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opening extract from

Santa's Littlest Helper Travels the World

written by

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published by

Bloomsbury Children's Books

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In a little village far far to the north, Santa and his Helpers were very very busy – just like every year. They were wrapping presents, baking mince pies, polishing the sleighs and grooming the reindeer. It was a hive of activity!

But one of Santa's Helpers had started preparing long before the others. He had finished packing his sleigh and even had enough time to build a lovely big snowman. He was, of course, Santa's Littlest Helper!

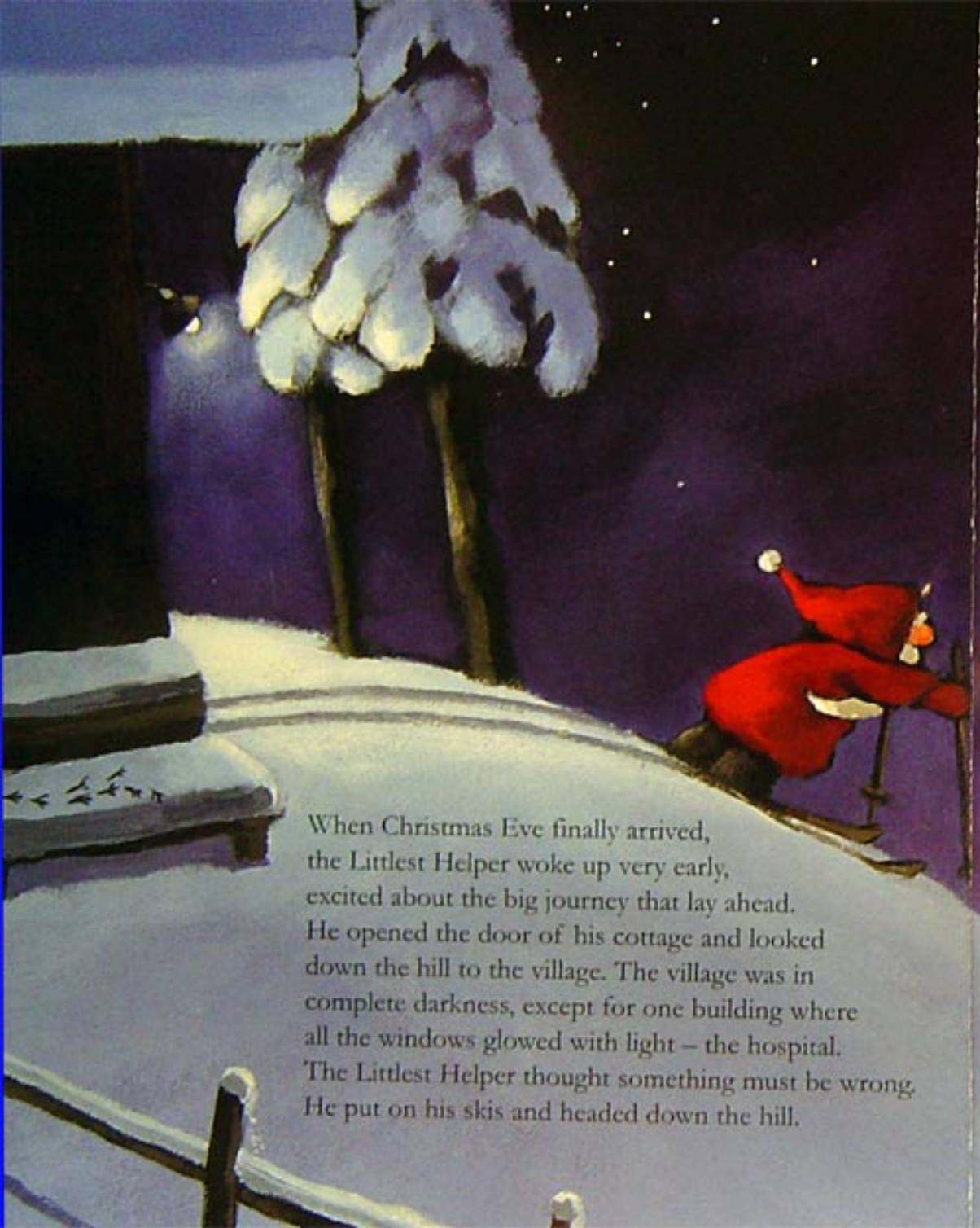
The other Helpers moaned because they still had so much to do.

"We've only three more days to go! Can't you give us a hand?" they asked the Littlest Helper.

"Why should I?" he teased.

"It's all right for some!" said the other Helpers.

The Littlest Helper chuckled and then happily joined in loading the sleighs anyway. Every year they helped Santa deliver presents to children around the world – everyone except for Santa's Littlest Helper. He had the special job of delivering presents to all the animals.



When Christmas Eve finally arrived,
the Littlest Helper woke up very early,
excited about the big journey that lay ahead.
He opened the door of his cottage and looked
down the hill to the village. The village was in
complete darkness, except for one building where
all the windows glowed with light – the hospital.
The Littlest Helper thought something must be wrong.
He put on his skis and headed down the hill.

