



ZENUARI 2017



Happy 2017! I wish you all the best; love, health, happiness... I really hope it will be an amazing year filled with creativity and lots of inspiration. I love that you are starting the year (once again) with Zenuari.

Before we begin some things to help get you started. Just like last year there is a special Facebook group for Zenuari 2017. You'll have to request membership because it's a private group. I would love it if you would post your work here. You could also share tips and tricks and get inspired by others. New this year are the folders per day in which you can post your work.

There will probably be a lot of different nationalities in the group, the main language in the group will be English so that it is understandable for all of us. Please do be patient and considerate with me, and the others, as English is not our mother tongue.

When on Instagram, please remember to use the hash tag #zenuari2017. Only then I will be able to find your drawings. I try to respond to everyone's work as much as possible. If you want caring critique, or some uplifting words or if you have a question please tag me.

Do you have a question for me? Shoot me an email; I might overlook it when you ask me on Facebook or Instagram. I'll respond as quickly as possible, but please remember that I might be in a different time zone. ;-)

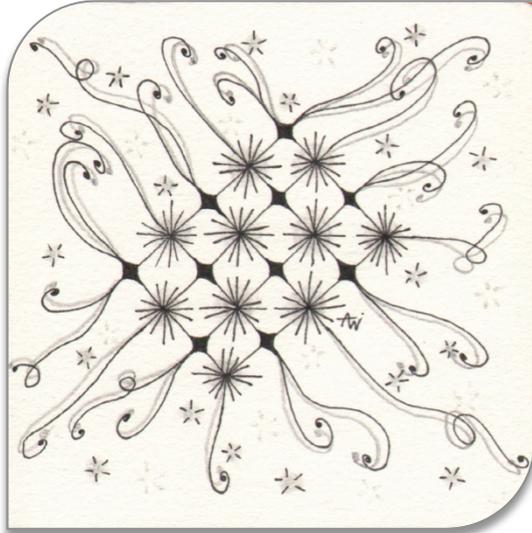
In this e-book you will find all the prompts for this month including some explanation. I hope you will see the prompts as an inspiration guideline rather than a strict rule. Feel free to make each prompt your own. It is no competition and everyone can join; beginner as well as more advanced tangles. Also new this year are the guest prompts. I've combined forces with some CZT colleagues of mine and together we bring you 31 creative ideas for your Zentangle® drawings. Many thanks to Ellen, Stella, Marguerite, Diana and Karin for their contribution.

Don't worry if you can't keep up for some reason, I will still check the Facebook group and Instagram regularly after January is over.

That being said; Let's get started with Zenuari 2017!

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Day 1; 2017

Every year on the first day of Zenuari I ask you to let yourself be inspired by the New Year.

Maybe you could use some tangles that resemble fireworks? Or maybe you could use the numbers 2017 in your drawing? Keep it simple. Many of you will probably have a busy day visiting family and all. It also gives you the opportunity to test the waters...

When you're done post your first Zenuari drawing in the Facebook group or on Instagram. When you're there don't forget to check out everyone else's work. We all love likes and comments!

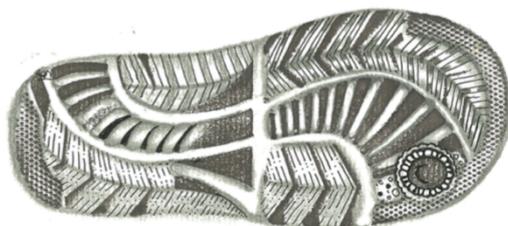
Day 2; Take a CREATIVE LEAP into the New Year

On day 2 Stella will take you on an adventure. You will find her prompt and drawings below.

www.startangle.nl or <https://www.facebook.com/startangleNL/>

I happily accept Anoeska's challenge to create a prompt for the Zenuari 2017 e-book. As many of you know, I used to live in 'Zeeland' (a province in the Netherlands), there I often saw these lovely footprints on the beach, trails made by sneakers, shoes and bare feet. You've probably tangled before, so the word 'string' is not new to you. Today you will create a string by printing an interesting shoe sole design on plain or colored paper. You could use a stamping inkpad or a marker (trace the print with the marker and press it firmly onto your paper). Let those lines and shape inspire you to take a creative leap into the New Year. For 2017 I wish everyone lots of inspiration and happy tangling!

Stella Peters-Hessels

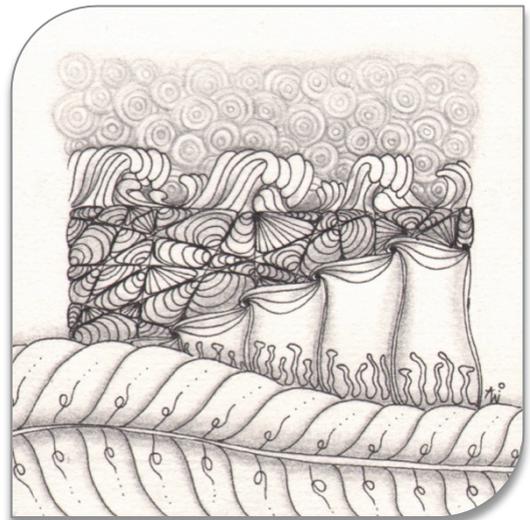


Day 3; Landscape

My Zentangle drawings are often inspired by my surroundings at that time. (Examples [here](#) and [here](#), Dutch text, universal drawings... ;-))

Today I would like you to draw your inspiration from a landscape. That could be your view right now or a landscape from a photo. (Tip; browse through your old vacation photos.)

You could use lines from the landscape as your string, use the colors of the landscape in your drawing or be inspired by the place itself, like I did in the drawing you see here.



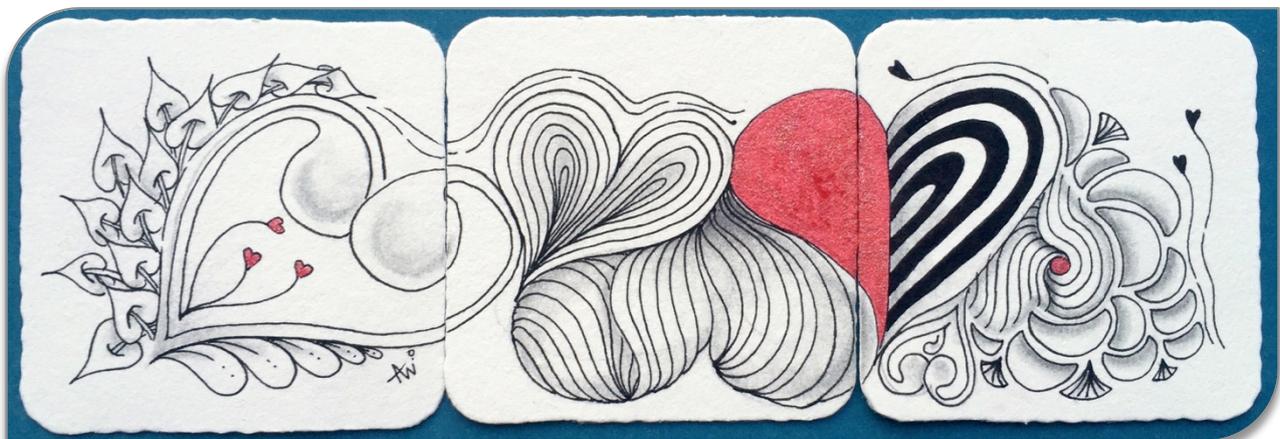
Day 4; Dramatangles

Molly Hollibaugh, Zentangle® inc. talks about dramatangles when she speaks of tangles who add a lot of contrast to the tile. These are most often the tangles with a lot of black, like: Knightsbridge, Aquafleur, Bunzo, Jonqal.

