

A Christmas Story

Jean Shepherd

A Christmas Story The Book That Inspired the Hilarious Classic Film Crown

The popular radio announcer uses his whimsical imagination to record the events of his Indiana boyhood. From the wild and wacky world of favorite funnyman Jean Shepherd, a dozen truer-than-life tales of tailgating on the Jersey Turnpike, infuriating infants, and other everyday catastrophes, defeats, and humiliations that

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are the familiar fate of Americans everywhere. Jean Shepherd was one of America ' s favorite humorists, his most notable achievement being the creation of the indefatigable Ralphie Parker and his quest for a BB gun in the holiday classic A Christmas Story. But he was so much more, a comic Garrison Keillor – like figure whose unique voice transcended the airwaves and affected a whole generation of nostalgic Americans. A Fistful of Fig Newtons is classic Jean Shepherd—sidesplittingly

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funny and sardonically irreverent. It is a brilliant comic assessment of American life—all of them delivered in Jean Shepherd's witty, classy, unforgettable style.

A beloved, bestselling classic of humorous and nostalgic Americana—the book that inspired the equally classic Yuletide film and the live musical on Fox. The holiday film *A Christmas Story*, first released in 1983, has become a bona fide Christmas perennial, gaining in stature and fame with each succeeding year. Its

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affectionate, wacky, and wryly realistic portrayal of an American family ' s typical Christmas joys and travails in small-town Depression-era Indiana has entered our imagination and our hearts with a force equal to It ' s a Wonderful Life and Miracle on 34th Street. This edition of A Christmas Story gathers together in one hilarious volume the gems of autobiographical humor that Jean Shepherd drew upon to create this enduring film. Here is young Ralphie Parker ' s shocking discovery that his decoder ring is really

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a device to promote Ovaltine; his mother and father ' s pitched battle over the fate of a lascivious leg lamp; the unleashed and unnerving savagery of Ralphie ' s duel in the show with the odious bullies Scut Farkas and Grover Dill; and, most crucially, Ralphie ' s unstoppable campaign to get Santa—or anyone else—to give him a Red Ryder carbine action 200-shot range model air rifle. Who cares that the whole adult world is telling him, “ You ' ll shoot your eye out, kid ” ? The pieces that comprise *A Christmas Story*,

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previously published in the larger collections *In God We Trust*, *All Others Pay Cash* and *Wanda Hickey 's Night of Golden Memories*, coalesce in a magical fashion to become an irresistible piece of Americana, quite the equal of the film in its ability to warm the heart and tickle the funny bone.

Bakersfield Mist

The Innovation Delusion

Leonard Maltin's 2009 Movie Guide

Songs of a Sourdough

Bummers, Blisters and Boondoggles

Behind the Scenes of a

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Holiday Classic (16pt Large Print Edition)

Offers readers a comprehensive reference to the world of film, including more than ten thousand DVD titles, along with information on performers, ratings, running times, plots, and helpful features. From the wild and wacky world of a favorite funnyman, a dozen truer-than-life tales of tailgating on the Jersey Turnpike, infuriating infants, and other everyday catastrophes, defeats, and humiliations that are the familiar fate of Americans everywhere. "In a world where everyone

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knows the day they will die, a teenage boy is determined to outlive his upcoming expiration date"--

Some curses can't be outrun. The secret to Redd's past is locked away in a 400-year-old box that mysteriously appears every year on her birthday. For her entire life, her mother has kept them running from whatever lurks inside it. But Redd's had enough of not knowing who she is. So when the box shows up where only she can find it, she opens it...and awakens a link to the evil her mother fought to keep dormant. John lives in an old-fashioned village, a place of exquisite beauty

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and abundance. But such splendor demands that the villagers commit unspeakable acts. When the link with Redd is unlocked, the village council believes they have a solution to simplify their darkest task. John is sent to find the one girl who could possibly save them...if she makes the ultimate sacrifice. Eleanor sets off from England to America in 1587, pregnant and desperate to leave her ties with the devil behind. But when the captain of the ship refuses to take her and the other settlers further than Roanoke Island, what should be the beginning of a better life turns into a

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horrendous struggle to survive. Eleanor's desire to see her daughter live at any cost will curse her and everyone around her for centuries to come... Redd, John, and Eleanor's stories meld together in a mashup of dark, urban, and historical fantasy, delving into the nuances of good and evil, the price of loyalty, and the extremes we will go to for those we love.

