



HOLIDAY BOOKS for Every Reader

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tis the season to gather, do acts of kindness, and to give. These holiday moments we share with family and friends bring joy

and contentment as our year comes to a close and our next chapter begins. This month, in the spirit of the season, I met up with friend and local bookstore owner, Michelle Pierce, who reopened the Lido Village Books at its new location at 3424 Via Lido in Lido Marine Village. We came up with a list of festive and fun books for kids of every age. Below, we unwrap what these great books are all about.

Bear Stays Up for Christmas by Karma Wilson

A wonderful book for babies. Pierce said, "In lilting rhymes, Bear's friends keep him up to see Christmas, learning the power of friendship and community."

Countdown to Christmas by Greg Paprocki

Another great book for babies, "Paprocki has some of the best retro illustrations around; Christmas is coming!!!" said Pierce. Here, littles are learning to countdown from 10 by finding the hidden objects in the charming scenes.

Hello, World! Arctic Animals by Jill McDonald

In winter, our family enjoys books about polar animals. An engaging and fun book that teaches kids about arctic animals, this is a great one for babies and toddlers.

A Very Mercy Christmas by Kate DiCamillo

"Mercy is back in a picture book!" Pierce shared. When Stella wants to go caroling for the holidays, she has a terrible time getting someone to go with her, but Christmas can bring miracles! (Ages: 4-8 years)

K is for Kwanzaa by Juwanda G. Ford

An alphabet book that explains the traditions of Kwanzaa to kids of all ages with colorful illustrations. My kids and I have learned so much from this cute book. (Ages: 4-8 years)

The Tree That's Meant to Be by Yuval Zommer

"Zommer's illustrations are like nothing you have seen before," explained Pierce. Known for his science books, this one is about a lonely tree who learns the power of what it means to be loved. (Ages: 4-8 years)

Hanukkah Cookies With Sprinkles by David A. Adler

A cute book about a community that helps a lonely man during Hanukkah, sharing kindness, joy, and cookies. (Ages: 6-9 years)



Calpurnia Vet: Goats for Christmas

by Jacqueline Kelly

"Callie & Travis need sheep for the Christmas Pageant but the town is low on sheep, so they substitute for goats," said Pierce. Full of misadventures and innocent fun, the Calpurnia Vet series is sure to delight the sweetest of new readers. (Ages: 6-10 years)

Our Friend Hedgehog: A Place to Call Home

by Lauren Castillo

"The seasons are changing and fall is giving way to winter when Hedgehog meets another Hedgehog for the first time," shared Pierce. Friend? Foe? Family? Hedgehog goes on an adventure to understand that families come in all shapes and sizes and some are chosen. (Ages: 6-10 years)

The Christmasaurus by Tom Fletcher

When Santa finds an egg that has been frozen in the ice for thousands of years, he sits on it in wonder of what it could be. William Trundle has always wanted a dinosaur, so when Santa brings him a real one instead of a stuffed one, adventure begins. (Middle Grade)

The Way Past Winter by Kiran Millwood Hargrave

"Inspired by European Folklore," this book "explores topics of grief, inner strength, and unbreakable bonds of friendship," explained Pierce. A book about magic, an eternal winter, and the determination of one girl to bring her family together. (Middle Grade)

The Christmas Clash by Suzanne Park

Chloe and Peter dislike each other and their families are rival business owners in the same mall. When developers give eviction notices to all the businesses before Christmas to put in condos; Chloe and Peter must put aside their differences to save the mall and their families." (Young Adult)

Sugaring Off by Gillian French

A dazzling new novel about love and loss for mature readers; Owl is her freest in the mountains and on her family's sugar farm. She is partly deaf from a childhood trauma that sent her father to prison; this sugar season brings a magnetic young man hired to help, her father released from prison and a girl murdered. It is up to Owl to find the answers.

(Young Adult)