# NEW CELA Titles – Printable List – The Christmas Edition

Last updated: 2022.11.18

## The Christmas spirit: A novel by Debbie Macomber

### Contemporary romance

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24130018>

Peter Armstrong and Hank Colfax are best friends, but their lives couldn’t be more different. Peter, the local pastor who is dedicated to his community, spending time visiting the flock, attending meetings, and, with the holiday season approaching, preparing for the Christmas service and live nativity. As a bartender, Hank serves a much different customer base at his family-owned tavern, including a handful of lonely regulars and the local biker gang. When Peter scoffs that Hank has it easy compared to him, the two decide to switch jobs until Christmas Eve. To their surprise, the responsibilities of a bartender and a pastor are similar, but taking on the other’s work is more difficult than either Peter or Hank expected. As the two begin to see each other in a new light—and each discovers a new love to cherish—their lives are forever changed.

## Santa's little yelpers (An Andy Carpenter Novel #26) by David Rosenfelt

### Mysteries and crime stories, Animal stories

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24105058>

Tis the season in Paterson, New Jersey: Lawyer Andy Carpenter and his golden retriever, Tara, are surrounded by holiday cheer. It's even spread to the Tara Foundation. The dog rescue organization, not used to having puppies, has their hands full with a recent litter. Eight puppies are a lot to handle, and Andy is relieved when his co-worker Chris Myers agrees to foster them. Myers, a newer employee at the Tara Foundation, did time for a crime he swears he didn't commit. When Myers discovers a key witness against him lied on the stand, he goes to Andy to ask for representation in getting the conviction overturned. Myers thinks they can have this wrapped up by Christmas, no problem. But when the witness is murdered, and Myers is arrested for the crime, things go from bad to worse. Suddenly, it's all elves on deck to make a list and check it twice, so they can prove Myers is innocent.

## Season of love by Helena Greer

### Romance, Multi-cultural fiction, LGBTQ+ fiction

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24105044>

Thanks to her thriving art career, Miriam Blum finally has her decoupaged glitter ducks in a row—until devastating news forces her to a very unwanted family reunion. Her beloved great-aunt Cass has passed and left Miriam part-owner of Carrigan's, her (ironically) Jewish-run Christmas tree farm. But Miriam's plans to sit shiva, avoid her parents, then put Carrigan's in her rearview mirror are spoiled when she learns the business is at risk of going under. To have any chance at turning things around, she'll need to work with the farm's grumpy manager—as long as the attraction sparking between them doesn't set all their trees on fire first. Noelle Northwood wants Miriam Blum gone —even if her ingenious ideas and sensitive soul keep showing Noelle there's more to Cass's niece than meets the eye. But saving Carrigan's requires trust, love, and risking it all—for the chance to make their wildest dreams come true.

## Bones of Holly (Sarah Booth Delaney mysteries series #25) by Carolyn Haines

### Mysteries and crime stories, Gentle mysteries

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24102247>

Sarah Booth and Tinkie, along with baby Maylin, are in Bay St. Louis, Mississippi for Christmas this year, as judges for the annual library tree decorating contest. The other two judges are writers Sandra O'Day and Janet Malone. They're bestselling Mississippi authors, but bitter competitors. In fact, the feud between them is the stuff of legends. For years, they've brawled, their sales skyrocketing with each cat fight. Sandra's most recent true crime book documents the 1920s rum-running era of Al Capone, who built a mansion in BSL and a distribution network for his liquor. Janet's book, scheduled to be published in January, is a fictional account of the same material—which only heightens their bitter rivalry. Sarah Booth and Tinkie are shopping with little Maylin when they see Sandra and Janet outside a bookstore, fur flying, and when Sandra vanishes from her own gala later that night, suspicion turns to Janet. Janet accuses Sandra of attempting to manipulate the media by a fake disappearance, but is it a stunt, or is something more sinister at play? Sarah Booth and Tinkie will have to dive deep into the history of Bay St. Louis, and even Al Capone himself, to get to the bottom of this case. But the trail in fact leads them back to several prominent families still residing in the area. Families who may not want their secrets known.

