Hi Kids!

I like trolls! Traditionally in Scandinavia trolls were ugly, gruff, cruel creatures that come from Norse mythology. In our times, children's stories changed from scaring kids, to tales of hope and wonder and trolls changed too. Trolls are still rascally and scruffy but their antics are seen as funny. This is my 4th book about trolls. I read about Hulder-maidens in d'Aulaires' Trolls a great book about trolls. Huldres were pretty girls who had cow's tails that dropped off if they married a mortal man. I asked myself “how could a troll loose his tail?” This book tells how.

Our friends, Gudrun and Elof Eriksson took us to their farm in southern Sweden. We saw 9 moose, including a bull (male), cow (female) and calf (younger). Wolves sometimes appear in winter.

Next we went to Stockholm and visited Skansen, a beautiful open air museum with buildings from the olden days and native animals that would appear in my book. Go there and see lynx, grey owl, bear, moose, otter and a domesticated spotted pig!

A flight to Kiruna took us to Swedish Lapland and a helicopter took us deep into the wilderness and the sacred mountains of the Lapps. By combining elements from all three places I had the setting for my book.