



## KIZZIE JONES MEDIA KIT

### SHORT BIO

Kizzie Jones is a contributing author to the new anthology, *Writing In Place: Prose and Poetry from the Pacific Northwest*. Her writing group, The Edmonds Writing Sisters, chose their best from years of writing to include in the book. A dachshund lover, she features dogs in her children's book series, TALL TALES. Using whimsy to plant seeds of compassion, kindness, and inclusivity in the hearts of children and adults alike, Kizzie charms young readers via accurate descriptions of dogs and oceanside life, enhanced with stunning illustrations by Bellingham artist, Scott Ward.

### MEDIUM BIO

Kizzie Jones is a contributing author to the new anthology, *Writing In Place: Prose and Poetry from the Pacific Northwest*. Her writing group, The Edmonds Writing Sisters, chose their best from years of 17 years of writing together to include in the book. A dachshund lover, Kizzie is owned by three dachshunds: long, short, and wirehaired, models for the dynamic dogs in her children's stories. The TALL TALES series has a pair of books now, *How Dachshunds Came to Be: A Tall Tale about a Short Long Dog* and *A Tall Tale about a Dachshund and a Pelican: How a Friendship Came to Be*. Book Two has a coloring book and both books are published in bilingual editions (Spanish, German, French) in tête-bêche format, flip-over two-books-in-one. Her forthcoming third book in the series, *A Tall Tale about Dachshunds in Costumes: How MORE Dogs Came to Be*, is due out in Fall 2019. Kizzie's most recent Book Award is Chanticleer 2017 Little Peeps Book Award for Early Readers First in Category.

### AUTHOR INFORMATION

[Website](#)

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**An Interview with Kizzie about *Writing In Place* is [here](#).**

### SUGGESTED INTERVIEW QUESTIONS ABOUT THE TALL TALES SERIES

01. What is the appeal of your children's books about dachshunds?
02. Why are you so interested in telling stories of dachshunds in particular?
03. It seems adults find your books comforting – why?
04. Why is there a strong theme of kindness and acceptance of diversity and compassion in all your books?
05. Why have you published your books in bilingual editions – Spanish, German, and French?
06. Has your coloring book been a popular activity for children?
07. What got you started writing these dachshund children's books?

08. What has been the hardest part of publishing these 13 books?

09. Why did you call your series TALL TALES?

10. What has been most rewarding about publishing and promoting this TALL TALES series?

11. Do you plan to keep publishing in this TALL TALES dachshund series?

12. Tell us a bit about your new book—the third in the TALL TALES series.

13. Where have you traveled to distribute your books?

14. What are some reactions you've had to these books?

15. What is the appeal of writing children's books for you?

16. You have a lot of sea creatures in your books—are they accurate or fanciful?

17. What do your books bring children?

(if you are up to it, a question about the children's book market being so full, and how do you fit, what is your books' special appeal)

### **SUGGESTED INTERVIEW TOPICS**

Why dachshunds?

Why children's books?

Why the themes of compassion, kindness, and honoring diversity?

Why bilingual editions?

What have you learned from publishing all these books?

How do you find a place for your books in the busy children's book marketplace?

### **EXCERPTS**

***Writing In Place: Prose and Poetry from the Pacific Northwest*, 2019.**

from "The Two Kizzies" by Kizzie Jones

It was then I understood the change in [the Music Therapist] Arlen's expression, as he replied, "Her name is Kizzie!" I smiled and said I loved dogs and from my point of view, she couldn't have a nicer name. Arlen continued to seem uncomfortable. He explained further, "Her name is really Elizabeth, but I wanted a strong 'Husky' name, beginning with the letter 'K.' I liked the name Kizzie, but I have to call her Kizzie Elizabeth, so that she will respond to her new name." Amused, I said, "Arlen, my name is Kizzie Elizabeth!"

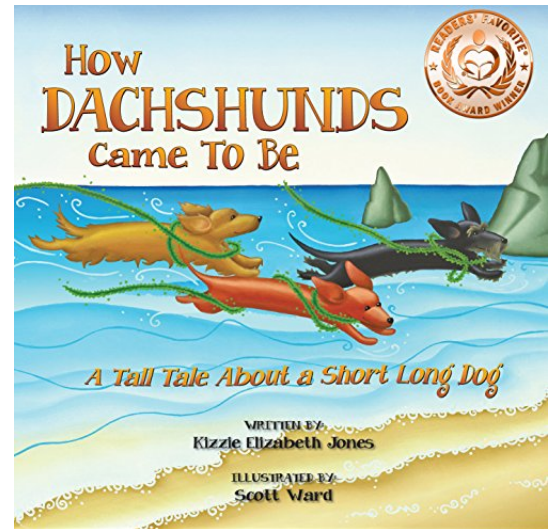
I knew it was a sign that either I should turn and run or that I'd be perfect for the job. I did get the position, but such a coincidence is not without its unique consequences. The running joke became, "We have a Kizzie that barks and one that prays. Which are you?" I would reply, "Depends on the time of day!"

