



Santa Paws, Come Home

Nicholas Edwards

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It starts out as a typical day for the Callahans, doing last-minute Christmas shopping at the mall. But when they come back to the car, the window is smashed and their dog, Santa Paws, is missing! Can the lovable pup escape from his kidnappers and make it back to his family?

Santa Paws, Come Home Details

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Liam says

Note to all. This is NOT the forth book in the series. It is the third book. Read this one first. I started reading "Santa Paws to the Rescue" thinking it was the third book. It started mentioning this book and I quickly changed to this book.

This is a great book. I enjoy reading these books every Christmas season. I hope you all like them too.

Susan says

What a fun Christmas read. As a kid's book, it's simple prose and eventually predictable, but that's part of the fun. It took me back to reading books like this when I was younger. The childhood wish for a happy ending is fulfilled!

Kearstin says

This book is so good! I recommend you read this, it is awesome.

Tarissa says

I'm a little old for the Santa Paws books but they bring a smile to my face. This year I read the 3rd book in the series, "Santa Paws, Come Home". A lovely story about how the furry hero of Oceanport is "petnapped" by thieves. Being a German Sheppard/collie mix, Santa Paws is very smart. He's one of those dogs with a good sense of direction and a strong calling for home.

Both boys & girls will enjoy this heartwarming Christmas story, and it would even be good for a bedtime read-aloud.

Gina says

Though it's labeled #4, the events in this one actually take place before #3, so I decided to switch it up for continuity's sake. That's really the only problem. The rest of the book is a delight, as always, giving Santa Paws the freedom from #2's isolated setting so he can go back to his little rescue adventures - and this time with a lovable, feisty kitty friend!

Spencer says

In this Santa Paws adventure story, Santa Paws gets dognapped by some evil crooks out to make a buck. They were hired by an outside party who wanted to add Santa Paws to his "collection," but thankfully Santa Paws is a slight bit smarter than your average criminal and manages to escape.

On his way home, he manages to rescue anything and everything he can find. He helps a homeless man see a sign to get back on his feet. He "rescues" a golf ball from the cup. He alerts people when there is a car crash nearby, helping to rescue the unconscious driver inside. He brought a little neighborhood their newspapers. And he rescues some really stupid kids playing chicken with a train. And, finally, he saves a little kitten, which he brings home and they live with the Callahan's happily ever after.

Kenzie R says

I absolutely loved this book! It was amazing. It was cute funny, and definately caught my attention. I think it caught my attention the most though is b/c I love dogs, and this whole book is based on a dog story. It's nice to read, but only if your a dog lover.

Ms. says

Santa paws has a great life. But one night, when he was in the car while the Callahans are at the mall, 2 adults kidnaps Santa paws, and they planned to sell it to a man for \$50,000. Santa paws gets droven to places far far away from Oceanport. And he is a stray at New York city, departed from his family. Santa paws tries to find his way home, while the Oceanport police department are trying to locate Santa paws. Will Santa paws reunite with Greg? Or end lip seperated from his family? You should read this book to find out.

Alex Moreno says

obvious ending but very good

Jessica says

See the first book in the series for a full review.

Eymol says

Cute and Happy :)

Rainbow007 says

A Mary Sue by any other name. I found it sickening how absolutely everyone even remotely involved in the story can't shut up about how amazing Santa Paws is, how he graciously helps anyone in need and never once fails...ugh, I want to throw up just remembering it.

Sure, I get it, a lot of people love dogs, especially when that dog is exceptional in saving people from disaster, even though they're not police or search and rescue dogs. But mankind is a diverse species. There should be at least one person who thinks Santa Paws is overrated, or a crazy conspiracy theorist that thinks he is a fireman hero trapped in a dog's body, or someone that just outright hates dogs, but nope! Every single person on the continent is in unanimous agreement that this dog is great! Doesn't anyone think that's kind of...weird? Or...not true to human nature whatsoever? Humans have never completely agreed on one topic in our entire history. Try to name one thing that everyone seems to be in agreement on, and I guarantee you there is someone out there who disagrees with it.

Okay, enough with my personal rant. This book is horrendously repetitive. It follows a cycle of Santa Paws wandering around, disasters conveniently sprouting up wherever he goes, saving the people, and getting praised for being a fantastic hero for a page or two. Rinse and repeat. It was so boring, so awfully sweet, that I wrote off this whole series and this author altogether in one stroke. Don't get me wrong, I have nothing against this author personally, I am sure he's a good person, but as far as Santa Paws goes, I am not a fan of his work.

Bridgette Redman says

Ellen Emerson White, writing as Nicholas Edwards, knows just how to appeal to young adult pet lovers, whether they are 8 or 18. Alas, with this book, she fell short of her previously high standards.

Her Santa Paws series are a collection of delightful novels in which Patricia and Gregory Callahan are teenagers who have a heroic dog with a knack for saving everyone in the slightest bit of difficulty.

In *Santa Paws, Come Home*, the third book in the series, Santa Paws is kidnapped by a pair of odious dognappers who are going to sell him to eccentric millionaire. He's been working in the mall as one of Santa's helpers when they manage to nab him after a rescue. It's the sad price of fame for this beloved dog.

He does eventually get away from them as they get stuck in New York City rush hour traffic. This begins his long trek back to his family in Ocean Port, Connecticut, a family that is frantically searching for him.

Santa Paws, Come Home is the weakest in the series so far and the least compelling out of all of them. Whereas the first two books are intense in the danger that the family and the dog faces, this one is almost trite. The villains are stereotypically oafish and eat too much. We are meant to be as disgusted with their slovenly habits as we are admiring of the Callahan's athleticism and community service.

But as stereotypical and shallow as the sketching of villains are, that isn't the books' worst sin. The biggest flaw in the book is that we must stretch our disbelief too far when it comes to Santa Paws. In the previous novels, she's led us to accept that Santa Paws has unerring instincts—an almost mystical or miraculous ability to help those in need and to perform the most amazing of rescues. This is all well and good. It's a conceit that we're willing to accept because of the great joy within the novels.

In this novel, however, we're supposed to believe that Santa Paws has selective powers. For some reason, he has not the slightest instincts toward those who could help him. He runs from families who are taking him home in a too-obvious way of prolonging to the story to either create suspense or an expected page count. While there is an attempt made at justifying this unusual fear in an otherwise incredibly brave dog, it simply doesn't work. The reader feels cheated.

This book does set up future stranger wariness on the part of Santa Paws—a wariness that becomes somewhat more acceptable, but it still rings wrong with everything else we are asked to believe about the dog.

On the plus side, Santa Paws does pick up a new companion, a kitten who will figure prominently in his future adventures. It also allows White to stretch her creative muscles as she takes us inside the mind of a kitten—a very different outlook on life than that which we get from Santa Paws.

It is this intimate view that White does best. The animals never speak English to the humans, nor are they able to understand human language in its entirety, but they respond to individual words in ways that every pet owner can identify with.

The Santa Paws series is a good one and every series must have its weak offering. The fact that Santa Paws, Come Home is the weakest entry of the lot in no way detracts from the delightfulness of the rest of the series.

Chelsea C says

Not a bad Santa paws book. Not the best but not the worst. Alright. I felt though that it did drag on a bit most during his travels. And I felt like the kitten was introduced kind of late. But I do enjoy this book.

Kenziie, (; says

I absolutely loved this book. It was cute, sad, suspenseful in some parts. I just plainly loved it. It was definitely one of the other best books I've ever read! And any dog lovers out there, I would seriously recommend reading it.
