

**Tizzy**  
**The Christmas Shelf Elf**

By  
Dorothea Jensen

With Pictures by  
Michelle Alfonso

Tizzy, the Christmas Shelf Elf  
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Technical Editing by Hawk Jensen  
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For information contact: [elfenterprisesllc@gmail.com](mailto:elfenterprisesllc@gmail.com).  
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To  
my six  
grandsons:  
Stuart, Owen,  
Alexander, Drake,  
Henry, and Miles—not  
one of whom would ever sneak  
into the living room or open any gifts  
before their folks wake up on Christmas!  
With  
love,  
G. Dorfea

The story so far:

Naughty Owen and Alex sneak downstairs before their parents are up on Christmas morning, and open one of the big presents from Santa. They are astonished to find one of Santa's elves, Tizzy by name, has been wrapped inside the gift—a bookcase full of new books—by mistake. The desperate elf tells them that Santa's sleigh is powered by the imaginations of children, and asks the boys to use their own imaginations to help him get back home. The boys try very hard to do this in a couple of ways, but so far, nothing has worked.





For me to go home without further delays,  
Imagining's needed that travels *both* ways."  
"Perhaps what we need is a spanking new toy  
That's chock-full of magical holiday joy,  
And freshly delivered by Santa himself.  
But all we have so far is books and a shelf!"  
Sighed Alex, unhappily, shaking his head.  
"That's it! What we need is a book to be read!"  
Tizzy squawked, and he bounced like a ball on the floor.  
"I completely forgot; Santa said something more.  
He said that a book gives your very thoughts wings,  
That carry you off to see wonderful things,  
That lift you aloft, throughout time, throughout space  
To every era and every place!"  
And with that, all three ran—Alex, Owen, and elf—  
Until they arrived at the Christmas bookshelf.  
Tizzy scaled up the bookcase to take a good look  
Then quickly as lightning he picked out one book.  
Its cover was glossy and red as a cherry  
And simply the sight of it made Tizzy merry.  
"Hurrah, this is it, just the thing that we need!  
I feel in my bones we will surely succeed.  
This book is a story about all my friends  
From my very own branch. Now my banishment ends!"  
He opened the book in the middle and said,  
"Read this if you can," and the two children read:  
"On Fizzy! On Whizzy! On Dizzy and Bizzy!  
On Frizzy! On Quizzy, on Blizzy and Tizzy!"  
On the gifts very big and the gifts very small  
Now work away, work away, work away all!"  
"Amazing!" crowed Alex, "Without any doubt  
It's exactly the same as you told us about."  
"Except for one thing," O observed, "Wait a minute—  
This picture is wrong—only seven elves in it.  
They don't look too happy, and see Santa's thumbs!"  
"They miss me," said Tizzy, "They want me to come  
Back home to the Pole. Now please, children, try!  
*Imagine* me home," and he started to cry.





Alex and O aimed their eyes at the pages  
And focussed their thoughts for what seemed to be ages.  
Eyes squinting, brows furrowed, each fervently read  
And conjured a picture inside of his head.  
Imagining hard, to envision their goal:  
To get Tizzy back to his pals at the Pole.  
But suddenly, from overhead came a patter  
That was far more alarming than reindeer-hoof clatter.  
For there was no mistaking that fateful footfall:  
Their parents were up and were out in the hall!  
Sheer panic wiped out any thought of their elf,  
Both scrambled wild-eyed to repack the bookshelf.  
They rewrapped the box, tried to hide all the tears,  
Turned off the tree lights and dashed up the back stairs.

(End of excerpt.)

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR



### **Dorothea Jensen**

*Recording Santa's Izzy Elves  
Audiobooks at Rocking Horse Studio*

Dorothea Jensen, called *Deedy* by her elves, has a Bachelor of Arts degree in English from Carleton College, and a Master of Arts degree in Secondary Education from the University of New Mexico. She is the author of *The Riddle of Penncroft Farm*, an award-winning novel for young readers about the American Revolution. Named an International Reading Association's Teachers' Choice Selection soon after publication, it is read in schools throughout the United States. More recently, *Riddle* earned a first prize in the historical fiction category of the 2014 Purple Dragonfly Award, and Houghton Mifflin Harcourt published an e-book edition in 2014, twenty-five years after its original release.

Deedy recently completed *A Buss From Lafayette*, another historical novel for middle graders. She is now working on a new story, set in seventeenth century Massachusetts, called *A Scalp on the Moon*. The fifth Izzy Elf story, featuring Bizzy, is also in the works.

For further information about Dorothea, or to get a free coloring page from one of the Izzy Elf stories, please visit her website at [dorotheajensen.com](http://dorotheajensen.com).

## **About the Illustrator**

Michelle Alfonso recently received her B.F.A. from the New Hampshire Institute of Art with a concentration in illustration. She created the original elf character concepts for Dorothea Jensen's Santa's Izzy Elves stories.

Learn more about Michelle at her website: [michellealfonso.com](http://michellealfonso.com)

## ABOUT THE IZZY ELVES SERIES

Dorothea Jensen has written four story poems about Santa's Izzy Elves, and has four more in the works.

