



The Stupidest Angel: A Heartwarming Tale of Christmas Terror (Pine Cove Series)

By Christopher Moore

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'Twas the night (okay, more like the week) before Christmas, and all through the tiny community of Pine Cove, California, people are busy buying, wrapping, packing, and generally getting into the holiday spirit.

But not everybody is feeling the joy. Little Joshua Barker is in desperate need of a holiday miracle. No, he's not on his deathbed; no, his dog hasn't run away from home. But Josh is sure that he saw Santa take a shovel to the head, and now the seven-year-old has only one prayer: Please, Santa, come back from the dead.

But hold on! There's an angel waiting in the wings. (Wings, get it?) It's none other than the Archangel Raziel come to Earth seeking a small child with a wish that needs granting. Unfortunately, our angel's not sporting the brightest halo in the bunch, and before you can say "Kris Kringle," he's botched his sacred mission and sent the residents of Pine Cove headlong into Christmas chaos, culminating in the most hilarious and horrifying holiday party the town has ever seen.

Move over, Charles Dickens -- it's Christopher Moore time.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This audiobook starts off innocently enough—with a few minutes of bright, punchy Christmas music—but as we meet each resident of Pine Cove, Calif., the story bends, becoming as twisted as an image in a funhouse mirror. Lena Marquez is the sanest of the bunch, even if she does have a habit of wreaking violence on her ex-husband, known here as the "Evil Developer." Then there's Lena's best friend Molly, a former B-movie actress who hears voices, occasionally believes herself to be "The Warrior Babe of the Outland" and is married to the town constable, Theo, a former pot addict who's slipping off the wagon. To top that off, there's Tucker, a lonely pilot who has a Micronesian fruit bat for a pet, and a rather witless archangel named Raziel who comes to Earth to grant one boy's Christmas wish. It is that wish which turns this Christmas comedy into a holiday horror story. Roberts narrates the whole affair with skill, using his warm, hearty voice to great effect. His is the kind of voice that one would expect to hear in the audio version of *A Christmas Carol* or a children's storybook, which makes him the perfect reader for this book since it is, in part, a parody of the Christmas classics—albeit a gruesomely entertaining one. Whether crooning a few bars of the blues, personifying the dead or delivering one of the story's uplifting messages ("Life is messy. People generally suck"), Roberts's velvet voice rings with mirth, accentuating the humor and absurdity of each moment. Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

From [Booklist](#)

Readers of *The Lust Lizard of Melancholy Cove* (1999), the cast of which returns in this yarn, will confirm that, if any town could put the *eerie* back in Merry Christmas (whaddaya mean it's never been there--aintcha read Dickens?), it would be Moore's cut-rate California coastal paradise, Pine Cove. It all begins a few chapters in, when Dale Pearson accosts his ex, Lena Marquez, while she is stealing Christmas trees and ends up with a shovel-blade in the neck. Seven-year-old Josh Barker glimpses Dale's demise and, since Dale has on his Caribou Lodge Santa suit, assumes the jolly old elf's been offed; his Christmas wish becomes to have Santa back. Unfortunately, dim-bulb angel Raziel has drawn angelic Christmas duty, which is to grant one child's Christmas wish, and eventually (nothing is ever in a hurry in Moore's lurching, Margaritaville version of the world, though it reads fast) Dale/Santa is resurrected, along with quite a contingent from the same graveyard, just in time for the Christmas party in the nearby chapel. Delirious! *Ray Olson*
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Review

"You'll laugh your head off. Grade: A." (Rocky Mountain News)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Diana Castillo:

Why don't make it to be your habit? Right now, try to ready your time to do the important action, like looking for your favorite guide and reading a e-book. Beside you can solve your condition; you can add your knowledge by the publication entitled *The Stupidest Angel: A Heartwarming Tale of Christmas Terror (Pine Cove Series)*. Try to make the book *The Stupidest Angel: A Heartwarming Tale of Christmas Terror (Pine Cove Series)* as your buddy. It means that it can for being your friend when you sense alone and beside that

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James Rutledge:

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Sophie Clark:

Are you kind of stressful person, only have 10 or 15 minutes in your day to upgrading your mind proficiency or thinking skill even analytical thinking? Then you are experiencing problem with the book compared to can satisfy your short time to read it because pretty much everything time you only find guide that need more time to be examined. *The Stupidest Angel: A Heartwarming Tale of Christmas Terror (Pine Cove Series)* can be your answer since it can be read by anyone who has those short extra time problems.

Katrina Hering:

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