

BEST
LITHUANIAN BOOKS
FOR
CHILDREN
AND
YOUNG ADULTS

2022–2023



Selection of the Lithuanian Section of IBBY

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INTRODUCTION

Dream big, as the saying goes. But who could have predicted that *The Fox on the Swing* by Lithuanian authors Evelina Daciūtė and Aušra Kiudulaitė would go on to win the Mildred L. Batchelder Award in 2019, which annually recognizes the best children's book translated into English and published in the US? That *Siberian Haiku* by Jurga Vilė and Lina Itagaki would win the German Children's Literature Award in 2021? Or that *The Pebble*, a picture book by Marius Marcinkevičius and Inga Dagilė, would be nominated for the Yoto Carnegie Medal for Illustration in 2024?

This kind of significant international achievement seemed impossible in the past. Today, Lithuanian writers and illustrators prove that we, a small nation by the Baltic Sea, can do anything.

There are ever more translations of Lithuanian children's literature in multiple languages, despite the pandemic and the war started by Russia in Ukraine, which has had a strong impact on our country. The increasing number of translations makes us happy and proud. We translate a lot of foreign literature into Lithuanian ourselves, so we're happy to be more than passive receivers of literary goods and offer our share as equal partners in this literary trade.

Our authors were, in fact, enjoying worldwide acclaim even before these recent achievements. The writer and illustrator Kęstutis Kasparavičius is a shining example – his books have been translated into twenty languages and have received multiple nominations for the Hans Christian Andersen Award.

There's no doubt that the international success of Lithuanian children's literature is strongly influenced by the growing quality of picture books and abundant illustrations – after all, art often serves as a universal language, and illustrations can win our hearts more quickly than even the most beautiful of texts.

In this catalogue, you will find the latest books by Lithuanian authors for both younger and more advanced readers. We hope that their stories about universal values, diversity, children's issues, the whirlwinds of our country's history and other marvels will grab your attention and become, to paraphrase Jella Lepman, a bridge between our nations.

Eglė Baliutavičiūtė
Children's literature expert,
member of the Lithuanian Section of IBBY

PICTU

RE
BOOKS

JŪRŲ ŽVAIGŽDĖ, KURI IEŠKOJO ŠIRDIES

THE STARFISH LOOKING FOR A HEART

AKVILINA CICĖNAITĖ | REDA TOMINGAS



Author: Akvilina Cicėnaitė
 Illustrator: Reda Tomingas
 Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
 almalittera.lt
 32 pages, hardback, 20 x 25 x 0.8 cm
 ISBN: 9786090155882
 Age: 5+



AKVILINA CICĖNAITĖ (b. 1979) is a writer for young adults and adults. She grew up in Vilnius and later moved to the other side of the world. She obtained a PhD in New Zealand and has been living in Australia since 2012. Her creative career started with popular stories for girls and then moved on to problem novels for young adults. She has won multiple awards for her works.

REDA TOMINGAS (b. 1979) is a children's book illustrator and director of animated films. She is a nature lover, so it's no surprise that all the children's books she has illustrated focus on the world of nature. She takes part in festivals and exhibitions. She has illustrated many books including *Džiunglių istorijos* (*Jungle Stories*, 2022) by Saulė Paltanavičiūtė, *Katinas Miegošius* (*The Sleepy Cat*, 2022) by Egidijus Zaikauskas, and *Kaip Grikis berniuką augino* (*Grikis Brings Up a Little Boy*, 2022) by Daiva Čepauskaitė.



When a starfish called Little Lemon sets off to explore the Coral Sea, she meets a well-educated flatfish, Matilda. It is from this flatfish that Little Lemon finds out that she doesn't have a heart. Little Lemon decides to ask advice from the blue whale as to where she can find a heart. On the way, she meets a variety of sea creatures and overcomes a lot of obstacles.

The author enhances the biological fact of starfish not having hearts into a metaphor and employs it to examine what comprises kindness and what being kind really means. The book also discusses the importance of friendship, ecology, and the danger of pollution to marine life.



LORIS LĒTAPĒDIS

SLOW LORIS

EVELINA DACIŪTĒ | GRETA DUOBIENĒ



Author: Evelina Daciūtė
 Illustrator: Greta Duobienė
 Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
 almalittera.lt

24 pages, hardback, 21.5 x 25 x 0.7 cm
 ISBN 978-609-01-5385-7
 Age: 2+

EVELINA DACIŪTĒ (b. 1975) is a journalist, poet and writer. Most of her works are intended for children. She has written more than fifteen books. *Laimė yra lapė* (*Fox on the Swing*), co-authored with Aušra Kiudulaitė, is her best-known work. It has won numerous awards in Lithuania and worldwide, including the Mildred L. Batchelder Award presented by the American Library Association. In 2020, the author received the Global Lithuanian Award for her contribution to Lithuanian culture. In 2022, the book *Pasakojimas apie katingą ir tulpę* (*The Tale of the Cat and the Tulip*) won the Lithuanian Section of IBBY Award for best children's picture book.

GRETA DUOBIENĒ (b. 1981) is a creative artist, illustrator, book designer, and art therapist. She lives in Kaunas and leads educational programmes for children. She created the illustrations for another favourite book, *Margarita (ne)tobulų piešinių šalyje* (*Margarita in the Land of (Im)perfect Paintings*).





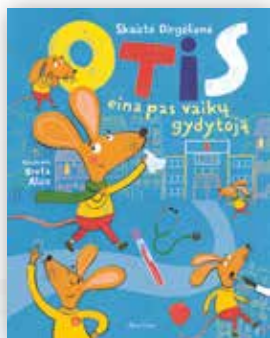
Slow Loris tells the story of the whimsical Loris, who can't seem to get ready to go out on time. By the time he manages to put on his skates and coat, the hepaticae are already in bloom... By the time he changes his shoes and brushes his hair, it's already summer! This sparkling story, told in rhyme by the renowned children's author, Evelina Daciūtė, will acquaint readers with the changing seasons, teach them to deal with failures, and encourage them to handle everyday events with humour.

The author was inspired by little-known animals found in hot faraway places – slow lorises. The biologist Saulė Paltanavičiūtė describes them in the book.

PELIUKO OČIO SERIJA: OTIS EINA PAS VAIKŲ GYDYTOJĄ

OTIS THE MOUSE SERIES: OTIS GOES TO THE CHILDREN'S DOCTOR

SKAISTĖ DIRGĖLIENĖ | GRETA ALICE



Author: Skaistė Dirgėlienė
 Illustrator: Greta Alice
 Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
 almalittera.lt
 44 pages, hardback, 21.5 × 27 × 0.8 cm
 ISBN 978-609-01-5574-5
 Age: 2+



SKAISTĖ DIRGĖLIENĖ (b. 1989) entered the world of children's literature with the encouragement of her husband – the renowned and exceptionally productive children's author Tomas Dirgėla. They have already created and published several books together. The author made her debut with exercise books, which soon evolved into picture books featuring the little mouse Otis as the main character. The books are primarily meant to be educational and cover a specific, topical theme.

GRETA ALICE (b. 1992) is an exceptionally productive illustrator, graphic designer and educator who has been attracted to drawing since childhood. She creates comic books and has illustrated a number of books for children and young adults. In 2018 she was awarded the Book Art Exhibition diploma for her illustrations for Ričardas Gavelis' book *Vilniaus pokeris* (*Vilnius Poker*). She is also an active participant in group exhibitions. In 2022, Greta Alice, together with the organisation *Vaikų žemė*, received an award from the Lithuanian Ministry of Culture for best cultural education activities.

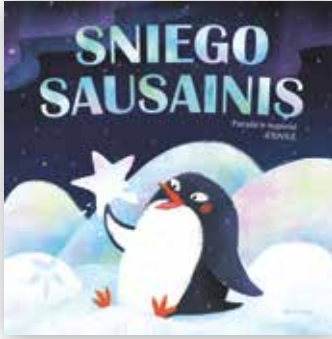
One morning Otis the mouse wakes up and realises that he won't be able to visit his friend Badger – the way he feels does not bode well. It turns out that Otis has a fever! On top of that, he needs to visit the doctor. Very distressing... But the doctor Uoga is warm and caring. She patiently explains to Otis what happens when he falls ill. Being surrounded by this loving attention makes it easier for him to recover his health. And it's not so scary now to visit other doctors, who want to help Otis get well. The book features a psychologist's tips for parents: how to prepare for a visit to the doctor so that it goes smoothly for both the children and the parents.



SNIEGO SAUSAINIS

THE SNOW BISCUIT

EÍDVILĖ



Author: Eídvilė
 Illustrator: Eídvilė
 Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
 almalittera.lt
 32 pages, hardback, 24,5 × 24,5 × 0.8 cm
 ISBN 978-609-01-5633-9
 Age: 2+

EÍDVILĖ (real name Eidvilė Viktorija Buožytė, b. 1990) is a children's book illustrator and author. She collaborates with authors and publishers from around the world, and creates illustrations for both new, contemporary books as well as timeless Lithuanian children's literature classics.





The Snow Biscuit is the second book which Eídvilé has written and illustrated herself. The book tells the story of 100 penguins who live in Antarctica. One day, Polis discovers a recipe for a most delicious biscuit. All hundred penguins set to work... only there's a small obstacle – in Antarctica, there's no butter, or flour, or hot oven. But perhaps it's not an obstacle at all – the penguins' imagination is so boundless and their desire to bake the biscuit so strong that nothing will put them off. They're going to bake the biggest and most wonderful snow biscuit!

This is a delightful book based on an energetic, immersive adventure which unites the whole community for a common purpose. It also contains elements of various games – the children are invited to find the main characters of the story among the hundred penguins and learn how to count at the same time.

NEPATOGI KARŪNA

THE UNCOMFORTABLE CROWN

AGNĖ GINTALAITĖ



Author: Agnė Gintalaitė

Illustrator: Agnė Gintalaitė

Publisher: Nieko rimto, 2023
niekorimto.lt

34 pages, hardback, 19.5 × 25 × 0.7 cm

ISBN 978-609-441-838-9

Age: 3+

AGNĖ GINTALAITĖ is an artist and publicist. She studied art history at Vilnius Academy of Arts and psychology at Vilnius University. She actively participates in artistic and social spheres as an interdisciplinary creator and has won a number of international awards for fine-art photography. She has published a novel for adults and several books for children.



