

THE BOOK OF NOT SO NICE

A New Family Holiday Tradition



By Mr. E. Mike

Author's Message

For over 8 years, the Celebration of Pete Noir has been a family tradition in our house. I created the stocking hunting game for my three sons. I wanted to add to the excitement of Christmas and give the young boys something to do other than just open presents. I also wanted them to know that they weren't always the nicest children during the year. As a teacher I see both sides of kids. Most of the time they are nice but sometimes they are not so nice. So to remind them that good behavior does matter, I revamped an ancient European character.

I call him Pete Noir but others know him as Black Peter. I have made a number of changes to both the Santa legend and the story of Black Peter. Since they are characters of the imagination, I have complete liberty to do with them as I will.

The result is a new family tradition I would like to share with you. To this day even as teenagers my sons look forward to the riddles, clues, maps, and the hunt that makes their Christmas always something to remember. For my four year old daughter, it is even more magical. She loves the search for the stocking. Pete Noir's stocking hunt makes for an excellent photo opportunity and provides lasting memories of a family holiday.

I hope you and your children enjoy the story and the game.

Mr. E. Mike

Many people don't know this but Santa is really a gnome.

Many people don't know that gnomes are the most magical beings in world.

Gnomes can make almost anything.

Gnomes can be anywhere at any time.

Santa like all gnomes can shrink himself to the size of a mouse or grow to the size of a mountain.





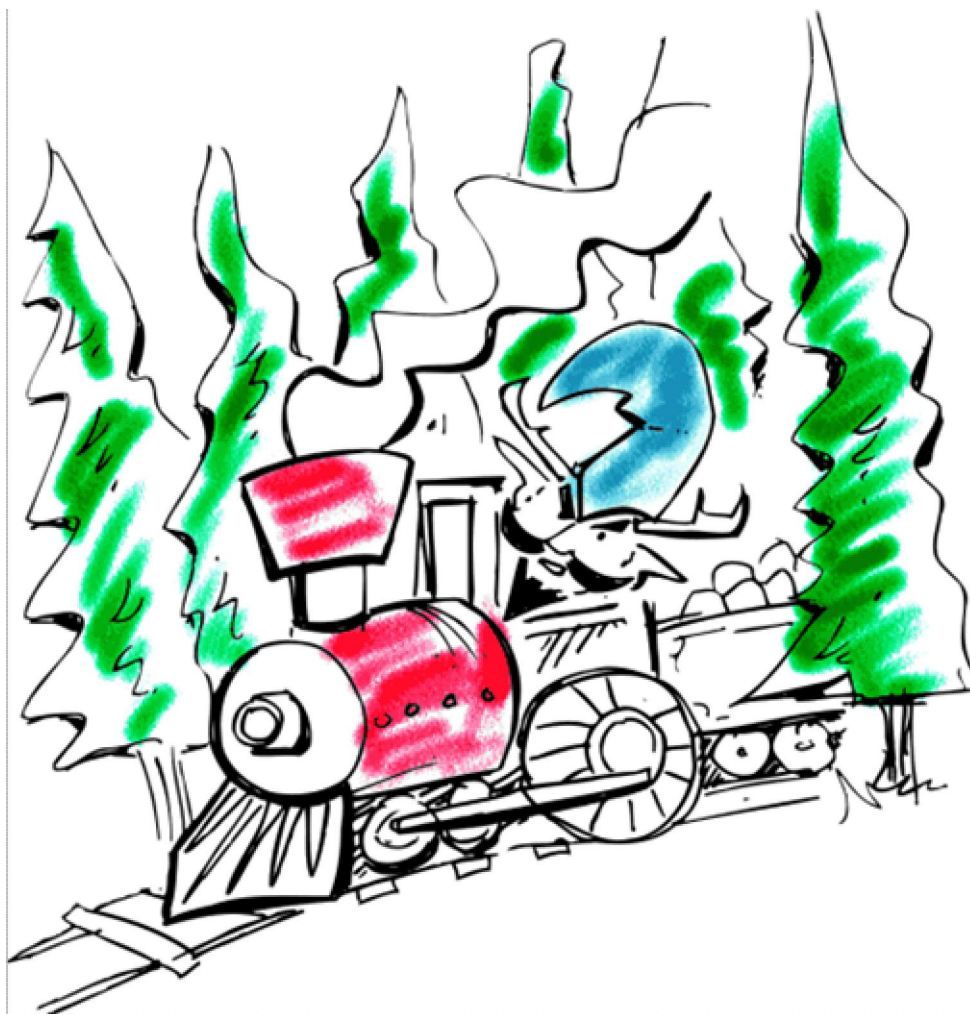
Another thing many people don't know is that Santa has an older brother named Pete Noir. Pete doesn't live at the North Pole in a beautiful house.

He lives in a coal mine deep in a magical forest.



Santa likes to make toys, candy, and decorate the forests in beautiful lights. Pete labors in the mine digging the coal that heats houses and runs factories.

Pete makes steel and machines people use to make their everyday life better. Pete's life is filled with hard work but his hard work makes things easier for common folk.



One day Pete decided to visit his brother Santa. It had been 1000 years since they had last seen each other. So, he drove his train to the North Pole.

Santa was overjoyed when he saw his brother. They immediately started to tell each other about all their new inventions and creations.



