

Best Lithuanian Books
for Children and Young Adults
2019–2020

Selection of the Lithuanian Section of IBBY

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BEST LITHUANIAN BOOKS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS 2019–2020

Selection of the Lithuanian Section of IBBY

Contemporary Lithuanian children's literature is flowing onward like a river, steady and relentless, making its way into wider international waters. Children's literature is becoming more and more visible. It is presented and discussed not only in expert circles but also on major media platforms. Its prestige is undoubtedly growing, and its artistic value and countless benefits for society's wellbeing and children's education are drawing increasing attention. This is largely influenced by the children's authors themselves and their bold, open communication with society.

It's worth beginning with the most significant and surprising events in the world of Lithuanian children's literature. First, there has been the launch of *Knygų startas* (*Bookstart*), a project based on international practice. Organised by the Martynas Mažvydas National Library, it has introduced the First Book Competition. The aim was not only to select the book to be gifted to babies born in Lithuania, but also to encourage publishers to meet the need for board books for children aged 0-3 by Lithuanian authors. It has been a great success! In the pages of this catalogue, you will find excellent new board books and more.

Although it didn't make its way into the catalogue, it's also worth mentioning *Knygiukai į pagalbą vaikams* (*Tiny books to the Rescue*). This unique project was launched in spring 2020, during the quarantine. The tiny books are miniature volumes which have been voluntarily created by almost 60 writers and illustrators and distributed as presents for children. Some of them were translated into English, spreading this valuable idea throughout the world.

But let's return to Lithuanian children's literature. Picture books must be the strongest current in our literary river.

New interesting talents plunge into picture books every year, searching for new forms and subjects. Their topics vary from universal truths and fundamental values for very small children to issues like bullying and even the Holocaust for older children. Picture books successfully open the door to the world for Lithuanian authors: every year there are more translations into various European and other languages.

The current of children's books is just as strong and bubbling. Lithuanian children's writers are familiar with the children's world, producing compelling works of both fantasy and realism. Luckily, the streams of poetry have recently been refreshed: poets who used to write solely for adults are now starting to create for children too. We enjoyed a boost of young adult literature a couple of years ago, although that has now returned to normal. A few new young adult books appear every year, which can usually be counted on the fingers of one hand. Nevertheless, it's not about quantity – what really matters is that the books offer relevant topics, find readers and bring a variety of new perspectives.

The catalogue features the most highly regarded and interesting children's and young adult books of the past two years: some of them have already received recognition and been translated into other languages, while others are brand new but already noticed by the experts in children's literature, waiting patiently for their lucky star.

Happy reading!



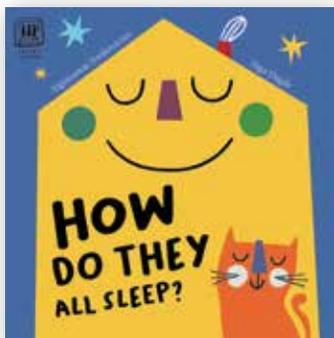
BOAR

D BOOKS

KAS KAIP MIEGA?

HOW DO THEY ALL SLEEP?

ALGIMANTAS STANKEVIČIUS | INGA DAGILĖ



Author: Algimantas Stankevičius
 Illustrator: Inga Dagilė
 Publisher: Žalias kalnas
 Kaunas, 2020
 24 pages, board book, 140 × 140 mm
 ISBN 978-609-95964-7-1
 Age: 0+

Third Prize, First Book Award, 2019

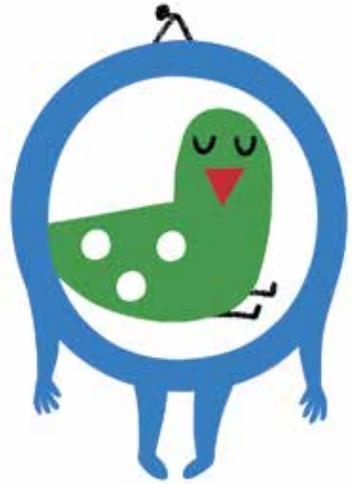
ALGIMANTAS STANKEVIČIUS (born 1972) is a father of a wonderful child. He is also an artist and a scientist in equal measure. He works as a photographer and creator of computer and visual graphics who consults and “grows” businesses and has made a debut in children’s literature.

INGA DAGILĖ (born 1981) is an award-winning book illustrator and graphic designer. She has won prizes at the Book Art Competition, in 2016, 2019 and 2020, as well as awards presented by the Lithuanian Section of IBBY, in 2016 and 2019. She has decorated eight books with her illustrations. Her work has also attracted readers all around the world. She attempts to follow the sense of emotion when creating a book, paying close attention to the balance between the text and the illustrations. In her view, the book’s content, illustrations and layout cannot be separated: they have to be a team.

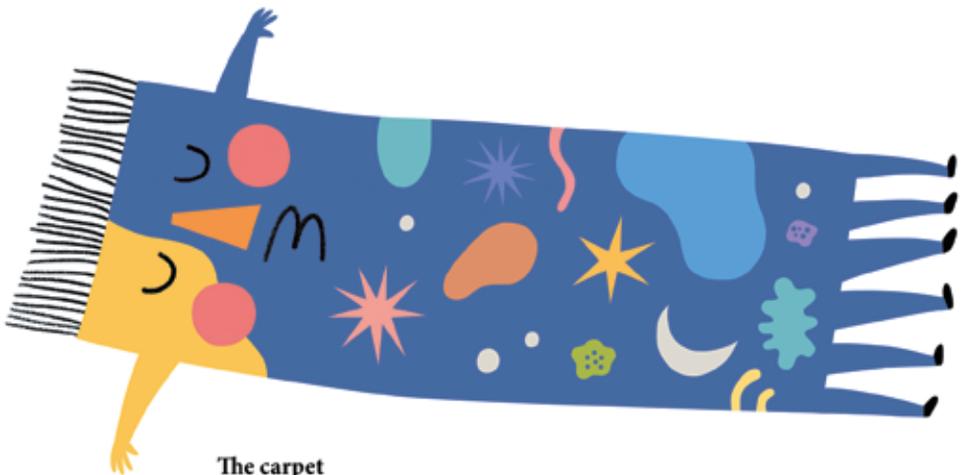


This cosy bedtime book presents a list of who is sleeping at home and how. It explains that a carpet sleeps while lying down, the paintings while hanging, and the table while standing. Everyone is sleeping – and it’s time for the child to sleep, too. The slow pace of the book and the rhythmic repetition of the word “sleep” has a soothing effect, putting the young listener in the mood of falling asleep, just like everything described above.

The artwork of the book has a cosy feel and is very professionally done. The illustrations are composed over the spreads, featuring a beautiful palette and memorable characters with a positive attitude.



The pictures
sleep hanging down.



The carpet
sleeps lying down.

KAPT KAPT KAPT

DROP DROP DROP

INDRĖ ZALIECKIENĖ



Author and Illustrator: Indrė Zalieckienė
 Publisher: Lietuvos nacionalinė Martyno
 Mažvydo biblioteka, Inb.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 16 pages, board book, 150 × 150 mm
 ISBN 978-609-405-194-4
 Age: 0+

Winner of the First Book Award, 2019

INDRĖ ZALIECKIENĖ (born 1978) is a creator of picture books. Her debut book *Kapt kapt kapt* (*Drop Drop Drop*) is distributed in the goody bags of the early reading promotion project, *Knygų startas* (*Book-start*). After becoming a mother, Zalieckienė, a professional economist and business manager, returned to painting and writing, which used to be her childhood hobbies. She created a series of car-themed children's pictures called *Cars for Mars* and is one of the authors of the *Crate & Barrel 2019–2020* collection for children.



Written in verse and designed to match the reading ability and needs of the youngest readers, the book focuses on simple and understandable things as well as the world of nature. As the rain falls, the onomatopoeic word *drop* is used repeatedly, helping the child to assimilate word play and become immersed in the story. The raindrops fall on a squirrel, a mushroom, a bear, and a little child. The ending playfully suggests endlessness, encouraging the reader to go back to the first pages of the book: „O jei vaikas nesuslāpo – kapt! Kartot nuo pirmo lāpo.“ (“If you’ve not caught a single drop, let’s go back, from the top!”).

The illustrations of the book are naively primitive, as though they have been drawn by a child. The book is dynamic, bright and lively, inviting children to get to know the world in all its variety.



Kapt! Ant genio nepavyko.

KAPT KAPT KAPT MIESTE

DROP DROP DROP IN THE CITY

INDRĖ ZALIECKIENĖ



Author and Illustrator: Indrė Zalieckienė

Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt

Vilnius, 2020

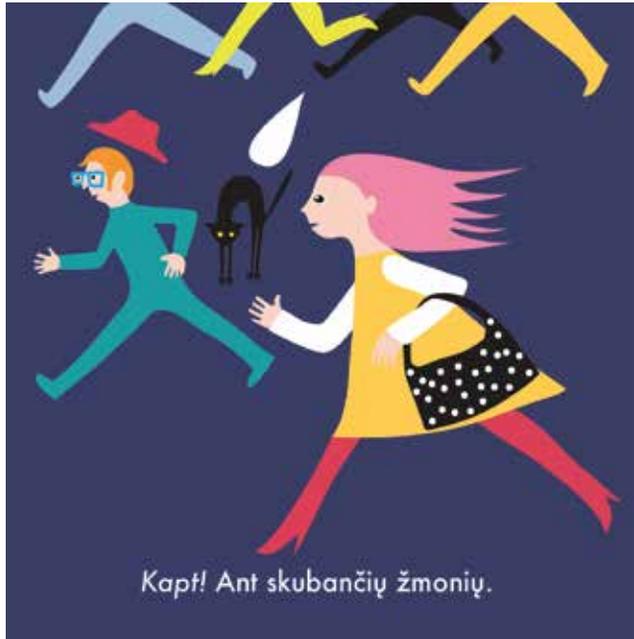
16 pages, board book, 150 × 150 mm

ISBN 978-609-01-4240-0

Age: 0+

This second book revolves around the city. Drops of rain are falling on the various things you can find in the city: traffic lights, apartment buildings, post-boxes, and so on. The child is acquainted with the surrounding world and eventually drawn into the action. As it starts raining, Mum and Dad take their little one under an umbrella. The second book features a similar artistic style to the first. Playful and bright, it invites children to get to know the city and its life.

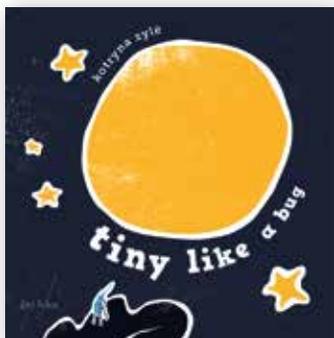




MAŽAS KAIP VABALĖLIS

TINY LIKE A BUG

KOTRYNA ZYLĖ



Author and Illustrator: Kotryna Zylė

Publisher: Dvi tylos, dvitylos.lt

Vilnius, 2020

16 pages, board book, 140 × 140 mm

ISBN 978-609-8232-18-9

Age: 2+

Second Prize, First Book Award, 2019



KOTRYNA ZYLĖ (born 1986) is a graphic designer who writes and illustrates children's and young adult books. The joy of her life is to be "constantly immersed in creative projects". She organises festivals, leads creative workshops and writes literary blogs. Secrets of mythology are her passion, which she presents in her work in very unexpected ways through the real life of the contemporary world. She has written and illustrated four books. This is her first picture book.

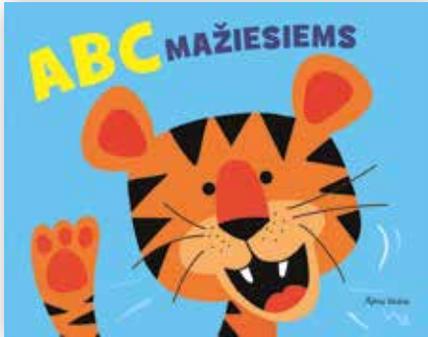
The tiny bug's life is small and cosy – he was born in an acorn. But as he grows, the little one discovers that the world is much bigger than he could ever have thought. This book is suitable for the youngest readers, as well as older ones. The former will experience the cosiness of the book and get to know the protagonist and his journey, while the latter, with the help of an adult, will be able to unlock the book's deeper, philosophical layers. The author weaves the text and the artwork tightly into an organic combination. The book's artistic manner is well thought through, featuring a subtle colour scheme, natural earth tones and nuanced contrasts. The light and soft contours of the characters and their surroundings blend together to create the exceptional style of the book.



ABC MAŽIESIEMS

ABC FOR CHILDREN

GRETA ALICE

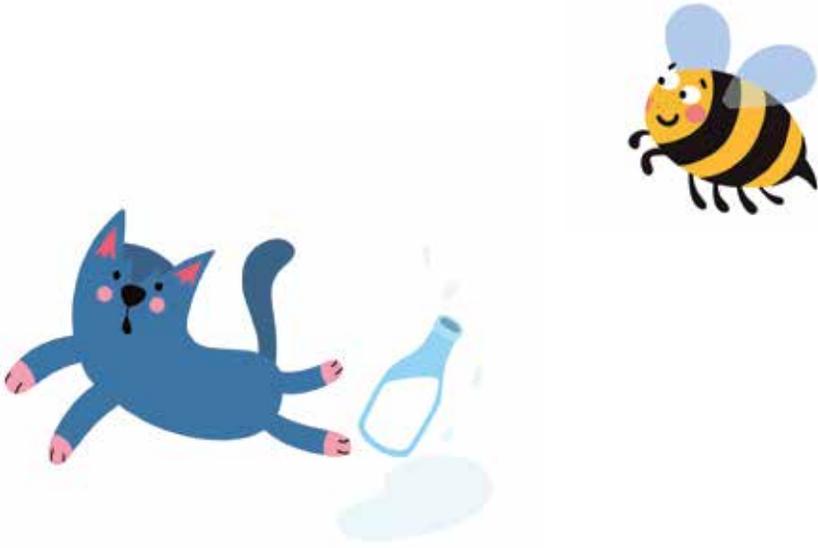


Author and Illustrator: Greta Alice
Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt
Vilnius, 2019
32 pages, board book, 220 × 170 mm
ISBN 978-609-01-3704-8
Age: 4+

GRETA ALICE (born 1992) graduated in graphic arts from Vilnius Academy of Arts and manages a creative studio for children and young adults. She creates play books, as well as educational, colouring and comic books and illustrates the works of other authors.

Her alphabet book presents smooth compositions, together with a trademark light drawing style, coloristic images, visual graphics and an exceptional print quality.

