

A tall tale not just for dog lovers everywhere,
but for all young readers who ever wished
for a friend.

Discover how creatures of the ocean, the power of love,
and the magic of the sea came together to make a little
girl happy.

“Brimming with the kindness of friends, this magical seaside tale explains the origin of delightful little dogs.”

— Mary Kay Sneeringer, Owner *Edmonds Bookshop*

“I was so touched in reading Kizzie Jones’ charming fable about a little girl
and her sea creature friends. As a family counselor, I have often looked for
helpful ways for parents to pass along values such as compassion to their young
children. The fictional playmates of this little girl showed their caring for her
by creating the perfect companions to ease her loneliness. Reading this book
aloud to youngsters would open an easy path to such a lesson of love.”

— Ellin Snow, MSW

How DACHSHUNDS Came To Be



A Tall Tale About a Short Long Dog

WRITTEN BY:
Kizzie Elizabeth Jones

ILLUSTRATED BY:
Scott Ward

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nce upon a time,
long, long ago,
a little girl lived
by a magical sea.

She loved the sea
and the soft sand
and walked the
beach every day.





Whenever the outgoing tide pulled back the waves,
the little girl gazed at colorful sea stars,
anemones, mussels, and barnacles.

Sea foam left behind on the shore
from the surf reminded her of **petticoats**
sashaying in the salt wind.



She combed the beach for **friends**–
treasures left by the sea. She discovered:



shells,



sand dollars,

and purple **hermit crabs** strewn
on the beach like discarded toys.



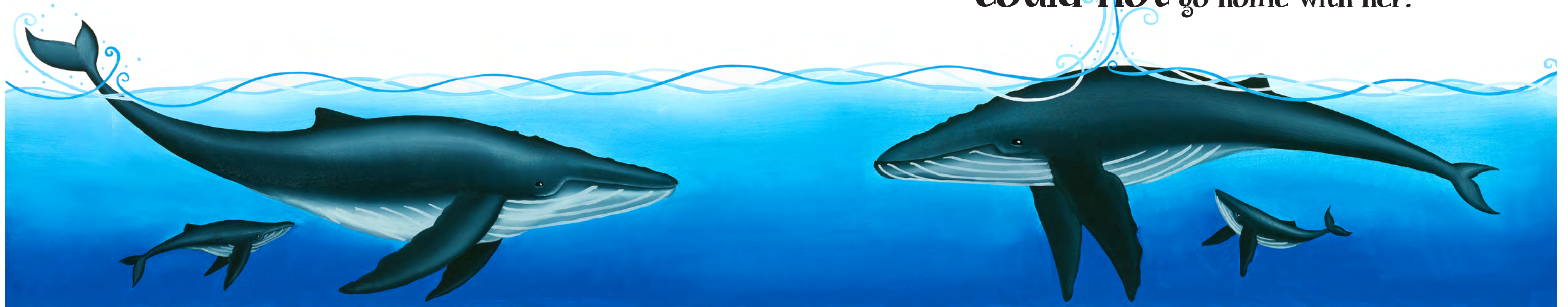
The little girl knelt and whispered to each,
“How special you are.
I wish you could come **home** with me.”



Her **favorite friends** were a pod of gray humpback whales. The whales visited the Pacific Northwest twice each year. They migrated between their winter stay in the warm waters of the south and their summer stay in the cool waters of the north. How **happy** she was to see them and their newborn whale calves.

The pod played with her by blowing water up in the air. The spray caught the sunlight and made **shimmering rainbows**. They teased her with their massive backs skimming just below the ocean's surface, breaching and then flashing their mighty whale tails. **Such fun!**

How the little girl loved spending time with these friends. Sadly, she knew they **could not** go home with her.

