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Stories for Christmas sample  
NOT FOR SALE

## STORIES FOR CHRISTMAS

Level 3 - A2/B1 Intermediate (1) Graded Reader from I Talk You Talk Press

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Stories for Christmas  
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ISBN: 978-4-907056-30-8  
Publisher: I Talk You Talk Press

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## Introduction

There are five short Christmas stories for learners of English in this book.

Story 1: A Christmas Present for Cara

Story 2: Alzbeta's Table

Story 3: The Christmas Tree

Story 4: The Brass Band Girls

Story 5: The Boy on the Beach

### 1. A Christmas Present for Cara

"Another drink, Rick?" asked Justin.

Rick looked at his watch. "I don't know...I have to buy my wife's Christmas present. It's Christmas Eve, and I still haven't bought her anything."

"Oh go on. Just one more drink," said Justin. "I'm buying."

Rick looked at Justin and smiled. "Oh OK. Just one."

It was 4:00pm on Christmas Eve in Dublin. Rick and Justin had been in the pub all day.

*I wonder what time the shops close today,* thought Rick. *I'm sure they are open late for Christmas shopping.*

He looked through the window at the shops outside. The lights were still on.

Justin came back to the table with two pints of beer.

"It looks cold out there," said Justin. "It's much better in here, with a nice warm fire, Christmas music and beer."

"I agree," said Rick. He picked up his beer and drank some. "Ooh, that's nice."

"So, what are you going to buy Cara for Christmas?" asked Justin.

"I'm going to buy her a necklace. I looked in the jewellery shop window yesterday. They had some nice necklaces," said Rick. "And she said she wanted jewellery."

Ted, Rick's friend, came into the pub. He sat with Rick and Justin and they talked for a long time. Ted bought some more beer for everyone. Rick was feeling drunk, but very happy. It was Christmas Eve and he was drinking in a warm pub with his friends.

Then, he remembered. "What time is it?"

Justin looked at his watch. "It's seven thirty," he said.

Rick looked out of the window. "The shops are closed!" he shouted. He put his coat and his hat on quickly. "I have to buy a present for Cara!"

Justin stood up. "I'll come with you," he said. "I promised my wife I would be home early today."

Rick and Justin said goodbye to Ted and walked out of the pub into the cold snowy night.

Rick looked around. "Oh no! The jewellery shop is closed! Everywhere is closed! What am I going to do?"

Justin walked around the corner. "There's a light on over there. I think that's a hardware shop. It might still be open."

"Hardware shop? What can I buy for my wife in a hardware shop?!" asked Rick. "She likes jewellery, not tools!"

"You might find something nice," said Justin. "They sell many things."

Rick and Justin hurried to the hardware shop.

"It's open!" said Rick. "I hope I can get something nice."

-----END OF SAMPLE-----