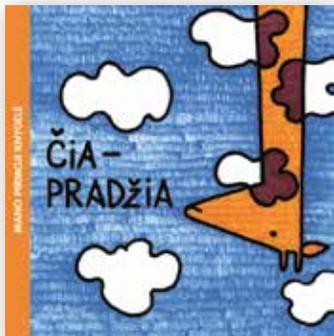




ČIA – PRADŽIA, ČIA – NE PABAIGA

THIS IS THE BEGINNING, THIS IS NOT THE END

KRISTINA RINKEVIČIŪTĖ | MONIKA ŠLANČAUSKAITĖ



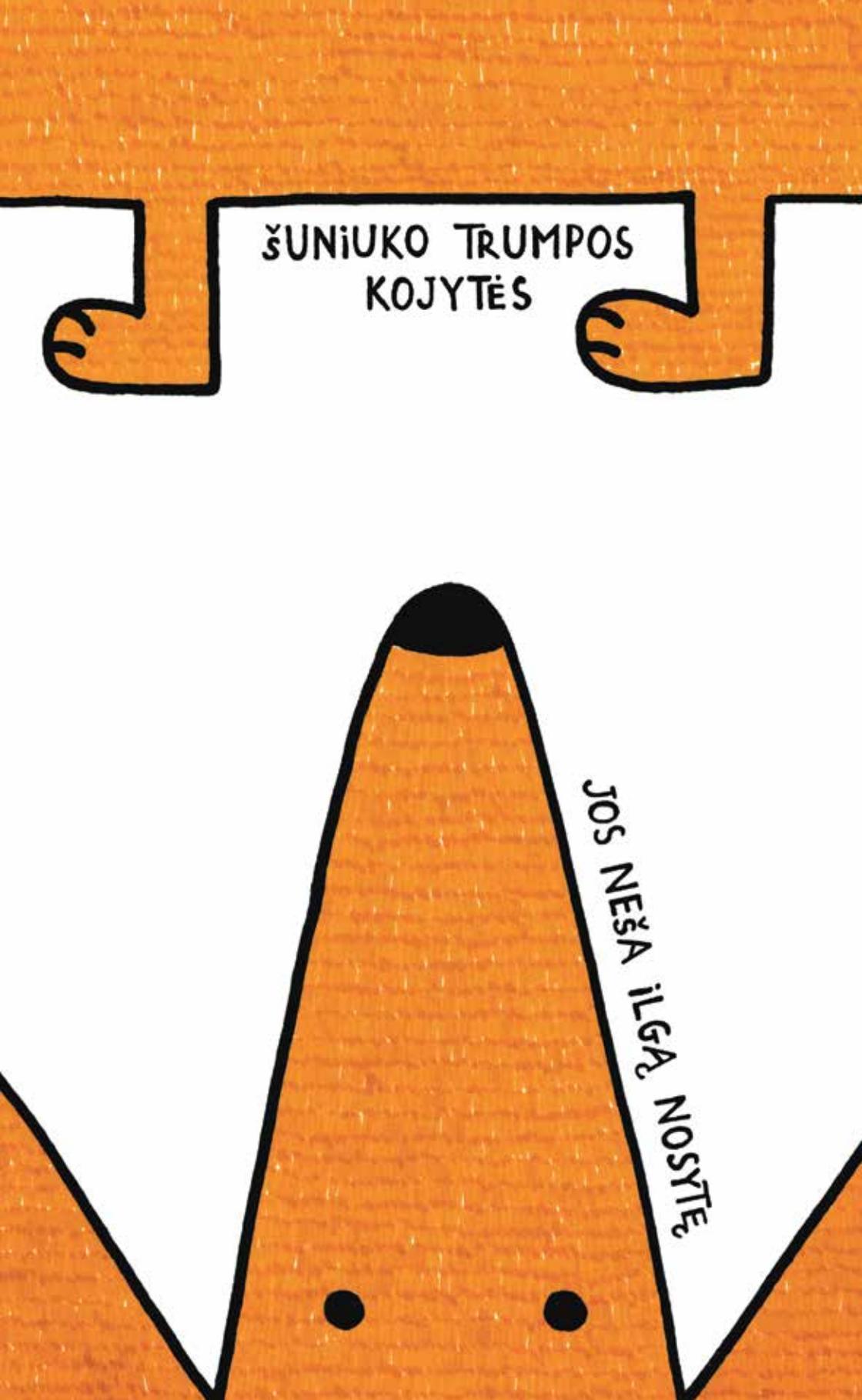
Authors and Illustrators: Kristina Rinkevičiūtė, Monika Šlančiauskaitė
 Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 20 pages, board book, 160 x 160 mm
 ISBN 978-609-01-4121-2
 Age: 0+



The designer **KRISTINA RINKEVIČIŪTĖ** (born 1992) and artist **MONIKA ŠLANČAUSKAITĖ** (born 1980) entered this book for the First Book Award competition. Maintaining an open and creative view of the world, Monika curates exhibitions, writes, draws, illustrates and creates handmade books. Her list includes three illustrated children's books. *Luizianos paslaptis. Kaip išgelbėti užburtąjį orkestrą* (*The Secret of Louisiana. How to Save the Enchanted Orchestra*) was selected as Klaipėda's most popular book in 2019.

Every spread of this board book is a new observation about the world that surrounds us. A child is presented with an object of nature or an animal, accompanied by an explanation of what it does or denoting a certain feature. For instance: „Kyšo zuikio ausytės. Jis graužia morkytę.“ (“Rabbit’s ears are protruding from a carrot he’s consuming”). The book is very simple, with impeccable rhymes, and matches the abilities and needs of very young readers.

At first glance, the artistic presentation of the book seems almost primitive – simple illustrations drawn with schematic contours and coloured with felt-tips. But taken as a whole, the book is exceptionally creative and artistically playful, strongly accentuating the educational aspects.

A cartoon illustration of a dog's head, colored orange with a textured pattern. The dog has a black nose and two black dots for eyes. Its paws are also orange with black outlines and are positioned at the top of the frame. The text is written in Lithuanian.

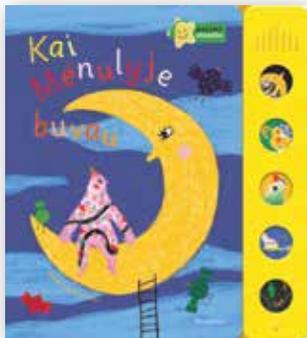
ŠUNIUKO TRUMPOS
KOJYTĖS

JOS NEŠA ILGĄ NOSYTĖ

KAI MĒNULYJE BUVAU

WHEN I WENT TO THE MOON

A COLLECTION OF AUDIO POEMS



Authors: Sigitas Geda, Alma Karosaitė,
Justinas Marcinkevičius, Violeta Palčinskaitė
Illustrators: Agnė Nananai
Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt
Vilnius, 2020
12 pages, board book, 250 × 230 mm
ISBN 978-609-01-4097-0
Age: 2+



AGNĖ NANANAI (born 1984) graduated in applied graphic arts. She is, above all, a versatile artist: a designer, an illustrator, a handicraftswoman, and a designer of toys and jewellery. She has illustrated around twenty fiction books, play books and educational books for children and young adults. With her illustrations, she attempts to expand the literary work so that children have something to explore and admire.



This audio book contains five poems regarded as Lithuanian children's poetry classics. The poems focus on the world of children and the reality of their everyday life: children are dreaming of lemonade rivers, chocolate mountains and little cars, and trying to count their little fingers.

The illustrations demonstrate the artist's cosy and expressive style: vivid characters, playful and dynamic compositions, and a balanced connection between the text and the images.



KIŠKIŲ TROLEIBUSAI

THE RABBIT TROLLEYBUSES

A COLLECTION OF AUDIO POEMS



Authors: Janina Degutytė, Kazys Jakubėnas,
Violeta Palčinskaitė, Ramutė Skučaitė

Illustrators: Vilija Kvieskaitė

Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt

Vilnius, 2020

12 pages, board book, 250 × 230 mm

ISBN 978-609-01-3962-2

Age: 0+

VILIJĄ KVIESKAITĖ (born 1988) is a freelance graphic designer with several years' experience in children's publishing. She is pursuing her creative work at the Užupis Art Incubator. She has illustrated six children's books and also designs postcards and jewellery.



Five poems regarded as Lithuanian children's poetry classics are included within this book. The poems tell the stories of animals or creatures. Some of them, such as the bee or the ladybird, live in nature. Children are encouraged to take a good look at them and get to know them. The poems about these creatures are more lyrical. Other animals, however, live in the city. They are personified and are even riding trolleybuses!

The artist presents harmonious imagery. She uses pastel colours, carefully balanced compositions, rhythmic visual narration and graphic elements. Additional small story lines help to immerse a child in the book.



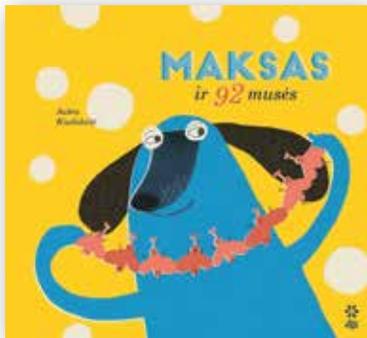
PICTU

FREE BOOKS

MAKSAS IR 92 MUSĖS

MAX AND 92 FLIES

AUŠRA KIUDULAITĖ



Author and Illustrator: Aušra Kiudulaitė

Publisher: Tikra knyga, tikraknyga.lt

Vilnius, 2020

34 pages, hardcover, 260 x 230 mm

ISBN 978-609-8142-57-0

Age: 3+

Nominated for the Book of the Year in 2020, in the children's reading category

The artist and graphic designer **AUŠRA KIUDULAITĖ** (born 1978) took the world of children's literature by storm. She rocketed to fame with her debut picture book *Laimė yra lapė* (*The Fox on the Swing*), co-authored with Evelina Daciūtė, which has already reached young readers in Slovenia, the United Kingdom, the United States, China, South Korea and other countries. The book has won many national and international awards, including the Batchelder Award, presented by the American Library Association for the most outstanding translated children's book. *Max and 92 flies* is Kiudulaitė's first solo project.



Max is a playful dog: he runs around, barks, watches passers-by and even befriends a fly. And not just one fly. Enchanting in its simplicity and purity, this is a book about summer, little summertime adventures and a budding friendship. Each day, there are more and more flies in Max's life, and suddenly there are ninety-two of them... one for every single day of summer.

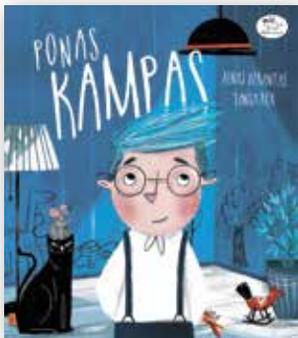
The artist approaches the book as a work of art, searching for expressive forms, striking images and compelling characters. The illustrations are poster-like and stylish. Carefully considered and consistent, yet playful and cheerful, much like the incessant buzz of the flies, they feature a slightly subdued colour scheme that seems to have come from the fashionable 1950s and 1960s.



PONAS KAMPAS

MR. CORNER

BENAS BĖRANTAS | TANIA REX



Author: Benas Bėrantas
 Illustrator: Tania Rex
 Publisher: Niekio rimto, niekorimto.lt
 Vilnius, 2019
 41 pages, hardcover, 246 × 220 mm
 ISBN 978-609-441-598-2
 Age: 4+

Rights sold to: Romania (world digital rights)

Nominated in the picture book category for the Book of the Year for Children and Young Adults, Lithuanian Section of IBBY, 2019

BENAS BĖRANTAS (born 1989) gained experience in creative work and management during his work at a children's publishing house. He is currently a literary agent, translator and author with four books to his name. He has collaborated with talented graphic designers, including Vilija Kvieskaitė and Tania Rex.

The graphic designer **TANIA REX** (born 1982) graduated from Vilnius Academy of Arts. She has been a freelance artist for more than a decade, creating postcards and visuals and illustrating books. Her creative inspiration comes from the images of her native Vilnius. She has illustrated works by authors from all around the world: Virginijus Šidlauskas, Laura Mucha, Tony Bradman, Gerry Bailey, Ole Lund Kirkegaard and Eduard Uspensky.



Home alone, Jovaras starts painting on a wall. Suddenly, a face he draws in the corner of the room comes alive and introduces himself as Mr. Corner. He tells Jovaras the history of the house and how his parents met. It's a beautiful, comforting story about the importance of a home. Home is not only a place to eat and sleep. We are embedded in its walls, as are the stories. Each corner of the house can witness something beautiful and meaningful.

The feel-good illustrations highlight the content of the book, depicting a stylish interior, visually elucidating the narrative through nuanced colours and the lighting of the house, and conveying the idiosyncratic character of Mr. Corner. The illustrations are contrasting and dynamic, creating suspense and allowing the reader to dive into the text, offering outstanding artistic and typographical quality.



