

BEST

LITHUANIAN BOOKS

FOR

CHILDREN

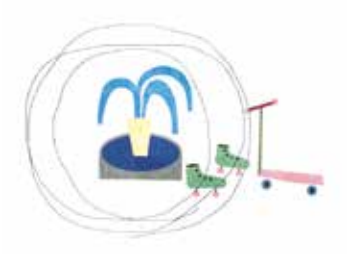
AND

YOUNG ADULTS



Selection of the Lithuanian Section of IBBY

2024



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Selection of the Lithuanian Section of IBBY





INTRODUCTION

This catalogue presents a selection of highly acclaimed books of children's literature published in Lithuania in 2024. In recent years, children's book publishing in Lithuania has been truly rich and abundant. In 2024, approximately 170 new and reprinted children's books by Lithuanian authors were published. This extensive production of children's books is inspired and supported by continued attention to children's literature, where the Lithuanian section of IBBY plays a significant role.

Since 1993, IBBY Lithuania has been reviewing and analysing children's books and awarding prizes. These prizes aim to encourage the publication of artistically meritorious Lithuanian children's fiction, high-quality translations, illustrations, non-fiction literature, as well as research in children's literature, its promotion, and reading initiatives. Additionally, they serve to assist educators, librarians, and parents in navigating the publishing landscape and selecting high-quality and appropriate books. The books which receive awards must be new, artistically and pedagogically valuable, and enrich Lithuanian children's literature. Currently,

eight prizes are awarded: the Pranas Mašiotas Prize for the best Lithuanian fiction book for children and young adults, the Prize for the best picture book for children, the Domicėlė Tarabildienė Prize for the most beautifully illustrated children's book of the year, the Aldona Liobytė Prize for the most significant children's literature debut of the year, the Eugenija Stravinskienė Prize for the most important translated children's book, the Adomas Druktenis Prize for the most important translated young adult book, the Prize for the best non-fiction book for children and young adults, and the Vincas Auryla Prize for the year's most outstanding achievements in the fields of children's literature, book arts, librarianship, literary dissemination, and reading promotion.

The names of these awards honour individuals who have made significant contributions to Lithuanian children's literature in their respective fields: the writers Pranas Mašiotas (1863–1940), often called the 'father of Lithuanian children's literature', and Aldona Liobytė (1915–1985), who supported young literary talents; the translators Eugenija Stravinskienė (1928–2004) and Adomas Druktenis (1931–2019); the illustrator Domicėlė Tarabildienė (1912–1985); and the literary scholar and children's literature researcher Vincas Auryla (1923–2009). The winners of these awards are honoured during the International Children's Book Day celebration. Laureates receive diplomas, monetary prizes, and gifts. The awards are supported by private individuals and institutions.

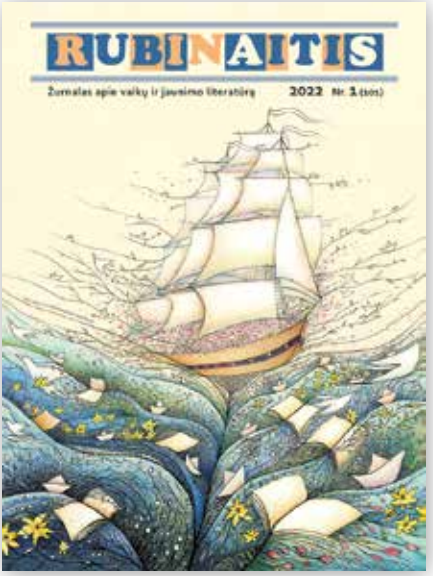
The Lithuanian section of IBBY publishes the journal *Rubinaitis*, which features reviews, articles and analyses of both Lithuanian and international children's literature. Special attention is given each year to newly published books. In 2024, the journal celebrated its 30th anniversary, and for this reason, it is highlighted in this catalogue as a valuable resource for the dissemination and study of Lithuanian and global children's literature.

This catalogue presents thirty publications – the journal *Rubinaitis* and 29 books. These works span a wide range of themes, genres and styles, showcasing diverse literary and artistic approaches. We celebrate the richness and quality of Lithuanian writers and illustrators and invite readers, translators and publishers to explore and share Lithuanian literature. We believe that Lithuanian children's literature deserves recognition and it is our sincere hope and belief that it will find its way into the hearts of children and young adults around the world.

Prof. Dr. Džiuljeta Maskuliūnienė,
Chair of the IBBY Lithuanian Section

RUBINAITIS

– Lithuanian Journal about Children's and Young Adult Literature



A Brief History of the Journal

Rubinaitis is a journal about children's and young adult literature, the only publication of its kind in Lithuania. It is published by the Lithuanian section of the International Board on Books for Young People (IBBY), which was established in 1992. The journal first appeared at the end of 1994. The first hundred issues (except for the very first, edited by Jolanta Zabarauskienė) were edited by Associate Professor Dr. Kęstutis Urba, a renowned specialist in children's literature. Since issue 101, the journal's editor-in-chief has been the literary scholar Professor Dr. Džiuljeta Maskuliūnienė.

Rubinaitis is one of the most significant activities of the Lithuanian IBBY section, holding an enduring significance for the country's cultural heritage. The founding of *Rubinaitis* was partly inspired by the international IBBY journal *Bookbird*, which began publication in 1957. In 2024, the 112th issue of *Rubinaitis* was published. With this anniversary issue, *Rubinaitis* celebrated 30 years of activity.

Why Is the Journal Called *Rubinaitis*?

The journal's name has deep significance, rooted in the history of both Lithuanian and global children's literature. The first novella for Lithuanian children and young adults was written around 1833–1834 by Lithuanian literary classic and historian Simonas Daukantas (1793–1864). It was titled *Rubinaičio Peliūzės gyvenimas* (*The Life of Rubinaitis Peliūzė*). For nearly 150 years, it remained only a manuscript. It was only

in 1984 that it became accessible to readers – in fact, primarily adults. Daukantas' novella is not entirely original; it follows the narrative of *Robinson der Jüngere* (*Robinson the Younger*) by a German author, Joachim Heinrich Campe, which itself was a descendant of the famous *Robinson Crusoe* by Daniel Defoe. Therefore, Rubinaitis is the Lithuanian Robinson Crusoe. It is one of the earliest works written for young readers in Lithuania.

The Mission, Vision and Readership of the Journal

Rubinaitis has a noble mission – to unite people committed to children's and young adult literature, to create engaging and valuable content reflecting this literary field, and to encourage a culture of reading in society.

The vision of this Lithuanian journal about children's and young adult literature is to remain high-quality, diverse, visually appealing and modern – keeping pace with the times while preserving the literary traditions established over decades of publication. It maintains a focus on earlier children's literature while upholding the *Rubinaitis* spirit, which traces its origins back to the works of Simonas Daukantas.

The journal is intended for teachers, librarians, literary researchers, writers, illustrators, publishers, parents, students, and everyone with an interest in children's and young adult literature. Naturally, it may also be of interest to secondary school students, particularly those with a passion for philology, books, visual arts and illustration.

The Journal's Columns

The structure and content of the journal are best revealed through its columns. Over time, the journal's structure has evolved and expanded. Some columns have existed since the journal's inception, while others appeared later. Many new columns were introduced starting with issue 101, when the journal increased in size and updated its format, cover design and interior layout.

Each issue begins with an editorial article, most of which in the past were written by the former editor-in-chief, Kęstutis Urba. Currently, the introductory text is written by the current editor-in-chief, Džiuljeta Maskuliūnienė. Editorial articles often highlight a particular issue in children's literature or introduce the theme of the issue.



An important traditional column is *Reviews*. These are published annually to assess and analyse the previous year's selection of children's books. Writing these reviews requires an enormous effort – sometimes, a reviewer must read 40 to 50 books to complete an evaluation. These reviews are eagerly anticipated by both readers and authors, as they provide insights into how a new book is received and what criteria were used to assess it. Separate reviews cover different genres, including realistic prose, fairy-tale prose, poetry, nonfiction children's literature, children's literature translations, and books by Lithuanian illustrators. In the journal's early years, fewer reviews were written, but as the literary field expanded, specialisation became necessary. The body of reviews written over 30 years reflects the monumental work accomplished over these decades.

Another long-standing *Rubinaitis* tradition is commemorating International Children's Book Day on 2 April. On this occasion, the journal publishes translations of messages from children's authors around the world, along with that year's official poster. Lithuanian children's literature creators are also honoured – winners of the Lithuanian Children's Literature Award (now called the Pranas Mašiotas Award) address the children of Lithuania through the pages of *Rubinaitis*. The journal has preserved the thoughts of a constellation of Lithuanian authors in the history of children's literature. Some of the greats are no longer with us – Vytautė Žilinskaitė, Leonardas Gutauskas, Gendrutis Morkūnas. Translating their and other Lithuanian children's literature classics' works into foreign languages would be highly beneficial for introducing them to global audiences.

The *Articles* and *Anniversaries* columns feature popular science articles on various topics related to children's literature, as well as highlights of important anniversaries of authors and their books. The *My Childhood Readings* column has become a classic and a favourite among readers – so far, 111 individuals have shared their memories. Many of them are no longer with us… These texts are valuable for literary and cultural history, providing insights that extend beyond children's literature. The *Bibliography* column remains an essential feature, presenting factually accurate and highly useful information on the landscape of children's literature in Lithuania. To save space, bibliographies are now provided via QR codes. The *Chronicle, Information, Announcements* column serves as an annual record, capturing important children's literature events in Lithuania and worldwide.

A recent addition to the journal is the *Scientific Research* column, published in the fourth issue of each year. This column features peer-reviewed academic articles. *Rubinaitis* believes it is essential to create a specialised platform where children's and young adult literature can be examined at a scholarly level. Despite this academic turn, the journal maintains its educational and promotional mission. The readership of *Rubinaitis* (ranging from teachers and children's literature researchers to parents and students) calls for a variety of approaches to discussions about children's literature. The journal strives to meet these expectations.

What is the Journal's Value?

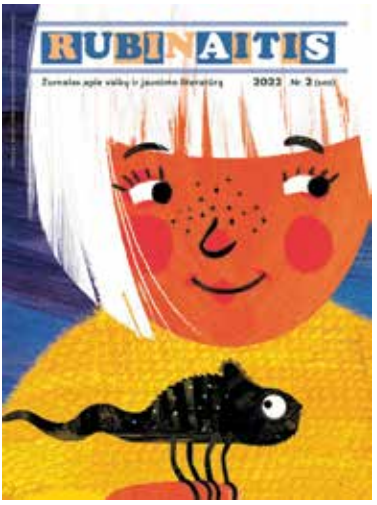
Having a journal dedicated exclusively to children's and young adult literature is a significant achievement. It informs the public (including specialists, parents, students and everyone with an interest in children's literature), promotes professional research in children's literature, and influences the development of the field. Of course, practical benefits are also crucial for readers. *Rubinaitis* provides information on what is new, interesting and important in children's literature, reviews notable Lithuanian

and international children's books, offers reading guidance, highlights important anniversaries, and presents the best books of the year.

An additional highlight is that each issue includes a comprehensive English summary, detailing new books reviewed, articles published, and other features. This information also serves publishers and other professionals in the field of children's literature around the world.

Prof. Dr. Džiuljeta Maskuliūnienė,
Editor-in-Chief of *Rubinaitis*

Rubinaitis website: http://www.ibbylietuva.lt
Editorial contact: rubinaitis@ibbylietuva.lt









PICTU

RE BOOKS

THE DARK SPOT OF LIGHT

ŠVIESOS JUODULIS

BRIGITA BUTKEVIČIŪTĖ



Author: Brigita Butkevičiūtė
Illustrator: Brigita Butkevičiūtė
Publisher: Žalias kalnas, 2024
zaliaskalnas.lt
48 pages, hardback, 20.6 x 26.6 x 1 cm
ISBN 9786098310160
Age: 3+



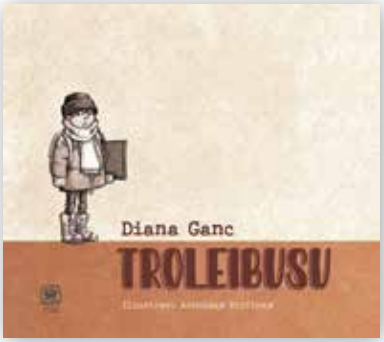


This is a picture book by the young artist Brigita Butkevičiūtė, revolving around the story of a girl named Morta. One day, while playing outside, Morta notices that something has attached itself to her. It's completely dark, almost black, and no matter how much she turns or tries to run away – it doesn't leave her and keeps following her. What is it? Maybe there is no need to be afraid and she should try to get to know it instead? This is a fun story about a girl who tames her fear. The book's narrative is very dynamic, visually striking, and expressive, inviting readers to look around more attentively, to notice others and themselves. This book is the most recent creative project of a graduate from the Kaunas Faculty of Vilnius Academy of Arts in Graphic Design, which has been turned into a book for young readers.

