



**Why We Are In Need Of Tails!**  
**By Author Maria Davenza Tillmanns.**  
**Social Philosophy & Communication.**  
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# WHY WE ARE IN NEED OF TAILS



Maria daVenza Tillmanns  
 Illustrated by Blair Thornley

Our most nuanced skills for communication were lost when we  
lost our tails, so the story goes.

Huk and Tuk explore ways we can compensate for this loss, by telling  
stories — *tales* — through polyphonic listening and by entering  
into dialogue to create a new, deeper understanding of ourselves  
and the world we live in.

Doing philosophy with children inspired Maria daVenza Tillmanns  
to recreate the bonds of meaningful communication in the writing  
of this whimsical, playful story. Philosophy should make us —  
children *and* adults — re-think what we think we know and push  
the boundaries of accepted practices. Hopefully, it will also make  
us laugh about taking things too seriously.



"This little book constitutes a loving plea for practicing philosophy with  
children and adults alike, to get a closer connection with each other,  
develop a deeper understanding, and to reconnect to this beautiful world  
we live in." — Dr. Claartje van Sijl, philosophical counselor & trainer

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**Why We Are In Need Of Tails by Maria Davenza Tillmanns**

**Introduction To Series.**

Our most nuanced skills for communication were lost when we lost our tails, so the story goes.

Huk and Tuk explore ways we can compensate for this loss, by telling stories --- tales -- through polyphonic listening and by entering into dialogue to create a new, deeper understanding of ourselves and the world we live in.

Doing philosophy with children inspired Maria DeVenza Tillmanns to recreate the bonds of meaningful communication in the writing of this whimsical, playful story. Philosophy should make us -- children and adults -- re-think what we think we know and push the boundaries of accepted practices. Hopefully, it will also make us laugh about taking things too seriously.



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Blair Thornley (Illustrator)

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**Amazon Hard-Cover:**

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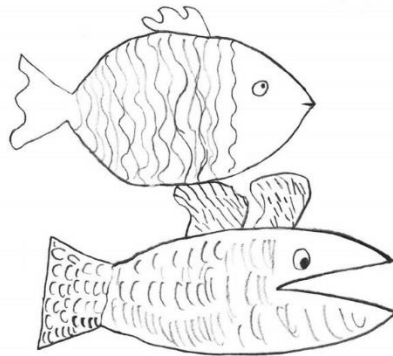
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# WHY WE ARE IN NEED OF TALES

## PART I



Maria daVenza Tillmanns

In *Why We Are in Need of Tails*, Huk and Tuk explain why reading tales to each other is so important.

In *Why We Are in Need of Tales*, Huk and Tuk explore intriguing questions that arise from their discussions of six different picture books written by Arnold Lobel and Leo Lionni.

Is something ever truly mine alone?  
How do we come to know what we don't know?  
What makes a friend a friend?

These and many more questions take us on a journey through the world of Huk and Tuk.



Doing philosophy with children inspired Maria daVenza Tillmanns to recreate the bonds of meaningful communication in the writing of her whimsical, playful stories. Philosophy should make us — children *and* adults — re-think what we think we know.

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### Why We Are In Need Of Tales: Part 1 by Maria Davenza Tillmanns

#### Part 1 In Why We Are In Need Of Tails Series.

In 'Why We Are In Need Of Tails', Huk and Tuk explain why reading tales to each other is so important.

Huk and Tuk explore intriguing questions that arise from their discussions of six different picture books written by Arnold Lobel and Leo Lionni.

Is something ever truly mine alone?

How do we come to know what we don't know?

What makes a friend a friend?

These and many more questions take us on a journey through the world of Huk and Tuk.

Doing philosophy with children inspired Maria DaVenza Tillmanns to recreate the bonds of meaningful communication in the writing of her whimsical, playful stories. Philosophy should make us - children and adults - re-think what we think we know.



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Communication and Social Skills

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# WHY WE ARE IN NEED OF TALES

## PART II



Maria daVenza Tillmanns

In *Why We Are in Need of Tails*, we learn that our most nuanced skills for communication were lost when we lost our tails — or so the story goes. Huk and Tuk explore ways to compensate for this loss by developing polyphonic listening or by entering into dialogue with each other rather than carrying on a monologue. And they learn that telling tales helps connect us when actual tails no longer can.

In *Why We Are in Need of Tales, Part I*, Huk and Tuk discuss six different picture books by Arnold Lobel and Leo Lionni and explore the intriguing questions the tales inspire, gaining a new understanding of the deep connection we have to each other and the world we live in.