PASKUTINIS PASAULYJE BALTASIS RAGANOSIS

THE WORLD'S LAST WHITE RHINOCEROS

GIEDRĖ RAKAUSKIENĖ | DOVILĖ KUBRAKOVAITĖ-BAKUTĖ



Author: Giedrė Rakauskienė
 Illustrator: Dovilė Kubrakovaitė-Bakutė
 Publisher: Tikra knyga, tikraknyga.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 29 pages, hardcover, 220 x 230 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8142-59-4
 Age: 3+

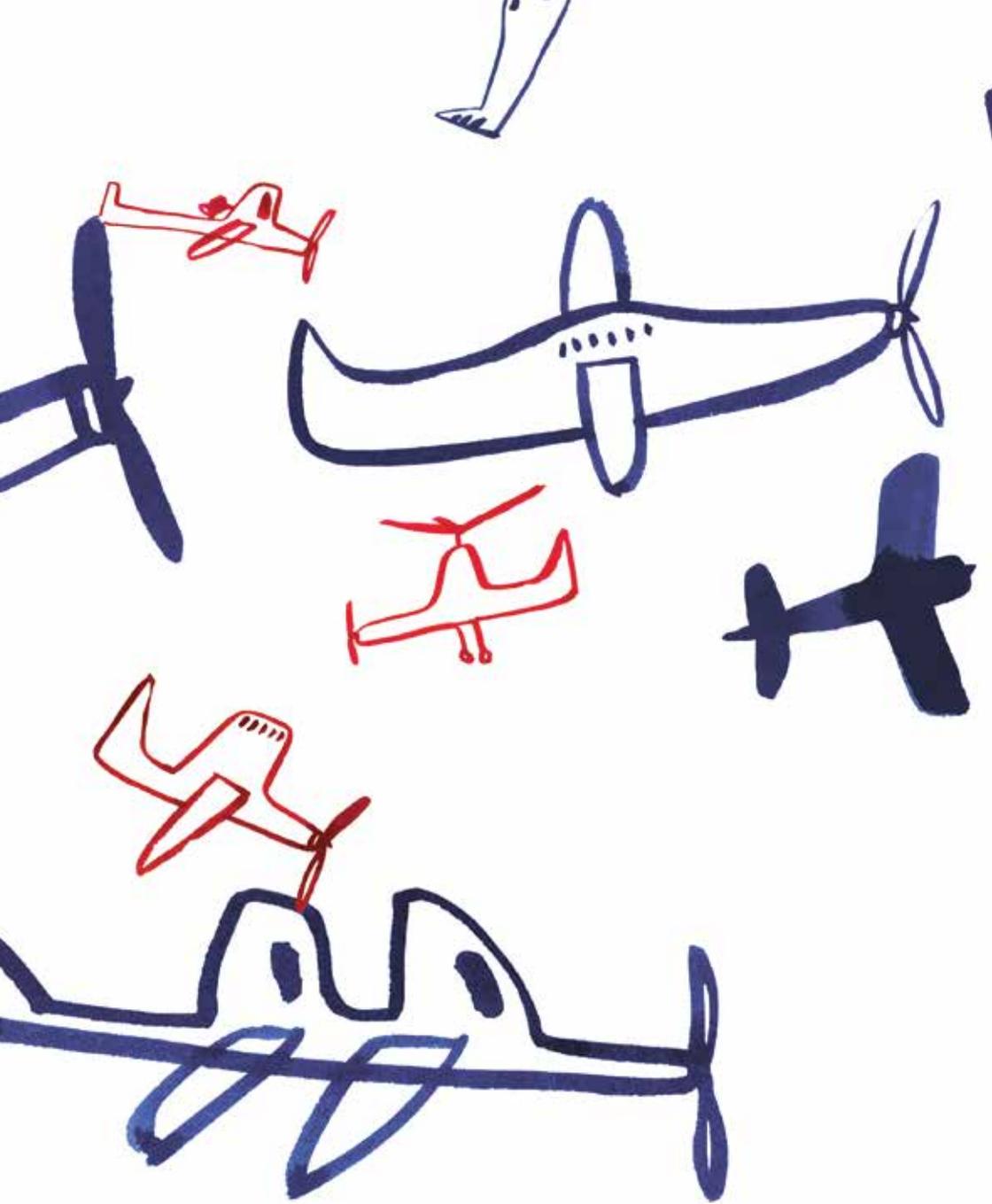
Five years ago, **GIEDRĖ RAKAUSKIENĖ** (born 1982) exchanged her research job in aviation for the civil service. In the same year, she made a successful debut as a children's author. *Dramblys ir antis* (*The Elephant and the Duck*), a picture book she co-authored with Jurga Šulskytė, won the Best Book for the Youngest Readers award.

DOVILĖ KUBRAKOVAITĖ-BAKUTĖ'S (born 1993) philosophy of life is imbued with making conceptual art. The young graphic designer creates paintings, drawings, posters and handmade books, and illustrates and writes stories. She has authored two books of her own. In her work, she combines typo(cali)graphy, watercolour, collage and fragments of various graphic techniques.



A tabby airfield cat comes across a white rhinoceros in a huge cage. The cat is curious who the rhinoceros is and what he's doing here, but his new friend doesn't know. Both of them embark on a journey to find out. Sadly, not all discoveries in life are good and happy – it turns out that the rhinoceros is the last white rhinoceros in the world. Fortunately, his new friend, the kind and wise cat, is determined to cheer him up. This picture book was inspired by the true story of the last white rhinoceros, which was lost to the world in 2018.

The artist depicts the meeting and friendship of the white rhinoceros and the cat through minimalist artistic means – nothing more than a paintbrush and red ink. The book is visually expressive and artistically compelling. The text and the pictures are strongly combined in perfect balance. Light, contoured and very precise handmade pictures convey the plot, while the calligraphic typography makes the book truly outstanding.



(NE)VIENTAS

(NOT)ALONE

IEVA BABILAITĖ



Author and Illustrator: Ieva Babilaitė
 Publisher: Tikra knyga, tikraknyga.lt
 Vilnius, 2019
 40 pages, hardcover, 270 × 230 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8142-50-1
 Age: 6+

The graphic artist and designer **IEVA BABILAITĖ** (born 1973) has created and illustrated seventeen books for children and adults, some of which are solo projects. Always on the lookout for new artistic expressions when creating book illustrations, she creates engravings, and admires calligraphy and handmade paper. Babilaitė works as an art therapist and leads creative workshops for children and young adults. Her works have won multiple awards. Her illustrated books have twice been selected as the most artistic books of the year in 2012 and 2013 and won awards presented by the Lithuanian Section of IBBY. Her book *Skrisiu (I Will Fly)* is included in the IBBY Honour List for 2016.

Most Beautiful Book of the Year, Lithuanian
 Section of IBBY, 2019



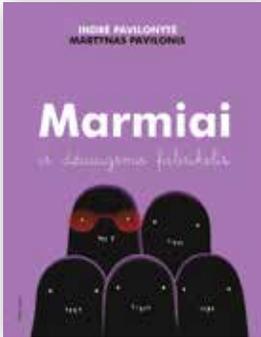
In *(Ne)vientas - (Not) Alone*, the experienced illustrator has created a characterful, original wordless picture story. The book offers bold visual interpretation and creative technique: the author is drawing, snipping, pasting, taking photographs and completing the whole thing digitally. The book's idiosyncratic features include sparing visual language, an elongated format and minimalist artistic expression: each spread of the book seems like an individual painting. It is a book of exceptional artistic quality which enhances children's imaginations and invites them to create their own stories.



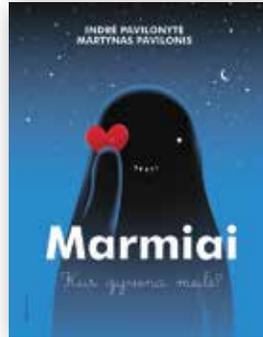
MARMAI IR DŽIAUGSMO FABRIKĖLIS MARMAI: KUR GYVENA MEILĖ?

THE MARMIES AND THE JOY FACTORY / THE MARMIES: WHERE IS THE LOVE?

INDRĖ PAVILONYTĖ | MARTYNAS PAVILONIS



Author: Indrė Pavilyonytė
Illustrator: Martynas Pavilonis
Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt
Vilnius, 2019
70 pages, hardcover, 215 × 270 mm
ISBN 978-609-01-3907-3
Age: 4+



Author: Indrė Pavilyonytė
Illustrator: Martynas Pavilonis
Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt
Vilnius, 2020
56 pages, hardcover, 215 × 270 mm
ISBN 978 6090142745
Age: 4+



INDRĖ PAVILONYTĖ and **MARTYNAS PAVILONIS** are not only twins but also best friends and an inseparable team. Together, they create children's books, including so far three books about the Marmies. Indrė Pavilyonytė (born 1987) graduated in journalism and works as a communications specialist. She has written an adventure story for children. Martynas Pavilonis (also known as White White Dog, born 1987) is an award-winning graphic designer, illustrator and painter. His works have been included in the prestigious Lürzer's Archive, an album featuring the world's 200 best illustrators of 2016–2017 and recognized at the 2019 Cheltenham Illustration Awards in the United Kingdom.





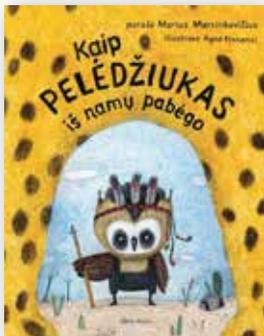
The Marmies are black round creatures who reside in Martvudas forest. Each of the books follows a new adventure of the Marmies: Ollie suffers because he's the only yellow Marmie around; little Liu thinks his parents don't love him because they keep criticizing him; the Marmies are convinced that the factory's white smoke brings them luck and success, and they get mad at the birds for making a nest in the factory's chimney. The picture books follow the lyrical, allegorical tradition, focusing on universal themes and problems: otherness, friendship, love and kindness.

This series of books feature an exceptional artistic language and memorable characters. The Marmies are black shadowy contours with gleaming eyes. The colour contrast is significant in the illustrations, as well as the mystical atmosphere and darkness. The same visual strategy is used in the entire series – each page is an individual work of art, drawing the reader into the magical world of the book.

KAIP PELEDŽIUKAS IŠ NAMŲ PABĖGO

HOW THE LITTLE OWL FLED FROM HOME

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS | AGNĖ NANANAI



Author: Marius Marcinkevičius

Illustrator: Agnė Nananai

Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt

Vilnius, 2020

40 pages, hardcover, 200 × 250 mm

ISBN 978-609-01-3975-2

Age: 3+

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS (born 1966) is a doctor and has been writing case histories for a long time. Five years ago, he made his debut as a writer. He has felt the need to write throughout his life and has done so everywhere, all the time. He admits that he has drawers full of unfinished projects at home. His list now includes eleven books: fairy tales and poems for children and a historical novel about Vilnius.

AGNĖ NANANAI (born 1984) graduated in applied graphic arts. Above all, she is a versatile artist: a designer, an illustrator, a handicraftswoman, and designer of toys and jewellery. She has illustrated around twenty fiction books, play books and educational books for children and young adults. With her illustrations, she attempts to expand the literary work so that children have something to explore and admire.



This picture book presents a witty poem about a little owl. He's a mischievous and proud kid. As he runs away from home, the owl decides to become a great hunter. He wants to make everyone see that he's the greatest and smartest of them all. He catches a little mouse right away – but should he eat her? Perhaps the mouse can become his friend?

The verse of the text is harmoniously linked to the illustrations: drawn in colouring pencils, they are pleasing to look at, while the full effect is achieved using digital programmes. Essentially, it is a warm, feel-good picture book. The little owl protagonist is particularly attractive, resembling Keeko, the stylish little Native American boy from Charles Thorson's book, which was very popular with readers and influenced many generations of Lithuanian children through its artistic expression.

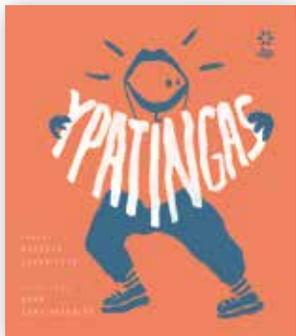




YPATINGAS

MY HEART IS SINGING

MODESTA JURGAITYTĖ | RASA JANČIAUSKAITĖ



Author: Modesta Jurgaitytė
 Illustrator: Rasa Jančiauskaitė
 Publisher: Tikra knyga, tikraknyga.lt
 Vilnius, 2019
 35 pages, paperback, 210 × 230 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8142-55-6
 Age: 6+

Grand Prize, Vilnius 2019 Book Art Competition

Nominated for the Book of the Year in 2020, in the children's reading category

MODESTA JURGAITYTĖ'S (born 1983) interest and admiration for children's literature led to her debut as a children's writer. She graduated in Lithuanian literature and literary criticism and is currently running a family business and writing a blog on children's reading and creative writing called *Žuvys ir liežuvis* (*Fish and Tongue*).

RASA JANČIAUSKAITĖ (born 1991) is one of the most successful young book illustrators. She graduated in graphic design and visual communication design from Vilnius Academy of Arts and took up training in art schools in Paris and Italy. In her work, she tends to carry out bold experiments and break the rules. Her illustrations have been recognized not only in Lithuania, but also in Poland, UAE and Italy. Her book *Summa* won the first prize at the Sharjah Exhibition for Children's Book Illustration. She is the creator of visual identity for Bologna Book Fair and Vilnius Book Fair (2020).

This is a story of a child who is different – special. His heart is beating not in his chest but outside his body. Being special is not always easy, and the boy is bullied at school. Bullying is very, very painful and can cause serious damage. Is it possible to endure this? What happens when a heart breaks? Is it possible to mend it? How? This book speaks of very sensitive things through a rich, metaphorical language.

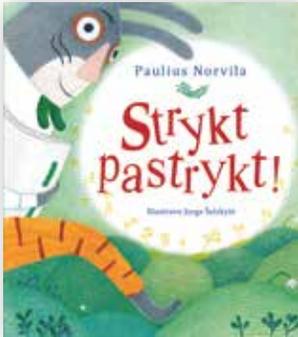
This picture book is also exceptional in its aesthetics: the colour of its cover is a very bright fluorescent orange, which signals that the book is special. It deals with the topic of bullying and shows it in its visual expression: the drawings are emblematic and seem to be more informative than they are illustrative. The visual combination of the book is very original, based on the new aesthetics of visual art: the artist's language is sparing but full of impact. The handwritten script and several original techniques of visual storytelling are combined in the artist's extraordinary drawings: all the elements are carefully thought through, and a new meaning is encoded in the visual expression that resembles a child's drawing. The illustrations are relatable to both children and adults, encouraging them to enter an honest conversation.



STRYKT PASTRYKT

HOPPITY HOP

PAULIUS NORVILA | JURGA ŠULSKYTĖ



Author: Paulius Norvila
 Illustrator: Jurga Šulskytė
 Publisher: „Švieskime vaikus“, a charitable foundation, svieskimevaikus.lt
 Vilnius, 2019
 42 pages, paperback, 220 x 250 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8161-34-2
 Age: 5+

Nominated for the Book of the Year in 2019, in the children's reading category

PAULIUS NORVILA (born 1985) is an economist and author of three poetry books. This picture book is his debut in children's literature.

JURGA ŠULSKYTĖ (born 1975) made a successful debut in children's literature five years ago when the picture book she co-authored with Giedrė Rakauskienė, *Dramblys ir antis* (*The Elephant and the Duck*), was selected as the Best Book for the Youngest Readers and won the Lithuanian Section of IBBY award. Her illustrations have appeared in four books. She also illustrates a literary magazine for children, *Laumiukas*.

One day, a rabbit is inspired by a genius idea to write a book. And he does. About what? About himself, of course! No one seems to acknowledge the rabbit's work, though – the bear doesn't think there's enough bees and honey in the book, the fox says there's not enough fashion, and the squirrel doesn't like books without pictures... Will the rabbit's hard work go to waste? Perhaps his book simply hasn't found its real readers yet? It's a joyful and slightly ironic picture book about the backstage of the literary world. The problems encountered by authors and readers are presented in an entertaining way that children can easily understand.