This book tells the story of a girl who walks around with a giant crown – can life get any better when everyone recognises you, waves at you and gives you their place in the queue for ice-cream? For a while it feels great to be noticed, but then the weight of the crown becomes seriously heavy...

Is it really only the diamond-studded crown that makes the girl special and visible? Through this story, the author finds a simple way to speak of true values which are so easy to forget in the contemporary consumerist world – for children and adults alike.



PŪKIO SERIJA: PŪKIS IR MAMYTĖ

THE PŪKIS SERIES: PŪKIS AND MOMMY

VYTAUTAS V. LANDSBERGIS | DALIA KARPAVIČIŪTĖ



Author: Vytautas V. Landsbergis

Illustrator: Dalia Karpavičiūtė

Publisher: Dominicus Lituanius, 2023
dominicus.lt

24 pages, paperback, 21.5 x 24.5 x 0.3 cm

ISBN 978-609-8227-39-0

Age: 2+

VYTAUTAS V. LANDSBERGIS (b. 1962)

is a poet, prose writer, playwright, theatre and film director, as well as an author and performer of songs. He has dozens of books to his name, most of which are written for children and young adults. Landsbergis' literary talent has been recognized by numerous awards, including the Children's Literature Award presented by the Lithuanian Ministry of Education, the Cross of the Knight of the Order of Merit of Lithuania, and the Prize for Culture and Arts of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania. Vytautas V. Landsbergis is one of the most productive children's authors in Lithuania.

DALIA KARPAVIČIŪTĖ (b. 1972) is a

freelance artist and illustrator. Her works have won a number of awards for the most artistic illustrations. Her characteristic style is defined by its spare expression and laconic appearance.





Pūkis and Mommy is the latest book in the series about the little fox Pūkis. This time, trouble strikes – the little fox’s mother falls ill. Pūkis doesn’t yet go to school, so he stays at home to care for the patient: he makes her tea, tucks her up in bed and even helps her to... fall asleep. Both of them have the same strange dream. When she wakes up, Mommy feels completely well. What helped her recover? The book claims that love and tenderness have incredible powers.

MIEGO AVINĖLIAI: KNYGA, PADEDANTI UŽMIGTI

THE SLEEP SHEEP: THE BOOK THAT HELPS YOU FALL ASLEEP

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS | TANIA REX



Author: Marius Marcinkevičius

Illustrator: Tania Rex

Publisher: Misteris Pinkmanas, 2023
pinkmanas.com

32 pages, hardback, 22.2 x 25 x 1 cm

ISBN 978-609-96295-4-4

Age: 2+

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS (b. 1966) is a writer, doctor and traveller. In 2016 he made a successful debut as a children's author. He has written many books for children and one for adults. His work has won a number of literary awards, including the Lithuanian section of IBBY Prize for the best Lithuanian book for children and young adults in 2020. His book *Akmenėlis* (*The Pebble*) was also included in the IBBY Honour List. His books have been translated into other languages and adapted for stage, and have become an inspiration for songs.

TANIA REX (b. 1982) is an illustrator, artist, and graphic designer. She has illustrated a number of children's books by both Lithuanian and international authors. She was a Finalist in the Golden Pinwheel Young Illustrators Competition at the China Shanghai International Children's Book Fair and received two Merit Awards at the international "iJungle" in 2019.



The Sleep Sheep is a book about sleep which helps to create a cosy atmosphere for bedtime. The story revolves around a boy called Rokas, who can't seem to fall asleep and decides to try the best method – counting sheep. But when he closes his eyes, it turns out that all the sleep sheep have made off to all sorts of places: one of them has flown to the moon, another has dived to the bottom of the sea, and a third has appeared at a Dream Pole...

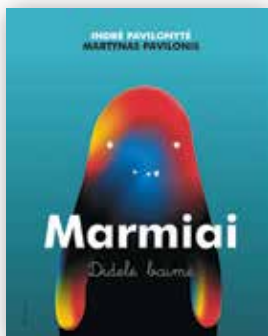
The readers of the book are invited to find and count the sheep by setting out on a magical journey across the world of dreams. The story may help children to learn how they can control a situation themselves. Rokas, the headstrong protagonist of the book, shows young readers that there are no obstacles on the way towards your goals, because imagination, will-power and persistence can conquer anything.



MARMIŲ SERIJA: MARMIAI. DIDELĖ BAIMĖ

THE MARMIES SERIES: THE MARMIES: BIG FEAR

INDRĖ PAVILONYTĖ | MARTYNAS PAVILONIS



Author: Indrė Pavilonytė
 Illustrator: Martynas Pavilonis
 Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
 almalittera.lt
 44 pages, hardback, 21.5 × 27 × 0.9 cm
 ISBN 978-609-01-5696
 Age: 4+



Indrė Pavilonytė and Martynas Pavilonis are not only twins but also a wonderful duo of writer and illustrator in the world of children's literature.

INDRĖ PAVILONYTĖ (b. 1987) is a children's book author and communication specialist. She made her debut in 2017 with the children's book *Didžiosios tvoros paslaptis* (*The Mystery of the Great Fence*). In 2019, she published a book co-authored with her brother, *Marmiai: Olys ir dažų kibirėlis* (*The Marmies: Oly and the Bucket of Paint*). It achieved great success, grew into a book series and was adapted for the stage.

MARTYNAS PAVILONIS (b. 1987) is an artist, illustrator and graphic designer. His illustrations for the book *The Marmies: Oly and the Bucket of Paint* won the Cheltenham Illustration Award in the United Kingdom. He is the first Lithuanian artist whose works have been included in *Lürzer's Archive's* list of the world's 200 best illustrators. His works have been displayed at group exhibitions and featured in art publications both in Lithuania and worldwide.



A big fear can be very hard to conquer. But it's definitely possible! The Marmie called Shiny Nose never thought he would be able to enjoy the sun. He thought that the sun was the scariest thing in the world, as it had the power of burning and blinding. But there are feelings stronger than fear: friendship, devotion and determination. While giving help to the Marmie Ana, Shiny Nose ends up helping himself to get over his fear and see the world through different eyes.

The book playfully discusses fear as a completely natural feeling. All of us are dealing with fear, so it's important to accept it and know that it can be conquered.

MIESTAS, KVEPIANTIS LIETUMI

THE CITY THAT SMELLS OF RAIN

INDRĖ PAVILONYTĖ | MARTYNAS PAVILONIS



Author: Indrė Pavilonytė

Illustrator: Martynas Pavilonis

Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
almalittera.lt

28 pages, hardback, 20 × 25 × 0,9 cm

ISBN 978-609-01-5670-4

Age: 3+

Indrė Pavilonytė and Martynas Pavilonis are not only twins but also a wonderful duo of writer and illustrator in the world of children's literature.

INDRĖ PAVILONYTĖ (b. 1987) is a children's book author and communication specialist. She made her debut in 2017 with the children's book *Didžiosios tvoros paslaptis* (*The Mystery of the Great Fence*). In 2019, she published a book co-authored with her brother, *Marmiai: Olys ir dažų kibirėlis* (*The Marmies: Olly and the Bucket of Paint*). It achieved great success, grew into a book series and was adapted for the stage.

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Do you complain when it's too hot and the sun is too bright? Or when the clouds cover the sky and it rains and rains and rains? Even children, following adults, start berating the weather... The latest book by the duo behind the Marmie series tells the story of a cloud which loves its job – raining. And when it gets a new special task – to go to the city for the first time, it is incredibly happy and excited. But it doesn't receive a warm welcome in the city. It turns out no one likes the rain! The cloud sadly decides to leave... But will the people be happy now that the city is constantly scorched by the sun?

The book will help us understand why the variety of the weather, with the alternation of sun and rain, is so important. Reading it reminds us of an old saying that you don't appreciate what you have until it's gone. This tender and endearing story is beautifully complemented by the banner-like illustrations. The book contains another important lesson – many things in life depend on our point of view. In the beginning, the city is depicted as dreary, monolithic, almost transparent, while the cloud only intensifies the dreariness. But in the end, the city brightens up and becomes more colourful even when the rain is falling. In other words, rain won't be bad or annoying if we simply decide to rejoice in it.



BE GALO BE KRAŠTO APIE POILSĮ

REST WITHOUT END

SIMONA SAVICKIENĖ | ANDRIUS BANELIS



Author: Simona Savickienė
 Illustrator: Andrius Banelis
 Publisher: self-publisher, 2022
 begalobekrasto.lt
 28 pages, hardback, 19 × 26.5 × 1 cm
 ISBN 978-609-47-5949-9
 Age: 2+

SIMONA SAVICKIENĖ (b. 1985) is a children's literature debutante and self-publisher. Although she works in marketing, in the area of fintech, she is interested in mindfulness practices and volunteers in suicide prevention programmes. She believes in the power of creativity and the freedom to be whoever you want to be.

ANDRIUS BANELIS (b. 1991) is a freelance illustrator and graphic designer. This is his first illustrated children's book. He was nominated for the award for the most significant debut of the year in 2022. Andrius employs digital media, graphic art and pencils in his work.



Rest Without End is a book about a girl who goes out for a walk in the forest. She becomes tired and decides to lie down. After a while, a rabbit hops up to her and asks what she's doing. When the girl explains that she needs to rest, the rabbit decides to join her. Later, they are joined by a horse, a bird, a dinosaur and other characters. The readers are invited to continue the story themselves.

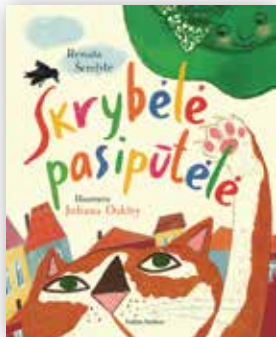
This is a perfect read before bedtime. The repetitions are useful for the youngest readers, aiding their memorisation and creating a calm, soothing atmosphere. All proceeds from the book sales will be donated to support Ukrainian children.



SKRYBĖLĖ PASIPŪTĖLĖ

THE POMPOUS HAT

RENATA ŠERELYTĖ | JULIANA OAKLEY



Author: Renata Šerelytė
 Illustrator: Juliana Oakley
 Publisher: Baltos lankos, 2023
 baltoslankos.lt
 40 pages, hardback, 21.5 × 26.5 × 1 cm
 ISBN 978-609-47-9767-5
 Age: 3+

RENATA ŠERELYTĖ (b. 1970) is a prose writer, poet, playwright and literary critic. She is considered to be one of the most remarkable contemporary Lithuanian authors, and an insightful publicist and contributor to cultural life. Her books have been translated into English, German, French, Swedish, Polish and other languages. She has written poems, fairy tales, novellas and plays for children, as well as several novels for young adults. She has won numerous literary competitions and awards for the best books for adults and young adults of the year, as well as other major prizes, and has been included in the IBBY Honour List.

JULIANA OAKLEY is a Latvian illustrator based in Bahrain. Her illustrations are colourful, mischievous and playful, but also a little nostalgic and mysterious. The illustrator usually draws her sketches in pencil and finishes them digitally.





One day, the high-spirited grandmother Leokadija receives an unexpected present – a hat that’s amazingly beautiful and therefore very full of itself. Because the hat is so pompous, it suddenly goes – whoosh! – up in the air. It turns out that, up there, no one cares that you happen to be the most beautiful hat in the world – a crow is pecking at your feathers, a cat is tearing off your ribbon... But can someone really like you just because you’re fancy?

This is a short and engaging story which tells us that external beauty is not the most important thing in the world and that being flamboyant with happiness is so much nicer than being flamboyant with vanity.

IŠGIRSTI DIENĄ

HEARING THE DAY

LINA EITMANTYTĖ-VALUŽIENĖ



Author: Lina Eitmantytė-Valužienė
 Illustrator: Lina Eitmantytė-Valužienė
 Publisher: Muzikija, 2023
 strazdaneles.lt
 48 pages, hardback, 24,5 × 30 × 1 cm
 ISBN 978-609-8326-01-7
 Age: 3+

LINA EITMANTYTĖ-VALUŽIENĖ (b. 1970) is an artist with almost 40 illustrated books to her name. She has organised a number of art exhibitions in Lithuania. Her works have also been exhibited in South Korea, Slovakia, Italy and elsewhere. She is the founder, designer and editor-in-chief of *Laimiukas*, a children's literary magazine (2001–2019).



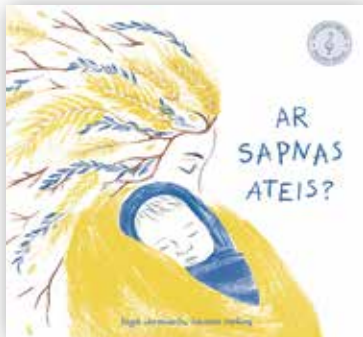
This wordless book tells its story through illustrations, which tenderly and aesthetically reveal the world of nature. The QR codes within the book are linked to motifs of melodies by J.S. Bach which are attributed to the characters – both the huge wolves and the tiny snail. The melodies are performed by the pianist Jurgis Aleknavičius. Combining several art genres into one, the book teaches us to calm down and embrace the miracle of the everyday, to notice everything around you and give meaning to each day of life.



AR SAPNAS ATEIS?

WILL THE DREAM ARRIVE?

VIKTORIJA VALUŽYTĖ



Author: Viktorija Valužytė

Illustrator: Viktorija Valužytė

Publisher: Muzikija, 2023
muzikija.lt

48 pages, hardback, 24.5 × 22.5 × 0.8 cm

ISBN 978-609-83-2600-0

Age: 4+



VIKTORIJA VALUŽYTĖ (b. 1995) graduated in graphic design. She specialises in illustration and animation. Viktorija frequently participates in various exhibitions and projects. In 2022, she was selected for the Lithuanian Ministry of Culture project *Design Wings*. *Will the Dream Arrive?* is her third illustrated book, where she combines the natural flow of drawing by hand and digital media.

This wordless book is based on a well-known Ukrainian lullaby and conversations with kindergarteners about their dreams, which formed the inspiration for the illustrations. This is why the basis of the book is not a consistent plot but fragments of dreamlike imagery and associations which can be voiced by the readers themselves.

The first part of the book is dominated by bright and beautiful dreams: a baby wrapped in its mother's embrace; a bird-child floating over the sea; building a city from toy blocks. The second part features a visual reproduction of children's nightmares and fears, probably caused by echoes of the war in Ukraine. There's a lot of darkness and ominous imagery here, but most of the drawings embody hope that there is always a solution, a way not to give in to fear and darkness.

You will find the lyrics and sheet music of the Ukrainian song, and the QR codes will take you to several versions of its recordings. The book is complemented by explanations about the value of a wordless book and the nuances of reading.



ŠUO, KURIS IŠEINA NAKTĮ

THE DOG WHO GOES FOR A WALK AT NIGHT

JURGA VILĖ | VALENTINA ČERNIAUSKAITĖ



Author: Jurga Vilė
 Illustrator: Valentina Černiauskaitė
 Publisher: 700 eilučių, 2023
facebook.com/700eiluciu
 32 pages, hardback, 26.5 × 24.5 × 0.9 cm
 ISBN 978-609-8288-12-4
 Age: 4+

JURGA VILĖ (b. 1977) is a writer, film translator, photographer, wanderer and dreamer. She studied French, visual arts, film archiving and restoration. Her best known book, *Sibiho haiku* (*Siberian Haiku*), received great critical acclaim, including the German Children's Literature Award in 2021 at the Frankfurt Book Fair. Her stories are infused with warmth, poetry, and attentiveness towards the smallest residents of the world we live in. In 2020, the author was included in the IBBY Honour List.

VALENTINA ČERNIAUSKAITĖ (b. 1997) works in the areas of art and commercial publishing as well as interdisciplinary art (photography, writing, installations). The artist graduated from Vilnius Academy of Arts and the University of Helsinki and is based in Finland. She is a book illustrator, designer and art editor of the magazine *Joga ir Ajurveda*.



One day, the writer Jurga Vilė heard her friends tell a story about their dog who goes out into the town only at night... This was the beginning of *The Dog who Goes for a Walk at Night*. Moon is a special dog. He goes out for a walk with his human at a special time. It's not entirely clear which one of them is walking the other. Moon has things to show to his human, teaching him to be observant and open to unexpected situations. Following the dog's journey through the course of one night, the readers will visit many places, experience many events which this protagonist has gone through in the past, and hear stories from supporting characters, such as a black cat, mice dancing the tango on garbage cans, cheerful garbage men, a well-read tramp, ghosts in the puddles...

The Dog who Goes for a Walk at Night is defined by the author's trademark style, laconic language, and inner dialogues. The theme of the book is a journey full of encounters, discoveries and wonders, both big and small. Even if the journey seems ordinary, it reveals great depths. The illustrations by Valentina Černiauskaitė aptly visualise the narrative, combining techniques of photography and collage.



UŽKAMPYNĖ

CORNERLAND

IGNĖ ZARAMBAITĖ | LINA KUSAITĖ



Author: Ignė Zarambaitė
 Illustrator: Lina Kusaitė
 Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
 almalittera.lt
 24 pages, hardback, 20 × 25 × 0.7 cm
 ISBN 978-609-01-5404-5
 Age: 4+



IGNĖ ZARAMBAITĖ (b. 1988) is an active writer and educator. After graduating in business and management from Vilnius University, she took an unexpected turn and started writing books for young readers, which led to her becoming a successful author with a number of awards to her name. Her books for children and young adults have been translated into other languages and gained a wide readership. She openly admits that her own childhood is one of her sources of inspiration. For instance, when she was little, she liked to hide in... a dog's kennel. And so the characters of *Cornerland* have their own secret places where they can be alone.

LINA KUSAITĖ (b. 1975) is a graduate of costume and textile design programmes in Vilnius, Utrecht and Paris, and works as a designer and illustrator. Her pastel-coloured drawings rendered in graphic quill and pencil seem to extend far beyond the boundaries of the book itself, lending the publication its decorative and meditative mood.



After a row with his mother, Elijus hides under the bed. While he's lying there, he unexpectedly sees a secret door to Cornerland – a world which he can control with his imagination. It's a delightful place and he would like to stay there forever. But suddenly, a storm arises. Elijus is unable to return to the real world. Now the only person who can save him is his mother. Of course, she finds Elijus. They make up. His mother explains that it's perfectly normal to want to be alone sometimes. She herself has Cloudland – her own secret world. The book teaches us that, when emotions are stirred, there's no need to fight. We can step back for a while, sit with our feelings, and understand and accept them.

KAKĖ MAKĖ SERIJA: KAKĖ MAKĖ IR KONCERTO DIENA

THE NELLY JELLY SERIES: NELLY JELLY AND THE DAY OF THE CONCERT

LINA ŽUTAUTĖ



Author: Lina Žutautė

Illustrator: Lina Žutautė

Publisher: Alma littera, 2023

almalittera.lt

40 pages, hardback, 20.6 × 20.7 × 0.9 cm

ISBN 978-609-01-5744-2

Age: 3+

The writer and artist **LINA ŽUTAUTĖ** (b. 1973) is one of the best known picture book authors and illustrators in Lithuania. The character from her Nelly Jelly book series has become so popular that it has spread to the stage, TV screens, and concert halls. The Nelly Jelly stories are available in French, Latvian, Estonian, Russian, Korean and other languages. Lina has also written other books for children and young adults and illustrated works by other authors.

In 2010, *Kakė Makė ir Netvarkos nykštukas* (*Nelly Jelly and the Elf of Disorder*) was selected as the best children's book by the Lithuanian section of IBBY. In 2012, the author's book *Ferdinandas ir Pū* (*Ferdinand and Pū*) was awarded the Pranas Mašiotas Prize for the best book for children and young adults and included in the IBBY Honour List.



The *Nelly Jelly* series is one of the most popular picture books in Lithuania. It revolves around children's joys and sorrows, and their simple wishes, such as taking care of a pet or having a dream birthday, as well as less pleasant things – a desire to always be in the lead, and jealousy and boredom, and how to conquer them.