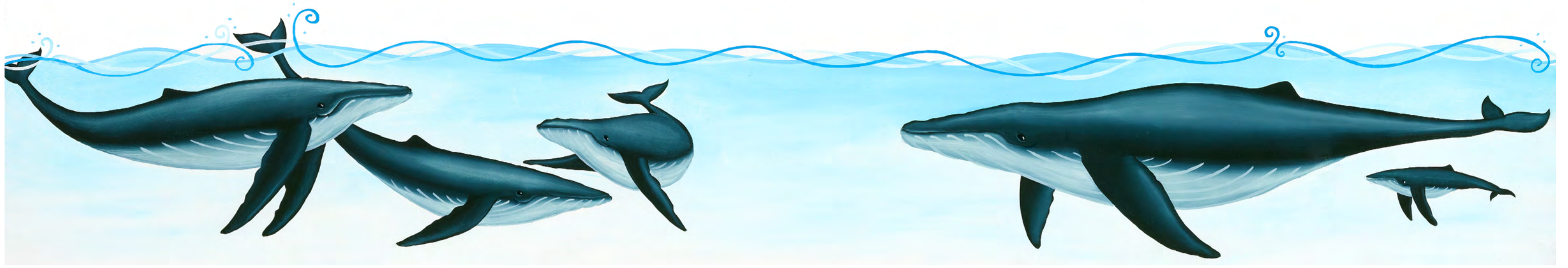


One evening as the whales planned their migration north,
they noticed the little girl was crying.
They said, "**You look sad.** What's wrong?"

"Oh, dearest whales, you are my favorite friends.
Yet, when you go out to sea, I go home alone.
I long for **friends who can stay.**

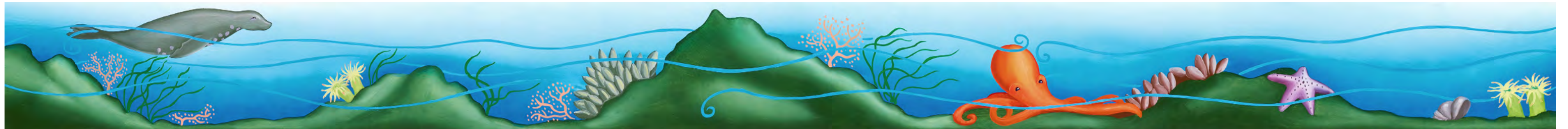
I don't think you can help me, but
thank you for caring,
and she blew them a kiss **goodnight.**





Later the pod gathered, joined by the many sea creatures who also loved the little girl. They all longed to help her **feel less lonely**.

At first, each of the sea creatures thought a **companion** made in its own image would be the **perfect friend** for her.



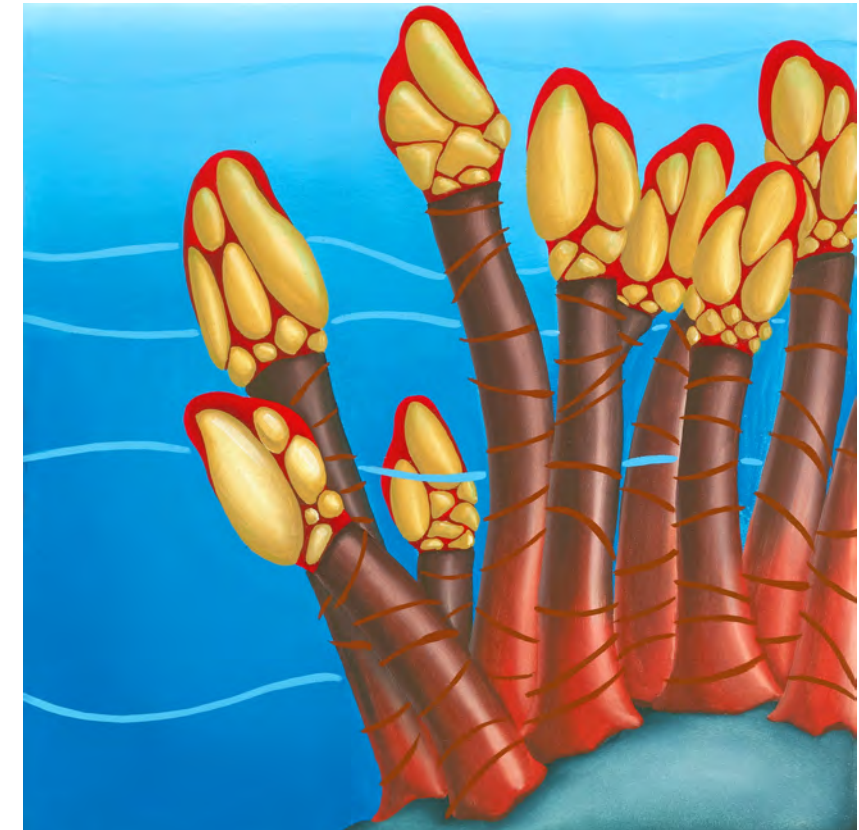
The **whales**, the smartest
of them all, reasoned,



