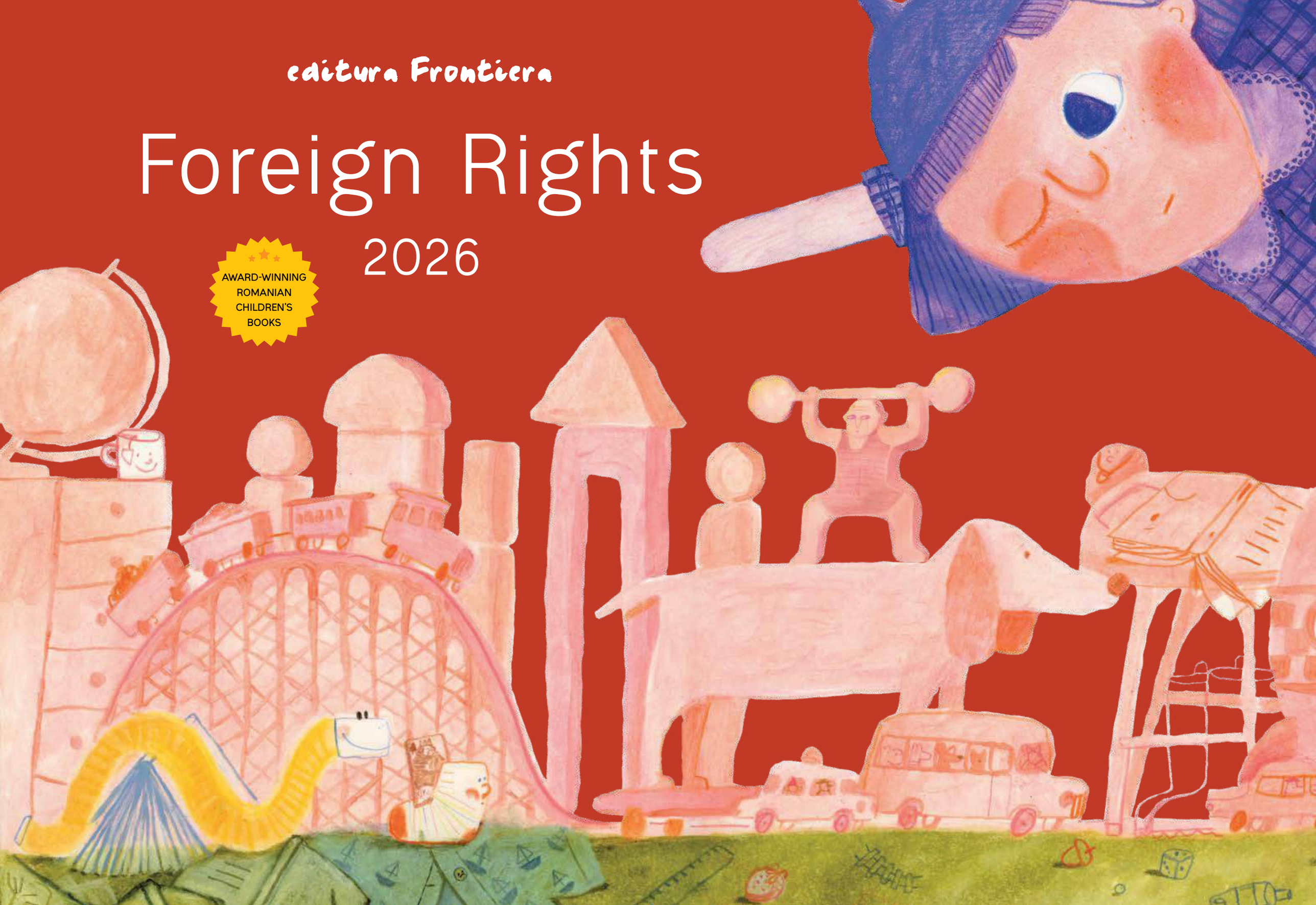
editura Frontiera

Foreign Rights

2026

AWARD-WINNING
ROMANIAN
CHILDREN'S
BOOKS



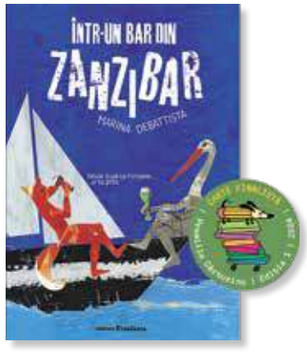
Award-winning and shortlisted titles



White Ravens 2025



Picture Book of the Year
& *The Bookseller's Choice*
Cărturino Awards 2026



shortlisted for
Picture Book of the Year
Cărturino Awards 2024



White Ravens 2021



shortlisted for
Picture Book of the Year
Cărturino Awards 2025



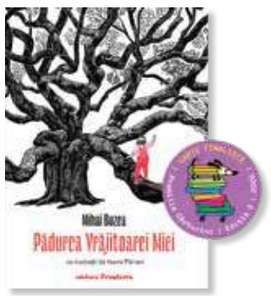
shortlisted for
Picture Book of the Year
Cărturino Awards 2025



shortlisted for
Children's Book of the Year
Cărturino Awards 2025



White Ravens 2023



shortlisted for
Children's Book of the Year
Cărturino Awards 2026



shortlisted for
Children's Book of the Year
Cărturino Awards 2024

Some Words to Begin with

Quick facts about Editura Frontiera

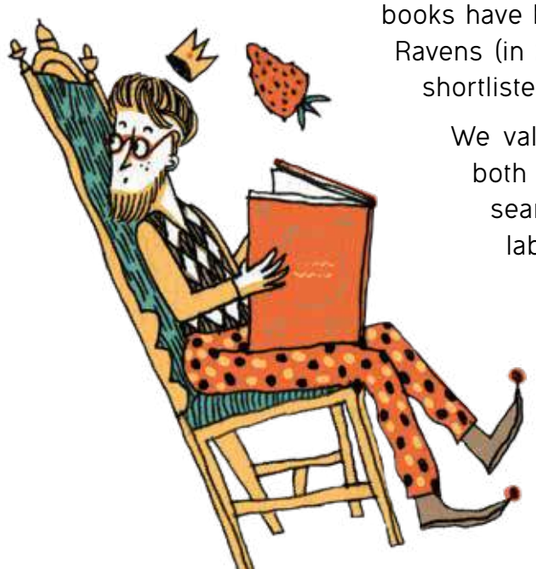
- ☆ independent and award-winning Romanian publisher
- ☆ known for artistic picture books, hardcover editions and original artistic techniques like linocut, collage, and ink illustrations
- ☆ publisher of literary giants & contemporary classics, such as Wolf Erlbruch, Jean-Jacques Sempé, Mario Ramos, Jimmy Liao

Frontiera is an independent Romanian children's books publisher founded in 2010.

We started as a small publisher of books for children with special needs. Over time, we have expanded our portfolio and turned picture books into the main product of our publishing house.

Today, we are one of the most appreciated children's books publishers in Romania in terms of selection and creativity, having published highly acclaimed authors such as Wolf Erlbruch, Sergio Ruzzier, and Remy Charlip. Three of our books have been selected in the international catalog White Ravens (in 2021, 2023 and 2025), and one book has been shortlisted for the Bologna Illustrators Exhibition 2026.

We value courageous and meaningful approaches in both writing and illustration and we are constantly searching for fresh talents, whom we are lovingly laboring to grow and make known to the world.



Contents

Picture Books (page 6)

Early Reading Comics (page 20)

Middle Grade (page 26)

Where is Socksy Wocksy?

T.O. Bobe, Alexandra Mîrzac



Technical data

genre: children's fiction
age: 4+
210 × 276 mm, hardcover
40 pages
published in 2025
ISBN: 978-606-8986-95-1
rights available



friendship
courage & mutual help
coming-of-age experiences

KEY SELLING POINTS

- illustrated by award-winning artist Alexandra Mîrzac (**CCBF Grand Award 2024**)
- shortlisted for the **Bologna Illustrators Exhibition 2026**
- written by critically acclaimed Romanian writer T.O. Bobe
- *Picture Book of the Year* **(Cărturino Awards* 2026)**
- *The Bookseller's Choice* **(Cărturino Awards* 2026)**

Description

One morning, Socksy Wocksy realizes that her twin sister has gone missing. With the help of some unlikely friends like the King of Spades, the Elastic Band, and the One-Eyed Doll, Socksy explores the messy land of the nursery room, travels through the circus-like world under the bed, and learns to overcome her fears. What clever plan will they devise to save the poor, lost little sock?



T.O. BOBE is an accomplished Romanian novelist, poet, and screenwriter. Associated with the influential Bucharest literary generation of the 1990s, he is celebrated for his artful, tragicomic prose and inventive storytelling. His works include *Cum mi-am petrecut vacanța de vară* and *Centrifuga* (published in English as *Curl* by Wakefield Press). Bobe lives and works in Bucharest.



ALEXANDRA MÎRZAC is an illustrator and children's books author. Her debut book, *Lost*, was published in the United Kingdom and translated into Korean, while in 2024, *The Unexpected Guest* won the Grand Award at China Children's Book Fair.

*the first Romanian children's books award, initiated by Cărturești (bookshop chain)



The Snow Cake

Lavinia Branişte, Philippine Vidart



Technical data

genre: children's fiction
age: 3+
190 × 270 mm, hardcover
48 pages
published in 2026
ISBN: 978-630-6669-17-2
rights available



friendship
dreaming together
seasons

KEY SELLING POINTS

- illustrated by Philippine Vidart, finalist for the **2024 Bologna Illustrators Exhibition**
- written by award-winning Romanian writer Lavinia Braniște

Description

If he doesn't get his winter sleep, Bear is terribly grumpy all year long. To be able to fall asleep, he absolutely must eat a whole tray of cake topped with a soft, fluffy layer of snow.

Bear's restless tossing and turning disturb his forest friends, so Ground Squirrel, Hamster, and Badger decide to put an end to the fuss. They must head to the town store to buy the ingredients for a cake that is almost just like snow...



LAVINIA BRANIȘTE is an award-winning Romanian writer and translator. She has published four novels as well as several books for children. Her middle grade novels *Rostogol merge acasă* (in **2017**) and *Fanfara lui Rostogol* (in **2024**) were selected for the prestigious **The White Ravens** catalog. Additionally, *Fanfara lui Rostogol* was nominated for Cărturino Awards and adapted for a staged reading at the Gong Theatre in Sibiu. She has also written literary texts for theater, film, and TV.



