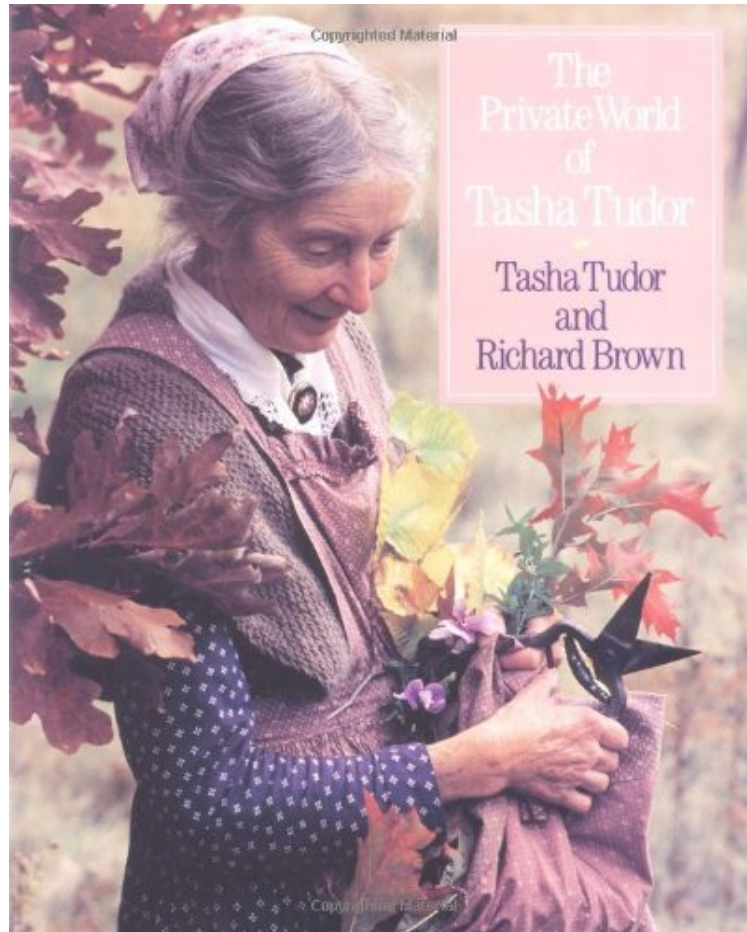


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## The Private World of Tasha Tudor

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It was a wonderful way to spend time together and share a time when life was so much more simple than today. 2 of 2

people found the following review helpful. An enchanting book!By Anne MansfieldA wonderful, nostalgic, charming and beautifully illustrated book that takes one into the magical world of Tasha Tudor. I just love the old world magic of bygone times. I may never experience them again but my childhood memories get rekindled through Tasha's works. Through them, one tends to forget any inconveniences and hardships of those days and remembers the beauty, warmth, charm and peacefulness of living so close to nature, "far from the madding crowd". The book opens pages to Tasha's family history as well. It is a definite keepsake, prominently displayed on my coffee table.

Tasha Tudor has written and illustrated more than seventy-five beloved children's books since her first, *Pumpkin Moonshine*, in 1938. Now seventy-seven years old, she lives on a farm in southern Vermont, where she has recreated an early Victorian world. To capture this intimate portrait of Tasha Tudor, photographer Richard Brown followed her throughout a year on her farm. By interweaving Tudor's own words and more than 100 color photographs, Brown has evoked the essence of Tudor's uniquely appealing personality and way of life. The inspiration for Tudor's art is evident in her delightful surroundings. Foremost is the magnificent garden she designed and rightfully calls "Paradise on earth." A lively menagerie is always underfoot, indoors and out, including her trademark corgies, the Nubian goats she milks twice a day, the one-eyed cat Minou, the chickens, fantail doves, and the cockatiels, canaries, exotic finches, and parrots that inhabit a virtual village of antique cages. We watch Tudor at work in a corner of her winter kitchen, her "chipmunk's nest," on the delicate watercolors and drawings that illustrate the books and calendars that have charmed three generations. Examples of her work are scattered throughout the book, including many drawings from her sketchbook and vignettes never previously published. Her enchanting three-story dollhouse is featured in detail as are her handmade dolls and marionettes as well as the candlelit tree that is the centerpiece of Tasha Tudor's old-fashioned New England Christmas. Born in 1914 into Boston society (she sat on Oliver Wendell Holmes's knee as a child; Mark Twain and Albert Einstein were also her parents' friends), Tudor felt from an early age that she had lived before, in the 1830s. She says, "Everything comes so easily to me from that period, of that time: threading a loom, growing flax, spinning, milking a cow." Dressed in antique clothing, spinning and weaving her own linen, cooking on a woodstove with nineteenth