“We want the new companion to be a
warm-blooded mammal like us, so it can
breathe fresh air just like the little girl.”



The sand-colored
gooseneck barnacles said,



“The companion needs to be like us
with a long nose to sniff out its food
and to snuggle with the little girl.”



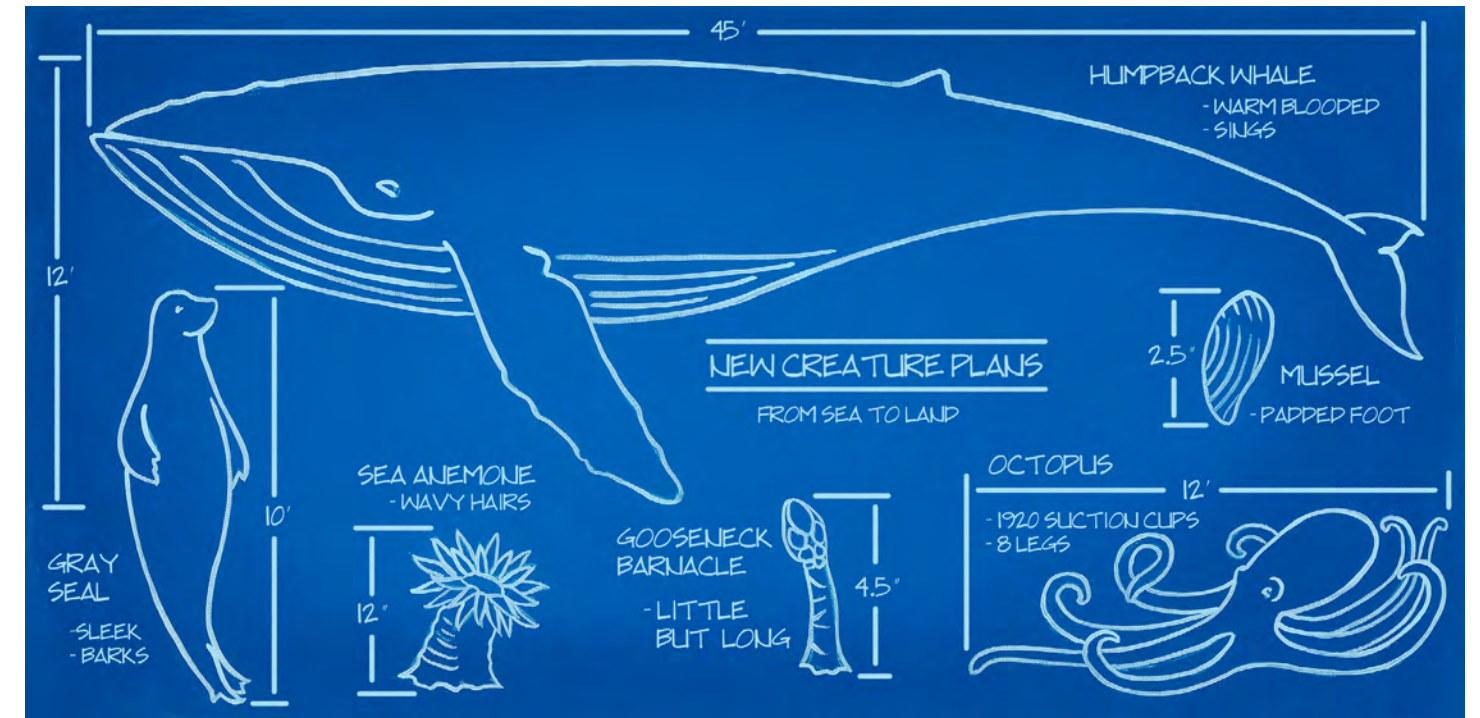
The **gray seals** said,



“No! We want the new companion to be like us!
It needs a long sleek body,
to easily cuddle in the little girl’s arms.”



