

Monday, December 19, 2005

### **Santa got run over by my bedroom**

My room is a MESS. It looks like Santa exploded in here! Yikes. I'm trying to wrap what I've got, pack my clothes and pack the holiday knitting that still needs to be done, plus some other knitting to work on after Christmas. Not going as smoothly as I want it to! Here is the hat that I made for my boyfriend's sister, using this pattern: Cozy Cabled Toque. The only thing I did differently was use size 10 needles instead of 10.5, because I'm a little bit of a looser knitter. The pattern is QUICK and looks very cute. I've been seeing lots of cabled hats in the store this season, so it is also in style! I look like an alien in this picture, I think, my eyes look big and googly. Oh well, once a doctor thought I had Graves' disease because of my big eyes. Up until then, they were the thing about me that I liked the most! Now my boyfriend and I joke about my disease a lot, but sometimes I still feel sad...sniffle. I finished my school stuff on Friday, we were supposed to have a practical exam, but it was such dangerous, icy weather that we were emailed the written part of the exam to do at home. Have a wonderful holiday season everyone! I have some serious knitting to get done before Sunday AM!

Posted by Mia in Knitting at 10:35

## Blog Export: Minicia, <http://minicia.bluegarter.org/>

Monday, December 12, 2005

### **Yay surprises!**

Today I came home from school later because I'd been in the library working on some research for a report I have to give tomorrow. I noticed that my bedroom light was on, and thought that I'd stupidly left it on, which is something I NEVER do. I'm all about conservation. But when I opened the door, I found my boyfriend was there, sitting at my desk! For those of you lucky enough to live in close proximity to your loved one, this may not seem so exciting, but for ME, this was about the best thing to happen in several weeks! It totally made up for the boyfriend-less football watching! It totally made my week! Thanks sweetie! In other news, I may have found the world's worst sweaters! This site is actually nice because they have knitting graph paper, but OH MY GOD, the sweaters: Sweaterscapes!

Posted by Mia in Ramblings at 20:50

Sunday, December 11. 2005

### **Oh Sunday...**

Is it wrong to say that I usually hate Sundays? The last month of weekends (not including the last two) I've been spoiled, spending them in Boston with my man, hanging out and watching football together. Then I've usually stayed there, pretending that the weekend isn't quite over yet. At his house we get to order food for Sunday dinner (Sesame Tofu-YUM!), watch the Simpsons and Family Guy and have a nice time...Hey, Sunday isn't so bad! But the past two weekends he's been BUSY, and it is just not as fun watching football alone! Plus I live with the LOUDEST human being on earth, seriously, so watching TV can be a major frustration while she clomps, stomps and makes more noise that I thought one person could ever make. Then the worst part is going to sleep alone, here in Worcester, with the lights of the hospital blinking into my room. Sigh. So what did I do with this angsty feeling? KNIT, of course. Here is my version of the cable hat from the second *Stitch n' Bitch* book. I like my version better, because it actually fits over my big noggin, which I can't imagine the one in the book ever would! The hat is for my roommate Becca, it is a birthday/Christmas gift that somewhat matches her coat. I knit it in about 2 days of down time, but I don't know how many hours I spent total, and I ripped out some because it was too short. I used #7 needles and Cascade Quattro in a really cool red/pink/maroon/tannish blend. The picture does not do this yarn justice, it looks very nice all knitted up! I basically added an extra cable width-wise to compensate for the smaller gauge of Cascade Quattro, and then I added several cable repeats on to the length. I tapered the cables more than they bothered to in the book, and changed the decreases to something that I am more happy with. Hmm, is that 10% of a change in pattern? Maybe I'll write it all down for anyone who is interested. I think I might make another one for my mom, I have more Quattro in a blue. Here is Eris, which I hadn't worked on since the summer, but picked up last weekend on...you guessed it...SUNDAY. This is a bad, bad picture, but it looks really good so far! I'm done with the cable collar and am on to the part where you knit in the round for the body, which is good because I hate purling whole rows! This is also Cascade 220, in a really pretty blue/grey color. I have to say that right now, Cascade is way up on my list of favorite yarns. It is so soft, and it really makes crisply defined cable work! Important when you are making this sweater. I think this design is very fun and challenging, but Jenna's patterns have really well-written instructions that anyone can read! Rogue was my second sweater, and I had no problems at all...ok that's a lie, but I finished it!

Posted by Mia in Knitting at 17:17

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

### **Salad spinner!**

There has been some holiday knitting going on! Here I am demonstrating my newest brilliant idea for aiding in blocking of smaller pieces. This is a scarf I made for my BF's mom's surprise party this weekend. She does not read my blog, so I am safe! The pattern is a feather and fan with a 2 garter stitch edge border. The yarn is Atacama, a 100% alpaca that is hand-painted by the same folks who do Araucania wool. I used 2 skeins, the scarf has 40 stitches and is decently long. I like this yarn, and will use it again, because I have 4 more skeins in 2 different colorways. I did a quickie soak in the bathroom sink with my lavender Eucalan, and then some spins in the salad spinner! Perfect. Now I'm lazy blocking it on a big towel (yes, Sarah, its my Okoboji towel) in my room. I can't be bothered to put pins on the edges, and quite frankly I have a feeling that I would end up stepping on them....I can't believe that I actually had time for this! I have been working very hard at school, although I guess no harder than usual. Pediatric inpatient is BUSY right now. The other night my intern and my fellow med student and I were on call. We got to leave early, but by the time the night was over my intern had admitted 16 new patients! Tis the season for rotavirus and respiratory syncytial virus, but we also have a whole lot of really chronically ill and complicated kids, plus a few munchkins with newly diagnosed leukemias. The Heme/Onc docs are so wonderful that it makes me want to be one. Sort of. Kids with leukemia actually often do really well, which makes the doctor's job much easier. For those of you who know me and know that I have a baby radar wherever I go will not be surprised that many of the docs laugh at me and say, "So, you're going into pediatrics, right?" when they see how nuts I am about the kiddos on the floor. One of my favorites so far went home today, and I was actually hoping that he would stay another day so we could see him tomorrow!

Posted by Mia at 20:51