A Christmas Carol and Other
Christmas Books

A Christmas Story

Mayflower Chronicles

Wishin' and Hopin'

Automobiles, Experts, and
Regulations in the United
States

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All Others Pay Cash

In the small town of Grandon, five very different people discover the true meaning of Christmas.

Jennifer and Ryan are both single parents, struggling with their own losses and heartache as they attempt to move forward in the present while still holding onto the memories, joy, and heartache of the past. Sixteen-year-old Kaylee is faced with a life-changing situation that has affected her whole family. Stephen and Lily are happily married and ready to start a family. All of them are facing their own struggles, and all are finding their way through

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the dark. When they are brought together for a rather unconventional church Nativity, they will learn that with strength, courage, and love, there is always hope. The New York Times bestselling author of the beloved The Christmas Hope series returns with this new heartwarming, inspirational story about the power of love and faith to reveal the possibilities that lay right in front of you.

Wally Lamb, the beloved #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Hour I First Believed*, *I Know This Much Is True*, and *She's Come Undone*, delivers a holiday treat with *Wishin' and*

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Hopin'—an unforgettable novella that captures the warmth and joy of the holiday season. Poignant and hilarious, in a vein similar to Jean Shepherd's A Christmas Story and David Sedaris's The Santaland Diaries, Lamb's Christmas tale focuses on a feisty parochial school fifth grader named Felix Funicello—a distant cousin of the iconic Annette! This beautiful, giftable Christmas collection features old-fashioned works from classic authors who invite you to a feast of holiday nostalgia. Filled with stories that have been part of the Christmas season

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for generations, A Vintage Christmas is a unique collection of lesser-known Christmas tales, reflections, and poems from beloved authors across the centuries and makes the perfect gift for the reader in your life. This beautiful treasury will take you back to firesides, simple gifts, and warm family moments of Christmases past as you cherish the timeless truths and joys of the season. Discover a charming story from L. M. Montgomery about love and sacrifice in a little log house. See Christmas through the eyes of a child in a New England colonial village with

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Harriet Beecher Stowe.
Remember the reason Christ
came to earth in the poetry
of Anne Brontë. Share with
your family the delightful
letter Mark Twain wrote as
Santa Claus to his three-
year-old daughter. A Vintage
Christmas includes stories
from Louisa May Alcott,
Charles Dickens, Ralph Henry
Barbour, Harriet Beecher
Stowe, Mark Twain, L. M.
Montgomery, and William Dean
Howells, as well as poems
from Eliza Cook, Christina
Rossetti, William Makepeace
Thackeray, Joyce Kilmer,
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow,
and Samuel Taylor Coleridge.
A Vintage Christmas is a
timeless reminder that the

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heart of the holiday never changes. Hardcover, giftable size Perfect as a stocking stuffer and host or hostess gift Filled with hopeful and encouraging Christmas stories Makes a lovely keepsake companion to A Classic Christmas and A Timeless Christmas

For thousands of years two distinct cultures evolved unaware of one another's existence. Separated by what one culture called The Great Sea and known to the other as the Atlantic Ocean, the course of each culture's future changed irreversibly four hundred years ago. In 1620 the Mayflower delivered 102 refugees and fortune

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seekers from England to Cape Cod, where these two cultures first encountered one another. The English sought religious freedom and fresh financial opportunities. The Natives were recovering from the Great Dying of the past several years that left over two-thirds of their people in graves. How would they react to one another? How might their experience shape modern cross-cultural encounters?

Behind the Scenes of a
Holiday Classic
Down Through the Years
The Gospel According to John
Wanda Hickey's Night of
Golden Memories

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The Christmas Light
Telling about Christmas
Present in 'A Christmas
Story'

“Innovation” is the hottest buzzword in business. But what if our obsession with finding the next big thing has distracted us from the work that matters most? “The most important book I’ve read in a long time . . . It explains so much about what is wrong with our technology, our economy, and the world, and gives a simple recipe for how to fix it: Focus on understanding what it takes for your products and services to last.”—Tim O’Reilly, founder of O’Reilly Media It’s hard to avoid innovation these days. Nearly every product gets marketed as being disruptive, whether it’s genuinely a new invention or just a new