### 1. *Tizzy, the Christmas Shelf Elf*

Two naughty boys sneak downstairs Christmas morning before their parents are up. Opening one of their big presents from Santa, they find Tizzy, one of Santa's elves, packed inside by mistake. Tizzy says Santa's sleigh is powered by the imaginations of children, and asks the boys to use their own imaginations to send him home. But how? (Mom's Choice Award Winner, e-book category)

### 2. *Blizzy, the Worrywart Elf*

Tizzy's "favorite lass", Blizzy, is the only elf who notices that Tizzy is missing on Christmas morning. When she starts asking her friends where he could be, however, they think she is just being a "worrywart". What Blizzy *really* is, however, is very, very clever, and she alone just might figure out the mystery! (Mom's Choice Award Winner, e-book category)

### 3. *Dizzy, the Stowaway Elf*

Dizzy (Tizzy's best friend) eager to have an adventure of his own, sneaks aboard Santa's sleigh. He literally drops into the bedroom of two little boys and the three of them share a wild joy ride that might be even more of an adventure than Dizzy was hoping for! (Story Monster Approved; Honorable Mention 2014 Purple Dragonfly Award, Picture Books 6 & Older category)

### 4. *Frizzy, the S.A.D. Elf*

*Frizzy*, the girl elf who styles the hair of Christmas dollies, misses them badly when Santa takes them away to deliver to children. Frizzy decides she needs to change her job so she doesn't get so attached to the toys she works on. She starts making something completely different, but soon finds her plan isn't going to work out exactly as she intended!

## **TO LEARN MORE ABOUT SANTA'S IZZY ELVES**

Find out what is happening behind the scenes in the Izzy Elves Section at the North Pole!

<http://izzyelfblog.blogspot.com/> (for blogs written by the Izzy Elves)

[https://twitter.com/Izzy\\_Elves](https://twitter.com/Izzy_Elves) (for tweets written by the Izzy Elves)

<http://pinterest.com/izzyelves/> (for previews of Izzy Elf illustrations)

## **TO TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE OF SANTA'S IZZY ELVES**

Take an Izzy Quizzy at <https://www.goodreads.com/author/dashboard>.

Click on each title and look under "Trivia" to find the Quiz.

## **TO BUY THE IZZY ELVES STORIES**

Paperback, e-book, and audiobook editions can be purchased through links at [www.dorotheajensen.com](http://www.dorotheajensen.com). Paperbacks can also be ordered through any bookstore.





**Watch for Bizzy's story, coming in 2015.**



## WHAT READERS AND REVIEWERS SAY ABOUT THE IZZY ELVES STORIES

### *Tizzy, the Christmas Shelf Elf*

#### **This Book is Going to be a Family Tradition**

AWESOME. This book is going to be a family tradition. I read it myself first to see if the kids would like it then I read it to them. They made me read it twice and they want me to read it again tonight. Love it. 5 Stars

–*Goodreads Reviewer*

#### **A High Standard of Language Use and Positive Messages**

Great fun to read to children. Your family of adorable elves teaches a high standard of language use and positive messages, making the experience very worthwhile and one a child will enjoy over and over. I look forward to future publications of your elf stories to read to the children in our family. Thank you for writing these charming stories.

–*Linkedin Recommendation*

#### **Keeps Kids Interested**

I loved this Christmas book. The illustrations are amazing and colorful. I like the way it is written and it keeps the kids interested. I am definitely going to get the others in the series...If you have kids (or not) you will all enjoy it. 5 Stars

–*Goodreads Reviewer*

#### **Delightful Holiday Story**

Delightful holiday story told in rhyme. Illustrations are colorful and appealing, and verse is rhythmic, a combination sure to speak to children. The text is longer than the traditional Clement Moore tale of The Night Before Christmas, so it is probably best for children six and over. 4 Stars

–*Goodreads Reviewer*

#### **Book for All Ages**

Cute, cute book for all ages. Want to get all of these elf books. Perfect for reading every Christmas, or anytime. 5 Stars

–*Goodreads Reviewer*

## *Blizzy, the Worrywart Elf*

### **Such a Cute Book!**

I am saving [this book] for my 6 year old for Christmas, but I read it as soon as it came and it is such a cute book! He is going to love the story and the illustrations are cute. I'm going to have to buy the other books too! 4 Stars

–*Goodreads Reviewer*

## *Dizzy, the Stowaway Elf*

### **Adorable Book**

This is an adorable book for your kids to read. Ours just loved it. 5 Stars

–*Goodreads Reviewer*

### **Appealing Energy and Colorful Verbal Imagery**

A little elf's clandestine adventure as a stowaway on Santa's sleigh takes an unexpected turn in an engaging contemporary spin on the classic 19th-century poem, "A Visit from St. Nicholas"...appealing energy and colorful verbal imagery...The author propels her present-day take on the classic Christmas poem with gentle humor and suspense, smoothly incorporating lines from the original poem into her lively tale about a stowaway elf.

–*Kirkus Reviews*

### **All of her Books are Great**

Great book ...my 7 year old picked it up and read it cover to cover and he hates reading. If you have kids I would say get it....all of her books are great. 5 Stars

–*Goodreads Reviewer*

*More great reviews of these stories  
can be found on Amazon.com.*