



A Christmas Carol and Other Christmas Writings (Penguin Classics)

Charles Dickens

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A collection of stories of matchless charm and enduring popularity that enchanted listeners at Charles Dickens's public readings

Since it was first published in 1843 *A Christmas Carol* has had an enduring influence on the way we think about the traditions of Christmas. Dickens's story of solitary miser Ebenezer Scrooge, who is taught the true meaning of Christmas by the three ghosts of Christmas past, present and future, has been adapted into countless film and stage versions since it was first published. Dickens's other Christmas writings collected here include 'The Story of the Goblins who Stole a Sexton', the short story from *The Pickwick Papers* on which *A Christmas Carol* was based; *The Haunted Man*, a tale of a man tormented by painful memories; along with shorter pieces, some drawn from the 'Christmas Stories' that Dickens wrote annually for his weekly journals. In all of them Dickens celebrates the season as one of geniality, charity and remembrance. This new selection contains an introduction by distinguished Dickens scholar Michael Slater discussing how the author has shaped ideas about the Christmas spirit, original illustrations by 'Phiz' and John Leech, an appendix on Dickens's use of *The Arabian Nights*, a further reading list and explanatory notes.

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