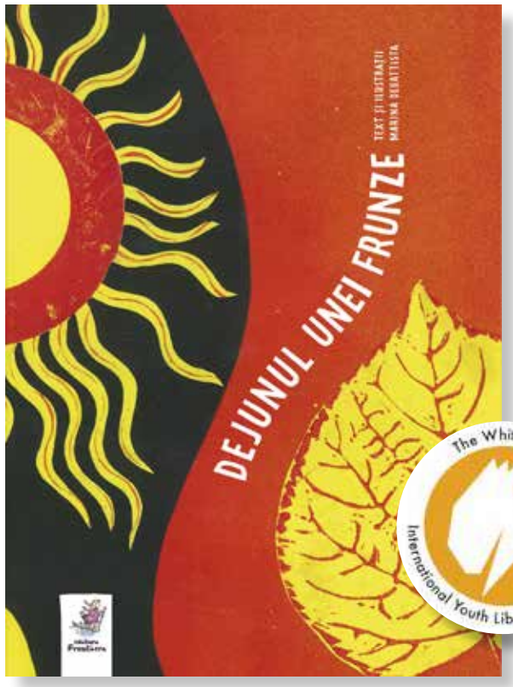
PHILIPPINE VIDART is an illustrator from Belgium. She creates children's books, editorial illustrations, and graphic designs for cultural institutions and other organizations within the creative industries. Her leporello (accordeon book) *Here comes...* has been shortlisted for the Bologna Children's Books Fair Illustrators Exhibition in 2024.





A Leaf's Lunch

Marina Debattista



Technical data

genre: children's poetry
age: 5+
210 × 297 mm, hardcover
32 pages
published in 2020
ISBN: 978-606-8986-23-4
rights available

nature & ecology
humor & science

KEY SELLING POINTS

- White Ravens 2021
- a great tool for science classes

"This picture book by Marina Debattista demonstrates how charming, refreshing and entertaining it can be to observe scientific phenomena when they are incorporated into children's poetry."

Katja Wiebe,
STIFTUNG INTERNATIONALE JUGENDBIBLIOTHEK

Description

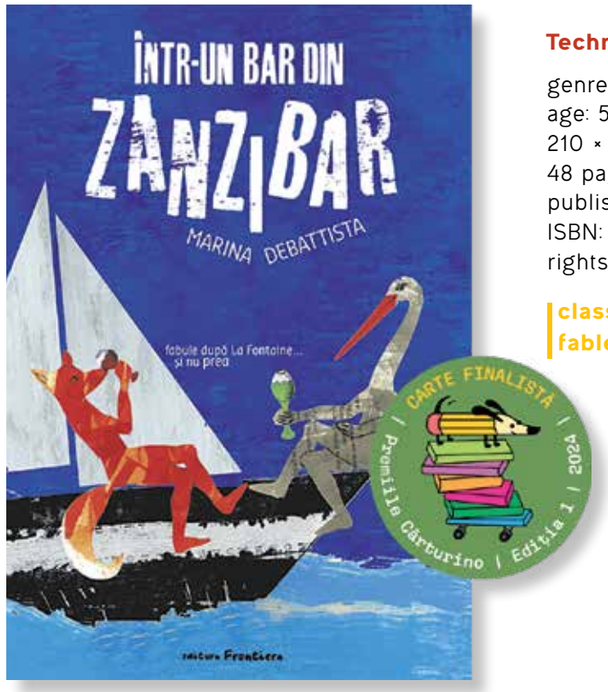
Humorous children's verses that mingle science with pun words and silly tales. The freshness of the language and the visual playfulness of illustrations animate the book and recommend it to children and adults alike.

Linocut and collage by the author.



In a Bar from Zanzibar

Marina Debattista



Technical data

genre: children's poetry
age: 5+
210 × 297 mm, softcover
48 pages
published in 2023
ISBN: 978-606-8986-43-2
rights available

classical literature retold
fables & humor

KEY SELLING POINTS

- shortlisted for *Picture Book of the Year* (Cărturino Awards 2024)

Description

Step into a wonderfully bizarre and amusing world where classic folklore meets the quirks of modern life. Marina Debattista's book of verse fables takes readers on a whimsical journey through La Fontaine's traditional tales, but with a thoroughly contemporary twist. To match the wit of the poetry, the book is brought to life through textured illustrations that blend linocut and collage.

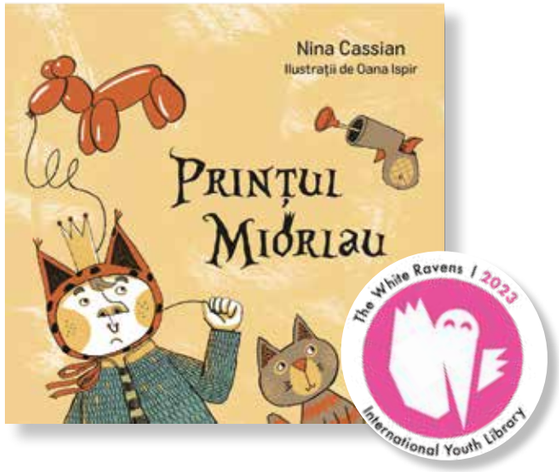


MARINA DEBATTISTA
is an artist and writer of Romanian origin, now working in an international environment. She has a PhD in Physics and teaches science popularization courses. A great fan of Edward Lear and Lewis Carroll, Marina loves absurd humor and manual typography. She is a member of the Oxford Guild of Printers.



Prince Meow

Nina Cassian, Oana Ispir



KEY SELLING POINTS

- White Ravens 2023
- bestselling Romanian writer

Technical data

genre: children's poetry
age: 5+
215 × 230 mm, hardcover
52 pages
published in 2022
ISBN: 978-606-8986-52-4
rights available

cautionary poems
humor
children's portraits

Description

A portrait gallery of badly behaving children, in verses full of humor and tenderness by Nina Cassian, a Romanian poet with an international voice. Here is the whining kid, here is the ever complaining one, here is the coquette willing to do nothing all day long except for admiring herself in the mirror. They all make up a merry world, full of irony, but also affection and understanding.

