

A vibrant, cartoon-style illustration of a winter village. In the center, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus stand together, surrounded by several green Christmas trees. The scene is filled with various characters: elves, reindeer, a snowman, and people playing in the snow. There are colorful houses, candy canes, and snowflakes scattered throughout. A decorative wreath with a star and holly leaves is positioned above the text.

Hello dear friend...

I am so sorry I wasn't able to answer your letter before now. We had a terrible mail mishap a few days ago. There was a malfunction in one of the mail sorters and a whole bag of mail was shredded! It was awful... Curly, and all the other postal elves, spent days (and days!) piecing together hundreds of letters that were shredded in the calamity. They only just finished piecing together all the letters today and there simply isn't enough time to get my replies delivered before Christmas. I'm going to take them with me and leave them in Christmas trees, on breakfast tables or maybe in a winter boot!

Your letter was wonderful, just like you! I can't get over how much you've grown. I remember when you were too young to write to me. Imagine that!

I have so much to tell you... Mrs. Claus had a wonderful year. She taught part time at North Pole University again and continues to snowboard whenever she can. She's also learning how to speak polar bear. She's amazing, the bravest and kindest person I know. The reindeer are dancing with excitement (fit and ready for our big adventure) and the elves are as busy as penguins playing tag.

This is, of course, my favourite time of year. I love how everyone works so hard (even piecing together shredded letters!) to make the season special. It really is a magical time filled with love, joy and special memories. During our grand adventure on Christmas Eve, I will be sure to sprinkle some magical North Pole snow over your home. It will bring you and your family a wonderful and joyous New Year. Merry Christmas!

Love you loads!

*Santa*