



## Author

**Sissy Vogelsinger** was born in Vienna. She completed a degree in education in Feldkirch. A short time later, she moved to South Africa with her family for a few years. Since her return, Sissy Vogelsinger has lived with her husband in Lower Austria. She also studied prehistory and early history as a hobby. She loves traveling and fairytales, and this is reflected in her stories.

## Author

**Tamara Haury** was born in Vienna in 2003. She has completed training as an elementary school teacher and writes her own children's books with incredible imagination. During her au pair year in America, she gained many experiences and ideas that will flow into her future books.

## The illustrator

**Astrid Gruber**, born 1968 in Tyrol, lives in her studio in Vienna as a freelance artist and studied comics and caricature. She also works as a book illustrator and author. Her activities include international projects and exhibitions from Austria, Germany, Spain to Indonesia. She travels the world with her boyfriend in a bright red old fire engine.

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*Sissy Vogelsinger, Tamara Haury, Astrid Gruber,*

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# **Christmas time in Fairytale Land**



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Here you have the opportunity to color your Advent calendar every day.



## **Christmas time in Fairytale Land**

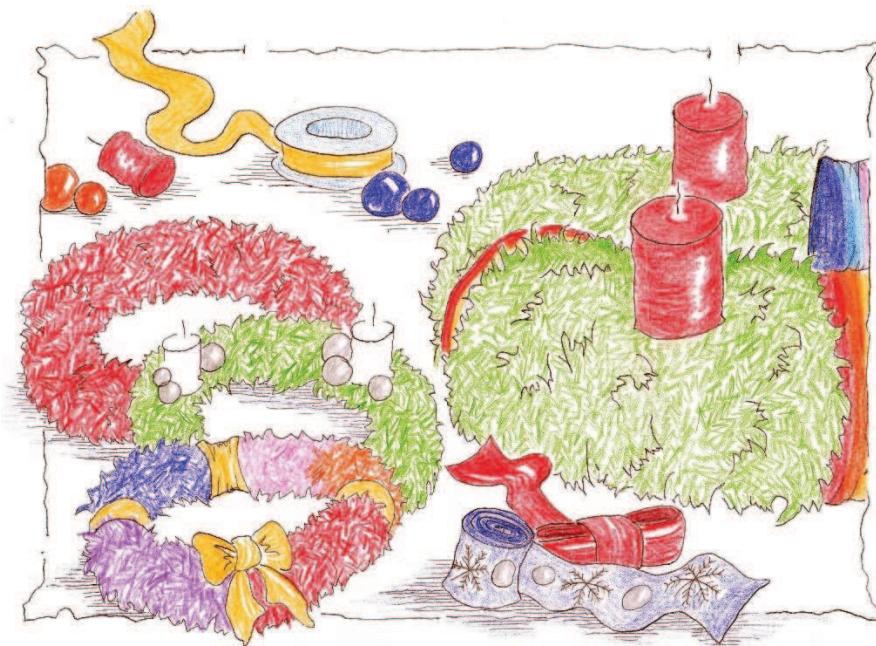
The colorful rainbow dog Cino ran excitedly into the flower shop “Flower Explosion”. It was five weeks before Christmas and there was an annual Advent wreath making party in the “Flower Explosion”. Everyone could make an Advent wreath to their own taste.

Knacksi the nutcracker was the gardener. He had already prepared lots of straw wreaths, fir branches, wire, colorful twigs, pinecones, baubles, ribbons and candles.

The red cat, the magician Nebelfutzi and Gina were sitting at a table. Cino joined them and watched. The red cat and Gina were already busily working on their wreaths. The red cat was only using red fir branches, red candles and red ribbons. Nebelfutzi watched her with fascination.

Gina the witch chose green fir branches, silver baubles and white candles. The magician Nebelfutzi did not know exactly what he wanted and changed the colors of his Advent wreath a few times. In the end, he decided on a blue wreath with four golden candles.

