



APRICOTBOOKS

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2023





PUBLISHER
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Apricotbooks is a Russian publishing house focused on children, middle-grade and YA segments. We publish a wide range of books in different genres including contemporary fiction, detective stories, dystopian works, fantasy, steampunk and cyberpunk, among others.

We pay very special attention to the book design. Each book is a unique collaboration of the author and the artist. Among our authors you can find winners of international contests as well as promising beginners. Both children and adults read our books with passion. Our motto is to preserve childhood within the heart of every reader.

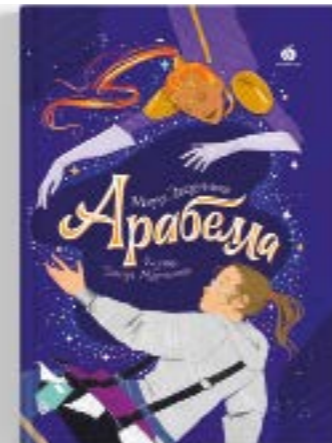
Our great selection of titles has been included in the Russian libraries' guidance list of the 100 best books for children and teenagers.

The company profile also includes culinary works. Our team publishes cookbooks, produces clips, brochures and creates a full range of content for corporate clients.

Eco-responsibility and preserving the environment are among our priorities. Therefore, we follow the standards of green printing.



HIGHLIGHTS



6

Arabella
by Maria
Zakruchenko



8

**Jenny Dalfin
and the Hidden
Lands. The
Girl and the
Chimera**
by Alexey Oleynikov



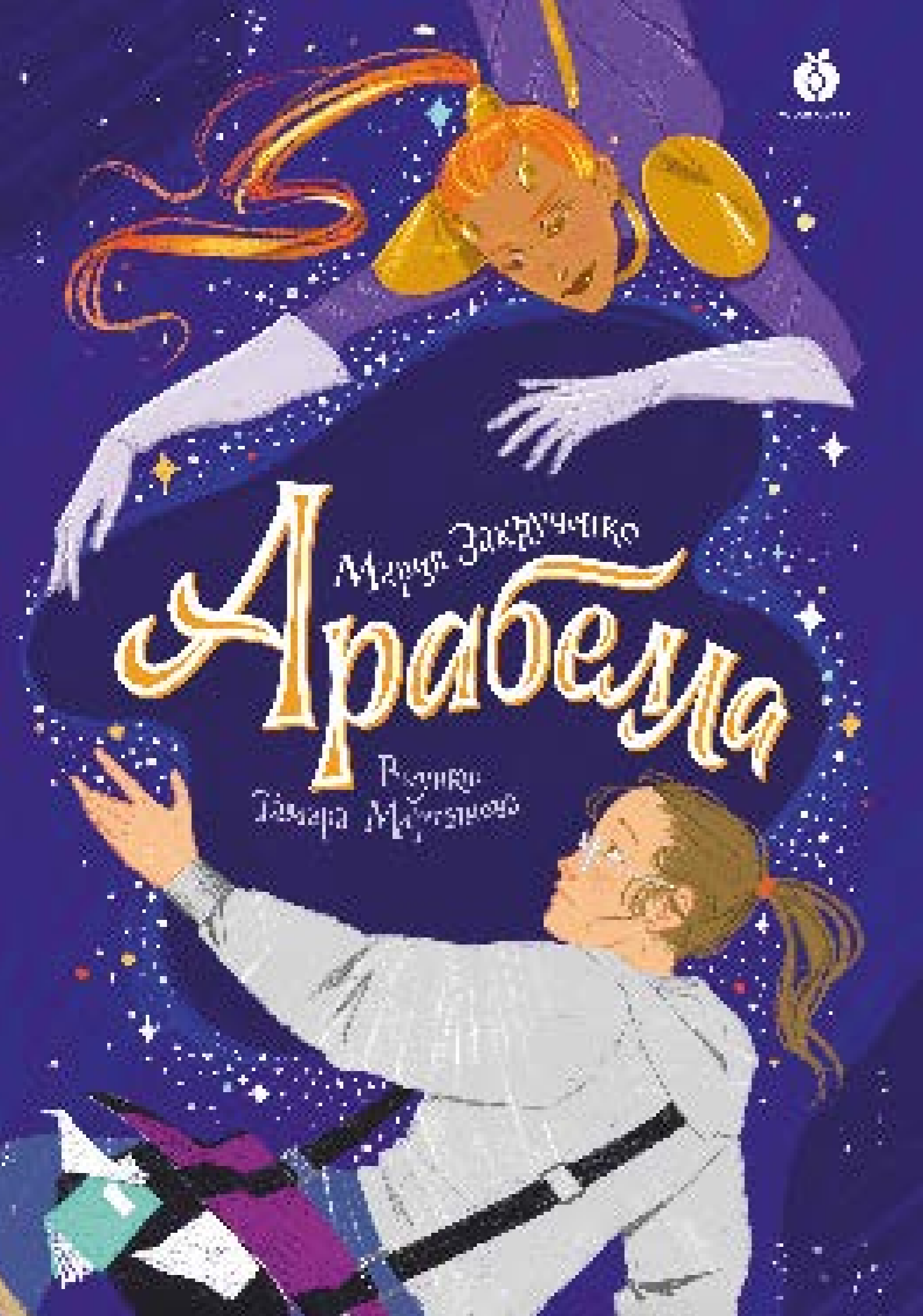
10

**Chameleon
Theatre**
by Lilia Volkova



12

**We are the
Virazhes!**
by Alyona Kashura



Arabella

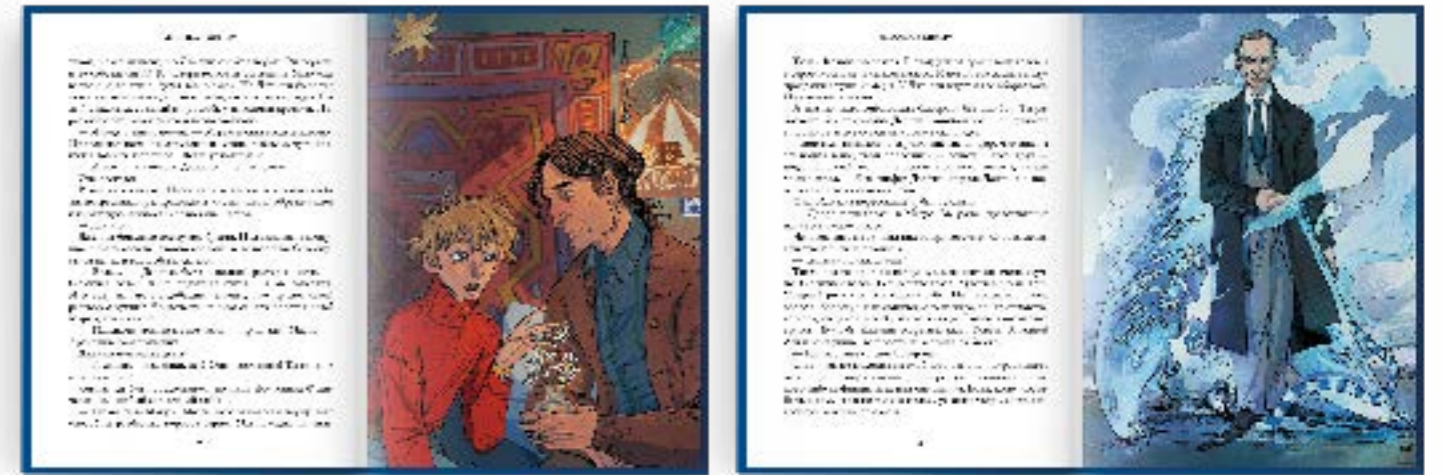
BY MARIA ZAKRUCHENKO

Sasha is 14, and she cannot find a place for herself anywhere. At home she has to put up with her high-strung mother and elder sister, and at school she suffers loathsome geometry and cruel classmates. But there's something that Sasha really likes — the sci-fi series “Fire Star” — and she plunges into this world completely. The main character becomes her best, albeit imaginary, friend. Sasha takes the name Arabella and joins a social circle of like-minded fans, finding new friends. This interest gives Arabella a real superpower — faith in herself. But where is the line between reality and fiction? What if the real world becomes more and more unbearable, and escaping into fantasy is easy? Sasha-Arabella has to find answers to these and many other questions...

Age category: 12+

Illustrator: Tamara Martynova

TAGS:
TEENS, FANDOM,
COMING-OUT-
OF-AGE, GIRLISH
VOICES



Jenny Dalfin and the Hidden Lands. The Girl and the Chimera

BOOK 1 BY ALEXEY OLEYNIKOV

Back in early August, her life was simple and clear: she, Jenny Dalfin, the granddaughter and assistant of the magician Marco Francelli, lived and worked in the circus big top. She had friends — the aerial acrobats Edward and Evelina, the strongman Ludwig and his assistant James. She had enemies – the animal trainer Roger, a rude boor, and his student Caleb.

But one night, everything changed. Jenny found out that smuggled animals were kept in the circus, and decided to release them. Who could have known that these were not simply animals, but magical! Whoever could have imagined that there was still witchcraft in the world, that their circus was not a circus at all but the ancient Magus brotherhood, and that she was a fully fledged member, meaning she should be severely punished for her offence. But first, the girl has to catch the ice chimera — a terrifying, magical creature that she released from its cage.

About Jenny Dalfin:

“Jenny Dalfin and the Hidden Lands” is a fantasy series about the young Jenny Dalfin who grew up in the Magus Circus. She knows how to throw knives and walk on a tightrope, she’s underwhelmed by tame bears and acrobatic stunts, and has been accustomed to wonders and illusions since childhood. But it turns out that there is some real magic behind the scenes. The Magus Circus is actually an ancient community of people who used to protect the world of people from the world of the first ones — supernatural spirits and monsters that existed before the appearance of humans. It seemed that magic was gone forever from this world. But one day she returns with the old enemies of Magus, who have not forgotten anything. They need Jenny Dalfin for some reason.

