

**The Wright Family #1**

INSTRUCTIONS: GET IN A CIRCLE, PASS GIFT PACKAGES RIGHT OR LEFT AS CUE WORDS ARE READ

Many years ago high on a mountain, there lived a family named WRIGHT. They had many cousins whose names were also WRIGHT. Every Christmas the clan gathered to have a party and no one was LEFT out. Sally WRIGHT was in charge of the guest list and she LEFT nothing to chance. This party was planned and things had to be just RIGHT. Mary WRIGHT had LEFT home early to do her shopping, but LEFT her gift list at home. Now this created a problem RIGHT from the start for her. John WRIGHT had gone to cut a tree for the big affair. It had to be the RIGHT size to stand on the LEFT side of the fire place.

The decorations were ready and waiting. Mother WRIGHT was in charge of the kitchen and everyone had to bring the RIGHT food to fit the menu and no one LEFT home without their share. There were children by the score who played RIGHT in the middle of the floor and LEFT toys everywhere. Now it wouldn't really be festive if they had no Santa Clause, so Charles WRIGHT had his wife Jeannie WRIGHT make him a Santa suit. She put two pockets on the RIGHT side and one on the LEFT. But Jake WRIGHT felt LEFT out because he said he had a RIGHT to be Santa because he had been LEFT out for five years. Mother WRIGHT had to settle the argument RIGHT then and there before she LEFT for the kitchen. Charles and Jake both got mad and LEFT in a huff. But just then Uncle Ben WRIGHT walked RIGHT through the door and said he had a suit LEFT over from last year that would be all RIGHT. So that was settled and LEFT everyone feeling just fine except Charles and Jake, but they soon realized the Christmas spirit should prevail, so they marched RIGHT back into the house.

Tommy WRIGHT, of the RIGHT side of the mountain, LEFT his snow shoes at home so he was late reaching the party at the RIGHT time, but he was still able to help wrap the gifts which were placed on the RIGHT side of the fireplace and on the LEFT side of the tree. He also hung holly on the RIGHT side and every WRIGHT in the county was RIGHT on time, dressed in their Sunday best. No stone was LEFT unturned to make this a happy time. The turkey was baked just RIGHT and LEFT everyone gasping with delight. The dressing and trimmings were also just RIGHT, because Mother WRIGHT saw to that.

There was a pile of toys RIGHT by the door because Mother WRIGHT said there was no room LEFT under the tree. They gathered round the table, each woman had a man on her RIGHT and also on her LEFT. They laughed RIGHT loudly as they ate their dinner and as they LEFT the table everyone cried "I ate too much!" Then came Santa RIGHT on time to deliver the gifts to each WRIGHT. He LEFT each one laughing, even Grandpa WRIGHT, who usually LEFT early and said good-night. The children LEFT the room RIGHT after opening the last toy. Their hearts were full of Christmas Joy. Mother WRIGHT knew the party was a success and LEFT for the kitchen RIGHT after the last carol was sung. Every WRIGHT on the mountain LEFT the party so happy and gay. Once more they had celebrated Christmas with the RIGHT kind of love in their hearts and LEFT each WRIGHT family shaking warm hands on their RIGHT and LEFT, saying Merry Christmas to each and everyone.

-Author Unknown

**The Wright Family Story #2**

Persons sit in circle and pass gifts right and left according to directions in the following story:

Once upon a time there was a little boy named Tommy Wright. He lived with his mother, Mrs. Wright and his father, Dr. Wright and his sister Sara Wright.

He had four shiny quarters left from some birthday money Grandma Wright had sent him besides the \$8.12 left in his piggy bank. Now it was time to buy the right present for each member of the Wright family. So one morning he hopped right out of bed and quietly left home and went carefully down the street to the big store on the left side of Main Street. The store was decorated with lights and Christmas ornaments. Tommy Wright thought and thought about Christmas presents and he looked at all the things for sale.

"Let's see," said Tommy, "I know, I'll get Mother Wright some warm gloves. Here is the right one but where is the left one? Here it is, right under the right one. They cost \$3.06 so I have \$6.06 left to spend. Now for Daddy Wright. Would he like a truck or maybe a ball or a left handed catcher's mitt? I know. I'll get him a football so we can play catch right in our own backyard when he comes home from work. That was \$5.06 so now I have \$1.00 left for Sara's present.

Here is what she wants. A pretty new purse and I think I have just enough money left. Tommy Wright clutched his presents happily and went running right up to the lady at the counter and gave her all the money from his left pocket and his right pocket.

"Is that right?" he asked as he gave her his money, "It will be \$1.05 with tax," she said. "Oh no," said Tommy Wright. "I forgot about tax."

Tommy started crying. Tears streamed right and left down his little face.

Right then the door burst open and in came Santa Claus who had left the north pole and had come right to Tommy Wright's town to take orders from children for Christmas. "Ho, Ho, Ho," said Santa. "We can't have Santa's helpers sad like this. Let's see now, I bet I have five pennies right here in my left pocket." Santa Claus checked his left pocket and found nothing. "Oh no!" said Santa. "I must have put them into my right pocket instead of my left. Here they are right here, Tommy, Ho! Ho! Ho! and Merry Christmas to all the Wright's from Santa Claus and his helpers." Tommy Wright left the store and ran home to tell Sara Wright that he had seen and talked to Santa. He was so Happy that he wrapped his presents right away and put them under the Christmas tree. Mr. and Mrs. Wright and Sara Wright were thrilled with the presents Tommy had purchased and Christmas morning left nothing to want.

-Author Unknown

**The Wright Family Story #3**

This is a story about Mr. and Mrs. WRIGHT. One evening they were baking cookies. Mrs. WRIGHT called from the kitchen, "Oh , no, there is no flour LEFT! You will need to go to the store."

"I can't believe you forgot to check the pantry," grumbled MR. WRIGHT. "You never get anything RIGHT!" "Don't be difficult, dear," replied Mrs. WRIGHT. "It will only take twenty minutes if you come RIGHT back. Go to Fifty-first and Peoria, and turn LEFT at the stop sign. Then go to Sixty-first Street and turn RIGHT, and there it will be on your LEFT," declared Mrs. WRIGHT.

Mr. WRIGHT found the store and asked the clerk where he could find the flour. The clerk pointed and said, "Go to Aisle four and turn LEFT. The flour and sugar will be on your LEFT."

Mr. WRIGHT made his purchase and walked RIGHT out the door. He turned LEFT, but he couldn't remember where he had LEFT his car. Suddenly he remembered that he had driven Mrs. WRIGHT'S car and that his car was in the driveway at home RIGHT where he had LEFT it.

Eventually, a weary Mr. WRIGHT found his way home. Mrs. WRIGHT had been waiting impatiently. "I thought you would be RIGHT back," she said. "I LEFT all the cookie ingredients on the kitchen counter, and the cats got into the milk. You'll just have to go RIGHT out again. " Mr. WRIGHT sighed. He had no energy LEFT. "I am going RIGHT to bed," he said. "Anyway, I need to go on a diet, so I might as well start RIGHT now. Isn't that RIGHT, dear?"

MERRY CHRISTMAS

-Author Unknown

### The Right Family Story #4

Christmas was almost here and Mother Right was finishing the Christmas baking. Father Right, Sue Right, and Billy Right returned from their last-minute Christmas errands. "There's not much left to be done," said Father Right as he came into the kitchen.

"Did you leave the basket of food at the church?" asked Mother Right. "I left it right where you told me to," said Father Right. "I'm glad my shopping is done," said Billy right. "I don't have any money left."

The hall telephone rang, and Susan Right left to answer it. She rushed right back and told the family, "Aunt Tillie Right left a package for us right on Grandma Right's front porch. I'll go over there right now and get it," she said as she left in a rush. Father Right left the kitchen and brought in the Christmas tree.

By the time Susan Right returned, Mother Right, Father Right, and Billy Right had begun trimming the tree. The entire Right family sang carols as they finished decorating. Then they left all the presents arranged under the tree and went to bed, hoping they had selected the right gifts for their family.

Now I hope you have the right present for yourself, because that's all that's left of our story...except to wish you a merry Christmas... Isn't that right??

-Author Unknown

**LEFTY ELF CHRISTMAS STORY/GAME**

This is a story about Santa and LEFTy elf.

