



All About Hedgie's Surprise

Hedgie's Surprise is a story about friendship. Like many great partners, Hedgie's skills balance nicely with his friend Henny, who has talents of her own.

I needed a mischief-maker to set events in motion. A Danish Tomten was my choice. On a trip to Denmark I learned that a Tomten is a Danish elf who lives secretly in the barn. If the farmer offers him porridge, the Tomten helps things along on the farm. But if the farmer ignores the little elf, things go mysteriously wrong!

I have always been fascinated by hedgehogs. They are wild animals that can coexist with us humans. Because hedgehogs protect themselves by rolling in a ball, they don't run away. We can observe their big, sensitive eyes for seeing in the dark and their funny turned-up snouts for digging insects. They are adorable and comical at the same time!



BLUEBELL

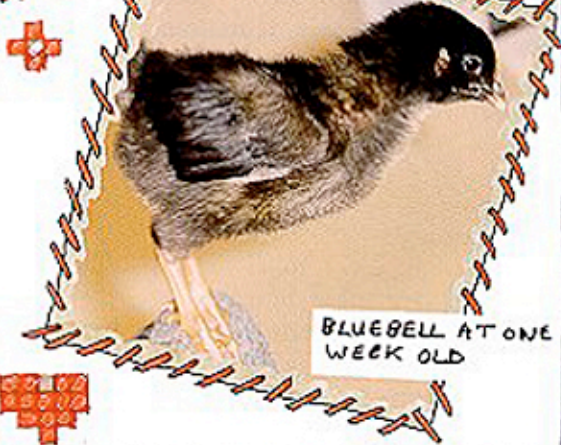
BUFFY, OUR
PET HEDGEHOG



I decided I must have my very own chicken. I needed to observe her to draw her well for my book.

I bought one-day-old chicks and raised them under a heat lamp. Now I have my own flock of five magnificent laying hens that have become my dear pets.

Pansy and Bluebell are silver-laced wyandottes. The old biddy, Dahlia, is a Delaware, and she is top hen. Daisy and Chrysanthemum are my fancy bantam silkies. They all lay eggs, which are delicious. They love to pose for me because they get bored easily!



BLUEBELL AT ONE
WEEK OLD