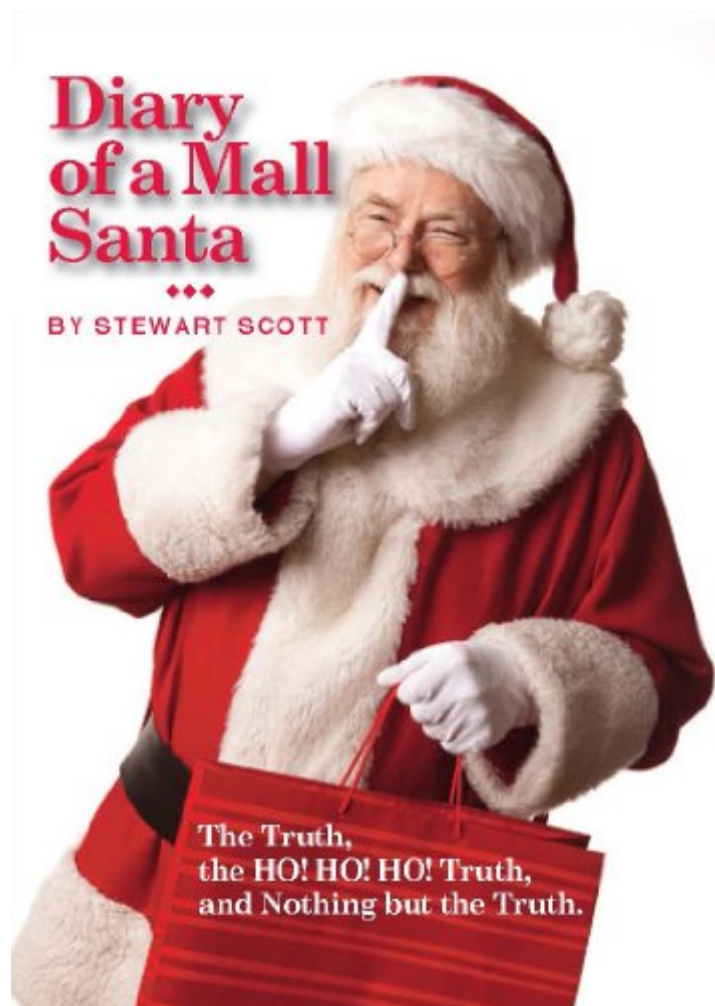


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Diary Of A Mall Santa



Synopsis

“Diary of a Mall Santa” is a collection of short stories (or vignettes) written by Santa Claus himself. The jolly old elf entertains us with his most noteworthy encounters with children, and a few adults, during the weeks leading up to Christmas. Some stories are amusing, and might make you laugh out loud; some are awkward, like the time a child leaped from Santa’s lap, pointed like an aggressive trial lawyer, and accused him of being a fake and a fraud. And a few stories will touch your heart. What does Santa say to a child who asks only for her mommy to come home for Christmas? All the stories are true. Be on the lookout for miracles – they happen if you still believe. The stories are written for parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and other adults who accompany children on annual visits to see Santa. Look for Santa’s tips in his SECOND INTERMEZZO; they will help you prepare for your next visit. By reading this book, you will gain a greater insight into the challenges Santa faces with each new visitor. Be warned: if you share these stories with children, you risk tarnishing the luster of the Santa experience.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This diary was created after being inspired by 2,500 children and adults. It is therefore no wonder that it is funny, heartwarming, laugh out loud amusing and occasionally shocking in a mild way. You just don't expect to hear some things from kids and you might be amazed at how brazen some people can be. There are stories of unruly children, bossy adults, teenagers, terrified children and parents who will do anything they can to get the perfect picture with Santa. There are definitely some hazards involved with being Santa which I had never even considered. Stewart Scott takes it all in stride and has a true talent for helping parents make the Santa experience a happy one. But what do you do when a child asks for world peace and even tells you how it could be accomplished! What would most Santas like to tell parents about the perfect visit? Now there is one clever and somewhat slightly naughty thing this Santa does to amuse himself when people are taking pictures. It is laugh-out-loud funny. You'll just have to read it. Along the way through the diary we learn about the real origin of Christmas stockings. We learn the real meaning of the word Christmas and learn a little about the original Santa who was actually sort of skinny. In fact Stewart Scott says that a lot of people say he is way too skinny to be Santa. Well if you have ever wondered what kids ask for for Christmas this gives some insight. Some parents even try to get Santa to tell their kids they won't get any presents unless they behave. Almost the entire book made me smile and left me with a happy feeling that borderlines on Christmas joy. I'm glad I read this book during the holiday season. This book is appropriate for adults but I would not read some of the entries to young children. It did make me wonder why I never had a picture taken with Santa as a child. Perhaps it was his beard. I'd run screaming from any man who had a beard. We don't know why - perhaps because my dad shaved and I had no grandfathers around with beards. Anyway I was relieved to learn that this is common at a young age. ~The Rebecca Review