Age category: 12+

Illustrator: Tamara Martynova

TAGS:
FANTASY, YOUNG ADULT,
ADVENTURES, COMING-
OUT-OF-AGE



Chameleon Theatre

BY LILIA VOLKOVA

Bogdan's life is filled with previously unfamiliar feelings and unusual habits after a new pupil appears at his school. Now, after school, he follows the girl, Vasilisa, trying to figure out why she returns to three different houses and also leaves them somewhat changed. And then Bogdan gets lucky: in the new school year he can join Vasilisa in the humanities class. The new teacher, also unusual and unlike anyone else, suggests creating a real theatre in the class. Putting aside embarrassment, anxiety, and jealousy, the pupils write the play for the first production together. About what? Something you don't always tell anyone about, even a friend. Except maybe when you're on stage, playing a role.

The book is aimed at readers who are building their relationships with peers, relatives, and with the world.

Age category: 12+

Illustrator: Tatiana Balashova

TAGS:
TEENS, SCHOOL
STORY, STUDENT
RELATIONSHIP,
THEATRE

АЛЁНА КАШУРА

МЫ Виражи!



Фабрикобукс

рисунки
Тамара Мартынова

HIGHLIGHTS



We are the Virazhes!

BY ALYONA KASHURA

Just yesterday, life was going along as usual for the Virazhes. They lived in a large cottage on a lake's shore and knew no grief. But today they have nothing but a cramped caravan and an old car. It seems like life is collapsing: dad is not himself, the eldest daughter is dreaming of running away, and both mum and grandma practically never smile. They are swamped with problems...

But the twins, Malinka and Lomik, know that something incredible awaits their family! That's what the forest ghost said. Will the Virazhes have the strength and courage to accept the miracle? Will they be able to make it to the end? Let's go with them and find out!

Age category: 12+

TAGS:
MIDDLE
GRADE, FAMILY
RELATIONSHIP,
ADVENTURES,
FRIENDSHIP

Illustrator: Tamara Martynova

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS



16

Bravo, Woosh!
by Natalya Pesochinskaya



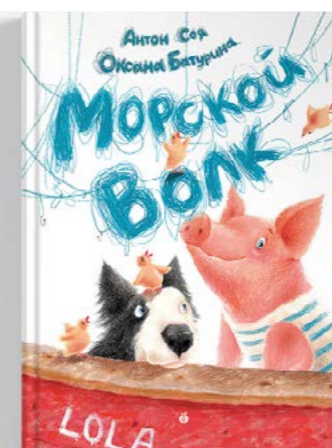
17

The Magic of Animals
by Polina Chernilovskaya



18

The PengVikings
by Anton Soya



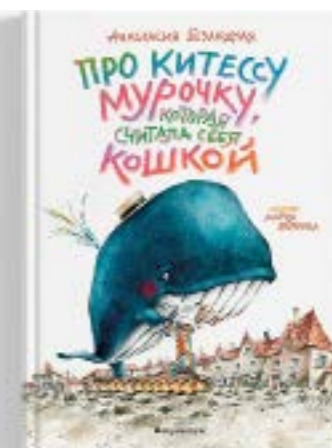
20

The Sea Wolf
by Anton Soya



21

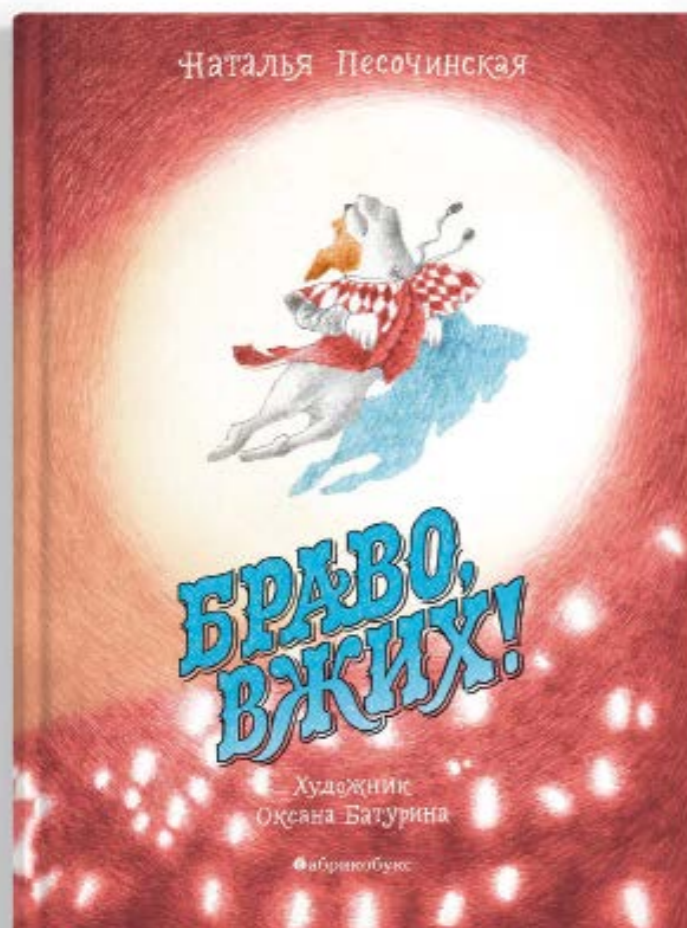
Henri
by Irina Zartayskaya



22

About the Whale Cow Murochka.
by Anastasiya Bezlyudnaya





Bravo, Woosh!

BY NATALYA PESOCHINSKAYA

Many people dream of becoming ballet dancers. But very few people get to dance on a big stage. Bulldogs are even less successful at it. More precisely, the first and only one who was able to do this was Woosh — a bulldog who spent his childhood in a theatre, in the make-up room of the mouse Matilda, a corps de ballet dancer.

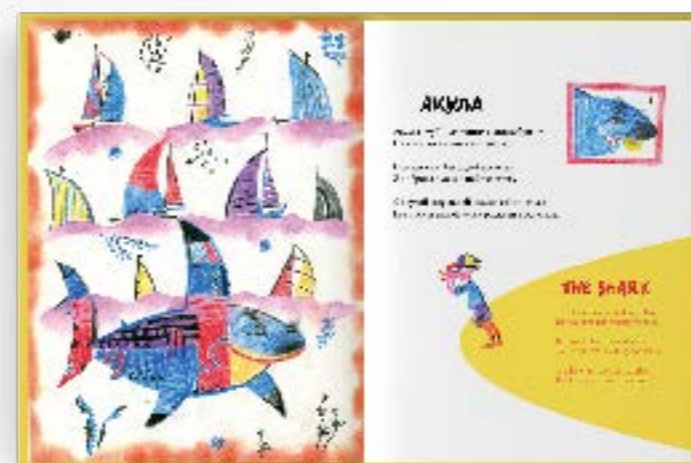
Maybe he was just lucky? Maybe he knew how to dream and work? Or maybe it happened because he got lost as a puppy and has been unafraid of difficulties since childhood?

And there are plenty of difficulties on the path to success – brutal passions simmer backstage! Woosh will encounter enemies: the minipig Unlikely, theatre director, and the narcissistic lion Meovev, ballet star. He will find a protector, the prima ballerina fox Lisetskaya, and meet the mastermind — the choreographer Monsieur Bravo, a gibbon. All of them, enemies and friends, will become his teachers. But he will become the main opponent and teacher to himself. After all, the path from a dream to its fulfilment can be traversed only on your own paws! And at the same time, find your purpose and a real home.

Age category: 6+

Illustrator: Oksana Baturina

TAGS:
PICTURE BOOK,
ADVENTURE
STORY, ANIMALS,
BALLET



The Magic of Animals

BY POLINA CHERNILOVSKAYA

This is a bilingual book of funny and vivid poems about various animals, written by Polina Chernilovskaya and illustrated by Sofia Dimand. Each spread contains a story about a new animal.

The book will be of interest to children and their parents studying English or Russian.

Age: 0+

Rights sold: Egypt (Arabic worldwide)

Illustrator: Sofia Dimand



TAGS:
POETRY, ANIMALS,
FIRST ILLUSTRATED
POEMS



The PengVikings

BY ANTON SOYA

One day a young penguin, Ping, finds himself at a polar station. The polar explorer helmet there told him about the Vikings, and Ping immediately decided to become a warrior himself, a menace to the sea, sharks and peaks, and go off in search of adventure. The penguin soon realized that he didn't have to go far to become a Viking, and that he could be a real Viking at home, helping those in need of protection.

Age category: 0+

Illustrator: Sergey Eitvid

TAGS:
PICTURE BOOK,
ADVENTURE
STORY, VIKINGS,
HUMOUR,
ILLUSTRATED
BOOK

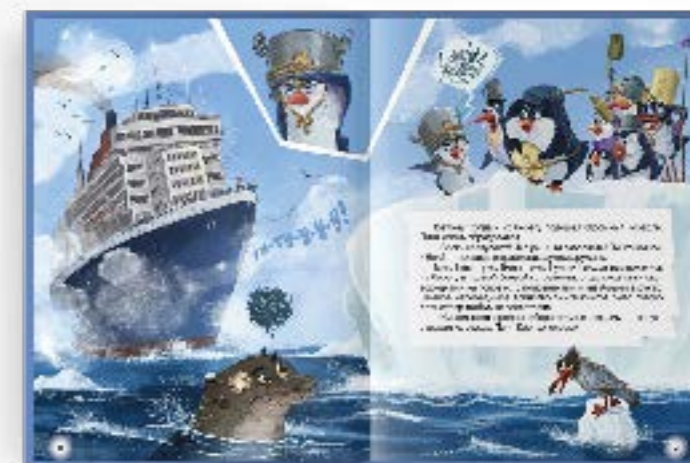
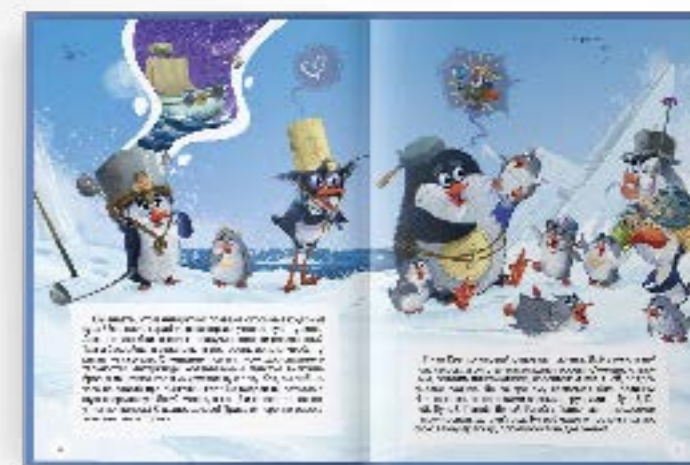


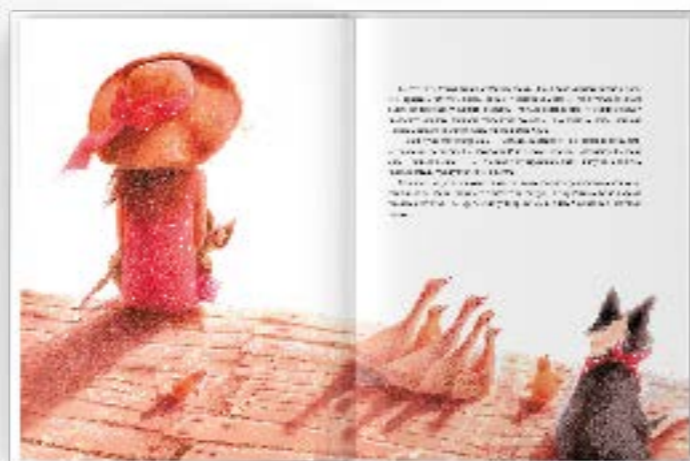
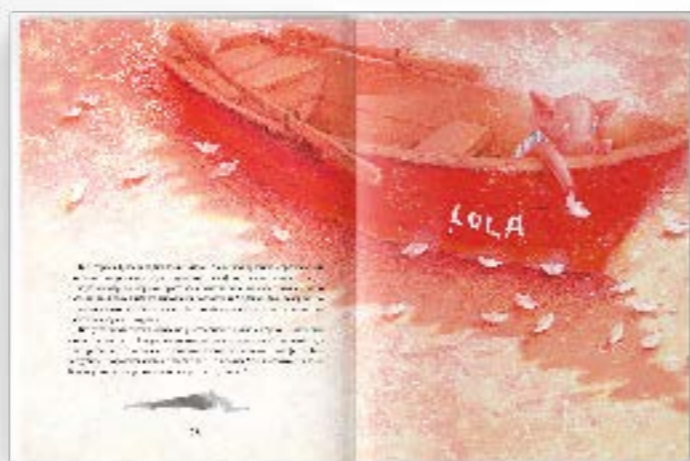
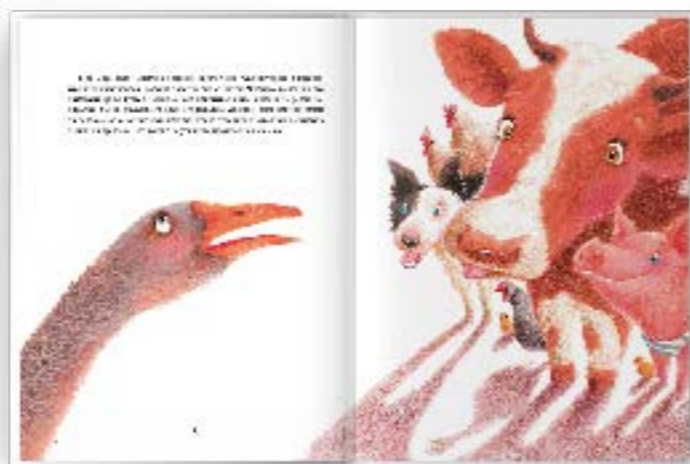
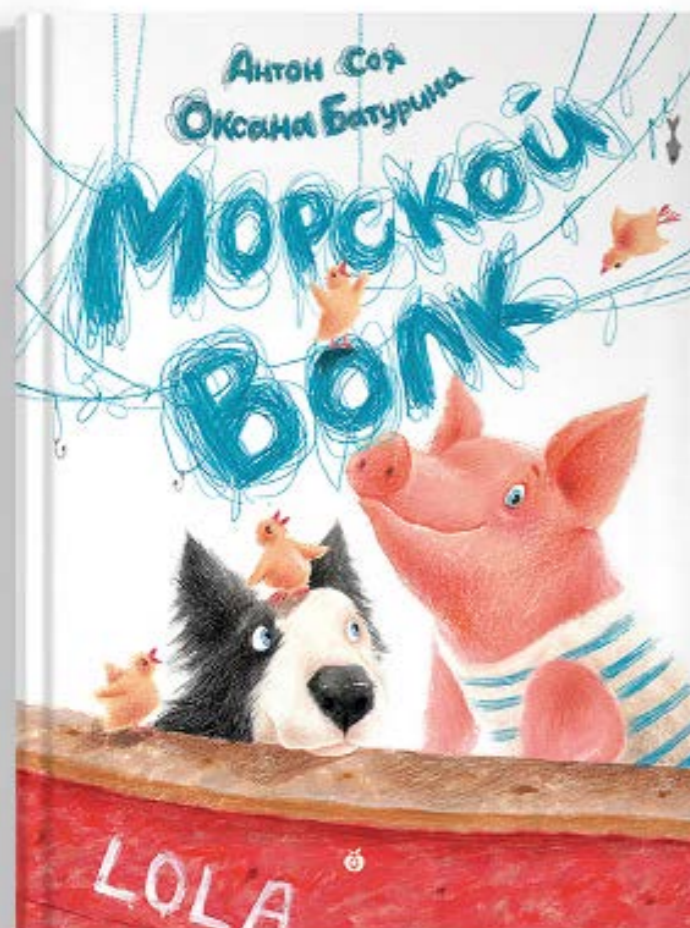
The PengVikings. Who Stole the Helmet?

BY ANTON SOYA

The fame of warrior penguins has spread throughout the world. More and more tourists began to come to the shores of Antarctica to take pictures with Pinya, Punya, Gunya and their friends. But once one of the uninvited guests stole ... a saucepan! To be precise, the famous combat helmet. Of course, the PingVikings will not put up with such a thing. Brave heroes will face a dangerous chase and a hot battle on board a cruise liner, which ending is completely unpredictable.

Illustrator: Sergey Eitvid





The Sea Wolf

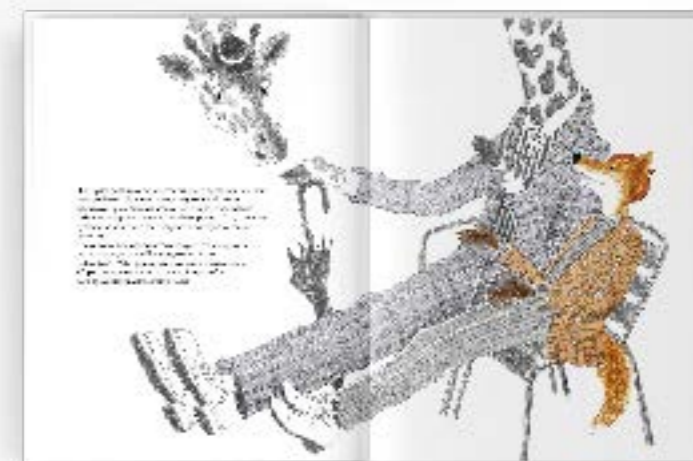
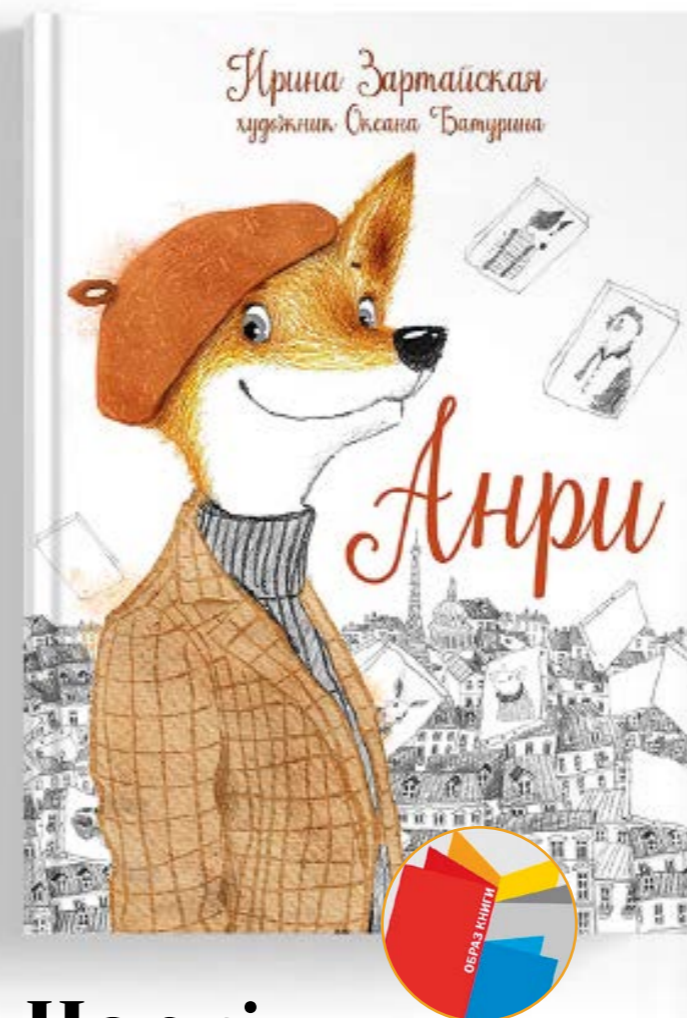
BY ANTON SOYA

Sea Wolf is an important rank. The story depicted in this book is important, too, and beyond that, very heartwarming and noble spirited. It is important as it depicts trust that helps one forget fear, and because it shows true friendship that withstands pressure. The story is warm, too, as it tells of a happy get-together and Summertime. The latter starts with a capital S, because events that may happen during several carefree weeks sometimes change us so dramatically that they create indelible memories for many years to come. It's no laughing matter to be afraid of water all your life and then suddenly start swimming non-stop! Yet most important is the story of dreams. As we know, dreams can sometimes inspire so strongly that even a chubby piglet may grow into a Sea Wolf.

