Left right Christmas game

How to play
Sit in a circle, each holding a wrapped gift. Read the story aloud. At every LEFT, everyone passes the gift they hold to the left; at every RIGHT, to the right. When the story ends, the gift in your hands is yours.

It was Christmas Eve, and Mom had **LEFT** the shopping until the very last minute. "I will be **RIGHT** back," she called, and she **LEFT** for the store with a long list in her **LEFT** hand and the car keys in her **RIGHT**.

At the store she went **RIGHT** to the toy aisle, but there was only one thing **LEFT** on the shelf: a stuffed reindeer with one antler pointing **LEFT** and one pointing **RIGHT**. "That is just **RIGHT**," she said.

Back home, Dad was wrapping presents at the kitchen table. He held the tape in his **RIGHT** hand and the paper in his **LEFT**, and somehow he wrapped his own **LEFT** sleeve to the box. "Is that **RIGHT**?" asked Grandma. "It is not **RIGHT** at all," said Dad, and they laughed **RIGHT** up until the oven timer rang.

The cookies! Grandma rushed **RIGHT** to the oven. One tray came out golden, but the one **LEFT** on the bottom shelf was a little too crunchy. "We will save those for the reindeer," she said. "They have strong teeth."

The children hung their stockings, the biggest on the **LEFT** and the smallest on the **RIGHT**, and put out milk and the best cookies **LEFT** on the plate. Then Dad said, "**RIGHT**, everyone, off to bed," and they **LEFT** the room in their pajamas, turning **RIGHT** at the top of the stairs.

At midnight there was a thump on the roof, **RIGHT** above the **LEFT** side of the house. A **LEFT** boot appeared in the fireplace, then a **RIGHT** boot, then a round red belly. Santa had come down **RIGHT** on time. He filled the stockings from **LEFT** to **RIGHT**, ate a cookie, and **LEFT** a note that said, "The crunchy ones were just **RIGHT** for the reindeer."

In the morning the children raced **RIGHT** down the stairs, and nobody was **LEFT** out. And the stuffed reindeer with one antler **LEFT** and one antler **RIGHT**? Like every present in this room, it belongs to whoever is holding it **RIGHT** now. Merry Christmas!

The story says LEFT 17 times and RIGHT 21 times.