ON A TROLLEYBUS

TROLEIBUSU

DIANA GANC | ARNOLDAS PRIČINAS



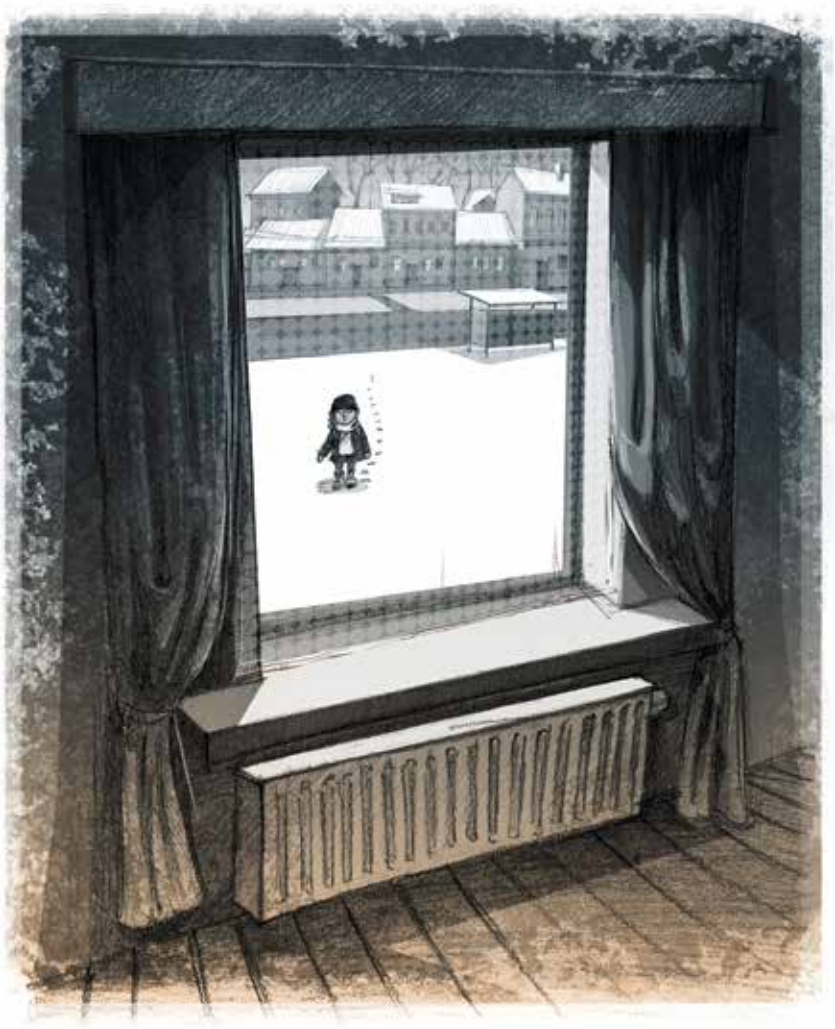
Author: Diana Ganc
Illustrator: Arnoldas Pričinas
Publisher: Žalias kalnas, 2024
zaliaskalnas.lt
28 pages, hardback, 28.7 x 25.2 x 0.8 cm
ISBN 9786098310146
Age: 5+

DIANA GANC (b. 1983) is a writer, translator, playwright and actress, who was nominated for the Golden Stage Cross in 2010. Her debut book for young adults, *Lota*, published in 2020, was nominated in the young adult category of the Book of the Year awards. The author regularly writes articles about children's and young adult literature, theatre and culture.

ARNOLDAS PRIČINAS (b. 1965) is an animator and illustrator. In 1990, he completed his studies in graphic design at the Klaipėda Faculty of the Vilnius Academy of Arts. He has worked at the Lithuanian Film Studio.





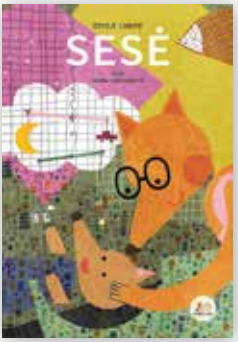


Riding a trolleybus is part of everyday life for Rokas, who lives in the city. Each day, as he rides, the same views pass by the window, and the trolleybus is always crowded with people. But one day, the usual journey is not the same. Rokas keeps thinking about his grandmother. He used to visit her after getting off the trolleybus, and they would wait together in the evening for his mother to pick him up after work. What has happened to his grandmother, and where has Morkis, the cat who always sits on the windowsill, disappeared to? The author crafts a heartfelt and psychologically layered story, authentically conveying the emotions and worldview of a child through expressive details and subtle nuances.

SISTER

SESĖ

ŽIVILĖ LABUTĖ | SIMONA JURČIUKONYTĖ



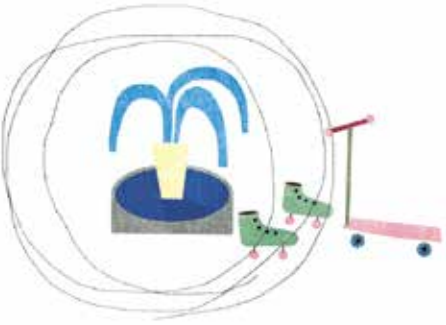
Author: Živilė Labutė
Illustrator: Simona Jurčiukonytė
Publisher: Živilė Labutė, 2024
gudrilape.lt
32 pages, hardback, 18.3 × 26.6 × 0.9 cm
ISBN 9786090803097
Age: 4+



In her debut picture book for children, the educationalist **ŽIVILĖ LABUTĖ** (b. 1989) explores an experience familiar to many: the arrival of a new sibling in the family. The story follows a curious and playful fox, who dreams of having a sister. One day, her wish comes true, but not quite as expected – instead of a sister, she receives… a baby brother! Feeling confused and somewhat disappointed, the little fox makes a wise decision: even though she longed for a sister, she resolves to become the best sister possible to her brother.

The book's illustrations were created by young-generation children's book illustrator **SIMONA JURČIUKONYTĖ** (b. 1994), marking her third illustrated book. Warm colours, monumental yet refined forms with intricate textures, and expressive drawings create a cosy home atmosphere. The book's illustrations were selected by the Lithuanian section of IBBY as one of the top three best-illustrated books in Lithuania in 2024.









DADDY MARSELIS' TONGUE

TĖČIO MARSELIO LIEŽUVIS

PAULIUS NORVILA | PATRICIJA BLIUJ-STODULSKA





Author: Paulius Norvila
Illustrator: Patricija Bliuj-Stodulska
Publisher: Baltos lankos, 2024
baltoslankos.lt
40 pages, hardback, 22.1 × 27.7 × 1 cm
ISBN 9786094799730
Age: 5+

This picture book by writer, poet and translator **PAULIUS NORVILA** (b. 1985) is meant for both children and adults, especially those burdened by countless worries and responsibilities – just like Daddy Marselis, who never finds time to read his favourite magazine. Obligations, unexpected errands and small family events always overshadow personal joys. The book encourages readers to notice each other more, talk with loved ones, share secrets, concerns and feelings, and grow together.

The book's artistic language is unique: charming anthropomorphic lions take on the warm and familiar features of family members, while the ever-changing dynamics of the illustrations capture both the absurdity and beauty of everyday life. Children's book illustrator **PATRICIJA BLIUJ-STODULSKA** studied illustration in Warsaw and now works in Vilnius. As a mother of four, she deeply related to the character of Daddy Marselis while illustrating this book!



IN BOB'S MOUTH

KĄ PRARIJO BOBAS?

ALFREDO PANICONI | LINA ITAGAKI





Author: Alfredo Paniconi
Illustrator: Lina Itagaki
Publisher: Misteris Pinkmanas, 2024
pinkmanas.com
58 pages, hardback, 23.2 x 27.8 x 0.9 cm
ISBN 9786098346039
Age: 3+





Bob is a very good, sweet, obedient and much loved dog. But Bob has one tiny flaw – he keeps eating everything in sight, until one day, the homework disappears…

This picture book about the gluttonous Bob was written by Italian author **ALFREDO PANICONI**. The illustrations were created by the renowned Lithuanian artist **LINA ITAGAKI** (b. 1980), who is famous for her comic-style drawings. According to the illustrator, working on this book required stretching her imagination to the limit in order to fit a dentist, an ice cream truck, and even an airplane inside Bob! The book's striking artistic language makes it appealing to both children and adults. Lina Itagaki has illustrated over ten books, many of which have won prestigious awards and been translated into multiple languages. She is frequently invited to participate in international projects, where many of her illustrated books were conceived.

BUZZ BUZZ BZZT AT HOME

BZ BZ BZT NAMUOSE

INDRĖ PLIUŠKYTĖ-ZALIECKIENĖ



Author: Indrė Pliuškytė-Zalieckienė
Illustrator: Indrė Pliuškytė-Zalieckienė
Publisher: Alma littera, 2024
almalittera.lt
16 pages, hardback, 20 x 20 x 1 cm
ISBN 9786090159774
Age: 0+

INDRĖ PLIUŠKYTĖ-ZALIECKIENĖ (b. 1978) is a poet and illustrator. She leads literary educational programmes for preschool and elementary school children. She has published six children's books, all of which she illustrates herself. Her rhyming picture book *Kapt kapt kapt* (*Drop Drop Drop*, 2020) was awarded the Lithuanian Section of IBBY Prize for the most significant debut in children's literature. Her poetry book *Kaip sutramdyti žvėryną* (*How to Tame a Menagerie*, 2021) won the Children's Book of the Year award. The rhyming book *Abėcėlė virtuvėje* (*ABC in the Kitchen*, 2023) was included in the top ten most highly estimated children's books of the year.



This book is part of the *My First Book* series. It was written and illustrated by the same author. The story is about a fly that causes chaos in the daily lives of family members. The playful and humorous content engages young children, while the simple rhyming text helps them memorise words more easily. As children read the text and explore the illustrations, they follow the fly and become familiar with objects in their everyday environment. The illustrations feature contrasting colours and clear shapes. The book develops attentiveness and curiosity, while the rhyming text enhances language skills. The repetitive onomatopoeic sounds imitating the buzzing of a fly add to the book's playfulness. The book has thick pages with rounded corners, making it easy for even the youngest children to handle. It aligns with the developmental stage of children aged 0–2 but will also appeal to slightly older readers.