Go looking for dramatangles that are appealing to you. Use these in today's Zentangle drawing.

Day 5; Mini-tangles

Today will be an easy day, a lazy day if you like... We will create a mini-tangle. It doesn't take a lot of our time or space and thus can be done any time, any place! Use a Bijou tile (2x2") or cut your own. You don't have to use the same size as a Bijou tile, just make sure it is smaller than you would normally use. You could use your favorite tangles for today's drawing.

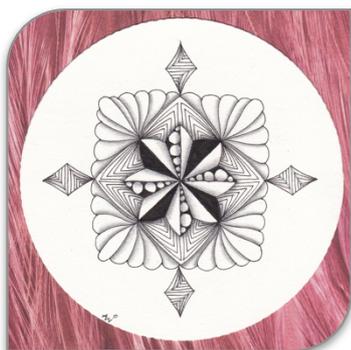


Day 6; Alfatangle

Browsing the Internet for hours on end to find the perfect tangle... Do you recognize this? Not very Zen, is it? So today I ask you to make the choosing tangles a bit more Zen. Pick a letter, any letter, for example the first letter of your name. Use only tangles that start with that letter. That's a lot less options, nice!

Day 7; ZIA object

You may, or may not, know that in 2016 I had the chance to contribute to Beate Winkler's new book 'das grosse Zentangle Kreativbuch'. In this book you will find several ideas for Zentangle Inspired Artwork. You can tangle on more than just paper! I tangled some little birdhouses and wooden bangles to be included in the book. Today I challenge you to think outside of the box when it comes to tangling. Or... maybe think of tangling on the box. What would you like to tangle today? The possibilities are endless you know!



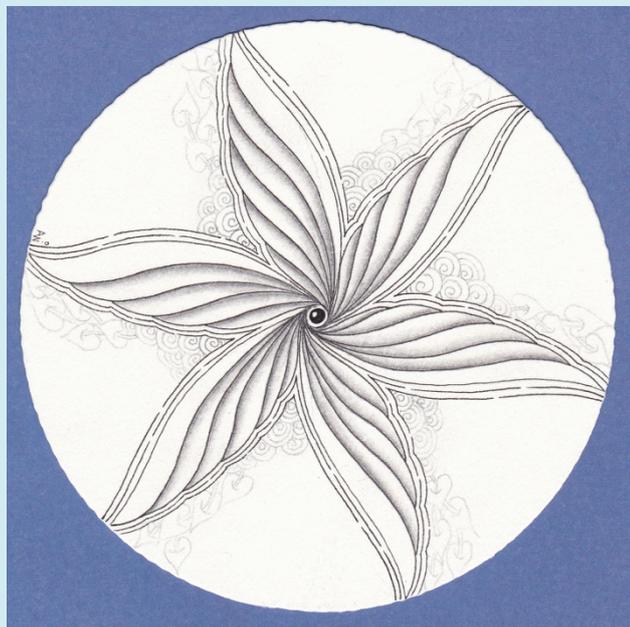
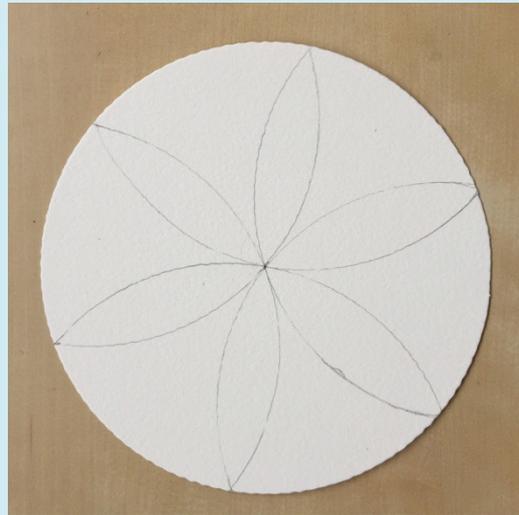
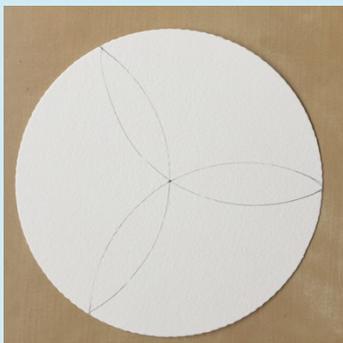
Day 8; Zendala