Pete had invented a new way to make steel, a train that didn't need tracks and a way to turn lead into gold. Santa was quite impressed. He shared his inventions with Pete.

Santa had invented a powder that made reindeer fly. A bag that could hold any amount of items and a sleigh that could land on any surface.



Santa took the most pride in his workshop. He had tamed the wild and mischievous elves and put them to work in his shop.

Elves are about the size of a mouse and there are millions of them. They never get tired and they cause mischief and mayhem when they are not busy.

Santa had managed to tame most of them and put them to work.

“What work are the elves doing,” Asked Pete?

“Building toys,” replied Santa.

“What do you do with all those toys?” questioned Pete.

“I give them to all the children in the world.” Santa proudly stated.



“You give the toys to the nice children and also to the not so nice children,” questioned a bewildered Pete?

“I sure do. One night every year I fly around the world and give all my toys away.” Santa stated.

“That doesn’t seem very fair,” said Pete.

“What do you mean,” replied Santa?

“You are giving everyone a reward no matter if they were nice or not so nice. You are not giving any of these children a reason to be nice,” said Pete.

“What you mean by that” was Santa’s reply.

So, Pete explained.

“Not being nice doesn’t take any effort. Anyone can be that way. All someone has to do is think only of themselves. If a person doesn’t care about how others will feel, that can be not so nice. If a person doesn’t respect others or their property, that is not so nice.”



“To be nice takes effort and thought,” continued Pete.



“Thinking of others first is not always easy. Respecting other people’s feelings and property can take effort. Helping others requires more effort. It takes a special person to sacrifice something for another. Being nice deserves to be

recognized and being not so nice does not need rewarded.”

Santa disagreed with Pete Noir and pulled out his **Book of Nice** to show Pete Noir how many children were nice. The **Book of Nice** contained all the names of every child that did a nice thing during the year. It also listed what nice things the child did. The book was quite large.



Pete Noir pulled out his **Book of Not So Nice** and it listed the name of every not so nice child and their misbehavior. The **Book of Not So Nice** was three times as large as the **Book of Nice**. Many of the children's names were listed in both books.

“I can’t let you do this anymore, little brother.” said Pete Noir. “I am just going to take all the toys and stuff them in my coal mine.”



“Oh no, you are not,” stated Santa. “I’ll just take all the toys back out of the mine and give them all away again.”

This discussion went on for some time.

Seeing that neither one could stop the other. They decided to compromise.

So every Christmas, Santa flies around the world delivering toys and filling stockings of all the children of the world.



Every year Pete Noir travels in his train to visit all the homes where Santa stopped.

If the child's name only appeared in the **Book of Nice**, Pete Noir would leave the toys and stocking untouched.

If the child was in both the book of Nice and the **Book of Not So Nice**, Pete would take their stockings and hide them. He would

then leave clues or maps so the children had to work to get rewarded. This would make up for all the nice things they did not do.

For the children whose names only appear in the **Book of Not So Nice**, Pete Noir leaves only a lump of coal.



To all those children whose name appears in both the **Book of Nice** and the **Book Not So Nice**, good luck finding your stockings.

You've been good
Most of the year
Santa's presents
make that clear
But in my book
of Not So Nice
I saw your name
once or twice
Your stocking is gone
It's not in sight
I hid it from you
Late last night
Follow the arrows
They mark the way
You might find it
If you search all day

Pete Noir

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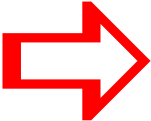

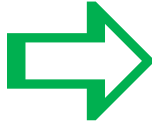


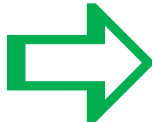


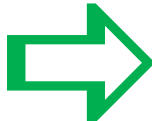
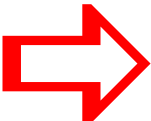

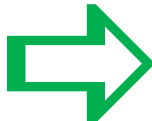
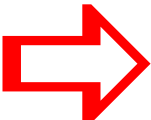

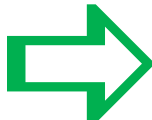
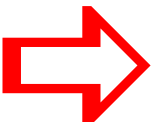

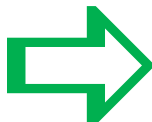
Pete Noir

You've been good
Most of the year
Santa's presents
make that clear
But in my book
of Not So Nice
I saw your name
once or twice
Your stocking is gone
It's not in sight
I hid it from you
Late last night
Follow the arrows
They mark the way
You might find it
If you search all day

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Pete Noir

How to play the Pete Noir stocking hunting game

Parents:

1. Cut out the notes and the arrows. Use the different colored notes and arrows if there is more than one child going to play the game. If there is more than one player, searching one at a time will cut down on the confusion.
2. Fill your children's stockings with as many presents and goodies as it can hold.
3. Take it from where it has been hung.
4. Replace it with the note from Pete Noir.
5. Hide the stocking somewhere in the house.
6. Mark a path to the stocking's hiding spot with the arrows.
7. (Note) Arrows do not have to be placed on the ground. Arrows can be partially hidden and placed in areas that make the player look all round the rooms.
8. The more creative the path the more fun the player will have finding the stocking.
9. Make sure you have batteries or film for the camera.

Have Fun.