A MIXED-UP STORY

SUPAINIOTA ISTORIJA

PAULIUS VARNELĖ | GIEDRĖ RINGELEVIČIENĖ

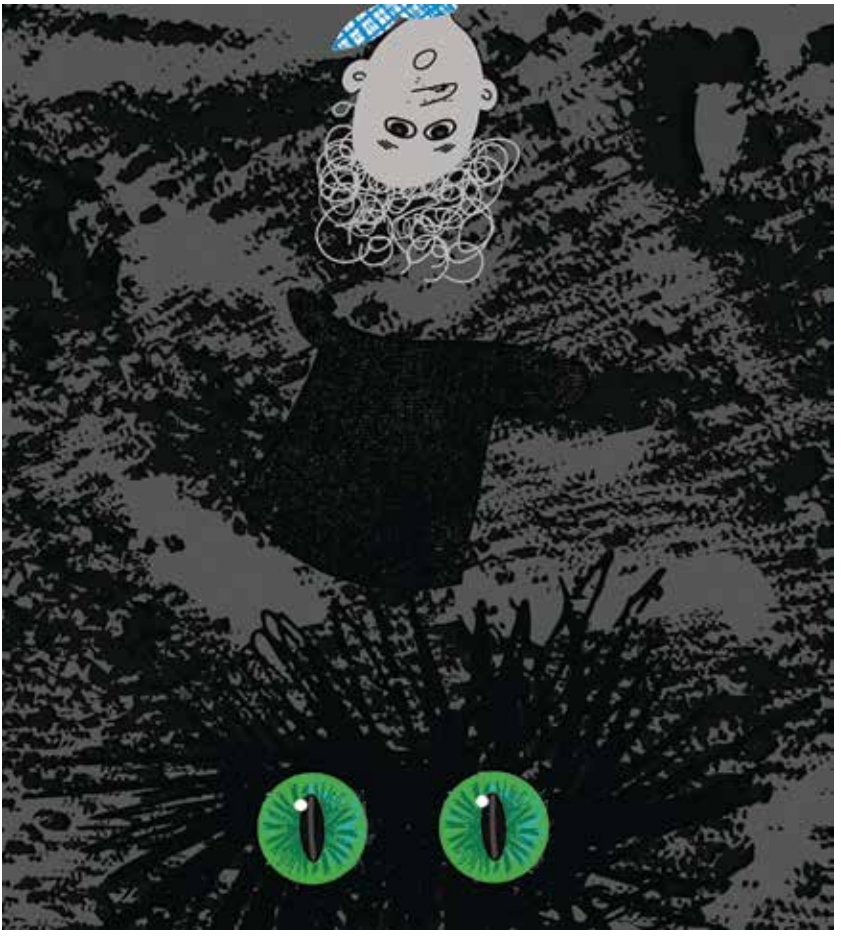


Author: Paulius Varnelė
Illustrator: Giedrė Ringelevičienė
Publisher: Charity and Support Fund
Švieskime vaikus, 2024
svieskimevaikus.lt
32 pages, softcover, 22 x 24.5 cm
ISBN 9786098161731
Age: 5+

PAULIUS VARNELĖ (b. 1963) is a children's writer and organiser of music events. He lives and works in Vilnius. He has written three children's books: *Trumpa pasakėlė apie Karaliuką Burbuliuką* (*A Short Tale About the Little King Burbuliukas*, 2021) which was awarded the Debut Prize at the 7th National Children's Literature Competition in 2019, *Vėlyvi mažojo Karaliuko pusryčiai* (*The Late Breakfast of Little King*, 2024), awarded First Prize at the 10th National Children's Literature Competition in 2022, and *Supainiota istorija* (*A Mixed-Up Story*, 2024), awarded Third Prize at the 10th National Children's Literature Competition in 2022.

GIEDRĖ RINGELEVIČIENĖ (b. 1970) is a graphic designer and book illustrator working at the publishing house *Šviesa*. She lives in Vilnius and studied architecture at the Vilnius Academy of Arts. She has designed books and albums for the Palace of the Grand Dukes of Lithuania and the Lithuanian Art Museum. She illustrated Astra Kar's book *Mamų pasakos* (*Mothers' Tales*, 2015), *Viščiukas Pūkas* (*Little Chick Pūkas*, 2017) by Liuda Petkevičiūtė, *Kaip Čiurlionis* (*Like Čiurlionis*, 2023) and two baby books about M. K. Čiurlionis: *Būsiu tau žvaigžde* (*I Will Be Your Star*, 2024) and *Per pievas pas tave* (*Through the Meadows to You*, 2024) by Jolanta Lunevičienė.

A Mixed-Up Story is a fun tale about a Baker who is renowned for his delicious, fragrant cakes, and the chimney of his bakery, which suddenly becomes clogged. The Baker asks for the help of a Chimney Sweep. While unclogging the chimney, the Chimney Sweep becomes confused: who is helping him? He is working from one side, and the Baker from the other. The mix-up is caused by a pair of mysterious green eyes! Giedrė Ringelevičienė's expressive illustrations enhance the humorous miscommunications: after all, it's hard to hear and see clearly inside a chimney! Read the book to find out how this amusing story ends. This is a tale of an unexpected friendship and adventures in everyday life.



THE LATE BREAKFAST OF LITTLE KING

VĖLYVI MAŽOJO KARALIUKO PUSRYČIAI

PAULIUS VARNELĖ | MARIJA SMIRNOVAITĖ



Author: Paulius Varnelė
Illustrator: Marija Smirnovaitė
Publisher: Charity and Support Fund
Švieskime vaikus, 2024
svieskimevaikus.lt
56 pages, softcover, 22 × 24.5 cm
ISBN 9786098161700
Age: 5+



PAULIUS VARNELĖ (b. 1963) is a children's writer and organiser of music events. He lives and works in Vilnius. He has written three children's books: *Trumpa pasakėlė apie Karaliuką Burbuliuką* (*A Short Tale About Little King Burbuliukas*, 2021), which was awarded the Debut Prize at the 7th National Children's Literature Competition in 2019, *Vėlyvi mažojo Karaliuko pusryčiai* (*The Late Breakfast of Little King*, 2024), awarded First Prize at the 10th National Children's Literature Competition in 2022, and *Supainiota istorija* (*A Mixed-Up Story*, 2024), awarded Third Prize at the 10th National Children's Literature Competition in 2022.

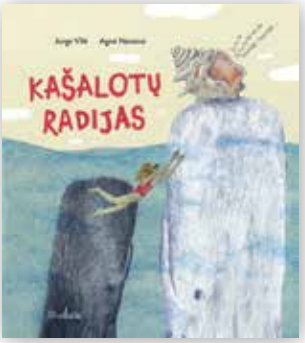
MARIJA SMIRNOVAITĖ (b. 1978) is a ceramist, artist and illustrator, well-known in both Lithuania and abroad. She has illustrated over 50 children's books. She studied ceramics and design at the Vilnius Academy of Arts. She lives and creates in Vilnius. The book *Udo ir Dra niekaip nesusikalba* (*Udo and Dra Can't Communicate at All*, 2012), which she illustrated, won the IBBY Best Book for the Youngest Readers Award; *Karžygiuko istorija* (*The Story of a Little Knight*, 2012) by Ingrida Vizbaraitė was selected as the IBBY Children's Book of the Year; in 2013, her illustrations for the Lithuanian folk tale collection *Aukso kirvukas* (*The Golden Hatchet*) won the Domicėlė Tarabildienė Award for the Most Beautiful Book; and *Ką manė kamanė* (*The Humble Bumblebee*, 2019) by Vainius Bakas was awarded the IBBY Children's Book of the Year. Marija Smirnovaitė has also illustrated books by authors from Slovenia, Poland, South Korea and the United Kingdom.

Vėlyvi mažojo Karaliuko pusryčiai (*The Late Breakfast of Little King*) is a sequel to the author's earlier book *Trumpa pasakėlė apie Karaliuką Burbuliuką* (*A Short Tale About Little King Burbuliukas*, 2021). The second book tells an amusing story of a (not so) royal event in the Kingdom of Troliprofia: the disappearance of the Cook and the missing profiteroles for breakfast. Since the Cook is nowhere to be found in the Kitchen, the King and Little King set off to the Distant Forest. They learn from the Guard that the Cook has been kidnapped by a dragon. During their quest for breakfast, the characters experience many exciting adventures, full of playful and nonsensical misunderstandings, which unfold most vividly through their conversations with each other and with a crow, a bear, and even the dragon itself. Marija Smirnovaitė's delicate pastel illustrations inspire and enhance the reader's imagination.

THE WHALE RADIO

KAŠALOTŲ RADIJAS

JURGA VILĖ | AGNĖ NANANAI



Author: Jurga Vilė
Illustrator: Agnė Nananai
Publisher: 700 eilučių, 2023
700eiluciu.lt
40 pages, hardback, 25 × 27.7 × 0.7 cm
ISBN 9786098288131
Age: 7+

The Lithuanian writer and translator **JURGA VILĖ** (b. 1977) dedicates this book to animals. *Kašalotų radijas* (*The Whale Radio*) is the third book in her *Lašas jūroje* (*Drop in the Ocean*) series for children. The author of eight books, Jurga Vilė is highly acclaimed in children's literature both in Lithuania and abroad. She is best known for her graphic novel *Sibiro Haiku* (*Siberian Haiku*, 2017), which has been translated into 12 languages, received numerous awards, and was listed among the most significant books for children.

The book's artist **AGNĖ NANANAI** (b. 1984) is an illustrator of children's books. A graduate of the Vilnius Academy of Arts in applied graphics, she illustrated this book, which was recognised by IBBY Lithuania as the Best Picture Book of 2024.

A little girl named Dominga has an unusual friend – a great white sperm whale named Snow (she is white like Moby Dick). Snow lives far away, in a place unmarked on any map, near the shores of the mysterious village of A. Dominga's family discovered Snow long ago and they return to the village every summer. The villagers are surprised by the visitors' friendship with the whales. Typically, sperm whale are very cautious. They don't swim close to the shore and tend to avoid people, but the moment Dominga and her siblings arrive, the whales gather in the bay, chattering cheerfully. It's such a strange noise, a bit like a broken radio. But Dominga's mother says that the whale radio isn't broken, it's only a little old-fashioned… The book's text is brought to life by Agnė Nananai's coloured pencil illustrations, which give warmth to the otherwise cold northern landscapes. Her sensitive strokes, attention to detail, and sculptural depiction of the sperm whale's massive body bring the story to life. Episodes depicted in black-and-white graphite pencil add yet another layer to this original story.


Man kašalotas – įprastas gyvūnas. Kaip kam nors šuo, katė
ar karvė, besigenantis pas močiutę kaime. Galima sakyti,
užaugau su kašalotais. Namuose, vaikų kambaryje, per visą
sieną kabo fotografija. Atrodo, kad joje stoviu ant sniego
pusnies, bet iš tikrųjų – ant savo draugės kašalotės nugaros.



MY FRIEND HIPPOCAMPUS UNICORN

MANO DRAUGAS HIPOKAMPAS UNIKORNAS

JURGA VILĖ | KORNELIJA ŽALPYTĖ



Author: Jurga Vilė
Illustrator: Kornelija Žalpytė
Publisher: 700 eilučių, 2024
700eiluciu.lt
40 pages, hardback, 25 × 27.8 × 0.9 cm
ISBN 9786098288148
Age: 7+

This is another work dedicated to animals by the Lithuanian writer and translator **JURGA VILĖ** (b. 1977). It was created in collaboration with the Lithuanian Sea Museum as part of the children's book series *Lašas jūroje* (*Drop in the Ocean*). Jurga Vilė is the author of eight children's books and has been recognised with the highest awards in children's literature both in Lithuania and beyond.

The young-generation book illustrator **KORNELIJA ŽALPYTĖ** (b. 1997) subtly conveys the diversity of aquatic life and expands the narrative about life in the water. Using a mixed creative technique – working with colours (primarily watercolour and gouache) and employing the possibilities of digital technology – she creates a colourful, authentic and entirely unique emotional illustration experience. A graduate of the Department of Graphics at Vilnius Academy of Arts, she has already illustrated several books. She actively participates in exhibitions and has held a solo exhibition of her work.





One day, in the depths of the ocean, a great explosion occurs, which brings a whole herd of seahorses into the world. Among them is the protagonist of this story who stands out in the crowd – due to an unusually tall crown that makes him resemble a unicorn. Curious and sociable, he quickly makes friends. A giant, fearsome Fish invites him to perform in the Contemporary Underwater Circus, while a mysterious Cyclops, descending from above with a gleaming eye, gives him a name: Hippocampus Unicorn. Along with his siblings and a band of ragged performers from Australia, Hippocampus Unicorn will create a spectacular show in a sunken ship. You are all invited to the "Premiere"!

CHILD
LITER

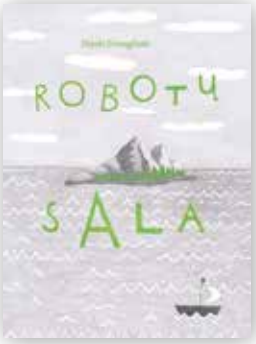
REN'S

ATURE

ROBOT ISLAND

ROBOTŲ SALA

NIJOLĖ DRUNGILAITĖ | LAIMA MATUZONYTĖ



Author: Nijolė Drungilaitė
Illustrator: Laima Matuzonytė
Publisher: Charity and Support Fund
Švieskime vaikus, 2024
www.svieskimevaikus.lt
258 pages, hardback, 21 cm
ISBN 9786098161687
Age: 10+



NIJOLĖ DRUNGILAITĖ (b. 1960) is a poet and prose writer. She primarily writes for adults. She has published works in cultural periodicals, and in 2003, her play *Dviese* (*The Two of Us*) was produced for radio theatre. *Robotų sala* (*Robot Island*) is the author's first book for young readers. This novella won First Prize in the 9th National Children's Literature Competition (2021).