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toothbrush. But in this manifesto on the state of American work, historians of technology Lee Vinsel and Andrew L. Russell argue that our way of thinking about and pursuing innovation has made us poorer, less safe, and—ironically—less innovative. Drawing on years of original research and reporting, *The Innovation Delusion* shows how the ideology of change for its own sake has proved a disaster. Corporations have spent millions hiring chief innovation officers while their core businesses tank. Computer science programs have drilled their students on programming and design, even though the overwhelming majority of jobs are in IT and maintenance. In countless cities, suburban sprawl has left local governments with loads of deferred repairs that they can't

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afford to fix. And sometimes innovation even kills—like in 2018 when a Miami bridge hailed for its innovative design collapsed onto a highway and killed six people. In this provocative, deeply researched book, Vinsel and Russell tell the story of how we devalued the work that underpins modern life—and, in doing so, wrecked our economy and public infrastructure while lining the pockets of consultants who combine the ego of Silicon Valley with the worst of Wall Street's greed. The authors offer a compelling plan for how we can shift our focus away from the pursuit of growth at all costs, and back toward neglected activities like maintenance, care, and upkeep. For anyone concerned by the crumbling state of our roads and bridges or the direction our economy

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is headed, *The Innovation Delusion* is a deeply necessary reevaluation of a trend we can still disrupt.

The novel that began as a radio hoax, Theodore Sturgeon's *I, Libertine* is a hilarious erotic romp through the royal boudoirs of eighteenth-century London. Inspired by a notorious radio hoax in the mid-1950s, popular radio host and prankster Jean Shepherd exhorted his faithful listeners to approach their local booksellers the next morning and request copies of the historical novel *I, Libertine* by Frederick R. Ewing—a book that had never been written, by an author who had never been alive. The hoax was so successful that *I, Libertine* became the talk of the town, even earning the unique distinction of being banned by the Archdiocese of Boston, despite the fact that it didn't

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yet exist. Now there was nothing left to do but write the thing . . . and fantasy and science fiction legend Theodore Sturgeon was called in to work his magic. Originally written pseudonymously, Sturgeon's I, Libertine is a glorious tale of close shaves, daring escapes, and wildly licentious behavior. It covers the bawdy misdeeds of Captain Lance Courtenay as he carelessly romps through the royal court and the bedchambers of London's finest ladies. Chock-full of wicked wit and Sturgeon's trademark twists and turns, it is a hilarious, picaresque adventure that Ewing himself would certainly have been proud to call his own, if he had existed. This ebook features an illustrated biography of Theodore Sturgeon including rare images and never-before-seen

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documents from the University of Kansas's Kenneth Spencer Research Library and the author's estate, among other sources.

A "gripping," (Booklist) "clear-eyed, and honest" (The New York Times Book Review) biography of Samuel Colt—the inventor of the legendary Colt revolver (a.k.a. six-shooter)—which changed the US forever, triggering the industrial revolution and the settlement of the American West. Patented in 1836, the Colt pistol with its revolving cylinder was the first practical firearm that could shoot more than one bullet without reloading. For many reasons, Colt's gun had a profound effect on American history. Its most immediate impact was on the expansionism of the American west, where white emigrants and US

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soldiers came to depend on it, and where Native Americans came to dread it. The six-shooter became the iconic weapon of gun-slingers, outlaws, and cowboys—some willing to pay \$500 out west for a gun that sold for \$25 back east. In making the revolver, Colt also changed American manufacturing—his factory revolutionized industry in the United States. Ultimately, Colt and his gun-making brought together the two most significant forces of change before the Civil War—the industrial revolution in the east, Manifest Destiny in the west. “Written with a journalist’s sense of color and a historian’s eye for the revealing detail” (The Wall Street Journal), *Revolver* brings the brazenly ambitious and profoundly innovative industrialist and leader Samuel Colt

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to vivid life. In the space of his forty-seven years, he seemingly lived five lives: he traveled, womanized, drank prodigiously, smuggled guns to Russia, bribed politicians, and supplied the Union Army with the guns they needed to win the Civil War. Colt lived during an age of promise and progress, but also of slavery, corruption, and unbridled greed, and he not only helped to create this America, he completely embodied it. By the time he died in 1862 in Hartford, Connecticut, he was one of the most famous men in nation, and one of the richest.