LEFTy received this nick name one Christmas when he couldn't seem to do anything RIGHT. Santa said "LEFTy, sometimes I think you have two LEFT thumbs".

On the day before Christmas Eve Santa and LEFTy were finishing up the toys that were LEFT. LEFTy called from the workshop, "Oh no, there is no glue LEFT! Santa do you know where any might be?"

"I can't believe you forgot to check the inventory, sometimes I wonder if you can get anything RIGHT, LEFTy!" said Santa.

"Santa don't be mad", replied LEFTy. "It will only take me a few minutes to find some, I'll be RIGHT back". Santa said "I'm sorry I am so grumpy, but we don't have much time LEFT, LEFTy. "I'll try our packaging and delivery outlet RIGHT on the edge of town", said LEFTy. "It would be faster to stop by my house, Mrs. Claus is sure to have some LEFT, she just might not know RIGHT where it is," Replied Santa.

"Take the short cut, go to Candy Cane Lane and Rudolph Rd. and turn LEFT, RIGHT at the Lollipop stop sign. Then go to Holly Drive and turn RIGHT and there it will be on your LEFT."

LEFTy found the house RIGHT away and asked Mrs. Claus where she might have some glue LEFT. Mrs. Claus' hands were all doughy from making the last of her Christmas cookies. So she directed him RIGHT to her craft room.

"Go RIGHT down the hall and turn RIGHT, open the first door on the LEFT. Walk RIGHT in and turn RIGHT. It should be on the bottom shelf, RIGHT next to the LEFT-over glitter."

LEFTy found plenty of glue to finish the toys RIGHT where Mrs. Claus had directed him. LEFTy hurried RIGHT out the door. LEFTy looked LEFT, then RIGHT, then LEFT, but he couldn't remember where he had LEFT his sled. Suddenly he remembered he had taken Santa's sleigh, because it would be faster, and that his sled was in the garage at the workshop RIGHT where he had LEFT it.

Eventually, a tired LEFTy found his way back to Santa's workshop. Santa said " LEFTy, I thought you said you would be RIGHT back, so I LEFT jolly elf take over your station. He used all that was LEFT of the red paint instead of gold, so now there is no red paint LEFT to touch up my sleigh. You will have to go RIGHT out and get some, LEFTy "

LEFTy sighed and happily said " I knew we would have no energy LEFT by now, so RIGHT after thanksgiving, I fixed up your sleigh for the big day. Santa said "I'm so sorry I said you couldn't do anything RIGHT, because of you, there is no work LEFT and I can go RIGHT to bed, so I'll be all rested and my jolly old self again. Good night LEFTy." and Santa went RIGHT to bed.

By Kimberly Thomas

**THE STORY OF CROSSY & LEFTY**

Rules for this exchange:

- Once or One - Every time the word One or Once you pass your gift two times to the right meaning you skip ONE person.
- Crossy or cross - You pass the gift your holding across the circle.
- Left or Lefty - you pass your gift one person to the left
- Right - pass your gift one person to the right

ONCE upon a time, a long time ago, Santa got very sick at Christmas and couldn't deliver all the gifts to children all over the world. So he called up his top elf CROSSY.

Let me tell you the story of how CROSSY saved ONE Christmas long ago. First of all, CROSSY was not a CROSS elf at all. Actually he was a rather happy elf. That's why he was in charge of all the elf's. Santa told CROSSY he needed to deliver the gifts this year and he should take LEFTY the elf with him. Being the good elf that CROSSY is, he took LEFTY and got busy packing the sleigh RIGHT away. RIGHT before it was time to leave on Christmas Eve, CROSSY and LEFTY went to Santa to get last minute directions. Santa told them you start RIGHT off by delivering in the first time zone that's at midnight. CROSSY was taking notes and LEFTY just nodded his head and said, "RIGHT Santa, got it". LEFTY suggested that each elf take ONE sleigh and CROSSY could do the LEFT side of town, while LEFTY would CROSS town and do the RIGHT side of town. Santa thought LEFTY's idea was good, but might get confusing and said the reindeer know just what to do and using ONE sleigh would be best.