Soon the sea creatures realized **no single one**
of them would be the right companion.



So, they asked themselves, “What if we could create
a **completely new creature**,
who mirrored our special qualities?”



The moon-shaped
anemones asked,



“Could the new companion have soft wavy hairs
for whiskers and eyelashes like us?”



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“Why not give it ears shaped like us?”
mused the **mussels**. They knew their shape
would be pretty and practical, and offer protection
from the sand and the wind.



The **Sea grass** that moved so freely to and fro
in the water suggested the companion have a tail.
“It could wag back and forth to show how happy
it was to be with the little girl.”



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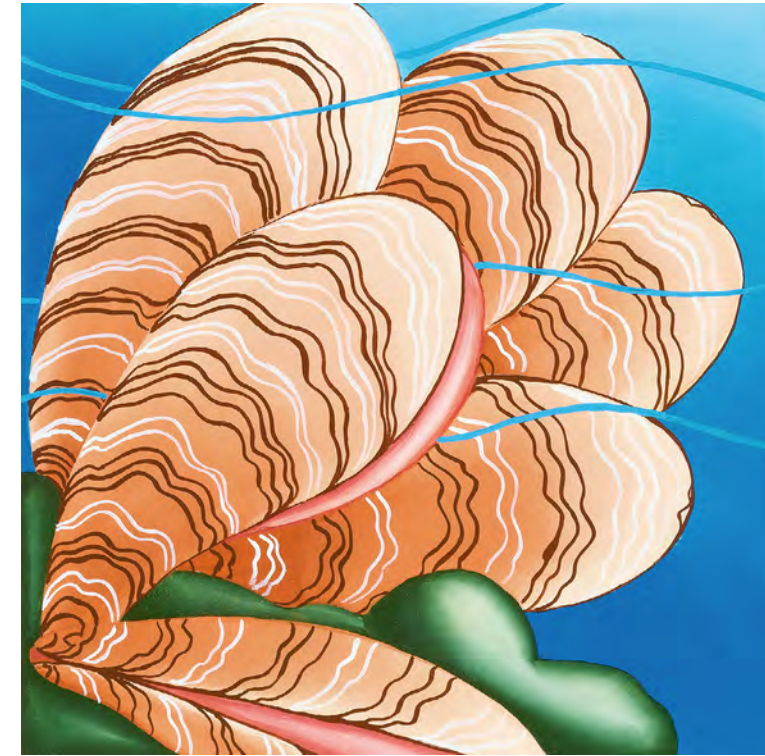
The **O**ctopus offered,



“We think the new companion should have eight legs like us.” The fish fretted and said, “Phooey! We have no legs, why couldn’t it be like us?” After much talking, the group compromised on four short legs—two in the front and two in the back.



“Because the companion will have to walk on legs,” uttered the **O**ysters,



“it will need something like us to cushion its steps—padded ends like our own inner bodies, protected by toenails like our super-thick shells.”



As the story goes,
while the little girl slept,
her ocean friends, the **magic of the sea**,
and the power of love
created not **one**,
but **three**
new
companions!



When morning dawned, they rushed out of the sea
in green harnesses braided from sea cabbage.
One was **black** as the shadows in the depths
of the sea. Another was the **brown-red** shade
of the starfish. The third was the
golden color of an agate stone.
Each so **Special**, so **beautiful**.

At once, they wagged their tails and ran
to the little girl, who scooped them up
in her arms. Long wet noses nuzzled into
her neck. She sat down on the sand as her
new friends frolicked in her lap.

The little girl
giggled
with
glee.



Floating on the waves, a **fun-loving**
sea otter offered the final gift—



“Live in the moment and
always take time to **play.**”



The whales breached in joy.
The waves **laughed** and **splashed** the rocks.





