



- f** The book "Hip Hop in the Land of Ellsaby" was born from a very personal reason. For many years, Isabelle Müller (the author of the book) lived in a small village in the state of Baden-Württemberg, where everyone knew each other.
- ▶** More than twenty years ago, Isabelle's beloved dog suddenly passed away. It was understandable that a cute animal would die of old age. But what worried everyone was the little girl's mental state. From that moment on, she became depressed and seemed to have lost all joy in life.
- ↳** Since there was very little suitable children's literature at the time on the themes of "farewell" or "death", Isabelle Müller decided to write a story herself to read to her daughter. "Hip Hop in the Land of Ellsaby" was born from such a soul-soothing desire.



The first name "Isabelle" when read backwards is "Ellebasi" and the author changed it to "Ellsaby". According to Isabelle: "Soon after, when I read her the first adventure of Hip Hop, her sadness gradually subsided. I was happy to see her soap bubbles floating up high from time to time. I had achieved my goal".

The story revolves around the close friendship between a dog named Titus and a little flea named Hip Hop. One day, Titus, the guard dog, suddenly passed away. Hip Hop was determined to set out to find his deceased friend with the sole wish of meeting him one last time to say goodbye. Hearing about the land of Ellsaby, the chance to meet his best friend Titus came. After many attempts, Hip Hop finally found a way to get there, hiding in a soap bubble that was flying high and far to Ellsaby.

In the strange land of Ellsaby - a place without sky, instead there are groups of bubbles that look like floating planets. All the animals are represented here after they die. Is it true that here, thoughts and dreams have no limits, can the secret of life after death be hidden? Promised, "Hip Hop in the Land of Ellsaby" will be an indispensable magical book for anyone who believes in the power of love. Will Hip Hop be able to meet his best friend Titus again?

Author Isabelle Müller says: "I think it is important to introduce so-called "difficult topics" to children from an early age. Everyone, including children, has fears. The fear of the finiteness of life is probably the biggest fear. I believe that talking/reading about it is a good way to develop a sense of understanding that death is also a part of life. Anyone who learns to accept life in general, with its pleasant and unpleasant moments, will gain insight into infinity.

By integrating these topics into children's education, they are no longer taboo. Instead, they become a normal part of our existence. Only those who see life in its fullness can feel the infinity. And even if you sometimes have reasons

to despair, never lose hope, because black is only black if you want to see it as black. This is my message in this book."

In 2001, Krone Publishing (Germany) published this story. Since then, Isabelle has often received letters from child therapists and bereavement support associations expressing their gratitude for the book "Hip Hop in the Land of Ellsaby" helping children to overcome grief in a delicate way. It is not only a support for those who have lost a beloved pet. It also brings comfort to children who are grieving the loss of loved ones.

On the occasion of International Children's Day (June 1), Ho Chi Minh City General Publishing House respectfully introduces to readers the publication "Hip Hop in the Land of Ellsaby" published in three languages (German - English - Vietnamese). The work is simple but very familiar through the gentle narration and vivid hand-drawn illustrations by Isabelle Müller herself and translated into Vietnamese by translator Truong Hong Quang. This will be an important contribution to removing taboos on difficult topics in children's literature and helping many children (both teenagers and some adults) who have lost a family member to find healing in their souls. It is like an invisible, very gentle hug that comforts the wounded soul, helps us face the pain more gently, and regains positive energy and meaning in life.

The book is suitable for children between the ages of 3 and 10.

- All the animals - and certainly not only in Green Valley - were content. They knew that one day they would all meet again, in the land of Ellsaby. And you, children of men, let your most beautiful soap bubbles fly high! That way your departed loved ones will know that they continue to live on in your thoughts and dreams. And perhaps there you will see Ellsaby's lovely face...
- "Guided by love, I will let my thoughts rise like soap bubbles, until they finally reach you..." (Isabelle Müller)

More information:

- Trilingual book: German - English - Vietnamese
- A story with illustrations by Isabelle Müller.
- Suitable for children from 3-10 years old
- There is an appendix for children to color themselves.
- All proceeds from the copyright of this book will be donated by the author to the LOAN Foundation (LOAN Stiftung) to help poor Vietnamese children have a better life.
- Expected release date: 06/2022



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