In *Why We Are in Need of Tales, Part II*, Huk and Tuk discuss another important aspect of telling tales: making dreams come alive. Here they discuss six more tales by Arnold Lobel and Leo Lionni and learn that we cannot live without the dreams that our imaginations create. Dreams give us hope and imagination and — with the help of courage and determination — allows us to create extraordinary things.



Doing philosophy with children inspired Maria daVenza Tillmanns to write these whimsical, playful stories about profound, weighty ideas to help recreate the bonds of meaningful communication with one another — the young and not so young alike.

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### Why We Are In Need Of Tales: Part Two by Maria Davenza Tillmanns

#### Part 2 In Why We Are In Need Of Tails Series.

In 'Why We Are In Need Of Tails', we learn that our most nuanced skills for communication were lost when we lost our tails - or so the story goes. Huk and Tuk explore ways to compensate for this loss by developing polyphonic listening or by entering into dialogue with each other rather than carrying on a monologue. And they learn that telling tales helps connect us when actual tails no longer can.

In Part I, Huk and Tuk discuss six different picture books by Arnold Lobel and Leo Lionni and explore the intriguing questions the tales inspire, gaining a new understanding of the deep connection we have to each other and the world we live in.

In Part II, Huk and Tuk discuss another important aspect of telling tales: making dreams come alive. Here they discuss six more tales by Arnold Lobel and Leo Lionni and learn that we cannot live without the dreams that our imaginations create. Dreams give us hope and imagination and - with the help of courage and determination - allows us to create extraordinary things.

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**Customer Ratings:**

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# WHY WE ARE IN NEED OF TALES

## PART III



Maria daVenza Tillmanns

In *Why We Are in Need of Tails*, we learn how we all used to have tails that helped us connect to each other and the world around us. When we lost our tails, we also lost our most nuanced way of communicating, so the story goes. Best friends Huk and Tuk explore ways we can compensate for this loss. They discover that by telling stories — or tales, if you like — and by discussing the intriguing questions they raise, we're able to create a deeper understanding of ourselves, each other and the world we live in. Although Huk and Tuk's tales seem simple at first, the questions they raise are nuanced and complex, making them rewarding for adults and children to ponder together.

Now, in Part III, the latest in the *Why We Are in Need of Tales* series, Huk and Tuk gain an understanding of the different choices we make in different situations — and how important choices can be. And they learn that in order to make careful choices, we have to keep our eyes wide open.



Doing philosophy with children inspired Maria daVenza Tillmanns to write these whimsical, playful stories about profound, weighty ideas to help recreate the bonds of meaningful communication with one another — the young and not so young alike.

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### Why We Are in Need of Tales: Part Three by Maria Davenza Tillmanns

#### Part 3 In Why We Are In Need Of Tails Series.

In 'Why We Are in Need of Tails'; we learn how we all used to have tails that helped us connect to each other and the world around us. When we lost our tails, we also lost our most nuanced way of communicating, so the story goes. Best friends Huk and Tuk explore ways we can compensate for this loss. They discover that by telling stories - or tales, if you like - and by discussing the intriguing questions they raise, we're able to create a deeper understanding of ourselves, each other and the world we live in. Although Huk and Tuk's tales seem simple at first, the questions they raise are nuanced and complex, making them rewarding for adults and children to ponder together.

Now, in Part III, the latest in the 'Why We Are In Need of Tales' series, Huk and Tuk gain an understanding of the different choices we make in different situations - and how important choices can be. And they learn that in order to make careful choices, we have to keep our eyes wide open.