At that moment Mrs. Claus ran into to room and yelled to Santa that she thought the Reindeer were getting sick. Well at least ONE was, Dasher seemed to be acting crazy and didn't was to be in his harness. So Santa, Mrs Claus, CROSSY, and LEFTY and ran to the barn to check things out. Santa had a talk with Dasher and found out that Dasher felt, if Santa didn't have to work, Dasher didn't have to either. After CROSSY whispered to Dasher how this trip wouldn't work without him because he knew RIGHT where to go, Christmas might be a failure this year without him and children all over the world were depending on him. Dasher agreed he was needed, calmed down and let ONE of the other elfs put him into his harness.

CROSSY and LEFTY finished packing up the sleigh and off they went. The reindeer knew just where to go and flew off RIGHT to the first house. ONE present here, ONE present there and RIGHT off to the next house. ONE by ONE they delivered present after present. RIGHT when ONE bag emptied it seemed to

magically fill RIGHT up again. The elves were getting tired and night was passing quickly. Turning RIGHT at Canada and LEFT at Mexico, they delivered ONE gift after the other.

LEFTY was beginning to get sleepy when CROSSY excitedly told him we only have ONE more time zone and we will be able to fly RIGHT back to the North pole. Finishing up in Australia with the very last gift CROSSY and LEFTY headed back home to the North Pole. This is where they depended on the reindeer the most; they both sat back and fell asleep. CROSSY noticed that LEFTY slept with ONE eye open and poked him on the RIGHT side to tell him to close both eyes. CROSSY relaxed and fell asleep RIGHT over the Pacific Ocean and both elf's napped until landing RIGHT at the north pole where they started from.

Santa and Mrs. Clause were there waiting for them and were thrilled with the job they did. ONE Christmas that almost wasn't, Santa was feeling better and CROSSY and LEFTY were happy to help out. But CROSSY and LEFTY both decided this was ONE job Santa could keep. Merry Christmas, ONE and all.

By Kathy Ford

This Christmas Left/Right Game was sent by "CAROL" from a Santa Bulletin Board

We have done a "right/left" game with all participants standing in a circle. Use the following story or make one up that is pertinent to your group using the words right and left often, each time the word is said the gift is passed that direction. Eg: "Mr. and Mrs. Right left for the country right as it began to snow. They left in a hurry and forgot the right directions etc." We adapted it to a hospital setting--possibilities are endless. At the end of the story, you keep the gift in your possession.

Christmas was almost here, and Mother RIGHT was finishing the Christmas baking.

Father RIGHT, Sue RIGHT, and Billy RIGHT returned from their last-minute Christmas errands.

"There's not much LEFT to be done," said Father RIGHT as he came into the kitchen.

"Did you leave the basket of food at church?" asked Mother RIGHT.

"I LEFT it RIGHT where you told me to," said Father RIGHT.

"I'm glad my shopping is done," said Billy RIGHT. "I don't have any money LEFT."

The hall telephone rang, and Susan RIGHT LEFT to answer it.

She rushed back and told the family "Aunt Tillie RIGHT LEFT a package for us RIGHT on Grandma RIGHT's porch.

"I'll go over there RIGHT now and get it." she said as she LEFT in a rush.

Father RIGHT LEFT the kitchen and brought in the Christmas tree.

By the time Susan RIGHT returned, Mother RIGHT, Father RIGHT, and Billy RIGHT had begun trimming the tree.

The entire RIGHT family sang carols as they finished the decorating.

Then they LEFT all the presents arranged under the tree and went to bed, hoping they had selected the RIGHT gifts for their family.

Now I hope you have the RIGHT present for yourself, because that's all that's LEFT of our story.....

Except to wish you a Merry Christmas.... Isn't that RIGHT?

**Right Left Christmas Game Nativity Story**

In those days, Caesar Augustus decided to count everyone LEFT living in the whole Roman world. Joseph LEFT, taking Mary with him RIGHT to his town of Bethlehem to register.

When they arrived, there were no rooms LEFT. All of the inns in Bethlehem were RIGHT full. There was just nowhere LEFT for them to stay. Finally, someone offered to let them stay RIGHT in their stable.

Mary was pregnant and while in Bethlehem the RIGHT time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to a boy RIGHT there. RIGHT there in a Bethlehem stable, the Savior of the world was born. Mary wrapped him with LEFT over strips of cloth and laid him RIGHT in a manger.

