

Spiritual and Heartwarming explanation of how Nicholas became Saint Nick.

Once Upon A Christmas

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ONCE  
UPON A  
CHRISTMAS



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# *Once Upon A Christmas*

Alan Dittrick

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# Once Upon A Christmas

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## Prologue

Even now, the memory stirs my heart.

I remember the drifts of snow that carpeted the world outside our window... and the rainbow glow of ornaments that blended with the quiet warmth of the fire... and a night that was alive with Christmas magic...

But what I recall the most was a feeling of peace, as I snuggled close to my dad ... and we whispered our gentle secrets.

My thoughts had lingered on the coming of Christmas. But my gaze had settled on the stockings hung by the fire. Stockings, I mused, seemed a strange place for a gift.

The spell was hardly broken as my father quietly smiled, and spoke softly of another time, when Christmas was young. You see, he said, there was a time when children did not receive presents at Christmas... not even in stockings.

More than a thousand Christmas seasons have come and gone, and yet, you may not know the real story of Saint Nicholas; and how he brought a special magic to children so many years ago. So grab your blanket, and gather 'round, and I will tell you the legend of St. Nicholas... exactly as my father told it to me.

It seems a long time ago, in a land called Turkey, in a city named Patara, there lived a wonderful man by the name of Nicholas. He had a twinkle in his eyes and a laugh that would warm your heart. And when the children saw him, they would run to him. They could hardly wait to talk to him, and share their dreams. In fact everyone loved to talk to Nicholas.



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