The artist devotedly embellishes the whole book with colouring pencils. Her style is a true visual delight. The cheerful rabbit protagonist is enriched by some human qualities, reflecting contemporary life, while other characters are more caricatured, dressed and personified according to their way of life and qualities. The book has two audiences – both children and adults, telling a fun and entertaining story of the rabbit as a contemporary novelist.



PŪKIS IR PŪKUTIS

PŪKIS AND PŪKUTIS (the 8th book of the Pūkis Fairy Tales series)

VYTAUTAS V. LANDSBERGIS | DALIA KARPAVIČIŪTĖ



Author: Vytautas V. Landsbergis
 Illustrator: Dalia Karpavičiūtė
 Publisher: Dominicus Lituanus, dominicus.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 24 pages, paperback, 250 × 220 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8227-16-1
 Age: 2+



VYTAUTAS V. LANDSBERGIS (born 1962) is a prose writer, poet, theatre and film director. He is one of the most prominent Lithuanian children's writers with around forty children's and young adult books to his name – poems, fairy tales, novellas, picture books. His literary talent has been recognized with numerous awards: his books have twice been selected as the Best Books of the Year and nominated several times in the Book of the Year programme.

The graphic designer **DALIA KARPAVIČIŪTĖ** (born 1972) is a freelance artist who has illustrated eighteen children's and young adult books. Her books have been selected as the most artistic books of the year in 2014 and 2016 and won the Lithuanian Section of IBBY awards.



In Part 8 of the picture book series about the little fox Pūkis, Mother encourages the little fox to say goodbye to summer. Pūkis rushes out to do so, but he can't seem to find it. The attempt to bid summer farewell becomes a sweet comical adventure. The book encourages children to notice the change of the seasons. What happens when summer comes to an end and autumn arrives? What becomes of the dandelion? Where does the stork go? What presents does summer leave behind?

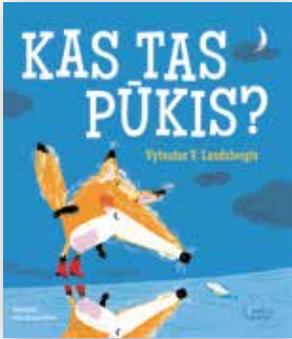
The artist continues the story in her trademark style, creating light digital drawings and dynamic multi-angled compositions. She uses coloured paper for the background of her drawings to narrate the adventures of the mischievous Pūkis in an entertaining way.



KAS TAS PŪKIS?

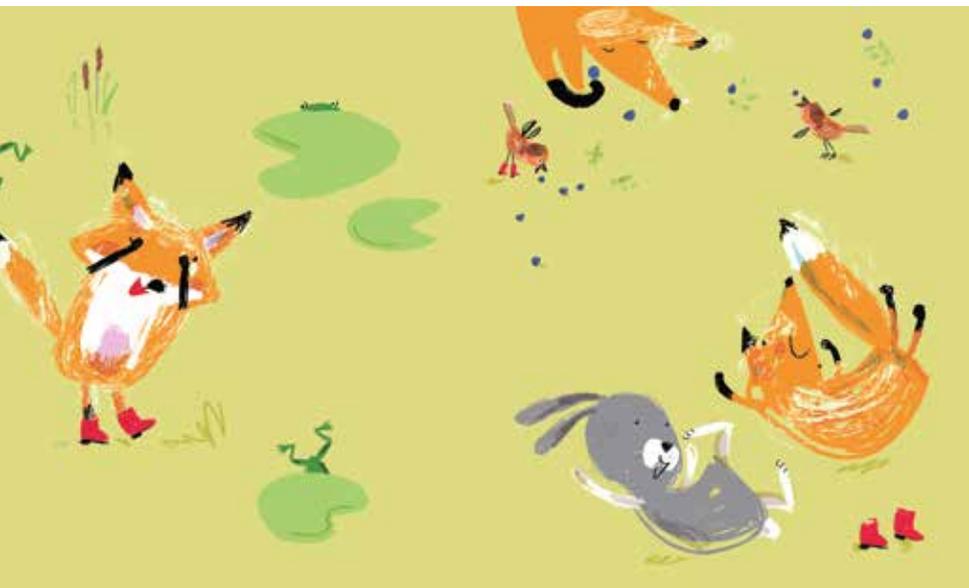
WHO IS PŪKIS? (Pūkis fairy tales: books 1-5)

VYTAUTAS V. LANDSBERGIS | DALIA KARPAVIČIŪTĖ



Author: Vytautas V. Landsbergis
 Illustrator: Dalia Karpavičiūtė
 Publisher: Dominicus Lituanus, dominicus.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 109 pages, hardcover, 220× 250 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8227-14-7
 Age: 2+

This book comprises the five previously published parts of the series. The illustrations feature a consistent style. The protagonist, the little fox called Pūkis, is as stylish and memorable as ever. He's always busy getting into all kinds of adventures. Most importantly, he's always full of joy.

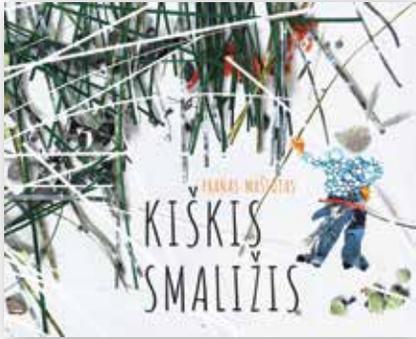




KIŠKIS SMALIŽIS

THE SWEET-TOOTHED RABBIT

PRANAS MAŠIOTAS | IEVA BABILAITĖ



Author: Pranas Mašiotas

Illustrator: Ieva Babilaitė

Publisher: „Švieskime vaikus“, a charitable foundation, svieskimevaikus.lt

Vilnius, 2019

21 pages, paperback, 250 × 190 mm

ISBN 978-609-8161-35-9

Age: 3+

The graphic artist and designer **IEVA BABILAITĖ** (born 1973) has created and illustrated seventeen books for children and adults, some of which are solo projects. Always on the lookout for new artistic expressions when creating book illustrations, she creates engravings, and admires calligraphy and handmade paper. Babilaitė works as an art therapist and leads creative workshops for children and young adults. Her works have won multiple awards. Her illustrated books have twice been selected as the most artistic books of the year in 2012 and 2013 and won awards presented by the Lithuanian Section of IBBY. Her book *Skrisiu (I Will Fly)* is included in the IBBY Honour List for 2016.

The fairy tale by **PRANAS MAŠIOTAS** (1863–1940), who is labelled the father of children's literature, is revived with brand new original illustrations. The rabbit has a great liking for delicious snacks and sometimes even sneaks into someone's garden for a carrot. Once, a blacksmith puts tar on the garden fence. The rabbit gets dirty when going through the fence, of course. But instead of crying or worrying, he uses his new menacing appearance for his benefit, presenting himself as the master of the forest and telling the wolf and the fox not to harm the poor rabbits of the forest anymore. It's a cheerful and humorous fairy tale about the importance of maintaining a positive attitude even towards unpleasant experience.

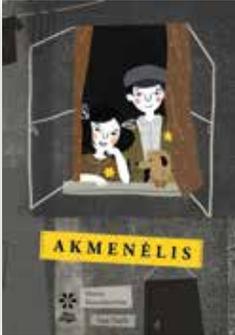


The artwork of the book is exceptional: it is made from torn paper pieces and food crumbs. Colourful textures create recognizable contours of the rabbit, the fox, the wolf and the bear, veiling the illustrations in the depths of a dark forest made of strips of cut paper. The story is captivatingly stretched out throughout the horizontal format of the book, providing it with a contemporary dimension.

AKMENĖLIS

THE LITTLE STONE

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS | INGA DAGILĖ



Author: Marius Marcinkevičius
 Illustrator: Inga Dagilė
 Publisher: Tikra knyga, tikraknyga.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 52 pages, hardcover, 170 × 240 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8142-58-7
 Age: 7+

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS (born 1966) is a doctor and has been writing case histories for a long time. Five years ago, he made his debut as a writer. He has felt the need to write throughout his life and has done so everywhere, all the time. He admits that he has drawers full of unfinished projects at home. His list now includes eleven books: fairy tales and poems for children and a historical novel about Vilnius.

INGA DAGILĖ (born 1981) is an award-winning book illustrator and graphic designer. She has won prizes at the Book Art Competition, in 2016, 2019 and 2020, as well as awards presented by the Lithuanian Section of IBBY, in 2016 and 2019. She has decorated eight books with her illustrations. Her work has also found readers all around the world. She attempts to follow the sense of emotion when creating a book, paying close attention to the balance between the text and the illustrations. In her view, the book's content, illustrations and layout cannot be separated: they have to be a team.



This is a sensitive, painful and powerful historical picture book taking us to a Jewish ghetto during World War II. Although truly terrible things are going on and the father might never return home, no walls or villains can stop the vitality of the children. They sit on the roof dreaming, building their friendships, trying to be tough and brave, as far as they can in the circumstances. Unfortunately, not all stories end well, but there's a lot of important things to learn from them.

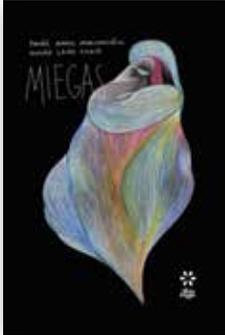
The artist conveys the atmosphere of the war and the feelings that the whole nation experienced at the time. Featuring a consistent colour scheme, the illustrations are stylish and subtly elegant, powerfully revealing the sensitive historical memory of the Jewish people.



MIEGAS

SLEEP

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS | LAURA TULAITĖ



Author: Marius Marcinkevičius
 Illustrator: Laura Tulaitė
 Publisher: Tikra knyga, tikraknyga.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 32 pages, hardcover, 225 × 235 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8142-60-0
 Age: 3+

MARIUS MARCINKEVIČIUS (born 1966) is a doctor and has been writing case histories for a long time. Five years ago, he made his debut as a writer. He has felt the need to write throughout his life and has done so everywhere, all the time. He admits that he has drawers full of unfinished projects at home. His list now includes eleven books: fairy tales and poems for children and a historical novel about Vilnius.



LAURA TULAITĖ (born 1980) graduated in design from Vilnius Academy of Arts and “lived” in ad agencies for seven years. She has been working as a freelance designer for over a decade now. She also does scenic painting, designs accessories and founded the OKIKO design studio. This is her debut in children’s illustration.

This is a children’s bedtime book in verse. A list of things that are asleep are described in a gentle, soothing way. Everyone falls asleep eventually, after all: animals, nature, airplanes. Even sleep falls asleep. Perhaps it’s time for the little one to fall asleep as well? The word “sleep”, repeated consistently like a mantra, should help the children relax, and let their thoughts flow along with the rhythm of the poem, and be soothed to sleep. The book stands out from others with its use of the colour black which emotionally conveys the plot – the night, which is the time meant for sleep and rest. Sensitively depicting the sleeping characters with coloured pencils, the artist encapsulates the gentle, still atmosphere, subtly unfolding the story of sleep and the vital state of rest.



MANO TĖTIS RAŠO KNYGĄ

MY FATHER IS WRITING A BOOK

TOMAS DIRGĖLA | INGA DAGILĖ



Author: Tomas Dirgėla

Illustrator: Inga Dagilė

Publisher: Tyto alba, tytoalba.lt

Vilnius, 2019

48 pages, hardcover, 220 × 300 mm

ISBN 978-609-466-413-7

Age: 3+

Lithuanian Artists' Association Prize,
Vilnius 2019 Book Art Competition

Nominated for the Book of the Year for
Children and Young Adults, picture book
category and the most beautiful book
category, Lithuanian Section of IBBY, 2020

Most Lithuanian children are familiar with **TOMAS DIRGĖLA** (born 1989) from his book series *Domas and Tomas* and a fun radio show of the same title. After graduating in Lithuanian philology, he worked in education and journalism and wrote poetry. He was encouraged to try his hand at children's literature by another Lithuanian children's author, Vytautas V. Landsbergis. Dirgėla has been writing exclusively for children since 2015 and has already published seventeen books: fairy tales, adventure and detective stories, both entertaining and serious. He is inspired by other writers, especially works by British authors David Walliams and Roald Dahl.



INGA DAGILĖ (born 1981) is an award-winning book illustrator and graphic designer. She has won prizes at the Book Art Competition, in 2016, 2019 and 2020, as well as awards presented by the Lithuanian Section of IBBY, in 2016 and 2019. She has decorated eight books with her illustrations. Her work has also attracted readers all around the world. She attempts to follow the sense of emotion when creating a book, paying close attention to the balance between the text and the illustrations. In her view, the book's content, illustrations and layout cannot be separated: they have to be a team.



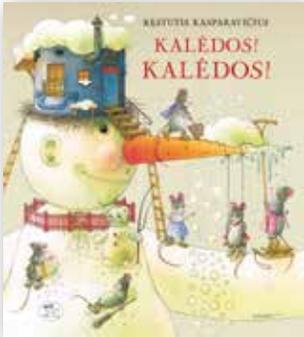
Ažuolas's father is a writer, but a very strange one. He's pacing the room, sipping tea and reading, but never writing! All the boy wants to do is spend time with his father – so he's constantly sneaking into the study, where his father doesn't seem to be working. Meanwhile, the father tries to encourage the child to play alone or with his sister and let him work at peace. Eventually, it turns out that it is not the peace, but little Ažuolas's persistence and invitations to go and play, that inspire the father to write a new book.

The professionally illustrated book meets every requirement of picture books: a perfect balance of words and pictures, a beautiful colour scheme and dynamic imagery. The book's protagonist, the father, resembles the author and serves as a prototype of the kind of father which many children would love to have. The setting of the story – a home and its everyday life – is contemporary and attractive.

KALĖDOS! KALĖDOS!

CHRISTMAS! CHRISTMAS!

KĘSTUTIS KASPARAVIČIUS



Author and Illustrator: Kęstutis Kasparavičius
 Publisher: Nieko rimto, niekorimto.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 48 pages, hardcover, 240 × 260 mm
 ISBN 978-609-441-684-2
 Age: 3+

Rights sold to: Estonia, Romania



KĘSTUTIS KASPARAVIČIUS (born 1954) is one of the most prominent Lithuanian children's book authors. His books have been published all through Europe, Asia and North and South America. He has published more than twenty books and his full list of literary works and illustrations includes more than sixty titles. Few children's authors can take pride in the honour of being read in twenty-eight languages. His books have won awards not only in Lithuania, but also has been nominated for world's most prestigious literary and children's literature awards, including the ALMA and Hans Christian Andersen Awards.