Tigrino and Tigrene

Nina Cassian, Karda Zenkő



KEY SELLING POINTS

- a national bestseller with over 7 000 copies sold & three editions
- bestselling Romanian writer

Technical data

genre: children's narrative poem
age: 5+
215 × 230 mm, hardcover
60 pages
first published in 2018
ISBN: 978-606-8986-54-8
rights available

friendship & courage
separation & getting together
coming-of-age experiences

Description

Tigrino and Tigrene is one of the best known children's narrative poems written by Nina Cassian. Mapping the adventure of the two tiger cubs in the jungle, Tigrino and Tigrene invent a new, playful, tigerly language which speaks of friendship and courage.

Copper-Red and the Seven Dachsies

Nina Cassian, Andrei Tache



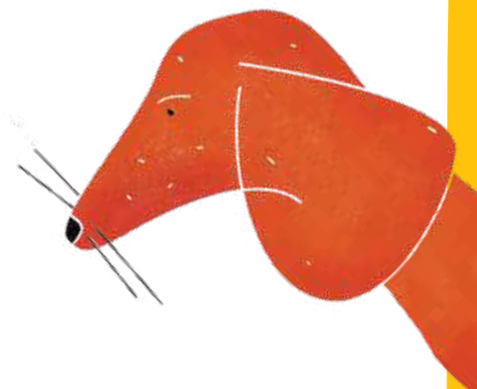
KEY SELLING POINTS

- bestselling Romanian writer

Technical data

genre: children's narrative poem
age: 5+
215 × 230 mm, hardcover
64 pages
published in 2021
ISBN: 978-606-8986-44-9
rights available

animal family
coming-of-age experiences
mystery & humor



Description

A long and playful narrative poem about a Mommy Dachsie and her seven puppies who go out into the world, each to a different and secret destination: one to soothe a little girl with a broken leg, two others to chase some thieves and make justice... and so on. "Where have they gone?" laments their Mommy. Well, there might also be a Dachsund planet in the Universe...



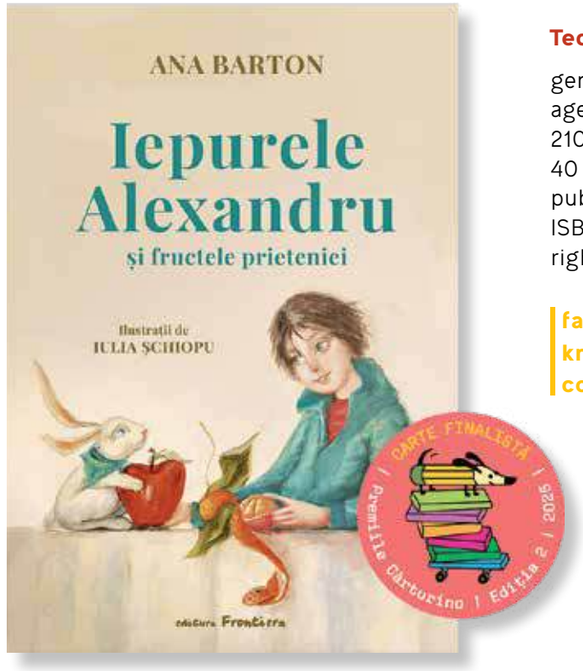


NINA CASSIAN (1924-2014) was a Romanian poet, children's book writer, and translator who has published over 50 volumes of work. She is a classical author in the Romanian academic curriculum in schools. She wrote and published both in Romanian and in English.
A volume of her poetry, *Lady of Miracles*, has been translated into English by Laura Schiff (Cloud Marauder Press, 1983). For her English work, The New York Library awarded her the Literary Lion in 1994.



Alexander the Rabbit and the Fruits of Friendship

Ana Barton, Iulia Șchiopu



Technical data

genre: children's fiction
age: 5+
210 × 297 mm, hardcover
40 pages
published in 2024
ISBN: 978-606-8986-85-2
rights available

family & friendship
knowing yourself
coming-of-age experiences



KEY SELLING POINTS

- written by acclaimed Romanian writer
- illustrated by contemporary Romanian painter
- great support for conversations on feelings
- shortlisted for *Picture Book of the Year* (Cărturino Awards 2025)

Description

When an only child named Alexander rescues a rabbit with an injured leg, the two become inseparable. But as their bond deepens, unexpected anxieties and quiet rebellions begin to stir. This gentle and emotionally honest picture book explores the complex nature of sibling dynamics, identity, and the struggle to balance who we are with where we belong.



ANA BARTON is a writer and workshop facilitator focused on reading programs for children. She has published three novels and three short stories collections. Some of her writings can be found in several collective volumes published in Romania.



IULIA ȘCHIOPU is known for her surrealist paintings and her hieratic style of depicting human figures. With numerous solo and group exhibitions in Romania, France, and Germany, she has a rich portfolio that also includes cover illustration works.



The Legend of the Three Trees

Anca Stanciu, Diana Margareta Cepleanu



Technical data

genre: children's fiction
age: 5+
210 × 297 mm, hardcover
32 pages
published in 2024
ISBN: 978-606-8986-88-3
rights available

classical literature retold
fulfillment & failure
coming-of-age metaphor

KEY SELLING POINTS

- the latest retelling of an ancient legend
- philosophy and spirituality for children
- shortlisted for *Picture Book of the Year* (Cărturino Awards 2025)

Description

An ancient Christian legend about the dreams of three trees that come true in ways they did not expect, in an original contemporary retelling.



