantastic art illustrations.

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### **Heidi-Marie says**

I remember Pres. Monson telling this story, and I felt a bit weepy then. So it didn't surprise me when tears came to my eyes as I read the picture book version of the story. Beautifully illustrated. And the words are most certainly Pres. Monson--as only he can tell a beautiful, sweet, yet profound story.

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### **Becky says**

I have to set aside my atheistic aversion for anything with a blatantly Christian message and admit that this is a heart-melting story. The painted illustrations are beautiful and detailed, right down to pastel-colored Fiesta dishes in the kitchen cabinets and mistletoe in the doorways.

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### **Jenny says**

President Thomas Monson is a wonderful storyteller. This holds true in this true story of an important lesson he learned as a little boy. Beautifully illustrated, this story reminds readers that it is better to give than to receive.

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