The Gift

By William Hardman

Once upon a time there was a boy called Tom who was a clever person, he was very helpful. He did the dishes every week and folds the washing. Tom was playing in his garden on Christmas Day. He was building a snowman with all the snow heaped on the grass in his back garden. In the snow that he used to make his snowman, he saw a red ribbon poking out of one of the gigantic snowballs of the snowman’s body. He pulled the ribbon but the object that was attached was quite heavy, so he had to destroy his snowman. In the heap of snow that was left, he saw a carefully wrapped present. It was wrapped in gold. When he opened it, inside he found a very mysterious object. It looked like a compass but a very odd one. It looked like some sort of time machine, he twisted and turned it, but it just laid there in his hand. He also found a piece of paper along with the mysterious object. It said, “Twist to the left, twist to the right, and flip it upside down and the answer you’ll find.” When Tom did that, he saw a glistening sparkling worm hole. He began to scream as he was sucked in!

Tom found himself in a land that looked like Santa’s Workshop from one of those Christmas adverts, and out of the corner of his eye he spotted a flash of green. He followed the flash and saw the most amazing sight he had ever encountered in his life! There were hundreds, maybe even thousands of little green elves rushing around amongst presents. One was making a dolls house, another was making a train. Some were even making a toy rocket ship out of wood.

He turned to his left and he saw a long narrow corridor. At the end of the corridor there was a humungous sign saying “Santa’s Office”. He walked down the corridor until he reached door, then he went inside. He saw Santa! He was looking at a long list that went from his desk all the way down to his printer which was a few miles away. You might think that was quite a long way for a printer to be, but actually here in the North Pole it’s really just two feet away. Santa looked up from his reading and said “Oh Tom, I see you found the present that dropped out of my sleigh last year. I did think I should have gone down to get that present before anyone discovered it. It is my special transportation machine it transports me to the North Pole so I don’t get lost in Dundee or anywhere like that.”

“So that is what this thing is, it does look very awkward,” said Tom.

“N is for North Pole, W is for Wet Sparkling River, a very famous landmark here in the North Pole. E is for the Enchanted Gold Valley and S is for the South Pole Rangers football pitch. It is very busy at the North Pole this time of year and that special transportation machine is very valuable to me and it cannot be replaced,” Santa said. “Thank you for finding it for me. In return would you like to help me deliver all the presents this Christmas?”

“YES PLEASE!” shouted Tom excitedly.

“If you help me, I can get this job done twice as fast then we can have a nice sit down by the fire with a plate of cookies and some of the elves hot chocolate,” said Santa. “Okay, you go get on the sleigh and I will be there in two minutes.”

After a few minutes, they were both in the sleigh and Santa was calling out to the reindeer in a strange language that Tom did not learn in school. Before Tom had time to say a single word they were up in the sky. Santa said to Tom, “You yell out the addresses to me and I will deliver them.”

“Charlie Thompson!” yelled Tom.

After he yelled a few more names out to Santa, it felt like time was just zooming by and before they both knew it, they were finished. Santa leapt back into the sleigh and Tom said, “Why are you back here? Shouldn’t you be down there delivering presents?”

“What presents Tom? They have all been delivered.”

“That was quick,” said Tom.

“Back to the North Pole!” yelled Santa.

While they were away, the elves had prepared some hot chocolate and cookies for them just like Santa had asked. They sat down by the log fire to enjoy them. Tom said to Santa, “This is nice and warm isn’t it.”

“It always has been,” replied to Santa. “Well Tom,” said Santa, “after we have finished our little treat it’s time for you to be heading home I’m afraid.”

“Well goodbye!” said Tom, as the sparkling wormhole appeared once again and he leapt back through it.

Tom ended up back in his kitchen, and his Mum said he was just in time for tea. Everyone sat down to eat, and after dinner they opened all of their lovely presents from under the tree.

The End.