Before I became a CZT I taught mandala drawing classes. I still like the mandala shape and structure. A Zendala is a combination of a mandala and Zentangle drawing, tangles in the structure of a mandala. Best of both worlds! Today I would like you to make a Zendala. There are multiple ways to do this. You can make either a structured or a freehand Zendala. If you are looking for a way to get your structured Zendala started, read on below.

TIP: A simple structure in your Zendala circle is easy to make:

1. Draw a circle on your paper, trace the shape of a glass or a cup. Or simple use two Zendala tiles like I do. This circle is the outline of your Zendala.
2. Make a dot in the middle of the circle (approximately) with graphite pencil. It is the start of your string so do this ever so lightly.
3. Trace the same glass again, make sure that the glass (or the Zendala you are tracing) touches the dot in the middle. You are only drawing half a circle.

4. Trace the glass or the Zendala again. This time make sure the new line starts at the point where the half circle you drew in step 3 meets the outer edge of your Zendala. You can see ellipses emerging.
5. Repeat this step until you have three ellipses on your page.
6. If you want you can add three more ellipses in between the first three. Just follow the same steps again.



Day 9; A labyrinth or maze as string!

On this 9th day Diana shows you her amazing labyrinths.

<http://dischdisch.blogspot.nl>

Today we will use a hand drawn labyrinth or maze as the string for your tile.

I chose the labyrinth as a string because of the many parallels between Zentangle and walking a labyrinth for example.

Both can be used for meditative purposes. The path to the center of the labyrinth can be used to let go of emotional baggage. Just like drawing a tangle, when you focus on each line you make you can let go and relax.

When you arrive in the center, you will find yourself and new possibilities will reveal themselves. Just as with Zentangle, you can be who you are. There is no right or wrong, there are only new possibilities.

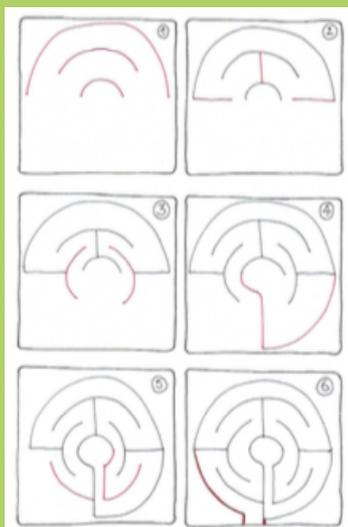
On the way out of the labyrinth you show gratitude for the new insights. Again: Just as in Zentangle. The appreciation when you have finished a tile. When you come to the conclusion that you never would have guessed that you were able to draw this. Anything is possible... one stroke at a time!

It is really nice to walk through a labyrinth, apart from the meditative aspect. And so is tangling.

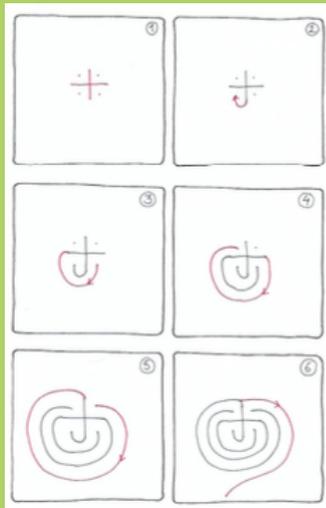
So let's get started! I've provided three different ways to draw a labyrinth string. Choose one, or maybe you know a fourth way, and tangle your way through the labyrinth. Have fun!

