



Tomte Times

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Published by Birgit Ruotsala

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Tomte Times

I am so excited that you have subscribed to my newsletter. All of the issues of **The Tomte Times** are archived on my website. If you want to read past issues, look under the "NEWSLETTER" tab. Scroll down past both sign up forms and all past issues will be listed there.

BIG NEWS! I have signed a contract for my first Tomte book. If all goes well and "the basement don't flood," it should be out by Thanksgiving. It should be around \$11.00, soft cover, perfect bound. We are truly excited and anxious to share this charming little story.

If you would like to preorder, please let me know. I will have to put in an initial order and would like to make sure that I have enough for friends and family.

Ordering Information:

Name _____

Address _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Number ordered: _____

I will be in Escanaba early December

delivering books. If you live in the Green Bay area, I will deliver to you when I receive the books. If you would like a special inscription, I will do that as well.

Please email me the information on the form to secure your copy(s) for Christmas gift giving. Payment can be made upon delivery.

There are no Christian references or Christmas references in this story. Although Tomtes expect a bowl of rice porridge with a big pat of melting butter in exchange for continued service of guarding the animals and farms of the humans they protect, that little story will be covered in another book.

On another note, I'd like to speak to the sender of critters: it was okay when a mouse made its way into this first Tomte story. It's quite cute and I can rest assure that it will stay on the page where I drew it. I am sure its name will be revealed in the pages to come.

That does not mean that I am enjoying the critter that has taken up residence in Jim's workshop. Jim noticed a few apples on the floor last week. Then he heard a few sounds and thought it was perhaps a squirrel. We went on a hunting expedition on Sunday and found a ground hog. Yikes!!!!!!

No, I do not like things that scurry around! No, this critter will not materialize onto the pages of my stories and I refuse to name it. I

just want it to check out the delicious treats we have placed in a very special place at the end of a live trap. **Lunch time!!!!**

Please have a little lunch of good tasty apples from our apple tree. Jim has done quite a bit of research and is out buying the *(*%\$# thing bananas! There always seems to be an adventure around here.

Jim also researched a few southern stew

recipes, but I say—absolutely not! Here's to the boys who will take it away—nameless! Then Jim has a bit of repair work to secure the workshop so that he doesn't have other visitors. **Update:** *It liked the bananas and is now on it's way to Greenleaf many miles away. If it returns from vacation, the hole will be all secured!*



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 knit as a stripe or add a pattern to. If you have anything like this, please let me know.

Scandinavian Prayers & Songs

In a future book, I would like to include 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.

Thanks in advance!

birgitsdesigns@new.rr.com

Update on “The Tomte’s Hat”

This is Grandpa Sven's hat. It looks pretty warm and cozy. But where did it come from? This first story will tell about the trials and tribulations in finding a source for hats in their new surroundings ~ America. It is fitting for a mouse to enter the story because the main job of every tomte is to protect the family home and animals. When this little mouse started to appear at the end of my pencils, it dawned on me that there needed to be an animal to protect.

Contest: Name the Mouse

I am open to suggestions for names of this little critter. Suggest a name and tell me a little story about the mouse and you could win a free copy of “the Tomte's Hat”

Winner will be announced on November 1.

Your Name: _____

Email : _____

Mouse Name: _____

The mouse's story: