



Children's books

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About the book

Weird Kids and a Sad Cat / Divné děti a smutná kočka

Loose sequel to the award-winning, widely translated book *The Weird Kids' Club*.

Mila and Petr are still weird and still friends. They are spending the last week of the holidays with Mila's parents in the country, where they get to know the neighbours' kids. Luisa isn't all that weird, but her brother Eliáš is! He is unable to lie, especially to his mother. Unlike Luisa, he isn't keen to hang out with kids he doesn't know. Then a strange cat appears in the garden. When the kids look into who the cat might belong to, they learn some strange things – about themselves and the world around them.



*I imagine the cat with her owners in their car.
Then them stopping the car, throwing her out
and driving off, leaving her standing there, all alone
in the world, all confused. It makes me want to cry.
How could they do such a thing? If this really has
happened to this mega-cute cat with saggy ears,
I need to know – then we can keep her.
Our cats surely wouldn't mind.*

About the author

Petra Soukupová

(born 1982) is one of today's most successful Czech writers. She has published seven books for adults and four for children. She has won or been shortlisted for numerous awards; her books appear regularly on the bestseller lists and have been published in fourteen languages, with the rights sold to four more countries. Petra Soukupová also works as a dramaturge and screenwriter.

1

*'But we might,' Mum says with a frown, when
I tell her of our plan.*

*But I know Mum will let us in the end: she would
feel too sorry for the cat. I don't let the frown put
me off. I give her a hug – that always softens her
up because I hardly ever do it.*

About the illustrator

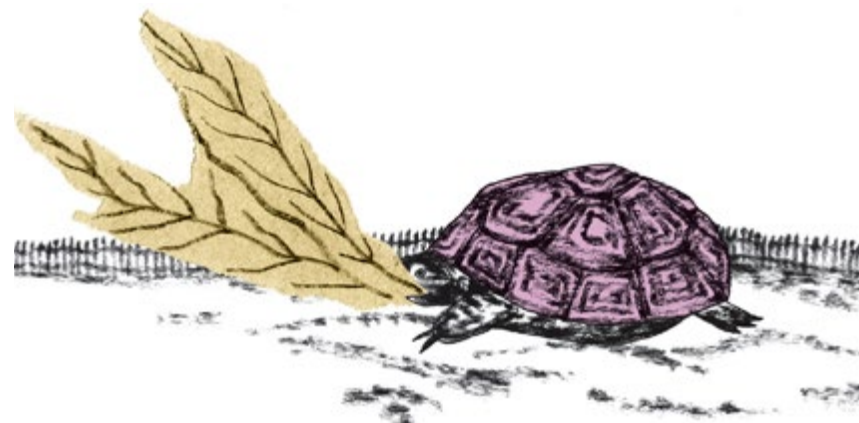
Nikola Logosová

(born 1992) is an illustrator and author who has won numerous awards. She graduated from the Studio of Illustration and Graphic Design at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. For the book *The Weird Kids' Club* she won the Czech Grand Design Award in the Illustrator of the Year category and a Most Beautiful Czech Books award (3rd place in the category Literature for Children and Young Adults), as well as being shortlisted for a Golden Ribbon Award for Children and Young Adults (all in 2019).

Brand new

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Denmark (Jensen & Dalgaard)





About the book

Mum, Come Here! / Mami, pocem!

How many times in a single day will she hear 'Mum, come here!' before she goes mad?

The end of maternity leave is a major turning point in the life of a family. Some people (mostly mums) look forward to it as though it were Christmas. But seven-year-old Vojta feels seriously cheated by it, and he and his younger sister mount a no-holds-barred mission to prevent Mum returning to work. The children's many different plans for how to keep Mum at home are sure to amuse you. This wouldn't be an Irena Hejdová book without fun things to do, including sums, and sentences and drawings to complete.

About the author

Irena Hejdová

(born 1977) is the author of stories of action and adventure for children, including *Get Your Bare Foot Off Your Brother / Nedráždi bráču bosou nohou* (2020) and *Words and Deeds / Skutek utek!* (2022), on which she runs workshops. As well as editing the Culture pages of the newspaper Deník N, she is also a screenwriter and film reviewer. Her book *Get Your Bare Foot Off Your Brother* is being translated into three languages.

About the illustrator

Zuzana Čupová

(born 1995) is a graduate in Animation from Tomáš Baťa University in Zlín. Her unmistakable illustrations are also a feature of Irena Hejdová's *Get Your Bare Foot Off Your Brother*. As well as illustrating books, she makes short animated films and designs rubber stamps. She is currently working on a book of her own, which will be published by Host in autumn 2024.

2

Brand new



She trips on one of the threads, falls into the lego bricks, then slides along some soap straight into the chair. After which she falls into the aquarium, slips on the marimo ball, and probably ends up breaking something. It's a bit like the film Home Alone. The difference is, we're trying to prevent Mum from getting out, not burglars from getting in.

The worst thing about it is, the whole thing looks like we're just messing about in the entrance hall, up to our usual tricks. But this is a trap. To catch Mum in. She wants to run out on us, but we won't let her.





About the book

The Road Is A Dog / Cesta je pes

What do you call a dog's travelogue? A traveldog! A cross between Karel Čapek's *Dášeňka: the Life of a Puppy* and Jack Kerouac's *On the Road*.

A dog likes to do his master's bidding. So, when this master sets out on a trip across Europe, his loyal four-legged friend must tag along. Barnaby the dog is the narrator of this travelogue, which takes us from a village near Prague to Paris, the Atlantic Coast and then through Spain, Portugal and Italy all the way to the Balkans. And back again. Only when we travel do we appreciate the true meaning of home. Home is where your bowl and blanket are.

About the author

Petr Šesták

(born 1981) is a graduate of Charles University in Prague. His third book, *Continuity in the Park / Kontinuita parku* attracted excellent reviews and resonated very strongly with readers. In 2023, *Burnout / Vyhoření*, a novelistic pamphlet about the life of humans in a world of cars, was published. Having first captured his experiences of life on the road in the poetic/philosophical travelogue *A Nomad's Gallery / Kočovní galerie* (2014), he now revisits them in this book for children, *The Road Is A Dog*.

About the illustrator

Františka Iblová

(born 2000) graduated in Graphic Arts from a secondary and higher vocational school for the applied arts. She is currently a student at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design (UMPRUM) in Prague, under Juraj Horváth in the Studio of Illustration and Graphics. Her work combines experimental graphic art techniques with reportage illustration.

3

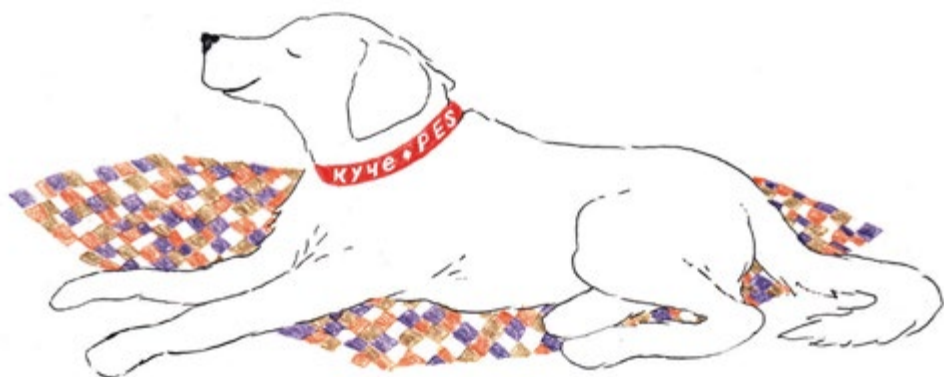
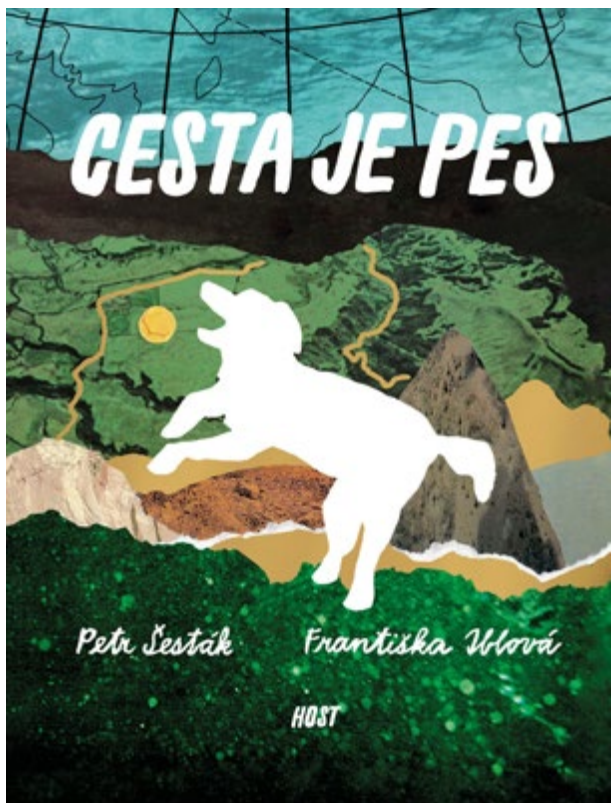
Brand new



A man I didn't know was walking alongside me, carrying lovely fresh slices of lamb exquisitely spiced and wrapped in pitta. He was holding this kebab at just the wrong height, exactly where my chops are, and waving it about. It's a known fact that well-behaved dogs don't grab food out of people's hands. I swear I would never have snatched the

kebab had I not been really close to the man and opening my mouth to take a deep breath, had he not waved the kebab directly into it, and had the food not got stuck between my teeth, so that I had to chew it up quickly, aluminium foil and all...





About the book

A Forest Chronicle: The Case of the Lost Hedgehogs / Kronika lesa: Případ ztracených ježků

If Sherlock Holmes were an animal of the forest, which one would he be?

A keen-eyed lynx? A bear with the best sense of smell? A wolf with the instincts of a hunter? Not even close! The investigator in this thrillingly readable tale of detection is a creature who seems least qualified for the role – a blind, apparently scatterbrained mole. The thing is, he is not at all as he seems at first.

This forest community is bursting with life, humorous characters and grand plots. This is reading for those not afraid of a little suspense, and who like action and the drama that goes with it.

About the author

Martin Máj

(born 1986) graduated from the Department of Animated Film at the Film and TV School of the Academy of Performing Arts in Prague (FAMU). He now works as an animator, in post-production, and as a screenwriter for children's TV. In his free time, he creates animated GIFs for majovi.studio on Instagram, together with his wife.

A Forest Chronicle is his first book.

About the illustrator

Bianka Török

is a Slovak Hungarian graphic artist and illustrator who freely combines traditional techniques of painting and graphics with computer-generated post-production. She particularly enjoys playful assignments, such as work on pop-up books and board games for children and young adults.

4

Brand new



Pigeon the carrier flew in, greeted everyone respectfully, bowed, then – incredibly – laid into Lieutenant Otter. ‘How dare you stay away so long?’ he yelled in Mrs Otter’s angry voice. ‘The kids won’t know who you are! Do you think I enjoy being stuck here with them? I’m sick of it! If you don’t swim home right now, I’ll pack my things and go to Mother’s at the river!’

Pigeon yelled at poor Otter a little longer, adding a few remarks about his inability to organize, attend to, cook or repair anything in the home, before ending the message with a few unprintable oaths. Then he bade farewell, bowed out and flew away.





About the book

Explanatory Dictionary / Výkladový slovník

A single sentence can be worth more than a whole chapter.

Mummy. Teddy. Ball. Snow. Home. Which words capture and describe the world of a child? What seems important to a four-year-old? From his surroundings, what will imprint itself as a key memory? And what will be its colour and mood?

The author has compiled a poetic explanatory dictionary for use by children and adults. Each headword gets a double-page spread and a watercolour collage, and is an entry point to a world of emotion, detail, memory and association.



Summer crumples you up and sends you home.

About the author

Olga Stehlíková

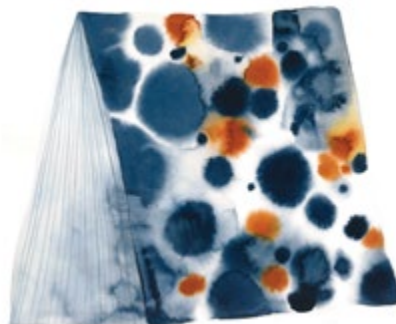
(born 1977) is a poet, editor, and writer of fiction for children and adults. *Weeks / Týdny* (2014), her first book of poetry, was awarded a Magnesia Litera. Her work for children features regularly in the Best Children's Books catalogue. It includes *Mylene / Mojenka* (2022), which received the 2023 Golden Ribbon for Teenage Fiction (awarded by the Czech Section of IBBY) for the illustrations by Andrea Tachezy.

About the illustrator

Michaela Casková

(born 1988) is a visual artist, instructor and itinerant gardener. As an active member of the Finnish association Mustarinda, she is involved in projects that bring together art, science, and ecological and cultural diversity. She lives and works principally in Finland, although she makes frequent returns to the Czech Republic.

5



The book – an opening world

Brand new



Evening: teeth, pyjamas, Dad yawns through a bedtime story





About the book

Lela and Kika are Arguing / Lela a Kika se hádají

For all best friends who get into conflict.

Lela and Kika are cousins. They go to the same kindergarten, and they share a grandmother who looks after them. They are best friends, yet they are always arguing. This book doesn't judge, ridicule, or even try to educate. It is so authentic that even a three-year-old will understand how seriously the author is taking her. The hilarity at the heart of the absurd situations is presented gently and without irony, enabling children to see into conflicts from the outside.

About the author

Ivana Janišová

(born 1956) is a child psychologist whose books for children and young adults adeptly and subtly reflect her many years of experience. Her empathy with the world of children was acknowledged by the jury of experts that awarded her novel for girls *Anka B and the Unimportant Details / Anka Běčko a nepodstatné detaily* (2002) a Golden Ribbon literary prize.

About the illustrator

Jitka Petrová

(born 1975) is an illustrator, visual artist and director of animated films. She is a graduate in Animation from the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. She has illustrated many books. You may also know her as a maker of children's programmes for Czech Television.

6



Lela and Kika hit each other

Lela has run huffing and puffing to her grandmother. 'Kika hit me, Gran!' she complains.

'No I didn't!' yells Kika, striking the table to show what she didn't do. 'I didn't hit her!'

Both girls are close to tears.

'You really shouldn't hit her, Kika,' says Gran kindly, as she blows softly on the place on Lela's arm that Kika didn't hit.

Moments later, both girls come running to Gran. 'She hit me and I hit her!' yells Lela. Kika pushes in front of her and yells even louder: 'She hit me and I hit her!'

'Do you know what?' says Gran. 'Kids sometimes hit each other. It's not very nice, and it hurts. So don't do it again, okay?'

'Okay,' both girls agree. Then they run off to play, perfectly happy.





About the book

Those Who Sleep in the Pantry / Kdo spí ve spíži

All of us are trying to find our place in the world. Even little Spud...

One day, there is a potato in the basket, and that potato opens its eyes to see that it has four short legs, a pointy nose and a lively tail. It has become Spud! And Spud is alive, frightened and abandoned. Luckily, he isn't on his own for long. He makes the acquaintance of Appa, Beetie and other inhabitants of the Pantry. And he soon realizes that if he is to find his family and save his own and others' skin, he must act.

About the author

Kristina Nesvedová

(born 1981) has loved stories since she was little, so she decided to become an editor for a publishing house and read them all day long. She has been helping bring books for children and adults into the world for over a decade. *Those Who Sleep in the Pantry* is the first book she has written herself.

About the illustrator

Aneta Františka Holasová

(born 1985) is an artist with a love of watercolour and illustration for children. Many books bear her artist's signature. Of these, *Toni and the Showrider / Tonča a krasojezdec* (2019) received a Golden Ribbon award and was highly placed in the Most Beautiful Czech Books competition.

7



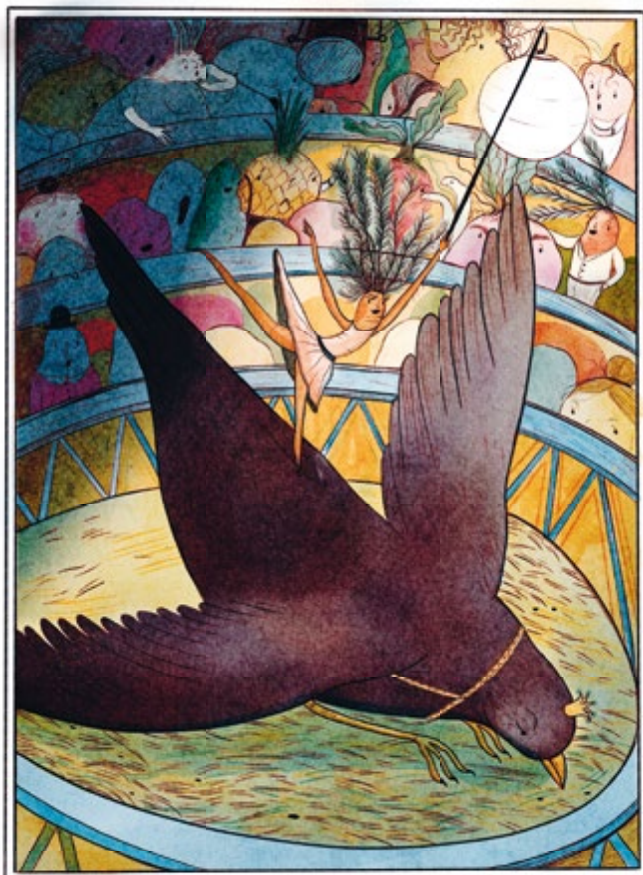
Spud climbed from potato to potato, shaking them and telling them to wake up as he went. But they were just cold potatoes with dirty skins.

Spud went this way and that and back again, close to tears. He became so desperate that at last he cried, at the top of his voice: 'Stop sleeping! Wake u-u-up!'

But nothing in the basket moved. They were only potatoes, after all.

In his distress, Spud curled into a ball on top of the pile. By going back to sleep, he would return to how he was before, he told himself. But before he closed his eyes, he whispered sadly one last time: 'Wake up. I'm all alone here.'





About the book

Gran / Babi

A silent book for anyone who has ever missed someone.

Young readers will relate to the main character, a two-year-old girl discovering a world abounding in magic and mystery, while grown-ups will be moved by the story of her forced separation from her great-grandmother. We all lived through such things during the lockdowns of the Covid-19 epidemic, and they are not so unusual: flu epidemics keep us apart from our hospitalized nearest and dearest every year. There is always someone we can't be with...



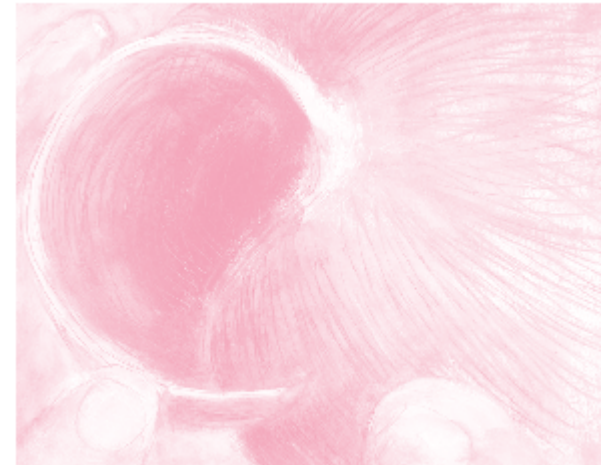
About the author

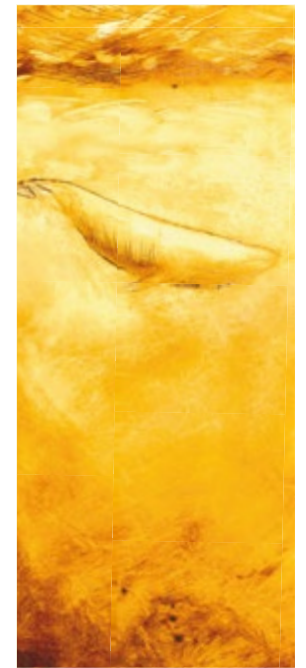
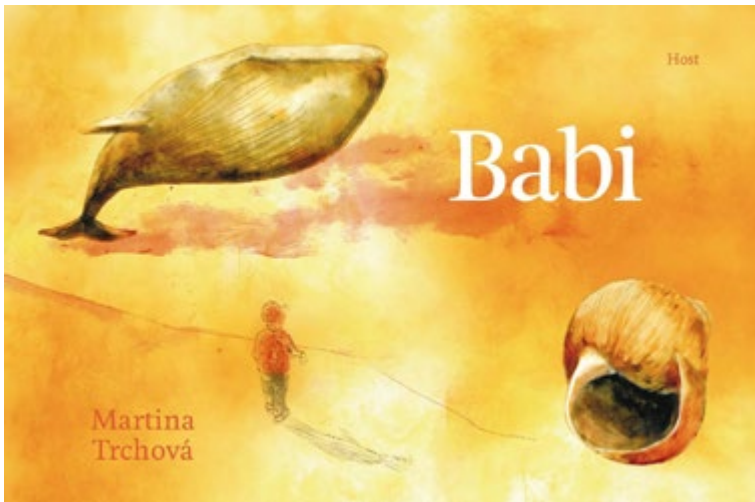
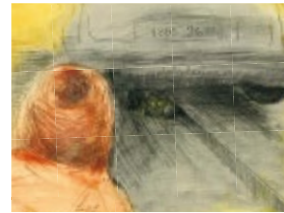
Martina Trchová

(born 1983) is a graduate in Art Education. As well as teaching art and leading art workshops, she has produced art of her own since her student years. She has now discovered the magic of illustration for children; her work in this regard includes illustrations for Markéta Pilátová's *Fungus Woman with Parasol / Bába Bedla* (2021), which appears in a 2021/22 catalogue of best books for children. Martina is also a singer-songwriter of jazz, chanson, folk and blues music.



8





About the book

Lost in Midair / Ztracený v povětrí

If you could travel in time and space, where would you go?

Nicholas, an ordinary boy, has come to spend the summer holidays in the country with his grandparents. He is expecting to be bored. Then Nicholas becomes aware of the strange behaviour of the neighbour and follows him beyond the village to an abandoned barracks, where he crawls into an old metal locker and ends up in Irkutsk during the first world war. Suddenly he is on the other side of the world in the company of a grumpy neighbour who has many secrets and few answers to Nicholas's questions.

About the author

Stanislav Beran

(born 1977) is a graduate in Czech Language and History from the Faculty of Education of Jan Evangelista Purkyně University in Ústí nad Labem. Although his first book was the collection of poetry *House of Evil / Zlodům* (2002), he soon turned to prose. He is the author of several collections of short stories and the novel *The Knights of Vyšehrad / Vyšehradští jezdci* (2016). He wrote *Lost in Midair* for his sons, who have since grown a few inches.

About the illustrator

Ján Kurinec

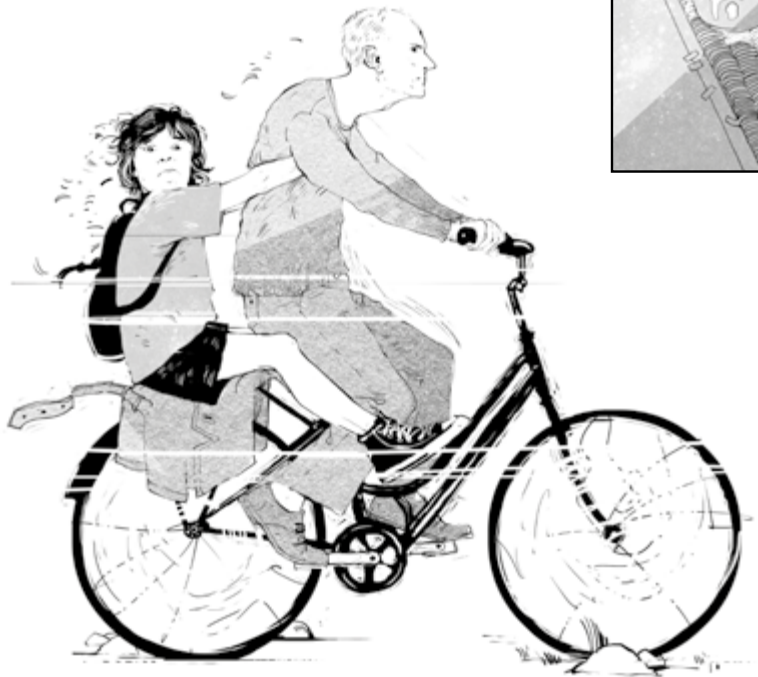
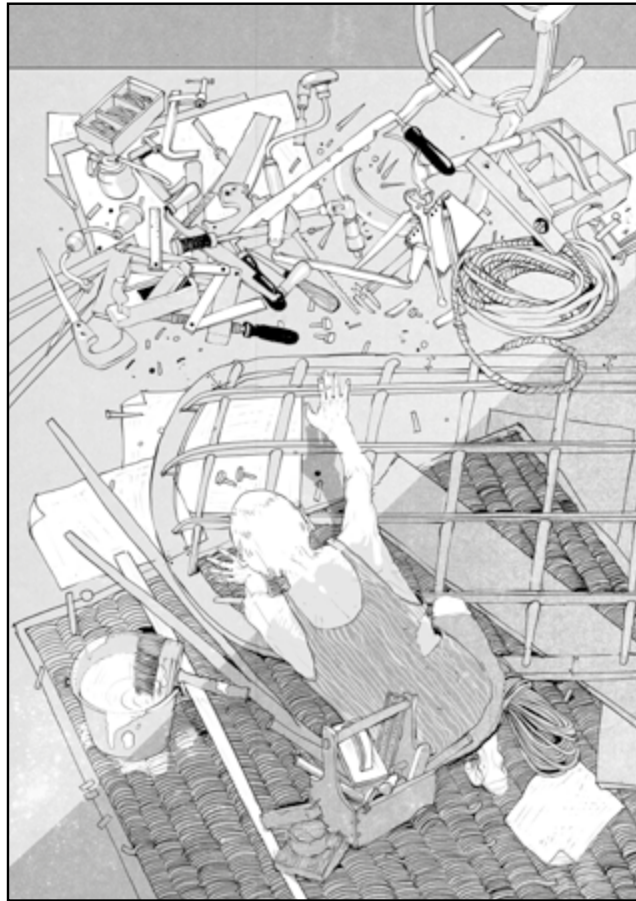
(born 1983) was a teacher of drawing, painting and graphic art for 15 years. He left the profession to devote himself full-time to book illustration, which had long been his hobby. He favours black-and-white illustration and line drawing. He authors books of his own for the popularization of science.

9



He peeps inside the first room. It's empty. He goes on. The next door opens on to a toilet. It turns out that the clamour is coming from behind a door at the very end of the corridor. He seizes its handle and is about to push it open when he stops himself. Does he really want to know what is beyond the door? He's afraid. Till now, Čurda has been a weirdo neighbour and nothing more. Opening the door might change that. He begins to regret being alone and not telling anyone where he was going.





About the book

Aya the Drop / Kapka Ája

The road to friendship sometimes throws up unexpected, hazardous diversions. This can be said for drops of water, too.

The book takes children to a school for drops of water where they learn all about transformation – into steam, ice, or snowflakes, or merging with the current, jumping from a weir, bouncing and swimming. Aya the Drop loves being at school, even though she does not get an A-grade in everything. But what she does not like is the mean treatment she gets from Daya, her school-mate. Will anything change at the Water Olympics at the end of the school year?



Transformation into hoarfrost and ice were things I hated. Curling yourself up into a ball and summoning a freezing wind takes a lot of effort. When you're in that state, moving and speaking are really hard, and that bothers me. You fall to earth like a limp fish, and for a good fifteen minutes after that your teeth chatter and your voice travels through your nose. When you ask what's for lunch, it comes out something like: 'Hu-huhu-huhuhu?'

About the author

Alena Mornštajnová

(born 1963) is one of today's most popular Czech writers. More than 750,000 copies of her books have been sold in the Czech Republic alone. Her books have been published in twenty-two languages, including English and German; rights have been sold in six more countries. Alena Mornštajnová's best-known works include *Hana / Hana* and *November Fall / Listopád*. *Aya the Drop* is her second book for children. As with the first, *Stráša the Little Ghost / Strašidýlko Stráša*, she has worked on it with Galina Miklínová.

About the illustrator

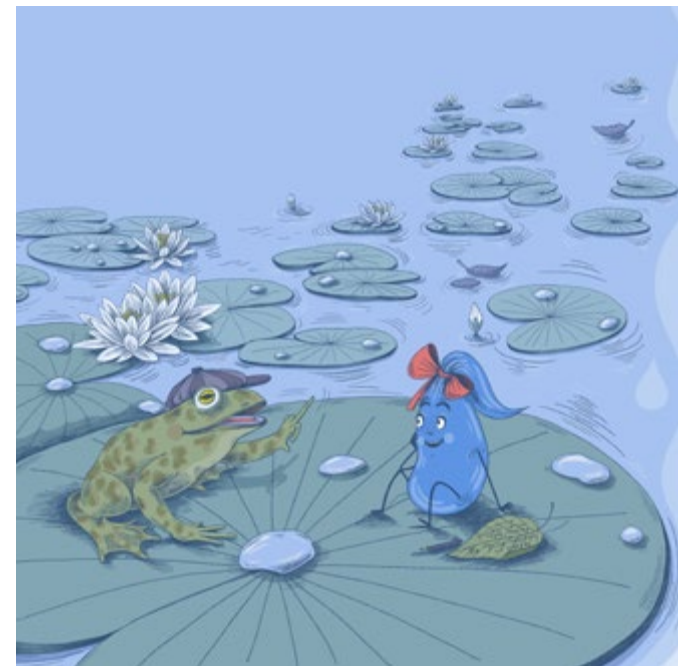
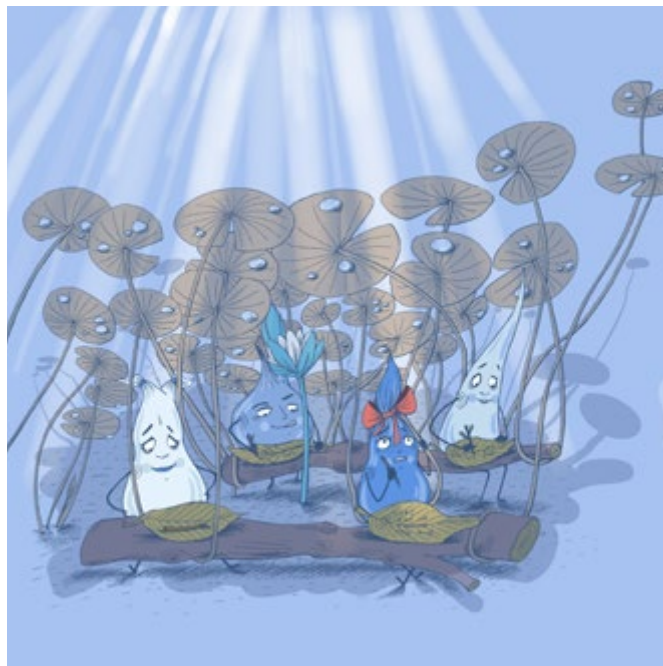
Galina Miklínová

(born 1970) is a well-known Czech illustrator and director/artist of animated films. Her unmistakable art has embellished dozens of children's books. Her work is familiar to many through the children's TV series *Tales of Dimity / O Kanafáskovi* and the animated film *The Oddsockeaters / Lichožrouti*.

10

Foreign editions:
Slovenian (Celjska Mohorjeva Družba, 2023)



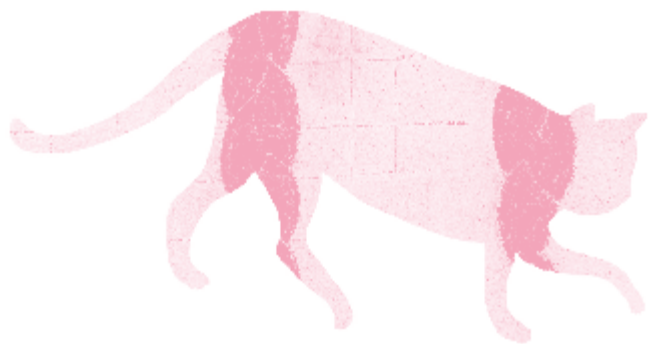


About the book

Mylene / Mojenka

The powerful story of a 10-year-old girl learning to cope with her mother's sudden illness.

Magdaléna (Mylene) likes woods, moss, ferns, various shades of green, animal tracks and antlers. Her finely gauged story grips the reader by engaging but never manipulating the emotions. The book's insight into the lives of animals, plants and trees encourages us to reach for an encyclopaedia or take a walk in the woods with our eyes as big as saucers.



About the author

Olga Stehlíková

(born 1977) is a poet, editor, and writer of fiction for children and adults. *Weeks / Týdny* (2014), her first book of poetry, was awarded a Magnesia Litera. Her work for children features regularly in the Best Children's Books catalogue. It includes *Mylene / Mojenka* (2022), which received the 2023 Golden Ribbon for Teenage Fiction (awarded by the Czech Section of IBBY) for the illustrations by Andrea Tachezy.

About the illustrator

Andrea Tachezy

(born 1966) is a graduate in Animation from the Prague Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design (VŠUP). Nevertheless, she pursued her dream of becoming an illustrator of children's books; today, she is one of Czechia's best known. Her art has embellished many books, and she has won many awards for it, including the prestigious Zlatá stuha [Golden Ribbon] three times.

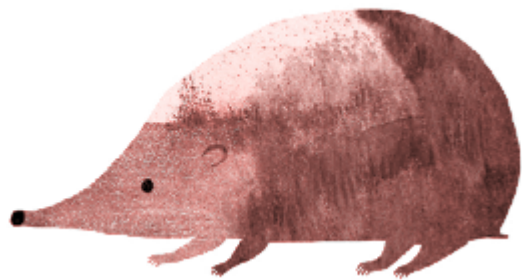
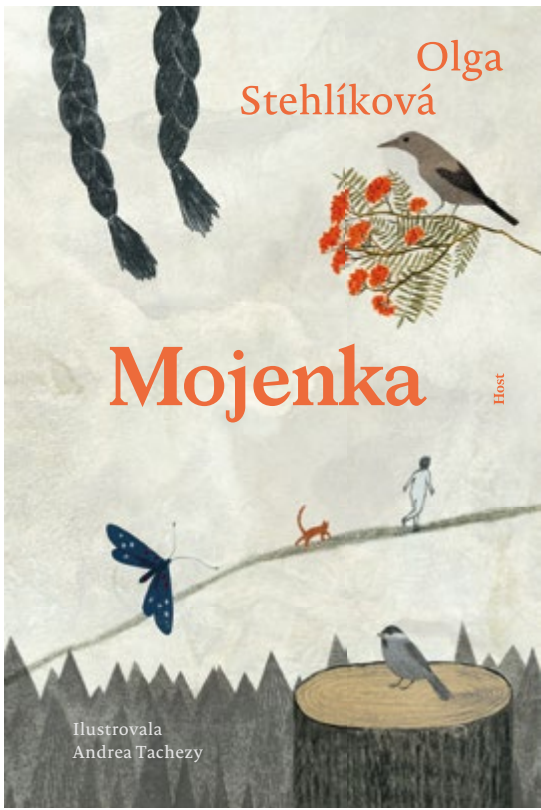
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Slovakia (Vydavateľstvo Perfekt)
Latvia (Liels un Mazs)

The point of this book is to distract me from thoughts of the main thing. Still, it's a really interesting encyclopaedia – full of photos, drawings and little boxes of information about animals. It doesn't go into too much detail, nor does it take kids for know-nothing fools. Dad sits there while Mum does the talking. Dad keeps looking at the same place in the book, even after we turn the pages. 234, 235, 346. The calming effect of black print on a white page. We don't talk about Mum's illness anymore.





About the book

Words and Deeds / Skutek utek!

This interactive detective book will entertain little hotheads aged five and over, as well as showing twitchy bigger folk that kids, too, can get stressed.

Three children, plus Mum, Dad and Grandma – all stuck at home because of the germs outside. And as if there weren't enough people at their place, some dwarfs turn up. Over the past two years, we have all learned that adventures can be had within a few dozen square metres. We're all in the same boat; the main thing is for it not to turn into a submarine.



About the author

Irena Hejdová

(born 1977) is the author of stories of action and adventure for children, including *Get Your Bare Foot Off Your Brother / Nedráždi bráču bosou nohou* (2020) and *Words and Deeds / Skutek utek!* (2022), on which she runs workshops. As well as editing the Culture pages of the newspaper Deník N, she is also a screenwriter and film reviewer. Her book *Get Your Bare Foot Off Your Brother* is being translated into three languages.

12

I'd like to be on Minecraft all the time, but for some reason I'm not allowed to. I'm supposed to gawp at something else for a while, like Lego or the wall. But a wall in a flat is nothing like as much fun as a wall you build in Minecraft, is it? In Minecraft, I can have a house without a mum, a dad, a grandma, sisters and germs in it. All it has are zombies, which are great fun, when they don't happen to be killing you. But when I've used up my limit, I have to come off, and then I get bored and ratty...

About the illustrator

Veronika Zacharová

(born 1992) studied Graphic Design at the Faculty of Fine Arts of Brno University of Technology before moving on to Animation at Tomáš Baťa University in Zlín. Her work combines both disciplines. She makes her living as a screenwriter, animator, director, graphic artist and illustrator.





About the book

Get Your Bare Foot Off Your Brother! / Nedráždi bráču bosou nohou

An interactive illustrated book full of humour for siblings large and small.

Marek has a 'horrible' brother. At least that's how he sees it. Marek calls his brother Weirdo. Any excuse will do for a fight or an act of spite, with no letup at weekends. One day as on all others, the brothers are pushing and shoving each other. Then something goes wrong in the bathroom, and they find themselves falling down the toilet. Without the help of readers, their case would certainly be hopeless.



'That's a bacterium,' I say. And it is. A big one. According to our teacher, bacteria are everywhere. On our hands and feet, in our mouth, and in our tummy. In the sink and on our shoes too. Though they are too tiny to see, they can cause tooth decay, tummy-ache and wind.

But this one isn't tiny, probably because it's in a book, so we can get a good look at it. Our teacher calls it a visual aid. While we look at it, it gives a visual demonstration.

About the author

Irena Hejdová

(born 1977) is the author of stories of action and adventure for children, including *Get Your Bare Foot Off Your Brother / Nedráždi bráču bosou nohou* (2020) and *Words and Deeds / Skutek utek!* (2022), on which she runs workshops. As well as editing the Culture pages of the newspaper Deník N, she is also a screenwriter and film reviewer. Her book *Get Your Bare Foot Off Your Brother* is being translated into three languages.

About the illustrator

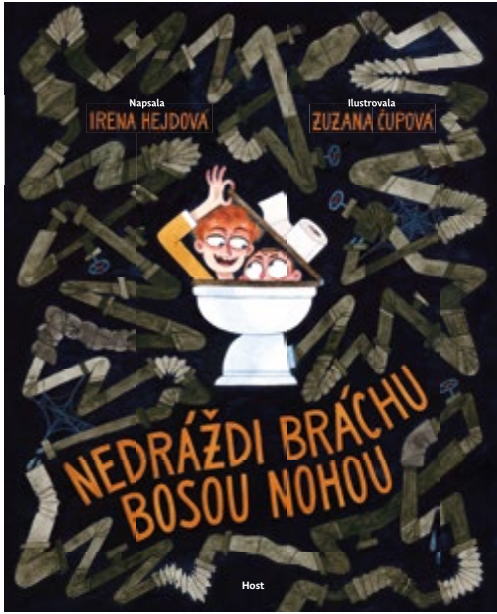
Zuzana Čupová

(born 1995) is a graduate in Animation from Tomáš Baťa University in Zlín. She has made three short animated films: *Wedding Day / Veselka*, *Cloudy / Pod mrakem* and *Old Gramophone's Ghostly Tones / Hrůza v tónu gramofónu*. She also likes to illustrate, draw, write comics and design rubber stamps.

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Rights sold to:
Macedonia (Avant Press)
Albania (Ombra GVG)
Latvia (Pētergailis)





About the book

Weird Kids' Club / Klub divných dětí

Mila, Petr, Katka and Franta are weird. Or at least that's what others think.