Diana

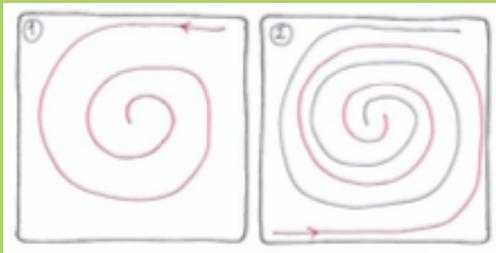
Example 1: The step-out provides you with a round labyrinth. In the example I made the labyrinth a bit more square-ish.



Example 2: Start with a plus sign. I drew this example on a Zendala tile.



Example 3: 2 spirals, as if they were twisted together, provide you with a labyrinth with 2 entrances (or exits, if you please).



Day 10; Snowflake

Although I don't really like snow (only when I can stay at home...) I do like snowflakes! Did you ever take a close look at those?? No? Luckily there are lots of photos of snowflakes to be found on the [Internet...](#)

Today I would love to see a lot of tangled snowflakes.

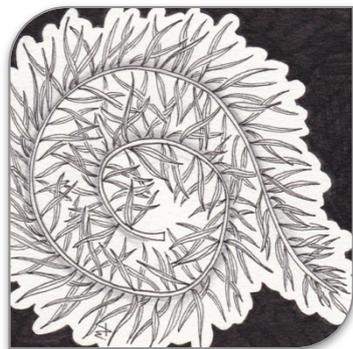


Day 11; Straight lines

The string is the foundation of your Zentangle drawing. You already knew that. You also know that a string is never the same and that you can draw a string multiple ways. Today I challenge you to draw a string only using straight lines. What kind of tangles you use, organic- or gridtangles, is up to you.

Day 12; 'Graphite is the new black'

A while ago I wrote a blog post with the title 'graphite is the new black'. (You can find it [here](#). Again; Dutch text, universal drawings,) In this post I showed multiple ways to use graphite in your Zentangle drawing, more than just shading. (Heavily inspired by Rick & Maria.) The graphite can be an important part of the composition. Try this today in your Zentangle drawing.



Day 13; Monotangle

Just like last year I would like you to try a monotangle. Laura Harms, CZT, made the word monotangle up a few years ago.

I love me some monotangles. Because you only get to use one tangle they are very Zen. Another upside is that you get to know the tangle by heart and you may come up with new ways to draw this tangle. A great way to play and have fun while tangling.

Day 14; Inspired by...

Mondriaan, a Dutch painter, was the inspiration for the wooden bangles I did for Beate's book. The inner sides of the bangles were painted with acrylic paints. I chose the three primary colors for that, just as Mondriaan used a lot. The outer sides of the bangles were painted white and have black tangles.

I want to invite you today to let yourself be inspired by an artist you admire. Let his or her style shine through in your Zentangle drawing. Maybe you would like to use some colors that are typical for the works of your artist. Or maybe there is an artwork that reminds you of tangles. Or you could use the artwork as inspiration for your string. Once again, the possibilities are endless and anything is possible... one stroke at a time. Give it your all!



Day 15; Duo-color

The prompt for today is to make a duo-colored Zentangle drawing. Those of you who have ever done a Zentangle drawing on a Renaissance tile know how this works. You alternate between the brown and the black Micron pen. You can do this on a white or black tile as well. Choose your own colors.

On the black tile you see here I used both black and brown. To be able to do that I first tangled with a white gelly roll pen. Once the lines were fully dry I tangled on top of the white gelly roll with my Micron pens. It's a precise task, but a fun one!



Dag 16; 'New to me'

Last October I once again joined Inktober. Inktober is an initiative of Mr. Jake Parker. He challenges people to make a daily drawing in ink in October. Perfect for Zentangle if you ask me. I did not follow his prompts, I added my own challenge to his. I decided to use only 'new to me tangles' this month. Tangles I hadn't used before. I can honestly say that it was a real challenge indeed. I needed a lot of new tangles of course... But I did it.

