

# Why it is a good idea to partake in a crafter's Christmas gift swap

On Wednesday, which was a particularly tough day for me with the recent passing of an ex-teacher and dollops of general *Weltschmerz*, I received a magical package that made it all better. A package from a fellow crafter I'd agreed to swap mystery presents with for Christmas. And you know what I've discovered? There is something incredibly healing about receiving gifts that were lovingly and skilfully handmade for you. I mean, something BEYOND the usual OMG PRESENT FRENZY that takes over my brain the second I see something wrapped in shiny paper.

Underneath, I will chronicle my thoughts exactly as they happened during this monumental historic occasion, thereby hopefully inspiring you to do a little gift swapping of your own.

## **Rinske's Christmas swap package arrival: A Journey**



OMG OMG OMG IT'S MY PACKAGE YAY MY PACKAGE IS HERE YAY OMG



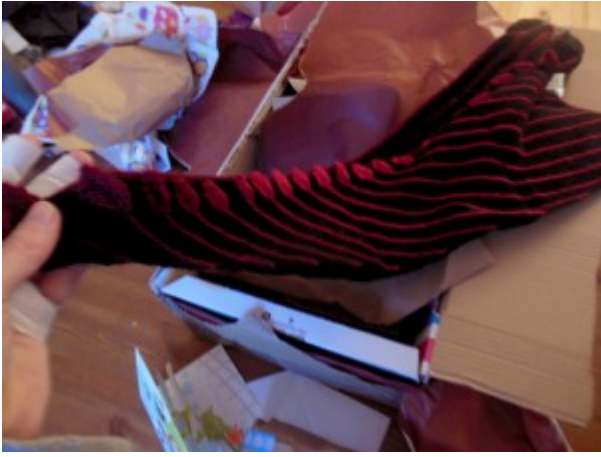
*OMG OMG PRESENTS SHINY OWL PAPER  
OMG MY NAME*



*SHINY! MUST STEAL AND HIDE IN NEST  
(Luckily no one's here to see my regression to three-year-old-  
ness)*



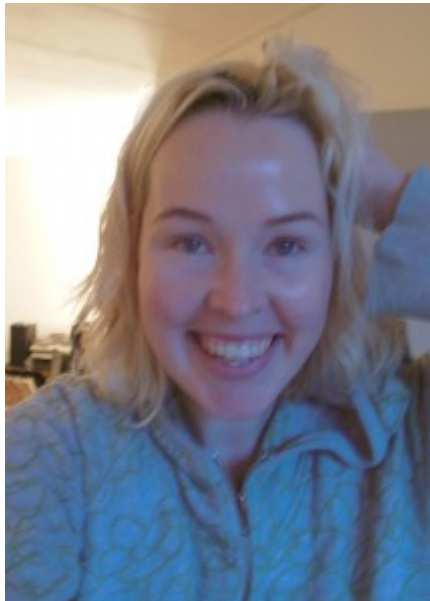
*OMG FUNNY CROSS STITCH WHEN I SAID  
'I'D LOVE FUNNY CROSS STITCH' SHE ACTUALLY MADE ME FUNNY CROSS  
STITCH OMG*



*Am I crying? Uhm, yes. I seem to be crying a little bit.*



*RRHHRRRAAGHHR LOOT*



*RRHHRRRAAGHHR EXCITEMENT*

*...*

*...*

...

*Shit.*

*Multitude of shit.*

*How am I ever going to top this?*

PS. OF COURSE I'll show you my return gifts for her, as soon as they've safely arrived and there is no more surprise to spoil!