Now, as she walked the beach,
her **three new friends** ran beside her.

She loved to watch their ears
flap and fly
in the wind.

Their **noses sniffed** out every scent
in the fresh air and on the sandy beach.

After the little girl waved
goodbye to her dear whales
and said goodnight to her
sea friends, she guided her new
loving companions **home**.

As she hugged each one she said,
"I am **SO happy**.
This is what I always wanted.
Best friends who can
play-and stay."



That was **exactly** what
the sea creatures
had intended.

And **that** is how
dachshunds came to be.

And they continue to
make people happy
to this very day.

the end

Biography

Kizzie Elizabeth Jones—Author

Kizzie Elizabeth Jones blends her love of dachshunds and her love of the ocean to create this whimsical tall tale to delight readers of all ages. Kizzie has been published in *Northwest Primetime*, *Chaplaincy Today*, *www.military.com*, and is a 2005 first place non-fiction winner for Writers on the Sound.

This is Kizzie's first children's book. Kizzie and her ultimate hero, Thom, with their three dachshunds—Happy, Josie and Molly—live happily ever after in the seaside town of Edmonds, Washington.

www.kizziejones.com



Photo: Nancy Medwell, Hair Designer: Jody Wilson



Biography

Scott Ward—Illustrator

Scott Ward creates images reflecting the vitality of the human spirit while pushing the limits of the imagination. He has worked in advertising, clothing, graphics, interiors, theater, landscape, and murals.

Scott has always loved drawing, painting, and creating. How fun is that? Scott lives in Seattle.

www.scottwardart.com

**This book is lovingly dedicated to
Edythe Ann Stromme,
the kindest of friends and the one who taught me how to be
a friend.**

Deep appreciation to my faithful “Writing Sisters,” Monda van Hollebeke, Joanne Peterson, Reni Roxas, Julia Eulenberg, Andra Lawrence, Mimi Armstrong, & Edythe Stromme; gifted editor Gretchen Houser; enthusiastic publisher Emily Hill; artistic designer Kathi Humphries; creative illustrator Scott Ward, my Beloved Thom Wert who made ‘once upon a time’ a reality in my life, and our children and their families.

And gratitude to my parents, Kizzie and Carl Schleusing, who brought my first dachshund, Dagwood, into my life which began a life long love of dachshunds. But, that is another story....

Kizzie Jones

**To Ron and Pat—who let this goofy kid draw on his
bedroom walls. Look at what happens.**

Scott Ward

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Reviews

“A Totally Terrific Tall Tale!

This beautifully illustrated story is a delightful tall tale for early Primary children, guaranteed to whet their curiosity about sea creatures and stimulate their imagination.

As an Early Childhood teacher with over 30 years of experience, I know that this story would be perfect for initiating meaningful discussions and exploring “what if” questions. The words in bold print would provide a basis for animal and marine science, health, art or language arts lessons. For example; “What if we could create a completely new creation?” would encourage children to come up with all kinds of ideas about suitable creatures for pets and the class would be buzzing with enthusiastic art work and story writing.

This lovely book with its beautiful , sensitive illustrations, is a must have for a Primary school or Public library and would make a thoughtful gift to be treasured by a young child.”

— Marianne Stewart, Retired *Early Childhood Educator*

“This story is original, informative, and engaging. Young children will be mesmerized by the sophisticated yet accessible language and metaphors. The artwork is gorgeous, including the use of interesting and colorful text. It’s a beautiful, tender, warm-hearted story that will be a joy to read over and over and over! I can’t wait to see this book on bookshelves everywhere!”

— Kim Votry, Author of *My Own Magic*

“In this lovely tale I was deeply moved by the compassion of the sea creatures as they worry over their little friend. Kizzie Jones has touched my heart and is sure to touch readers of all ages with this adorable book.

Scott Ward’s vivid and beautiful paintings bring it to perfection. It will become a classic ‘Read to me, Grammy!’ book in our house.”

— Freeda Lapos Babson, Author and Illustrator of *A Royal Buggy Garden*.

“Take me to that beach so I can make friends with the sea creatures, too!” — Evan, *age 5*