*How Dachshunds Came To Be: A Tall Tale About a Short Long Dog* Written by Kizzie Elizabeth Jones and Illustrated by Scott Ward (2012)

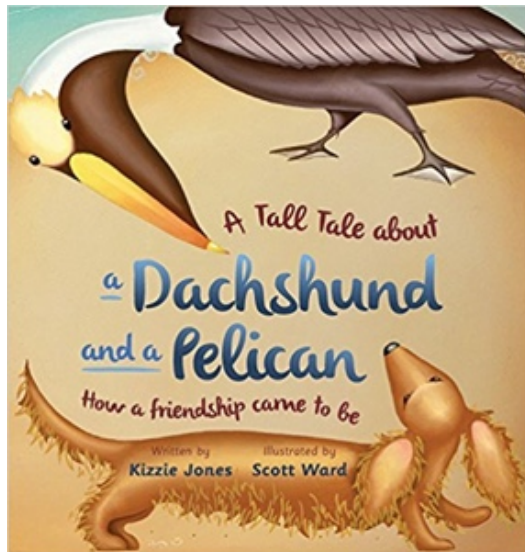
One evening as the whales planned their migration north, they noticed the little girl was crying. They said, "You look sad. What's wrong?" "Oh dearest whales, you are my favorite friends. Yet, when you go out to sea, I go home alone. I long for friends who can stay. I don't think you can help me, but thank you for caring." And she blew them a kiss goodnight.

...

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?"



*A Tall Tale about a Dachshund and a Pelican: How a Friendship Came to Be* Written by Kizzie Elizabeth Jones and Illustrated by Scott Ward (2016)



Sadly, Goldie looked away. "We are not the same after all," she said. I thought if we were alike, we could be friends. Maybe I should go."

"Please stay. We can like each other without being alike. We just need to get to know each other better.

...

"Oh, I get it!" said Goldie. "Yes, the little girl and I are different, too. Yet we are very good friends."

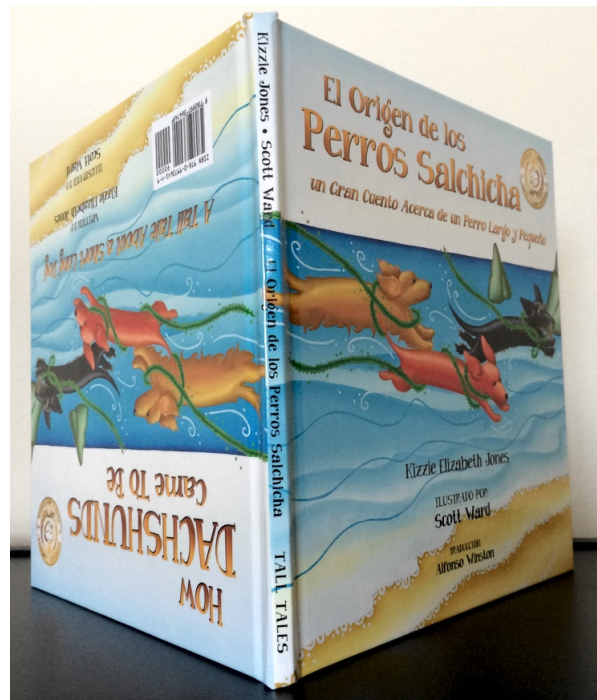
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And that is how a friendship between a dachshund and a pelican came to be.

Updated 7-01-2019

## SPECIAL EFFECTS

The text of the books often includes color and fanciful type-play.



The bilingual books are in "tête-bêche" format, that is, they flip upside down, front to back.

## PRAISE FOR KIZZIE JONES' BOOKS

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

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.

~Marianne Stewart, Retired Early Childhood Educator on *How Dachshunds Came To Be: A Tall Tale About a Short Long Dog*

"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 Clinical Social Worker on *How Dachshunds Came To Be: A Tall Tale About a Short Long Dog*

Dachshunds and Pelicans and the Beach, oh my!! This enchanting book combines some of my favorite things to tell a story about friendship. A terrific gift for youngsters of any age.

~Edythe Ann Stromme, Co-founder & President Children's Caucasus Children's Relief Fund (CCRF) on *A Tall Tale about a Dachshund and a Pelican*

A delightful story to read aloud. In lovely language, set by the sea, a marvelous friendship story unfolds. The unique description of the dachshund and pelican similarities had my three granddaughters' ears perk up. Their differences created opportunity for discussion.

I thoroughly recommend this book!

~AmazonReader, November 27, 2016 on

Updated 7-01-2019

*A Tall Tale about a Dachshund and a Pelican*



Author Kizzie Jones holding dachshund Josie