LAIMA MATUZONYTĖ (b. 1996) is a young-generation artist and illustrator. In 2019, she completed a bachelor's degree in graphics at the Vilnius Academy of Arts and was later awarded a master's degree in graphics from KASK, Ghent, Belgium. She is the author of solo exhibitions and a participant in group projects.

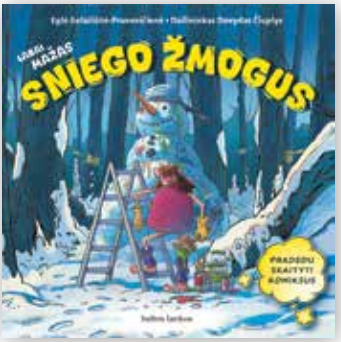


The teenager Ernis lives in a world where survival without the help of robots is impossible. Robots assist with learning, household chores, and meeting basic human needs. But when faced with personal tragedy, they cannot replace human connection. Ernis was living in Saretai before his parents' death. Now he is forced to move with his aunt Larotija to Barija, a smaller, more remote town, where he must start at a new school filled with its own challenges and strict rules. One of those rules states that those who break them are sent to Robot Island as a form of isolation. Nijolė Drungilaitė's dystopian narrative immerses young readers in a disturbing vision of the future, where the line between humans and robots is nearly erased. The intriguing plot and a world recognisable to teenagers make the story both relatable and psychologically impactful. However, whatever the hardships faced by the book's protagonist, the central theme remains the importance of human connection, which, according to the author, has always been the only true guarantee of survival.

A VERY SMALL YETI: A COMIC

LABAI MAŽAS SNIEGO ŽMOGUS: KOMIKSAS

EGLĖ GELAŽIŪTĖ-PRANEVIČIENĖ | DOVYDAS ČIUPLYS



Author: Eglė Gelažiūtė-Pranevičienė
Illustrator: Dovydas Čiuplys
Publisher: Baltos lankos, 2024
baltoslankos.lt
36 pages, hardback, 22.6 × 21.6 × 0.9 cm
ISBN 9786094799921
Age: 5+

EGLĖ GELAŽIŪTĖ-PRANEVIČIENĖ (b. 1988) was awarded a bachelor's degree in Lithuanian philology and Italian language from Vilnius University, earned a master's degree in interdisciplinary musicology from Kaunas University of Technology, and is currently completing a PhD in ethnology at the Institute of Lithuanian Literature and Folklore. Her creative work (as well as her research) intertwines literature and music. She won third place in a literary competition organised by Baltos lankos publishing house. Her first children's book, *Pagalvinis paršiukas* (*Pillow Piglet*) was the result of this achievement. She has also created audiobooks for young children and has published four books for children. In addition to writing, she performs music and has released several solo albums, including a vinyl record under the stage name Tamsaulė.

DOVYDAS ČIUPLYS (b. 1976) is a designer and illustrator. He studied at the M. K. Čiurlionis School of Arts, and later attended the Vilnius Academy of Arts, where he studied painting for several years before completing a degree in architecture. He illustrates children's books and collaborates with publishers, creating book covers, album covers, and more. He works with *Baltos lankos* and other publishers, illustrating books such as *Džyru džyru muzikėlė* (*Jingle Jingle Little Melody*), *Šiaudas, žarija ir pupa* (*The Straw, the Ember, and the Bean*), *Kaip gaidelis pono dvarą griovė* (*How the Rooster Destroyed the Lord's Manor*), and *Mažųjų lopšinės* (*Lullabies for the Little Ones*), authored by Aistė Smilgevičiūtė and Rokas Radzevičius. He lives and creates in Lithuania, near Vilnius. Even in the smallest details of everyday life, his illustrations create a delightful adventure and joyfully inspire the imagination, captivating young readers.

This is a literary fairy tale presented in the form of a comic. It tells the story of a special, very small yeti named Snygis, who has a big desire to be noticed. Why does no one see his footprints in the snow? He will do anything to be seen! In his quest for fame, he even wrecks the Icicle Museum! But afterwards, he feels ashamed – until he finally puts things right. The book teaches important lessons without being overly didactic, using creative artistic storytelling. The comic is filled with action, overflowing emotions, and feelings. Young readers are encouraged to reflect on anger, uncontrollable rage, joy, shame, friendship, and forgiveness. The dynamic nature of comic storytelling helps bring the action to life. Every page is filled with humour, ideas for fun snow activities – such as painting snowmen or stomping out snow patterns – and lively illustrations. Dovydas Čiuplys' depiction of the cheerful little yeti creates a warm, humorous atmosphere that is sure to make readers smile.

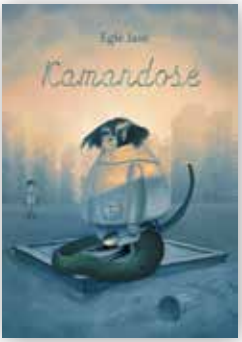
The book is part of the *I'm Starting to Read Comics* series. This series encourages young children to start reading independently and helps them experience the joy of reading more quickly. The entire text is written in uppercase letters, and the short length combined with numerous illustrations makes it easier for children to embark on their own reading adventures.



KAMANDOSĖ

KAMANDOSĖ

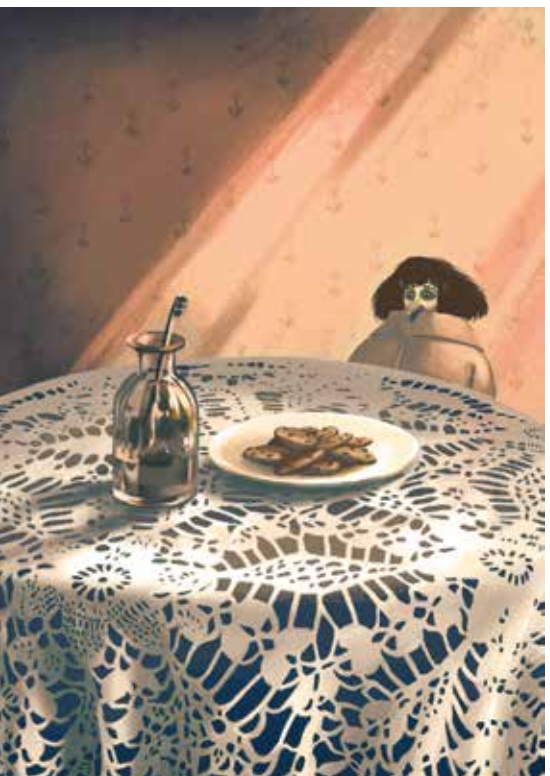
EGLĖ JASĖ | JULIJA RAČIŪNAITĖ



Author: Eglė Jasė
Illustrator: Julija Račiūnaitė
Publisher: Charity and Support Fund
Švieskime vaikus, 2024
svieskimevaikus.lt
136 pages, softcover, 17 × 24 cm
ISBN 9786098161670
Age: 10+

EGLĖ JASĖ (b. 1972) was born and raised in Vilnius. In 1996, she graduated with a degree in English language and literature from Vilnius Pedagogical University, and in 2001, she completed a master's degree in journalism at Vilnius University. She lived and worked in Madrid from 2016 to 2020 and in Seoul, South Korea from 2021 to 2024. After her studies, she worked at an AIDS center and wrote for women's magazines. She currently works in public service. Her first book, *Marcipanas: pliušinio šuns istorija* (*Marzipan: The Story of a Plush Dog*), was published in 2017. In 2020, the writer participated in the project *Knygiukai į pagalbą vaikams* (*Tiny Books to the Rescue*). As a result of this project, she created the small book *Sėklytė* (*The Little Grain*) with illustrator Elena Selena. In the same year, she won first place in the National Children's Literature Competition for her book *Kamandosė*.

JULIJA RAČIŪNAITĖ (b. 1989) is a young-generation interdisciplinary artist, illustrator, and curator. In 2016, she earned a master's degree in graphics from the Vilnius Academy of Arts. She lives and creates in Vilnius.





Kamandosė is a mysterious creature, part witch, part lizard, yet she resembles a little girl. Her ancestors have lived in the forest for generations, but one day, cutting all ties with her relatives, Kamandosė moves to the city and settles on a construction site. She is a collector and hoarder, constantly searching for valuable *tchotchkes* (various little trinkets), which she brings back to her hideaway. One day in a children's sandpit, she meets Lina – a girl who changes her life – and Pipinas, a plush puppy who becomes something much more than just another *tchotchke*. Not only does Kamandosė find a friend, but she also begins to explore the world beyond the construction site. New adventures, encounters, and experiences transform not only her life, but also her true self.

Eglė Jasė's imaginative and inventive children's book blends the power of fantasy with the simplicity of everyday situations. The engaging story and vivid character of Kamandosė push the boundaries of traditional Lithuanian children's literature, revealing to the reader a strange and mythical world. Throughout the book, the author frequently reminds us of the little kettle boiling inside Kamandosė, a metaphor for her bubbling emotions. As readers immerse themselves in her unusual story, they will experience anger, sadness, joy, and compassion, ultimately fostering empathy and kindness toward others.

BLACK SHEEP FROLIC: A COLLECTION OF POETRY AND SHORT PROSE FOR YOUNG READERS

JUODOS AVELĖS ŠĖLSTA: POEZIJOS IR TRUMPOSIOS PROZOS RINKTINĖ PRADINUKAMS

EGLĖ BALIUTAVIČIŪTĖ | LUKA VA



Editor: Eglė Baliutavičiūtė
Illustrator: Luka Va
Publisher: Alma littera, 2024
almalittera.lt
96 pages, hardback, 25 × 21.5 × 1.3 cm
ISBN 9786090162378
Age: 6+

EGLĖ BALIUTAVIČIŪTĖ (b. 1989) is the editor of the book, a children's literature specialist, critic and writer (publishing fiction under the pseudonym Gaja Guna Eklė). She writes reviews, articles and literary analyses and participates in various children's literature promotion initiatives.

LUKA VA (b. 1983) graduated from the Vilnius Academy of Arts. She is a freelance illustrator and graphic designer, the creator of the brand *Surfing Sloth*, and currently resides in Australia. Her artistic inspiration comes from everyday urban life, contemporary illustrators and cartoonists, street art and nature. One of her favourite themes is animals, as she believes that every person has a little bit of an animal in them. She is particularly drawn to creating anthropomorphic characters – figures that blend the traits and attributes of both city-dwelling humans and animals in their natural environment. She has participated in various art exhibitions in Australia and Lithuania, holding two solo exhibitions in Melbourne (Australia) and Kernavė (Lithuania). She has won second place in the Finnish Comics Society Competition and first place in a competition organised by the British children's magazine Anorak. In Lithuania, she has illustrated two children's books: Česlovas Navakauskas' *Aibė Raibė Begalinė* and the book presented here.



This is a collection of poetry and short prose by Lithuanian authors, intended for children aged six to ten. The book includes classic, time-tested works of children's literature (as it is compiled based on the list of recommended readings from the Lithuanian Language and Literature General Curriculum, prepared by experts in Lithuanian children's literature) alongside valuable contemporary writings. This collection represents the most outstanding Lithuanian children's literature for this age group and serves as a mini-anthology of Lithuanian children's literature for this stage of childhood. The book is divided into four thematic sections: "Oh, Those Little Creatures!", "This is the Children's World", "I Believe in Fairy Tales", and "What the Raindrop Said", which reflect important themes in children's literature: the child's world, the natural world, the fairy tale world. The book features works by Lithuanian children's literature (and general literature) classics: Salomėja Nėris (1904–1945), Janina Degutytė (1928–1990), Justinas Marcinkevičius (1930–2011), Leonardas Gutauskas (1938–2021) and Sigitas Geda (1943–2008). Additionally, it includes texts by esteemed authors of the recent past, Alma Karosaitė (1945–2014) and Sigitas Poškus (1957–2021). Readers will also enjoy the works of contemporary, widely recognised authors: Ramutė Skučaitė (b. 1931), Violeta Palčinskaitė (b. 1943), Juozas Erlickas (b. 1953), Liutauras Degėsys (b. 1953) and Nijolė Kepenienė (b. 1957). The book stands out through its diversity in themes, subject matter, genres, and stylistic approaches. The illustrations unify the various texts into a meaningful whole.



