

# POLISH BOOKS FOR CHILDREN 2026



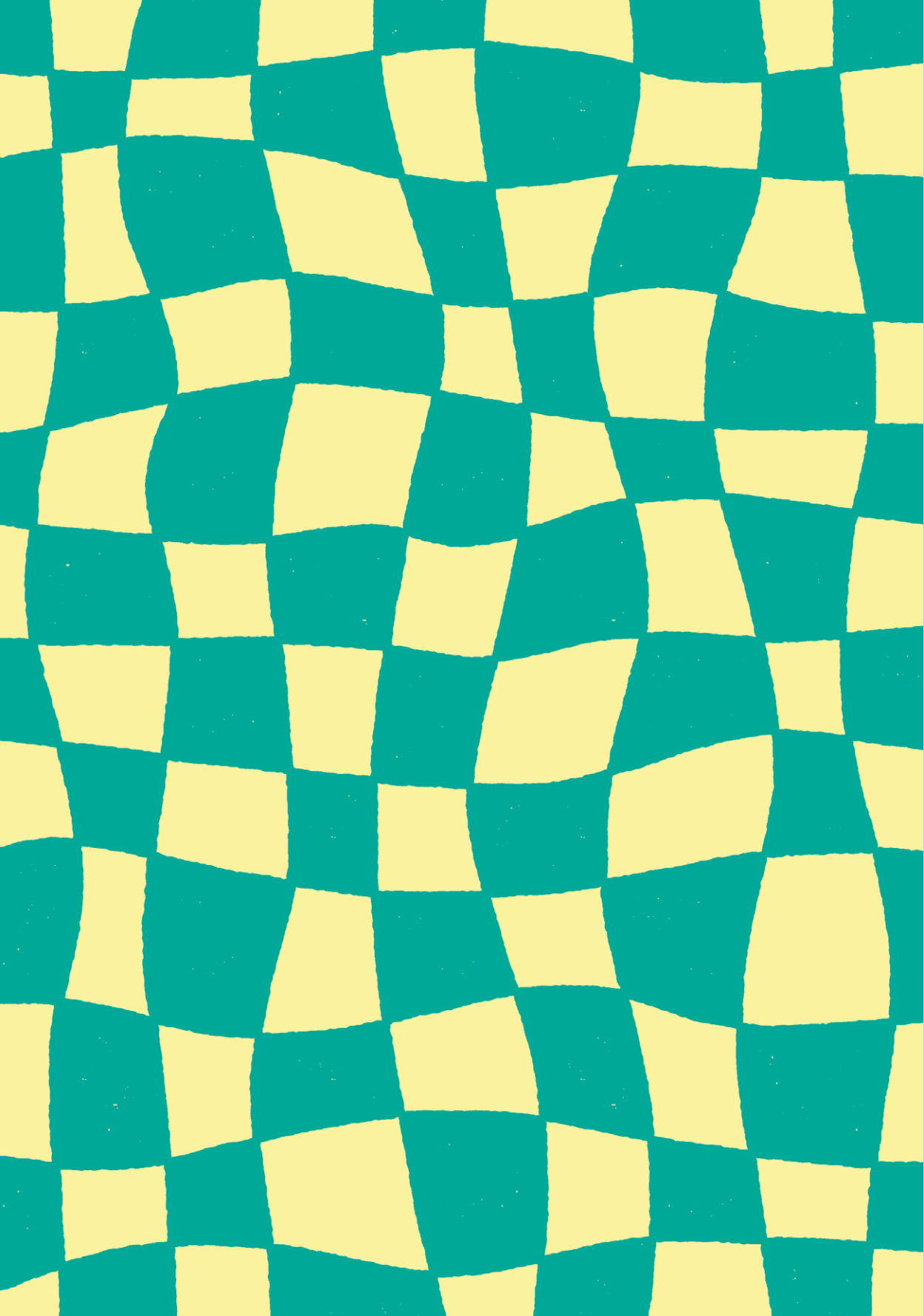
# POLISH BOOKS FOR CHILDREN 2026





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# Cosy Poems: Animals

Grzegorz Uzdowski,  
illustrated by Daria Solak

3+

PUBLISHER: Natuli

SIZE: 206×258

PAGES: 32

ISBN: 9788367288835

TRANSLATION RIGHTS:

Karolina Jaszecka

karolina@ka-books.com

The authoring of children's poetry about animals has a long tradition, the main representatives of which in Poland were Jan Brzechwa and Julian Tuwim. Contemporary attempts at tackling this genre seem doomed to repetitiveness: echoing well-known rhymes and casting animals in established roles. Grzegorz Uzdowski manages not only to avoid the risk of epigonism, but also to sketch out non-obvious portraits of various animal characters, from hedgehogs to octopuses, that are far from simple cultural stereotypes. The book also resonates with unpretentious tenderness – after all, these are 'cosy' poems – and clear respect for young readers. The author does not look down on them or lecture them, but takes on the role of a companion on their early reading journey. Daria Solak's drawings are equally sensitive, unaffected and non-stereotypical: on the one hand, accessible to young children, and on the other, far from the kitsch that is so often associated with illustrated collections of poems for little ones.