Age category: 4+

Illustrator: Oksana Baturina

TAGS:
FRIENDSHIP,
ANIMALS & PEOPLE,
BULLING, READING
ALoud



Henri

BY IRINA ZARTAYSKAYA

Each of us sees, feels and remembers cities, countries, situations and faces in our own way. Much depends on background, experience and most importantly, companions. Irina Zartayskaya and illustrator Oksana Baturina's co-authorship gives the reader a rare opportunity — to take an easy and fascinating walk around Paris, arm in arm with an artist. It lasts only a day, during which the sublime Henri rushes through the famous Parisian coffee houses, starts a conversation with a philosophizing frequenter of parks, bursts into a heated argument at Montmartre, and at the end of the day gives in to that very special "Parisian" feeling. But before you even finish the last page, you will understand that this is only the beginning of your real journey into the mysterious world of art and beauty on the banks of the Seine.

Age category: 6+

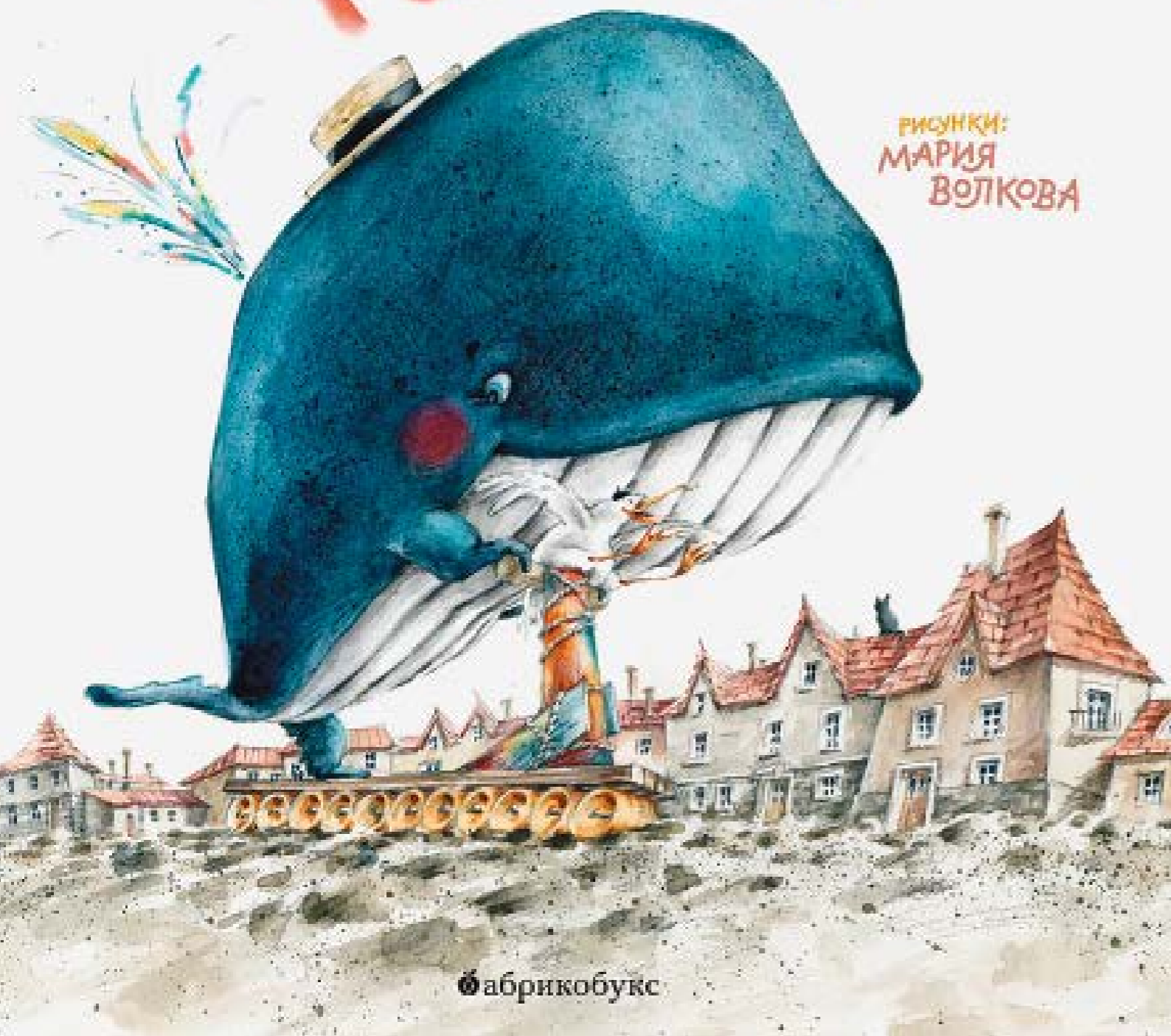
Illustrator: Oksana Baturina

TAGS:
TOLERANCE, ANIMALS,
EARLY READING,
ILLUSTRATED STORY

АНАСТАСИЯ БЕЗЛЮДНАЯ

ПРО КИТЕССУ МУРОЧКУ, КОТОРАЯ СЧИТАЛА СЕБЯ КОШКОЙ

РИСУНКИ:
МАРИЯ
ВОЛКОВА



абрикобукс

ILLUSTRATED BOOKS

21

About the Whale Cow Murochka

BY ANASTASIA BEZLYUDNAYA

This is a story about the adventures of the whale cow Murochka, who considered herself a cat. Murochka (who looks like a whale) thought she was a cat. To find out who she really is, Murochka went ashore and went on a trip around the city on a scooter. After reading the book, you will feel a little like a whale: together with Murochka, for the first time in your life you will taste fruit, ice cream, and juice from a Tetrapak, try on jeans, get acquainted with the bulldogs Mozart and Strauss, as well as the seagull Dai-Dai. You will also experience freshly squeezed poetry from the market poet Benjamin Violet-Concombe and the survival secrets of the Kvamarovs. In addition, you will find out how many pots you need to cook a whale stew. But don't worry, not a single whale was harmed during the writing of the book.

This is a story about friendship — Murochka was looking for herself, but found friends. That's all that matters. Indeed, sometimes even a large whale is very lonely in the vast ocean of many fish.

Age category: 7+

Illustrator: Maria Volkova



TAGS:
EARLY
READING,
ILLUSTRATED
STORY,
ANIMALS &
PEOPLE, WHALE
ADVENTURES

EARLY READING



26

Hello, Horse!
by Asya
Kravchenko



27

**Where are You
Running to?**
by Asya Kravchenko



28

**Peacock
on a Walk**
by Natalia
Yevdokimova



29

**The Terrestrial
Adventures
of Baby Mars
Rover**
by Marina
Aromshtam



30

**The True
Robot Vasya**
by Anton Soya

Hello, Horse!

BY ASYA KRAVCHENKO

Hello, Horse! is a cheerful kaleidoscope of both ordinary and incredible adventures of a horse named Zucchini, a small girl called Sonya and their friends. Among them are two worth mentioning in particular, the kittens Cross-Stripey and Down-Stripey. The whole clique can suddenly turn up in the most unexpected places, such as in a museum, or on a stable roof, or at the finish line at a horse race. The friends always manage to get away with it, to the loud applause of admiring spectators.

This edition of Asya Kravchenko's story is illustrated by the talented Tatiana Petrovska and is the second joint project of the artist and the author. The first story *Where Are You Running To?* was also published by Apricotbooks.

Several years ago, The Children's Radio produced a radio play based on the themes of Hello, Horse!

This story is intended for children of primary and secondary school age, as well as horses, dogs and cats of all ages, stripes and characters.

Age category: 7+



TAGS:
ANIMALS AND
PEOPLE, ADVENTURE,
FRIENDSHIP, EARLY
READING, HORSE
LIFE, ILLUSTRATED
ADVENTURE STORY

Illustrator: Tatiana Petrovska

Where Are You Running To?

BY ASYA KRAVCHENKO

Chizhik the Dog spent his first summer in a cottage with his owner Simka. With the coming of autumn, the family moves back to the city. Chizhik does not like city life at all and decides to return to summer and stay there. He follows a trail, but the trail ends...

Chizhik gets lost, then meets a homeless dog and fights for food for the first time in his life. But Chizhik and Lamplighter, his new acquaintance, soon start getting along well, and team up to lead the life of vagabonds. They steal food, chase cars and cats, and twist an army of quarrelsome grannies round their little tails.

Chizhik becomes a wild street dog who needs no people. Sometimes, he thinks that maybe people need him...

This new book by Asya Kravchenko — author of *Hello, Horse!*, *The Old House Tales* and *The Children of Passage* — is about dogs, of course. It's also a story about people, friendship and growing up. Furthermore, it's a fairytale of a big city as seen by kids.

The book features 24 illustrations by Tatiana Petrovska and a mini cartoon: quickly flip the pages to make the dog in the corner of the page run.