Kalėdos! Kalėdos! (Christmas! Christmas!) is a collection of charming, cosy and subtly humorous Christmas fairy tales. They tell the story of how anthropomorphic animals – squirrels, whales, songbirds – are preparing to celebrate the most beautiful holiday of the year. A great many adventures happen on the way: the squirrels chase after the Christmas decorations, the fish decorate their Christmas tree underwater, the bears are carefully selecting the biggest tree, and the cats do all their festive preparations so quickly that they have time to go ice-skating.

Kasparavičius's new book can easily be recognized by his trademark artistic style. The watercolour illustrations are exceptionally professional, showing great care and love to every character down to the tiniest detail, becoming a key to the true security of a child's world and the delightful anticipation of Christmas.



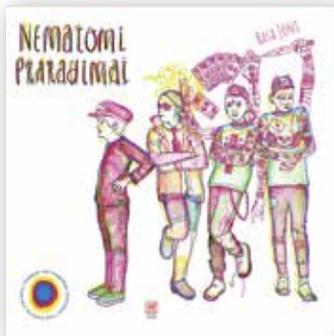
CHILD
LITERATURE

REN'S
R A T U R E

NEMATOMI PRARADIMAI

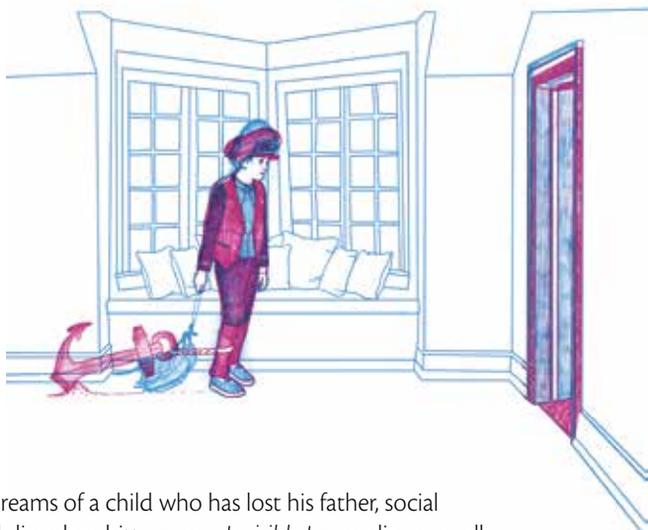
INVISIBLE LOSSES

RASA JONI



Author and Illustrator: Rasa Joni
 Publisher: Žalias kalnas
 Kaunas, 2020
 80 pages, hardcover, 285 × 285 mm
 ISBN 978-609-95964-6-4
 Age: 10+

The artist **RASA JONI** (born 1984) studied audiovisual arts and art education. She made her debut in children's literature in 2007 with her illustrations of a book by Ulf Stark and the publication of her own picture book. Her list now includes over twenty original works and illustrated books and more than a dozen of educational books. Her works have won a number of awards and have been published not only in Lithuania but also in Korea and the United States.



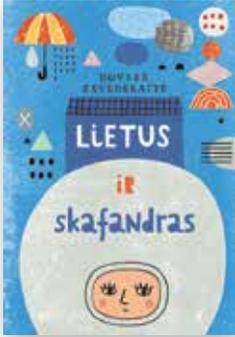
The grim reality of orphans, the dreams of a child who has lost his father, social stigmas, children's developmental disorders, bitterness – *Invisible Losses* discusses all these things. The book doesn't give direct answers. It is intended for a sensitive reader who can read between the lines. The illustrations are a special, inseparable layer of the book. The artist's work is outstanding. She builds a distinct visual narrative, which can be viewed in several different ways: through the inner state of the book's main characters, their emotions and their images, or the way they present themselves. Three different reality planes are dissolved through the tricoloured contoured drawing which can be viewed straightforwardly or through a special eyepiece that comes with the book. Depending on its colour, the eyepiece shows a different picture. The artist reveals herself as a director in this book, exposing the secrets of the teenage world and the subtle details of their images. The book has a large format, like a creative coffee-table book, something for a collector or a connoisseur.



LIETUS IR SKAFANDRAS

THE RAIN AND THE DIVING SUIT

DOVILĖ ZAVEDSKAITĖ | JURGA ŠARMAVIČIŪTĖ



Author: Dovilė Zavedskaitė
 Illustrator: Jurga Šarmavičiūtė
 Publisher: „Švieskime vaikus“, a charitable foundation, svieskimevaikus.lt
 Vilnius, 2019
 76 pages, paperback, 170 × 240 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8161-37-3
 Age: 7+

Nominated for the Book of the Year in 2019, in the children's reading category.

Most Significant Debut in Children's Literature, 2019, Lithuanian Section of IBBY

The playwright and theatre critic **DOVILĖ ZAVEDSKAITĖ** (born 1988) wrote a children's fairy tale in one sitting. Its manuscript won a national competition and went on to become a full-length book.

The freelance illustrator and graphic designer **JURGA ŠARMAVIČIŪTĖ** (born 1975) creates book covers and design. She has illustrated more than ten children's books, a number of textbooks and other teaching aids. *Therapeutic Fairy Tales* by Maria Molicka was selected as the most artistically illustrated book of the year in 2007 and won the award presented by the Lithuanian Section of IBBY.

This is a nonsense fairy tale about a girl who is so allergic to rain that she has to wear a protective diving suit. One day, she finds a new friend, and, as luck would have it, it happens to be the rain! The girl invites the rain to go to the desert, because it's not raining there and they will be free to play together. Unfortunately, neither of them knows where the desert is exactly, and so they set off to look for it. On the way, they meet interesting and surprising company. Many important themes are covered in this fairy tale: overly concerned adults and loneliness of children, eagerness to experience childhood pleasures, happiness and the meaning of life.

The artist professionally creates the stylish, minimalist artwork of the book. She likes depicting individual portraits of the characters, using the collage principle to arrange the pictures, and a sparing and precise aesthetic and authorial print, bringing everything together into a consistent artistic whole.



The illustration is set within a light grey, rounded rectangular frame. At the top left, there are several vertical black lines of varying lengths, resembling a window blind or a curtain. In the center, a woman with long, straight black hair and large eyes is depicted. She is wearing an orange, textured dress and has her arms raised, with her hands near her head. To her right, a man with a yellow, skull-like face and a blue, textured long-sleeved shirt is shown. He also has his arms raised, with his hands near his head. The man's face has two large circular eyes and a small black mouth. The woman's hair is drawn with multiple parallel black lines. The overall style is simple and graphic, using bold colors and black outlines.

LIGA

MAŽAS

DIDELIS

STEBUKLINGI SENELIO BATAI

GRANDFATHER'S MAGIC SHOES

IGNĖ ZARAMBAITĖ | VANDA PADIMANSKAITĖ



Author: Ignė Zarambaitė
 Illustrator: Vanda Padimanskaitė
 Publisher: „Švieskime vaikus“, a charitable foundation, svieskimevaikus.lt
 Vilnius, 2019
 120 pages, paperback, 170 × 240 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8161-38-0
 Age: 7+

Laureate of the Book of the Year in 2019,
 in the children's reading category



After leaving her job as an economist and manager in Vilnius, **IGNĖ ZARAMBAITĖ** (born 1988) returned to her hometown and started a career as a children's author in 2015. She has published five books for children and young adults. She also teaches, paints, and designs interior decorations and dolls.

VANDA PADIMANSKAITĖ (born 1982) studied graphic design, poster-making and engraving. She is currently working in academic publishing. She has written or illustrated more than ten children's books, a number of textbooks and other teaching aids.

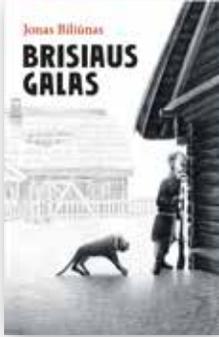
It is so difficult to lose a family member, especially one so beloved as Enrikas's grandfather... The boy finds it very hard to cope with the loss. Fortunately, he finds his grandfather's shoes. It turns out they are magical. When he puts the shoes on, the boy can see incredible things and experience fantastic adventures. But as he starts spending more and more time outside and discovering new friends, he finds himself needing the shoes less and less. Eventually, the time comes to let the grandfather go – not to forget him, but to carry his memory within and embrace the joy of childhood. The colourful, plot-driven illustrations supplement the story and provide it with even greater vitality and energy.



BRISIAUS GALAS: TRYS APSAKYMAI

THE END OF BRISIUS: THREE SHORT STORIES

JONAS BILIŪNAS | ANDRIUS SESELSKAS



Author: Jonas Biliūnas
 Illustrator: Andrius Seselskas
 Publisher: „Švieskime vaikus“, a charitable
 foundation, svieskimevaikus.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 62 pages, paperback, 170 × 240 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8161-39-7
 Age: 7+

JONAS BILIŪNAS (1879–1907) is a late 19th-early 20th century Lithuanian classic prose and short story writer. Some of his short stories came to be categorized as children's literature.

The graphic designer **ANDRIUS SESELSKAS** (born 1978) lives in Kelmė, a small Lithuanian town. Aside from illustrating three books, the artist creates paintings, scenography and organises social events. His black and white stories and surreal view of the world has brought him success. There have been many exhibitions of his work. His *Vilniaus padavimai* (*The Legends of Vilnius*) was selected as the most artistically illustrated book of the year and won the award presented by the Lithuanian Section of IBBY.



This collection (*Brisiaus galas – The End of Brisius*) comprises three realist short stories which have become classics not only of children's literature but of Lithuanian literature as a whole. The lyrical stories focus on those who have been hurt, betrayed and wronged. Fascinated by adventure stories about Indians, the protagonist of the short story *Kliudžiau* (*I Hit the Mark*) decides to become a hunter and shoots a poor scruffy cat he sees in the garden. He ends up hurting not only the innocent little creature, but himself too – the act of cruelty against the animal becomes a huge trauma and a lesson that stays with him for the rest of his life. The artist applies black lead pencil to illustrate the book, combining the realism of the 19th century and its everyday life with Baltic symbols, ethnographic relics, national costumes, and the architecture of Lithuanian countryside and small towns. Surreal elements are incorporated into the black and white realist imagery, enriching it with strange parallels of mythology and paganism. The illustrations reveal the atmosphere of an eerie, mystical, distant time and everyday life which the Lithuanian classic writer depicted in his short stories.



NERAMIOS DIENOS

RESTLESS DAYS (the second book of the Swamptown Chronicles)

NERINGA VAITKUTĖ



Author and Illustrator: Neringa Vaitkutė
 Publisher: Nieko rimto, niekorimto.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 232 pages, hardcover, 170 × 230 mm
 ISBN 978-609-441-635-4
 Age: 8+

Nominated for the Book of the Year in 2020, in the children's reading category

NERINGA VAITKUTĖ (born 1974) is a biology teacher. She made a successful debut as a writer with a fantasy story in 2014. It was followed by a fantasy trilogy as well as realist and fairy tale books. She has published nine books so far. Her works are remarkably vivacious, written in a light, flowing style and offering a combination of rich language and masterful depictions of nature with quick-paced, immersive plots.

The small town called Swamptown is inhabited not only by people but also by all kinds of mythical creatures: bugaboos, hags and will-o'-the-wisps. Three children from the same family constantly get involved in adventures with these creatures. The book combines elements of adventure, mystical and horror literature. But the stories are not frightening. Instead, they warn us that the mythical creatures don't belong to the human world, that they're living according to their own laws which we can't always understand. They won't harm you until you deliberately or unknowingly try to harm them or barge in on their world.

This time the writer takes on the expression of the book's visual language herself. It has a naïve quality to it, which matches the book's mystical space where mythical creatures reside. Black and white illustrations with fantastic elements blend with literary imagination, creating the impression of an ethereal world.



SNIEGO ŽMOGELIŲ ŽIEMA

THE WINTER OF LITTLE SNOWMEN

SELEMONAS PALTANAVIČIUS | VILIJA KVIESKAITĖ



Author: Selemonas Paltanavičius
 Illustrator: Vilija Kvieskaitė
 Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt
 Vilnius, 2019
 64 pages, hardcover, 170 × 220 mm
 ISBN 978-609-01-3878-6
 Age: 5+

Book of the Year for Children and Young Adults, 2019, IBBY Lithuanian Section

Nominated for the Book of the Year in 2020, in the children's reading category

Creative and hard-working, **SELEMONAS PALTANAVIČIUS** (born 1956) has been talking, writing and telling stories about nature for over four decades. He has also been hosting a radio show and authored around seventy books of fiction, journalism, education and science. In his books of various genres, he creatively presents scientific facts to children and young adults through beautiful imagery.

VILIJA KVIESKAITĖ (born 1988) is a freelance graphic designer with several years' experience in children's publishing. She is pursuing her creative work at the Užupis Art Incubator. She has illustrated six children's books and also designs postcards and jewellery.



This is a collection of short fairy tales revolving around little snowmen who emerge on rooftops in the wintertime. They have a lot in common with little children – they're excited and curious about everything. There are so many things they can see from the roof. They go through a series of little adventures, and admire simple things like the howls of a dog and the white of the snow. But like all things in this world, the winter must come to an end. What does it mean to the little snowmen? They're going to melt... But they will be back next winter! This book contains cosy, gentle stories about the winter world. The stories are exceptionally simple, poetically playful and full of joyful atmosphere.

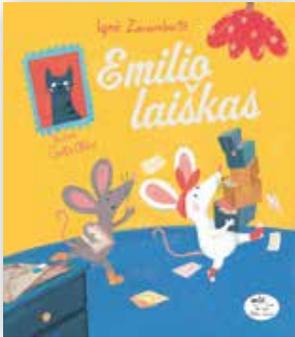
The artist herself contributes to the winter mood too. Her little white snowmen are spilling across the consistent, harmonious compositions, whitening the ice-blue colour scheme of the illustrations, gathering in soft snowdrifts and bringing out the joys of winter.



EMILIO LAIŠKAS

EMILIS' LETTER

IGNĖ ZARAMBAITĖ | GRETA ALICE



Author: Ignė Zarambaitė
 Illustrator: Greta Alice
 Publishers: Nieko rimto, niekorimto.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 ISBN 978-609-441-678-1
 64 pages, hardcover, 250 × 220 mm
 Age: 6+

Rights sold to: Ukraine

Winner of the Best Debut award at the 2nd
 National Children's Literature Competi-
 tion, 2015

After leaving her job as an economist and manager in Vilnius, **IGNĖ ZARAMBAITĖ** (born 1988) returned to her hometown and started a career as a children's author in 2015. She has published five books for children and young adults. She also teaches, paints, and designs interior decorations and dolls.

