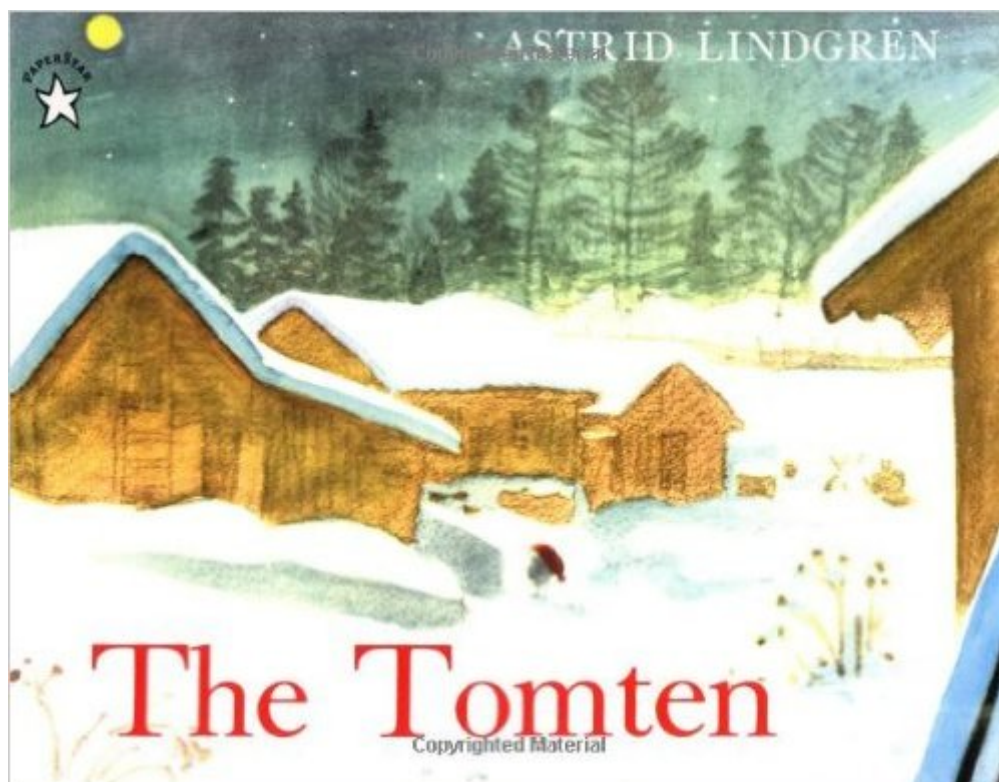


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# The Tomten



## Synopsis

No one knows when he came to the farm, no one has ever seen him, but everyone knows it is the troll Tomten who walks about the lonely old farmhouse on a winter's night, talking to all the animals and reminding them of the promise of Spring.

## Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books; Reissue edition (October 6, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0698115910

ISBN-13: 978-0698115910

Product Dimensions: 10.1 x 0.1 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (105 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #78,572 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Foxes & Wolves #215 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Farm Animals #933 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Classics

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

I have loved this book for over 40 years. The copy I have was printed in Sweden a long time ago but I am very glad that this story is available as a nicely affordable paperback because it's such a sweet and comforting tale that lots of children will love. The beautiful illustrations capture perfectly the crisp, cold, snowy atmosphere of a still winter's night as the Tomten, a small spirit and guardian of a humble farm homestead goes about on his secret rounds doing his caretaker duties in his gentle, loving way. He whispers encouragement to the sleeping animals and children. He has seen many hundreds of winters and so he knows that "winters come and winters go, summers come and summers go" and the wheel of the year turns on and on. I encourage you to read this to children to help them feel safe and cozy and snug in their beds on a cold, dark winter's night...maybe try it this Winter Solstice and be sure to keep a look-out for tiny footprints in the snow around your home.

A tomten is a gnome like creature that stands watch while the rest of the world is sleeping. This old tale should be recommended reading for everyone. The tomten is disappearing with our

grandparents and great-grandparents. This is a wonderful tale!

The Tomten was my first and favorite childhood book. Today, I read it to my daughter as her bedtime story. It is her favorite book also. This book is the perfect comforting bedtime story for children of all ages. The author magically weaves fantasy and security into the story of The Tomten. Reading The Tomten gives you that "safe in the bed between your parents" feeling we all remember. The author, Astrid Lindgren, passed away today. The world has lost a timeless treasure. Thank you Mrs. Lindgren. You will be missed by generations.

As a Swedish kid it is a tradition to read this book. Tomten is a rhyme about a small helper we believed in in North Europe. Viktor Rydberg and Astrid Lindgren have done an excellent work trying to put down in words and picture what makes winter and Christmas so special.

"The Tomten" by Astrid Lindgren is one of the most comforting books for children. The story remains with them through a lifetime. My 32-year-old son and 35-year-old nephew still would like to have "Tomten" books to read to the young ones in their families.

I had this book when I was very small. My uncle who was a librarian gave us a library bound edition hardback. I discovered it at my grandma's house when I was visiting about 15 years ago and almost cried. I could still remember it. I brought it home and read it to my kids and they all loved it. I agree about the picture quality in the paperback, sort of washed out and not as good as the old hardbacks. If you can get hold of an older copy, from a library or something, it will probably not be in pristine shape but will have the nicer paper and illustrations.

I have always loved this book, and recently ordered a new hardbound copy for my three children. When I received it, I was surprised at the markedly poor paper quality (despite being hardbound) and the poor saturation of both the pictures and the script on the facing pages. Yes, the illustrations are watercolor, that is not what I mean. The ink and just the overall print quality are cheap-seeming. Near the copyright it states "printed in (third world nation)". To those of us who remember when t-shirts were union-made domestically and didn't fall apart after five washings, this seems like part of an overall trend. But the book is still wonderful, worth buying. I am considering ordering copies from the UK site for my relatives. Europeans seem a bit smarter about keeping up printing and other manufacturing standards. Similar problem with "The Tomten and the Fox".

Look for the 1961 version if you care about presentation. I bought this thinking I was getting a deal. However, when I got it, I was disappointed. It's missing some pages and it has an extra 8 blank pages all throughout the book. The paper and scanning quality were awful. I did like one thing about it. My son was 3 when we got this book and I didn't want him to see print at the time (for personal waldorf education beliefs). The print is on one page and the pic is on the other. This format was great for us because I could cover the print page and expose only the pic page while I told the story.

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