Age category: 7+

Rights sold: Egypt (Arabic worldwide)

Illustrator: Tatiana Petrovska

TAGS:
ANIMALS AND PEOPLE,
EARLY READING,
FAIRY TALE, DOG LIFE,
FRIENDSHIP, GROWING
UP STORY, FIGHTING
FOR YOUR LIFE



Peacock on a Walk

BY NATALIA YEVDOKIMOVA

Kids think, “Peacocks are cool!” Mothers think, “A peacock is a very big bird.” Mothers have no need for a peacock. They have their own cares. But children need a peacock, of course. How can they live without one?

Once there was a boy named Grasshopper, since boys often look like grasshoppers, and he thought about a peacock at night. The next morning, he found a real peacock sitting on the kitchen table...

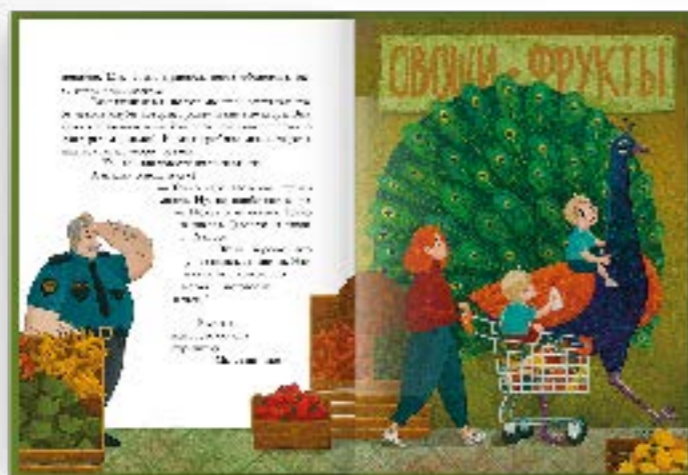
Grasshopper’s brother Pumpkin — so named since boys often look like pumpkins too — was incredibly glad. Grasshopper and Pumpkin thought their mother was also happy, and put their minds to thinking up some more interesting and useful ideas for the next night.

Peacock on a Walk is a book about the daily life of one small family. It is a story balancing infant fantasies and a mother’s fatigue. Fantasy wins, of course. And love, too. And a peacock!

Age category: 6+

TAGS:
EARLY READING,
CHILDREN,
PARENTS
RELATIONSHIP,
FAMILY LIFE,
BRIGHT

Illustrator: Eya Mordyakova



The Terrestrial Adventures of Baby Mars Rover

BY MARINA AROMSHTAM

Life isn't simple, especially when you're small... or if you're a homeless mini cleaning machine. Imagine you've been adopted by a family. You adore your mother. Her name is Lorry-ma, and she's the most beautiful, eco-friendly and kind-hearted lorry in the whole town. Best of all, she loves you. However, she loves the big crawler excavator Papa Eck as well. This is the first problem. Aren't kids supposed to come first? Even worse, Papa Eck doesn't like being discredited by you... Perhaps he simply doesn't like mini cleaners at all? How is it possible then not to act out of spite..?

Everything changes when a new Baby Mars Rover comes to the garage. He doesn't appear to be well suited for terrestrial life ... How truly hard but interesting life can be!

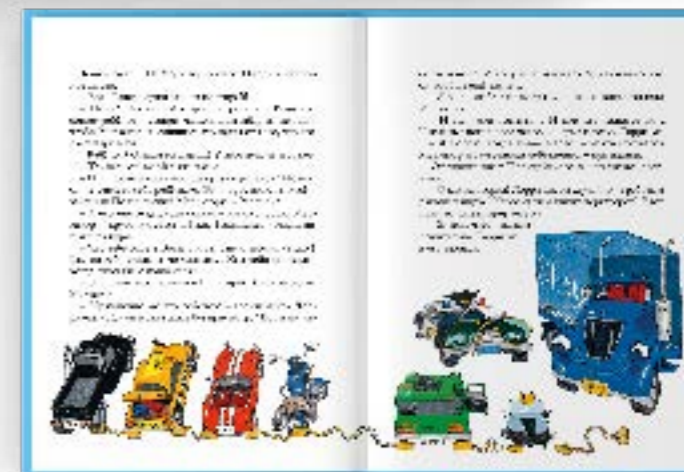
Marina Aromshtam is a writer, educator and chief editor at www.papmambook.ru. She has depicted a situation common for many families and recreated the action in the world of vehicles. It turns out that even the most insolent child can become responsible through the experience of caring for others and feeling parental trust.

Age category: 6+

Rights sold: Egypt (Arabic worldwide)

Illustrator: Sergey Gavrilov

TAGS:
SCI-FICTION TALE, EARLY
READING, FANTASTIC
STORY, ADOPTION, FAMILY,
ILLUSTRATED STORY



The True Robot Vasya

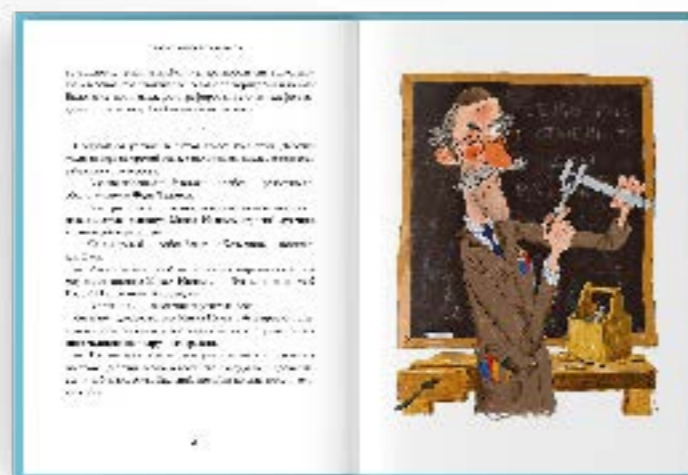
BY ANTON SOYA

Feed your family a tasty meal of food synthesized from air or make an old dream come true for your spy grandfather? Pass an exam for the whole class or do a 4D holographic broadcast in a boring biology lesson? Build a playground or organize a shelter for stray animals? Everything is within the power of the android boy Vasya, who tries to do only what is good and right. He is an ideal, caring, attentive and very smart superbot: he can graduate from school and become a teacher in just one day, understands the language of animals, recharges from a power bank, solves crosswords, cooks perfectly — and much more! But some want to dispose of Vasya because his intellect is too high...

“The True Robot Vasya” is a playful, touching and kind story written with warmth and sincerity. Each chapter contains a small lesson on life that can be useful not only for boys and girls, but also for their parents.

Age category: 7+

Rights sold: South Korea



TAGS:
SCI-FICTION TALE,
FANTASTIC STORY,
ROBOTS, ILLUSTRATED
STORY

Illustrator: Sergey Gavrilov

MIDDLE GRADE MYSTERIES & DETECTIVES



32

Beastly Crimes Chronicles
by Anna Starobinets



34

Eight Worlds
by Marina Yasinskaya



36

The Mysteries of Charmed Waters
by Yulia Ivanova



38

Tim the Wanderer, or the Agatha Detective Agency
by Oksana Silayeva



39

The True Story of Federico Rafinelli
by Oksana Silayeva



40

The Road to Tortuga
by Yekaterina Aksyonova

Анна Старобинец ЗВЕРСКИИ ДЕТЕКТИВ

художник
Мария Муравски



4 КНИГИ
под
одной
обложкой

абрнкобукс



THE
RUSSIAN
DETECTIVE
AWARD



AUTHOR
ANNA
STAROBINET'S

Journalist, film and television scriptwriter, author of thrillers and science-fiction works for adults, and fairy tales and detective stories for children.

In the Wolf's Lair Claws of Rage Predator's Rights Plucker Gods of Mango Beastly Tales.

- Rights sold:
- USA
 - Germany
 - Holland
 - Latvia
 - Estonia
 - Poland
 - Hungary
 - Czech Republic
 - Spain
 - Mongolia
 - Slovakia
 - China
 - Georgia