“Offering a panoramic view of American culture during Colt’s life” (LA Review of Books) Revolver is a “rollicking and informative account [that] will delight American history buffs” (Publishers Weekly).

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"Collection of pictures gathered by the authors during a two-year search in which they canvassed neighborhoods and knocked on people's doors, asking to see people's dusty albums and yellowing scrapbooks."--From jacket flap

A Kids Read Truth Story and
Scripture Book

The Tale of Two Cultures

The Shepherd

A CHRISTMAS STORY

Gift for Christmas

: A Christmas Story Trivia Quiz
Books

A beloved, bestselling classic of
humorous and nostalgic

Americana--the book that inspired the
equally classic Yuletide film. The
holiday film "A Christmas Story," first
released in 1983, has become a bona

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vide Christmas perennial, gaining in stature and fame with each succeeding year. Its affectionate, wacky, and wryly realistic portrayal of an American family's typical Christmas joys and travails in small-town Depression-era Indiana has entered our imagination and our hearts with a force equal to "It's a Wonderful Life" and "Miracle on 34th Street." This edition of "A Christmas Story" gathers together in one hilarious volume the gems of autobiographical humor that Jean Shepherd drew upon to create this enduring film. Here is young Ralphie Parker's shocking discovery that his decoder ring is really a device to promote Ovaltine; his mother and father's pitched battle over the fate of a lascivious leg I& the unleashed and

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unnerving savagery of Ralphie's duel in the show with the odious bullies Scut Farkas and Grover Dill; and, most crucially, Ralphie's unstoppable campaign to get Santa--or anyone else--to give him a Red Ryder carbine action 200-shot range model air rifle. Who cares that the whole adult world is telling him, "You'll shoot your eye out, kid"? The pieces that comprise "A Christmas Story," previously published in the larger collections "In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash" and "Wanda Hickey's Night of Golden Memories," coalesce in a magical fashion to become an irresistible piece of Americana, quite the equal of the film in its ability to warm the heart and tickle the funny bone. Written in a clear, approachable, and

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jargon-free voice, *Moving Violations* will appeal to makers and analysts of policy, historians of science, technology, business, and the environment, and any readers interested in the history of cars and government.

Christmas Eve, 1957: An RAF pilot needs a miracle to make it home as his fighter jet begins to fail, in a story by the #1 New York Times – bestselling author. It is Christmas Eve, 1957, and there are cozier places to be than the cockpit of a de Havilland Vampire fighter plane. But for the Royal Air Force pilot who has just taken off from West Germany, this single-seat jet is the only way to make it back to England for Christmas morning. His flight plan is simple; the fuel tank is full.

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In sixty-six minutes, he will be back in Blighty. But then the plane begins to fail. First the compass goes haywire, then the radio dies. Lost and alone above the English coast, the pilot is searching for a landing strip when the fog closes in, signaling certain death. He has given up hope when a second shadow appears—a Mosquito fighter-bomber of World War II vintage. The plane is a “shepherd,” guiding the Vampire to a safe landing, and its appearance is a gift from fate, a miracle out of time—but for one lonely pilot, the mystery has just begun. A classic bestseller, beloved by aviation fans (including actor John Travolta, who calls it “one of my favorites because it personalizes the two planes”) and general readers alike, *The Shepherd* is

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a gripping, heartwarming tale for a cold winter ' s night.

David Sedaris's beloved holiday collection is new again with six more pieces, including a never before published story. Along with such favorites as the diaries of a Macy's elf and the annals of two very competitive families, are Sedaris's tales of tardy trick-or-treaters ("Us and Them"); the difficulties of explaining the Easter Bunny to the French ("Jesus Shaves"); what to do when you've been locked out in a snowstorm ("Let It Snow"); the puzzling Christmas traditions of other nations ("Six to Eight Black Men"); what Halloween at the medical examiner's looks like ("The Monster Mash"); and a barnyard secret Santa scheme gone awry ("Cow and

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Turkey"). No matter what your favorite holiday, you won't want to miss celebrating it with the author who has been called "one of the funniest writers alive" (Economist).

Jacob T. Marley

Holidays on Ice

A Tribute to the Original, Traditional, One-Hundred-Percent, Red-Blooded, Two-Fisted, All-American Holiday Movie

A Christmas Story Treasury

A Play in Two Acts

Denton Little's Deathdate

In the heart of the calumet region, hardworking Hammond helped build America. Originally known as State Line Slaughterhouse, the city began as no more than a meatpacking plant for nearby Chicago. In time, the city grew, and at its industrial height,

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trains, chains, cigars, shirts, candy, nuts, player pianos, commercial wallpaper, concrete roof slabs, gutters, boilers, potato digging devices, screws and steel products poured from its many factories. Meanwhile, its many racetracks and casinos earned it the title of "Atlantic City on the Lake." The city also nurtured Jean Shepherd of A Christmas Story fame and was even home to an early NFL team. Hammond-born journalist Joseph S. Pete explores bygone landmarks like Phil Smidt's, Madura's Danceland, the State Theatre, the Woodmar Mall and the W.B. Conkey factory, all of which now live only in legend. The definitive guide to everything fans want to know about A Christmas Story shares the inside story behind the film ' s production, release, and

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unlikely ascent to the top of popular culture. From Jean Shepherd ' s original radio broadcasts to Bob Clark ' s 1983 sleeper hit film and beyond, A Christmas Story has become a beloved Yuletide tradition over the last three decades. In conjunction with the 30th anniversary of its theatrical release, this is the untold story of the making of the film, and what happened afterwards. Ralphie Parker ' s quest for a Red Ryder air rifle didn ' t end with the movie ' s release; the tale inspired massive VHS sales, a Broadway production, and a mountain of merchandise. Complete with rare and previously unreleased photographs, now fans of the movie and film buffs alike can lean all they didn ' t know about the timeless classic.

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Honoring the 30th anniversary of A Christmas Story; produced with the blessing of the Estate of author Jean Shepherd; and featuring stories, pull-out mementos, full-color photos, and even sound, A Christmas Story Treasury is the ultimate salute to America's favorite holiday movie. This interactive book includes: Sound buttons of eight memorable quotes from the film's narrator, Jean Shepherd Certificate of membership to the Little Orphan Annie Secret Circle Recipe cards for Mom's Christmas turkey and Chinese turkey Ralphie's " theme " Replica of the telegram notifying the Old Man about his " major award " (a Leg Lamp) 9 x 12 " movie poster " Merry Christmas from the Parkers " greeting card The body of this 48-page book is comprised of behind-the-scenes

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stories and fun history on the film. Fully illustrated with photos throughout, this is the “ holy grail of Christmas presents ” for fans of the movie.

Unwrap a treasure trove of stories and photos behind a Christmas tradition. A Christmas Story has become a perennial holiday favourite since its release in 1983. While millions watch the movie every year on television, few know the story behind the film's production, release, and unlikely ascent. Ralphie Parker's quest for "a Red Ryder carbine action, two hundred shot Range Model air rifle with a compass in the stock and this thing which tells time" didn't begin or end with the release of Bob Clark's sleeper hit. Adapted from Jean Shepherd's radio broadcasts and short stories, A Christmas Story has

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inspired a mountain of merchandise, sequels, a stage adaptation, and a big - budget Broadway musical. There's also a tourist attraction in Cleveland and annual conventions. Not bad for a movie that was only a modest hit during its original theatrical run. Now, in time for its 30th anniversary, the story of the making of the film - and what happened afterwards - is being told for the first time. Complete with rare and previously unreleased photographs and drawing on original interviews with cast and crew, A Christmas Story: Behind the Scenes of a Holiday Classic is sure to make you glad you didn't shoot your eye out!

And Other Disasters

"A Christmas Story" Trivia

The Book That Inspired the Hilarious
Classic Film

Moving Violations

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Authorized King James Version
How Our Obsession with the New Has
Disrupted the Work That Matters
Most

Jean Shepherd (1921-1999) master humorist is best known for his creation "A Christmas Story" the popular movie about the child who wants a BB gun for Christmas and nearly shoots his eye out. What else did Shepherd do? He is considered by many to be the Mark Twain and James Thurber of his day. For many thousands of fans for decades Shep talked on the radio late at night keeping them up way past their bedtimes. He entertained without a script improvising like a jazz musician on any and every subject you can imagine. He invented and remains the master of talk radio. Shepherd perpetrated one of the great literary hoaxes of all time promoting a