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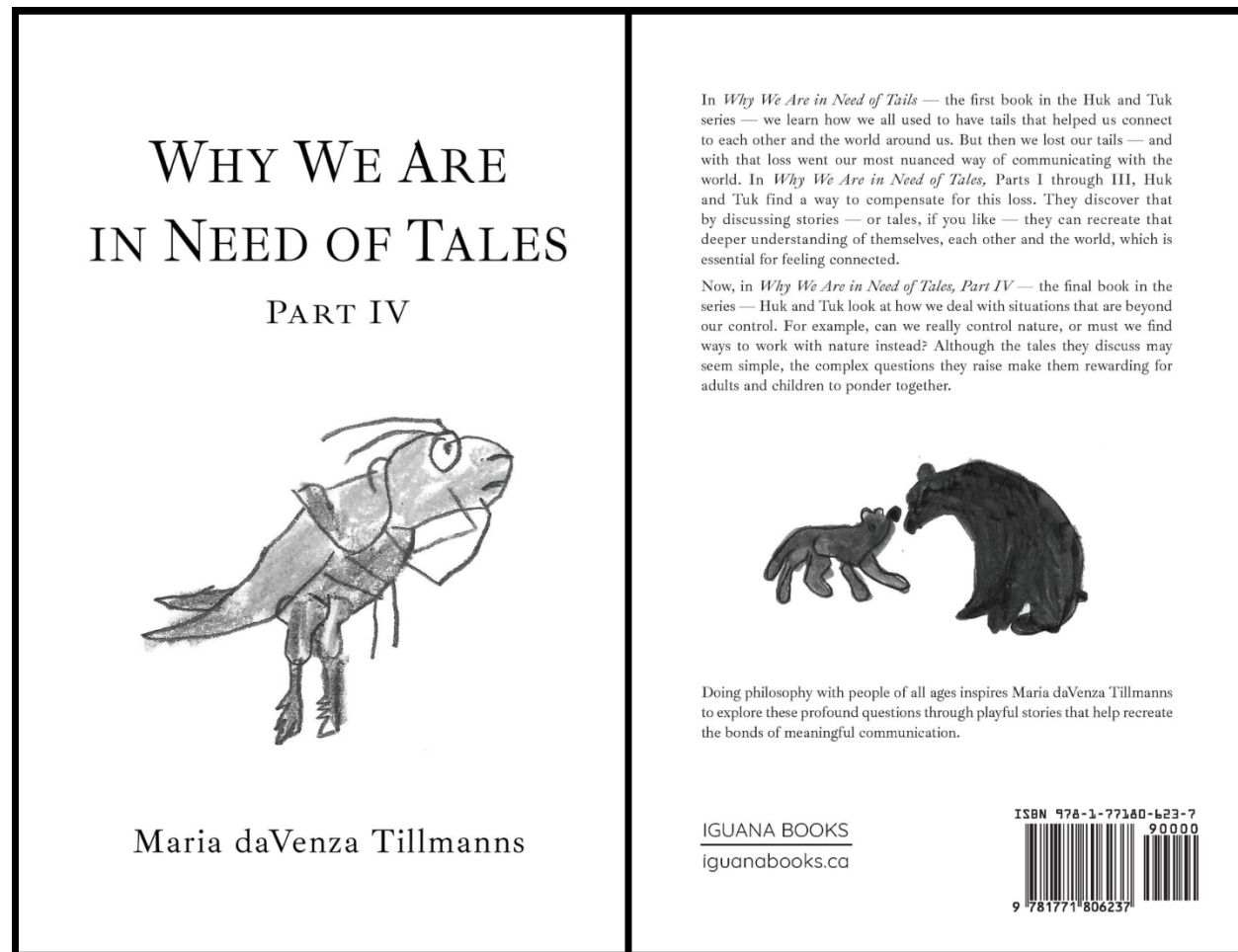
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**Why We Are in Need of Tales: Part Four by Maria Davenza Tillmanns****Part 4 In Why We Are In Need Of Tails Series.**

In *Why We Are In Need of Tales* - the first book in the Huk and Tuk series - we learn how we all used to have tails that helped us connect to each other and the world around us. But then we lost our tails - and



with that loss went our most nuanced way of communicating with the world. In *Why We Are In Need of Tales*, Parts I through III, Huk and Tuk find a way to compensate for this loss. They discover that by discussing stories - or tales, if you like - they can recreate that deeper understanding of themselves, each other and the world, which is essential for feeling connected. Now, in *Why We Are In Need of Tales*, Part IV - the final book in the series - Huk and Tuk look at how we deal with situations that are beyond our control. For example, can we really control nature, or must we find ways to work with nature instead? Although the tales they discuss may seem simple, the complex questions they raise make them rewarding for adults and children to ponder together.

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**About The Author:** Maria DaVenza Tillmanns teaches Philosophy with Children program in underserved San Diego schools in partnership with the University of California, San Diego. In 1980, she attended Dr. Matthew Lipman's workshop on philosophy for children and later wrote her dissertation on philosophical counseling and teaching under the direction of Martin Buber scholar Dr. Maurice Friedman. She has publications in a number of inter-national journals. For Maria, philosophy is an art form, and she enjoys painting with ideas. Philosophy has helped her navigate the world in all its complexity, including having a multicultural background and having been raised in the US as well as in the Netherlands. She came back to the US to study and moved across the Atlantic multiple times. --This text refers to the paperback edition.

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