Today I challenge you to create a tile (only one... ;-)) with tangles that are new to you.

Need inspiration? Check out [Tanglepatterns](#) or [Pattern-Collections](#).

TIP! Found a tangle you like or even love? Check if the maker of that tangle has published some more tangle stepouts. Big chance you'll love those tangles too!

Day 17; Kitchen string

Today it is my colleague Ellen's turn to provide you with a prompt.

<http://www.kunstkamer.info> or <http://www.facebook.com/kunstkamersassenheim>

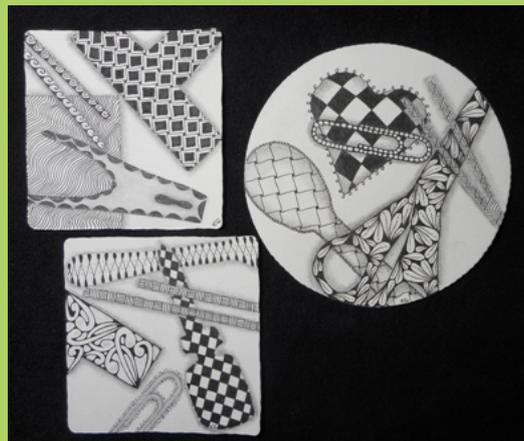
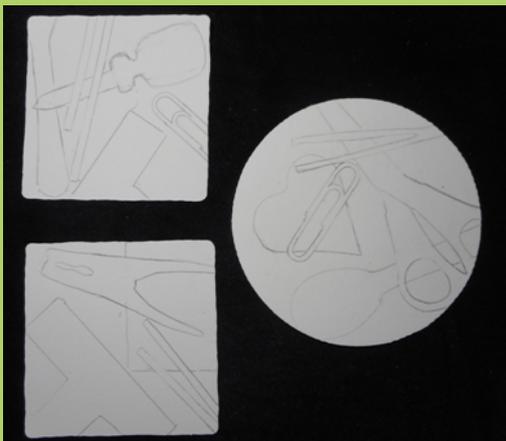


1. The first step is to find some stuff around your house. We all have those drawers filled with 'clutter'... Arrange this on your tile until you have a pleasing composition.



2. Trace the shapes with pencil onto your tile. Here's your string!

3. Tangle!



Day 18; Glitterbom

Every now and then I like a little bit of glitter and glamour in my Zentangle drawings. It can be just the thing you needed to give it a little bit of oomph! So for today I would like you to use a bit of glitter on your tile. My personal favorite are the stardust gelly rolls by Sakura. Some glitter and glue is an option as well. (Prepare yourself: you will find glitter everywhere for the next few weeks... ;-)

Day 19; Handlettering

Handlettering is extremely popular at the moment. For those of you who don't know... Handlettering basically is drawing your letters. An ideal combination with Zentangle. Try to find a nice font, which you can reproduce by hand and combine it with Zentangle today.



Day 20; 3Z!

Brand-new; Zentangle inc.'s 3Z tiles. These little triangular tiles already found their way to my heart.

Today's prompt is to tangle away on a 3Z tile. Haven't got 3Z's yet? Try making your own out of an original ZT tile. Each side of the triangle is 3,5", the same size as each side of an original Zentangle tile.

Day 21; Zengems!

During last years Zenuari the Zengems just popped up in Zentangle-land. Now, a year later they are still immensely popular. So how could we not draw some Zengems this year? You can draw your gems randomly on your tile and tangle around them or you could make a brooch-like tangle. Check out these Pinterest collections for more inspiration: [here](#) or [here](#).



Day 22; Hefty Hack

Fans of Vrij Expressief or 'the Diva' probably know this technique. It's the Hefty Hack!

