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# Away In A Manger Advent Calendar



## Synopsis

The beautiful artwork of British illustrator Bernadette Watts brings warmth and wonder to this classic Nativity scene. Open each tiny door leading to reveal a new detail in the picture.

## Book Information

Age Range: 2 and up

Calendar: 1 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 27 customer reviews

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## Customer Reviews

The beautiful artwork of British illustrator Bernadette Watts brings warmth and wonder to this classic Nativity scene. Open each tiny door leading to reveal a new detail in the picture.

Bernadette Watts is the author-illustrator of two earlier books about Harvey Hare: Harvey Hare, Postman Extraordinaire and Happy Birthday, Harvey Hare!

I wanted to do an advent calendar with my children this year. This was the only one I could find on .com that didn't have a secular picture on the front, so I went with it. Here are some things about it,- The doors are tough to close and keep shut (for next year)- Some of the facts aren't exactly biblical- The entire Christmas story isn't told. e.g. No wise men!! I'm writing out what is behind each door, so you can make a better decision. 1. A long, long time ago in Judea, 2. Caesar Augustus issued a decree 3. that all the world should be taxed 4. and everyone must go to the city of his birth 5. to be counted 6. Joseph and Mary, who lived in Galilee, in the city of Nazareth, had to journey to Bethlehem, where Joseph had been born. 7. Mary packed a bundle for the journey 8. Joseph fetched the donkey 9. and they set off for Bethlehem 10. It was a long journey 11. Mary, who was expecting

her first baby soon, rode on the donkey whenever she grew tired.<sup>12</sup> How happy they were to see in the distance Bethlehem at last!<sup>13</sup> When they reached Bethlehem, Joseph set about trying to find a place for them to stay.<sup>14</sup> He went from door<sup>15</sup> to door<sup>16</sup>. But all the inns were full.<sup>17</sup> One kind innkeeper offered them shelter in his humble stable.<sup>18</sup> Gratefully, Joseph and Mary hurried through the dark night to the stable.<sup>19</sup> They shared the stable with a donkey and an ox<sup>20</sup>. Joseph lit a lamp<sup>21</sup>. Mary laid fresh straw in the manger.<sup>22</sup> Creatures large and small made their way to Bethlehem<sup>23</sup>. Everyone followed the shining star to a humble stable.<sup>24</sup> And there, on this holy night, the baby Jesus was born. Mary wrapped the baby in swaddling clothes and laid Him in a manger. There were shepherds in the fields tending their sheep, and an angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the lord shone round them. And the angel said, Fear not, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy. For unto you is born this day a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Then before them appeared a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace good will toward men."

Growing up, I was given an advent calendar every year for Christmas. Most of these advent calendars were just paper doors with pictures behind them, sometimes part of a story. I've heard of advent calendars with chocolate or other items behind the doors, but for me, opening a door each day in anticipation of Christmas was enough. This calendar was nice and sturdy paper, not as flimsy as some I've seen recently. It has a stand in the back so it can be stood upright on a table or shelf. The artwork is beautiful, and the family I gave it to thought it was a lovely addition to their holiday decorations. Behind each door is not only a picture, but a small part of the Christmas story. When all of the doors have been opened, the full story can be read, making it much more interesting than just a series of pictures.

Enjoyed this story advent calendar. It was nice not having candy in each day, and to read a bit of the story and watch it unfold. Unfortunately, some of the parts of the story were not distributed evenly. We would have a different person read each night, and sometimes someone would get "from door" and the next day would be "to door" and another person would have practically a whole paragraph! Overall, we did like it and it was a nice part of Christmas this year. :-)

I wasn't sure what to expect from this, but we love it! (our son is 5) Behind each flap is a picture and a part of the Christmas story... 1 "A long long time ago in Judea" 2 "Caesar Augustus issued a decree" 3 "That all the world shall be taxed" The calendar itself is pretty thin/flimsy, but this has not

been a problem for us.

I bought this advent calendar last year and I'll be happy to buy it again this year. I have no little ones at home any more, but I could not do without the traditional advent calendar. I grew up (in England) with one every year, and that has not changed in the 54 years I've been alive. I love glitter on my advent calendar and this one is just right. I did find the doors rather big, and once the 24th arrives you really can't see the pretty picture any more. Other than that, all is well.

This Advent calendar was very nice. I was a pretty picture, well made Advent Calendar. If you are looking for a basic Advent Calendar, buy early and put it away for next year, as of this writing (12/23)

I bought this Advent calendar, even though I wasn't particularly attracted by the art. It has turned out to be one of the very best Advent calendars I have ever seen. The window that opens for each day has inside it a part of the story of the Nativity, starting with the edict of Caesar Augustus and ending with the angels' hymn. Today I received by email a video of my 8-year-old granddaughter reading the Christmas story from the calendar. How could it possibly get better than that?

We purchased this advent calendar to use with our 4 year old, and he is LOVING it. He looks forward to opening a new window every day, and I love the daily reading of a Bible-centered portion of the Christmas story to help him understand what happened that first Christmas. I highly recommend this!

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