

3



The Christmas Pine by Julia Donaldson

Deep in a snowy forest stands a little pine tree with a special destiny. When it grows up, it's going to be a famous Christmas tree!

This wonderful poem celebrates a special real-life tradition that stretches back over seventy years. Every year, the Mayor of Oslo in Norway presents the British people with a spectacular Christmas tree to stand tall in London's Trafalgar Square. The tree is a symbol of peace and friendship, and a thank you for the UK's support during World War II. Each year, the UK Poetry Society asks a poet to write a poem to welcome the tree. Julia Donaldson originally wrote 'The Christmas Pine' to celebrate the 2020 Christmas tree. The book is illustrated by Norwegian illustrator, Victoria Sandoy. The poem and illustrations capture the spirit of the tree's journey from the snowy forest to the festive city.

This magical Christmas story is recommended for all ages.

Click [here](https://youtu.be/x3Lk-7yJjZQ) for a read aloud version and for more information about the Trafalgar Square Christmas tree.

<https://youtu.be/x3Lk-7yJjZQ>

[The Trafalgar Square Christmas Tree | Westminster City Council](#)