

¿CÓMO ^{TE} LLAMAS?

EVERYDAY
LLAMAS
YOU MIGHT
KNOW

BY KRISTIN LLAMAS


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*For my husband, Alfonso Llamas, who made me a
“Llamas” to start, and to our three little Llamas,
Crimson, Lily, and Fischer.*

INTRODUCTION

Llamas are my spirit animal. They are peaceful and caring, strong, curious, loyal, and accommodating . . . until you upset them, and then they spit on you. Of course, Llamas also happens to be my last name, so that helps, too.

I started illustrating llamas as part of an inclusive art project that sprang from the question, What is the one thing we all have in common? Answer: a name! That idea sparked using my own last name to create a play on the question *¿Cómo te llamas?* (What's your name?) From there I asked people to submit their names to become the subject of llama portraits. While the llamas aren't meant to be actual portraits of individuals, I find inspiration in the sound and spirit of the names to guide how I paint and draw them. For example, a llama can "feel" like a John, but not a Charles.

At first I was only planning on creating about 25 portraits for a gallery show, but I soon had 100 names submitted, and the number kept growing, so I've continued to create this community of llamas (a gallery of which you can find at LlamasArt.com).

I hope to express in my illustrations how llamas remind us that we can adapt to any situation. Whatever weight we may bear, we can carry it through with hard work and perseverance. Don't be afraid to see the world differently, and pursue your dreams in your own unique way. Stand, tall and confident. Everything will turn out all right.

I love to illustrate real life, sometimes serious issues, mixed with a bit of beauty and whimsy. Life is difficult but doesn't always have to be serious . . . after all, we are just a bunch of llamas!

DARA

Dara is pretty sure everything
is going to be okay.





ANDREW

Andrew wonders who all these people are sitting in cafes in the middle of a workday.

MAGNUS

If Magnus opens a bag of chips, he's
going to finish that bag of chips.





SANDY

Sandy literally just can't even.

MEAGAN

Meagan feels awkward in elevators.





STEPHANIE

Stephanie's favorite ice cream
flavor is all of them.

LILY

Lily has it all figured out.

