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Review of Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Sleigh! by Mo Willems

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Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Sleigh! Willems, Mo New York: Union Square Kids, 2023 9781454952770

Mo Willems' favorite naughty pigeon returns in this holiday children's book, only this time with its eyes set on driving Santa's sleigh. The pigeon spends the duration of the book trying to comically convince the reader to let it drive Santa's sleigh, claiming it would be a "Christmas miracle." It tries to show how good he would be at Santa's job: wrapping and delivering presents, eating cookies, and having a jolly spirit can't be that hard! However, the pigeon's pleas end when it discovers that Santa's sleigh has no "steer-y thing" or "honker." Even worse, the pigeon discovers it must share the sleigh Santa's smelly reindeer! Ultimately, the pigeon decides its talents would better be used in delivering Easter eggs. This book utilizes bold colors and a large font to capture the attention of its younger audience. The titular pigeon is a familiar character for readers who have engaged with Mo Willems' works in the past, making it a good choice for younger readers still developing their reading skills. The holiday theme of the book makes it a good choice for librarians and teachers to have as an option for a Christmas themed book display or book reading.

Recommended Maddie Faulkner, Centennial Library Intern, Cedarville University