



## Summary

### Gusta & Gusto

#### Horns & Hearts in Rhino Country

*Gusta & Gusto – Horns & Hearts in Rhino Country* is the **first** book in the *Gusta & Gusto* series. It is a gentle, imaginative children’s book that speaks to readers of all ages. Through humor, curiosity, and a poetic sensitivity to life’s small wonders, the story explores themes of friendship, courage, and emotional awareness in a light yet meaningful way.

The story follows Gusta and Gusto, two rhinoceroses whose adventures unfold in Rhino Country — a place shaped less by geography than by encounters, questions, and moments of quiet reflection. Their journey is driven not by conflict, but by observation, dialogue, and the willingness to see the world from different perspectives. Along the way, they meet other animals who reflect diverse ways of relating to life.

Rather than offering direct lessons, the book invites readers to pause and reflect. Themes such as empathy, resilience, self-worth, and belonging emerge organically, leaving space for interpretation. The language is accessible yet nuanced, with a flowing, almost oral rhythm that lends itself well to shared reading and read-aloud situations.

Illustrations accompany the text with a light, expressive touch, creating a calm and inviting atmosphere for families, schools, and libraries. Positioned between classic storytelling and contemporary emotional literacy, *Gusta & Gusto – Horns & Hearts in Rhino Country* is a book for children — but not only for children — inviting multiple generations to explore familiar themes from new perspectives. The book is suitable for both independent reading and shared read-aloud experiences. **Book 2 of the series is planned for Autumn 2026.**