



More Stories Behind the Best-Loved Songs of Christmas

Ace Collins

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Ace Collins once again shares his gift of storytelling to bring you more of the hidden stories behind some of our most-loved Christmas songs. You'll discover expressions of faith, prayers for peace, and declarations of joy as you witness the birth and background of each tune. Did you know that The Little Drummer Boy was written on the eve of World War II, set aside and forgotten until the war was over? Do you know how Willie Nelson's early struggles are reflected in the lyrics of the popular country song Pretty Paper? Did you know we tie the thundering, angelic message of The Hallelujah Chorus to a precise moment in history we still honor today? As you travel across the centuries to uncover the deeper meaning of each song, you'll enrich your own connection to this vast celebration of the nativity and the gift of Jesus' birth. Collins is an ace at song history, dispensing compendiums of song backstories that are nothing if not tasty ... - Booklist.

More Stories Behind the Best-Loved Songs of Christmas Details

Date : Published September 25th 2006 by Zondervan Publishing Company

ISBN : 9780310263142

Author : Ace Collins

Format : Hardcover 217 pages

Genre : Holiday, Christmas, Nonfiction, Christian, Music, History, Religion, Faith

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From Reader Review More Stories Behind the Best-Loved Songs of Christmas for online ebook

NancyInWI says

Loved read one of these stories each night this month. Was my own personal Advent/Christmas study. Some of the songs were obscure and I'd never heard of them before, but nonetheless, I enjoyed the stories. I will be keeping this book

Lesli says

More urban legends of...

Barry Peffer says

Excellent research into all the songs. Some were not as familiar to me as the rest, but learned lots of new things.

Amy says

This, and other Collins books, are great for learning the little bits of history and trivia behind our most beloved holiday stories and songs. You can easily make it through each "chapter" and likewise each book, and find out you've learned a lot.

Amalia Gavea says

Around 30% mark and I decided to abandon it. I thought I would read a book about how some of the most popular Christmas songs were created. The myths and lore behind the lyrics, the country of origin, the traditions...All I seem to get was a religious lesson. The writing didn't seem informative, but didactic. I felt I was taking part in a sermon, and since sermons are not really something that interest me, this one had to go.

Linda says

BN Free Friday - Nook read - Seemed appropriate during the holidays. Interesting back stories.

Renee Martin says

Very interesting!

Nicole says

This book had some interesting stories, and, while out introduced me to some carols I hadn't heard before, it would have been better if, since I was listening to it as an audio book, The songs would have been included so that I could great the ones I wasn't familiar with. I understand that with copyrights to deal with that would not be at all practical, but it would have drastically increased my enjoyment of the book. The stories for the songs I am familiar with were enjoyable, and I'm glad to have learned one or two more Christmas songs, but for the most part, of I wasn't already familiar with the carol I didn't take the time to look it up.

Angie Libert says

I only have time to finish up to Chapter 13 of this excellent book. Maybe I will read the rest of the chapters next year.

GoldenjoyBazyll says

This is a book about how the holiday songs we know and love came into being. Some will surprise you- like the twelved days of Christmas being an underground Catholic song to teach children about their faith... to how Rudolph the red Nose Reindeer was born out of great grief.

Some of it got a little boring but it was worth plowing through.

Lisa says

Interesting, though a lot of the songs described were unfamiliar to me. I'm sure the first volume in this series would be even better!

Claudia Harrington says

I found this book very informative, I love the way he brings everything back to the real meaning of Christmas a very nice Christmas read.

Frank says

Ace Collins "Stories Behind the Best-Loved Songs of Christmas" is a collection of 30 plus essays giving some back story to, shockingly enough, popular and timeless Christmas carols. The carols featured are not poppy AOR fare but more traditional Catholic style songs. Though Rudolph and White Christmas are well represented. For the most part the stories weren't very exciting nor were they eye opening or have surprises. Mostly stories of happy coincidences that made brought the carol into the culture of the season. I'm sure non-Christmas songs have similar tales. This would be a nice book to have out on a coffee table during the Christmas season. Guests would enjoy getting perspective or two on a few of their personal favorites. I just don't feel it works well as a Christmas read.

Barbara Waters says

I developed a new appreciation for Christmas hymns and carols. Finding out that there truly was meaning (Catholic doctrine) behind The Twelve Days of Christmas, the reason for it and that it was not just a silly song was eye-opening.

Jessica says

I greatly enjoyed this author's first book so when I saw his second book I was excited to read it. It was pretty good but not as good as the first one. In this book, half of the songs I hadn't really heard of before. Not really knowing the songs made it less interesting to read about their histories. While reading about the ones I know, they would play in my head which made the reading more real. Maybe if this one came with a CD of all the songs....
