

Christmas Carol Syllabus

For our first meeting on Nov 30. I'll talk about the background of *A Christmas Carol* and Dickens' life while writing it and, of course, we'll all discuss our reading experience of it. So please finish reading *Carol* before we meet (any edition will do).

For the second meeting on Dec 7, I'll have some secondary materials for you all to read (other pieces Dickens wrote, etc.) and we will also get to look at items from the Rosenbach's collection. And there will be more discussion!

Our third meeting on Dec 14 will be a Christmas Carol performance from the Philadelphia Artists Collective (PAC), a fun adaptation using only two actors. I will be giving an introduction to the show called "Charles Dickens and the Ghosts of Christmas."

Of interest to our group:

Opening next week on Nov 22 is the film, "The Man Who Invented Christmas," about how Dickens came to write *Carol*. I'm not sure if I can organize a group outing for it, but I will be trying to see it.

<https://bleeckerstreetmedia.com/themanwhoinventedchristmas>

And at the Morgan Library in NY, there is an exhibition that runs until Jan 14, "Charles Dickens and the Spirit of Christmas," in which they have on view all five manuscripts from Dickens' Christmas books. I would love to see this, but am unsure when I can make it to NY. I will let you all know when I am going, but if you can make it on your own, it should be worth the trip:

<http://www.themorgan.org/exhibitions/charles-dickens-and-the-spirit-of-christmas>

Look forward to seeing you all on Nov 30. I am always excited to talk about Dickens with other readers.

Best,

Ed

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