Ten-year old Mila likes animals – especially insects. Petr draws wonderful pictures, but he can't sleep at night for fear of the dark. Katka has no friends, and she thinks she's fat and ugly. She's only happy when she's reading. Franta has to walk on crutches and enjoys making provocative videos. Although the four first meet by chance, they go on to share an experience none of them will ever forget.

About the author

Petra Soukupová

(born 1982) is one of today's most successful Czech writers. She has published seven books for adults and four for children. She has won or been shortlisted for numerous awards; her books appear regularly on the bestseller lists and have been published in fourteen languages, with the rights sold to four more countries. Petra Soukupová also works as a dramaturge and screenwriter.

About the illustrator

Nikola Logosová

(born 1992) is an illustrator and author who has won numerous awards. She graduated from the Studio of Illustration and Graphic Design at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. She works on comics, graphics, posters, artist's book projects and illustrations.

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I'm weird, I know. I've known it a long time, so I've got used to the fact that people sometimes stare at me. Or maybe it's not exactly getting used to it, because I've never really actually cared. It's just that I could always see that people think I'm weird.

Foreign editions:

Italian (Atmosphere Libri, 2021)
Slovenian (Mohorjeva Družba, 2021)
Danish (Jensen & Dalgaard, 2022)
Russian (Samokat, 2022)
Bulgarian (Perseus, 2023)

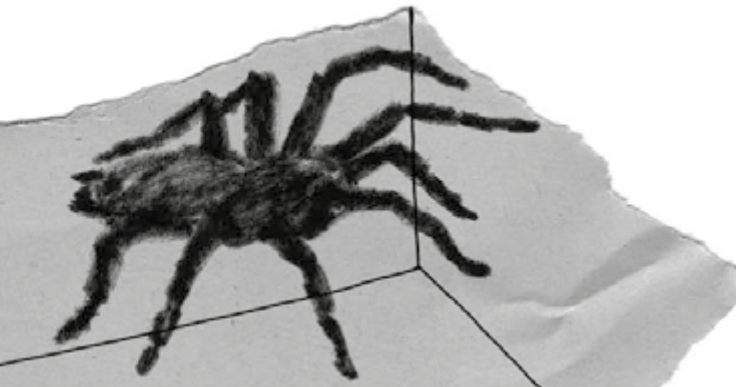
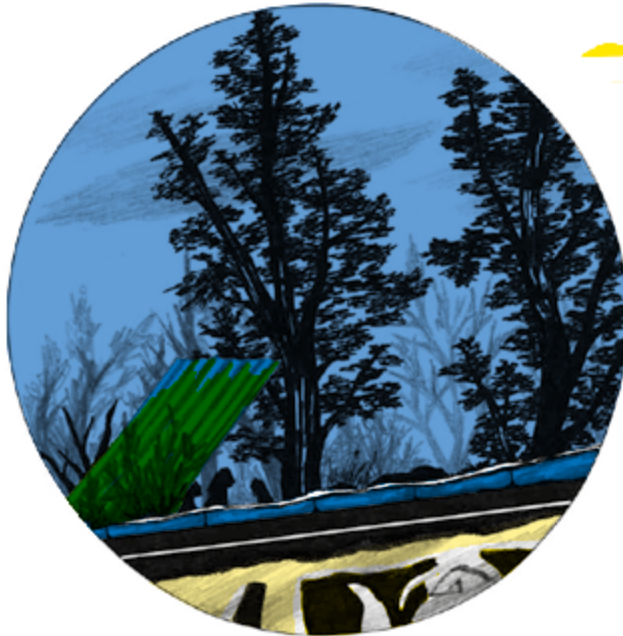
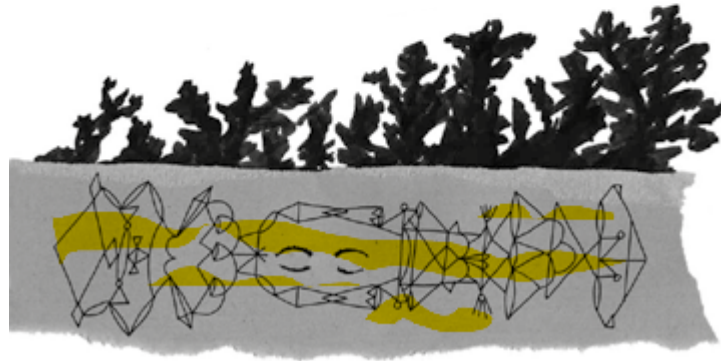
Rights sold to:

Poland (Dwie Siostry)
South Korea (Atnoonbooks)
Lithuania (Terra Publica)
Egypt (Al-Turjman)



published in 2019, ISBN 978-80-275-0129-8, hardback, 216 pp, 170 × 235 mm, 18 full-page illustrations





About the book

Who Killed Snowy? / Kdo zabil Snížka?

An extraordinary story with a detective twist for young readers.

When Martina said she wanted a dog, she had no idea how much trouble Snowy would cause. Even Mum is frightened of him. So when Martina finds Snowy's body, she's pretty sure the dog's death was no accident. With her friends, Martina determines to get to the bottom of Snowy's death. The children's adventurous quest leads them to a surprise revelation. The book poses the question of what is most important in our lives.

About the author

Petra Soukupová

(born 1982) is one of today's most successful Czech writers. She has published seven books for adults and four for children. She has won or been shortlisted for numerous awards; her books appear regularly on the bestseller lists and have been published in fourteen languages, with the rights sold to four more countries. Petra Soukupová also works as a dramaturge and screenwriter.

About the illustrator

Tereza Ščerbová

(born 1982) is a renowned artist and illustrator. She graduated in Illustration and Graphics from the Academy of Art, Architecture and Design in Prague, where she studied under Juraj Horváth. In Lucerne, Switzerland, she studied under Pierre Thomé. She provides illustrations for books and magazines and works as a fine artist and on various creative projects. Her book illustrations have won Golden Ribbon awards (2015, 2017) and are on the White Ravens list (2016, 2018).

15



Of course I needed a phone, too. Everyone had one. But at that moment I couldn't think of anything apart from a dog. Mum patted me on the head and said, 'Máťá, be reasonable.' I wonder if parents know that when they say that, the opposite will happen, and that I won't want anything else until they buy me a dog or get me one from the kennels.

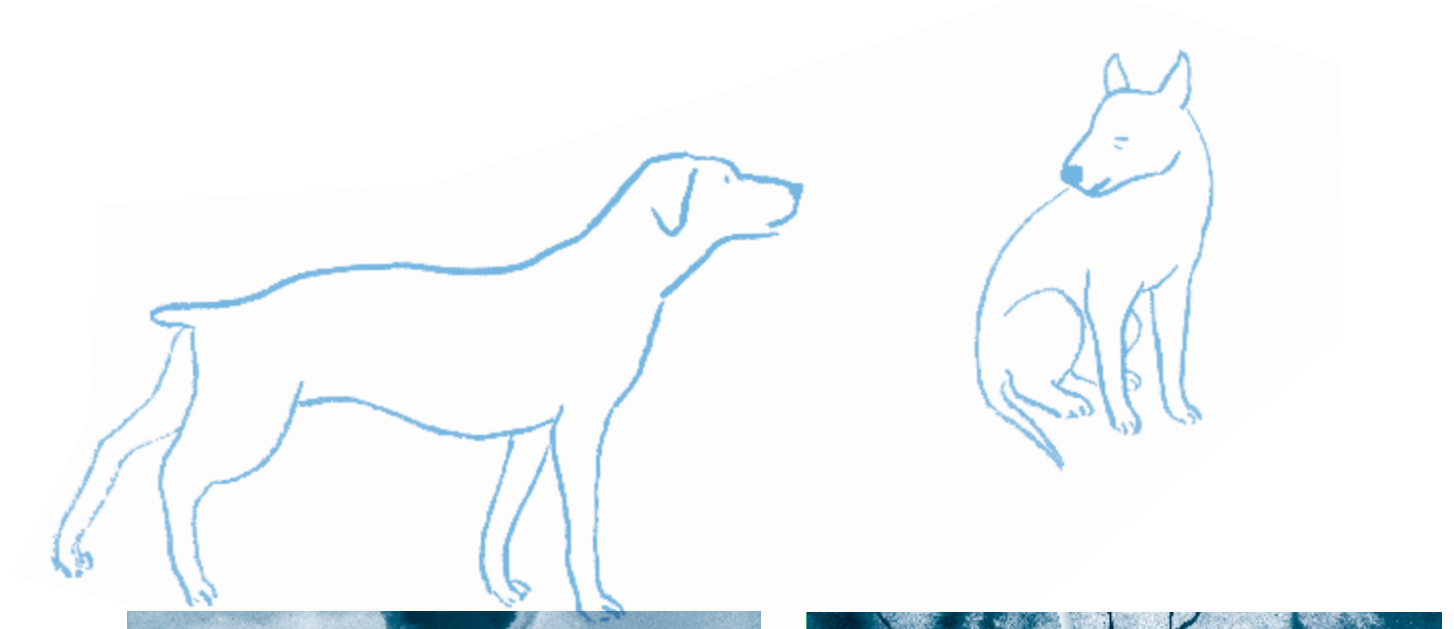
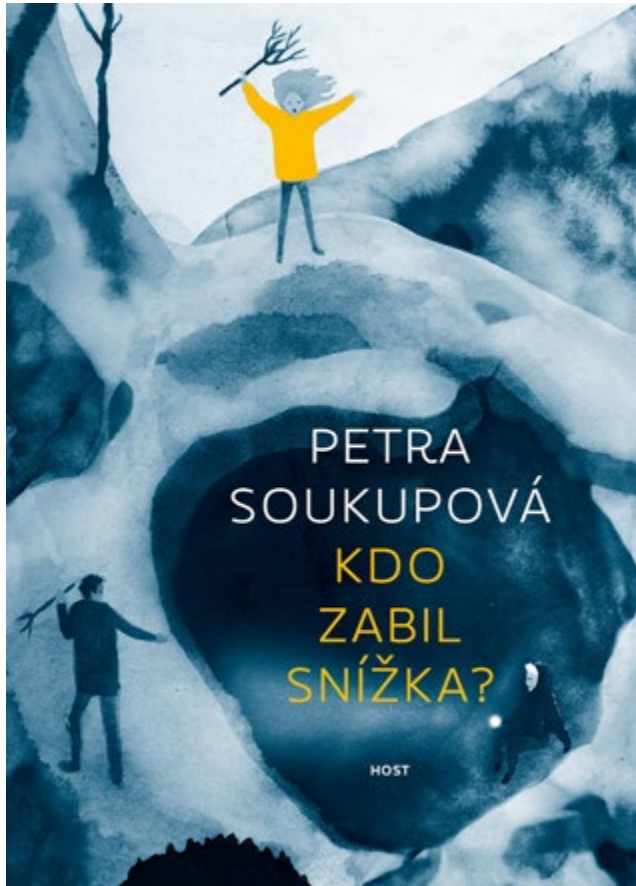
Foreign editions:

Russian (Samokat, 2018)
Macedonian (Antolog, 2019)
Bulgarian (Alja, 2021)
Italian (Beisler Editore, 2022)
Hungarian (Csirimojó, 2023)

Rights sold to:

Switzerland (Editions La Joie de Lire, French world rights)
Egypt (Al-Turjman)





About the book

Bertie and the Snuffler / Bertik a čmuchadlo

An original, extraordinarily authentic story about finding an inner balance.