Film rights sold:
Canada

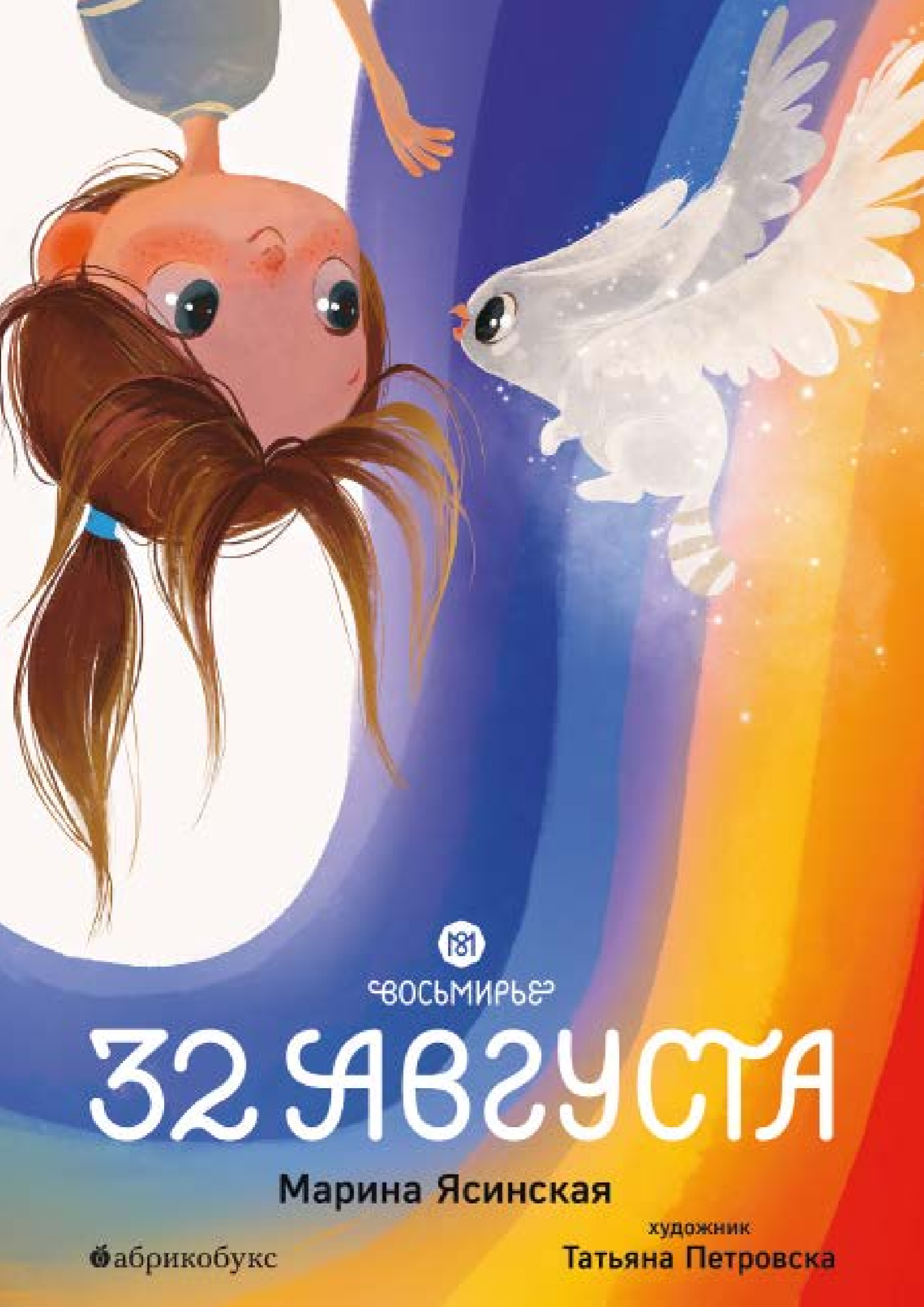
Beastly Crimes Chronicles

BY ANNA STAROBINET'S

Written in classic detective (noir) story fashion, the five books in the Beastly Crime Chronicles each consist of a mystery case in the Far Woods — a generally peaceful and funny, yet at the same time noir-esque universe, where Starobinets places her woodland animal characters. There are imposing lawyer owls, an antsy coyote waiter Yote who runs the Tree Knot Tavern, an informant Magpie, a psychoanalyst Mouse, frogs exchanging information through croaks, and last but not least a worn out, elderly detective Badger and his young and brash assistant Badgercat, a cat going through an identity crisis. The laws of the Far Woods keep life in the Far Woods calm, safe and mutually trusting. It is strictly prohibited to kill or eat woodland animals. Then, one day, as Chief Inspector Badger and Badgercat eat rain-worm carpaccio with a glass of mothito (a numbingly sweet cocktail made from fermented house moths) in the old Tree Knot Tavern, the frogs croak some horrible news: a Rabbit was murdered. Now the woodland detectives must find and punish the killer.

TAGS:
CHILDREN
DETECTIVE,
HUMOROUS
ANIMALS,
BESTSELLER,
INVESTIGATIONS

Illustrator: Maria Muravski, August Ro



BOOK 2

**Eight Worlds.
Night Rainbow**

BOOK 3

**Eight Worlds.
Dreams and
Missaries**

BOOK 4

**Eight Worlds.
The Sole of the
World**

BOOK 5

**Eight
Worlds. The
Labyrinth and
Wondertales**

August 32. Eight Worlds

BOOK 1 BY MARINA YASINSKAYA

Many years ago, the Eight Worlds were one. But then disaster came — the world shattered into Shards and now they are separated by a veil of dense, dark fog, into which no one dares to enter, except for the mysterious and fearless darkships. Ovo is one such world. Here calmness is cultivated, dreams are cared for, and laughter is baked. Twelve-year-old Vika arrives here on the last day of summer and does not know how to find her way home, in September, because the next morning in Ovo will be August 32. In the new world, Vika will find not only friends, but also enemies. Incredible adventures full of dangers await her, and readers will plunge into a world full of rainbow wonders and inhabited by unusual characters.

Eight Worlds. August 32 is the first book of a long and fascinating story about goodness, treachery and friendship, and how dreams must also be chosen and cherished.

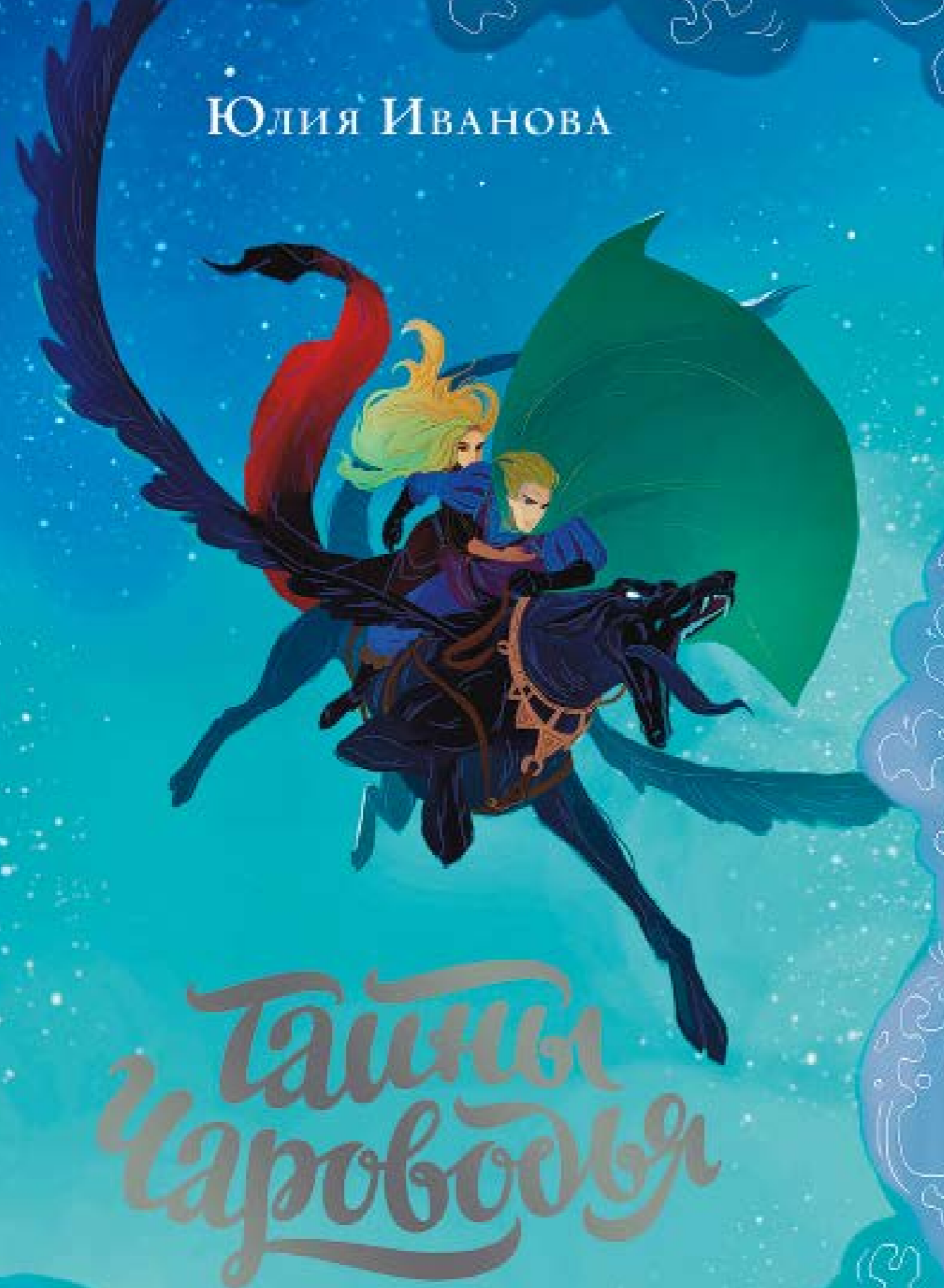
Age category: 8+

Rights sold: Egypt (Arabic worldwide)

Illustrator: Tatiana Petrovska

TAGS:
MIDDLE-GRADE STORY,
FANTASY SERIES, ADVENTURE
NOVEL

Юлия Иванова



Рисунки Татьяны Петровска

абрикобукс



BOOK 2

**The Mysteries
of Charmed
Waters. Friend
or Enemy**



BOOK 3

**The Mysteries
of Charmed
Waters. The
Exile's Hideout**



BOOK 4

**The Mysteries
of Charmed
Waters. The
Invisible Island**



BOOK 5

**The Mysteries
of Charmed
Waters. The
Choice of the
Strongest**

The Mysteries of Charmed Waters

BOOK 1 BY YULIA IVANOVA

Welcome to Charmed Waters! Here are the Seven Islands, harboring myriads of secrets. Everything is soaked in magic that can be controlled solely by Charmonites — living stones. Intrepid defenders ride winged draghounds to patrol the sky, while once-exiled chevaliers come back all of a sudden to get revenge for their long-standing grievances.

Elda lives in an isolated castle. She is unaware that a ghostly stone with three spirited sparks inside is a treasure she fell heir to after her mother's death. Someone is by all means trying to withhold the truth from the girl, but loyal friends help Elda to understand that the real world is not at all as she imagined. She will have to face the exiled, open a door to another reality, suffer betrayal from her loved ones, and find the power to go all the way to the end. Will Elda revive the declining order, solve all the puzzles, and distinguish real friends from betrayers? Read the whole story to find out!

This is the first book from the Charmed Waters series by Yulia Ivanova and cartoonist Tatiana Petrovska. This book is intended for middle school readers and for all who fly while asleep and dream of magical worlds.