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nonexistent book and author and then brought the book into existence. He wrote 23 short stories for *Playboy* four times winning their humor of the year award and also interviewed The Beatles for the magazine. He authored several popular books of humor and satire created several television series and acted in several plays. He is the model for the character played by Jason Robards in the play and movie *A Thousand Clowns* as well as the inspiration for the Shel Silverstein song made famous by Johnny Cash *A Boy Named Sue*. Readers will learn the significance of innumerable Shepherd words and phrases such as *Excelsior* you fathead and observe his constant confrontations with the America he loved. They will get to know and understand this multitalented genius by peeking

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behind the wall he built for himself ä a wall to hide a different and less agreeable persona. Through interviews with his friends co-workers and creative associates such as musician David Amram cartoonist and playwright Jules Feiffer publisher and broadcaster Paul Krassner and author Norman Mailer the book explains a complex and unique genius of our time. Shepherd pretty much invented talk radio ... What I got of him was a wonder at the world one man could create. I am as awed now by his achievement as I was then. ä Richard Corliss ÊTimeÊ magazine online (Book). Disclaimer: No U.S. Military Personnel were harmed during the making of these fictional reminiscences. No warrior is more forgotten than he who has been left behind by the war department. Most

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men who have never tasted combat beyond the occasional fistfight on poker night quickly learn to lay low and zip the lip when battlefield stories are unfurled by the Purple Hearters at the dinner table. Except, of course, for our man Jean Shepherd. Fearless in his uncombativeness, he manfully fought his dearth of frontline duty with the weapons he wielded unmatched by even the most decorated dogface: rapid-fire griping and explosive laughter. Jean Shepherd was, and remains, a pervasive part of American culture. His quirky individuality was portrayed for posterity by Jason Robards in the play and film, *A Thousand Clowns*, written by Shep's close pal, Herb Gardner. Jack Nicholson embodied a Shepherd-like late-night radio talker in *The King of Marvin Gardens*. While in *Network*,

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by Paddy Chayefsky (another of Shep's comic cohorts), the television newscaster beseeches his listeners to open their windows and yell, "I'm mad as hell, and I'm not going to take this anymore," an unmistakable echo of Shepherd's radio habit of "hurling an invective" like a hand grenade out into the nation's air waves. Shepherd was a spiritual father to Garrison Keillor, Daniel Pinkwater, Bill Harley, Paul Krassner and Joe Frank. Tens of thousands of rabid fans stayed up past their bedtime with transistor radios stashed under their pillows to follow Shep's always unpredictable, usually extemporaneous, verbal forays into current events, social mores, idle thoughts, stories about his childhood in northern Indiana ("I was this kid, see..."), his army days, and his idiosyncratic take on his world-wide

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travels. Shepherd once bamboozled an innocent public, and gullible publishing world, by promoting a non-existent book (I, Libertine) and author (Frederick R. Ewing), then co-writing it with sci-fi author Theodore Sturgeon. It sold in best-seller numbers. Shepherd wrote nearly two dozen stories for Playboy and even interviewed the Beatles for the magazine. He published several best-selling books of his stories and articles; he appeared at Carnegie Hall, Town Hall, and in hundreds of jam-packed college auditoriums. Shep's Army is the first volume of new Shepherd tales to be published in a quarter century. The publication of the King James version of the Bible, translated between 1603 and 1611, coincided with an extraordinary flowering of English literature and is universally

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acknowledged as the greatest influence on English-language literature in history. Now, world-class literary writers introduce the book of the King James Bible in a series of beautifully designed, small-format volumes. The introducers' passionate, provocative, and personal engagements with the spirituality and the language of the text make the Bible come alive as a stunning work of literature and remind us of its overwhelming contemporary relevance.

Maude, a fifty-something unemployed bartender living in a trailer park, has bought a painting for a few bucks from a thrift store. Despite almost trashing it, she's now convinced it's a lost masterpiece by Jackson Pollock worth millions. But when world-class art expert Lionel Percy flies over from

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New York and arrives at her trailer home in Bakersfield to authenticate the painting, he has no idea what he is about to discover. Inspired by true events, this hilarious and thought-provoking new comedy-drama asks vital questions about what makes art and people truly authentic.

