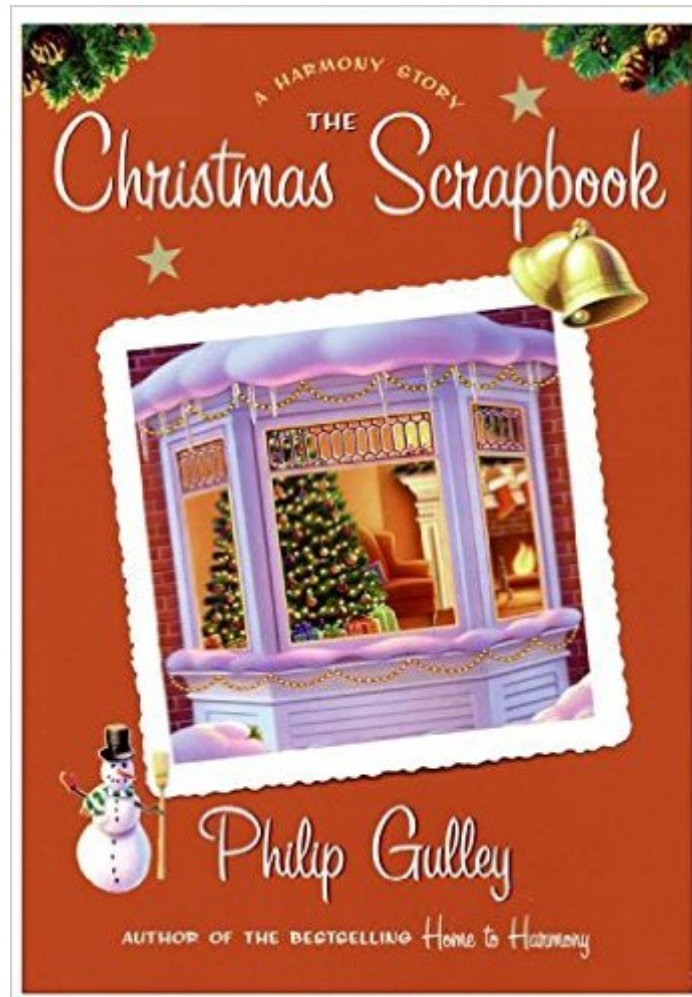


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# The Christmas Scrapbook: A Harmony Story



## Synopsis

It's autumn in Harmony, and Pastor Sam Gardner has vowed to be ready for Christmas. Determined to redeem a dreadful history of gift giving, Sam enrolls in a scrapbooking class to make a Christmas gift his wife will never forget. However, Sam's absence from their home every Wednesday night, coupled with his fishy alibi of attending a men's group, raises her suspicions. Meanwhile, Sam struggles in the class and must attempt to complete his project with only the help of his faithful secretary, Frank. As Christmas fast approaches and rumors of Sam's Wednesday night absences swirl along with the snow, a series of mishaps leads to a Christmas no one will soon forget.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 96 pages

Publisher: HarperOne; First Edition edition (September 20, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060736615

ISBN-13: 978-0060736613

Product Dimensions: 5 x 0.5 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 7.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (49 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #274,499 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Denominations & Sects > Protestantism > Quaker](#) #190 in [Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Christian Living > Holidays > Christmas](#) #1378 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > United States > Humor](#)

## Customer Reviews

If you're like me and you can't get enough of Philip Gulley's novels, you'll gladly shell out \$12.95 for THE CHRISTMAS SCRAPBOOK, a slim holiday novella that offers a new installment of delightful doings of Quaker pastor Sam Gardner. Like all of Gulley's novels set in the small town of Harmony, Indiana, this one is chock-full of wry humor and just a little bit poignant. The well-meaning Sam has a history of dreadful gift-giving, including the ceramic pelican kitchen sponge holder he gave his wife Barbara last Christmas. Determined to redeem 18 years of bad presents, he secretly enrolls in a scrapbooking class on Wednesday nights to make her something memorable. Of course, his good intentions end up wreaking havoc. Barbara becomes suspicious of his nights out and the money Sam is withdrawing from their account. Sam, she decides, is having an affair, a suspicion that soon makes the rounds in Harmony. Sam has never been a good liar, "a serious detriment for a minister,

who must often fudge things a bit in order to keep people happy." After fending off Barbara's suspicions, Sam muses: "He wished now he'd told her it was a Bible study, then suggested she attend also, which would have nipped her curiosity in the bud." As the only man in a class of 20 scrapbookers, Sam finds that the craft requires some talents he lacks. He's in danger of flunking the class. His instructor, Mrs. Hilda Gruber (a former drill sergeant), tells him, "Your glue work is atrocious, and your scissor performance is simply deplorable." A mishap with the glue leads to a buzz haircut for Sam, which spurs another round of rumors in Harmony that he is succumbing to a terminal illness.

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