HORRORPOTCH. HORROR FAIRY TALES FOR CHILDREN

ŠIURPINYS. PASAKOS SIAUBASAKOS VAIKAMS

RASA LAZAUSKAITĖ | LAIMUTĖ VARKALAITĖ



Author: Rasa Lazauskaitė
Illustrator: Laimutė Varkalaitė
Publisher: Laimės gatvė, 2024
laimesgatve.lt
100 pages, hardback, 27 × 27 cm
ISBN 9786090804575
Age: 3+

RASA LAZAUSKAITĖ (b. 1972) is an actress, artist and writer. She has acted in theatre and film, voiced radio plays, written scripts, and hosted children's radio and television programmes. She currently runs a publishing house, *Laimės gatvė*. Her first children's book, *Dviese bijoti drąsiau* (*Fear is Less Scary Together*), which she also illustrated, won First Prize in the National Children's Literature Competition in 2018.

LAIMUTĖ VARKALAITĖ (b. 1984) is a graphic designer and illustrator. She works at Kaunas University of Technology and dedicates a lot of her time to individual commissions. She has received more than 20 international awards in the field of graphic design, and has also been recognised for her illustrations. She has illustrated 11 children's books published in Lithuania and abroad. The illustrations for *Šiurpinys* (*Horrorpotch*) won the silver award in the 'Individuals' subcategory of the prestigious Creativepool Annual 2024 competition for creative industries.

The book's title, *Šiurpinys* (*Horrorpotch*), is a newly coined word combining *šiurpus* (*horror*) and *šiupinys* (*hotchpotch*). It's as if the author throws horror folk tales into a pot and cooks up a uniquely flavoured stew. The book contains 13 fairy tales, which are created by free improvisation with folkloric motifs. The main fear-inducing characters are the wolf and the devil. These tales have a theatrical quality, captivating readers with their visual action and lively dialogue. The author creatively combines and reinterprets traditional fairy tale plots, adding her own episodes and making each character unique. The language of the stories is highly vivid, enriched with expressive folk phrases, yet remains accessible, as the author has omitted words which might be unfamiliar to modern children. The stories are playful and humorous, with frightening elements often presented in a comical light. The illustrations feature a combination of pastel, ink, charcoal, pencil, watercolour and other techniques. The imagery is inspired by the text of the book, observation of the environment, and Lithuanian folk ornamentation.

This book stimulates the imagination and teaches children to face their fears with bravery.



PONY AND FLY TRAVEL TO THE EDGE OF THE WORLD

PONIO IR MUSĖS KELIONĖ Į PASAULIO KRAŠTĄ

JURGITA PELĖDAITĖ | LINA EITMANTYTĖ-VALUŽIENĖ



Author: Jurgita Pelėdaitė
Illustrator: Lina Eitmantytė-Valužienė
Publisher: Charity and Support Fund
Švieskime vaikus, 2024
svieskimevaikus.lt
144 pages, softcover, 17 × 24 cm
ISBN 9786098161694
Age: 5+

JURGITA PELĖDAITĖ (b. 1977) is a prose writer who writes for both adults and children. She works as an editor for the online literary magazine *Rankos*. In 2019, she won Second Prize in the National Children's Literature Competition, and in 2022, she received the same award for her book *Ponio ir musės kelionė į pasaulio kraštą* (*Pony and Fly's Journey to the Edge of the World*).

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





There are two contrasting characters at the heart of the book: Minis the pony and Maksė the fly. Minis is portrayed as trusting, kind-hearted, and always ready to help others, while Maksė is a rational, self-important, commanding adventurer. Despite their differences, they embark on a journey to the edge of the world, where Minis dreams of becoming a horse. The author tells the story of their adventures and presents a vibrant gallery of animals they meet along the way. At the same time, the book explores an inner journey, in which the characters realise that friendship, trust, and the ability to appreciate every moment are what truly matter. Toward the end of the book, as the heroes discuss the fly's approaching death, the story gains a philosophical depth. The vivid, highly detailed, and meticulously drawn illustrations help immerse the reader in this world. The humour-filled adventures will captivate young readers, while the book fosters empathy and an understanding of the power of friendship.

ADU
LITE

YOUNG LITERATURE

SUMMER IN ŽALIAKALNIS

VASARA ŽALIAKALNYJE

RŪTA BAUBLYTĖ-KAUFMANN



Author: Rūta Baublytė-Kaufmann
Cover artist: Rimantas Tumasonis
Publisher: Homo liber, 2024
homoliber.lt
120 pages, hardback, 14.8 × 21.6 × 1.5 cm
ISBN 9786094462979
Age: 14+

RŪTA BAUBLYTĖ-KAUFMANN (b. 1975) was born in Kaunas. She studied Lithuanian, French, and English literature, as well as philosophy. She completed studies in modern dance in London. During the course of a decade, she danced and created for the dance theatre the production *Aura*, but later decided to end her dancing career and dedicate herself to academic work. She published the book *The Architecture of Space-Time in the Novels of Jane Austen* in the UK, which was based on her doctoral dissertation. Since 2001, she has been living in Switzerland with her husband and children, but she admits she still feels like a citizen of Kaunas. She researches 18th–19th century women's literature and teaches English. The author has published the novels *Prasilenkusios* (*Passing Ships*, 2018) and *Šalia pasaulio pakrašty* (*Close to the Edge of the World*, 2021). *Summer in Žaliakalnis* is her third book.

The book depicts Kaunas in 1968. The school year is coming to an end. A long summer lies ahead. Sixteen-year-old Nomeda from Žaliakalnis, an old and most "Kaunas-like" district of the city, dreams of freedom and adventures with her capricious and controlling friend Dona. But when her parents temporarily leave for Czechoslovakia (at the time, this was a rare and valuable opportunity to get closer to the West and breathe the air of freedom), it becomes clear that building the life you want is not so easy. What makes the book special is the author's ability to capture the spirit and atmosphere of the Soviet era from the perspective of a teenager. A wealth of authentic details from everyday life blends with depictions of teenage experiences (love affairs, ways of spending free time, and more), which metonymically reflect the reality of Lithuanian teenagers of the time. The book will also be interesting to adult readers, especially those who remember their own adolescence in Soviet Lithuania. The book is complemented by an informative cover by Rimantas Tumasonis, which reflects the clothing codes of Soviet-era youth.

FRIGHT NIGHT STORIES

ŠIURPNAKČIO ISTORIJOS

AUŠRINĖ TILINDĖ | ROBERTA RAILAITĖ



Author: Aušrinė Tilindė
Cover artist: Roberta Railaitė
Publisher: Alma littera, 2024
almalittera.lt
184 pages, hardback, 15 × 21.9 × 1.2 cm
ISBN 9786090160732
Age: 9+



AUŠRINĖ TILINDĖ (b. 1987) is a lawyer and emerging writer for children and adults. She studied law at Vilnius University. She lives and writes in Vilnius. She has written books for both children and adults. Her books for adults include the psychological novel *Pabėgimas* (*The Escape*, 2022) and *Stiprus žmogus. Asmeninio bankroto gidas* (*Strong Person. A Guide to Personal Bankruptcy*, 2022), co-authored with her husband Martynas Tilindis. Her children's books include *Anita ir kiti pasauliai. Stebuklingas miškas* (*Anita and Other Worlds. A Magical Forest*, 2022). In 2024, she wrote two books for teenagers: *Dvylika kruvinų plunksnų: skinvokerių legenda atgyja* (*Twelve Bloody Feathers: The Legend of the Skinwalkers Awakens*) and *Šiurpnakčio istorijos* (*Fright Night Stories*). This novella won the Alma littera Children's and Young Adult Literature Competition (2023). It was also included in the "Book + Cinema" list of the ten most cinematic books.

ROBERTA RAILAITĖ (b. 1992) studied graphic design at Vilnius Design College and currently resides in Vilnius. She is an emerging illustrator of children's books, creating digital illustrations. Her digital works have been exhibited not only in Lithuania but also in the USA, Canada and Italy. She illustrated Aušrinė Tilindė's *Šiurpnakčio istorijos* (*Fright Night Stories*, 2024) and *Dvylika kruvinų plunksnų* (*Twelve Bloody Feathers*, 2024).

The novella *Šiurpnakčio istorijos* (*Fright Night Stories*) consists of twelve realistic stories, all featuring a chilling event that unsettles their protagonists. The stories are told in a realistic style until, at some point, something magically strange and terrifying happens. For example, teenage girls decide to hold a séance to summon a spirit… until they actually summon one and panic; a scary one-eyed bear shows up in a forest; a mysterious sled turns out to belong to children who vanished a long time ago… Reading these stories, the reader will feel a shiver run down their spine. The effect is heightened by Roberta Railaitė's greyscale, mysterious black-and-white illustrations, reminiscent of comic book art or anime.

BOOK

SERIES

THE A-TEAM AND THE BIG TALKING PARROT

A KOMANDA IR DIDELĖ KALBANTI PAPŪGA

TOMAS DIRGĖLA | KORNELIJA ŽALPYTĖ





Author: Tomas Dirgėla
Illustrator: Kornelija Žalpytė
Publisher: Alma littera, 2024
almalittera.lt
168 pages, hardback, 21.3 × 14 × 1.8 cm
ISBN 9786090159309
Age: 8+

TOMAS DIRGĖLA (b. 1989) is one of Lithuania's most well-known contemporary children's writers, with over 45 books to his name. His works have been translated into 13 languages. Highly popular among young readers, his books have been reprinted multiple times. Since 2016, he has worked as a professional full-time writer. Dirgėla has received numerous prestigious awards, including the Aldona Liobytė Award for the most significant debut of the year (2015) from the Lithuanian section of IBBY, the Children's Literature Award (2022), and the IBBY Second Prize for the best children's book of the year (2016). Dirgėla's books are distinguished by their humour and absurd situations, while always emphasising the importance of love between parents and children, fighting injustice, and gender equality.

KORNELIJA ŽALPYTĖ (b. 1998) is a children's book illustrator and graphic artist. She is the illustrator and designer of Lithuania's only literary children's magazine, *Laimiukas*. She has illustrated *Miškas ir mažas* (*The Forest and the Little One*, 2021) by Monika Kalinauskaitė, *The Matilda Effect* (2022) by Ellie Irving, as well as Tomas Dirgėla's *Lukas ir Lėja. Istorija apie draugystę* (*Lukas and Lėja. A Story of Friendship*) and *Forest Sheep* (a children's book created for the Venice Biennale of Architecture, 2023).

In the second book of the *A-Team* series, the young detectives tackle a case about a rare parrot that has gone missing from the city zoo. The investigation is led by the main characters: Adelė, her shy friend Augustas (who, by the way, can talk to animals), and their helpful history teacher, Antanas. This time, one of the detectives' grandmothers joins in to help, making the adventure even more action-packed. The author maintains suspense throughout the story, keeping readers engaged until the very end: will they finally catch the thieves? Tomas Dirgėla's intriguing narrative and Kornelija Žalpytė's expressive illustrations blend traditional storytelling with elements of comic book style.



PŪKIS AND THE JAY

PŪKIS IR KĖKŠTAS

VYTAUTAS V. LANDSBERGIS | DALIA KARPAVIČIŪTĖ



Author: Vytautas V. Landsbergis
Illustrator: Dalia Karpavičiūtė
Publisher: Dominicus Lituanus, 2024
dominicus.lt
24 pages, softcover, 21.5 × 24.5 cm
ISBN 9786098227437
Age: 4+

In the 17th book of the adventure series of Pūkis the fox, **VYTAUTAS V. LANDSBERGIS** (b. 1962), the renowned Lithuanian writer, film director, playwright, poet and bard, follows two main characters: a little fox and a jay. The book depicts their conversation (and reveals a secret!), unfolding a small but significant piece of wisdom and helping young readers better understand the natural order of the world and human relationships. It is a special kind of allegory which by the end of the story blossoms into a beautiful garden, inviting readers to embrace the jay who had become an outcast because of his particular qualities.