In the latest book of the series, *Nelly Jelly and the Day of the Concert*, the restless Nelly Jelly decides to become a musician. She has been to lots of concerts, and has loved all of them, so why not try to organise one herself? Nelly Jelly can do anything! First, she chooses an instrument, and spends a long time rehearsing and getting ready for her first performance. Everything seems great, but hasn't she forgotten something important, like what to do when you're afflicted with terrible nerves before the concert? The book presents this situation that children often experience before performing and teaches them how to overcome stage fright.



BOOKS
CHILD

FOR
REN

SLIEKO PASAKA

THE TALE OF THE EARTHWORM

RIMANTAS ČERNIAUSKAS | VIKTORIJA EŽIUKAS



Author: Rimantas Černiauskas

Illustrator: Viktorija Ežiukas

Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
almalittera.lt

128 pages, hardback, 14.8 × 21.9 × 1.1 cm

ISBN 978-609-01-578-93

Age: 9+

RIMANTAS ČERNIAUSKAS (1950–2011) was a prose writer and essayist. He graduated in mathematics from Vilnius University. He began his literary journey with poems, later expanding into essays and prose for adults and children. In 2007, he won the award for the best children's book of the year with *Slieko pasaka* (*The Tale of the Earthworm*).



VIKTORIJA EŽIUKAS (real name Viktorija Dambrauskaitė, b. 1985) is an artist and illustrator with a master's degree in visual design. She creates comics, and scenography for puppet shows, and actively participates as an artist and educator in the art scene in Lithuania and in international projects.

This book depicts an upside-down world: the children (and earthworms) want to learn, but the teachers are bored with their job. All the teachers want to do is have fun and laze around, so they try their best to get rid of the students: they abandon them in a maze, set traps, lock themselves in the school, and hide at home under the bed. Hilarious situations and playful characters will not only make you laugh but also invite students to look at themselves from a different perspective.



A KOMANDA IR ŠUO UŽ MILIJONĄ

THE A TEAM AND A DOG FOR A MILLION

TOMAS DIRGĖLA | KORNELIJA ŽALPYTĖ



Author: Tomas Dirgėla

Illustrator: Kornelija Žalpytė

Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
almalittera.lt

224 pages, hardback, 14.3 × 21.3 × 2.4 cm

ISBN 978-609-01-5621-6

Age: 8–12



TOMAS DIRGĖLA (b. 1989) is a popular writer for children and young adults with more than 45 books to his name. He lives in Vilnius. Much loved by children readers, his books have been published with multiple reprints. Since 2016, he has been an independent professional writer. In 2018, he founded a writers' music band called *Knygy vaikai* (*The Book Children*). Dirgėla's books have been translated into 13 languages. He has won a number of prestigious awards, such as the Aldona Liobytė Award for the most significant debut of the year (2015), presented by the Lithuanian section of IBBY, the Children's Literature Award (2022), and the Lithuanian section of IBBY Second Prize for the best children's book of the year (2016).

KORNELIJA ŽALPYTĖ (b. 1998) is a children's books illustrator, graphic artist and designer. She is also the creator of the illustrations and visual identity of *Laimiukas*, the only Lithuanian literary children's magazine. She illustrated *Miškas ir mažas* (*The Forest and the Little One*, 2021) by Monika Kalinauskaitė, *Matildos efektas* (*The Matilda Effect*, 2022) by Ellie Irving, and *Forest Sheep* (a children's book created for the Venice Biennale of Architecture as part of the Neringa Forest Architecture Project, 2023).

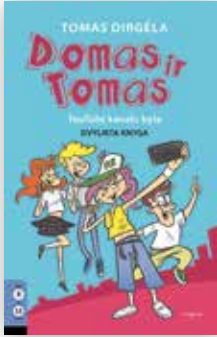
The first book of the new series is a detective story about the theft of an animal, which the children solve. Is it only diamonds and cars that get stolen? No! The book tells the story of an expensive dog – a Tibetan Mastiff – which is cleverly stolen by thieves. The main character Adelė, her new shy friend Augustas who always wears a hoodie, and a teacher who comes to their aid, manage to track down the thief, even though the police at first don't believe the children's suspicions. Are the detectives assisted by Adelė's talking hamster? The author masterfully keeps the readers in suspense and holds their interest right until the end of the story: is the thief going to get away? Dirgėla's captivating text and Žalpytė's dynamic illustrations fall between traditional text and comic genre.



DOMO IR TOMO SERIJA: DOMAS IR TOMAS: YOUTUBE KANALO BYLA

THE DOMAS AND TOMAS SERIES: DOMAS AND TOMAS: THE CASE OF THE YOUTUBE STAR

TOMAS DIRGĖLA | RYTIS DAUKANTAS



Author: Tomas Dirgėla
 Illustrator: Rytis Daukantas
 Publisher: Tyto alba, 2023
 tytoalba.lt
 176 pages, hardback, 14.8 × 22.1 × 1.5 cm
 ISBN 978-609-466-769-5
 Age: 8–12



TOMAS DIRGĖLA (b. 1989) is a popular writer for children and young adults with more than 45 books to his name. He lives in Vilnius. Much loved by children readers, his books have been published with multiple reprints. Since 2016, he has been an independent professional writer. In 2018, he founded a writers' music band called *Knygų vaikai* (*The Book Children*). Dirgėla's books have been translated into 13 languages. He has won a number of prestigious awards, such as the Aldona Liobytė Award for the most significant debut of the year (2015), presented by the Lithuanian section of IBBY, the Children's Literature Award (2022), and the Lithuanian section of IBBY Second Prize for the best children's book of the year (2016).

RYTIS DAUKANTAS (b. 1980) is a writer and artist. He has collaborated with Tomas Dirgėla since 2016, when the first part of the *Domas and Tomas* series was published, until this latest, twelfth part. He also illustrated Dirgėla's *Dingęs gimtadienio tortas* (*The Missing Birthday Cake*, 2021) and *Vytautas Didysis. Valdove, gal asmenukė?* (*Vytautas The Great. A Selfie, Your Majesty?*, 2022). Rytis Daukantas is also the author of the children's book series *Lietuvos milžinai iš arti* (*Lithuanian Giants Up Close*); *Simonas Daukantas – vargo pelė* (*Simonas Daukantas – The Busy Bee*, 2009); and *Jonas Basanavičius – barzdota varna* (*Jonas Basanavičius – The Bearded Crow*, 2009).

This is the twelfth book in the *Domas and Tomas* series. The author is famous for these detective stories about Domas and Tomas, who solve all kinds of cases while experiencing fun adventures and absurd situations. One of the author's aims is to make children laugh. He has been successful at this since the very first book of the series, *The Case of the Missing Broom*, where the young detectives of the Miestiečių school of Miestamiestis city, Domas and Tomas from class 4b, start looking for the janitor's missing broom.

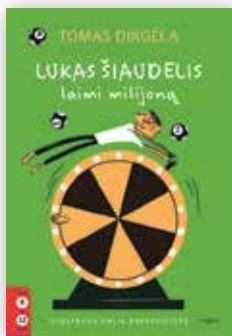
New cases are plentiful: each book of the series captures a new event at school and a new mystery which Domas and Tomas (later joined by Upė) end up cleverly solving. The detectives are not scared by anything, whether it's a ghost or an inspection of cafeteria food. They even find the first Lithuanian book by Martynas Mažvydas, as well as a girl who has disappeared, and cats which have been stolen from an animal shelter. The heroes keep busy even during the summer holidays: they capture a bank thief. And what is to be done when the snow and presents disappear in the winter?... In Vilnius, the heroes are looking for the missing Gediminas Castle Tower. In the twelfth book, the school is thrilled to welcome a *YouTube* star Džėja. But then it turns out unfortunately that someone has hacked her *YouTube* channel. The author's style is playful and vivid, keeping the readers on their toes right up until the final page.



LUKO ŠIAUDELIO SERIJA: LUKAS ŠIAUDELIS LAIMI MILIJONĄ

THE LUKAS ŠIAUDELIS SERIES: LUKAS ŠIAUDELIS WINS A MILLION

TOMAS DIRGĖLA | DALIA KARPAVIČIŪTĖ



Author: Tomas Dirgėla

Illustrator: Dalia Karpavičiūtė

Publisher: Tyto alba, 2023

tytoalba.lt

144 pages, hardback, 14,8 × 20,6 × 1,4 cm

ISBN 978-609-466-744-2

Age: 8–12



TOMAS DIRGĖLA (b. 1989) is a popular writer for children and young adults with more than 45 books to his name. He lives in Vilnius. Much loved by children readers, his books have been published with multiple re-prints. Since 2016, he has been an independent professional writer. In 2018, he founded a writers' music band called *Knygų vaikai* (*The Book Children*). Dirgėla's books have been translated into 13 languages. He has won a number of prestigious awards, such as the Aldona Liobytė Award for the most significant debut of the year (2015), presented by the Lithuanian section of IBBY, the Children's Literature Award (2022), and the Lithuanian section of IBBY Second Prize for the best children's book of the year (2016).

DALIA KARPAVIČIŪTĖ is an artist who has illustrated all the books from this series by Tomas Dirgėla: *Lukas Šiaudelis deda iš viršaus* (*Lukas Šiaudelis Does a Slam Dunk*, 2018), *Lukas Šiaudelis šoka baletą* (*Lukas Šiaudelis Dances Ballet*, 2021), as well as *Apie raganą Šiokiųtokių* (*About the Witch ThisandThat*, 2014); *Benas – sapnų siuvėjas* (*Ben the Tailor of Dreams*, 2018); and *Pūkio Pasakos* (*The Tales of Pūkis*, 2013–2023), a book series by Vytautas V. Landsbergis. She has received, among other prizes, the Lithuanian Section of IBBY Award for the most artistic two-coloured illustrations for *Ben the Tailor of Dreams* by Tomas Dirgėla in 2018.