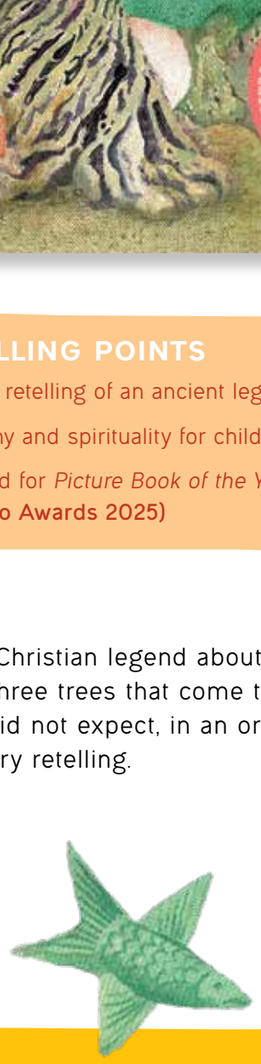




ANCA STANCIU studied literature and holds a degree in hermeneutics. She has extensive experience in book editing and working directly with children. *The Legend of the Three Trees* is the first book she has authored.



DIANA MARGARETA CEPLEANU is a Romanian painter and an illustrator with multiple international awards. She received the Silver Medal at the OSHIMA Museum of Illustrated Books in Toyama, Japan (2012) and was selected for Bologna Exhibitors Contest in 2021.





My Great Grandfather, Emil Racoviță

Andreia Petcu, Eugen Berlo



Technical data

genre: children's fiction
age: 5+
230 × 260 mm, softcover
40 pages
first published in 2019
ISBN: 978-606-8986-72-2
rights available

natural life
great scientists
exploration & adventure





KEY SELLING POINTS

- great educational support: facts about Antarctic animals, the famous Belgica ship, and explorers' tools

Description

Emil Racoviță is the first Romanian explorer to have reached the Antarctic, together with an international crew comprising Roald Amundsen, at the end of 19th century. This is the imagined journey of his great-granddaughter, little Maria, who wishes to walk in his steps and discover the animals and all the other wonderful things he encountered on his trip. The book includes a glossary of specialized terminology for the understanding of children, as well as the map of the expedition.

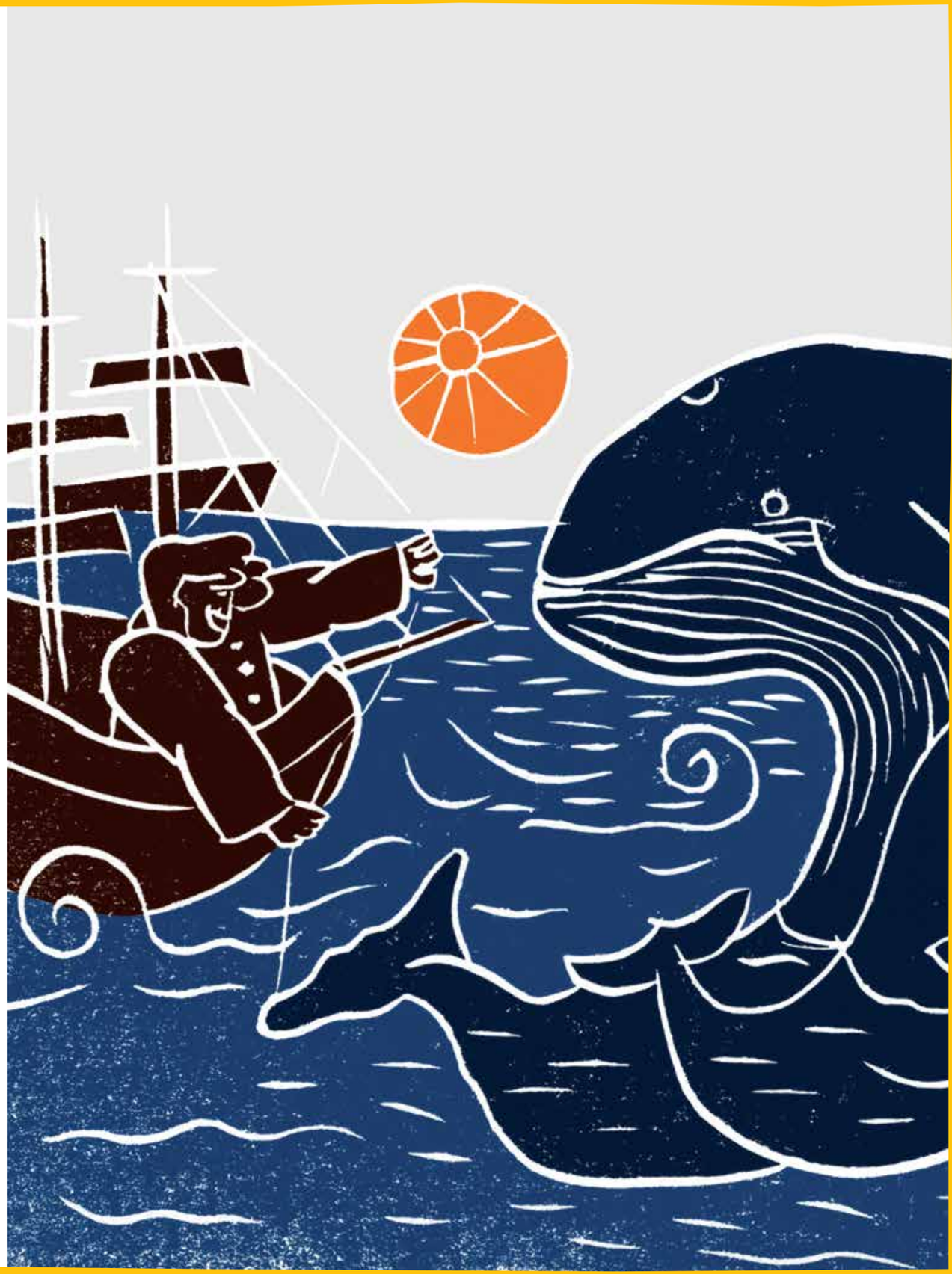
Linocut and illustrations by Romanian painter and architect Eugen Berlo.