The series' illustrator, graphic artist **DALIA KARPAVIČIŪTĖ** (b. 1972), creates a memorable visual language for young readers, which is easy to understand and allows them to follow the story and experience many adventures.

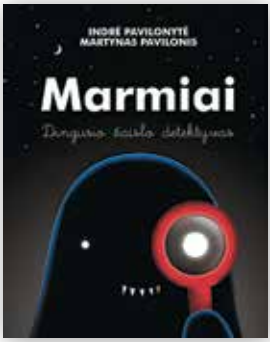




THE MARMIES. THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING TOY

MARMIAI. DINGUSIO ŽAISLO DETEKTYVAS

INDRĖ PAVILONYTĖ | MARTYNAS PAVILONIS



Author: Indrė Pavilonytė
Illustrator: Martynas Pavilonis
Publisher: Alma littera, 2024
almalittera.lt
44 pages, hardback, 27 × 21.5 × 0.9 cm
ISBN 9786090162958
Age: 4+

The twins Indrė Pavilonytė and Martynas Pavilonis form an extraordinary writer-illustrator duo in the world of children's books. **INDRĖ PAVILONYTĖ** (b. 1987) is a children's book author and communications specialist. She made her debut in 2017 with her first children's book *Didžiosios tvoros paslaptis* (*The Mystery of The Great Fence*). In 2019, together with her brother, she presented the picture book *Marmiai. Olis ir dažų kibirėlis* (*The Marmies: Olly and the Bucket of Paint*), which was a great success and grew into the *Marmies* series, later adapted into a children's play for the theatre. **MARTYNAS PAVILONIS** (b. 1987) is an artist, illustrator and graphic designer. His illustrations for Marmiai. *Olis ir dažų kibirėlis* (*The Marmies: Olly and the Bucket of Paint*), received a prize at *The Cheltenham Illustration Awards* in the United Kingdom. Martynas Pavilonis was the first Lithuanian artist to be included in the prestigious *Lürzer's Archive* list of the 200 best illustrators worldwide. His work is exhibited in group exhibitions in Lithuania and many foreign countries and has been published in international art magazines.



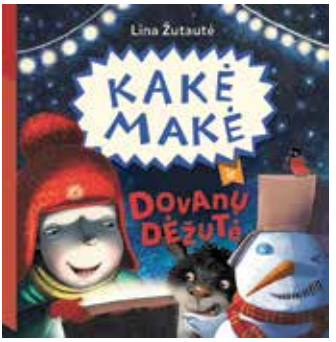


The Marmies. The Mystery of the Missing Toy is the seventh book in the popular series about the mysterious creatures – the Marmies – that come to life after dark. The strangest thing happens in the pitch-black Martwood Forest at night – Marmie Liu's favourite toy vanishes! Liu is very upset but refuses to give up. He becomes a diligent detective and tries to solve the mystery, which seems just as murky as the Martwood swamps, where his toy has disappeared. The book encourages recognising and accepting uncomfortable feelings, and teaches the importance of acknowledging mistakes and apologising. Above all, it highlights the value of friendship and connections over material possessions.

NELLY JELLY AND THE GIFT BOX

KAKĖ MAKĖ IR DOVANŲ DĖŽUTĖ

LINA ŽUTAUTĖ



Author and illustrator: Lina Žutautė
Publisher: Alma littera, 2024
almalittera.lt
40 pages, hardback, 20.7 × 20.6 × 0.8 cm
ISBN 9786090163108
Age: 3+

The writer and artist **LINA ŽUTAUTĖ** (b. 1973) is one of the best known picture book authors and illustrators in Lithuania. The character Nelly Jelly from her book series has become so popular that it has expanded to the stage, TV screens and concert halls. The Nelly Jelly stories are available in French, Latvian, Estonian, Russian, Korean and other languages. Žutautė has also written other books for children and young adults and illustrated works by other authors. In 2010, *Kakė Makė ir Netvarkos nykštukas* (*Nelly Jelly and the Elf of Disorder*) was selected as the best children's book by the Lithuanian section of IBBY. In 2012, the author's book *Ferdinandas ir Pū* (*Ferdinand and Pū*) was awarded the Pranas Mašiotas Prize for the best book for children and young adults and included in the IBBY Honour List.



Nelly Jelly is five years old. Like other people her age, she is full of questions: why do we have to tidy up toys and brush our teeth? Why are we scared of the darkness but the darkness is not scared of us? Why are some people lucky and others not so much?... This is one of the most popular picture books in Lithuania. It revolves around children's joys and sorrows, and simple wishes such as taking care of a pet or having a dream birthday, as well as less pleasant things – a desire always to be in the lead, and jealousy and boredom, and how to conquer them.

In the latest book in the series, *Kakė Makė ir dovanų dėžutė* (*Nelly Jelly and the Gift Box*), the restless Nelly Jelly finds at a flea market a Christmas gift box with twelve small doors. Only one door can be opened each day. Nelly Jelly can't wait to open them all, but soon feels disappointed. The box contains nothing more than old and seemingly useless trinkets… But is that really all there is? The biggest surprise awaits her behind the final door, where she's confronted with a riddle and has to create a miracle herself. The book explores the meaning of gifts and giving. The Nelly Jelly picture books inspire children's imagination and encourage them to find the right answers on their own.



PO

ETRY BOOKS

CRAZY POEMS

IŠPROTĖJĘ EILĖRAŠČIAI

PAULIUS NORVILA | SALVIJA VAIČIKONYTĖ



Author: Paulius Norvila
Illustrator: Salvija Vaičikonytė
Publisher: Nieko rimto, 2024
niekorimto.lt
48 pages, hardback, 25.5 × 25.5 × 1 cm
ISBN 9786094418471
Age: 5+

PAULIUS NORVILA (b. 1985) is a poet, prose writer and translator. He has published four books for adults and seven for children. In 2017, he won the Debut Prize in the National Children's Literature Competition and was a finalist in the same competition in 2018 and 2019. His poetry book *Strykt pastrykt* (*Hippity Hop*) was selected as one of the top five children's books n the 2019 Book of the Year Awards.

SALVIJA VAIČIKONYTĖ (b. 1995) is a freelance illustrator and artist of the younger generation. Her illustrations vary in style: some feature minimal elements and colours with a stylised, poster-like aesthetic, while others are in the style of comic art. In 2022, her book Julė won the award for the most beautiful illustration at the National Children's Literature Competition.

The title *Išprotėję eilėraščiai* (*Crazy Poems*) is meant to capture the reader's attention. At the same time, it reflects the book's dominant style – nonsense poetry. The first part, *Kai linksma* (*When You're Happy*), consists of playful and spontaneous poems that resemble a child's creative, improvised word games. Sometimes, words fall together in unexpected ways, forming poetic but often comical images. However, finding a unifying theme in these pieces is usually impossible. The second part of the book, *Kai liūdna* (*When You're Sad*), introduces lyrical poems among the wordplay, distinguished by their emotional depth and a longing to feel close to someone. The book reflects children's everyday experiences. The reader is encouraged to engage in the improvised play of language. The book is adorned with bold, stylish illustrations.

STEBUKLAS

VIENAS IŠĖJO KEPTI,
KITAS RAMIAI GULĖJO,
TREČIAS PER VISĄ NAKTĮ
LAUKĖ SAPNŲ VIRĖJO.

KOŠĖ IŠ PUODO BĖGO,
KVAPAS KAIP VIRVĖ SUKOS,
PILNAS FONTANAS SNIEGO,
O TAM SNIEGE – BARSUKAS.

KĄ JIS TEN MAŽAS VEIKIA?
IEŠKO STEBUKLO, VAIKE.



UŽSIGAVAU

UŽSIGAVAU Į STALĄ,
UŽSIGAVAU Į SPINTĄ,
LIŪDNAS BARSUKO GALAS,
ŠLIEKO LĖKTUVAS KRINTA.

LIPA Į BURNĄ ŽODŽIAI,
VIŠTOS KIAUŠINĮ PERA,
VISKAS LABAI NUOBODŽIAI,
LABAS IR VISO GERO.

LABAS IR NIEKO BLOGO,
SNIEGAS SENIAI IŠTIRPO,
BĖGA PER LAUKĄ NUOGAS,
NUOGĄ PLIKAI NUKIRPO.

PLAUKUS DANGUN PALEIDO,
JIE TEN PER NAKTĮ ŠVIEČIA,
PRIMENA TAVO VEIDĄ,
SAUJĄ SKANIŲ AVIEČIŲ.



VĖJAS

KĄ GI TU TEN DARAI?
SNIEGĄ TIK VARINĖJI.
BLUNKA ŽIEMOS DAŽAI
NUO RYŠKIASPALVIO VĖJO.

KURGI TU TEN EINI?
KĄ BURNOJE NEŠIESI?
BUVO ŽIOGAI PENKI,
KOL PASILIKO DVIESE.

GRIEŽĖ PER VISĄ NAKTĮ
VIENAS GRAŽIAU UŽ KITĄ
BŪGNAI, VARPELIAI, RAKTAI –
ŽEMĖN VISI NUKRITO.

KAS JUOS IŠ RYTO RINKO:
TARNAS AR ŠEIMININKAS?

PER AMŽIUS

BALBATUOJA PER VISĄ STORĮ
ABRIKOSŲ GELSVI KAULIUKAI,
JŲ NĖ VIENAS ŽIOPLYS NENORI,
NES VISI PAKELIUI UŽTRUKO.

KOL SURAITĖ RAUDONĄ RAIDĘ,
KOL PASAKĖ: „MIELA MERGAITE,
JUS MYLIU JAU BEVEIK SAVAITĘ."

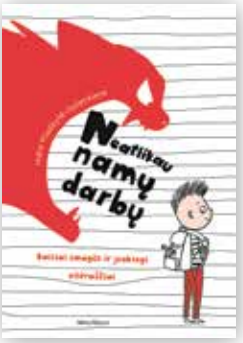
BALBATUOJA PER VISĄ STORĮ,
NES PER AMŽIUS MYLĖTI NORI.



I HAVEN'T DONE MY HOMEWORK

NEATLIKAU NAMŲ DARBŲ

INDRĖ PLIUŠKYTĖ-ZALIECKIENĖ



Author: Indrė Pliuškytė-Zalieckienė
Illustrator: Indrė Pliuškytė-Zalieckienė
Publisher: Alma littera, 2024
almalittera.lt
72 pages, hardback, 23.5 × 16.5 × 1 cm
ISBN 9786090161784
Age: 5+

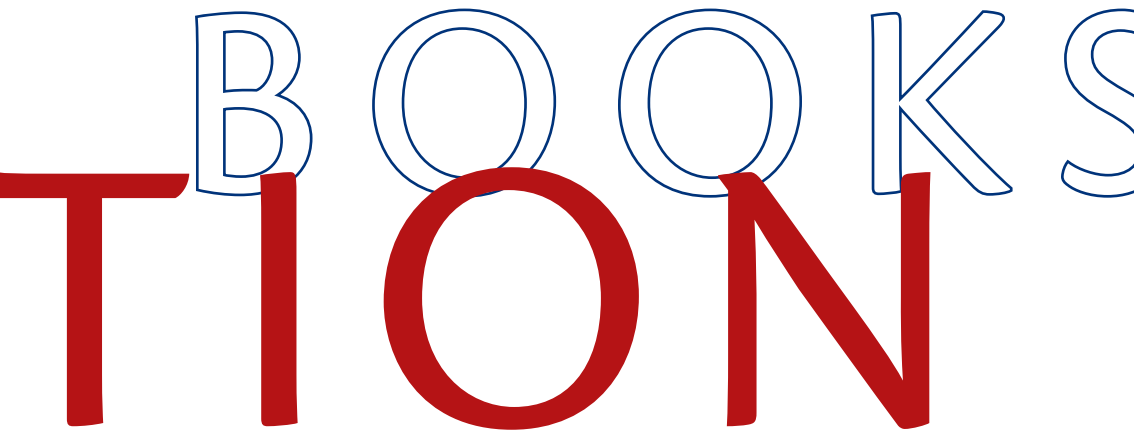
INDRĖ PLIUŠKYTĖ-ZALIECKIENĖ (b. 1978) is a poet and illustrator. She leads literary educational programmes for preschool and elementary school children. She has published six children's books, all of which she has illustrated herself. Her rhyming picture book *Kapt kapt kapt* (*Drop Drop Drop*, 2020) was awarded the Lithuanian Section of IBBY Prize for the most significant debut in children's literature. Her poetry book *Kaip sutramdyti žvėryną* (*How to Tame a Menagerie*, 2021) won the Children's Book of the Year award. The rhyming book *Abėcėlė virtuvėje* (*ABC in the Kitchen*, 2023) was included in the top ten most highly estimated children's books of the year.



