



Tomte Times

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Published by Birgit Ruotsala

Green Bay WI

Down to the Wire

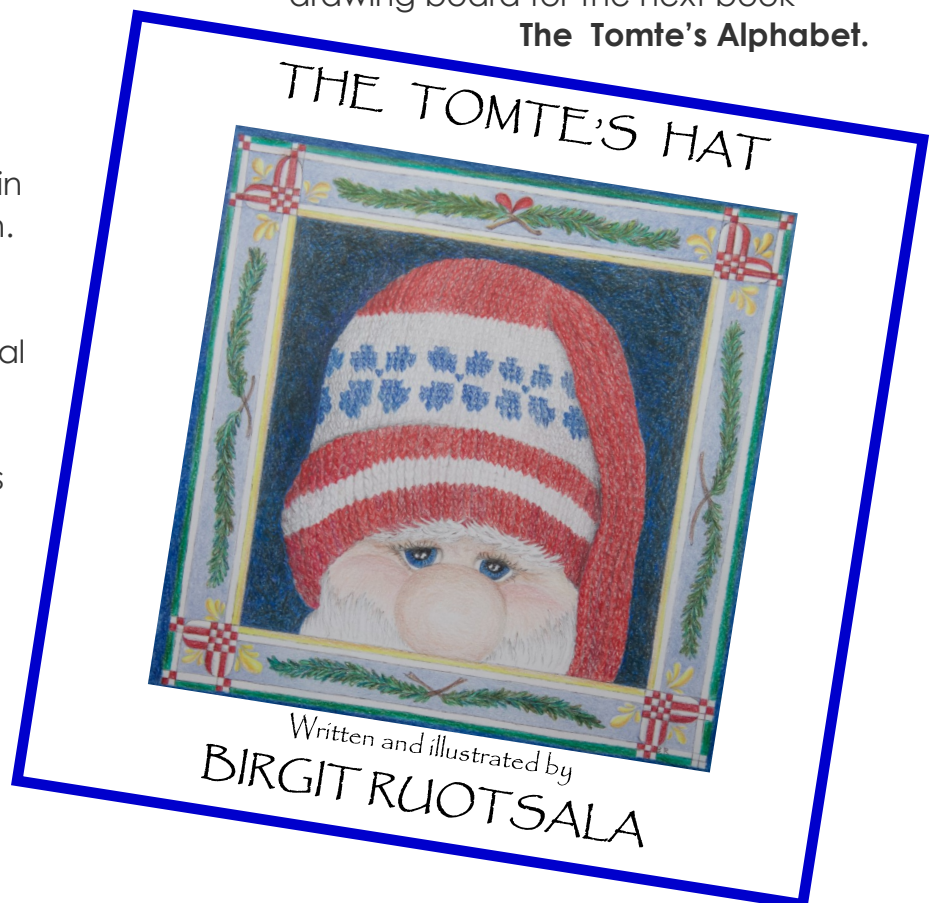
My date with the publisher to hand off the illustrations is fast approaching! On October 20 Jim and I will meet Mike at IKEA (what better place to meet, right?) to hand off the portfolio of illustrations for **The Tomte's Hat**. It's pretty exciting to say the least. It's funny how life switches course. I've learned that it can be a fun journey if one goes along for the ride.

The editing has been completed! I thought that it would be a huge task since I have no formal training in "writing"! But, it went pretty smooth. So, I have a few illustrations to finish and a few to change around a bit and then this book goes into the final production stages. I should have copies but December 1st. I hope you'll consider giving it as Christmas gifts this year.

I have also learned in this first attempt that the story takes on a life of its own. I have an easier time writing if I have the illustration completed. I don't know what that says about me.

What type of event could I do to kick off this little book? What about a Zoom meeting with a reading? I'd love to gather and have Swedish treats and visit but these are crazy times and that doesn't seem possible. I'm looking for suggestions!

As this first book has been a huge push to get done for holiday gift giving, I will be taking December off then it is back to the drawing board for the next book ~
The Tomte's Alphabet.





A Sneak Peek at “The Tomte’s Hat”

This little Tomte girl is watching her grandmother knit a lovely red hat. As she grows up, she will learn to knit too.
Because Tomte’s wear red hats.

There is a little mouse that is helping. Last newsletter, I had a “name the mouse” contest. The winner is Jeanne Sauter for her name **Elof**. And, Elof shows up in a few places in this story. Congratulations Jeanne.

Here is a view of my little drawing corner, equipped with lots of colored pencils.



More Sock Knitting

I am looking for a simple pattern for socks (size child to adult). I would like it to have a ribbed cuff and stockinette stitch main body that I could add a stripe or a pattern to. If you have such a pattern please let me know.

Scandinavian Prayers & Songs

I’m also looking for prayers and children songs in Scandinavian languages. If you are of Scandinavian descent and know any from your childhood, please let me know. I already have Swedish, Norwegian, Finnish and Danish table prayers. This book is on my calendar for starting in May with a September 2021 release date. Thanks in advance!

Happy October

With all the Covid restrictions, it has been a challenge to keep in touch with everyone. I wish I had a little Tomte magic so I could visit with you. It is my hope and prayer that all of you are doing well and are being kind to yourself! Think about all the creative ways that you can reach out to each other. I have started writing little notes and hope to send one each day. Cause....it’s lots of fun to get a little greeting in the mail.

Next Newsletter

- Tomte Notecards and Christmas Cards featuring many characters from **The Tomte’s Hat**.
- Announcement of events for the release of **The Tomte’s Hat**



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