ANDREIA PETCU is a biologist who uses stories and experiments to educate kids on scientific topics.



EUGEN BERLO is a Romanian artist with diverse interests. For ten years, he worked as an architect and designer in New York. Since 2012, he has pursued a dedicated career as a painter and sculptor in Romania. His artistic vision is closely linked to his areas of interest: mythology, philosophy, and technology.



OTTER AND BADGER SERIES

DIANA TIVU is an illustrator and author of children's books. She has a background in architecture, but since 2015 she has become a self-taught artist, building a diverse portfolio that includes classic titles and contemporary stories written by Romanian authors, alongside her own stories, which she both writes and illustrates. *Little Round Raisin Buns* was her first comic strip.



KEY SELLING POINTS

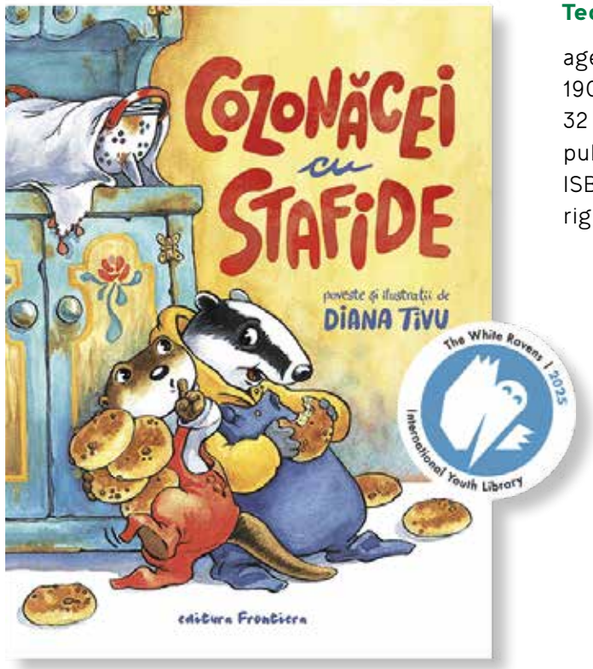
- author series
- inspiration for a wide range of workshop (age 3+)
- acknowledged by award-winning author Sergio Ruzzier

animal characters
friendship
humor & adventure



Little Round Raisin Buns

Diana Tivu



Technical data

age: 3+
190 × 250 mm, hardcover
32 pages
published in 2024
ISBN: 978-606-8986-84-5
rights available







KEY SELLING POINTS

- **White Ravens 2025**
- bestselling Romanian author & illustrator Diana Tivu

Description

Otter and Badger are crazy about feared Bear's little round raisin buns. Will they manage to sneak into his kitchen without getting caught?

A funny and surprise-filled comic strip for the first steps towards the joy of reading, illustrated in traditional ink and watercolor techniques. First volume.

Pumpkin Play with Carrots

Diana Tivu



Technical data

age: 3+
190 × 250 mm, hardcover
40 pages
published in 2025
ISBN: 978-630-6669-06-6
rights available

KEY SELLING POINTS

- 2nd volume of the Otter and Badger series
- Strip Pressing Award for *Best Short Comics Book* **(The Balkans Festival of Young Comics Creators 2026)**

Description

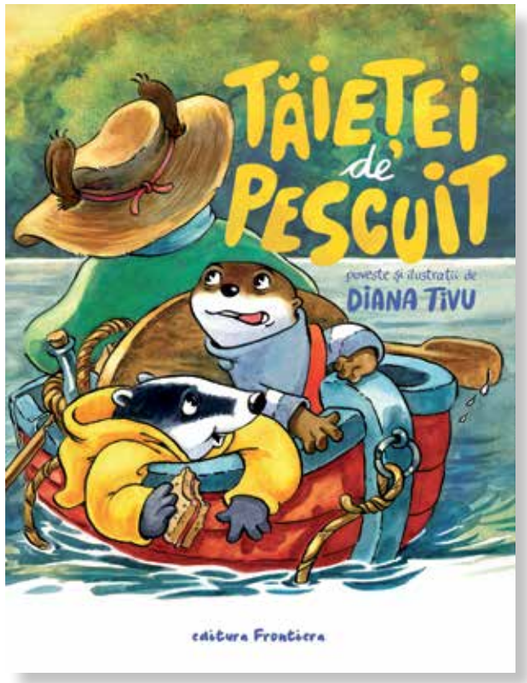
Otter and Badger are back for more hilarious woodland adventures! This time, the duo's simple plan to turn a pumpkin into a silly jack-o'-lantern is derailed by a mysterious new creature. And when Bear's usual warm personality takes an unexpected turn, the friends must navigate a whole new set of playful twists.