All the poems in this book are related to school, linked together by a protagonist who openly talks about his conflictual relationship with it. There are many aspects of school life that frustrate him (he hates having two consecutive Lithuanian lessons, dreads reciting poems in front of the class, resents having to do homework, and so on). His most distinctive trait is his boundless imagination. Fantasies help him cope with unpleasant situations and transform ordinary life into something extraordinary, unique and fun. The primary source of humour in these poems is nonsense. Not only is the protagonist's imaginative world nonsensical, but so is modern reality itself (the school cafeteria chefs, having watched too many YouTube videos, end up boiling pancakes and frying soup, while the janitor is a TikToker who films herself dancing with a broom). In the poems where the protagonist does not engage in fantasies, the real world is depicted as a place of comical events. Funny, whimsical and modern, the poems encourage children to develop a love for poetry. The author's illustrations perfectly convey the humorous atmosphere of the poems.



NON-
FIC


BOOKS
TION

THE AMBER ROAD: FROM ROME TO THE BALTICS

GINTARO KELIAS: NUO ROMOS IKI BALTIJOS

RŪTA KAČKUTĖ | EGLĖ RUDŽIONYTĖ-MEŠKĖLIENĖ, REDA TOMINGAS



Author: Rūta Kačkutė
Illustrators: Eglė Rudžionytė-Meškėlienė, Reda Tomingas
Publisher: Alma littera, 2024
almalittera.lt
64 pages, hardback, 25 × 20 × 1 cm
ISBN 9786090160329
Age: 7+

RŪTA KAČKUTĖ (b. 1970) is an archaeologist, cultural expert, museum professional, doctor of humanities, and lecturer at Vilnius University. She is the author and organiser of significant cultural initiatives. Since 2019, she has been the Director of the National Museum of Lithuania and a co-author of various articles and exhibition catalogues. *The Amber Road: From Rome to the Baltics* is her first book for children.



EGLĖ RUDŽIONYTĖ-MEŠKĖLIENĖ (pen name Eglė Wildheart, b. 1988) is an artist, illustrator, and graphic design specialist. She has a keen interest in street art and has created numerous projects in Lithuania and abroad. She illustrates picture dictionaries, interactive books, and games for preschool-aged children and pays close attention to historical accuracy in depicting objects and buildings. Her illustrations often feature themes of fantasy and nature.

REDA TOMINGAS (b. 1979) is an illustrator of books for children and adults, author, and animation director. Currently based in Estonia, she participates in various art festivals and exhibitions and has received literary and book design awards in both Lithuania and Estonia. Nature is the central theme in her illustrations. In 2024, her illustrations for the book *Su gamta kišenėje* (*Nature in Your Pocket*) by naturalist and children's writer Selemonas Paltanavičius made it to the longlist of finalists for the Bologna Children's Book Fair Illustrators Exhibition.

This book explores the importance of amber to the Baltic region and the fascination it held for the Roman Empire. It was inspired by the international exhibition *1 000 000 žingsnių: Gintaro kelias nuo Romos iki Baltijos* (*1,000,000 Steps: The Amber Road from Rome to the Baltics*) held at the National Museum of Lithuania during 2022–2023.

The story follows a brave Roman legionary, Quintus Atilius Primus, who tells children about the Roman expedition to northern Europe and the Baltic Sea in the first millennium CE. The grand vision of Emperor Nero's officials was to adorn an entire amphitheatre not with gold or silver, but with precious Baltic amber, which was highly prized and difficult to obtain in Rome. As they follow the fearless warrior Quintus on his journey, young readers are introduced to various elements of Roman culture, architecture, art, warfare, religion, and social structures, as well as the daily life of the expedition members. Travelling alongside the explorers, readers visit amber workshops and observe new lands with curiosity. The route follows the banks of the Danube and Vistula rivers, passing through present-day Austria, Germany, Poland, Lithuania, and former Prussian territories. The journey ultimately leads to the ruler of the Aesti people and his tribe, who worship ancient gods and collect amber along the Baltic shores. The author convincingly reconstructs the customs, beliefs, and trade networks of the Germanic (Vandals, Veneti, Goths) and Baltic tribes (Prussians, Curonians), known as the Aesti at the time, who lived in Central and Northern Europe in the first millennium CE.

This literary journey along the Amber Road not only provides historical knowledge but also teaches the art of negotiation and highlights the importance of foreign language skills. The engaging narrative is enriched by stylised illustrations that reflect the historical context, featuring warm earthy tones and shades of amber that delight the reader's eye.

I WANT TO LEARN ABOUT ANIMATION

NORIU SUŽINOTI APIE ANIMACIJĄ

LAURYNAS KAMINSKAS, LINA MATIUKAITĖ | GABIJA VISOCKAITĖ, LINA ŽUTAUTĖ, MEINART ANIMATION STUDIO



Authors: Laurynas Kaminskas,
Lina Matiukaitė
Illustrators: Gabija Visockaitė, Lina Žutautė,
MeinArt Animation Studio
Art Director: Meinardas Valkevičius
Publisher: Alma littera, 2024
almalittera.lt
96 pages, hardback, 25 × 20.5 × 1.4 cm
ISBN 9786090158623
Age: 4+

LAURYNAS KAMINSKAS (b. 1985) is a public relations specialist, screenwriter, and creator of various television and advertising projects. He was part of the creative team behind the feature-length animated film *Kakė Makė: mano filmas* (*Nelly Jelly: My Movie*, MeinArt, 2023). *Noriu sužinoti apie animaciją* (*I Want to Learn About Animation*, 2024) is his debut in children's literature.

LINA MATIUKAITĖ (b. 1992) is a communications specialist and an active, creative author of educational and informational books for children. She has published around 20 books that introduce children to various professions, sciences, sports, plants, animals, countries and discoveries, while also offering ideas for fun and meaningful leisure activities. She collaborates on book series such as *Kakės Makės enciklopedija* (*Nelly Jelly's Encyclopedia*), *Kakės Makės monstropedija* (*Nelly Jelly's Monsterpedia*) and others. Many of her books have been translated into Latvian.

GABIJA VISOCKAITĖ (b. 1998) is a graphic designer, artist, illustrator, and art director at MeinArt Animation Studio. She has worked with studio colleagues on animated films directed by Meinardas Valkevičius, including *Patrikas* (*The Perfect Fit*, 2022) and *Kakė Makė: mano filmas* (*Nelly Jelly: My Movie*, 2023), both nominated for the Silver Crane, the major Lithuanian film award.

LINA ŽUTAUTĖ (b. 1973) is an artist, designer and children's writer. In 2010, she created one of the most famous characters in Lithuanian children's literature – a curious five-year old girl called Kornelija, who calls herself Nelly Jelly, along with her fun group of friends. The *Nelly Jelly* picture book series has expanded into a brand, encompassing various product lines as well as educational books, films, and content created by other authors.



This engaging book is part of the highly popular children's non-fiction series *Kakė Makė. Enciklopedija* (*Nelly Jelly: Encyclopedia*). The book is illustrated with creative materials from the feature-length animated film *Kakė Makė: mano filmas* (*Nelly Jelly: My Movie*) by MeinArt Animation Studio and introduces its creators. Nelly Jelly herself guides young readers through the animation studio and explains the process of making the film. Exploring the animation studio is fascinating not only for children—many adults may not realise that the magic of cinema requires a large team working in harmony for an extended period. Screenwriters, film artists, sound designers, voice actors, composers, sound engineers, producers, and many other specialists all contribute. The authors invite readers to slow down and notice the differences between still frames, and observe how visual and audio layers stack like a cake until a character's eye blinks to life. The book explains in a child-friendly way what a story and colour script are, how a frame differs from a storyboard, and what animation and animatics entail. More complex time or quantity measurements are made tangible for young readers – for example, 25 seconds is "as long as you can hold your breath", and artists use so much paper for sketches that one could hide in it. Taking account of the learning abilities of young readers, key information about the main stages of animation filmmaking is repeated several times throughout the book. It is helpfully illustrated with various examples, exercises to develop attentiveness, and creative tasks.

THROUGH THE MEADOWS TO YOU. M. K. ČIURLIONIS

PER PIEVAS PAS TAVE. M. K. ČIURLIONIS

JOLANTA LUNEVIČIENĖ | MIKALOJUS KONSTANTINAS ČIURLIONIS | GIEDRĖ RINGELEVIČIENĖ



Author: Jolanta Lunevičienė
Illustrations: Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis
Designer: Giedrė Ringelevičienė
Publisher: Meno tekstilė, 2024
avenueart.lt
22 pages, hardback, 13 × 15 × 1.7 cm
ISBN 9786099636719
Age: 8 months +



JOLANTA LUNEVIČIENĖ (b. 1965) is a journalist, marketing and public relations specialist, founder of the AVENUEART brand, and author of various art promotion projects. She is the creator of the book series *Lithuanian Art for Children*. She has published four books in the series: *M. K. Čiurlionis. Būsiu tau žvaigžde* (*M. K. Čiurlionis. I Will Be Your Star*, 2023), *M. K. Čiurlionis. Through the Meadows to You* (*M. K. Čiurlionis. Through the Meadows to You*, 2024), *M. K. Čiurlionis. Stebuklingame nakties danguje* (*M. K. Čiurlionis. In the Magical Night Sky*, 2025), as well as the colouring and activity book *Kaip Čiurlionis* (*Like Čiurlionis*, 2024).

GIEDRĖ RINGELEVIČIENĖ (b. 1970) is a graphic designer, book artist and layout designer. She studied architecture at the Vilnius Academy of Arts and works at the publishing house *Šviesa*. She creates decorative patterns for various surfaces and illustrates children's books. In her illustrations, she experiments with various drawing techniques but prefers watercolour. She collaborates with the charity and support foundation for children's education *Švieskime vaikus* and other authors, co-creating the *Lietuvos menas vaikams* (*Lithuanian Art for Children*) series with J. Lunevičienė.

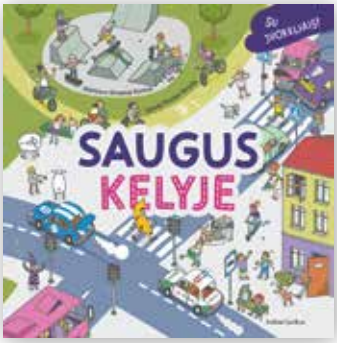


MIKALOJUS KONSTANTINAS ČIURLIONIS (1875–1911) is Lithuania's most famous artist, painter, composer and cultural figure. He studied at the Leipzig Conservatory and the Warsaw School of Fine Arts. Čiurlionis enriched European modernist art during the late 19th century and early 20th century with his original works that synthesised painting and music (sonatas, fugues, preludes). He is considered one of the pioneers of abstract painting and created over 300 paintings and graphic works. His multi-layered compositions feature elements of Symbolism, Secession and Art Nouveau, as well as cosmological, religious, historical-philosophical and psychological themes. His works are distinguished by rhythmic compositions and delicate yet expressive colour harmonies. Some of his most famous works include *Pasaka* (*Karalių pasaka*) (*Fairy Tale* (*The Kings' Tale*), 1909), *Rex* (1909), and *Sonata Nr. 5* (*Jūros sonata*) (*Sonata No. 5* (*The Sea Sonata*), 1908). His artistic legacy is preserved at the M. K. Čiurlionis National Museum of Art in Kaunas, Lithuania. Art albums featuring M. K. Čiurlionis' paintings, designed for babies and young children, are recommended to be explored together with adults. This book showcases 12 artworks from his cycle *Pasaulio sukūrimas* (*Creation of the World*) (1905–1906). The authors invite children to explore the illustrations, observe the colours, and establish an emotional connection with the mesmerising world of this renowned artist's imagination. Each spread features one painting, accompanied by a monochromatic page that highlights its mood and colour palette. The thick white line on this page outlines a minimalistic graphic drawing that repeats 2–3 of the painting's most striking objects and lines, drawing attention to the composition, rhythm or specific details. A few poetic sentences guide the reader's journey from one painting to the next, offering a starting point for dialogue between the child and the companion book. According to the creators of the series, the images and experiences imprinted in early childhood stay with a person throughout their life.