Bertie's Mum has found a new partner and nine-year-old Bertie is struggling to deal with the change. It feels like a betrayal. He wants things to go back to how they were before. He's jealous and angry. Then he encounters a talking creature called a snuffler and his view of the world changes for the better. The book prototypically deals with a conflict-laden, complex parent-child relationship in the aftermath of a divorce.

About the author

Petra Soukupová

(born 1982) is one of today's most successful Czech writers. She has published seven books for adults and three for children. She has won or been shortlisted for numerous awards; her books appear regularly on the bestseller lists and have been published in fourteen languages. Petra Soukupová also works as a dramaturge and screenwriter.

About the illustrator

Petr Korunka

(born 1980) is an illustrator, graphic artist and comics author. He studied at the Studio of Illustration and Graphic Art at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague (2001–2007) and Pontificia Catolica del Perú in Lima (2004).

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Foreign editions:
Polish (Afera, 2015)
Croatian (Alfa, 2017)
Russian (Samokat, 2021)
Macedonian (Magor, 2021)
Slovenian (Celjska Mohorjeva Družba, 2023)



I give it another little poke. Stop that, says the creature in a quiet, weak, squeaky voice, giving me a terrible, terrible fright. Not only that but it seems to be changing colour. I can hardly believe my eyes. Is this some weird dream or what? But there's nothing else around that doesn't look real. But it can't be real, can it? I can feel my heart pounding, I'm that scared.





BERTÍK
A ČMUCHADLO
PETRA
SOUKUPOVÁ

Host



About the book

Julie and Words / Julie mezi slovy

The book encourages the reader to think about the meaning and weight of words.

Ten-year-old Julie doesn't have things easy. Since their parents' divorce, she and her younger sister have been trying to get used to their father's new partner and her children. The situation is further complicated by their move from Prague and the fact that Julie's real mum hasn't been in touch for ages. After requests from readers, for the second edition the author has added new adventures.



About the author

Petra Dvořáková

(born 1977) is an award-winning prose writer and script writer, the author of seven books for adults and three for children. Her books are published in six languages (Polish, Slovenian, Macedonian, Albanian, Croatian and Serbian). More than 140,000 copies of her books have been sold in the Czech Republic alone, and she is also a best-selling author in Poland.

About the illustrator

Katarina Gasko

(born 1980) graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Bratislava, Slovakia. She now lives in Canada. She creates illustrations and designs for children's books, as well as editorial, advertising and educational materials.

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Foreign editions:

Slovenian (MIŠ, 2016)

Polish (Juka-91, 2023)

'From now on, you'll have two of everything,' Patrik explained. His parents divorced when we were in first grade, so he knows what he's talking about. 'You'll get Christmas presents at your dad's and at your mum's,' he said, beginning on the benefits. 'Two birthday cakes. When one of them gets you down, you can complain to the other.' But my mum and my dad will never be together again, I thought.



6+

published in 2013, 2020, ISBN 978-80-275-0351-3, hardback, 191 pp, 170×235 mm, 23 full-page illustrations



About the book

Flouk and Lila: Adventures from a Skyscraper /

Flouk a Lila: Dobrodružství z mrakodrapu

A modern fairy tale about differences between the real world and virtual reality.

Lila isn't an ordinary mouse, she's a computer mouse. The thing is, she's not having much fun in the office, so she's looking for friends in the real world. But she should watch out for Flouk the nasty cat, who practically lives here in the skyscraper and wants to get inside the computer. And he really does get inside! The book tells a story about a great friendship between a computer mouse and a magic cat.



'If the cakes in the computer are just pretend ones, then the fights will be too,' Flouk explained to Lila. Merrily he banged his head against the side of the screen. 'Nothing hurts in here – look!' 'Oh well,' sighed Lila. No wonder that cat was a bit soft in the head!

About the author

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(born 1977) is an award-winning prose writer and script writer, the author of seven books for adults and three for children. Her books are published in six languages (Polish, Slovenian, Macedonian, Albanian, Croatian and Serbian). More than 140,000 copies of her books have been sold in the Czech Republic alone, and she is also a best-selling author in Poland.

About the illustrator

Kateřina Hikadová

(born 1989) is an illustrator and graphic designer who teaches at the Secondary School for Media Graphic Design and Printing in Prague. *Living Paper / Papíři*, her Bachelor's degree project, was voted one of the Best Graduation Projects of 2013. She completed her practical training in illustration, graphic design and book technology with B4U Publishing. She has illustrated many books for leading Czech publishers.

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Foreign editions:
Albanian (Ombra, 2018)

Rights sold to:
Macedonia (Feniks)





About the book

Everyone Has a Line to Hold / Každý má svou lajnu

On floorball, first love and the price of victory. For teenage girls and boys who love floorball.

Brother and sister Adam and Kateřina share lots of things with those around them – small-town life, school and friendships, and most of all floorball. They practise several times a week and are hoping to win the County Cup. But they have more on their minds than sporting success. Play along with them and get much more than one floorball victory...

About the author

Petra Dvořáková

(born 1977) is an award-winning prose writer and script writer, the author of seven books for adults and three for children. Her books are published in six languages (Polish, Slovenian, Macedonian, Albanian, Croatian and Serbian). More than 140,000 copies of her books have been sold in the Czech Republic alone, and she is also a best-selling author in Poland.

About the illustrator

Karel Osoha

(born 1991) is one of today's most successful young comic-book scenarists and illustrators. He began working on large book-based projects while still a student, winning the Muriel Award for Best Cartoonist for Pavel Kosatík's album *Czechs in 1948 / Češi 1948*. He was shortlisted for a Czech Grand Design Award for his illustrations for *Dustzone / Prašina* and the first part of the comic-book trilogy *Return of the King of the Bohemian Forest / Návrat Krále Šumavy*.

19



I always say that everyone has their line and it's up to them to hold it. Still, they'd never score a goal without someone playing them the right pass, or without a team around them to put the ball through and set up the chance. Not every goal means a win. Nor is everything as it appears at first.



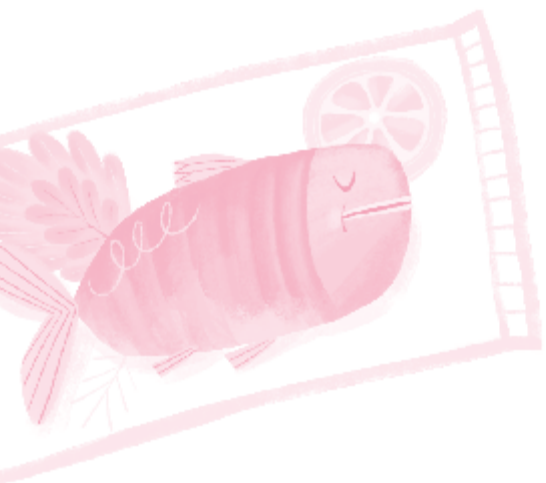


About the book

The Magic Shoelaces / Kouzelné tkaničky

A wonderful read with chapter lengths ideal for bed-time. Fox loop, fisherman's knot, shortener, friendship knot: all these the child reader will learn to tie along with Charlie.

Besides reading adventure stories, little Charlie has a passion for strings, laces and knots. Every knot is different, and each has its own story. When he ties a knot in some magic shoelaces, his wonder knows no bounds... Then he meets Jack, who may turn out to be the true friend he longs to have. But will the boys succeed in transferring their magic friendship to the real world?



About the author

Eva Vychodilová

(born 1978) is a graduate in Journalism, Media and International Studies. As a journalist and editor, she has worked with a number of print and internet media outlets. She now works in the non-profit sector. She writes for children and adults in her spare time.

About the illustrator

Eliška Chytková

(born 1988) is a Czech animator, director and illustrator of children's books. She currently works at the Studio of Animation at Tomáš Baťa University in Zlín.

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He pulls the laces from his pocket and unties the reef knot. Then, boldly, without a word to Jack, struggling to contain his excitement, he ties a bowline in them. Both boys twitch and fall to the ground. But this is the tiled floor of a hospital no longer; it is damp, stony earth. They look around, squinting into twilight.

'It looks like we're in some kind of cave,' whispers Jack, as he tries to get his bearings.

'A special cave,' answers Charlie. His voice is quiet, but his tone is urgent.





About the book

One, Two in the Woods / Jedna dvě v lese

The basics of mathematics, made easypeasy.

This charming, witty book will please parents and teachers as well as inquisitive preschoolers and primary first graders. Unconventional in approach, it develops children's premathematical thinking. Numbers, rules, timings and geometric shapes are everywhere, and by knowing what to make of them, we make our lives much easier. The maths lessons in this book will get kids out of their chairs and outdoors.

About the author

Petra Tomášková

(born 1982) is a teacher of mathematics and geography and mother to four great discoverers. A founder of the Sedmikráska nursery school, she teaches a course in learning maths through play. She lives in the woods. Average grade in maths: B+/A-.