GRETA ALICE (born 1992) graduated in graphic arts from Vilnius Academy of Arts and manages a creative studio for children and young adults. She creates play books, educational, colouring and comic books and illustrates the works of other authors.





Emilio laiškas (Emilis' Letter) is a newly illustrated edition of the author's debut book. At night, special postal workers show up in a small-town post office – little mice! They are very responsible, but they sometimes pry into a letter or two... Once, they read the letter which Emilis has written to Father Christmas. The boy is asking for a friend. And he has been asking for this present now for several years in a row. The post office mice decide to make the boy's wish come true and give him a friend for Christmas. It's a tender and kind fairy tale encouraging kindness and compassion.

Light, vivid and contrasting illustrations match the quick-paced plot, while the hand-written font exhibits the benefits and responsibility of the post worker's profession.

ŽIOGAS STIKLINĖJE

THE GRASSHOPPER IN A GLASS

VYTAUTĖ ŽILINSKAITĖ | RASA JONI



Author: Vytautė Žilinskaitė
 Illustrator: Rasa Joni
 Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 96 pages, hardcover, 170 × 220 mm
 ISBN 978-609-01-4275-2
 Age: 8+



VYTAUTĖ ŽILINSKAITĖ (born 1930) broke into children's literature in the mid-1960s. She is one of the best known Lithuanian children's authors with more than twenty children's and young adult books to her name – short stories, fairy tales, plays and novellas. She remains an unrivalled fairy tale writer in the history of children's literature. Her works have been selected as the Best Children's and Young Adult Book of the Year in 1997, 2001 and 2007 and have won the Lithuanian Section of IBBY awards.

The artist **RASA JONI** (born 1984) studied audiovisual arts and art education. She made her debut in children's literature in 2007 with her illustrations of a book by Ulf Stark and the publication of her own picture book. Her list now includes over twenty original works and illustrated books and more than a dozen educational books. Her works have won a number of awards and have been published not only in Lithuania but also in Korea and the United States.

The collection comprises the writer's best fairy tales. They focus not only on universal things and relatable feelings, but also the connections and contradictions of nature and the human world. One of the most memorable fairy tales, *Robotas ir peteliškė* (*The Robot and the Butterfly*), revolves around the meeting of a vital, charming butterfly, who is eager to bond, and a cold unfeeling robot, who can only repeat the words which have been pre-recorded in him.

The artist is capable of various styles, which is demonstrated in the illustrations of this book. Radiating the fresh green of summer, the pictures are full of life and movement. The vitality of nature and the coldness of the robot are revealed through detailed graphic elements.



KAIP PELYTĖ ZITA ŽMOGUMI PAVIRTO

HOW ZITA THE MOUSE TURNED INTO A HUMAN

VYTAUTAS V. LANDSBERGIS | VILIJA KVIESKAITĖ



Author: Vytautas V. Landsbergis
 Illustrator: Vilija Kvieskaitė
 Publisher: Dominicus Lituanius, dominicus.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 152 pages, hardcover, 210 × 200 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8227-15-4
 Age: 8+

VYTAUTAS V. LANDSBERGIS (born 1962) is a prose writer, poet, theatre and film director. He is one of the most prominent Lithuanian children's writers with around forty children's and young adult books to his name – poems, fairy tales, novellas and picture books. His literary talent has been recognized with numerous awards: his books have twice been selected as the Best Books of the Year and nominated several times in the Book of the Year programme.

VILIJA KVIESKAITĖ (born 1988) is a freelance graphic designer with several years' experience in children's publishing. She is pursuing her creative work at the Užupis Art Incubator. She has illustrated six children's books and also designs postcards and jewellery.





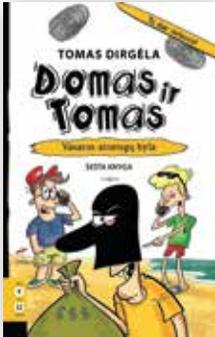
Zita is a headstrong little mouse. She is very stubborn and determined. She sometimes gets frightened but calms down whenever she remembers her mother's saying that fear attracts more fear. She wants, more than anything, to become human, because she's convinced human life is much more beautiful and pleasant. Humans don't have to go hungry and they're not chased around by cats. Zita gets into all kinds of adventures and brave feats. Even the smallest mouse can move mountains with the help of her friends! And when her biggest dream finally comes true, it turns out that human life is not that easy after all... The subtly didactic manner of this literary fairy tale is combined with playful irony and humour.

The artist's illustrations offer a well-balanced selection of colours, harmonious compositions, lively characters and consistent style. She has created twenty full-page illustrations and additional little vignettes that enrich the story. The book is stylistically consistent. The story takes place in Vilnius, offering a glimpse of fragments of the city's architecture.

VASAROS ATOSTOGŲ BYLA

THE CASE OF THE SUMMER VACATION

TOMAS DIRGĖLA | RYTIS DAUKANTAS



Domas and Tomas series

Author: Tomas Dirgėla

Illustrator: Rytis Daukantas

Publisher: Tyto alba, tytoalba.lt

Vilnius, 2020

195 pages, hardcover, 150 × 230 mm

ISBN 978-609-466-490-8

Age: 8+

Most Lithuanian children are familiar with **TOMAS DIRGĖLA** (born 1989) from his book series *Domas ir Tomas* (*Domas and Tomas*) and a fun radio show of the same title. After graduating in Lithuanian philology, he worked in education and journalism and wrote poetry. He was encouraged to try his hand at children's literature by another Lithuanian children's author, Vytautas V. Landsbergis. Dirgėla has been writing exclusively for children since 2015 and has already published seventeen books: fairy tales, adventure and detective stories, both entertaining and serious. He is inspired by other writers, especially works by British authors David Walliams and Roald Dahl.

RYTIS DAUKANTAS (born 1980) has a Master's degree in architecture. He is also a cartoonist and feature writer and illustrator of Tomas Dirgėla's book series *Domas and Tomas*. Combining historical facts with fantasy, he has written and illustrated two children's books about Lithuanian historical figures.



Vasaros atostogų byla (*The Case of the Summer Vacation*) is the sixth part of the series about the young detectives Domas, Tomas and Upė, the new member of their team. In each book, they are faced with a new task – to discover who keeps hiding brooms at school, to solve the mystery of why the food at the school cafeteria has suddenly become incredibly delicious, and so on. The series is full of adventures, jokes, humorous situations and exceptionally memorable characters. In the latest adventure, the young detectives are drawn into a crime themselves when Domas and Upė's grandfather are accused of bank robbery. The black and white illustrations are parodic in style, helping to expose the funny, quick-paced narrative.



РОЕТА

RY
BOOKS

DUOKIT KELIĄ BEGEMOTUI!!!

MAKE WAY FOR THE HIPPO!!!

DAINIUS GINTALAS | ULA ŠIMULYNAITĖ



Author: Dainius Gintalas
 Illustrator: Ula Šimulynaite
 Publisher: Žalias kalnas
 Kaunas, 2019
 56 pages, hardcover, 120x 260 mm
 ISBN 978-609-95964-4-0
 Age: 5+

Nominated for the Children's and Young Adult Book Awards, in the category of children's literature debut, Lithuanian Section of IBBY, 2019

DAINIUS GINTALAS (born 1973) is a poet, translator, photographer, literary and art critic. With his bent for tongue-twisters, as well as entertaining conversations and jokes with children, he has always been writing children's poems. This is his fourth poetry collection and the first one meant for children.



ULA ŠIMULYNAITĖ (born 1983) graduated in graphic design. She is currently working in printing and book design and illustration. She has authored six children's books and several comic books. Her creative inspiration comes from travelling and residencies.

This collection of poems steps into the comic tradition of children's literature. The poet is playing, breaking the rules, and joking around with a lot of absurdity and hyperbole. Some of the poems are humorous stories in verse revolving around personified animals, such as a hippopotamus who lives in an apartment and surfs the web. The artist uses simple artistic decisions, employing geometric forms and textures, volumes, silhouettes and colours. A cheerful, slightly caricatured hippo shows up next to all of these elements. A joyous mood and playful typography are guaranteed.



PASLAPČIAUSIA PASLAPTIS

THE SECRET OF SECRETS

EVELINA DACIŪTĖ | AGNĖ NANANAI



Author: Evelina Daciūtė

Illustrator: Agnė Nananai

Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt

Vilnius, 2020

52 pages, hardcover, 220 × 280 mm

ISBN 978-609-01-4255-4

Age: 3+



EVELINA DACIŪTĖ (born 1975) is the author of eight children's books and mother of four children. She writes fairy tales, poems and texts for picture books. She studied journalism as well as public relations and started writing while living in China, where she would spend the whole day with children. It was the picture book *Laimė yra lapė* (*The Fox on the Swing*), co-authored with the artist Aušra Kiudulaitė, that rocketed her to fame. The book became a great success not only in Lithuania but all around the world.

AGNĖ NANANAI (born 1984) graduated in applied graphic arts. She is, above all, a versatile artist: a designer, an illustrator, a handicraftswoman, and designer of toys and jewellery. She has illustrated around twenty fiction books, play books and educational books for children and young adults. She likes illustrating poetry and "imagining the poems".

This collection of children's poems has the ability to speak and look at the world through the perspective of a child. The poems allow the children themselves to talk about their experiences, everyday life, and attempts to understand the big, interesting world which seems so strange. The children are asking questions, dreaming, playing, and loving with all their heart, and they are sometimes stubborn. There's so much in this world. But all that matters is that their mother is close to them. The verses are simple, corresponding to a little child's language abilities. The poems are melodic, rhythmical and easy to remember.

The book is artistically harmonious, featuring subtle illustrations drawn in coloured pencils and simple lead. They are pleasant to look at, extending the experience of the poems and transporting the readers into an abstract world of images. Unusual angles are used to structure the illustrations, switching from top to bottom. The sizes of the characters are swapped, and there are a great many little details, encouraging the children to explore them. A pleasant shade of sepia paper makes the book feel like a precious manuscript.



KĄ MANĖ KAMANĖ

THE HUMBLE BUMBLEBEE

VAINIUS BAKAS | MARIJA SMIRNOVAITĖ



Author: Vainius Bakas
 Illustrator: Marija Smirnovaitė
 Publisher: Žalias kalnas
 Kaunas, 2019
 56 pages, hardcover, 190 x 270 mm
 ISBN 978-609-95964-5-7
 Age: 7+

Nominated for the Book of the Year in 2020, in the children's reading category.

VAINIUS BAKAS (born 1989) is an award-winning poet, literary critic, and the author of five poetry books. He published his first book when he was thirteen years old. His fifth book marks his debut in children's poetry.

MARIJA SMIRNOVAITĖ (born 1978) graduated in pottery and design. She designs pottery, jewellery and postcards and illustrates books. Over a decade, she has illustrated over twenty children's books and won a number of awards. The collection of Lithuanian folk tales, *Aukso kirvukas* (*The Little Golden Axe*), was selected as the most beautifully illustrated book of 2013.

The poetry is gentle and lyrical, rich in metaphors, poetic imagery and subtle playfulness. The reader is challenged and encouraged to discover the limitless potential of language and poetry. The poems focus on the personified, fairy-tale-like world of nature, which also opens a mythical dimension from time to time. Children are invited to look, listen and admire.

Illustrations immerse the viewer in a great sea of colours where tiny characters are scattered. The artist creates an artistic environment which brings the text, the characters and other graphic elements together in perfect harmony.