Fishing Noodles

Diana Tivu



Technical data

age: 3+
190 × 250 mm, hardcover
40 pages
published in 2026
ISBN: 978-630-6669-29-5
rights available

KEY SELLING POINTS

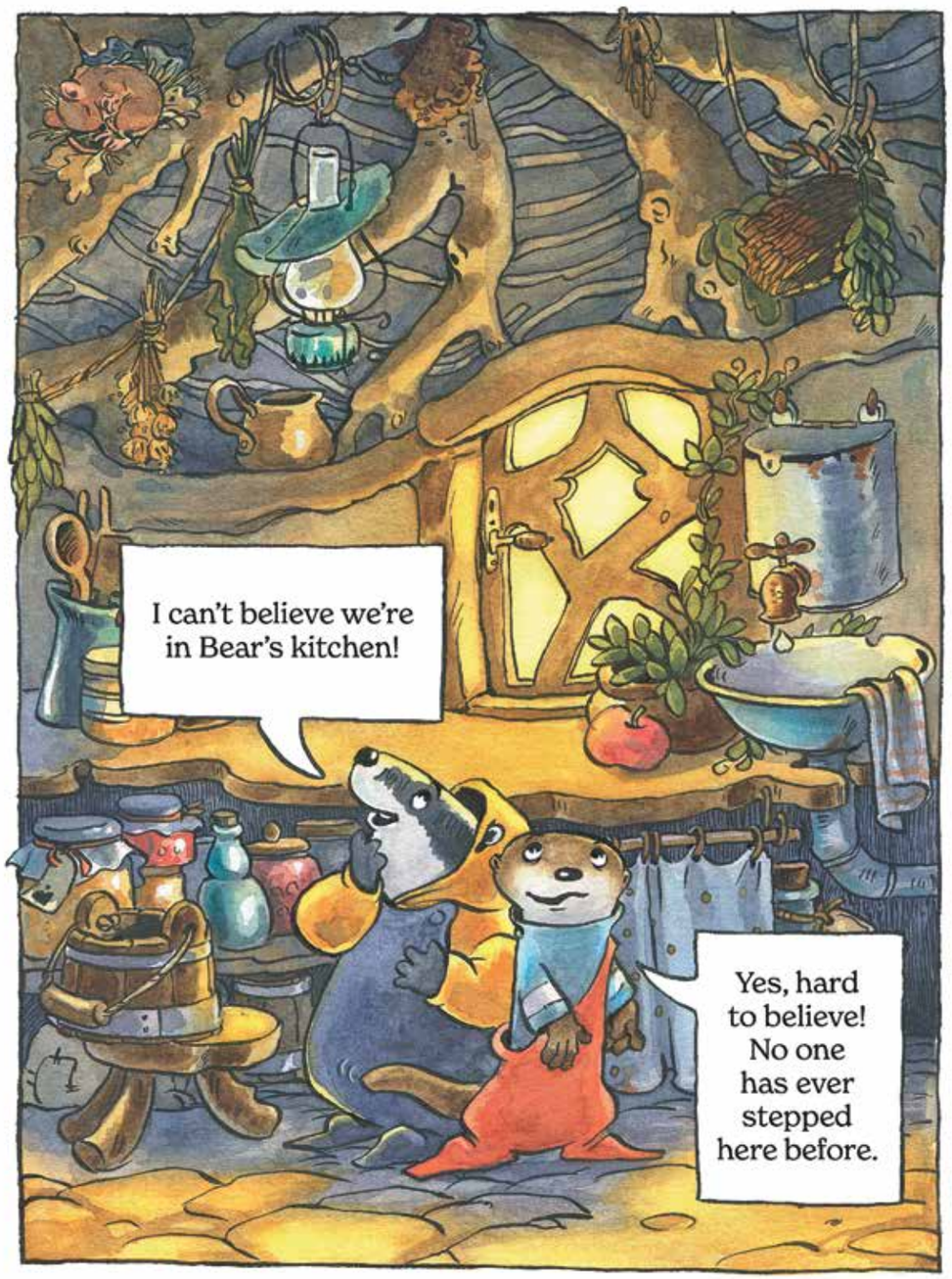
- 3rd volume of the Otter and Badger series

Description

When Otter and Badger borrow an empty boat for an impromptu river cruise, they didn't expect its owner - neighbor Bear - to show up furious! Forced to seek refuge in Mr. Beaver's cozy home, the two friends share a bowl of noodles while danger lurks just outside. Will they manage to escape Bear's wrath? A funny and action-packed tale about friendship and mishaps.



Otter and Badger sneak into Bear's kitchen.





Illustrations from *Little Round Raisin Buns* by Diana Tivu

GINA AND VADÚ SERIES

KEY SELLING POINTS

- author series
- illustrated information inserts about Switzerland, Portugal and New York
- illustrated by Oana Ispir (**White Ravens 2023** for *Prince Meow*)

animal & human characters
travel & adventure
adjusting to new environments



ANA MARIA SANDU is a well-known Romanian author. So far, she has written five novels, two books of short stories, and a book of essays. She is also a cultural journalist and a regular contributor and editor to one of the country's most prestigious cultural publications, *Dilema veche*.



OANA ISPIR is a freelance illustrator. Her skill and experience span from book to web illustration, board games, and advertising. Her favourite mediums are watercolour, printmaking, textile illustration, and wood carving & painting.



In the Land of Happy Cows

Ana Maria Sandu, Oana Ispir



Technical data

genre: fiction
age: 7+
148 × 210 mm, softcover
96 pages
published in 2023
ISBN: 978-606-8986-65-4
rights available

KEY SELLING POINTS

- Shortlisted for *Children's Book of the Year* (**Cărturino Awards 2024**)

Description

Vadú the cat and Gina the fly travel to a mysterious land where cows graze happily on the greenest pastures, people are industrious and get up early. The two friends learn how to make pancakes, strike up new friendships and eventually adapt to the customs of a culture different from their own.





