



Who Will Read With Me?

誰來陪我唸故事書？

Author: Jhih-Wei Hsu **Illustrator:** Jhih-Wei Hsu **Publisher:** Children's Publications

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Right's contacts: bft.children.comics@moc.gov.tw

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A young boy teams up with classic fairy tale characters to host a storytelling party.

Holding a copy of *Peter Pan*, the boy asks his parents to read with him, but they're too busy. Left on his own, he's surprised when Peter Pan shows up and suggests throwing a story party. However, Little Red Riding Hood, the Three Little Pigs, and Rapunzel are all too busy to join. Who will read with him?

Undeterred, the boy hosts a playful and chaotic party with storybook characters, including a fire-breathing dragon, the Frog Prince, Dumbo, and Thumbelina. Though he doesn't get the storytime he initially hoped for with his parents, he creates his own adventure—and by the end, his parents join in after all.

This book gently reminds adults of the importance of spending quality time reading with their children. It encourages kids to express themselves, build reading habits, and create their own stories, while highlighting the power of imagination and independent reading.



Jhih-Wei Hsu

Jhih-Wei Hsu has many years of experience in advertising and design and has recently rediscovered the joy of drawing. Hsu's works have earned numerous accolades, including the 3x3 Illustration Award in the United States, the White Raven Award from the International Youth Library in Germany, Hsin-Yi Children Literature Award, the New Taipei City Literature Award, and the Good Books Everyone Reads Award for Best Children's Literature. Hsu's notable works include *Four Seasons*, *My Crayons*, and *Thank You, Good Night*. *Four Seasons* has also sold Korean translation rights. He has a deep passion for storytelling.

The Unique Time We Share When We Read Together: The Joy of *Who Will Read With Me?*

by Chen Yin-huei
(originally published at ARTouch)

Remember when children were little and would always be around, begging for stories? One reading, two readings—they always wanted to hear the story many, many times. Sometimes, even if you've already fallen asleep, they'd still be wide-eyed, insisting on hearing the story just one more time.

Who Will Read With Me? evokes such memories. The story starts with a boy holding Peter Pan, hoping his parents will read with him. But

they are too busy. The boy, left alone with the book, is surprised when Peter Pan appears and proposes a story party. But

Little Red Riding Hood, the Three Little Pigs, and Rapunzel are too busy to join. What will the boy do? Will anyone come to read the story with him?

So he asks to read with even more characters, among them Dumbo,

the Frog Prince, Thumbelina, and a fire-breathing dragon. An absurd party ensues.

At the end of the story, the child reads aloud, and it's the parents who become the listeners.

Despite efforts to promote parent-child shared reading for about fifteen years, shared reading remains a challenge for busy families. Filled with imaginative scenarios, this story transforms into a new adventure full of unexpected, whimsical events. Combining classic elements with fresh ideas, *Who Will Read With Me?* offers a unique experience for both adults and children. Illustrated with vibrant crayon drawings, it features bold and playful strokes that highlight the three-dimensionality of the characters.

At the end of the story, the child reads aloud, and it's the parents who become

the listeners. The book concludes with a warm parent-child embrace, and the boy receives the storytime he sought. This ending reinterprets what it means to read together. The boy who wanted to hear a story ends up not only missing out on the original story but also having an exciting adventure within it.

Chen Yin-huei is a children's book author, lecturer on shared reading between parent and children, and host of Story Life Care.



“Watch out!” cried Peter Pan, as the wooden nose nearly crashed into Xiaoxiao. Pinocchio clapped his hands over his mouth, not daring to speak another word nor move a muscle.



Next, the Frog Prince took in a deep breath and began to read.

“Ribbit— ribbit ribbit— ribbit ribbit ribbit ribbit—
ribbit ribbit— ribbit ribbit ribbit—ribbit ribbit ribbit—
ribbit—ribbit ribbit—”

“Oh dear. Nobody understands him, do they?”
Everyone giggled quietly.

It was Thumbelina’s turn.

She was so tiny, and her voice was even tinier!
With Sleeping Beauty’s snores droning in the background,
nobody could hear a word Thumbelina said,
let alone understand what she was reading.



The Fire-Breathing Dragon, growing impatient, stretched its wings wide and picked up a storybook. "Oh dear! What if all the books burn as soon as he opens his mouth?" worried Peter Pan. "The reading party will end early!"