Some shepherds who lived RIGHT near Bethlehem, were out at night RIGHT in their fields watching over their sheep. RIGHT then, they saw a bright light. The light was so bright that they had to close their eyes. When they opened them again, a beautiful angel was standing RIGHT in the sky RIGHT above them with his arms LEFT opened wide. The shepherds looked RIGHT at each other and were LEFT feeling very afraid.

Then the angel spoke RIGHT to them. "Do not be afraid. I'm RIGHT here to bring you the good news LEFT for all people. Today RIGHT in Bethlehem a baby has been born, He is the RIGHT one, the one that will save the world. You will know the RIGHT baby because He will be LEFT wrapped in cloths, and laying RIGHT in a manger."

RIGHT then, a large group of angels appeared RIGHT there, and they said, "Glory to God, and peace be to all people LEFT on the earth."

The shepherds were LEFT amazed and excited. They had to go RIGHT away to see this baby the angels were talking about.

They LEFT as fast as they could, and soon found Mary, Joseph, and baby Jesus RIGHT were they angels said they would be. The shepherds fell RIGHT to their knees when they saw Jesus, and were LEFT filled with joy that they had found the Savior. They stayed for a short time and then LEFT. As soon as they LEFT they began shouting RIGHT in the streets and telling everyone LEFT in town about what they had seen.

RIGHT after Jesus was born, wise men traveling RIGHT on their camels noticed a very strange star RIGHT in the sky. They knew that the RIGHT One who would save the world had been born.

RIGHT away King Herod got very worried. He assembled all of the important people LEFT in the area and asked them where this baby had been born. The people replied, "RIGHT in Bethlehem."

RIGHT then King Herod called the wise men to meet with him RIGHT away. He asked them to go and find the child RIGHT away. "RIGHT as soon as you find Him," he said, " tell me, so that I can go to Him RIGHT away and worship Him."

After the wise men spoke to the King, they LEFT to find the baby. They didn't know RIGHT where the He was, but followed the star LEFT in the east until it hung RIGHT over the place where Jesus was. When they found Jesus, and they bowed RIGHT down and worshiped him.

RIGHT after that, they opened the gifts they had brought Jesus... gold, frankincense and myrrh. Then they LEFT to find a place to sleep for the night.

That night the wise men all had the same dream RIGHT as they were sleeping. They were not to go RIGHT back and tell King Herod where they had found Jesus. King Herod wanted to kill Jesus because he was jealous of Him. So, the wise men LEFT for home another way so that Herod would not know the RIGHT direction they had come from. They also decided RIGHT then that they would not tell King Herod anything about what they had seen.

When the wise men LEFT , an angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Arise, take Jesus and Mary, and run RIGHT to Egypt. Joseph got up RIGHT away and woke up Mary. She quickly picked Jesus RIGHT up and they LEFT in the middle of the night for Egypt where they would be safe.

RIGHT after King Herod died an angel appeared again RIGHT away to Joseph and told him to go RIGHT to a place called Nazareth. And that's RIGHT where Jesus grew up.

-Author Unknown

**TWAS THE NIGHT BEFORE CHRISTMAS PASS-AROUND GIFT EXCHANGE**

Read fairly slowly pausing at punctuation.

The group forms a circle or sits in a straight row (separate circles or rows if males and females are present). Each holds the gift he brought to the party. While the poem is being read, each person passes his gift to the person on his right when reader says RIGHT; when reader says LEFT, each passes the gift he has to the left. The gift each person has in his hands at the conclusion of the poem is his to keep. NOTE: No one will receive the gift he brought if all pass gifts as directed.

T'was the night RIGHT before Christmas when RIGHT through the house

Not a creature was LEFT stirring, not even a mouse--

The stockings were hung RIGHT by the chimney with care,

in hopes that St. Nicholas soon would be RIGHT there.

The children were nestled RIGHT snug in their beds,

while visions of sugarplums danced RIGHT in their heads,

And mama in her kerchief, and I in my cap,

had just settled RIGHT down for a long winter's nap,

When RIGHT out on the LEFT lawn there rose such a clatter,

I sprang RIGHT from my bed to see what was the matter.

Away to the RIGHT window I LEFT like a flash;

tore open the shutters and threw up the sash.

