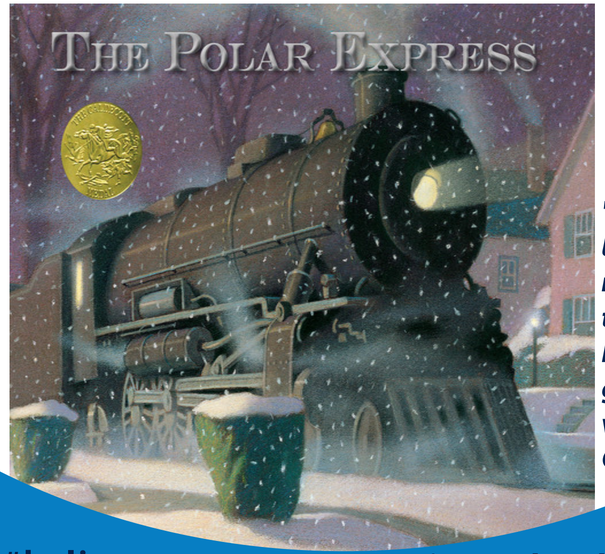
THE POLAR EXPRESS

by CHRIS VAN ALLSBURG



BOOK REVIEW



ANNE A. ALPHARETTA

"Imagine boarding a magical train to the North Pole and getting to visit Santa Claus."

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Picture Book (Santa Claus), Children

Imagine boarding a magical train to the North Pole and getting to visit Santa Claus. It's every little boy and girls' dream. This classic story tells what happens one Christmas Eve when one lucky little boy experiences this dream. He boards the Polar Express with many other children to visit the North Pole. When they arrive, Santa chooses our narrator to receive the first gift of Christmas. He chooses a single silver bell from Santa's sleigh. On Christmas morning when he shows his parents, they can't hear it ring. Only the boy and his sister hear the beautiful sound. Only those who believe in Santa can hear the sleigh bell. The narrator says at the end of the story, "Through I've grown old, the bell still rings for me as it does for all that truly believe."

This wonderful story captured my imagination as a child. Now that my son is old enough, I read it to him. He doesn't quite get the message yet, but he loves the beautiful illustrations and the train itself. The message of believing in something magical resonates with me even today. When things get hectic during the holiday season, I think it's important to slow down and savor the wonder of the season.

The Polar Express is available as a read-along eBook on **Overdrive** and **Hoopla**. It is also available as a print picture book that you can place on hold and check out at Curbside Pickup. Borrow this magical holiday classic tonight and enjoy some Christmas cheer.

For personalized reading recommendations, ask **Novel Deliveries**... answer a few questions about what you like and/or want and get suggestions in just a few days.

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