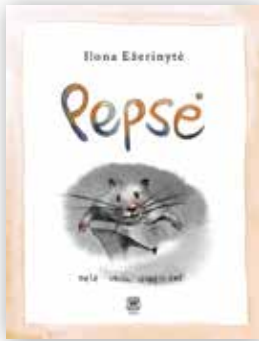
This is the third part of the series revolving around a hard-up shoemaker and his son Lukas, who have an unusual last name, Šiaudelis (Straw). All of the books in the series encourage readers to pursue their dreams despite unfavourable circumstances in life. The first part, *Lukas Šiaudelis Does a Slam Dunk*, is about Lukas' passion for basketball and his fascination with his favourite basketball player, Jonas Kamuoliūnas. Lukas scrupulously attends basketball training and aims to be like Kamuoliūnas. Can he make it? In the second part, *Lukas Šiaudelis Dances Ballet*, the author continues the story of Lukas' misfortune (the family room has burned down, Lukas breaks an expensive sculpture) and his new challenge – ballet dancing. In the third book, something sensational happens to the Šiaudelis family – they win a prize worth a million! Is this going to change the life of Lukas and his father?



PEPSĖ

PEPSĖ

ILONA EŽERINYTĖ | IRMA GINEIKIENĖ



Author: Ilona Ežerinytė

Illustrator: Irma Gineikienė

Publisher: Žalias kalnas, 2023
zaliaskalnas.lt

28 pages, hardback, 17.5 × 21.6 × 0.9 cm

ISBN 9786098310092

Age: 5–9

ILONA EŽERINYTĖ (b. 1964) was a teacher of Lithuanian language and literature for many years, before fully dedicating herself to creative work. She writes books for children and young adults. Her writing has a lyrical, allegorical quality, while her books for young adults feature striking psychological insights, which capture the characters growing up as their lives and values change. Her works have received acclaim from both readers and children's literature experts, and won a variety of prizes. *Sutikti eidą* (*Meeting Eidas*) was selected as the best book for children and young adults in 2016. She also received the Book of the Year for Young Adults Award for *Verksnių klubas* (*The Crying Club*) in 2018 and for *Skiriama Rivai* (*For Riva*) in 2019, while *Tetulė Liu* (*Aunt Liu*) was selected as the Book of the Year for Children in 2022. The author also received the Children's Literature Award presented by the Ministry of Education and Science. *Meeting Eidas* was included in the IBBY Honour List and has been translated into Danish.



IRMA GINEIKIENĖ (b. 1978) is a Lithuanian artist, book designer and educator. She is currently working as the Deputy Director of Education at Zarasai Arts School. Until 2021, she studied photography and media art, worked in advertising and publishing, created the design of books and magazines, such as National Geographic LT, and taught at Solent University in Southampton, United Kingdom.



This book tells the story of an unusual and adorable friendship between a hamster called Pepsé and a fur collar hanging in a cloakroom. It used to be a fox once and now it loves to go to the opera wrapped around the shoulders of its owner. The little hamster is inspired by this passion. Unfortunately, their mutual love for opera is interrupted when the owner announces that fur collars are out of fashion. Pepsé tries to cheer up his best friend and sings her an aria from an opera which he has memorised by himself.

The book subtly handles the questions of oblivion, the life and memories which things can contain, and cherishing one's environment, friendship and loyalty. Its atmosphere is beautifully conveyed by watercolour illustrations which intensify the impression of fragility and impermanence.

GROŽIS IR HEIZELIS

BEAUTY AND HAZEL

GABIJA GRUŠAITĖ | GINTAUTAS GRUŠAS



Author: Gabija Grušaitė

Illustrator: Gintautas Grušas

Publisher: Lapas, 2023

leidyklalapas.lt

128 pages, hardback, 15 × 23 × 1.5 cm

ISBN 978-609-81-986-76

Age: 8+

GABIJA GRUŠAITĖ (b. 1987) was born in Vilnius and studied media and anthropology in London. She spent seven years living in Malaysia, where she founded an independent art centre, Hin Bus Depot. Gabija has published three novels: *Neišsipildymas* (*Unfulfillment*, 2010, 2020), *Stasys Šaltoka: vieneri metai* (*Cold East*, 2017) and *Grybo sapnas* (*Mycelium Dream*, 2023). *Stasys Šaltoka: vieneri metai* was translated into English and Ukrainian, received the Jurga Ivanauskaitė and Penang Monthly literary awards, and was nominated for the Book of the Year award. *Beauty and Hazel* is the writer's first book for children.

GINTAUTAS GRUŠAS (b. 1992) studied stained-glass and sculpture at Vilnius Academy of Arts, where he obtained his bachelor's degree. He engages in various artistic activities, paints on walls and canvas, and creates ice sculptures. *Beauty and Hazel* is his first illustrated book.





This is a lyrical, poetic, and somewhat philosophical and allegorical story of two dogs – Beauty and Hazel – and their owner called Love. They travel together to the City of Four Seasons and the Good Life. In order to attain the Good Life, Changes are undoubtedly needed. Changes are happening in several spheres: in the physical sense, it is a long and challenging journey from Malaysia to a different kind of climate and nature, which brings a lot of new experiences and discoveries, such as changing fur, falling leaves, snow and the first flowers of spring. Changes also occur subtly in relationships – as a feeling of safety and home in a place where there's less injustice and more freedom to connect. But Changes involve losses as well as discoveries. Only by losing something can you discover something new, and you have to learn to accept this.

The book is constructed as a conversation between Beauty and Hazel, and a little girl Luka, who is also dealing with Changes in her life. Inspired by the dogs' story, she is able to face them with much more courage.

The text is perfectly matched by the illustrations, which create an impression of a very consistent, complete work of art, and a source of aesthetic pleasure.

MERGAITĖ SU ŠAUTUVU. ISTORIJA APIE MERGAITĘ PARTIZANĘ

THE GIRL WITH A GUN. THE STORY OF A GIRL PARTISAN

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS | LINA ITAGAKI



Author: Marius Marcinkevičius
 Illustrator: Lina Itagaki
 Publisher: Misteris Pinkmanas, 2023
 pinkmanas.com
 218 pages, hardback, 20 × 24.5 × 2.4 cm
 ISBN 978-609-96295-6-8
 Age: 6+



MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS (b. 1966) is a writer, doctor and traveller. In 2016 he made a successful debut as a children's writer. He has written many books for children and one for adults. His work has won a number of literary awards, including the Lithuanian section of IBBY Prize for the best Lithuanian book for children and young adults in 2020. His book *Akmenėlis* (*The Pebble*) was also included in the IBBY Honour List. His books have been translated into other languages and adapted for stage, and have become an inspiration for songs.

LINA ITAGAKI (b. 1979) is an illustrator, comic book creator and a flamboyant personality. She graduated in economics in Japan as well as in graphic design at Vilnius Academy of Arts. She is actively working and participating in exhibitions in Lithuania and abroad. The artist's debut illustrated book, *Sibiro haiku* (*Siberian Haiku*, 2018), received international critical acclaim, including the German Children's Literature Award in 2021. She illustrated Audra Baranauskaitė's book *Nukas*, which was selected as the best children's picture book in the same year. Her historical comic book *Grybo auksas* (*Grybas Gold*, with Rasa Grybaitė) received an IBBY nomination as one of the best books for children and teenagers of 2021. *The Girl with a Gun* won the Lithuanian Publishers Association Prize for the best illustration of the year in 2023.

Combining real events (the authors based the story on the memories of contemporary witnesses, including a partisan agent and freedom fighters) and fiction, the book revolves around the Lithuanian partisans and their fight for independence during 1944–1953. The happy childhood of the main character, a girl called Magdė, is interrupted by dramatic events. Little Magdė's parents are exiled to Siberia by Soviet officers. Due to a coincidence, the girl stays behind – she hides in a doghouse. Besides, her father has given her a task – to pass a secret package to her grandfather. Magdė is afraid to stay in her parents' house (which is taken over by strangers), so she moves into a partisan bunker. At first, she misses her family and struggles to settle in, but eventually she becomes a helper of the partisans because she knows how to do lots of things. She has learned them from her father, a Scout leader. For instance, she can cover up footprints, make a hook out of a needle and even catch a fish and bake it in clay. Magdė shows extraordinary courage when she needs to perform an operation on a wounded partisan (her shoemaker grandfather has taught her how to sew) and when she walks across dangerous swamps to collect explosives from other partisans.

The book paints a bold and open picture of the Siberian exiles, the partisans' death and loss, their ability to survive in difficult conditions, as well as the joys of childhood: staging a play in a bunker, taking care of a fox and its cubs, and so on. Readers who have never heard of the partisans, their heroism and dramatic fate, will have a chance to learn about the partisan movement in Lithuania after World War II and perhaps be inspired to discover more about it (the book's flyleaf features an interactive 'Pathfinder's map'). The book employs the form of a comic and describes the vivid emotions of the characters, their expressions and contrasting colours. The dynamic pictures will transport the children right to the mid-twentieth century.



PRIEŠ SROVĘ: SABIHA – ŽUVŲ DRAUGĖ

UPSTREAM: SABIHA – THE FRIEND OF FISH

VYTENĖ MUSCHICK, MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS | LINA ITAGAKI



Authors: Vytenė Muschick,
Marius Marcinkevičius

Illustrator: Lina Itagaki

Publisher: Aukso žuvis, 2023
auksozuvis.lt

72 pages, hardback, 16,5 × 23,5 × 1.2 cm

ISBN 978-609-8120-82-0

Age: 7+

LINA ITAGAKI (b. 1979) is an illustrator, comic book creator and a flamboyant personality. She graduated in economics in Japan as well as in graphic design at Vilnius Academy of Arts. She is actively working and participating in exhibitions in Lithuania and abroad. The artist's debut illustrated book, *Sibiro haiku* (*Siberian Haiku*, 2018), received international critical acclaim, including the German Children's Literature Award in 2021. She illustrated Audra Baranauskaitė's book *Nukas*, which was selected as the best children's picture book in the same year. Her historical comic book *Grybo auksas* (*Grybas Gold*, with Rasa Grybaitė) received an IBBY nomination as one of the best books for children and teenagers of 2021. *The Girl with a Gun* won the Lithuanian Publishers Association Prize for the best illustration of the year in 2023.

VYTENĖ MUSCHICK (b. 1972) is a translator, author of publishing ideas, and an enthusiastic publicist of Lithuanian books in other countries. She studied Lithuanian and Scandinavian philology in Vilnius, Reykjavik and Uppsala. She also graduated in Germanic philology in Budapest and currently lives and works in Berlin and Belgrade.

