

Hilbbán

Thomas Marainen • Laila Labba (ill.)

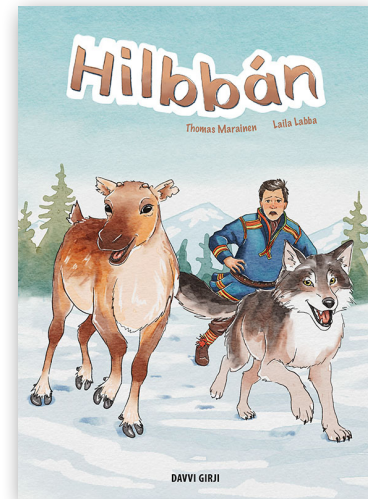
Hilbbán is a reindeer who wishes she were a wolf, since she would get to run with a wolf pack, howl, rear up on her hind legs, and bare her teeth. This book is a good fit for children who are looking for protagonists who are daring, and is an especially good fit for children who like to dream and fantasize.

Hilbbán has always been different from other reindeer. She liked dogs. Sometimes she bared her teeth, stomped around, and could stand up on her two back legs to try to bite anyone who comes too close.

Hilbbán didn't stick with her own herd, but could almost always be found in others' herds, so her herder Nils Ánte always needed to find and fetch her home.

Hilbbán has an exciting journey to the wolf pack. Will she find a pack? Will she get to run along with them and howl? Hilbbán got tired of trying to fit into the wolf pack and ran off home. But then she became afraid when the pack started to hunt her, but luckily Nils Ánte was looking for her and managed to scare the wolves away.

Illustrator Laila Labba has drawn Hilbbán in a humorous way when she bares her teeth, rears up on her hind legs, and runs in the same manner as a wolf.



Hilbbán

November 2025 (original publication)

- 68 pages • Fairytale • 6–9 years
- ISBN 9788232903139

Thomas Marainen grew up in Vuolle Sohpar on the Swedish side of Sápmi. He has written collections of poetry and books for children, as well as nearly a hundred song texts, and has translated song texts by Ulf Lundell and Astrid Lindgren into Sámi. He has sung both traditional joiks and his own joiks at the Sámi Grand Prix in Guovdageaidnu and at the Kalevala Festival in Petrozavodsk.

Laila Labba is an illustrator and visual artist from Kárášjohka, on the Norwegian side of Sápmi. She has been nominated several times for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize as an illustrator. Laila Labba has completed two years of education at the Kárášjohka Art School and has completed the three-year bachelor's program in illustration at the University of Huddersfield. Laila Labba has drawn beautiful and colorful images for many children's books.