Maciej Skowera



## Wydry

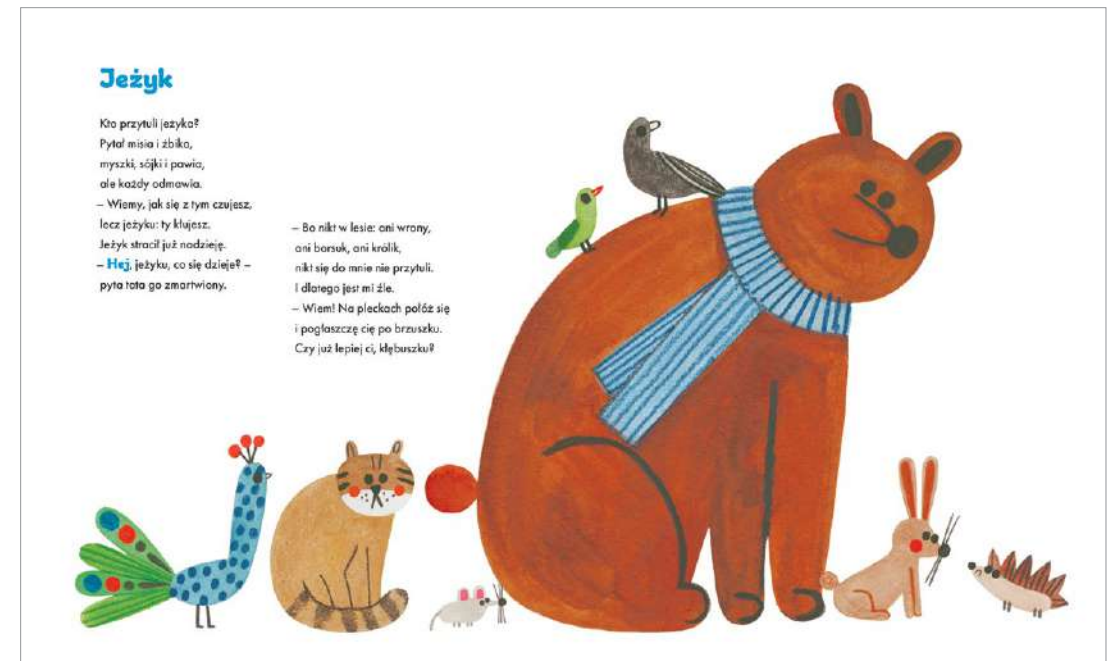
Dziś od rana na basenie  
różnych zwierząt zatrudnienia.  
Materace do pływania  
daje ratowniczo Ania.

Na dmuchanym owokado  
cztery się barsuki kładą.  
Na dmuchanej zaś pingwinie  
z kurczakami kura pływie.

Na kajaku siedzi jeź,  
chciał popływać sobie też,  
a dmuchane dwa kongury  
już przez niego mają dziury.

Ale zaraz, gdzie wyderka?  
Ratowniczo Ania zerka.  
Na dmuchanej pływa lamieś  
Na flaminguś

Nie! No mamie.



## Jeżyk

Kto przytuli języka?  
Pytał misia i zбіka,  
myszkę, sōłki i pawia,  
ale każdy odmawia.

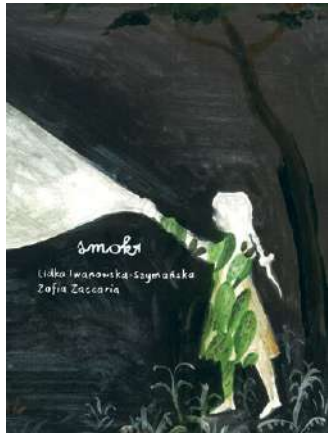
– Wiemy, jak się z tym czujesz,  
lecz języku: ty klujesz.  
Jeżyk stracił już nadzieję.  
– Hej, języku, co się dzieje! –  
pyta tata go zmartwiony.

– Bo nikt w lesie: ani wrony,  
ani barsok, ani królik,  
nikt się do mnie nie przytuli.  
I dlatego jest mi źle.  
– Wiem! Na plecach połóż się  
i pogłaszczę cię po brzuszku.  
Czy już lepiej ci, Mębuszku?



Grzegorz Uzdowski is a writer of books and poems, who also performs with the improvised theatre groups Klancyk and Resort Komedi. He is the father of a young boy, Julek.

Daria Solak studied graphic design at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw and in Bologna. She creates illustrations for magazines and children's books, as well as designs for fabrics, murals, postcards and notebooks. All of her works are made by hand.