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS (b. 1966) is a writer, doctor and traveller. In 2016 he made a successful debut as a children's writer. He has written many books for children and one for adults. His work has won a number of literary awards, including the Lithuanian section of IBBY Prize for the best Lithuanian book for children and young adults in 2020. His book *Akmenėlis* (*The Pebble*) was also included in the IBBY Honour List. His books have been translated into other languages and adapted for stage, and have become an inspiration for songs.





Upstream: Sabiha – The Friend of Fish tells the story of a brave girl called Sabiha Kasimati, who grew up to be an even braver woman. Sabiha was living in Albania, and her greatest passion was exploring fish. But then the country fell under the rule of the cruel dictator Enver Hoxha. Because of his reforms, people were put in jail, killed and exiled. But Sabiha was not frightened of any hardship. She headed towards her goal like a wild salmon, determined and unstoppable.

Sabiha Kasimati is a historical figure, a scientist and ichthyologist. Her bravery and dramatic fate enchanted the creators of this book. The complex events of her life are told from an unexpected angle – from the point of view of a fish. It is a story about courage, fervour and creative inspiration. The book has also been translated into Albanian.

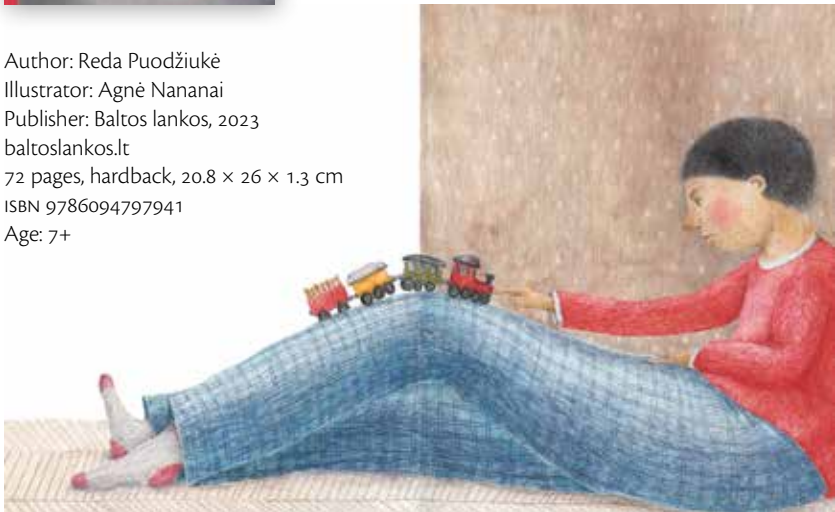
ŽVAIGŽDININKAS

STARBOY

REDA PUODŽIUKĖ | AGNĖ NANANAI



Author: Reda Puodžiukė
 Illustrator: Agnė Nananai
 Publisher: Baltos lankos, 2023
 baltoslankos.lt
 72 pages, hardback, 20.8 × 26 × 1.3 cm
 ISBN 9786094797941
 Age: 7+



REDA PUODŽIUKĖ (b. 1980) is a professional violinist, translator, and writer. She lived in the US for many years, where she studied and actively participated in musical activities. She is currently teaching violin at Balys Dvarionas Music School in Vilnius. While teaching children of various ages to play the violin, she is in constant communication with them and often becomes the keeper of their personal secrets. *The Starboy* is the author's second book for children, which was preceded by *Neeilinė diena Balioniškyje* (*A Special Day in Balloon Town*, 2021).

AGNĖ NANANAI (real name Agnė Kanašaitienė, b. 1984) is a graphic designer and children's books illustrator. She participates in international exhibitions, festivals and projects, and directs creative educational activities. Her illustrations have been displayed several times at the International Sharjah Children's Reading Festival (UAE), where in 2022 she received an award for the illustrations for *Paslapčiausia paslaptis* (*The Secret of Secrets*) by Evelina Daciūtė. These illustrations were also recognised by the award of the Ministry of Culture diploma in 2020 for most beautiful book of the year.

Tumas is nine years old. He always looks forward to Sundays, when the whole family gets together. But when his brother is born, the boy feels as if everyone has forgotten him. Tumas' heartache about his parents' lack of attention is so strong that it unexpectedly invites a guest from up above – Starboy. Tumas talks to his new friend about the loneliness and pain which is hurting him like a thorn. But when Tumas takes Starboy's advice, everything changes. The brothers become best friends, and life is filled again with colour and joy.

This lyrical fairy tale helps children understand that sometimes not everything is what it seems, that we must look at things from a different perspective. The book is dedicated to all children whose lives are turned upside down by the arrival of a younger brother or sister at home.

Agnè Nananai's endearing illustrations lend the book a special kind of warmth, and the pictures of a starry night are inspired by Vincent van Gogh.



SENELIŪŠTIS

OLD BOY

VYTAUTĖ ŽILINSKAITĖ | RASA JONI



Author: Vytautė Žilinskaitė

Illustrator: Rasa Joni

Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
almalittera.lt

112 pages, hardback, 17 × 22.2 × 1.2 cm

ISBN 9786090156087

Age: 8+

VYTAUTĖ ŽILINSKAITĖ (b. 1930) is a Lithuanian children's literature icon, one of the most renowned and popular children's writers with a number of national awards to her name. Three of her books have made it to the list of the hundred most significant children's books by Lithuanian authors – *Kelionė į Tandadriką* (*The Journey to Tandadrika*), *Robotas ir peteliškė* (*The Robot and the Butterfly*) and *Melagių pilis* (*The Castle of Liars*). In 2008, her novella *Kintas* was included in the IBBY Honour List. Three of her books have been selected as the Best Children's and Young Adult Book of the Year.

Vytautė Žilinskaitė graduated in journalism from Vilnius University in 1955. She worked for the popular magazine *Jaunimo gretos*. Her works have been translated into English, German, Polish, Czech, Bulgarian, Portuguese, Moldovan, Hungarian, Latvian and other languages.

RASA JONI (b. 1984) is a freelance designer, creator of animated films, script writer, and artist who has illustrated more than forty books for children and young adults. Her illustrations have won multiple awards in competitions for the most beautiful and artistic books.





Old Boy is a collection of children's short stories, compiled by the children's literature expert Dr Kęstutis Urba. It consists of the author's most artistic works which are also relevant to contemporary children. They depict everyday situations revolving around a child and create a multifaceted relationship between the reader and the child character. Sometimes it's sympathy, pity, compassion, at other times – an urge to teach them a lesson or restore justice. In every case, we can feel the author's kind and loving gaze. She doesn't avoid painful or problematic topics, such as alcoholism or neglect. At the same time, she depicts situations which make you smile and laugh, where children become too immersed in the roles of adults and get carried away. Whether they revolve around laughter or tears, the short stories share a wonderful writing style. They are true pearls of Lithuanian children's literature.

ADU
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YOUNG
LIT
ERATURE

ANTARKTIDOS INDĖNAI

THE INDIANS OF ANTARCTICA

JUOZAS GAIŽAUSKAS



Author: Juozas Gaižauskas

Cover design: Lina Lingienė

Publisher: Alma littera, 2023

almalittera.lt

176 pages, hardback, 14.3 × 21.3 × 1.9 cm

ISBN 978-609-01-5660-5

Age: 9–12

JUOZAS GAIŽAUSKAS (b. 1968) is a writer, actor, producer, host of events and TV shows, and composer and performer of songs. He is particularly well-known in Lithuania as an actor. In 2020, he published his first book for adults about a pilgrimage, *Dievas su šlepetėmis* (*God in Slippers*) and revealed himself as an original writer with a distinctive style. He chooses to speak about fundamental values, but all his stories are infused with subtle, warm humour.

The Indians of Antarctica is the author's first book for children, although it is not intended only for children. It is a bright and hopeful story for everyone who values truth, loyalty and courage, all the qualities which are embodied by Indians, especially the Indians of Antarctica.

Kleopas is a boy whose beloved older sister is gravely ill, and his parents spend a lot of time with her in a hospital ward. Meanwhile, the boy stays with his grandfather in the country. Kleopas doesn't mind this at all – he loves his grandfather, and the cupboard full of sweets, and the people who drop by their home. Soon, strange things start happening – a real Indian emerges from the fog and visits the country house; the boy finds a huge Indian crown made of white feathers; then he receives a couple of colourful feathers; and finally the grandfather disappears. Kleopas has no choice but to follow the track of smoke to find his grandfather and... Antarctica. He has no idea that his mission in this country is only just beginning and how much courage and wisdom he will soon be needing.



KAUKAS GUGIS IR SIELŲ AKMUO

GUGIS THE GOBLIN AND THE STONE OF SOULS

JUSTINAS ŽILINSKAS | GEDIMINAS SKYRIUS



Author: Justinas Žilinskas

Illustrator: Gediminas Skyrius,
map by Ieva Batrytė

Publisher: Aukso žuvis, 2023
auksozuvis.lt

359 pages, hardback, 14,5 × 21 × 3,2 cm

ISBN 978-609-8120-95-0

Age: teenagers

JUSTINAS ŽILINSKAS (b. 1974) writes for children and young adults, as well as adults. He is a lawyer and a university lecturer with a number of prestigious awards to his name. His fantasy book *Gugis – girių kaukas ir žmonių draugas* (*Gugis – The Forest Goblin and People's Friend*, 2006) was nominated for the Book of the Year Award and the Lithuanian Section of IBBY Award for the best debut. *Kaukas Gugis ir kerų karas* (*Gugis the Goblin and the War with the Sorcerers*, 2017) was nominated for the Book of the Year Award and won the Lithuanian Section of IBBY Award for the best young adult book. His historical novella *Mano Vilnius* (*My Vilnius*, 2015) was included by the International Youth Library in the White Ravens catalogue of the best books for children. It was adapted for stage at the Lélé Theatre in Vilnius. Žilinskas' novel *Bėgliai* (*Refugees*) was selected as the Book of the Year and the best book for children and young adults.