Illustrator: Tatiana Petrovska

TAGS:
FANTASY SERIES,
COMING-OF-
AGE, FRIENDSHIP,
MYSTERIOUS
WORLDS, MAGIC,
ADVENTURE, LOVE

Tim the Wanderer, or the Agatha Detective Agency

BY OKSANA SILAYEVA

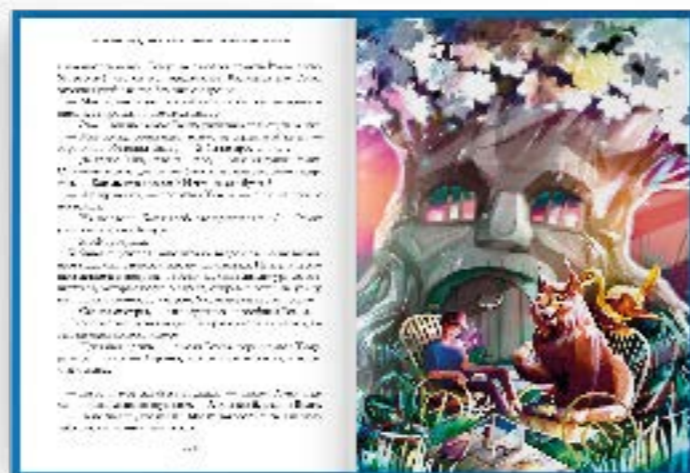
While scientists debate whether a dream is real or fictitious, Oksana Silayeva, the author of the fantasy series Tim the Wanderer, invites you to the wonderful world of Amalgam. Here, the logic of sleeplessness dissolves into the omnipotence of a night-dreamer. Almost accidentally, Tim came here to learn about the wanderers. He believed that any future could be changed. Every night the boy finds himself in a family detective agency in Silver Chestnuts Alley, (almost) fearlessly gets acquainted with the fantasy world and its inhabitants, and unravels “cases” worthy of Sherlock Holmes. Fortunately, he is lucky to have a mentor — a guide transcending universes, a family friend of four generations, a huge lynx named Pretzel. To sum it up, every night brings new sleuthing and adventures. You just need to have time to fall asleep and wake up. The book is for everyone who dreams of traveling to other worlds. To be continued!

Age category: 12+

Rights sold: Macedonia

TAGS:
FANTASY, MAGIC,
ADVENTURE,
ORPHAN HERO

Illustrators: Eugene Smolentseva, Natalya Elina



The True Story of Federico Rafinelli

BY ANTON SOYA



What's this book about? It's about Federico, a sad clown, the beautiful witch Nadira and the wicked imp Rumpelstiltskin ... and Rafinelli's circus, of course. There, in the colorful circus tent, some vegetarian predators, the world's only angry elephant, monkeys in cowboy hats, the Worm Man, an aged Snow White and her Seven Dwarfs have gathered together.

The story also tells that family is of great importance, even if your parents are a boisterous cannibal clown and a bearded clowness, that true laughter should be friendly, and that love and friendship save the world. The evidence is in the feelings that arise between a kind prince, a red-wigged clown, and a strange young lady with an eye patch.

One last thing. Far from everyone laughs at others' failures. There are way more good and kind people than wicked and evil ones — the former are just harder to notice.

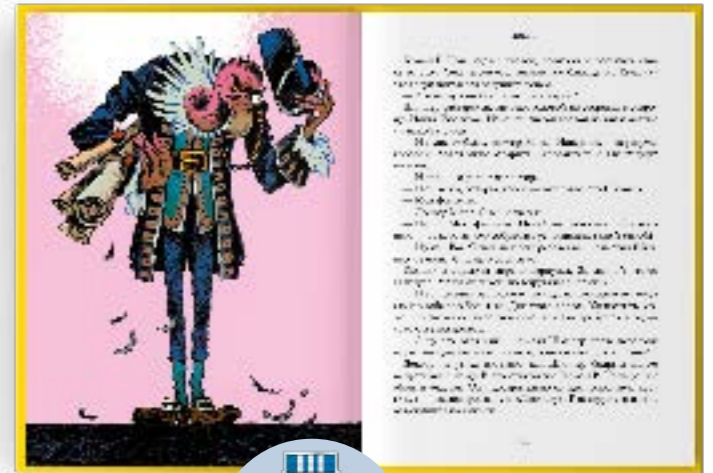
Age category: 12+

Rights sold: South Korea, Germany

Illustrator: Oksana Baturina

TAGS:
FANTASY,
FRIENDSHIP, LOVE,
ADVENTURE,
ZOMBIE,
TOLERANCE,
BULLYING





The Road to Tortuga

BY YEKATERINA AKSYONOVA

The developmental level of society is said to be determined by its attitude to children, the elderly and animals. This is what the warm, hooligan story “Road to Tortuga” is about. It tells of a boy who’s not needed by his parents, an old man who’s not needed by his daughter, and a dog who was brought to a forest to die. But they all need each other.

Tishka is nine years old, and his dad often says that children are nails in the coffin. That’s why the boy’s nickname is Little Nail. One day he meets an eccentric one-eyed old man, whom everyone calls the Goat Grandfather. But he turns out to be the cheerful and kind Skipper. The old man lives in a house that’s intended for demolition, on the edge of a brand new neighborhood. And he refers to his overgrown land plot as Tortuga — the island of pirates. Little Nail and Skipper become friends. But their cheerful life is threatened by the old man’s daughter Lara, who wants to send her father to a nursing home and sell Tortuga. She almost succeeds, but the friends escape. They embark on a dangerous river journey on a makeshift raft in search of the real Tortuga — the one in the Caribbean. Adventures, shipwreck, a night forest, a talent contest, illness and trials are in store for them. All to become a real family and find their own island of freedom.

Age category: 12+



AUTHOR
YEKATERINA
AKSYONOVA

Yekaterina Aksyonova writes literature for children and teenagers. She began her creative journey with self-publishing. Her first book, “Gde gulyaet veter” (“Where the Wind Walks”), was published in 2018 thanks to a crowdfunding project.

Illustrator: Alexander Utkin

TAGS:
MIDDLE
GRADE, FAMILY
RELATIONSHIP,
SOLITUDE,
ADVENTURES



TEEN & YOUNG ADULT FICTION



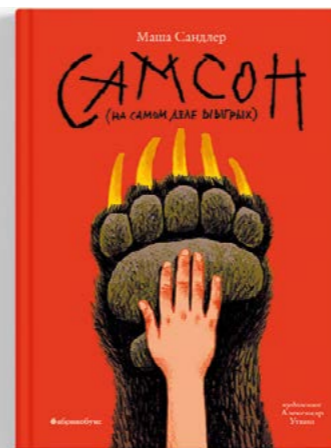
44

I Know Every Minute...
by Vlada Kharebova



45

When Angels Rest
by Marina Aromshtam



46

Samson
by Masha Sandler



47

Hare on the Runway
by Yulia Simbirskaia



48

Chimera Gene
by Maria Khramkova



49

Far Beyond the Forest
by Yekaterina Kagrananovna

I Know Every Minute...

BY VLADA KHAREBOVA

She turned out not to be Angela, although she was very similar to her: the same figure, the same gait, the same hair. Mark was mistaken. That's understandable — 12 years had passed. He followed her in vain. As a result, he ended up at the police station and had to write a statement. And he remembered everything — literally every minute. How in the hospital he first met the gentle and touching Elia, and then the beautiful Angela, whom he called a deer for her long, slender legs. How they escaped from the wards and sat in the attic for hours, chatting about nothing. How he couldn't decide which of the two girls he liked more...

He remembered a sudden feeling — a big, selfless one — and the day when everything changed. Vlada Kharebova's book is about empathy and a reminder of how fragile our world is. The story keeps the reader in suspense until the very last page.

Age category: 12+



TAGS:
YOUNG ADULT,
TRUE STORY,
NORTHERN
CAUCASUS, BESLAN
TRAGEDY

Illustrator: Oksana Baturina

When Angels Rest

BY MARINA AROMSHTAM

Everything could have turned out differently if Alina had not ended up in Margarita Semyonovna's class. It was Margarita Semyonovna, or Marsyom, who helped the boys to believe in themselves by performing a feat of feats against the Black Dragon. It was she who organized the first ball for the girls, at which Cinderellas turned into real princesses. It was she who taught her students to count with their fingers and toes, to love good books, to be friends... Marsyom also told them about angels, and how they need to rest. But they can only rest when their wards do not do anything wrong and do not get into trouble. After all, angels have so much to do around the whole world, they need to be free to go where help is really needed.

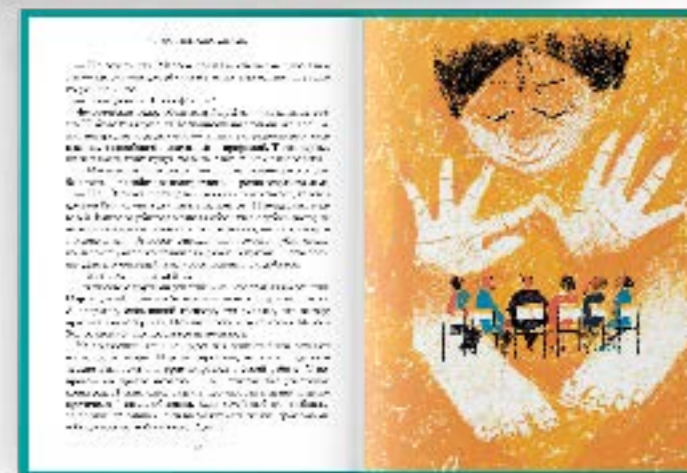
A lot happened in Alina's life before she learnt this: V.G.'s visits, the disappearance of magnets from lockers, unrequited love, and the appearance of a new student who disrupted the usual rhythm of life in the fourth grade.

Marina Aromshtam's book "When Angels Rest" won the Cherished Dream national children's literary award, received a children's appreciation prize for discovering and introducing "Reflection on the Little Prince" to the world of reading, was included in the Liked By Children of Leningrad Region list and the White Ravens list of outstanding books of the world compiled by the Munich International Children's Library.