For Cino, the colorful dog, this was all new. Therefore, he took a tour of the nursery and had a good look at everything first. Everyone was friendly. He chatted with the gardener Knacksi, who then gave him a basket of small colorful glass balls. He returned to his table with it. Gina helped him to make a colorful Advent wreath.



Everyone chatted, laughed and made an Advent wreath or a Christmas arrangement. After a while, everyone was happy because everyone had a beautiful Advent wreath.

In the meantime, Knacksi the nutcracker made a very, very large Advent wreath for the main square of Snailhouse village. This Advent wreath was so big and heavy that he could not carry it on his own. He asked some boys to help him. The young men happily carried it there.

The magician Nebelfutzi then conjured it over the fountain. It was to float there until Christmas.

## **The last week in November**

All the inhabitants of Fairytale Land decorated their houses and trees with colorful fairy lights before Christmas. In some gardens, there were also reindeer or snowmen, which were illuminated at night.

The colorful dog Cino, the red cat and the magician Nebelfutzi were invited to Gina's house on Saturday before the first December weekend. The food was delicious. After lunch, Gina asked her friends to help her hang the Christmas lights on the house and the tree. Gina had already prepared everything. White, green and silver chains were in a basket. The ladder was also ready. The house, the tree and even the letterbox were decorated with lots of laughter. As a thank you for their help, Gina presented each of her helpers an Advent calendar that she had made herself.

The red cat got a red one, of course. There were many red bags of different sizes hanging on a string.

Nebelfutzi received a blue calendar with golden stars.

She pressed a brightly colored calendar into the paws of the laughing Cino.

The four friends bid each other a cheerful farewell. The red cat reminded them to come to the fountain in Snailhouse Village at 5 pm on the first Sunday in December for the Advent celebration.



## **The first Sunday in Advent**

On the first Sunday in Advent, most of the inhabitants of Fairytale Land gathered around the fountain in Snailhouse Village. The children danced through the snail village and you could hear them laughing loudly. The adults chatted, drank punch and ate the first roasted chestnuts.

The red cat, who had been the mayor of Fairytale Land for 100 years, lit the first candle every year. She attached the famous golden key to the Advent wreath. Afterwards, she wished all the inhabitants a peaceful Advent.

You might be curious about why the red cat affixed a golden key to the Advent wreath and why it was famous.

Living creatures can be people, animals, fairies, elves, goblins and possibly even plants. Well, as many of you already know, fairytales do not only feature good creatures. Evil creatures also lived in the fairytale forest, such as the evil queen from Snow White with her magic mirror. Or think of the angry dwarf Rumpelstiltskin. Unfortunately, some fairytale characters did not get along so well with each other. That is why, a long, long time ago, the Fairytale Land was divided into two parts.

One half was inhabited by the peaceful creatures and the other half by the less friendly creatures. Everyone thought this was the best solution.

An invisible wall separated the two halves of the Fairytale Land. Powerful wizards and fairies from both halves built it a

long time ago. However, no one could really remember that exactly.

There was only one door. It was only opened once a year, at Christmas. That is why it was called the Christmas door.

Christmas is the festival of charity and therefore all the inhabitants of Fairytale Land celebrated together.

No one could or would argue. On this day, everyone sang, chatted and ate together. The children played and enjoyed their presents. However, after 24 hours, the Christmas door was closed and locked again. It then remained locked until the next Christmas.

The golden key for the Christmas door therefore dangled from the Advent wreath throughout Advent.

Everyone could see the golden key that the red cat used to unlock the door. She always unlocked the door at Christmas and locked it again after 24 hours. For the rest of the year, the precious key was kept in a display case in the town hall. It was a famous sight because only one key existed and no replacement key could be made.

## December 1

As befits the first day of December, each resident was allowed to open their Advent calendar.

Cino found a bone in the shape of a Christmas tree behind his little door.

The magician Nebelfutzi was delighted to find a blue can of "bubble lemonade". As soon as he opened the can, it went "blub, blub, blub....."

