



# Treasures of the Snow

*Patricia St. John*

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**Treasures of the Snow** Patricia St. John

**A story of vicious revenge and hard repentance**

Annette and Lucien are enemies. After Annette gets Lucien into trouble at school, he decides to get back at her by threatening the most precious thing in the world to her: her little brother Dani. But tragedy strikes. Annette is so filled with rage that she sets out to alienate and humiliate Lucien at every turn. As Lucien seeks to repent and restore, light floods both of their dark hearts and Christ proves that He makes all things new.

## Treasures of the Snow Details

Date : Published July 1st 2001 by Moody Publishers (first published 1950)

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Author : Patricia St. John

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# From Reader Review Treasures of the Snow for online ebook

## PaperTigerMaddy says

I have strong memories of disliking this book as a child, largely due to its utterly vile heroine. I spent the entire book with an almost uncontrollable desire to give Annette a massive slap for essentially doing all she can to ruin Lucien's life.

Unfortunately, my hatred for her made it impossible for me to enjoy the book and so I fail to remember what merits (if any) it actually has.

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## Keren says

This book has 26 chapters and is the perfect Christmas book. My family read this out loud as every December. Starting on December first, my mother would read one chapter aloud to us every night. After we opened presents on Christmas day, we would lie around listening to the end of the story. Even though my brothers and I knew the story inside and out, it's description of sin and forgiveness, and the loving grace of God was still beautiful every time. I can remember my mom starting to cry (every time!) as she read the part where the old man tells his life story. She would have to pass the book to Dad who never managed to finish the chapter without at least a wobble in his voice. It's a fabulous book!

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## Anna says

A wonderful read-aloud with the kids. Patricia St. John shows us the darkness that resides in even children's hearts and the power of Christ's love to drive out that darkness and bring forgiveness and reconciliation. Do be aware that the current in-print edition of this book has been "adapted" (i.e. dumbed down), so search out an older used edition. There was no need to tamper with this well-written story - even my five-year-old enjoyed it.

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## Lisa says

Reading this book: another superb Christmas tradition.

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## Rike says

"Erbauliche Literatur" im wahrsten Sinne des Wortes. Auch wenn es in einem christlichen Verlag erscheint, ich dachte, so schlimm wird es schon nicht. Doch.

Gott hier, Heilsgeschichte da, Bibelzitate und Jesus, der irgendwem ans Herz klopft, weil er eintreten will. Zwischendurch noch ein paar Erscheinungen und Engel und am Ende haben alle Reue gezeigt, ihre Fehler wieder gut gemacht und alle haben sich wieder lieb. Lukas ist der superböse Junge, wird dämonisiert,

ausgegrenzt, Anette, ein Nachbarskind seines Alters, macht Lukas das Leben absichtlich zur Hölle, weil sich das verwöhnte kleine Gör Dani, ihr Bruder, das Bein gebrochen hat, weil Lukas einen ziemlich hässlichen Fehler gemacht hat. Anette zerschmeißt Lukas aus Rachsucht eine Schnitzerei, gesteht aber irgendwann alles, weil sie ja Gott in ihr Herz lassen will, aber nicht kann, weil sie unrecht gehandelt hat. Lukas kommt auf die glorreiche Idee, nachts in einem Schneesturm über die Berge zu einem Chirurgen zu fahren, der zufällig gerade in der Umgegend logiert und natürlich morgen abreisen will (Gott hilft Lukas natürlich durch den Sturm), um ihn zu bitten, Dani zu operieren. Der Arzt ist dann zufällig der Sohn von dem alten Mann, der Lukas das Schnitzen beigebracht hat. Muss ich noch mehr sagen?

Was für eine dramabeladene Schmonzette.

(Und warum ich das Buch zu Ende gebracht habe, frage ich mich auch gerade. Als ich irgendwann das ganze Gläubigkeitsblabla übersprungen habe, ging es sehr schnell.)

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### **Amy says**

I wish this book was easier to come by. Although it's had some relatively recent printings ("relative" meaning in the last 15-20 years), I know it will never be a popular book. With it's decidedly Christian agenda, I'm sure it's far too preachy for the general public. At times, it was a bit sermon heavy for me, too, but really, the story was good enough that I could endure a bit of sermonizing.

Within the plot are three stories/layers of forgiveness: the girl who smashes the boy's horse in an act of revenge, the boy who teases a younger child to the point that a horrible accident occurs, and the old man who isolates himself from his family after a series of dishonest and neglectful acts. As each character struggles to make right his actions, real growth takes place, and the healing power of the Savior's atonement is made manifest.

I actually found myself applying things from the book to my own life. One of the most meaningful quotes for me was this: "...if you spend your time putting the love of your heart into your deeds for those who are not your friends, you may often be disappointed and discouraged. If you keep on you will find happiness in loving, whether you are loved back or not."

So, although a little preachy, I think everyone would be a little better for reading this book.

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### **JD Sutter says**

This story was just as charming this time as when I first read it in school as a child!

