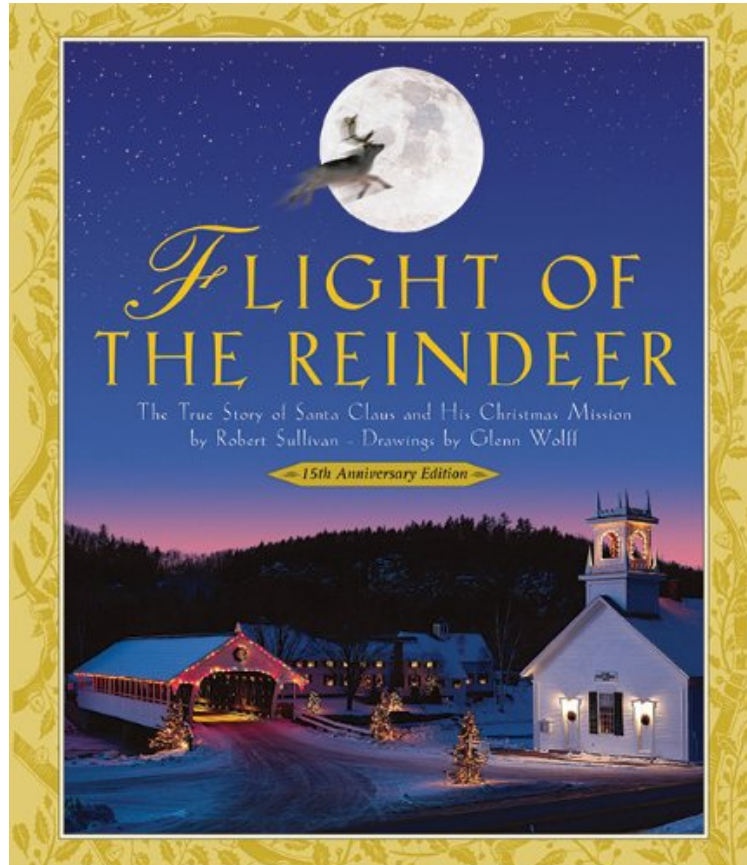


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Flight of the Reindeer: The True Story of Santa Claus and His Christmas Mission

Robert Sullivan

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Robert Sullivan : Flight of the Reindeer: The True Story of Santa Claus and His Christmas Mission before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Flight of the Reindeer: The True Story of Santa Claus and His Christmas Mission:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A Farcical taleBy K. CussonThis book is definitely not for children. More for middle school students IF they are very good readers. The format looks like a children's book so it might have a hard time attracting the right reader. Very heavy into trying to prove the existence of flying reindeer, elves and the Santa Claus described in the Moore poem. If you enjoy collecting all things Santa, this should be in your collection. Otherwise, you might want to skip it.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Wonderful book for the holiday seasonBy Rachel BranningThis is my ABSOLUTE FAVORITE holiday book. It shows real pictures of the north pole, and santa clause. We pass this book around to any kid that is starting to doubt, and they instantly believe again. The history of santa clause and the reindeer is fascinating, and an interesting read. It's a pretty dense book for being so small.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Five StarsBy Carole CaylorOne of my very favorite

christmas movies, it was fun to read the book.

Children have believed the legend forever: On one evening each year a jolly old elf and eight reindeer fly all night long to deliver gifts around the world. The fact is, solid evidence abounds. Robert Sullivan, a senior editor at Life magazine, diligently gathered documentation from scientists, historians, zoologists, and Arctic explorers to prove that Santa is not just a myth. First, the reindeer: Do they really fly? We used to think it was just extended leaping, says Tony Vecchio, director of the Roger Williams Park Zoo in Providence, Rhode Island. But recent evidence has confirmed that it is true flight. And Santa Claus? He's just as real as the gifts he brings, reports Will Steger, the famed Arctic explorer. The gorgeous illustrations, convincing photos, and charming text make this book a special holiday gift.

.com Lest you think that Christmas is just a sentimental commercial venture perpetuated by misguided Victorian-era worshippers, *Flight of the Reindeer* offers proof positive that there is a Santa Claus and yes, reindeer really do know how to fly. Robert Sullivan, a senior editor at Life magazine, diligently gathered documentation from respected scientists, historians, zoologists, and Arctic explorers to prove once and for all that Santa is not just a myth. The gorgeous illustrations, convincing photos, and smoothly written text make this book an ideal gift for children who are teetering on the edge of nonbelief and an even better one for grownups who long ago gave up hope. From Publishers Weekly Will Steger, world famous as a Polar explorer, has written about his exploits in several books. Never before, however, has he revealed his most extraordinary adventure: his 1986 expedition to Santa Claus's village at the North Pole. "Above us, gliding," Steger recalls to Life magazine senior editor Sullivan in this delightful, constantly surprising book, "were a hundred reindeer?two hundred, five hundred! They coated the sky." Steger isn't the only real-life celebrity or scientist here to confirm Santa's existence and to explain details of his "mission." From zoologist Tony Vecchio, director of the Roger Williams Park Zoo (Providence, R.I.) and from Smithsonian writer Bil Gilbert, Sullivan learns of the little-known species of *Rangifer tarandus pearyi*, the flying reindeer from whose ranks are chosen the select few to pull Santa's sleigh. From former president George Bush, he learns that "helping that fellow clear his airspace by signing the Santa Claus Clause was a great privilege of my office." Sir Edmund Hillary lets on that, upon his ascent of Everest, he saw his companion, Tenzing Norgay, "placing some cookies and some chocolates... in the snow." The text is complemented by more than 100 full-color illustrations, including extraordinary photos of Santa and his reindeer caught in flight over Dartmouth, N.H. The wit here may soar over most kids' heads, but for adults this is a cheerful new Christmas classic. 125,000 first printing; major ad/promo; QPB selection; author tour; rights sold in Germany. Copyright 1996 Reed Business Information, Inc. Kids of all ages and many an adult will appreciate this detailed 'true story of Santa Claus and his Christmas mission', pairing 50 color drawings by Glenn Wolff and fifty color photos with folklore and documentation of the Santa legend. The result reads like a quirky science investigative piece as Sullivan strives to exhibit the truth about Santa's mysteries - including questioning reindeer flight. -- Midwest Book