



Today's post is brought to you by Anna Mikuskova, the designer of the whimsical [North Wind](#) cardigan. In it, she shares her inspiration for this beautiful sweater; the happy coincidence of a stitch dictionary and a wonderful Johnny Depp film. You can find this post on [Anna's blog](#) as well. Plus, in case you missed it, we did a Style Friday with this sweater just a bit ago; [check it out](#).

The [Winter issue](#) of Twist Collective came out a few weeks ago and I am thrilled that my design [North Wind](#) is part of such a wonderful collection. I could not wait for the issue to come live and see the photos of the project that I had spent months working on. How is Twist going to style it? In what kind of setting, what story? Is the cardigan going to fit the model?



North Wind started more than a year ago with a single cable. It was beginning to get chilli after a beautiful sunny summer and I had a warm and cozy cardigan on my mind. I wanted a classic piece with a lot of cables but also something a little different, perhaps a sideway construction? As I was browsing through Vogue Knitting Stitchionary, the chart for Fudge Swirl Braid caught my attention. I was on a yarn diet and I had to turn to my stash for an appropriate material. I needed yarn that

would show the cables well but would not result in a heavy fabric that could stretch the body of the cardigan, yarn with an excellent stitch definition, light body and a good drape. The cherry red Rowan Kid Classic that I had bought years ago with no project in mind, seemed to be a good candidate and I started swatching. But as I was knitting this bright red mohair yarn, I got a new idea. I remembered a scene from the movie [Chocolat](#) when the heroine Vienne and her daughter Anouk travel from town to town wearing matching red capes. What if I make a handknit version of a cape? A casual hoodie I could wear with jeans and at the same time a cardigan I could put over a skirt or dress?



I rewatched the movie and worked out the remaining details, A-line shape, large hood, oversized buttons. I usually prefer more understated pieces when knitting for myself but this time I decided to have fun and create a very playful garment. I casted on and happily watched the bold cables form the body of the cardigan. And then I lost it. The several skeins worth of work, needles, notes, my project bag, everything vanished, probably after accidently falling from my always overstaffed



handbag. After several weeks of intense search, I finally buckled down and bought additional skeins of the same yarn (so much for yarn diet) and casted on again. I finished it just when the mood boards for Winter Twist Collective landed in my email. And when I saw that magic was one of them , everything fit into place.