The moon on the breast of the new-fallen snow

LEFT a luster of midday to objects RIGHT below.

When, what to my wondering eyes should appear,

but a miniature sleight and eight tiny reindeer.

With a little old driver RIGHT lively and quick;

I knew RIGHT in a moment it must be St. Nick.

More rapid than eagles his coursers they came;

and he whistled and shouted, and called them RIGHT by name:

"Now, Dasher! Now, Dancer! Now, Prancer and Vixen!

On Comet, on Cupid, on Donder and Blitzen!

To the RIGHT top of the porch! To the LEFT top of the wall!

Now dash away, dash away, dash RIGHT away all!"

As dry leaves that before the wild hurricane fly

when they meet RIGHT with an obstacle, mount RIGHT up to the sky,

So up to the housetop the coursers they LEFT flew,

with a sleighful of toys and St. Nicholas, too.

And then in a twinkling, I heard RIGHT on the roof,

the prancing and pawing of each little RIGHT and LEFT hoof.

As I drew in my head and was turning LEFT around

down the chimney St. Nicholas came with a bound.

He was dressed all in fur, RIGHT from his head to his LEFT foot,

and his clothes were all LEFT tarnished with ashes and soot.

A bundle of toys he had flung RIGHT on his back,

and he looked like a peddler just opening his pack.

His RIGHT and LEFT eyes, how they twinkled! His dimples how merry!

His cheeks were like roses, his nose like a cherry!

His droll little mouth was LEFT drawn up like a bow,

and the beard LEFT on his chin was as white as the snow.

The stump of a pipe he held RIGHT in his teeth,

and the smoke it encircled his head like a wreath.

He had a broad face and a round little belly,

that shook when he laughed, like a bowl full of jelly.

He was RIGHT chubby and plump, a RIGHT, RIGHT jolly old elf,  
and I laughed when I saw him in spite of myself.

A wink of his LEFT eye and a LEFT twist of his head,  
soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

He spoke not a word, but went RIGHT straight to his work,  
and filled all the stockings; then turned with a jerk

And laying his finger to the LEFT of his nose,  
and giving a nod, he LEFT up the chimney he rose.

He sprang RIGHT to his sleigh, to his team gave a whistle,  
and away they all LEFT like the down of a thistle.

But I heard him exclaim, ere he LEFT--out of sight,  
"Happy Christmas to all and to all a good night!"

-Author Unknown

## WHITE ELEPHANT POEM

This White Elephant Gift Exchange POEM was sent to by "THI ANNA" from my Santa Bulletin Board

1. Lucky you, you're # 1

You get to start all the fun.

So grab a gift and grab it quick.

Cause you're the one who gets first pick.

2. Number 2 you're on the way.

It's time for you to have your say.

Get your gift and when you're done,

Swap it off with number 1.

3. Number 3 its plain to see.

It's your turn to pick which gift 'twill be.

And when your choosing job is through,

Swap with 1 and then with 2.

4. Number 4 must use your head.

So grab a gift that has some red.

If it doesn't suit you to a 'T',

You may swap with 2 or 3.

5. Jump to it 5, don't drag your feet.

Take your gift back to your seat.

Wonder of wonders, it's yours for a spell.

But what comes next, you can never tell.

6. Number 6 it's your time to go.

Grab a gift and don't be slow.

Now put on a smile so they won't be sore,

Cause you must swap with #4.

7. Is a lucky number it seems,

You choose a gift that has some green.

Poke it, and shake it until you get back.

Now trade with someone wearing black.

8. Number 8 its up to you.

To get a gift that has some blue.

Now go quietly to your place.

Or trade with someone with a smiling face.

9. Nine, we haven't forgotten you.

So choose your gift and don't be blue.

Consider well and when all is said.

Trade with someone wearing red.

10. Number 10 come to the front.

For yours you shouldn't have to hunt.

Now hurry back and look alive.

For you get to swap with #5.

11. Your turn 11 is finally here.

Pick a gift and hold it near.

Back at your seat look both ways.

If your choice was right then it may stay.

12. Number 12 jump to it sir/girl.

Make your choice, and with a whirl

Glance around to see who's where.

Swap with whomever's got the darkest hair.

13. Well, now, what do you know.

It's finally 13's turn to go.