BIJAU VARLĖS

I'M SCARED OF THE FROG

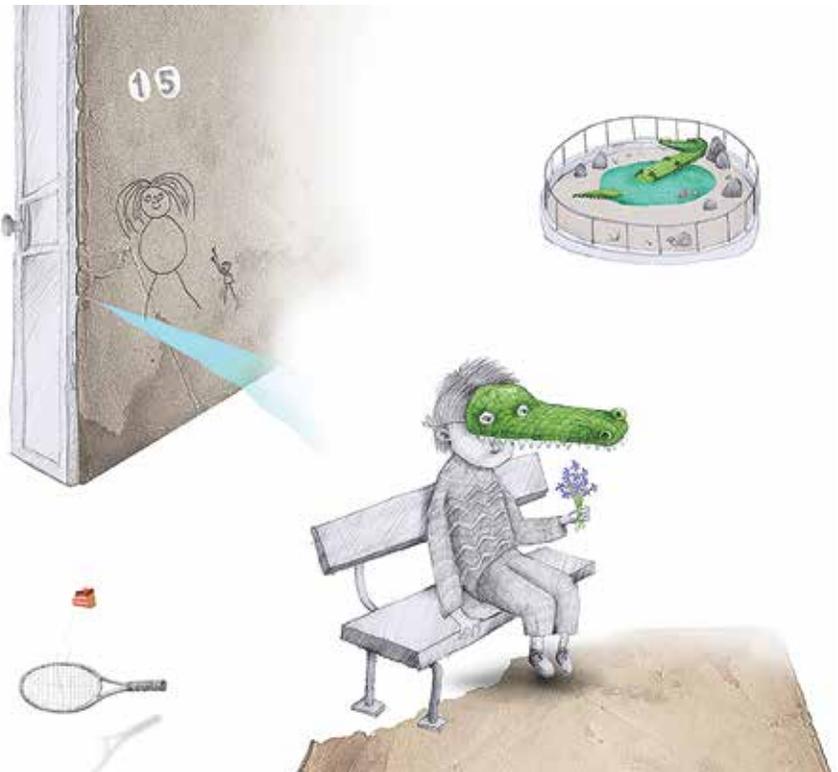
JUOZAS ERLICKAS | MARIJA SMIRNOVAITĖ

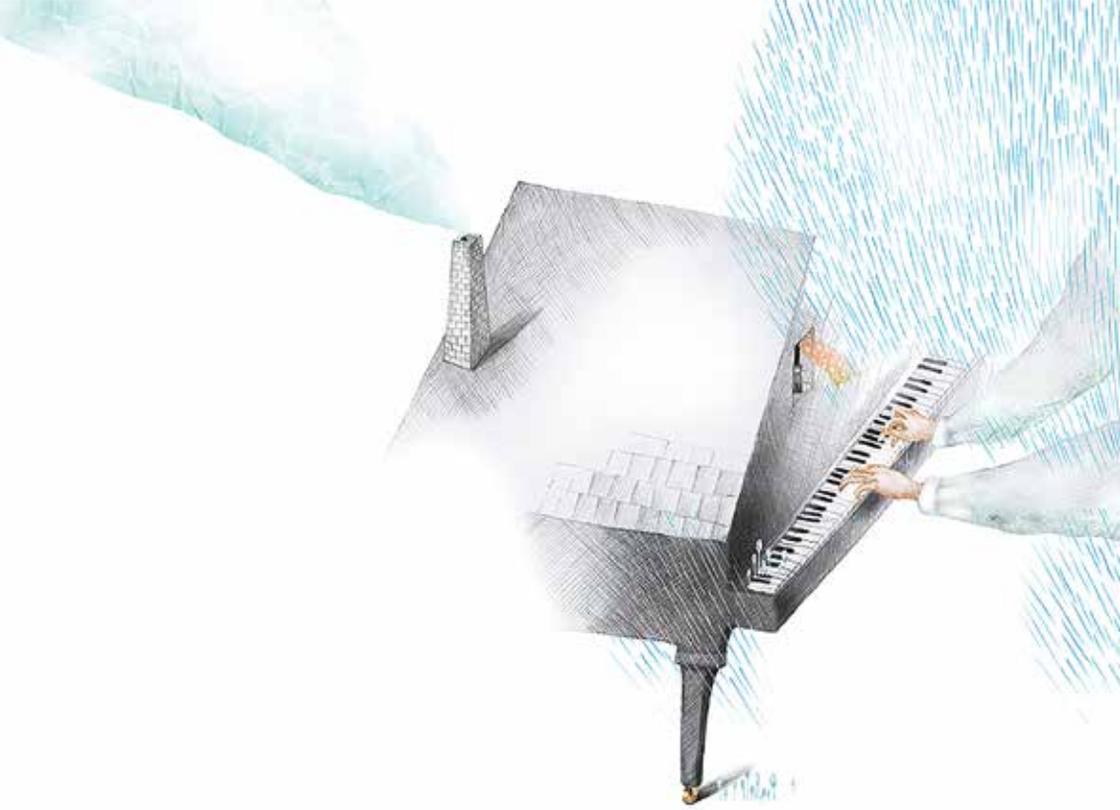


Author: Juozas Erlickas
 Illustrator: Marija Smirnovaitė
 Publisher: Tyto alba, tytoalba.lt
 Vilnius, 2019
 160 pages, hardcover, 180 × 250 mm
 ISBN 978-609-466-412-0
 Age: 7+

JUOZAS ERLICKAS (born 1953) is a prose writer, playwright, poet, critic and one of the most prominent contemporary comedians and satirists. During the first years of Independence, he started working in journalism, playing in concerts and participating in TV shows, and gained wide recognition outside the literary world. He writes children's and young adult poems and has published five books.

MARIJA SMIRNOVAITĖ (born 1978) graduated in pottery and design. She designs pottery, jewellery and postcards and illustrates books. Over a decade, she has illustrated over twenty children's books and won a number of awards. Her collection of Lithuanian folk tales, *Aukso kirvukas* (*The Little Golden Axe*), was selected as the most beautifully illustrated book of 2013.





The book contains over seventy of the poet's best children's poems and more. Some of the poems are playful, amusing and satirical, while others bring a lyrical and nostalgic atmosphere. They might seem clear and simple at first, but they conceal an existential depth beneath the surface, as well as serious and complex questions about life and death, meaning and sadness.

The artist presents digital illustrations with dark, deep colourful backgrounds. She combines realist drawings with surreal environments in this book, reflecting the meanings which are encoded in the poems.

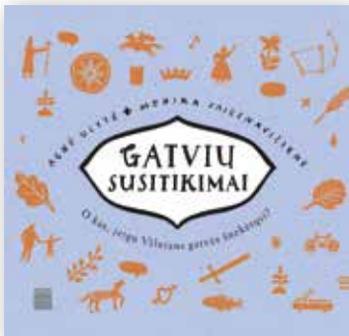
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GATVIŲ SUSITIKIMAI

WHERE STREETS CROSS

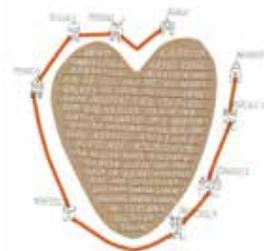
AGNĖ ULYTĖ | MONIKA VAICENAVIČIENĖ



Authors and Illustrators: Agnė Ulytė,
Monika Vaicenavičienė
Publisher: Aukso žuvis, auksozuvus.lt
Vilnius, 2020
215 pages, paperback, 180 × 220
ISBN 978-609-8120-51-6
Age: 10+

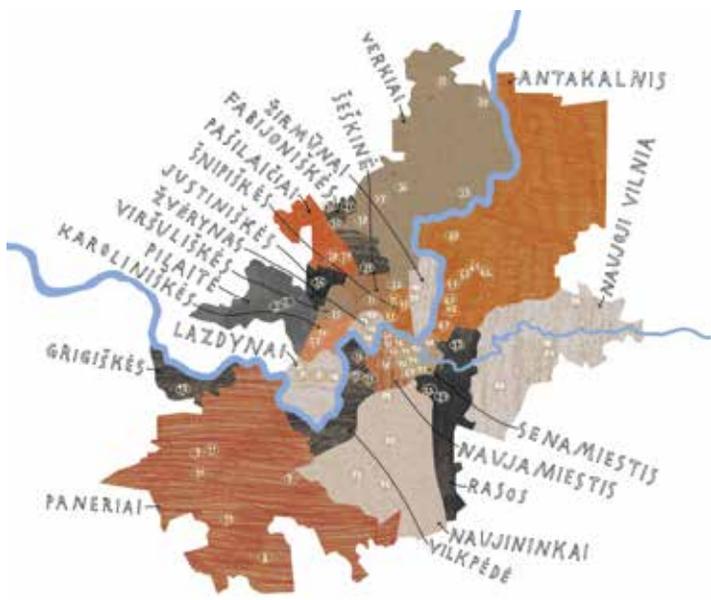
AGNĖ ULYTĖ (born 1992) and **MONIKA VAICENAVIČIENĖ** (born 1991) are two imaginative sisters. Agnė is a doctor and holds a PhD in healthcare science from the University of Zurich. She plays in a jazz band, draws comic-strips and creates scientific illustrations.

Monika Vaicenavičienė graduated from Vilnius Academy of Arts and Stockholm Konstfack University of Arts, Crafts and Design. She creates and illustrates picture books. She is one of the most prominent young illustrators whose books have been recognized in Lithuania and all around the world. Her *Kas yra upė* (*What Is a River?*) won the New Talent Award at the World Illustration Awards in 2018.



Gatvių susitikimai (*Where Streets Cross*) is original, witty and serious in equal measure, intended for both children and adults and their journey across a city. It is an educational book which blends facts and fantasy. The authors don't twist the facts but go on to ask "what if..." instead. They are looking for crossings of streets in Vilnius, which turn into opportunities to discover something in common among those who gave their names to the streets. It doesn't matter whether they're important historical figures, animals or names of natural phenomena.

The book is drawn in Monika Vaicenavičienė's trademark style: each page features a large illustration, sometimes extending as a two-page spread, while the story involves a variety of narrative techniques – maps, encyclopaedia records, portraits, historical accounts, plots and others. The book is large, containing more than two hundred illustrations which are combined in a consistent and original story about the streets of Vilnius.



KAIP MIEGA GYVŪNAI

THE SLEEPING ANIMALS

SELEMONAS PALTANAVIČIUS | MARIJA SMIRNOVAITĖ



Author: Seimonas Paltanavičius
 Illustrator: Marija Smirnovaitė
 Publisher: Tyto alba, tytoalba.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 40 pages, hardcover, 220 ×× 250 mm
 ISBN 978-609-466-461-8
 Age: 6+

Creative and hard-working, **SELEMONAS PALTANAVIČIUS** (born 1956) has been talking, writing and telling stories about nature for over four decades. He has also been hosting a radio show and authored around seventy books of fiction, journalism, education and science. In his books of various genres, he creatively presents scientific facts to children and young adults through beautiful imagery.

MARIJA SMIRNOVAITĖ (born 1978) graduated in pottery and design. She designs pottery, jewellery and postcards and illustrates books. Over a decade, she has illustrated over twenty children's books and won a number of awards. Her collection of Lithuanian folk tales, *Aukso kirvukas* (*The Little Golden Axe*), was selected as the most beautifully illustrated book of 2013.

Everyone sleeps – children and grown-ups, people and animals. But there are so many ways to sleep! Can it be that someone sleeps standing up, flying or upside down? Paltanavičius, the natural scientist and well-known author of educational children's books, tells stories about various ways that different animals sleep: dogs, earthworms, storks and others.

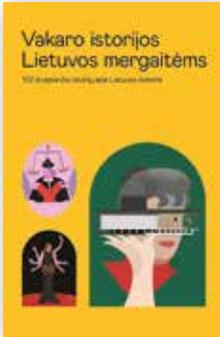
The book's illustrator designs her drawings digitally and uses dark, deep colourful backgrounds in her drawings. She combines realist animal drawings with her trademark portraits of little imps who observe the sleeping animals.



VAKARO ISTORIJOS LIETUVOS MERGAIČĖMS

EVENING STORIES FOR LITHUANIAN GIRLS

VIKTORIJA APRIMAITĖ | VIKTORIJA URBONAITĖ



Authors: Viktorija Aprimaitė and Viktorija Urbonaitė

Illustrators: Jekaterina Budrytė, Margarita Bukšnaitytė, Justina Česnauskaitė, Agnė Gintalaitė and others

Publisher: Dvi tylos, dvitylos.lt

Vilnius, 2020

238 pages, hardcover, 210 × 290 mm

ISBN 978-609-8232-09-7

Ages: 7+

First Prize, Publication Category, Geras Dizainas (Good Design) Awards 2020

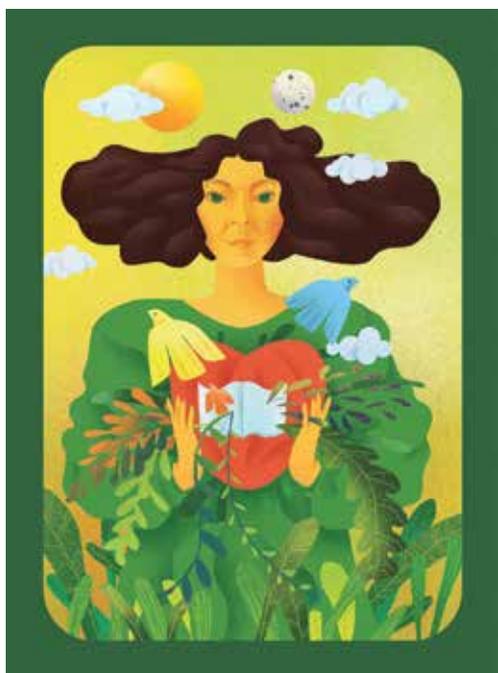
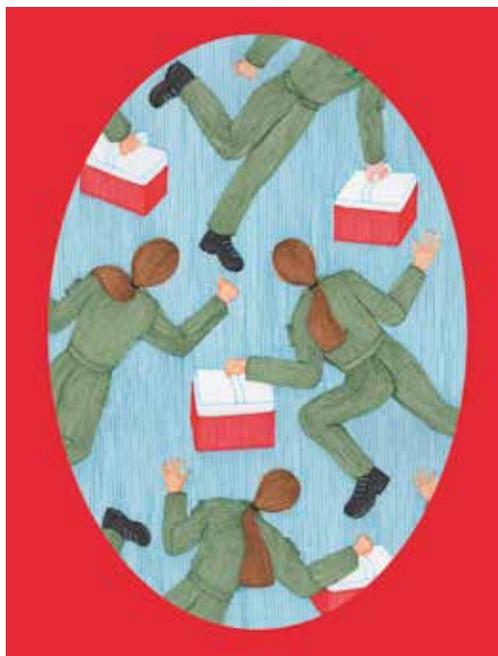
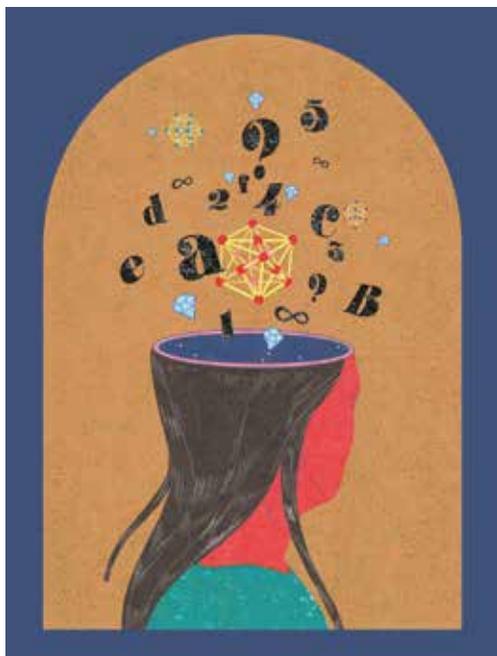
VIKTORIJA APRIMAITĖ graduated in creative industries and communication. She is currently working as a communications specialist at the MO Museum in Vilnius. She founded the breakfast and picnic club *First Blush* and writes for *SwO* urban fashion magazine.

VIKTORIJA URBONAITĖ studied philosophy and religion and teaches creative writing. She is a communications specialist and a consultant on creative projects, and was founder of the *Kregždynas* creative establishment.



Following in the footsteps of major international publishers, the authors decided to tell the story of interesting, headstrong Lithuanian women who succeeded in reaching their goals and whose stories are an inspiration to everyone. The book presents not only well-known social, political and cultural figures, but also lesser known women who boldly pursued what was important and interesting to them.

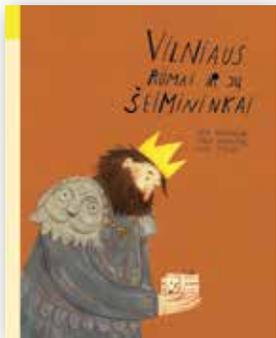
The book has been illustrated by nineteen Lithuanian artists. The illustrations are very different, making the book particularly attractive – they show not only portraits but also reflections of women's professions, pursuits and style.



