

SPARROW TREE SQUARE



Christmas Joy

*“Oh, tidings of
comfort and joy . . .”*

– from “God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen,”
traditional English carol

All literary selections, quotations, and images contained
herein are in the public domain unless otherwise
specified. All other material © 2016 Megan Friel.

Table of Contents

Poems

<i>A Friend's Greeting</i> by Edgar Guest	1
<i>Carol</i> by Kenneth Grahame	3
<i>Christmas at Melrose</i> by Leslie Pinckney Hill	5
<i>Jest 'Fore Christmas</i> by Eugene Field	7

Story

<i>The Peterkins' Christmas-Tree</i> by Lucretia P. Hale	9
--	---

Connections

Christmas Trees	14
The Christmas Season	15

Activities

Making Christmas Ornaments	16
Making Gingerbread Cake	17

Resources

Further Reading	18
Guide to Illustrations	19

A Friend's Greeting

Edgar Guest

I'd like to be the sort of friend that you have been to me; 1
I'd like to be the help that you've been always glad to be; 2
I'd like to mean as much to you each minute of the day 3
As you have meant, old friend of mine, to me along the way. 4

I'd like to do the big things and the splendid things for you, 5
To brush the gray from out your skies and leave them only blue; 6
I'd like to say the kindly things that I so oft have heard, 7
And feel that I could rouse your soul the way that mine you've stirred. 8

I'd like to give you back the joy that you have given me, 9
Yet that were wishing you a need I hope will never be; 10
I'd like to make you feel as rich as I, who travel on 11
Undaunted in the darkest hours with you to lean upon. 12

I'm wishing at this Christmas time that I could but repay 13
A portion of the gladness that you've strewn along my way; 14
And could I have one wish this year, this only would it be: 15
I'd like to be the sort of friend that you have been to me. 16

EDGAR GUEST (1881—1959) was an American poet. He wrote thousands of poems and became the Poet Laureate of Michigan, the first (and so far only) Poet Laureate for the state.



Two Girls in the Snow by Isaac Israëls