



ISBN: 978-1-913724-63-4

Paperback with flaps • 40pp

£3.99 • BIC: FC 105 x 155 mm

27TH OCTOBER 2021

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### ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Washington Irving (1783–1859) was an American writer, best known for his short stories *Rip Van Winkle* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, both of which first appeared in his collection *The Sketch Book of Geoffrey Crayon, Gent*, which also contained a selection of Christmas tales.

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Registered company number: 12559643

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