About the illustrator

Jana Kloučková Kudrnová

(born 1981) is a graphic designer, illustrator, visual artist, blogger and mother to two cubs. Though she lives in the woods, she doesn't like drawing squirrels. She decided to illustrate a book set in the woods without the use of green. Average grade in maths: C.



Find ten leaves of different shapes, colours and sizes. How many are green, yellow, red and brown? Which is the smallest? Can you sort them by size? Are any of them triangular?

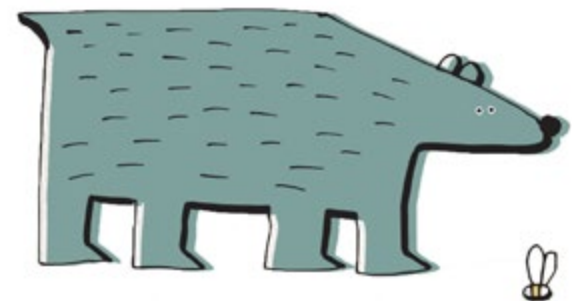
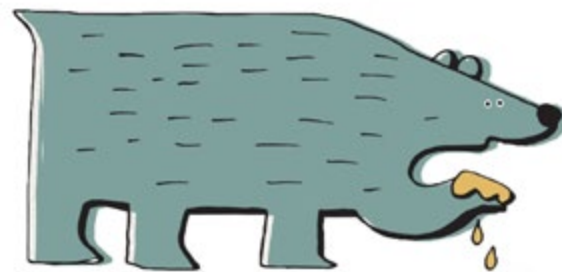
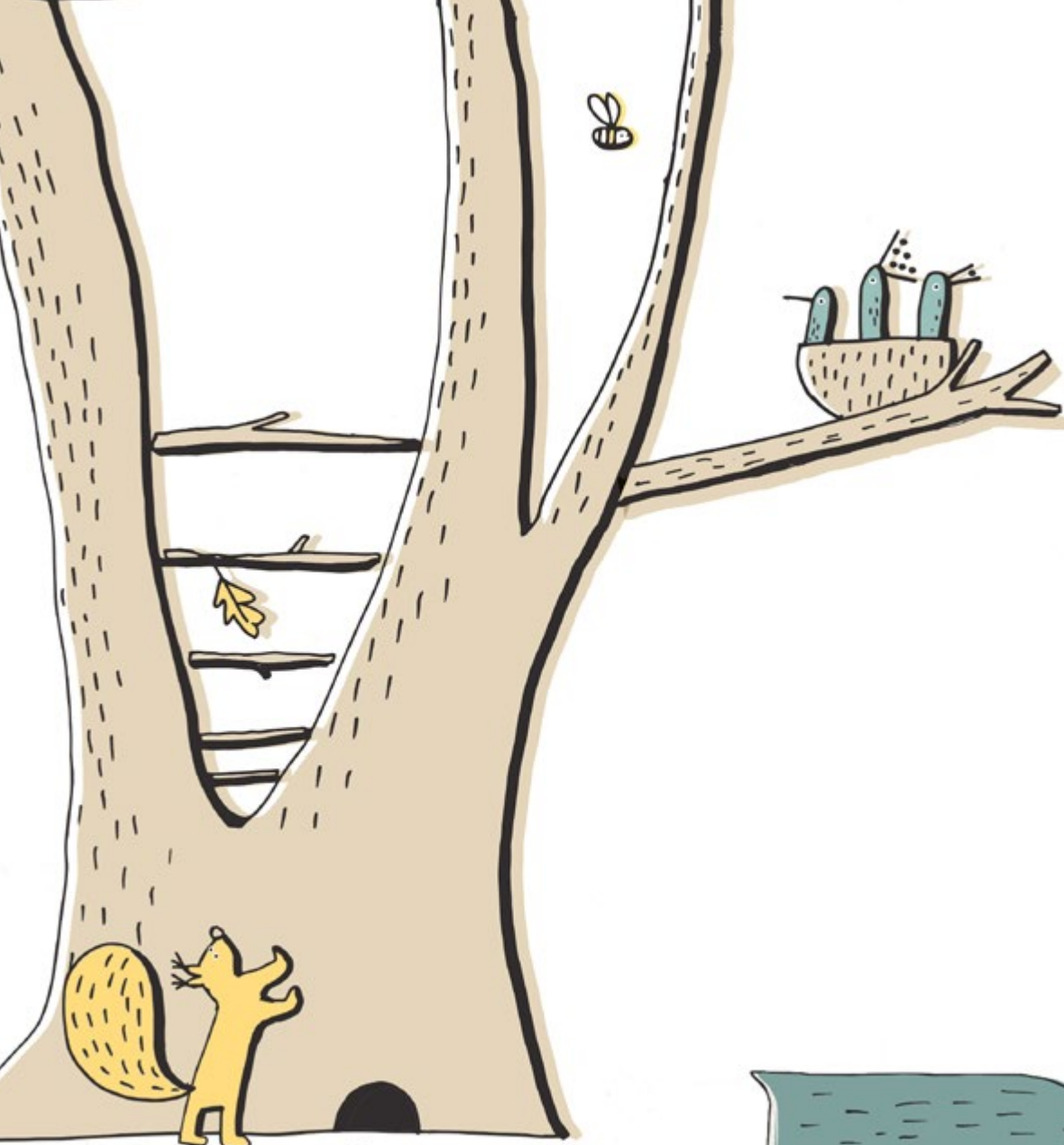
DETECTIVE GAME

Think of a leaf in your collection. The others will ask you about it. You may answer only Yes or No. How many questions did the best detective need to uncover the leaf you were thinking of?



published in 2020, ISBN 978-80-275-0352-0, hardback, 88 pages, 235×235 mm, 88 full-page illustrations





About the book

Jamie's Journey / Kubikova cesta

With chapters just the right length for bedtime, the story is straightforward and touching in its sincerity.

Jamie has just returned from school with his end-of-year report. The first grade is over, so the holidays can begin! The problem is, though, Dad hasn't found time to prepare the pool, and Mum is busy in front of her exercise video. Luckily for Jamie, his grandparents are around. The book is packed with inspiration on how to return a sense of freedom to children's leisure time.

About the author

Jakub Špičák

(born 1974) makes his living as a software engineer. His work is inspired by his two sons. He writes in an authentic, unmannered style about the kind of ordinary things we sometimes forget in our world of web conferencing and online shopping.

About the illustrator

Petra Lukovicsová

(born 1980) is a mother of two from Slovakia. A qualified toymaker, she now works as a freelance illustrator and artist.

22



It just wasn't it. Still it wasn't quite it. He didn't feel as comfortable as when he watched TV at home. His thoughts kept returning to the boys, Eliška and that weird Patrik. His legs ached to ride his scooter. His hands itched to stroke Kilo the dog. He wouldn't even mind if the dog ran away again and they had to look for him. He was one of the gang too, after all. He switched off the TV, having lost interest in the onscreen goings-on.





About the book

Stories from the Dump / Pohádky ze skládky

What happens to toys after they are thrown away?

Bibi is a charming blonde Barbie doll who lives happily with a little girl called Zanda. Then one day, in the heat of the game, one of Bibi's legs comes off, throwing Zanda into such a tizzy that she drops Bibi into the dustbin! Lying in a pizza box, missing a leg and her dress, lovely Bibi finds herself at the dump. Is this the end of the story? Of course it isn't! It's just the beginning... This story is a remarkable parable about 'life after life' in the toy world. It radiates warmth, truth and hope.

About the author

Marek Baroš

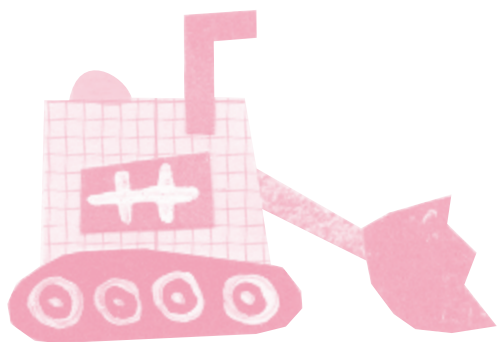
(born 1973) lives and works in Valašské Meziříčí. His professional life is devoted to literature and theatre, his spare time to the visual arts. *Stories from the Dump* has twice been adapted for the stage – by the author and by Kacafírek, a company of puppeteers from Chrudim.

About the illustrator

Ester Nemjó

(born 1992) graduated from the Studio of Film and TV Graphics of the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. Her interests are painting, book illustration, animated film, graphic art, ceramics and music.

23



The paper dragon gave a twitch, and the box began to move – clumsily at first. But it soon gained speed and moved out of range of the bulldozer monster. As they were crossing the ridge with the mirror shards that reflected the sky, the wind got up and the box rose.

The bulldozer stopped and puffed out the last of its exhaust fumes. Its cabin door opened, and a man stepped out. The man shielded his eyes to watch the dragon bear the cardboard box away. At first, the friends thought that the man was angry. But he wasn't angry in the least. He gave them a friendly wave. Even the bulldozer appeared to be smiling.



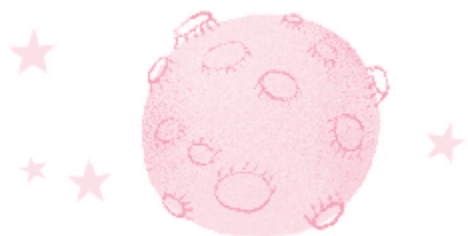


About the book

Ned the Bear and Mishka the Cub Fly to Space / Medvěd Nedvěd a medvídek Miška letí do vesmíru

What better space conqueror can there be than one who sleeps most of the way? These jolly bear stories are great first reading.

The first person to complete an orbit of Earth was Yuri Gagarin. Neil Armstrong was the first person to walk on the Moon. Other animals, too, played an important role in space conquest – notably monkeys, dogs... and bears! As for the latter, the most enterprising were *Ned and Mishka*, fast friends known to children from the TV series *Hungry Bear Stories / Mlsné medvědí příběhy*.



About the author

Zbyněk Černík

(born 1951) is an author of books for children and adults. He is also a translator from the Nordic languages and English. The bears in his work for children have much in common with humans, even though they go about on all fours. Sometimes sensible, sometimes foolish, they always enjoy life.