GEDIMINAS SKYRIUS (b. 1994) is an artist and children's book illustrator known for his distinctive style. The first children's book he illustrated was *The Glass Children* by Kristina Ohlsson (2015). Later he illustrated Neringa Vaitkutė's books *Miestas be padangės* (*The City Without Sky*, 2015) and *Devynetas tamsos nešėjų* (*The Nine Carriers of Darkness*), as well as the book by Maria Gripe *Tordyveln flyger i skymningen* (*The Dung Beetle Flies in the Twilight*, 2016). He is interested in fantasy and science fiction. He is the illustrator and lead storyboard artist of the animated documentary film *Aurora's Sunrise* (2022, directed by Inna Sahakyan), which won the Asia Pacific Screen Award as the best animated film. In 2023, he was nominated for a Sidabrinė Gervė (Silver Crane), a Lithuanian film award, for the best co-production.

NON-
FIC

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TION

KAS VYKSTA KOSMOSE?

Saulė, asteroidai, kometos, nežemiška gyvybė, misijos

WHAT HAPPENS IN SPACE?

The Sun, Asteroids, Comets, Extraterrestrial Life, Missions

GODA RAIBYTĖ-ALEKSA | NASA PHOTOGRAPHS



Author: Goda Raibytė-Alekša

Illustrator: NASA photographs

Publisher: Alma littera, 2023

almalittera.lt

96 pages, hardback, 20.5 × 25.5 × 1.3 cm

ISBN 978-609-01-5710-7

Age: 8+

GODA RAIBYTĖ-ALEKSA is a freelance science journalist and educator. She has dedicated her career towards helping society to better understand science and revealing how interesting it can be. *Kas vyksta kosmose* (*What Happens in Space*) is her first book for children and young adults, which can also serve as a rich source of knowledge for adults.

After visiting the NASA space agency and talking to the scientists who work there, the author seeks to introduce children to the latest research of outer space. With the help of powerful telescopes, spaceships and other advanced inventions, the scientists succeed in sending them to the most distant of places where no human has ever set foot. Not only to satisfy their huge curiosity, but also to find answers to very important questions: does life exist beyond Earth? If it does, might it present a danger to us? How might we protect Earth if a menacing asteroid was coming towards it? What changes might Earth undergo in the distant future?

This book introduces the most significant and recent astronomical research and discoveries. The input of Lithuanian astronomers to the development of astronomy is considered. Children are encouraged to take an interest in science and to better understand the way research is undertaken. Complicated processes, scientific analyses and their results are presented in a simple manner.



ANA KONDA?

(Ne)pavojingi Lietuvos ir pasaulio gyvūnai

ANA CONDA? DOES IT BITE?

(Un)dangerous animals of Lithuania and the world

MARIUS ČEPULIS | JURGA ŽELVYTĖ



Author: Marius Čepulis

Illustrator: Jurga Želvytė,
photographs by the author

Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
almalittera.lt

120 pages, hardback, 17 × 24,5 × 1,5 cm

ISBN 978-609-01-5615-5

Age: 7+ and the whole family

MARIUS ČEPULIS (b. 1974) is a nature photographer, blogger and writer. He is the author of a publication about nature and natural sciences for grades 5–8. He is also known for his playful, intriguing posts about animals, illustrated by creative photographs which he shares on his Facebook account, *Čepulio fotoklajonės* (*Čepulis's Photo Wanderings*). He has received multiple awards at the Lithuanian nature photographers competition, 'Gintarinis žaltys' ('The Amber Serpent').

JURGA ŽELVYTĖ is a designer specialising in graphic design, publishing and social design. She graduated in graphic design in Utrecht (the Netherlands). She is the creative director at the publishing house Alma littera and the founder of the consultancy group Anderrrr.



As revealed in its very first paragraph, *Ana Conda?* presents all the animals in Lithuania and the world which can cause harm to people in one way or another. It is written in the author's trademark witty style. Photographs of animals, birds and reptiles are accompanied by entertaining facts, engaging the readers from the first page. The author tells us in an intriguing way, with appeal to both children and adults, which animals bite, sting, kick, jab, pinch, scratch, burn or even shoot poisonous arrows. He also explains what one should do to avoid this. We also learn more about the animals' anatomy with the help of detailed pictures by Jurga Želvytė.



Aktinija su žuvisis klounais

SAULĒ – DANGAUS KARALIENĒ

THE SUN – QUEEN OF THE SKY

NIJOLĒ LAURINKIENĒ | ANETE BAJĀRE-BABČUKA

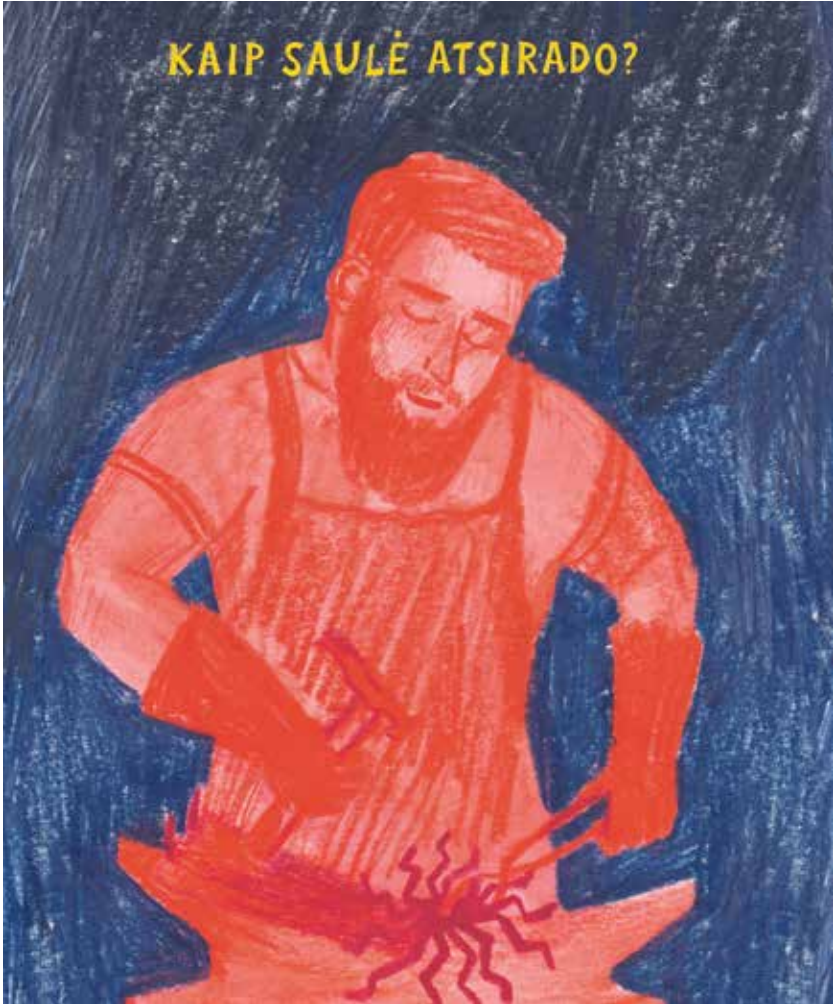


Author: Nijolē Laurinkienē
 Illustrator: Anete Bajāre-Babčuka
 Publisher: Aukso žuvs, 2023
 auksozuvys.lt
 42 pages, hardback, 21 × 26.5 × 1 cm
 ISBN 9786098120936
 Age: 6+

NIJOLĒ LAURINKIENĒ (b. 1951) is a folklore researcher and mythology expert with a doctoral degree in humanities. She has written a scientific study and several books about the Baltic world view and myths related to images of the sky and earth and the ancient deities Perkūnas and Žemyna. In 2019, she received the Jonas Basanavičius Award for her works.

ANETE BAJĀRE-BABČUKA (b. 1991) is a Latvian artist. She has produced a number of children's picture books. In 2022, she received the Latvian Jānis Baltvilks Award and was nominated for the Zelta ābele (Golden Apple-tree) Award in 2022. The artist finds inspiration in daily life, using little details to compose an impressive whole.





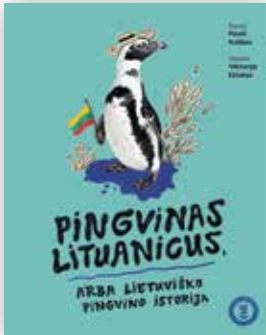
The Sun – Queen of the Sky is the author's first book for children. Drawing on archaic myths, she vividly describes the appearance of the Sun and introduces its family: its spouse, the Moon, and its children, the stars. She also tells us how the Sun was kidnapped, which explains why the period from October to April is so dark. The book mentions the traditional holidays linked to the Sun, which we celebrate to this day. Based on mythology, these stories help children of the 21st century to get to know their roots, and reveal the Lithuanians' Indo-European heritage and their affinities with other nations. This is a comprehensive handbook about the Sun.

The artist Anete Bajāre-Babčuka makes the book even livelier by adding comic elements to the narrative.

PINGVINAS LITUANICUS, ARBA LIETUVIŠKO PINGVINO ISTORIJA

PENGUINUS LITUANICUS, OR THE STORY OF A LITHUANIAN PENGUIN

PAVEL KULIKOV | VIKTORIJA EŽIUKAS



Author: Pavel Kulikov
 Illustrator: Viktorija Ežiukas
 Publisher: Lithuanian Sea Museum, 2023
 muziejus.lt
 96 pages, hardback, 22.1 × 27.6 × 1.4 cm
 ISBN 978-609-8295-09-2
 Age: 7+

PAVEL KULIKOV (b. 1981) is a museum expert and biologist who works at the Lithuanian Sea Museum and lovingly looks after penguins, seals and sea lions. This is his first book for children.



VIKTORIJA EŽIUKAS (real name Viktorija Dambrauskaitė, b. 1985) is an illustrator and author of comic books which feature a unique style. She obtained a master's degree in visual design from the Klaipėda Faculty of the Vilnius Academy of Arts. She has illustrated more than ten children's books and published a series of comic books about Klaipėda (*Memel Blues*). She actively participates in various projects and group exhibitions in Lithuania and worldwide.

In this playful book, a penguin Rūkas from the Lithuanian Sea Museum tells us the story of how penguins appeared in Lithuania, and introduces his friends and relatives – where they are from and what their everyday life looks like. He also shares the adventures they have all experienced and is very eager to convince readers that penguins are actually Lithuanian birds!

The illustrations by Viktorija Ežiukas give the book a playful quality. Just like the story, the pictures depict human versions of penguins: they are mischievous and like to show off. The book features photographs by the author which reveal how the book characters actually look. You can meet most of them in person at the Lithuanian Sea Museum.