Age category: 12+

Rights sold: China, Thailand, Ukraine

Illustrator: Sofia Dimand



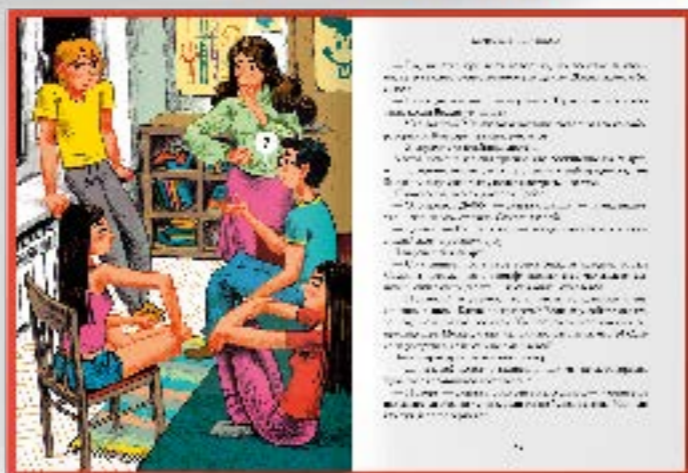
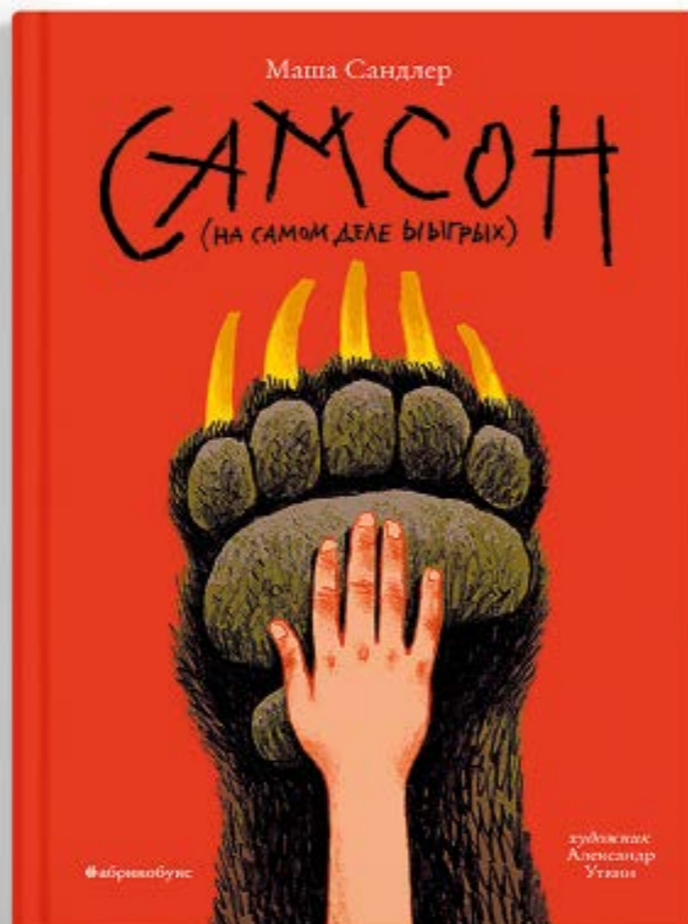
TAGS:
YOUNG ADULT, SCHOOL,
TEACHER-STUDENT
RELATIONSHIP, COMING-
OUT-OF-AGE

Samson

BY MASHA SANDLER

Masha Sandler writes prose for children and adults, lives in Kolomna, loves bears and the dog Moyva. The story that Masha tells in the story Samson couldn't take place in our reality, because in our reality animals don't turn into people, even for a short time. And no high school student in our world would be able to make friends with a werewolf-bear, learn its language and understand that the most valuable thing in the life of any animal is freedom. Even if that animal is homo sapiens.

Age category: 12+



TAGS:
YOUNG ADULT, FANTASY,
ADVENTURE, ANIMALS
AND PEOPLE, SCIENCE

Illustrator: Alexander Utkin

Hare on the Runway

BY YULIA SIMBIRSKAYA

The main character of this new book by Yulia Simbirskaya is a talented young woman working as a fine arts expert, who has almost lost her sense of self after several years in a difficult marriage. She has to escape, because life with her husband is becoming dangerous. Mia, her four-year-old daughter, loves her father deeply and wants to conquer the “monster” living inside him. At a huge airport where the mother and daughter go in search of shelter, they meet an old hare who lives the dream of voyaging, an aircraft fitter who is grieving for the past, and a photographer looking for his lost childhood.

The airport becomes an important locale completely transforming the pace of life of all the book's characters. In life, nothing happens by coincidence, and everyone can finally find their runway, to take off and leave their old life behind. Sometimes, breaking free is a matter of survival.

Age category: 12+

Rights sold: Georgia, Egypt (Arabic worldwide), Bulgaria (option)

Illustrator: Oksana Baturina



TAGS:
METOO,
SEARCHING FOR
YOURSELF, SURVIVAL,
CHILDREN-PARENTS,
YOUNG ADULT,
ABUSE

Chimera Gene

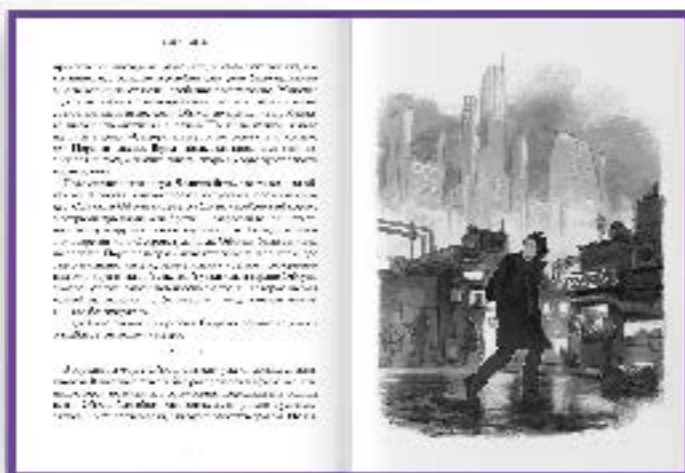
BY MARIA KHRAMKOVA

The action takes place in an alternative technocratic future, where people are divided into two social classes. Children under 16 with exceptional abilities belong to the First Class. They enjoy benefits, power, wealth, and immunity. The Second Class (adults deprived of the gift) have practically no rights.

Members of the opposite classes, Oytush and Sati dare to fall in love, but the price of love is the threat of capital punishment by an all-seeing ruler. And these two are not the first to take the liberty of throwing down a challenge to the superpower.

Age category: 16+

Rights sold: Egypt (option), USA (option)



TAGS:
YOUNG ADULT,
CYBERPUNK,
COMING-OF-AGE,
TECHNOCRATIC
FUTURE,
CLASS CONFLICT,
SURVIVAL,
LOVE STORY

Illustrator: Dmitry Narozhny

Far Beyond the Forest

BY YEKATERINA KAGRMANOVA

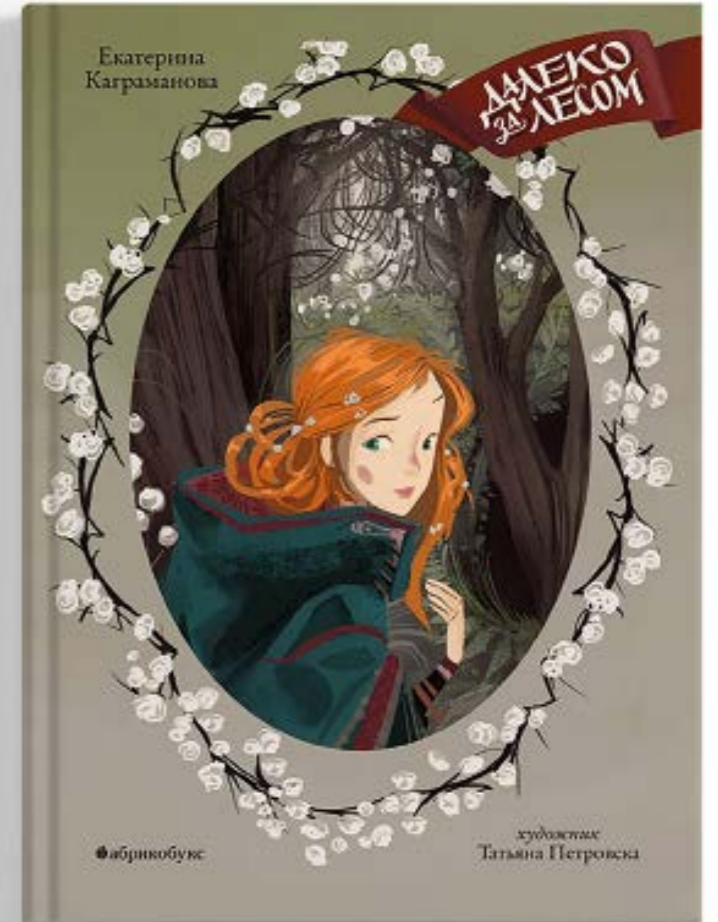
Maya stands at the edge of the forest. Trees are intertwined, forming a dark tunnel, which must be entered for some reason. Paralyzed with fear, Maya screams and wakes up. It's just a dream. But why does it haunt her for years, each time making her freeze in horror?

Maya would never have known the answer if not for her six-year-old brother. The forest is the boundary between two realities, and little Robby, accidentally passing through it in a dream, is now unable to find his way back. The only guide is Maya herself. She has just three days to find the boy. If she doesn't succeed, she won't be able to come back. And the worst thing is that strangers like her are considered monsters outside the forest and executed. Maya not only has to save her brother but also remember what happened to her many years ago.

The reader will have to put the pieces of the puzzle together with Maya, deciding who is a friend and who is a foe.

Age category: 12+

Illustrator: Tatiana Petrovska



TAGS:
FANTASY,
ADVENTURE,
FAMILY
RELATIONSHIP

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