SAFE ON THE ROAD

SAUGUS KELYJE

PAULIUS NORVILA | SIMONAS KVINTAS



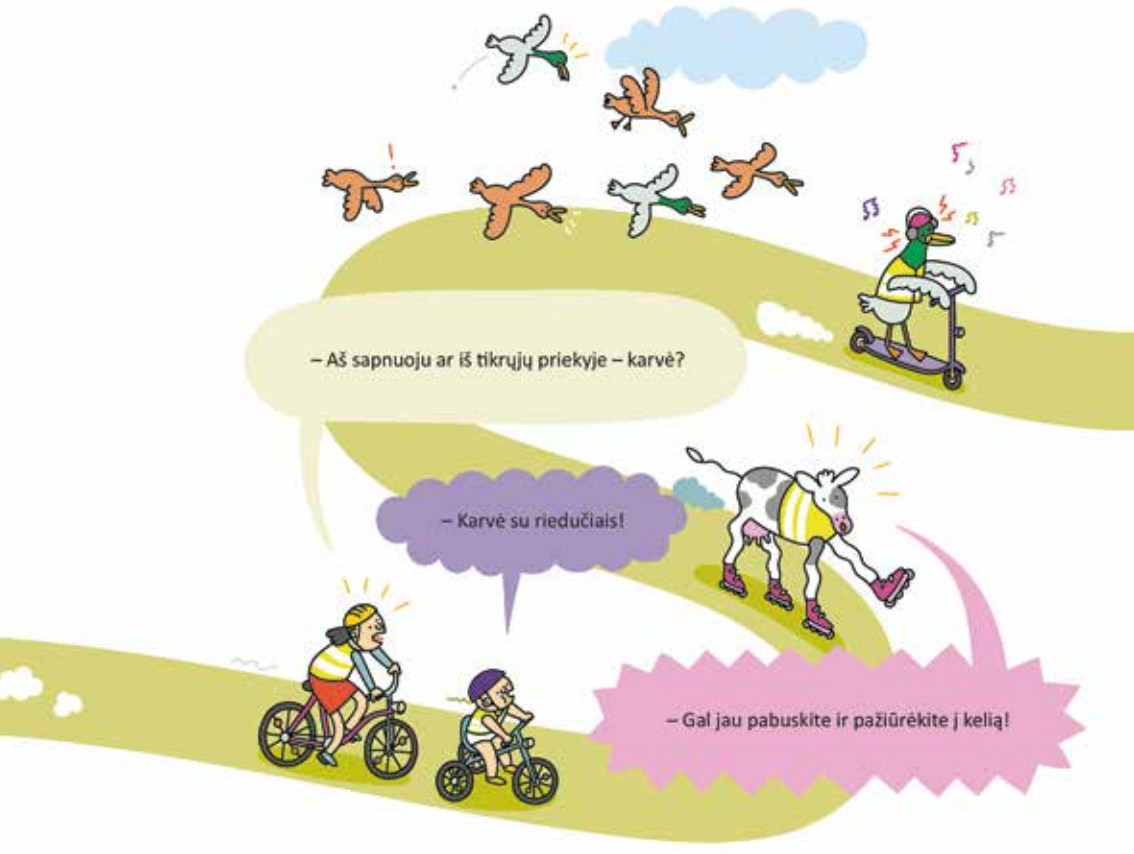
Author: Paulius Norvila
Illustrator: Simonas Kvintas
Publisher: Baltos lankos, 2024
baltoslankos.lt
56 pages, hardback, 23 × 23 × 1 cm
ISBN 9786094799549
Age: 5+

PAULIUS NORVILA (b. 1985) is a poet, prose writer and translator. He has published four books for adults and seven for children. In 2017, he won the Debut Prize in the National Children's Literature Competition and was a finalist in the same competition in 2018 and 2019. His poetry book *Strykt pastrykt* (*Hippity Hop*) was selected as one of the top five children's books in the 2019 Book of the Year Awards. The year 2024 has been particularly productive for the poet, with the release of *Išprotėję eilėraščiai* (*Crazy Poems*), the fairy tale *Tėčio Marselio liežuvis* (*Daddy Marcel's Tongue*), and the fun educational book *Safe on the Road*.

SIMONAS KVINTAS (b. 1983) is a graphic designer, children's book author, and illustrator. He made his debut as an author with the pop-up book *Sveikas, Vilniau!* (*Hello, Vilnius!*) in 2021, introducing young readers to Lithuania's capital. As an illustrator, he works on both fiction and educational books for children, some of which have been nominated for various children's literature awards (*Mikropolis. Pašėlę bakterijų nuotykiai žmonių pasaulyje* (*Micropolis. The Wild Adventures of Bacteria in the Human World*) by Urtė Starkevič, 2022; and *Išgelbėti mešką. Nuotykiai Renesanso Vilniuje* (*Saving the Bear. Adventures in Renaissance Vilnius*) by Gina Viliūnė, 2023). Kvintas' memorable and recognisable style is full of expressive characters, humorous situations, and details typical of urban and natural environments.



The book was initiated by Lietuvos draudimas (Lithuanian Insurance), which has been insuring all schoolchildren in the country against accidents every September for the past 25 years. Each spread of this playfully illustrated book is dedicated to a specific aspect of road safety or potential hazards in various environments. Children learn how to cross the street properly, what traffic lights mean, how to behave in a moving bus or car, and how to safely wait for and exit a vehicle. The book also reminds them of bicycle, scooter and rollerblade safety rules, explains the importance of wearing a helmet, reflectors and a high-visibility vest, and warns of dangers near railway tracks or high-voltage power lines. Each topic begins with a standard rule or definition, but the information presented is anything but standard. The authors skilfully engage the reader in playful everyday situations that cleverly reinforce the main theme of each section. The illustrations and recurring features, *Did You Know...* and *Fact or Fiction* not only expand the reader's knowledge but also encourage critical thinking and attentiveness – so they don't fall for the amusing tricks set up by the book's playful creators.



NATURE IN YOUR POCKET: CHILDHOOD ADVENTURES

SU GAMTA KIŠENĖJE: VAIKYSTĖS NUTIKIMAI

SELEMONAS PALTANAVIČIUS | REDA TOMINGAS

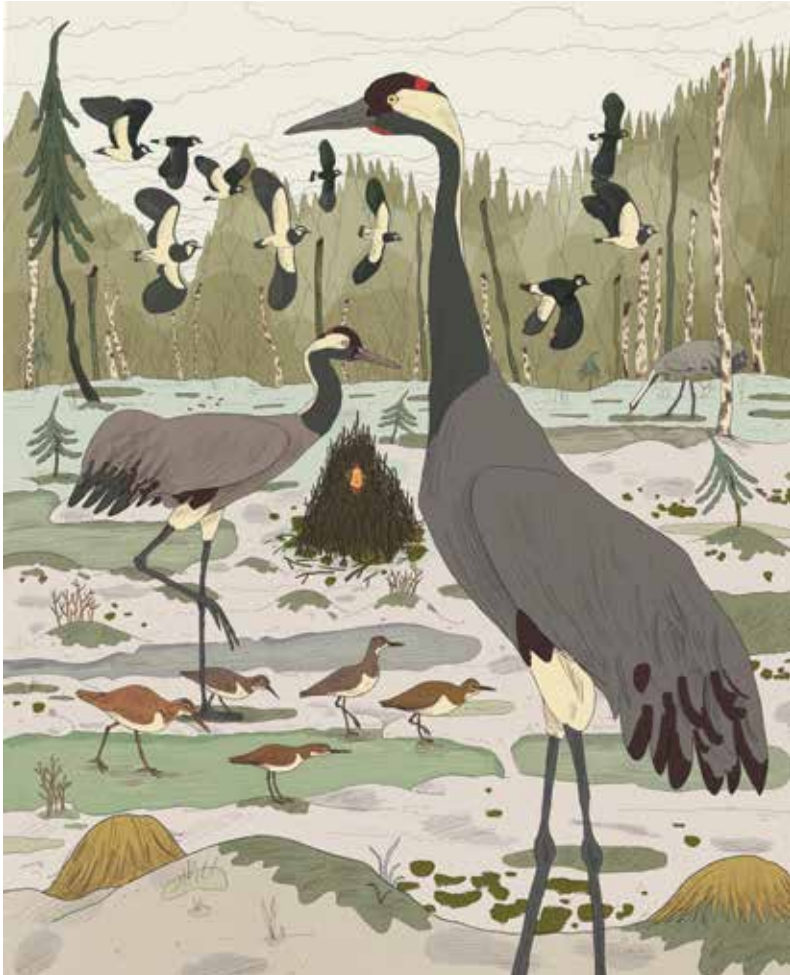


Author: Selemonas Paltanavičius
Illustrator: Reda Tomingas
Publisher: Debesų ganyklos, 2024
debesuganyklos.lt
192 pages, hardback, 21 × 26.9 × 1.9 cm
ISBN 9786094733451
Age: 5+

SELEMONAS PALTANAVIČIUS (b. 1956) is a naturalist by vocation, an author of books for children and adults, a photographer, traveller, and host of television and radio programmes. He has published a total of 100 fiction and nonfiction books for both children and adults. He has received numerous prestigious national awards, including the IBBY Pranas Mašiotas Award in 2020 and the Order of the Lithuanian Grand Duke Gediminas Knight's Cross in 2022 for promoting his homeland worldwide. In 2015, Selemonas Paltanavičius was awarded the Medal of the Order of Merit for Lithuania and in 2016, he received the Children's Literature Award from the Ministry of Education and Science.

REDA TOMINGAS (b. 1979) is an animated film director, animator, and illustrator who has illustrated several of Selemonas Paltanavičius' books, including *Gandriuko metai* (*The Year of the Stork*, 2019), *Paspirtukas* (*Scooter*, 2021), and *Dramblys ant delno* (*An Elephant in the Palm*, 2024). The illustrator has a deep love of nature and collects plants, which is naturally reflected in her skilful and subtle illustrations of books related to the natural world. She has also illustrated *Meksika Marija* (*Mexico Maria*, 2021) and *Džiunglių istorijos* (*Jungle Stories*, 2022) by Saulė Paltanavičiūtė, *Katinas Miegošius* (*The Sleepy Cat*, 2022) by Egidijus Zaikauskas, and *Kaip Grikis berniuką augino* (*How Grikis Raised a Boy*, 2022) by Daiva Čepkauskaitė. She holds a bachelor's degree in audiovisual arts and has received multiple awards for her film *Kaltė* (*Guilt*).

In his 100th book, *Su gamta kišenėje* (*Nature in Your Pocket*), Selemonas Paltanavičius takes readers back to his childhood, sharing a series of adventures, each more exciting than the last and sometimes even risky. Every event is a testament to how, from a young age, the author was deeply fascinated by nature and its inhabitants: birds, insects and animals. He meticulously gathered facts, recorded data, measured eggs, and put rings on birds. Each story is illustrated with photographs of birds, animals or insects, accompanied by factual data and descriptions collected by the naturalist. Moreover, the author reflects on each childhood adventure from the perspective of more than 50 years later. Memorable moments include young Paltanavičius' determination to find a "water bee"; and his journey into a fox's den – easy to crawl into, but how to get out?! There's also harvesting hornet honey, raising and caring for a fawn named Cibutė, and recognising fireflies. Did you know what a European roller or a hoopoe look like? Curious readers with a love of nature will find answers to these and many more questions in this book. Reda Tomingas' heartfelt and captivating illustrations inspire an even greater yearning to explore nature.



Lithuanian State Support for the Translation And Publication of Illustrated Books by Lithuanian Authors

WHO CAN APPLY?

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

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HOW TO APPLY?

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WHAT DOES THE GRANT COVER?

- Translation costs for the illustrated publication (up to 100%, but not exceeding 70% of the total budget for the publication),
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- A call for applications and all the information related to the call is announced on the website of the Lithuanian Culture Institute www.lithuanianculture.lt.

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

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