This turned out to be a lovely collection of very short stories about Stewart Scott's time working at as mall Santa. There are a wide variety of stories and musings; some are heartwarming, others are hilarious, some are sad, and then there are the ones that made me shake my head and wonder why people have children. It's odd but I've rarely ever thought of the mall Santa actually enjoying his job...which might have to do with the fact that I've seen some pretty miserable looking Santas. It's nice to know that there are those out there that truly do take the job seriously and they know how important that moment can be for a kid. I still remember a few of my visits with Santa, and even though I now know it was just a man in a fake beard, when I think back on it there is a sense of realness about it. He even includes some great advice about taking your children to visit the Santa

at the store. It was definitely a refreshing read and I have to applaud Mr. Scott for being such a nice person. If you are looking for a Christmas read with a unique take then I'd recommend this

This is a gem of a book...written by someone who not only played the part of "Santa" at a mall, but took the job responsibilities to heart. The book is written in vignettes or short scenes; featuring Stew's encounters with various children and adults as he works for over a month as the Jolly Old Elf. Some stories can bring a tear to the eye, or squeeze the heartstrings. Others make you want jerk some sense into rude inconsiderate people. Some are just plain funny. Taking all the stories together as a whole, this little book imparts a core gem of wisdom as to the real meaning of the Season, and how, in the right hands, even the hoopla and commercialism of the modern Christmas madness can be neutralized by a truly compassionate, gentle and steady heart. I will never see a "mall Santa" in the same light again. I sincerely hope that there are more Stews out there....reaching out with love to the young and the young at heart!

This mall Santa is wise in the ways of the world and in the ways of children, teens and adults who come to Santa Land. Stewart Scott's little diary of his time sitting in the Big Man's chair is wry, amusing, laugh-out-loud funny and sometimes touching in ways that you might not imagine. Through it all Scott's empathy and warmth is as clear as his writing and story-telling. And there are a lot of good stories to tell in this book. From the little girl who comes and only asks Santa for a house for her family and a job for her father, to the dreadful parents who want the perfect picture with Santa, the diary is filled with insightful tales of the holiday season. There's something else in this diary too: the reminder of the true meaning of the holiday and proof too, that you can still believe in Christmas miracles. Tuck this little book away now and gift it away this coming Christmas!

This is a great little book for the Christmas season. It is well written and a rich mix of humorous encounters with kids and adults, interspersed with some very touching and sometimes sad moments. At times the author seems to channel his inner Jean Shepherd, but telling the stories from Santa's point of view rather than Ralphie's. The reader is given a glimpse of the trials and tribulations of a mall Santa, but throughout you feel the tremendous sense of fulfillment he receives from his experiences with the children. It clearly takes a great deal of courage to deal with the different personalities, expectations and life situations of his various visitors and to communicate to them the wonderful message of Christmas. The children that visited this Santa were very lucky indeed! Here is one Santa who obviously understands and loves children and never loses sight of the true meaning

of Christmas. I can only hope that he will continue his career as Santa and produce another volume of his experiences in the future.

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