## The cowboy cookie challenge: a Twilight, Texas novel by Lori Wilde

### Contemporary romance

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24129679>

He's sexy, single, and he can bake! Roan Sullivan is the answer to Jazzy Walker's prayers. The doting single dad is also fresh off his win on a popular cooking show and a whiz at campfire cooking, so who better to help her win this year's annual cookie bake-off? With his help, Jazzy is sure she can finally take first prize right out the grasping hands of Andi Browning, the gal who stole her fiancé right from under her nose. A widower with a four-year-old daughter, Roan tells himself there's a million reasons not to help Jazzy. She's too kind, too optimistic, and could do so much better than hitching up with a curmudgeon like him. But every time she draws near, he can't help but wonder if he could open his heart and love again. As the holidays come closer, the magic of Twilight starts to weave its spell...and soon it's not just the competition that's heating up, it's the hot sizzle between Roan and Jazzy.

## Christmas past: the fascinating stories behind our favorite holiday's traditions by Brian Earl

### Short stories

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24172715>

The Fascinating Stories Behind Our Favorite Holiday's Traditions reveals the surprising, quirky, mysterious, and sometimes horrifying stories behind the most wonderful time of the year. With twenty-six short chapters, Christmas Past is a festive, digestible Advent calendar of a book. Covering traditions ancient and modern, it's filled with stories of happy accidents, cultural histories, criminal capers (including tomb raiders and con artists), and hidden connections between Christmas and broader social, economic, and technological influences. How did the invention of plate glass forever change the Christmas season? What common Christmas item helped introduce fine art to the masses? Why do Americans typically spike their eggnog with rum rather than the traditional brandy? And speaking of booze, does using the phrase "Merry Christmas" mark you as a drunken reveler? Christmas Past answers all those questions and many more.

## Dashing through the snowbirds (Meg Langslow mystery series #32) by Donna Andrews

### Humourous fiction, Women sleuths

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24102122>

Christmas in Caerphilly is wonderful! Unless you're a Canadian whose inconsiderate boss is forcing you to spend the holiday there, far from family and friends, with only a slim chance of a white Christmas. Meg already has her hands full, trying to make the season festive for the dozen programmers who are staying with her and Michael while working on a rush project with her brother's software company. At least it's an interesting project, since the Canadian company is doing forensic genealogy and DNA analysis. When the inconsiderate boss is found murdered, there are too many suspects. Even before their Christmas in exile, his own employees had plenty of motives, and the growing number of people suing the company for faulty DNA analysis and invasion of their genetic privacy include at least one notorious murderer. Can Meg crack the case in time to keep the Yuletide bright?

## The best husband money can buy: A holiday novella by Mary Jo Putney

### Romance, Historical romance

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24130056>

Money can buy many things, but does that include a good, loving husband? Emma Stone was raised a part of a large, loving aristocratic family, but after she was orphaned she became a tired, lonely governess. Then through an act of kindness, she inherits an unexpected fortune and realizes that she can now have the husband and family she craves. Anthony Vaughn, the dashing distant cousin she'd admired as a child now needs a fortune to pay his father's debts and preserve his family estate. Together they strike a bargain—even though Emma knows she risks not only her fortune but her heart.

## Kiss her once for me by Alison Cochrun

### Romance, LGBTQ+ fiction

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24172649>

One year ago, recent Portland transplant Ellie Oliver had her dream job in animation and a Christmas Eve meet-cute with a woman at a bookstore that led her to fall in love over the course of a single night. But after a betrayal the next morning and the loss of her job soon after, she finds herself adrift, alone, and desperate for money. Finding work at a local coffee shop, she's just getting through the days—until Andrew, the shop's landlord, proposes a shocking, drunken plan: a marriage of convenience that will give him his recent inheritance and alleviate Ellie's financial woes and isolation. They make a plan to spend the holidays together at his family cabin to keep up the ruse. But when Andrew introduces his new fiancée to his sister, Ellie is shocked to discover it's Jack—the mysterious woman she fell for over the course of one magical Christmas Eve the year before. Now, Ellie must choose between the safety of a fake relationship and the risk of something real.

