

Handmade Tales 2

A hand is holding a large, yellow, 3D cutout of the number 2. The cutout is positioned to the right of the title 'Tales 2'.

More
Stories
to Make
and Take

A hand is holding a green tree cutout with several red apples. The tree is positioned in the center of the cover. A small yellow bird is flying to the left of the tree. The background is a blue sky with white clouds and a green ground.

Dianne de Las Casas
Illustrated by Stefan Jolet

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More Stories to Make and Take

Dianne de Las Casas

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*For Mary Jo Huff,
A wonderful storyteller, a caring mentor,
and a fabulous friend. I love you, girl!*
—Dianne de Las Casas

*For Abigail,
My awesome goddaughter.
You rock!*
—Stefan Jolet

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Acknowledgments

The first edition of *Handmade Tales* was published in 2008. Since then, I have conducted *Handmade Tales* workshops throughout the United States and abroad. It's been so much fun sharing the tales with children, educators, librarians, and storytellers around the world. As with any book, there are so many people to thank. Contrary to popular belief, an author never writes a book alone. I have a team of people to acknowledge (in alphabetical order).

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Introduction

I have always been a storyteller. From the time I was a little girl, I loved reading and making up stories. I have always loved making things. I wouldn't call myself an artist, but I am certainly crafty. *Handmade Tales 2* is the best of both worlds.

I am always looking for new ways to tell stories. In *Kamishibai Story Theater*, I explored the Japanese art of picture telling. In *Tangram Tales*, I combined the ancient Chinese tangram with the ancient art of oral storytelling. In *A is for Alligator: Draw and Tell Tales from A–Z*, storytelling is combined with drawing to create unique tales that use every letter of the alphabet to create animals.

In my first *Handmade Tales* book, I explored cut and tell, draw and tell, string stories, fold and tell stories, and even stories made with dollar bills. The stories in *Handmade Tales* had to meet certain criteria. The materials used for the “handy” tales had to be readily available or inexpensive because they needed to work with large groups of children, educators, or librarians. It was the same with this second book. In addition to the cut and tell, draw and tell, and fold and tell tales, I added stories made with paper bags, paper plates, index cards, newspaper, and washcloths.

For those of you who adored “Bandana Man” from the first *Handmade Tales*, I think you will also love “Naughty (Knotty) Bunny,” who is made with a bandana tied into knots. There are fun literacy games like “Fairy-Tale Flashcards” and “Story Spinners” that work well with groups of children. “The Möbius Brothers Circus” is so cool that it seems to have an element of magic when you tell the story. If you work with younger children, “George’s Surprise” and “Edward’s Pet” are adorable. Upper elementary children will want to master “Amy’s Love,” and “Baby J” is a crowd pleaser for everyone.

Many of these stories require little to no prep. You just need scissors, paper, and a marker. They are great “to-go” tales! Consider teaching *Handmade Tales* to middle grade and high school students in a workshop setting. Everyone can use the skill of keeping young children entertained! Think siblings or babysitting.

Please share your *Handmade Tales 2* successes with me! E-mail me at dianne@diannedelascasas.com or connect with me on Facebook: [fanofdianne](#) or Twitter: [@AuthorDianneDLC](#)

Happy Handmade Tales to you!

Warmly,

Dianne de Las Casas

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