

## The Silent Stars Go By: A True Christmas Story

Hill Street Press (Jun 25, 1998)

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The Silent Stars Go By is filled with the nostalgia of Christmas. Set in Madison, Georgia, this touching book tells how life changed for Williams in 1959 as he spent his last Christmas in the country. He brings back Christmases of the era with insight, affection and a keen eye for the world around him.

Williams' brother, new baby sister and parents were the center of his life. The old farm house on Buckhead Road, even though cold and drafty, was always warm with love, music, literature, and wearing a double pair of socks around the old stove. But uppermost in this boy's mind was being good in hopes that maybe he would get that red football uniform for Christmas and then fulfill his dream of helping to send the Morgan County Bulldogs to the state finals. His memory of that final game is exciting and a dream fulfilled before his life changes and he has to leave behind the old farm house and the woods, where he, his father and his brother would go in search for the perfect cedar tree every Christmas.

Readers who have ever gathered eggs in a chicken house for Christmas breakfast and felt them when they were still warm, will recognize this timeless and memorable Christmas story. Those who have missed that, or grew up in the city will nonetheless enjoy reading, and remembering, the universal moments in The Silent Stars Go By. Williams is the author of eight books, including the acclaimed Heart of a Distant Forest.

PAT WOLFF (January / February 1999)

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