About the illustrator

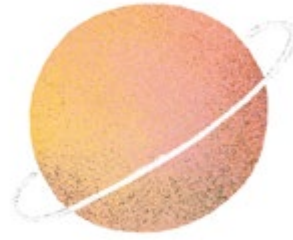
Mária Nerádová

(born 1988) is a graduate in Illustration and Graphic Design. She is now a full-time illustrator of children's books, working with a range of publishers in Slovakia, Czechia and elsewhere. In 2018 she established Meda, a specialist publisher of books for the very young.

24

And that's what clinched their victory. A journey to Mars takes a heck of a long time, as does the trip home. And because the crew don't have much to do, they might easily get bored, or even start arguing or fighting (what's known as cabin fever on Earth is called rocket fever in space), which would be bad. But bears – brown bears in particular – won't get bored, argue or fight, because they will be asleep the whole way. They're used to long hibernations, aren't they?





About the book

The Great Adventures of Ned and Mishka / Velká dobrodružství medvěda Nedvěda a medvídky Mišky
Great first reading. Children will learn lots of beautiful words and sayings from an author who is a keen translator and lover of languages.

Unlike most bears, Ned and little Mishka aren't solitary creatures. In fact, they live together in one den. We say 'den', but it is a cosy woodland home with a kitchen containing a fridge and a deepfreeze – for hungry bears the most important features of all. But the older bear is now getting set in his ways, and it's time to do something about it!



The insurance agent still couldn't believe his ears. He'd never heard anything like it. Ned made the request a third time: They wished to be insured against being eaten out of house and home. Such a thing is every bear's greatest nightmare, Ned explained. It is far worse than a flooded kitchen, a broken TV or the theft of one's savings.

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About the book

Looking for a Star / Hledá se hvězda

A thrilling tale of adventure, crime and love for little princesses and young detectives alike.

A Magic Stone that protects a kingdom from evil has disappeared, and now chaos and ruin threaten. Only the two child protagonists, the princess and the punch, can save the land by going to find the stone. The author demonstrates admirably how a classic fairy-tale-like setting can provide ingredients for a quick-paced, modern detective story with a plot full of surprises.

About the author

Lenka Brodecká

(born 1972) is an editor, writer, translator and teacher. She has published three books for children – *Plays for Children / Děti hrají divadlo* (2003), a set of scenarios, the short stories *Pišťucha's Got Problems / Pišťucha má problémy* (2008), which was placed second in the Most Beautiful Czech Books of the Year competition, and *Looking for a Star / Hledá se hvězda*, which is published by Host. She has also written several comedies and crime thrillers for Czech Radio.

About the illustrator

Tereza Ščerbová

(born 1982) is a renowned artist and illustrator. She graduated in Illustration and Graphics from the Academy of Art, Architecture and Design in Prague, where she studied under Juraj Horváth. In Lucerne, Switzerland, she studied under Pierre Thomé. She provides illustrations for books and magazines and works as a fine artist and on various creative projects. Her book illustrations have won Golden Ribbon awards (2015, 2017) and are on the White Ravens list (2016, 2018).

26



Punch's face clouded over – he had a hunch that something was wrong. They rode into an ancient wood that belonged to the castle. The light of their lanterns streaked across the black trunks that lined the path; they heard a screech-owl in the distance. Princess leaned back in her seat to watch the strip of sky overhead. It was as though she could still hear the booms from Devil's Canyon.

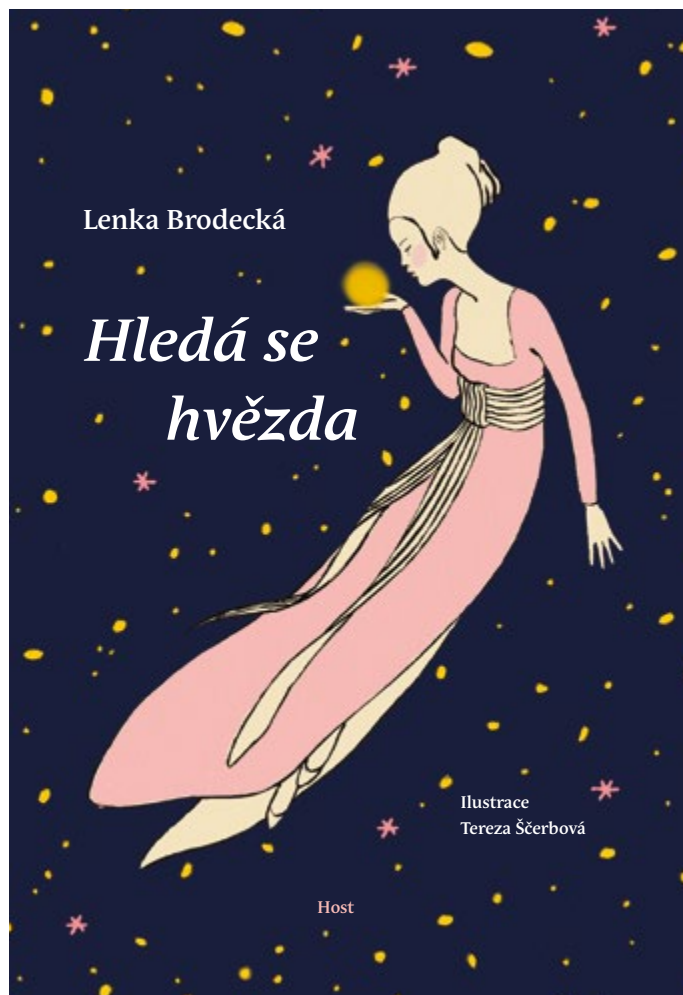
Foreign editions:
Serbian (Propolis Books, 2018)
Bulgarian (Perseus, 2024)

Rights sold to:
Macedonia (Feniks)



published in 2015, ISBN 978-80-7491-495-9, hardback, 232 pp, 145×212 mm, 20 full-page illustrations





About the book

Annie and the Berleps / Annie a berlepsové

A heart-warming adventure about a journey from the Malaysian jungle to olden-days Tibet and back again.

In her search for a lost talisman, thirteen-year-old Annie sets out on a peculiar rescue mission in the jungle. There she meets the Berleps, a mysterious nation of dogs, and has incredible adventures that lead her to a place she has always dreamed of: Tibet. But it's the Tibet of a few centuries ago... Perhaps this place holds the key to the future for Annie and her family.

About the author

Vendula Borůvková

(born 1977) is a writer, dramaturg, playwright and translator. She is the author of two books for children. Her graphic novel *1918, or How I Scored a Goal Across All Czechoslovakia / 1918 aneb Jak jsem dal gól přes celé Československo* won a 2019 Magnesia Litera award in the Children and Young Adults category. Vendula Borůvková works as editor-in-chief of the magazine *Question Marks in History / Otazníky historie*. She also creates LARPs.

About the illustrator

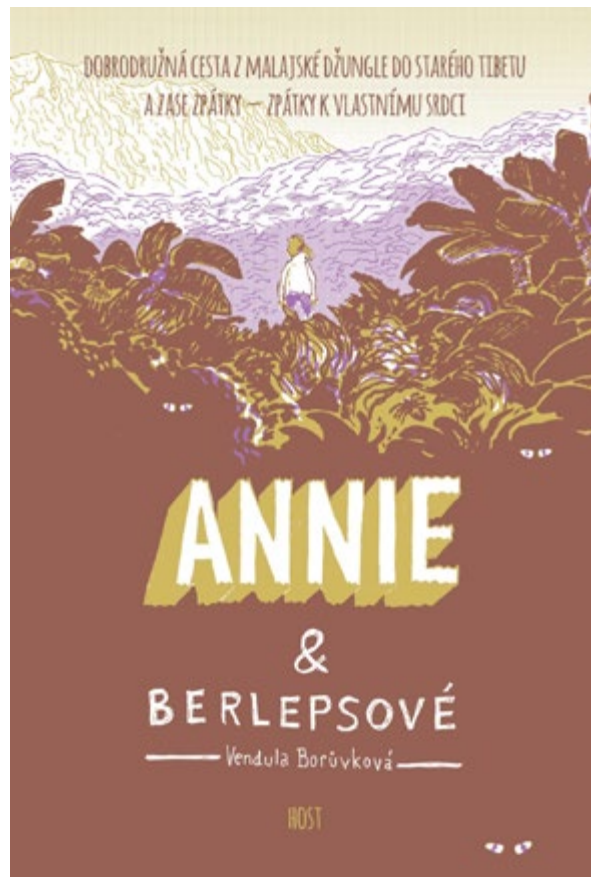
Jindřich Janíček

(born 1990) was named Illustrator of the Year at the Czech Grand Design awards and is the winner of a prize for artists under thirty. He is a graduate of Tomáš Baťa University in Zlín and the Studio of Illustration and Graphic Art at the Academy of Arts, Architecture and Design in Prague. He is author and illustrator of three books, and he provides illustrations for leading Czech publishing houses. In 2015, Jindřich Janíček co-founded the publishing house Take Take Take.

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A dog's howl in the distance. The slope yields. I'm flying downwards. I cover my head, instinctively. My fingers are wrapped around the dorje. I land on wet, slimy stones, but my descent continues. A nearby river thrums menacingly. My eyes are closed tight. Scratches on my burning hands and cheeks are filled with soil and stones. I'm gripped by a sudden, sharp pain. Double blackness – in my head and under my clenched eyelids. Silence. Then something rough and warm licks my temples.



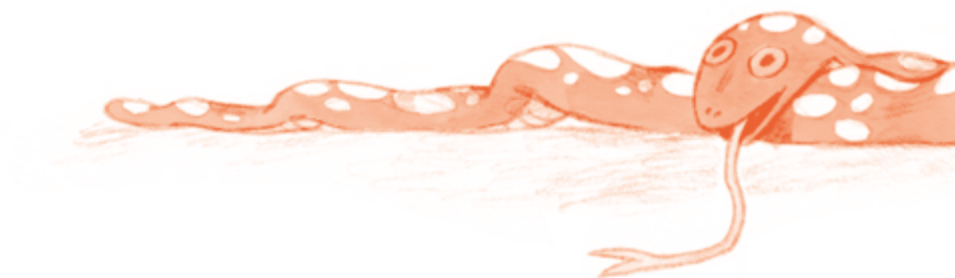


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