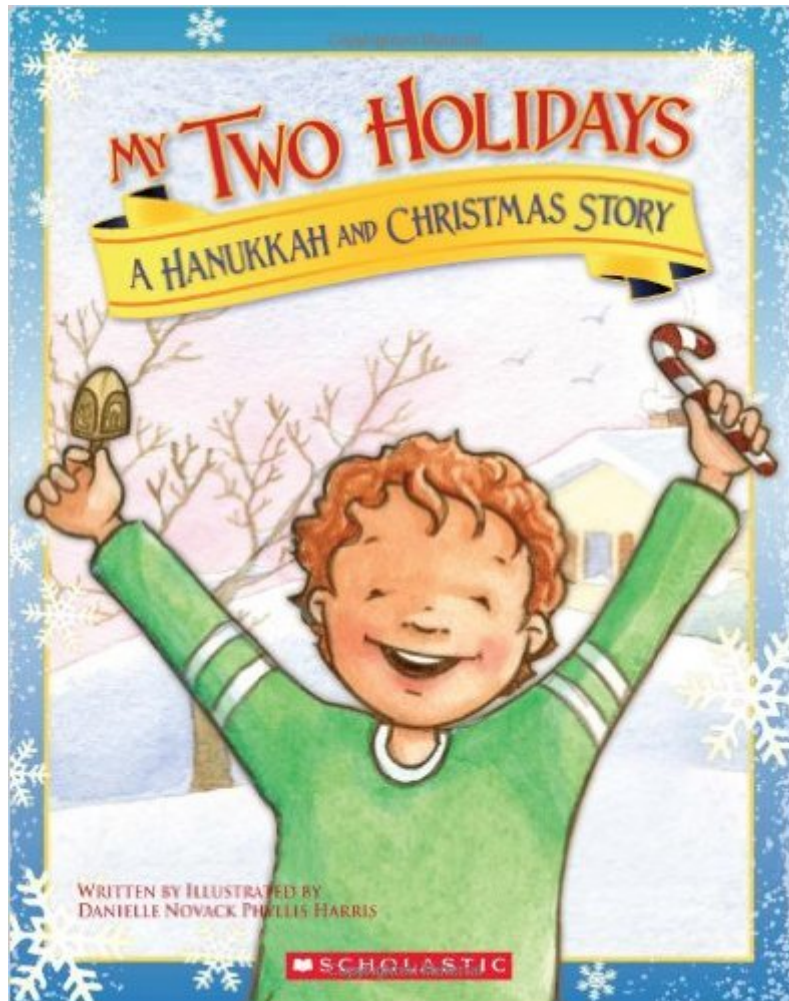


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# My Two Holidays: A Hanukkah And Christmas Story



## Synopsis

When Sam's classmates take turns talking about which holiday they celebrate, Sam becomes very nervous. Some people celebrate Christmas and some people celebrate Hanukkah. But Sam celebrates both! Written by a clinical psychologist, MY TWO HOLIDAYS offers comforting explanations that shine a light on how special it can be to celebrate two treasured holidays instead of one!

## Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

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Product Dimensions: 4.1 x 0.1 x 9.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars Â Â See all reviews Â (43 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #297,892 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in Â Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Jewish #915 in Â Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Christmas #7463 in Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life

Age Range: 3 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

I had eagerly anticipated reading this book to my grandchildren, and when it arrived I pre-read it. The book's focus is on the embarrassment the boy feels about celebrating two holidays when his classmates celebrate one. The author uses his shame as the vehicle for the mother's explanation of why he is celebrating two holidays. How unfortunate that the author has the child embarrassed, instead of pleased and perhaps confused when he realizes that not all kids get to enjoy both holidays. And there really is nothing about the two actual celebrations. I feel that this book introduces the idea of shame to the reader where it most likely doesn't exist.

I was excited to find some books on the subject to read to our 2 year old who's a sponge now. My wife started reading it to him and ended up having to skip over 3-4 pages (so close to half of the book) because its so negative. I can see where the author/doctor is coming from, but I'd never read

this to a child unless he/she had already been through an uncomfortable experience at school. Why introduce shame/separateness/difference where there was none before? Should be filed under therapy, not children's holiday books... And maybe specifically for much older kids, too

Sam is preparing for the holidays, decorating his Christmas tree and polishing his Menorah. But at school as child after child shares their story about their holiday tradition, Sam becomes confused and embarrassed, because all the other children only have one holiday and he has two. That night he shares what happened to with his mother, and she explains that his family celebrates two traditions. The next day at school Sam shares about having two traditions and the other kids think that is cool. The book is wonderfully written and charmingly illustrated. It presents both traditions with respect and appreciation. It will be a good book to help your children understand another tradition or maybe their own mixed traditions.

My Two Holidays is a great quick story with beautiful illustrations. After my husband and I read this book we thought it would make a great gift for all of our friends who celebrate both Chanukah and Christmas. We've received many thank you's and positive comments. We look forward to one day reading this book to our own kids.

We celebrate more than one religion at our home, but I am not a fan of this story. The boy feels embarrassed because they celebrate two religions in his family and runs out of his classroom crying because he "is different". Later in the story, he comes back and feels proud of his dual "celebrations" (he gets to party twice as much as the other kids so he is happy). I wanted books and stories that were also about diverse religious traditions, but decided not to share this with my kids. They have no embarrassment about our traditions, nor would I want them feeling "proud" because they get more gifts and celebrations than other kids. For our family, this book is the wrong message, but it might be useful for kids that are suffering embarrassment over unique religious traditions. The illustrations are lovely and well done. Thanks for reading, I hope this review is helpful!

I think this book is great and teaches kids to have pride in their heritage and not worry about what other kids do or think. The family is of mixed faiths, which is how our household is. I want my son to grow up feeling proud of who he is and where he comes from, and happy and lucky to celebrate his two winter time holidays.

As interfaith families become increasingly common, it's key to add another tool to our educational arsenal. This book is wonderful for teaching kids about the positives of having two holidays to celebrate, and also helps assure them that they are not alone. This is a must-buy for any interfaith family.

After learning about Hanukkah at school (Kindergarten), my grandson became very interested in this holiday...He also learned the classmates that already celebrated two holidays and he wanted to enjoy that too, especially the part where one gets a present each day of Hanukkah. He wanted to have a spinning top and Menorah as well as his Christmas tree and all the things that he already knew about. The book had delightful pictures and added to his previous knowledge and new knowledge. I heard about the book from a friend that had grandchildren that celebrated the two holidays.

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