There you go, you're doing fine.

Now swap with 3 or 6 or 9.

14. Number 14 it's your turn to shine.

So find a gift and don't you pine.

Somewhere you really have a friend.

You get to trade with number 10.

15. Number 15 how do you do?

There should be a fit up there for you.

So pick one out without delay.

Now trade with someone wearing gray.

16. Number 16 your patience is great.

Go get a gift and don't be late.

When your return, spin around.

And switch with someone wearing brown.

17. 17 your choice is here.

Find a box and hold it near.

When you return and look behind.

Swap with 11 if you don't mind.

18. Number 18 boogie to the tree.

Choose the largest gift you see.

Admire it well, then turn with a wink.

And swap with someone wearing pink.

19. Now #19, do as you're told.

Find a gift which has some gold.

When you've chosen we must be fair,

Trade with whoever has the blondest hair.

20. Number 20 how patiently you've waited.

Go get a gift before it's outdated.

Shake it a bit and look around the floor.

Swap it with someone who's five feet four.

21. 21 it's time for fun.

For swapping time has just begun.

After trading with 4 and 9.

Swap with two even numbers--That's fine.

22. 22 it's time to make your way.

Get a gift that's pretty and gay.

Now get ready to use your bean.

You must swap with 8 and 14.

23. 23 your turn has come.

Choose your gift with a lithe hum.

Look it over and when you're through.

You may swap with a number having 2.

24. Number 24 have you been bored?

Well, we'd like to show you you're adored.

So choose a box, see what you get.

Now you may trade with a brunette.

25. Let's go 25, look alive.

Pick a gift of any size.

Show the gang that you're O.K.

And swap with anyone you say.

26. It's time for 26 to mix.

Get a gift if just for kicks.

For you're to trade, if you have the knack.

With anyone whose shoes aren't black.

27. Number 27 how lucky you are.

You've seen all the gifts chosen so far.

If a pretty box catches your eye.

Grab it, make a trade, and don't be shy.

28. Hop up 28, don't drag your feet.

Study your gift as you reach your seat.

Now grin a bit and smile some more.

Trade with 22, then 24.

29. Number 29 you must wake up.

Run up there as spry as a pup.

Make your choice, isn't this keen?

But you must swap with 17.

30. Number 30 your wait was long.  
But when we're through you'll sing a song.  
Just look them over from small to large.  
See a favorite? Then forward charge!

31. Number 31, how about that?  
On your chair so long you've sat.  
But get a gift, it's not too late.  
And trade with 30, 20, and 8.

32. O.K. 32, jump up quick,  
And snatch your prize.  
Then trade with the person  
With the bluest eyes.

33. Well 33 it's here at last.  
You may break your giftless fast.  
Gaze around at all the lasses.  
Trade with someone wearing glasses.

34. 34, can there be more?  
This poetry may be a bore.  
Find your gift and look around.  
Swap with the youngest member found.

35. 35, it is really true?

That 34's rhymes now are through.

Well, choose your gift, now you see.

You trade with two numbers having 3.

36. 36 your waits been endless.

But now you know that you're not friendless.

Look around and "case the scene".

Then swap with someone wearing green.

37. 37 the end is near.

But have a gift, and never fear.

Now let's shake up the early ones, like 7.

Trade with odd numbers through 11.

38. 38, it's your choosing time.

Please make it better than this rhyme.

When you have it, look around.

And trade with those from out of town.

39. 39, go to the tree.

Choose the smallest gift you see.

If you wish to make a trade.

Find the largest that was made.

40. 39's turn is finally past.

It's number 40's turn at last.

Find your gift and make a date,

To swap with #38.

41. 41 are you still awake?

Go get a gift for heaven's sake.

Pick it up nice and quick.

Then trade with numbers having six.

42. Guess whose turn has come up now.

42, please take a bow.

Choose your gift, isn't it keen.

Now trade with 15 and 19.

43. Oh my goodness, it's getting late.

43, let's see your fate.

Go get yours, sakes alive.

You have to trade with 25.

44. On we go to 44.

There must be at least one more.

Take your pick, are you in heaven?

Alas, you'll swap with 27.

45. 45, it's time for you.

Guess what it is you have to do.

Trade with 28, then 29.