VILNIAUS RŪMAI IR JŲ ŠEIMININKAI

VILNIUS PALACE AND ITS MASTERS (a comic)

NELĖ KOSTINIENĖ | ŽIVILĖ MIKAILIENĖ | LINA ITAGAKI



Authors: Nelė Kostinienė, Živilė Mikailienė

Illustrator: Lina Itagaki

Publisher: Tikra knyga, tikraknyga.lt

Vilnius, 2019

60 pages, hardcover, 220 × 260 mm

ISBN 978-609-8142-54-9

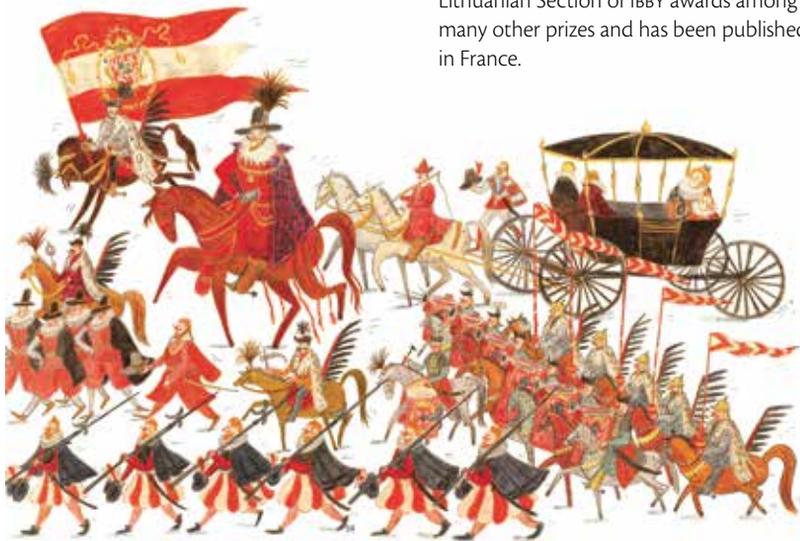
Age: 6+

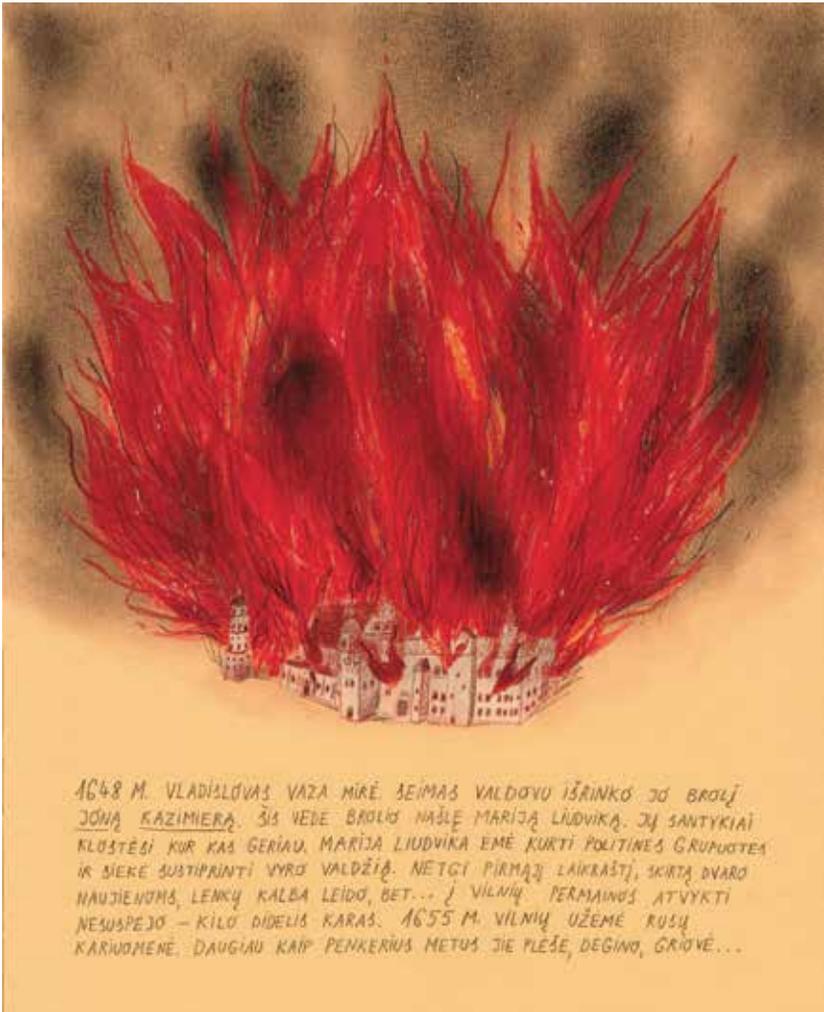
Diploma, Vilnius 2019 Book Art Competition

Nominated in the non-fiction category for the Book of the Year for Children and Young Adults, IBBY Lithuanian Section, 2019

NELĖ KOSTININĖ (born 1966) and **ŽIVILĖ MIKAILIENĖ** (born 1979) are historians and scholars working at the National Museum – the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania.

LINA ITAGAKI (born 1979) graduated in graphic arts from Vilnius Academy of Arts. She works as a freelance illustrator and theatre designer, creates comic strips and teaches Japanese. Co-authored with Jurga Vilė, her graphic novel *Sibirop haiku* (*Siberian Haiku*) achieved great success. It was selected as the Book of the Year and the Most Beautiful Book of the Year in 2017. It won Lithuanian Section of IBBY awards among many other prizes and has been published in France.





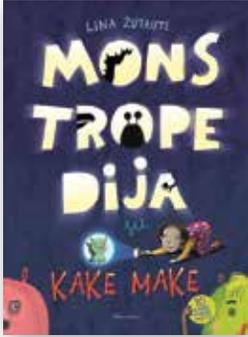
The authors tell the rich and captivating history of Vilnius Palace: the Grand Dukes who resided here, their pursuits and remarkable feats, and some of their amusing adventures. The Palace itself is treated like a character in its own right, telling the story of how it was built and rebuilt as the rulers succeeded each other.

The artist's visual narrative is inspired by the museum exhibits of the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania and authentic material embedded within the illustrations. Telling the story through pictures, she has managed to find equivalents of the styles determined by the epoch and art history – Gothic, Renaissance, Baroque and 21st century realism. It is a contemporary, artistically remarkable historical account of the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania. The book is stylistically very consistent, featuring impressive shades of royal red and gold, the traditional colours of palaces all around the world.

MONSTROPEDIJA SU KAKE MAKE

MONSTROPEDIA WITH NELLY JELLY

LINA ŽUTAUTĖ



Author and Illustrator: Lina Žutautė
 Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 56 pages, hardcover, 240 × 320 mm
 ISBN 978-609-01-4136-6
 Age: 6+

Rights sold to: Latvia, Russia

The writer and artist **LINA ŽUTAUTĖ** (born 1973) is one of the bestselling Lithuanian authors. She has published almost twenty picture books, play books and literary fairy tales over the last decade. She previously worked as an artist and illustrated other authors' books. Her first picture book about an adventurous girl called Kakė Makė (Nelly Jelly) was a great success, and its protagonist went on to become a cult children's book heroine. The series is now comprised of eight books and many accompanying publications featuring the heroine. The literary fairy tale *Ferdinandas ir Pū* (*Ferdinand and Pū*) was selected as Children's and Young Adult Book of the Year in 2012, and included in the IBBY Honour List for 2014.



The new part of the series is a cross between literary fantasy and an encyclopaedia. It tells the story of various monsters which we might encounter in life. The message of the book is that there are no paranormal monsters and that they are actually born in people's minds – sometimes out of anger, sometimes out of fear. If the children learn to deal with these monsters, they will certainly go away.

The artist's creative style is vivid, exceptional and familiar from the earlier books of the Nelly Jelly series. This time, she chooses an encyclopaedic method to arrange the pictures, combining different portraits into a monstrarium and creating a network of curiosities.



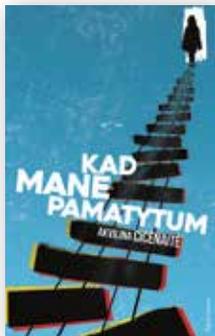
YOUNG
LITTLE
A

GRATITUDE
DULT

KAD MANE PAMATYTUM

SO YOU WOULD SEE ME

AKVILINA CICÉNAITĖ



Author: Akvilina Cicėnaitė

Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt

Vilnius, 2020

188 pages, paperback, 130 × 200 mm

ISBN 978-609-01-4043-7

Age: 13+

**Nominated for the Book of Year in 2020,
in the teen reading category**

AKVILINA CICÉNAITĖ (born 1979) is referred to as a young adult writer. She grew up in Vilnius but moved to the other side of the world after graduating. She obtained a PhD in New Zealand and has been living in Australia since 2012. It was by coincidence that she found herself involved in young adult literature. Her creative career started from popular stories for girls and then moved on to problem novels. She has published eight books so far and won multiple awards for her work.

As the year 2000 is approaching, the world is getting ready for the Apocalypse. But fourteen-year-old Gilė feels that the Apocalypse might be even closer than that. Her life is a downward spiral: she feels painfully unfulfilled, and jealous, with a hint of fascination, of her best friend who seems to succeed in everything too easily. But her home is the worst. Her grandmother is restless, she doesn't get along with her brother, her father has a new family and doesn't care much about the old one. Her mother, who has been pining away for many months, has now resurfaced but only to find a new husband. She's immersed in esoterica, detached from the whole world, and especially from her daughter. Gilė feels alone, unwanted and invisible. Finally, having lost all hope, she decides to run away from home, without the faintest idea where to seek refuge in the middle of winter. This problem novel is written in a light style but touches incredibly important and deep topics.

LOTA

DIANA GANC



Author: Diana Ganc
 Publisher: Dominicus Lituanius, dominicus.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 118 pages, hardcover, 140 x 210 mm
 ISBN 978-609-8227-17-8
 Age: 14+

**Nominated for the Book of Year in 2020,
 in the teen reading category**

DIANA GANC (born Gancevskaitė, 1983) doesn't identify her activities as main or subsidiary – she is simply a versatile artist. According to her, she “works in the area of the creative universe” – she is a writer, translator and actress. She has starred in the plays of the legendary director Eimuntas Nekrošius, written texts and plays, as well as a libretto for the children's musical *Benediktas ir žirafa* (*Benedict and the Giraffe*), and translated three young adult books from English. This is her debut as a children's/young adult writer.

Lota is going through a very hard time. She has lost her mother. She has a tense relationship with her father who works as an HGV driver and doesn't spend much time at home. She's angry, very angry at everyone. Moreover, her best friend suffers from depression and needs Lota very much. But Lota doesn't have the strength anymore to be a responsible daughter, a good friend, or even to do the simplest of tasks: rake up the leaves or take the dog outside. She just wants to stay at home and hide under the covers. Written in a stream of consciousness, the novella centres on the fourteen-year-old protagonist who tries to control the uncontrollable world and find the strength to conquer things that seem unconquerable.

JUODAVANDENIAI

BLACK WATER SPRITES

IGNĖ ZARAMBAITĖ



Author: Ignė Zarambaitė
 Publisher: Niekorimto, niekorimto.lt
 Vilnius, 2020
 144 pages, hardcover, 140 × 210 mm
 ISBN 978-609-441-616-3
 Age: 15+

**Nominated for the Book of Year in 2020,
 in the teen reading category**

After leaving her job as an economist and manager in Vilnius, **IGNĖ ZARAMBAITĖ** (born 1988) returned to her hometown and started a career as a children's author in 2015. She has published five books for children and young adults. She also teaches, paints, and designs interior decorations and dolls.

The writer's first young adult novella involves intrigues, dangerous teenage games, love and hate. The story centres on sixteen-year-old Ana who returns to a place which she and her mother once fled. Ana was bullied by her classmates for being overweight, but they can't recognize her now. Not only is her appearance different, but she has also changed her name. But is it possible to start afresh in one's hometown? Are the shadows of the past going to catch up with the present? After a party ends in the death of one of Ana's classmates, everyone is forced to examine their consciences and find out the truth about what happened.

ŠILTNAMIS

THE GREENHOUSE

VYTAUTAS VARANIUS



Author: Vytautas Varanius
 Publisher: Alma littera, almalittera.lt
 Vilnius, 2019
 208 pages, paperback, 130 × 200mm
 ISBN 978-609-01-3909-7
 Age: 14+

Laureate of Young Adults Book of the Year Competition 2019

Nominated for the Children's and Young Adult Awards, in the category of a debut in children's literature, Lithuanian Section of IBBY, 2019

VYTAUTAS VARANIUS (born 1991) is a writer, translator, literary critic and musician. He always had a dream of becoming a writer and he didn't waste time – he wrote his first book during his final year at school. He graduated in Lithuanian philology and intermedial literature from Vilnius University. He works on various creative projects and writes short stories, essays and book reviews. This is his second book and his debut in children's/young adult literature.

There's not much light in sixteen-year-old Elvinas's life. He's bullied at school, his mother has abandoned the family and he doesn't have much in common with his father. His only joy is his little sister whom he feels responsible for. One day, a new girl shows up in his class. The two of them fall in love. Elvinas's life is turned upside down. But not all stories end happily ever after. How much can a young person take before they're broken? The book features an authentic voice of a young man, a dark atmosphere and the underlying will to survive. Many painful themes are touched upon, including bullying, unprotected sex, and suicide.

Translation Grant Programme - The Illustrated Books (Children's Picture Books & Graphic Novels) Grant

WHO CAN APPLY?

The Programme is open to foreign publishers for the translation of Lithuanian literature or literary works related to Lithuania.

WHEN TO APPLY?

Deadlines for the submission of applications are 1 April and 1 October.

WHAT DOES THE GRANT COVER?

The Illustrated Books (Children's Picture Books & Graphic Novels) Grant covers up to 100% of translation costs and additional publishing costs to a maximum of 1000 EUR (copyright licence, illustrations, editing, design, printing, etc.).

WHAT MUST THE ILLUSTRATED BOOKS GRANT APPLICATION INCLUDE?

- a completed application form,
- a copy of the contract with the owner of the rights,
- a copy of the contract with the translator (if translation costs are applied for),
- the translator's qualifications (e.g. cv, previous translations) (if translation costs are applied for),
- a brief presentation of the publishing house,
- a short cover letter justifying the proposed application.

For further information, please contact Kotryna Pranckūnaite
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www.lithuanianculture.lt

Published by the Lithuanian Culture Institute



MINISTRY OF CULTURE OF
THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

PRINTED IN LITHUANIA BY

Baltijos kopija

TRANSLATED BY

Kotryna Garanašvili

EDITED BY

Jeremy Hill

DESIGN AND LAYOUT BY

Gytis Skudžinskas

TEXTS BY

Eglė Baliutavičiūtė, Roma Kišūnaite
and Jolita Liškevičienė

PAPER

Munken Lynx 130 gsm

EDITION

350

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ISSN 2669-2422