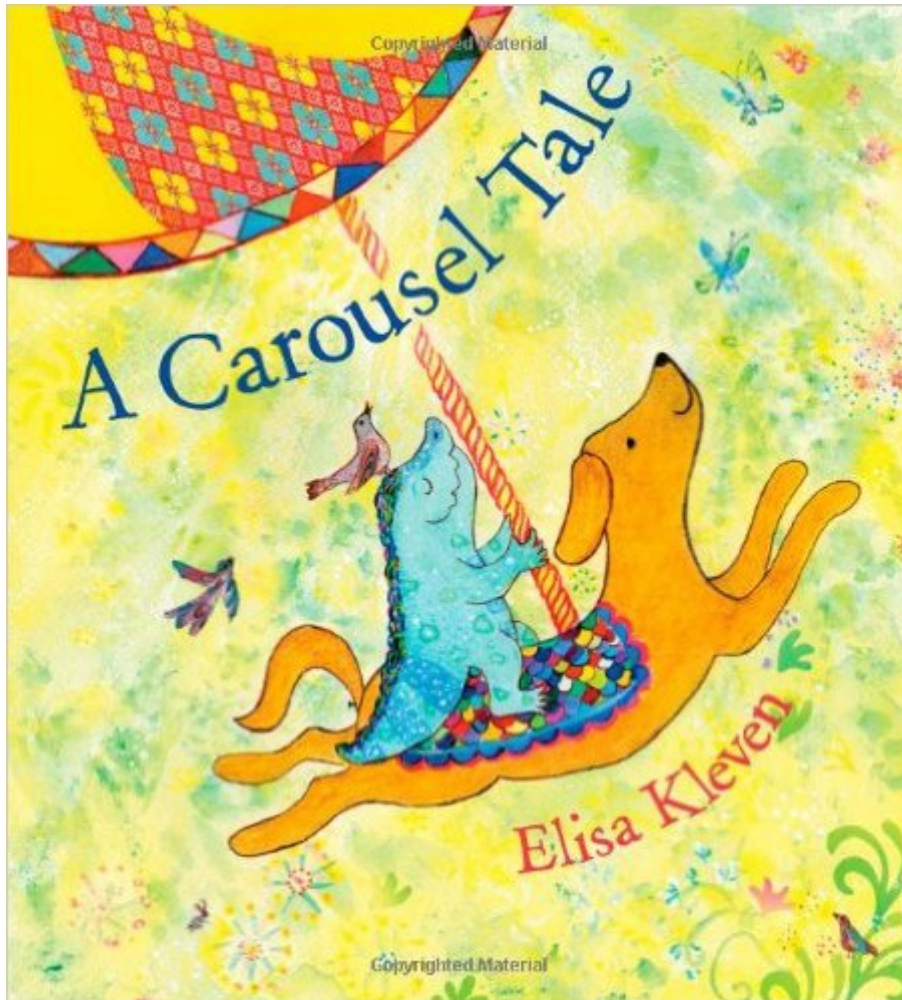


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# A Carousel Tale



## Synopsis

Ernst loves the carousel near his house, and his favorite animal is the dog. When the dog's wooden tail comes loose just before winter, Ernst is given the important job of keeping it safe until springtime. But the tail looks sad sitting on Ernst's shelf without its dog, and Ernst can't help but try to cheer it up. It isn't long before he has transformed the lonely tail into something wonderful! As spring approaches, Ernst wonders if he will have to give up his special creation. And if he doesn't, what will the poor dog have to wag? The imaginative crocodile from Ernst and The Puddle Pail shines once again in a story that children will treasure.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 450L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 38 pages

Publisher: Tricycle Press (March 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1582462399

ISBN-13: 978-1582462394

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 0.4 x 10.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (11 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #721,192 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #161 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Alligators & Crocodiles](#) #419 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Reptiles & Amphibians](#) #2426 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings](#)

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

Once again Elisa Kleven creates a magical world where the redemptive power of love and belief rule! Ernst, the lovable crocodile featured in PUDDLE PAIL and ERNST, returns in this whimsical celebrating the imagination--Kleven's beautifully detailed collages the story to life. As a former preschool teacher I believe A CAROUSEL TALE is an essential addition to the well read child's library.

Great story that youngsters can relate to great pictures that an artist can relate to. If you like mixed

media and collage books for children with a great story line read this one. All of Elisa Kleven's books are very colorful and artsy. Great works.

The children I know love this tender tale of transformation, artistry, and sibling relationships. As in *The Puddle Pail*, another favorite book, Ernst sticks to his artistic vision in the face of his bossy older brother's criticism. This book, like Kleven's others, helps us look at the world with fresh eyes.

This book is visually enticing (as are all of Kleven's charming books) providing a perfect colorful backdrop to the story of Ernst, an imaginative crocodile, who uses his creativity to breath life into a simple object. *A Carousel Tale* is a celebration of the wonder and magic of childhood and encourages the reader to follow their creative impulses.

I love Elisa's new book, *A Carousel Tale*. It's a wonderful gift for children and my students adore the story and artwork. Elisa has captured the magic of children's imaginations with her art and writing, and adults can now enter this magical world too. Lilah (teacher in Watsonville, CA)

I purchased this book for my son, who absolutely loves Kleven's 2009 title, "*Hooray, A Piñata*" (ISBN: 014056764X). While the illustrations remain consistent with Kleven's style - boldly colorful scenes and expressive characters orchestrated in intricate mixed media collage compositions - the plot of *A Carousel Tale* is nearly identical to that of "*Hooray, A Piñata*." The books are so similar, that my son now confuses the two books with one another. In both books, the main character, along with a slightly curmudgeonly companion, becomes attached to an inanimate object with the knowledge that that object must be given up at some point in the future. In the end, the protagonist gets to keep the beloved object as its original function is satisfied with a new object. In both books, there is a two-page spread that is almost identical one reads, "They flew in Clara's dreams that night..." and the other reads, "Together they flew through Ernst's dreams." There is also a carousel/merry-go-round in each book...that's just a small example of the similarities. Both *Carousel* and *Piñata* are strong titles; however having read both of them, *Piñata* is the stronger of the two because the storyline flows more naturally, albeit aided by Mexican tradition. I wish that I had followed my own advice of borrowing the book from the library prior to my purchase.

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