What you need are plastic bags, water-soluble markers (I used Tombow and Staedtler). You will also need a brush and water (I used an aquabrush, a brush filled with water), some paper towels and paper (I used ZT tiles).

The pictorial shows how to do it. For starters you choose which markers you want to use. Choose colors that don't make mud when mixed together. Scribble some color on the plastic bag. Wet your paper, place the bag on the water (color faced down). You'll see the colors react to the water. Lift your bag and wait till the colors have completely dried. Now you can tangle on top of the color blob. Use your Microns and your favorite tangles.



Day 23; Zentangle Remix



If you're like me you probably have a lot of Zentangle drawings lying around. Browse through them... I always love that. You see all these drawings and the memories will come back. Choose one of these drawings to remix today.

Remix: a piece of media which has been altered from its original state by adding, removing, and/or changing pieces of the item.

Take a good look at your Zentangle drawing. What are elements you love? Re-use as much of tangles from the original Zentangle drawing as possible. You re-draw the drawing with the knowledge and skills you have learned in the time that has passed since you first drew it. Maybe you want to change the composition? Or maybe you just want to draw the same thing again with a steadier hand than you had back then.

Would you like to see my remixed versions of this Renaissance tile? Check out my website:

<http://www.vrijexpressief.nl/home/renaissance-remix>

Day 24; Tangle in tangle

My CZT colleague Karin Godyns brings today's prompt to you all the way from Belgium.

www.karingodyns.be

Try to find a tangle in which you can draw another tangle; a so-called 'fill in tangle'. In my example I used the tangle Walp by Helen Williams. I filled the spaces in Walp with Printemps. Add a splash of color. Et voila!



TIP: You know that there are lots of different ways to add color to your tile. You could do the Hefty Hack again today. Or what about the new Ecoline Brush Markers by Royal Talens? Or the Inktense pencils or blocks by Derwent? Or just good ol' color pencils, gelly rolls, watercolor paint.... Again... The possibilities are endless!



Day 25; Unusual border

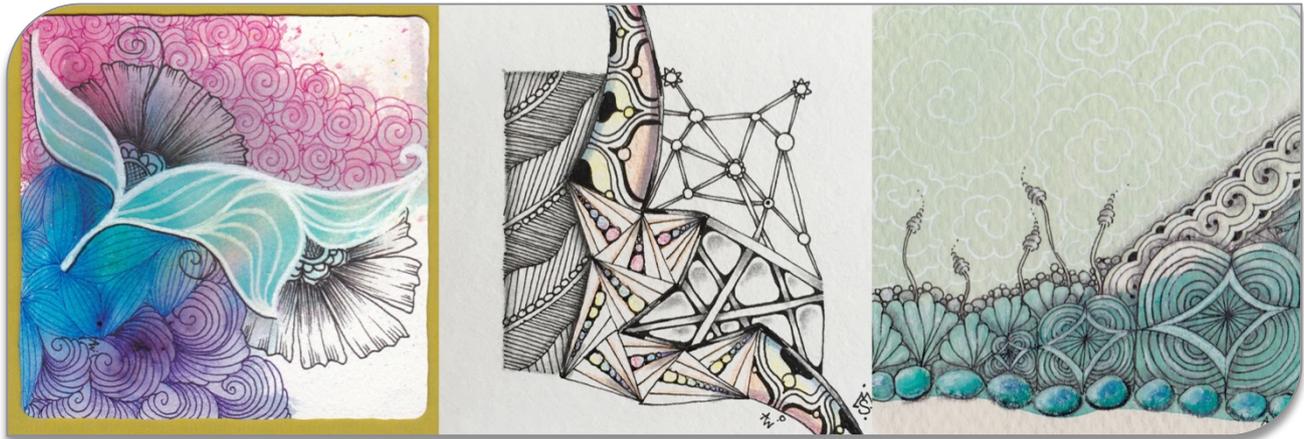
You know you are supposed to start your Zentangle drawing by making corner dots and a border. They're meant as a guideline and are almost invisible in the final drawing. But... What if you tried a different border today? Make the border the star of your tile today!

