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PRESS RELEASE

When the small things of Christmas are given a voice – new Christmas stories in the glow of Hans Christian Andersen

In Christmas Stories – In the Glow of Hans Christian Andersen's Fairy Tales, Marie Jensen opens the door to a new poetic Christmas universe, where a candle stub, an old fir tree, a tin soldier, a street lamp and a woven paper heart are given a voice and become bearers of longing, sorrow, hope and love.



These are not stories about the perfect Christmas. Here, light stands opposite darkness, loneliness opposite community, and loss opposite comfort. The overlooked and insignificant are given meaning, and Christmas becomes a mirror for some of the great human questions: Who sees the lonely person? Where do we belong? What do we carry with us when something or someone is gone?

The stories are inspired by Hans Christian Andersen's world of fairy tales, but they are not rewritings of his well-known tales. They are new, independent stories written in dialogue with the Andersen tradition and its distinctive mixture of melancholy and warmth, beauty and pain, childlike hope and human insight.

Through snow-covered streets, warm living rooms, dark forests and Christmas-decorated homes, the reader meets children, old people, lonely and yearning people – and objects that hold memories. The emotions are recognisable: to miss someone, to stand outside, to long for a home, to be seen – and to discover that a small act can make a great difference.

With its classically narrative language and its sensory winter imagery, the book is aimed at both children and adults. The stories are particularly suitable for reading aloud and can be read one at a time throughout the Christmas season, at bedtime, around the Christmas tree, or as a shared moment between generations. Titles such as The Little Candle Stub, The Fir Tree in the Attic, The Steadfast Tin Soldier on the Mantelpiece, Father Christmas's Shadow, The Old Street Lamp on Christmas Eve and The Nisse and the Empty Room show the book's distinctive approach: It is often the smallest, forgotten or overlooked thing that is allowed to tell something great about human life.

Christmas Stories – In the Glow of Hans Christian Andersen’s Fairy Tales thus places itself within a living Danish storytelling tradition, but with new stories and an independent voice. The book revolves around Christmas light and darkness, loss and hope, loneliness and community – and around the possibility that even a small light can show the way through the darkness.

FACTS ABOUT THE BOOK

Title: Christmas Stories – In the Glow of Hans Christian Andersen’s Fairy Tales

Author: Marie Jensen

Publisher: Stauer Publishing

Year of publication: 2026

Edition: 1st edition, 1st printing

ISBN: 978-87-92510-99-0

Format: Hardcover, 220 × 140 mm

Price: 250 DKK

Publication date: 19 October 2026

Genre: Christmas stories / Hans Christian Andersen-inspired stories

Target audience: Children and adults; suitable for reading aloud and shared reading

Contents: 16 Christmas stories as well as introductory texts about the book’s relationship to Hans Christian Andersen’s fairy-tale universe.

The book’s idea: The stories are new and independent stories inspired by Hans Christian Andersen’s eye for the small, fragile and overlooked. A candle stub, a fir tree, a tin soldier or an old street lamp can become a mirror for human emotions such as love, longing, sorrow, hope and belonging.

About Marie Jensen: The book names the cook Marie Jensen (1917–1964), mother of the philosopher Jens Staubrand, as the book’s fictional author.

Kind regards

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