## Sherlock Holmes and the twelve thefts of Christmas by Tim Major

### Mysteries and crime stories

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24173473>

A thrilling chase as Sherlock Holmes is sent a fiendish puzzle by Irene Adler over a snowy London Christmas, in this stunningly packaged mystery Sherlock Holmes's discovery of a mysterious musical score initiates a devious Christmas challenge set by Irene Adler, with clues that are all variations on the theme of "theft without theft," such as a statue missing from a museum found hidden in the room it was taken from. In the snowy London lead-up to Christmas, Holmes's preoccupation with the "Adler Variations" risks him neglecting the case of his new client, Norwegian arctic explorer Fridtjof Nansen, who has received a series of threats in the form of animal carcasses left on his doorstep. Could they really be gifts from a strange spirit that has pursued Nansen since the completion of his expedition to cross Greenland? And might this case somehow be related to Irene Adler's great game?

## One last gift: A novel by Emily Stone

### Contemporary romance

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24105057>

Sometimes the best gifts in life are the ones you don’t expect. Cassie and Tom lost their parents at a young age and relied on each other—as well as a community of friends—to cope. They were especially close with Tom’s best friend, Sam, who always made sure that Tom and Cassie were surrounded with love. But, twenty years later, Cassie has lost Tom as well. And in a way, she’s also lost Sam; over the years they’d drifted apart, and now the man she always had a crush on is someone she doesn’t even recognize anymore. She’s never felt more alone. Then Cassie finds an envelope with her name on it, written in Tom’s terrible handwriting, and she knows immediately what it is. It’s the first clue in the Christmas scavenger hunt that Tom made for her every year; he’d promised her for months that this year’s would be the grandest one yet. At first, she’s too scared to open the envelope—what if she can’t figure out the clues without his help? Or what if she does figure them all out and her last connection to Tom is gone? Tom’s present sets Cassie on a heart-wrenching and beautiful journey that will change her life—if she lets it. And as she travels from London to the Welsh mountains to the French countryside, she reconnects with old friends, rekindles a lost love, and, most important, rediscovers herself. But once she’s solved the final clue, will she be brave enough to accept the gift her brother has given her—and the love it’s led her to?

## Christmas in blue dog valley: A novel by Annie England Noblin

### Animal stories

Available in human narrated audio: <https://celalibrary.ca/node/24173339>

When Goldie McKenzie, DVM, vet to the L.A. pet stars, arrives from Los Angeles to Blue Dog Valley she realizes three things: never agree to upend your life when you're hungover; Pot-belly pigs are not true farm animals; she's going to need a warmer coat. At first Goldie is nothing more than a fish out of water, with few clients and few friends. But after a less than pleasant encounter with a man whose dog is suffering from a possibly fatal case of bloat, she's finally earning the trust and goodwill from her fellow Blue Dog Valley citizens. Her clientele grows to include the many farm animals in the town, including a horse named Large Marge, a cape-wearing therapy alpaca, and a yardful of sweater-wearing goats. Add in Kevin, the "worst sheepdog in Blue Dog Valley," and a Sphinx cat named Airport, and Goldie is having the best time a vet can have. . . aside from the annoying attractive town grump, Cohen, who seems intent on making sure she always feels like an outsider. With her newfound goodwill, Goldie comes up with an idea to reinvigorate the once flourishing Blue Dog Valley: a Christmas carnival. A petting zoo, pictures with Santa, a baking contest, what more could they want? After only some brief resistance from Cohen and his father, they begin the great plan to reinvigorate Blue Dog Valley. Will Christmas be enough to salvage this dying town—and be enough to bring Goldie closer to a certain grumpy man?