AŠ



This book introduces us to the diversity of insects in Lithuania and its neighbouring countries. The previous volume in this series about nature, *Gyvo miško pasaulis (The World of the Living Forest)*, introduced us to the diversity of the forest – a separate intricately connected world. This time, the natural scientist invites us to explore insects, which comprise around 80% of all animal life, and new species are being discovered every year! The book encourages us to treat nature responsibly and to treasure it, and shares advice on how to look after species which are endangered due to human activity. The book features a generous selection of photographs by the author.

**Dalinės metamorfozės
vabzdžiai**



TADUKAS, TADAS IR SVAJONIŲ PAUKŠTĖ

LITTLE TADAS, TADAS AND THE DREAM BIRD

SELEMONAS PALTANAVIČIUS | AGNĖ NANANAI



Author: Seimonas Paltanavičius
 Illustrator: Agnė Nanainai
 Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
 almalittera.lt
 88 pages, hardback, 20 × 25 × 1.2 cm
 ISBN 9786090156377
 Age: 7+

TADAS IVANAUSKAS (1882–1970) was one of the most renowned pioneers of nature research in Lithuania. He founded the Nature Research Station, the Zoology Museum, the Cape Ventė Ornithological Station, the Žuvintas Biosphere Reserve and other sites. He was a professor at the Lithuanian University and collaborated with scientists worldwide.



SELEMONAS PALTANAVIČIUS (b. 1956) is a writer, natural scientist, photographer, environmentalist, and radio show host. Throughout his long career, he has published more than ninety books of fiction and non-fiction for young readers and adults. He is the recipient of a number of literary and other awards, including the Order of Merit of Lithuania.

AGNĖ NANANAI (real name Agnė Kanaitienė, b. 1984) is a graphic designer, freelance artist and illustrator. She participates in international exhibitions and competitions, and organises creative educational activities. Her illustrations have been displayed several times at the International Sharjah Children's Reading Festival, where in 2022 she received a prize for her illustrations for *Paslapčiausia paslaptis* (*The Secret of Secrets*) by Evelina Daciūtė.

This book introduces children to famous natural scientists from the period of the author's childhood in Belarus right up to the time of his death in Kaunas. It is related as a romanticised story which starts with little Tadas taking an interest in nature and immersing himself in research throughout his childhood. As a student, Tadas seeks to find his identity and decides to be Lithuanian. The story describes Tadas' research and expeditions, his country house in Obelynė, and his books. It traces his main biographical facts and the difficult decisions he had to make during the different stages of his life.

The book's illustrations reached the shortlist of the Bologna Children's Book Fair Illustrators Exhibition.



AKIMIRKA APSISPŖĘSTI

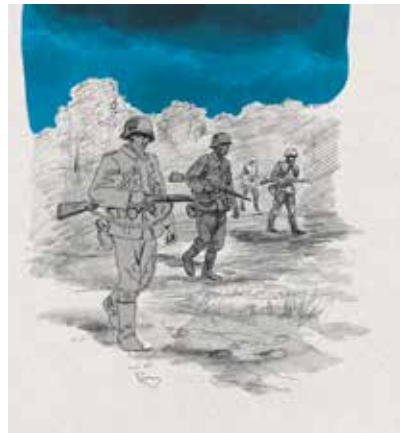
Lietuvos žydų gelbėtojų istorijos

THE MOMENT OF DECISION
Stories of Rescuers of Lithuanian Jews

ZIGMAS VITKUS | MINDAUGAS LUKOŠAITIS



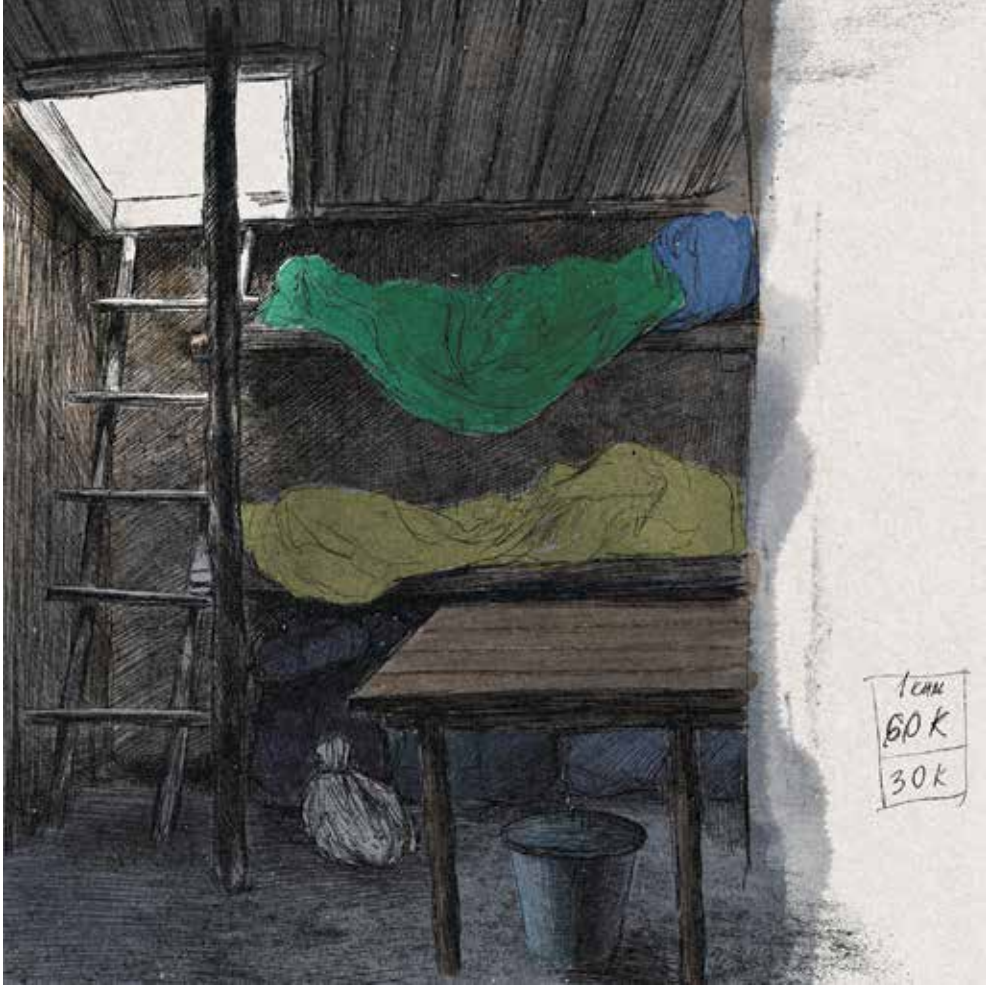
Author: Zigmas Vitkus
Illustrator: Mindaugas Lukošaitis
Publisher: Alma littera, 2023
almalittera.lt
184 pages, hardback, 17 × 24 × 1.7 cm
ISBN 9786090154205
Age: 13+



ZIGMAS VITKUS (b. 1979) is a historian and publicist with a doctorate in humanities. His research focuses on the remembrance of World War II, especially the culture of Holocaust monuments and memorials. He writes educational books for children. His aim is to talk about complex things in a simple way, helping both children and adults to discover the history of Lithuania.

Zigmas Vitkus received the Patriots' Award instituted by the Ministry of National Defence and the Lithuanian Publishers Association, as well as a Lithuanian Section of IBBY nomination for the best educational book for children and young adults, for his *Lietuvos valdovai pasakoja vaikams* (*Tales of Lithuanian Rulers for Children*, 2021).

MINDAUGAS LUKOŠAITIS (b. 1980) is an artist who creates graphics, sculptures, installations and other forms of visual art. Since 1997, he has been participating in exhibitions in Lithuania and abroad. His works are exhibited in the MO Museum in Vilnius, the Aušros Museum in Šiauliai, the Louisiana Museum of Modern Art in Humlebæk, Denmark, as well as in private collections in Lithuania and other countries. His works have focused on various episodes of Lithuanian history, including the Holocaust.



This book presents the history of Jews in Lithuania and the tragedy of the Holocaust. It revolves around those who believed in people and selfless kindness – it features 24 stories of the rescuers of Jewish people. The rescuers include renowned representatives of culture, art and science, as well as ordinary people whose decisions saved many lives. The stories of the book are particularly visual (such as the story of a girl who was smuggled out of a ghetto, asleep, in a potato sack). The book helps us to better understand the fact that, even in the whirlwind of big events, where a single person can sometimes seem helpless, each of our personal choices can still be important and meaningful.

The book is illustrated by Mindaugas Lukošaitis, who has created impressive portraits of the people described as well as their dynamic and often dramatic storylines.

**LITHUANIAN STATE SUPPORT FOR THE TRANSLATION
AND PUBLICATION OF ILLUSTRATED BOOKS
BY LITHUANIAN AUTHORS**

WHO CAN APPLY?

The programme is open to publishers wishing to publish a translation of the work of a Lithuanian author in their country.

WHEN TO APPLY?

Applications may be submitted twice a year, in spring and autumn.

HOW TO APPLY?

An application must be completed and submitted to the Lithuanian Culture Institute directly on its website www.lithuanianculture.lt. The application must be accompanied by:

- ☞ a completed application form,
- ☞ a copy of a contract or other kind of written agreement with the copyright holder(s),
- ☞ a copy of a contract or other kind of written agreement with the translator (if translation costs are applied for),
- ☞ a free-format description of the professional activities of the translator,
- ☞ a free-format document accompanying the application confirming the correctness of the information specified in the application and its annexes.

WHAT DOES THE GRANT COVER?

- ☞ Translation costs for the illustrated publication (up to 100%, but not exceeding 70% of the total budget for the publication),
- ☞ Costs of publishing an illustrated publication (copyright acquisition, editing, layout, design, or printing). The maximum amount of support is EUR 1000.

A call for applications and all the information related to the call is announced on the website of the Lithuanian Culture Institute www.lithuanianculture.lt.

For further information, please contact
Rūta Mėlinskaitė (Mélyně) by e-mail:
ruta.melyne@lithuanianculture.lt

Published by the Lithuanian Culture Institute



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