Dividing the Estate

A Novel

A Collection of Classic Stories and Poems

Sam Colt and the Six-Shooter That Changed America

American Snapshots

A Vintage Christmas

Jean Shepherd was one of America's favorite humorists, his most notable achievement being the creation of the

indefatigable Ralphie Parker and his quest for a BB gun in the holiday classic A Christmas Story. But he was so much more, a comic Garrison Keillor-like figure whose unique voice transcended the airwaves and affected a whole generation of nostalgic Americans. The Ferrari in the Bedroom is Shepherd's wry, affectionate look at the hang-ups and delusions of Americans in the 1970s. From his sardonic assessment of fads such as the nostalgia craze ("Thinking that the old days were good is a terrible

sickness. Everything was just as bad then as it is now.”) to a modest proposal for the foundation of S.P.L.A.T. (The Society for the Prevention of the Leaving of Animal Turds), Jean Shepherd provides a generous measure of his special brand of wise and warm humor as an antidote for some of America’s more ridiculous obsessions. The beloved, bestselling classic that became the movie, A CHRISTMAS STORY -- humorous and nostalgic Americana, reissued in a strikingly designed paperback edition.

Before Garrison Keillor and Spalding Gray there was Jean Shepherd: a master monologist and writer who spun the materials of his all-American childhood into immensely resonant--and utterly hilarious--works of comic art. In God We Trust: All Others Pay Cash represents one of the peaks of his achievement, a compound of irony, affection, and perfect detail that speaks across generations. In God We Trust, Shepherd's wildly witty reunion with his Indiana hometown, disproves the adage "You

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***can never go back."
Bending the ear of Flick,
his childhood-buddy-turned-
bartender, Shepherd recalls
passionately his genuine
Red Ryder BB gun,
confesses adolescent failure
in the arms of Junie Jo
Prewitt, and relives a story
of man against fish that not
even Hemingway could
rival. From pop art to the
World's Fair, Shepherd's
subjects speak with a
universal irony and are
deeply and unabashedly
grounded in American
Midwestern life, together
rendering a wonderfully
nostalgic impression of a***

more innocent era when life was good, fun was clean, and station wagons roamed the earth. A comic genius who bridged the gap between James Thurber and David Sedaris, Shepherd may have accomplished for Holden, Indiana, what Mark Twain did for Hannibal, Missouri.

Charles Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" is a holiday favorite and this new book, written in the style of Dickens, tells the story from the perspective of the character who was a ruthless taskmaster business partner who

taught and influenced Scrooge and then saved him from the brink of a terrible fate. "Jacob T. Marley" is to "A Christmas Carol" as the world-famous "Wicked" is to "The Wizard of Oz" and is a masterfully crafted story teaching us, once again, the true meaning of Christmas.

THE STORY: Matriarch Stella Gordon is determined not to divide her 100-year-old Texas estate, despite her family's declining wealth and the looming financial crisis. But her three children have another plan. Old resentments and sibling rivalries su

A Fistful of Fig Newtons
The Curse That Binds Us
The Art and Enigma of Jean
Shepherd

The Ferrari in the Bedroom
The Phantom of the Open
Hearth

A Film for Television Co-
ordinated by Leigh Brown

*A collection of five stories about
Christmas by English author Charles
Dickens.*

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Indiana has entered our imagination*

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and our hearts with a force equal to It's a Wonderful Life and Miracle on 34th Street. This edition of A Christmas Story gathers together in one hilarious volume the gems of autobiographical humor that Jean Shepherd drew upon to create this enduring film. Here is young Ralphie Parker's shocking discovery that his decoder ring is really a device to promote Ovaltine; his mother and father's pitched battle over the fate of a lascivious leg l& the unleashed and unnerving savagery of Ralphie's duel in the show with the odious bullies Scut Farkas and Grover Dill; and, most crucially, Ralphie's unstoppable campaign to get Santa-or anyone else-to give him a Red Ryder carbine action 200-shot range model air rifle. Who cares that the whole adult world is telling him, "You'll shoot your eye out, kid"? "What was the name of

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the Lone Ranger's nephew's horse? In Ralphie's daydream where he defeats Black Bart, what does he call his Red Ryder BB gun? Who let Ms. Shields know where Flick was? Amaze your friends and family with all things related to the A Christmas Story Movie If you know your Movie, there are 100+ questions sure to riddle even the most die hard fan! Ready to take the challenge? Telling about Christmas Present in 'A Christmas Story' today!"

I, Libertine
This Is the Gospel KRT
Lost Hammond, Indiana
In God We Trust
Excelsior, You Fathead!