What can you do to give the border a more prominent place today? I used washitape as border. I'm curious to see what you will come up with.

Day 26; White space

I'm a huge fan of some white space in my Zentangle drawings. I feel it give my drawing a light and airy touch. It gives me a sense of space, tranquility and balance. You can do this too!

Today I want you to leave some white space in your Zentangle drawing. Make it part of your composition. I chose not to show you examples today because I'm curious to see what you envision when you think of 'white space'. Have fun!



Day 27; Traveling tangle

Yay you've made it to day 27! The end of Zenuari is near and just like last year I want to host a swap.

This year I chose to do a 'Traveling Tangle swap'. With Traveling Tangles you tangle a half tile for your partner to finish.

For more info on Traveling tangles check [this](#) or [this](#) out. Or do a google search. ;-)

Want to join the swap? Let me know in the Facebook group (I will post a message about this today) or send me an [email](#).

You will need to make 3 Traveling Tangles size 3,5 x 3,5" and you will send these to 3 different people. Of course you'll receive 3 tiles in return. The deadline for sending the tiles is March 15 2016.

(When you decide to join the swap please send me your snail mail address via private messaging on Facebook or email. I will make groups of 4 people and will send you those addresses. You have to send everyone (excluding yourself) 1 Traveling Tangle before March 15.)

Day 28; Year of the Rooster

If I am correct today is the start of the Chinese New Year. Each year is traditionally linked to an animal. This next year will be the year of the Rooster. Make it a good year by starting today with a Zentangle drawing inspired by the year of the rooster.

Rooster (or Chicken) ranks the tenth among the Chinese zodiac animals. In Chinese culture, Rooster represents fidelity and punctuality, for it wakes people up on time. People born in the year of the Rooster are beautiful, kind-hearted, hard-working, courageous, independent, humorous and honest. They like to keep home neat and organized.

text: <http://www.yourchineseastrology.com/zodiac/rooster.htm>





Day 29; Optical illusion

You probably saw them before. Those drawings that trick your brain in to thinking something impossible is real. A big vortex in your drawing for example. Or something so realistically shaded that it seems as if you could lift it off the paper. Try an optical illusion in your Zentangle drawing today.

For more ideas check [this out](#).

Day 30; MINI-MAXIMIZE

We're almost there... Today's prompt is brought to you by Marguerite Samama. When Zenuari is over you can join her Valentangle 'challenge' for 14 more prompts!

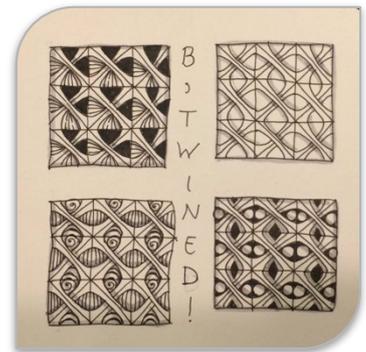
www.happytangling.com or

<https://www.facebook.com/happytangling>

Hi everyone, many of you that Anoeska and I form the duo Two2Tangle. As Two2Tangle we develop ideas and we host Zentangle master classes. Our collaboration really feels as enrichment to me, so I happily join Zenuari.

My challenge for you today is to use your favorite tangle on a different scale. Most of the times we draw our tangles the same size. What happens when you draw your tangles a lot smaller and maybe use it as filler in another tangle? In my example I filled Auraknot with teenie tiny B'Twined. Or blow up the tangle and use it as your string. I'm curious to see your discoveries.

HappyTangling! Marguerite Samama CZT16



Day 31; Your favorite

It has become a tradition. The final day of Zenuari is always 'Your favorite'. Make a Zentangle drawing with your favorite tangles. Or... Do your favorite Zenuari assignment again. Or... Use your favorite color. It's your party! Make sure you hang some buntings and balloons!