Now you can say, "This one is mine!"

46. Skip on over 46.

Time for you to stir and mix.

Make your choice and then connive,

To swap with #35.

47. 47, we're now to you.

There's a gift for you there, too.

Isn't this a lot of fun?

Now trade with 40, then 41.

48. 48, there's not much left.

Still we won't leave you bereft.

Maybe you'll choose an old, rare wine.

Would you like to swap with 39?

49. 49, are your eyes still open?

Are you sitting there just hopin'?

Trot on up, what's your fate?

Then trade with number 48.

50. We'll wrap this up with #50.

We bet what's left is really nifty.

However, one last swap is due.

With the gal who's sitting left of you.

## The Toy Soldier

(A Fun Christmas Gift Exchange Games Story)

LEFT! LEFT! LEFT, RIGHT, LEFT! LEFT! LEFT! LEFT, RIGHT, LEFT! The little toy soldier wearily marched around the toy shop. He had been marching all night! LEFT! LEFT! LEFT, RIGHT, LEFT! without a single break. He would be so glad when morning came and he could finally stand still again.

He didn't like this business of coming to life at midnight. At the stroke of twelve, all the toys LEFT their positions, sprang to life and busily started playing. RIGHT away Tommy Bear started doing somersaults. Betty ballerina LEFT her stage and danced RIGHT around the toyshop. She hurtled RIGHT over Tootsie Train and pirouetted RIGHT around the family of ducks enjoying their swim on the lake.

But all that poor Toy Soldier could do was march LEFT and RIGHT around the toy shop all night. He was exhausted by morning. LEFT! LEFT! LEFT, RIGHT, LEFT!

Finally morning arrived and he could go back to his position on the shelf RIGHT next to the counter but to the LEFT of the rocking horse.

Maybe some special little boy would come into the shop today, see the Toy Soldier sitting on the shelf RIGHT next to the counter but to the LEFT of the rocking horse and take him home for Christmas. Meanwhile, the Toy Soldier settled down to sleep for the rest of the day dreaming of LEFT! LEFT! LEFT, RIGHT, LEFT!

-Author Unknown

## The Wright's

Christmas Eve would be here soon and Mrs. RIGHT was busy preparing goodies in the kitchen.

The Christmas tarts were almost ready to come out of the oven. The gingerbread men needed frosting, and the turkey still needed to be picked up. There were still a few gifts LEFT to wrap.

There really wasn't much LEFT to be done. Mrs. RIGHT nodded her head as she mentally ticked off everything LEFT to do before Christmas Day. After all, she wanted to get everything just RIGHT for this special day!

Little Danny RIGHT climbed onto a chair and gazed LEFT at the gingerbread men spread out on the counter. Would Momma notice if one was missing? What about just a RIGHT arm or a LEFT leg?

No, she would see what was LEFT and know he'd been nibbling. It wouldn't be RIGHT, he thought with a sigh. Especially not on Christmas Eve with Santa coming tonight! Only a day LEFT!

Mrs. RIGHT poured milk onto Danny's cereal and placed the bowl to the LEFT of his orange juice.

"Eat your breakfast," she told him, "then go RIGHT upstairs and get dressed. We'll go shopping with my list of errands that are still LEFT to do."

Soon they drove out of the driveway and headed RIGHT toward the shopping center. Mrs. RIGHT hoped there would be some of those delicious oranges LEFT. Mr. RIGHT had declared last evening that the new flavor of eggnog was RIGHT out of this world, so she hoped there was some LEFT.

Meanwhile, Mr. RIGHT LEFT the butcher's shop with their Christmas turkey and headed RIGHT down North Avenue. He had one more present to pick up that he'd LEFT until today, and he was very excited that Christmas was finally almost here! He turned RIGHT and pulled into the parking lot.

Mrs. RIGHT and Danny RIGHT arrived home and walked RIGHT into the kitchen. There sat Mr. RIGHT and their daughter Patty RIGHT, each eating a gingerbread man. All that was LEFT of Patty's was one RIGHT arm, and she popped that into her mouth, then wiped with her LEFT sleeve.

"We're finally ready for Christmas", Mrs. RIGHT exclaimed. "Nothing LEFT to do except wish you all a Very Merry Christmas!"

-Author Unknown