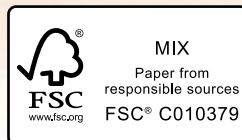


Join St Nick, Maurice, and his brave moose friends on a spectacular festive adventure!

When St Nick crashes his sleigh in a frightful storm, Maurice and the gang use teamwork, moose-taches, and a sprinkle of magic to try and save Christmas.



THE MOOSE THAT SAVED CHRISTMAS

EMILY LLOYD-GALE



Written by  
Emily Lloyd-Gale

Illustrated by  
Lorna Humphreys



Dear St Nick,  
Please visit  
here!!!

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For my wonderful mum

Other books  
in this series:



First published 2023 by Emily F Lloyd-Gale  
Imprint of Lloyd-Gale Books

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# The Moose that saved Christmas



Written by Emily Lloyd-Gale ★ Illustrated by Lorna Humphreys





On a cold winter's night,  
A long way from here,  
St Nick was sat working  
With his trusty reindeer.

He loved wrapping presents,  
It was his favourite job!  
Tho' the paper and ribbon  
Did make his head throb.



But no time to fret,  
No time to unwind!  
He had to get moving  
Or he'd fall behind.

He gathered the gifts  
Up into his sleigh,  
Keen to take off  
And be on his way.



*“On, reindeer!” he cried,  
And off they did race,  
For a storm was approaching  
And they had to make haste.*



Wind rattled the reins,  
Snow fell all around –

A flash and a crash,  
And he fell to the ground.



The old man sat up  
In a daze, in a state.  
But he couldn't rest –  
He was going to be late!

He gazed up at the sky;  
Not a reindeer in sight!  
His sleigh lay beside him –  
He held onto it tight.



A snap of a twig  
Made him whip round in fright,  
And he watched as some moose  
Stepped into the light.

Despite their great size,  
They moved with such grace,  
Their moose-taches so long  
That they tickled his face.





"Hello!" the moose said.  
"Can we help you at all?  
We saw from a distance  
You've had quite a fall."

St Nick looked around,  
And with a huge sigh  
Said, "I wish you could help,  
But I need to fly ..."

I'm Sara.

I'm Bo!

I'm Bertie.

I'm Joe!

I'm Ella!

I'm Maurice!

I'm Willow...

I'm Alice.





"I have all these presents,  
These games and these toys.  
They must be delivered,  
Be loved and enjoyed.

"My reindeer have gone,  
The storm's blown them away,  
And I am now stranded —  
Me, and my sleigh."



The moose quickly huddled,  
Said, "We'll help if we can."  
At last they announced,  
"We've got it: a plan!"



"Use our moose-taches for reins!"  
The herd of moose said.  
"We can't fly your sleigh  
But could pull it instead!"



"You're so very kind,"  
Was St Nick's reply,  
"And I have just the thing  
To get us into the sky!"

He pulled out a bottle —  
The contents did glow,  
First red and then green,  
Then as white as the snow!



The moose got into line,  
Moose-taches aquiver,  
Ready to go,  
To fly high and deliver.

He popped out the cork  
And into the air  
Burst a glittering liquid  
That sprinkled each pair.



St Nick hitched his sleigh —  
A fine team they became!  
He took a deep breath,  
Then called them by name:



“On, Maurice! On, Willow! On, Bertie! On, Joe!  
On, Alice! On, Sara! On, Ella! On, Bo!”

Maurice urged them on  
As they swiftly took flight,  
And helped guide them forward  
Into the night.

Cities flew by,  
Every home they did visit,  
To fill with fun things  
And spread Christmas spirit.



The storm had stopped blowing,  
But the moose held their line;  
By working together  
They'd finish in time.

The sun was now rising –  
They'd been up all night!  
With a few gifts to go;  
It was going to be tight.





Then all of a sudden,  
They tripped and they stumbled.  
They slid from a roof

And downward they tumbled!

A courageous Maurice  
Flung his moose-tache out wide.  
It lassoed the chimney —  
“Hold on!” St Nick cried.



Maurice stopped them falling,  
St Nick jumped out quick –  
Down the chimney he shot,  
Lickety-split!



He emerged with a sigh,  
Relief in his eyes;  
Their task was now over –  
Back to the skies!



For hours they flew,  
The sun brightly shining.  
A call from St Nick  
Sent them gracefully diving.

They dropped through the clouds,  
Saw land far below  
And the outlines of reindeer  
Surrounded by snow.



“Hello!” St Nick called.  
“We’ve found you at last!  
I’ve been ever so worried;  
It all happened so fast!

“The storm was so fierce,  
But all is okay.  
These moose took the burden  
And helped save the day!”



St Nick thanked the moose;  
The reindeer did too.  
“If we need help again,  
We’ll come and find you.”





The moose flew back home  
A great deed they had done.  
They'd saved Christmas Eve  
And had so much fun!



Dear St Nick,  
Please visit  
here!!!

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The 12 Days  
of Christmas

12 Days  
of Christmas

12 Days  
of Christmas

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## About the Author

Emily Lloyd-Gale was born in Australia and raised in the UK. Having moved around RAF bases as a child, her family finally settled in Oxfordshire, where she still lives today with her husband.

Despite always being a creative person, writing came as a surprise to Emily – and, in 2020, her debut book, ‘Mighty Maurice’, was published. Inspired by her experiences of bullying at school, Maurice has become a symbol of friendship, courage and kindness.

Her favourite part of being an author is visiting schools all over the country and sharing the adventures of Maurice with children. With each visit, she hopes to inspire a new generation of children to read, write and – above all – be themselves.

Emily holds a degree from The Royal School of Needlework. When she’s not penning fantastical tales about Maurice and his friends, she can be found metal detecting, singing or spending time with her family.

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## About the Illustrator



Lorna lives in Devon, England, with her two daughters, Olivia and Evie, and her cat, Fred.

Lorna has always been a talented artist with a creative mind. As her daughters learnt to read, she found herself spellbound by the illustrations in children’s books, and realised that this was her calling... She wanted to be a children’s book illustrator!

Lorna began to teach herself digital art in 2019 – and, by 2021, she had illustrated her first two books. From there, her career has grown from strength to strength. She now works with authors all over the world and, through her illustrations, helps bring many wonderful stories to life.

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