[PDF] A Family Christmas: A Child's Christmas In Wales/The Nutcracker/The Little Match Girl And Other Christmas Favourites

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Description:

From Publishers Weekly Kennedy, who possesses a proven track record for bringing literary anthology into the publishing mainstream, offers a potpourri of her favorite stories, poems, essays, scriptures and songs associated with the holiday season. Though David Sedaris's performance of his whimsical monologue Six to Eight Black Men provides a notable exception, the narration duties fall to a rotating cast of veteran readers. Some standout performances include Barbara Caruso's rendition of Grace Paley's The Loudest Voice, Jeff Woodman's presentation of Truman Capote's A Christmas Memory and Saidah Arrika Ekulona's brief but riveting selection from *Incidents in the Life of a Slave Girl* by Harriet A. Jacobs. Some listeners might have preferred a greater proportion of contemporary recordings from their original sources. Also, some of the letters, telegrams and other correspondences are choppy relative to the overall flow of the collection, and the musical selections sometimes serve as pleasant interludes rather than stand-alone works of expression. However, in an era when Christmas has become a polarized tug-of-war between religious and secular arenas, Kennedy strikes an appealing balance that celebrates diverse perspectives. The enclosed booklet is helpful for tracking down specific material.

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Review "If your inner Grinch still awaits transformation, look no further than Caroline Kennedy's *A Family Christmas*, perhaps the best compendium of holiday literature and music to ever cross this audiophile's desk. . . . this is the real deal: classic stories and favorite carols juxtaposed against witty modern essays from writers known for sentiment and not sentimentality."

- Rochelle O'Gorman, The Plain Dealer (Rochelle O'Gorman The Plain Dealer)

"The recording succeeds in its stated aim, which is to enrich your heart and mind with the spirit of Christmas."

—Winston-Salem Journal (*Winston-Salem Journal*) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

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