

# *The 3 Bears' Christmas*

A children's fabel of gifts and talents.

by SusanaB.net ©



Deep in the Lolo Forrest, in the hollowed trunk of the largest tree around, there lived 3 brother bears and their cat.

The oldest bear Mitchel, was big with blond fur. He took care of his brothers by providing and protecting them. Marcus, the next oldest was brown, round and wise. Samuel, the youngest, had white fur and was still learning about the world and the special talent he had to offer it. The cat, Selina had a soft black coat of fur and loved to cuddle-up with the bears.

In a few weeks it will be Christmas and Mitchel said, "We should give each other gifts." Marcus added, "We should decorate too." Samuel, who always liked a celebration said, "I can't wait."

During the next few days the bears were busy decorating the home and a huge Christmas tree Mitchel had brought in. Marcus suggested they string popcorn and cranberries to hang on the tree and the walls. They also tied pinecones and holly to the tree. As well, Samuel and Marcus made wreaths from pine tree branches to hang on the doors and walls. Mitchel carved new bowls for everyone, including Salina. Marcus painted the bowls with mistletoe shapes of green, white, and red. Selina helped Samuel roast chestnuts in the fireplace. She'd let him know when they were slightly burnt and crunchy, the way they liked them. The three brothers built three snowbears just outside their door. The snowbears had eyes of coal, winter carrot noses, and smiles made of twigs. The snowbears looked a little like the three brother bears – one snowbear was tall, the second was round and the third was small.

As they decorated Mitchel and Marcus (or M&M, as Samuel called them) mentioned how they got their gifts to give already. Samuel was still wondering what gifts he would give. He did not have Mitchel's craftiness or Marcus's smarts.

On Christmas Eve the bears and Selina feasted on fishes and then went to bed early – for they didn't want Santa Polar Bear to think they were naughty, by trying to spy on him. Samuel thought that maybe Santa Bear knew of his problem and would leave extra gifts for M&M.

Christmas morning was beautiful. The air was crisp, there was fresh snow on the ground and a bright blue sky. Samuel thought the Christmas tree was brighter and fuller with the presents underneath it. He found Marcus already awake in his bed. Together they woke Mitchel, who was eager for the day as they were.

They all sat around the tree with Mitchel saying "Let's open Santa Polar Bear's presents first." For Marcus, Santa left a book called *The Birds of Lolo Forrest*. Mitchel got a new carving knife, Selina got a new pillow and Samuel got a nice green tie.

Next Mitchel gave his gifts out. Everyone got a colorful hat with a big fluffy ball to weigh it down, so the wind would not blow it away. Selina enjoyed using her ball as a toy. From Marcus, everyone got books on subjects they cared most about. Selina announced that she would take each bear's turn at doing dishes for the next week.

Then they looked to Samuel, who turned his head away. He was embarrassed for he did not have gifts to give. Then Samuel saw his book *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, which Marcus had given him. Samuel remembered that he was good at telling tales, and everyone liked his tales! And the best stories he knew were ones of truths, love and joy and those would be his gifts. So Samuel looked up and said, "my gift is the tale of *The Three Bears' Christmas*." As Samuel told his story all sat quiet, in order to catch every word of their gift. Their hearts warmed and smiles became bigger. By the time Samuel got to the part of the story about Christmas morning, Selina could not help but to purr. She purred all the way to the story's end.

M&M loved the story so much, that Marcus offered to help Samuel make it into a book. Mitchel offered to bind the book and carve the cover. Selina said "I'll tell all our friends and see if they want to borrow it or maybe even order a copy of the book!"

Samuel thought he just got the best gift of all. He had become a respected storyteller! Storytelling was the talent he had to give and that was what Samuel became known for. And he knows you have special talents too, which are \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_...

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*for Samuel (who always weighs his mother down with books on trips back from the library)  
and his teenage brothers Mitchel & Marcus (M&M)  
and baby sister Selina*