Holiday in Orangeland

Ana Maria Sandu, Oana Ispir



Technical data

genre: fiction
age: 7+
148 × 210 mm, softcover
96 pages
published in 2024
ISBN: 978-606-8986-77-7
rights available

KEY SELLING POINTS

- Shortlisted for *Children's Book of the Year* (Cărturino Awards 2025)

Description

Vadú and Gina embark on a new adventure-filled journey to Orangeland, the country of fado, bacalhau, and ocean beaches. Their vacation is thrown into disarray by a bandit cat and a sudden expedition on the trail of a missing skull: Vincent's head.





A Cruise to the Skyscrapers

Ana Maria Sandu, Oana Ispir



Technical data

genre: fiction
age: 7+
148 × 210 mm, softcover
96 pages
published in 2026
ISBN: 978-606-8986-65-4
rights available



Description

Vadú the cat and Gina the fly are setting sail across the Atlantic to the city of skyscrapers. Their eleven-day ocean voyage takes an exciting turn when they team up with Sophie and new friend Agata to crack a mystery and stop a gang of mobsters! After arriving in the bustling metropolis, they dive into donuts, jazz, and modern art - and maybe even a little romance. A fun, mystery-filled adventure about friendship, travel, and unexpected surprises!



Forest of the Little Witch

Mihai Buzea, Ioana Pârvan



Technical data

genre: fiction
age: 7+
148 × 210 mm, softcover
120 pages
to be published in 2025
ISBN: 978-606-8986-91-3
rights available

adventure & fantasy
wildlife
family & coming-of-age



KEY SELLING POINTS

- vivid black-and-red botanical illustrations
- renowned writer Mihai Buzea's debut in children's literature
- Shortlisted for *Children's Book of the Year* (Cărturino Awards 2026)

Description

Everyday, Kittycone and her father wander through the forest nearby their home, a small wildlife haven in the middle of the city. While the man absently reads his book, the girl talks to plants and animals, discovering mysteries unveiled only to the young and innocent. But will she solve the greatest one of all, that of the Little Witch herself?

A tender, insightful, and vividly illustrated chapter book, midway between Brothers Grimm's tales and contemporary stories.



MIHAI BUZEA graduated Philology studies. After an adventurous youth as a migrant worker in several European cities, in 2014 he went to London and became an arborist. He published eight novels and he is a regular contributor to several literary magazines in Romania. He now lives in Bruxelles and has a daughter, Diana, who inspired this debut in children's literature.



IOANA PÂRVAN is a freelance graphic designer and illustrator, with a vast experience as an art director in a Romanian independent communication agency. She is passionate about details and typography, absolutely in love with the smell of fresh print.



The Marquis's Tales

Brad Florescu, Matei Alexandrescu



Technical data

genre: fiction
age: 5+
200 × 250 mm, hardcover
80 pages
published in 2021
ISBN: 978-606-8986-47-0
rights available

ancient wisdom
tale retellings
humor & nonsense





KEY SELLING POINTS

- author series
- reflection on cultural diversity

Description

The sausage died, the cat cried, the door squeaked, the tree waved, and… just imagine what the marquis did! Humorous and nonsense tales from Romania, Japan, Egypt, Norway or Italy, retold in modern language and delicate watercolor illustrations.

First volume of the series.



BRAD FLORESCU is a traveler and a journalist. He has been awarded many local and international prizes for blogging, advertising and photography. Brad Florescu made his debut as an author with this bestselling series of tales around the world.



MATEI ALEXANDRESCU graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts in Vienna and has since won awards at national and international competitions. Passionate about travel, he seeks to understand the world by experiencing it both concretely and through art.

The Traveler's Tales

Brad Florescu, Ștefan Georgescu





Technical data

genre: fiction
age: 5+
200 × 250 mm, hardcover
88 pages
published in 2022
ISBN: 978-606-8986-57-9
rights available

ancient wisdom
tale retellings
wit & magic

KEY SELLING POINTS

- author series
- reflection on cultural diversity



ȘTEFAN GEORGESCU works as a concept artist and illustrator, experimenting with various techniques, both traditional and digital. He creates graphics for video games, but believes that he best expresses himself artistically through book illustration.

Description

Readers will roam from West Pacific to Africa and Ireland with this collection of meaningful folktales from around the world, each bearing its significance, wisdom, and touch of magic.

Populated with surprising characters such as the African god Anansi or the Japanese pilgrim mice, this second volume celebrates cultural diversity in beautifully written texts and vivid illustrations which bring them to life.



Heading for the South Pole

Emil Racoviță, Eugen Berlo



KEY SELLING POINTS

- historical Antarctic exploration retold by the explorer himself
- updated for today's readers
- great educational tool

Technical data

genre: nonfiction
age: 7+
140 × 200 mm
80 pages
first published in 2019
ISBN: 978-606-8986-73-9
rights available

natural life
great scientists
exploration



Description

At the end of the 19th century, Romanian biologist Emil Racoviță was invited to take part in the Belgian expedition to Antarctica led by Adrien de Gerlache. The international crew was to spend a year there, carrying out scientific research. This book is made of Racoviță's remembrances of the great adventure. Alertly and passionately written, it is a wonderful and personal introduction to the world of explorers. The author's tone is humorous, but precise when it comes to the life forms he encounters and cherishes.

Linocut and illustrations by Romanian painter and architect Eugen Berlo.



EMIL RACOVIȚĂ (1868-1947) was a Romanian scientist, explorer, speleologist, and biologist, considered the founder of biospeleology (the study of underground fauna). He was elected an academician in 1920 and served as the president of the Romanian Academy from 1926 to 1929.



EUGEN BERLO is a Romanian artist with diverse interests. For ten years, he worked as an architect and designer in New York. Since 2012, he has pursued a dedicated career as a painter and sculptor in Romania. His artistic vision is closely linked to his areas of interest: mythology, philosophy, and technology.

