



“THE CHRISTMAS WISH”

A *Left* / *Right* GIFT PASSING GAME READ-ALoud STORY

Once *right* upon a time, there was a little girl named Priscilla *left*. It was the holiday season, and as the month of December arrived, also came the feeling of magic *right* in the air. Priscilla felt the Christmas magic and decided to make a Christmas wish! Priscilla began wishing dearly for a puppy of her own for Christmas. She was the youngest in the *left* family, and her brothers and sisters were growing *right* up, so she wanted a tiny, furry playmate for herself! However, she never told anyone about her wish to have a puppy *right* of her very own. She was afraid her older brothers and sisters might think it silly to wish for something as grand as a new pet. Nevertheless, Priscilla did not give up on her wish. So, each day before she *left* for the bus stop before school, she quietly *left* a letter inside the mailbox. Who do you think she *left* the letter for? Why of course! Each letter was addressed to none other than Santa himself, *right* at the North Pole. Then, every day when she came home from school and grabbed the mail *right* from the mailbox, her letter for Santa was gone, and the day's mail was *left* in its place. So, she was sure that at least a couple of her many letters to Santa made the long journey safely to *right* at the North Pole!

Finally, after several weeks had passed, Christmas morning arrived, and Priscilla woke *right* up at sunrise! She had been awakened by something which sounded like.....sleigh bells! Could it be?? She threw off her covers and ran *right* over to the window! Priscilla didn't notice anything out of the ordinary, so she hopped *right* back into bed to quietly wait for the rest of the *left* family to awaken. You see, she was so excited to see what Santa had *left* her under the Christmas tree! She just knew *right* in her heart that Santa had received her letters and granted her Christmas wish of a new puppy! But, she tried very hard not to get her hopes up in case he decided to leave her another gift that he thought she'd like better, instead.

Soon after, all of Priscilla's brothers and sisters woke up, clambered down the stairs, and tore *right* into their gifts, admiring the special things Santa had *left* them. Soon, all of the



gifts were unwrapped and piles of crumpled wrapping paper, ribbons, and bows were *left* on the floor surrounding the *left* family. But, there was no puppy to be found. Priscilla didn't mind. She was so thankful for all of the nice gifts Santa *had left* her, as well as for her family who surrounded her! The love her family shared was the most important gift of a— “Wait a second,” a thought interrupted her, “Did the end of that ribbon just move?!”

She got her hopes up. “No,” she thought, “How silly of me. Of course it didn't move. All of the boxes are empty and the gifts have been opened.”

But then, she also thought she saw some crumpled wrapping paper move ever so slightly *right* next to the ribbon that moved a moment before! Could it be?! Slowly, she took end of the ribbon in her *right* hand and gently gave it a little tug. It didn't budge, so she moved the piece of crumpled wrapping paper next to it. Priscilla could not believe her eyes! The end of the ribbon she was holding was attached *right* to the collar of the cutest little puppy she had ever seen!! It came bounding *right* over to her lap, put its paws up on her and *left* puppy kisses all over her face!!

Priscilla's parents, Mr. and Mrs. *left*, looked as shocked and surprised as she did! “What on earth?!” her mother exclaimed!

“Did you?” her father started to ask her mother.

“I thought you must have!” her mother answered *right* in return.

Then Mr. and Mrs. *left* both turned to look at their daughter. “I sent Santa a letter every single day and told him my Christmas wish was a puppy!” shouted Priscilla, “And here it is! Christmas magic *is* real!”

“I should say it is!” said her mother.

“*Right* indeed,” with a wink, said Mr. *left*.