

Journey Beyond Your Imagination

This evening, I went with my family to watch the Santa parade here in town. One of the nieces was somehow scared to death of Santa until grandpa took her up. Then you could not get her away. While we waited for the free photos to develop we watched the junior high band play carols in the fire hall (my oldest niece is now in the **7th GRADE**).

Following the festivities, we went back to the house and learned that [The Polar Express](#) was playing on network television. Once again, if you want to watch a good movie watch it on video with out the butchering and commercials. The movie is fast becoming a holiday classic and a tradition as has the book by [Chris Van Allsburg](#)✖. It tells the story of a doubting boy who boards a magical train on Christmas Eve and travels to the North Pole and Santa's home. On the train, the boy meets a trio of other children each of whom have a specific reason for being on the journey. On the trip, the quartet have a series of adventures inside, outside, and on top of the train. I loved the idea behind the personalized tickets... each passenger is given a ticket which eventually reveals something meaningful.

My favorite character is the lonely young boy who in his own words claims that "Christmas just doesn't work out for me." The hero boy, hero girl, and lonely boy sing a beautiful number entitled "When Christmas Comes to Town."

Plus, the coolest actor ever has at least 5 roles in the movie. When you watch it, pay close attention and see how many roles you can hear Tom Hanks give voice to. It is just a beautiful film to watch every year while you prepare to celebrate the most joyous time of the year and believe in what can and, more importantly, what you can't see... that which is

in your heart. After all... The thing about trains... It doesn't matter where they're going. What matters is deciding to get on.

 	The Polar Express (Selections from the Motion Picture) Music by Alan Silvestri, Glen Ballard. Songbook for voice, piano and guitar (chords only). 72 pages. Published by Alfred Publishing. (AP.PFM0428) See more info...
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