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### **Demetrius Rogers says**

What a heart-warming, wholesome, and edifying book to go through with your kids. Many opportunities to stop and discuss life lessons. Very glad to have picked this one up. Highly recommended.

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## **ladydusk says**

Own. Sister recorded as audio-book for the children.

We enjoyed listening to this book as a family. Please excuse any errors I make in spelling names.

The story of Lucien, Annette, and Danny was compelling and well told. The thoughts and motives of the children were explored in depth and clear. The obvious sin of Lucien; the not-as-obvious, easy to ignore sin of Annette; and Danny's selfishness were delved into, rooted out, and exposed to the light of the work of Christ.

The story, itself, had a plot that kept the listener listening - what will Lucien do? What will happen to Danny? How can change be wrought? We want to know what happens to the characters, they are sympathetically portrayed - even Lucien whose sin is so external.

This story was written for children, so change is made simple and possible. The theology, at times, was a bit misconstrued (Perfect love casts out all fear, but that doesn't get you over a mountain on foot in a blizzard, generally.) Our children were encouraged that even in their own sinfulness, they could be forgiven, welcomed, and changed.

Really, what more can we ask?

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## **Cassandra says**

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/13827...>

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## **Rachel says**

When we want to illuminate a dark room, we do not try to chase away the darkness before letting in the light. We simply open the window, and the light comes in. And when the light comes in, the darkness disappears. In the same way, we should not try to cast out the fear and anger in our hearts by sheer will and *before* we accept love and forgiveness. "Perfect love casts out fear." That is what I learned from this book. It is a beautiful and convincing story, and it means a great deal to me.

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## **Christina Pilkington says**

I had listened to this on audio book when I was about 7 or 8 year olds. I still remember being sucked into the story, drawn into this beautiful world, and feeling like I was a part of it. It was magical.

When I bought this book to read to my own kids this past month, I was a little afraid it wouldn't live up to that same magical quality I imagined the book held. Lots of other books I've read when I was a small child just aren't the same when I read them as an adult- they've lost all their magic. I'm so happy to say that this book was just as magical for me the second time around; in fact, I think it was even more meaningful since I

was sharing the experience with my kids.

Yes, it's a beautifully written story that leaves you feeling attached to the characters even after the first few chapters, but it's so much more. There's an amazing message of God's love and forgiveness that I've never seen told like this before. It's powerful without ever feeling preachy.

If you're looking for a beautiful children's Christmas story with a strong message about love and forgiveness, you need to read this book.

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### **Faith Spinks says**

A childhood classic re visited after my nephew read it and loved it. I still loved it just as much as I did as a child.

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### **Ryan\_E1 says**

After I have read this book, I noticed the theme is the innocence of childhood. They do not know about jealousy nor hatred.

The author used the story of a young girl and a boy, Annette and Lucien, letting God Jesus in and allowing him to love everyone. "But it is hard, after what he'd done." -Annette. Yes, it is a hard progress to forgive someone for their grave mistakes. But I believe that everyone should be forgiven at some point. Everyone had made mistakes and asked for forgiveness, it's a part of life.

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### **Nelleke Plouffe says**

I read this aloud to my 9, 5, and 3-year-old boys. We all enjoyed it.

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### **Brenda says**

We read this as a family and all enjoyed it. My only serious complaint are the few spots they author teaches kids that God promises to always protect them and never let anything bad happen to them. That is totally unBiblical. It did provide a chance for us to stop the reading and talk about that issue, which is good.

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### **Alicia says**

This may be a children's book but it hits on some hard truths, in the format of a very enjoyable and beautiful story (set in Switzerland, which makes it even better). I loved it!

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### **Dave Milbrandt says**

I first read this book as a child and wanted to re-read it as an adult to remind myself why it was so wonderful back then. To be fair, as an adult reader and now a novelist, I can tell you its simple structure and straightforward message is woefully out of place in today's modern world of ambiguity and flawed anti-heroes.

That having been said, that I think is the charm of the book. It is a reminder of a world that was more innocent and simpler. The book believes redemption is better than revenge, faith is to be cherished, not mocked and a budding and complex friendship between opposite gender adolescents can be stripped of any romantic overtones. The author breaks the fourth wall and delivers direct messages about faith-infused living that I had forgotten in the years of busyness that have come since childhood. This book is simple, to be sure, but sometimes we make life too complicated and the reminder of simpler times and values is desperately needed.

\*While the editors of the updated version had good intentions, the watered-down text is insulting to older readers and too simple for younger ones. If you are buying it for your children to read, get the original version and make them work for it. They might learn new words in the process, which always is a good thing.

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### **Jennifer Trzeciak says**

We had some wonderful discussions as a family after we finished on what a life belonging to Christ looks like. Such an excellent book, and I already can't wait to read this one again once my littlest kiddos get a bit older.

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### **Natalie Vellacott says**

I love this Christian book that I read as a child and re-read recently. Annette decides that she will never forgive Lucien for hurting her brother Dani. And so she begins a revenge campaign involving many other people in their small community. But her hatred consumes her and she ends up hating herself for what she has become. This is an account of the power of forgiveness even when it seems impossible.

Recommended for children and teenagers.

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