# The Dragon

Lidka Iwanowska-Szymańska,  
illustrated by Zofia Zaccaria

**3+**

**PUBLISHER:** Lizacc Studio

**SIZE:** 155x215

**PAGES:** 44

**ISBN:** 9788397324107

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Lidka Iwanowska-Szymańska

lizacc.studio@gmail.com

**AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:**

Book of the Year 2025

Literary Distinction

(Polish Section of IBBY);

Warsaw Literary Award 2025

Nomination



Children see the truth. But what if they see something that doesn't exist? Or maybe it does... Can their eyes see more, further, deeper? Marysia and Zuzia are convinced they've seen a real dragon, which they talk about with great pride. Their child-like trust in their senses and desire to notice everything around them soon develop into something more. First, rejection and separation, and eventually, friendship. Zuzia upsets Marysia when she accuses her of lying; when Zuzia shares a similar story, she is ridiculed too. Only Marysia doesn't laugh – she holds out her hand to Zuzia and thus begins their lifelong friendship. Whether the things they saw were real or not becomes less important.

The story of *The Dragon* works on both the textual and pictorial level. Both layers carry a coherent narrative, and each could be explored separately, indefinitely. The subtle illustrations – ephemeral, multi-layered, meta-physical and equivocal – perfectly portray the adventure described by the author.

This book is an important story, inviting readers on a journey through a child's perspective on the world. It is honest, full of emotion and space for thought.

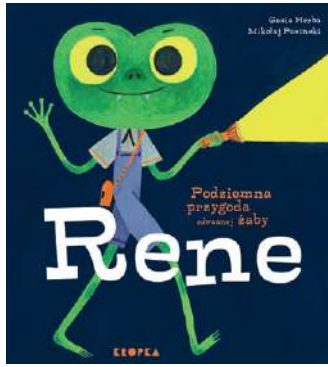
The author manages to hide many treasures in this short and rhythmic tale – imagination, senses, empathy, rejection and consolation. Readers will be inspired to contemplate their own dragons and what they represented.

Alina Januszczyk



**Lidka Iwanowska-Szymańska** is a writer, translator, storyteller and actor, as well as the founder of the children's theatre Foremka. She writes poems and books for children, conducts workshops at the Royal Łazienki Museum in Warsaw, tells stories with the Engaged Storytellers group, and performs with the theatre group Bez przesady. She lives and works in Jesówka.

**Zofia Zaccaria** is a painter, graphic designer, illustrator, and museum professional. She graduated in Graphic Design and Pedagogical Studies from the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, studied painting at the Accademia di Belle Arti di Perugia, and completed Museology Studies at the University of Warsaw. She works in the Education Department of the Royal Łazienki Museum, creating and leading activities for children, including family workshops and educational zones in temporary exhibitions.



# The Underground Adventure of The Brave Frog Rene

Mikołaj Pasiński,  
illustrated by Gosia Herba

3+

**PUBLISHER:** Kropka

**SIZE:** 215x240

**PAGES:** 56

**ISBN:** 9788368382198

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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karolina@ka-books.com

**RIGHTS SOLD:** English (World),  
Italian, Spanish, Catalan

**AWARDS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Younger Readers Award  
(Polish Section of IBBY)

*The Underground Adventure of Renée the Brave Frog* is a surprising combination of adventure novel and children's philosophical treatise. This thrilling journey of a curious frog, who decides to find out if the Earth is like a soft-boiled egg inside, is intended for readers of all ages. Renée is a philosopher, archaeologist, explorer and researcher. Thanks to her openness and honesty, she not only discovers hidden treasures, but also makes friends with the inhabitants of the underground lands. With the help of Beatrice the ant, she wanders the underground circles like Dante and learns what a wonderful place the Earth is. Readers young and old will be captivated as they journey with Renée, lingering over each of the wonderfully intriguing illustrations. The book encourages us to look for additional meanings, hidden details and clues related to history, art and pop culture. It teaches respect for the unknown, the new and the different. It is filled with warm, intelligent humour, both textually and visually. The crazy adventure of Renée the frog ends too soon, but fortunately, readers can return to the book again and again, finding something new in it each time.

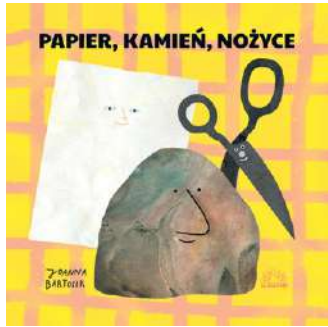
Biserka Čejović



**Mikołaj Pasiński** is a graphic artist living in Wrocław. He designs books for children and adults, as well as other types of publications and posters. Typography and polygraphy are his principal interests.

**Gosia Herba** is an illustrator and art historian based in Wrocław. She has been an illustrator in the publishing field for a decade, working with publishing houses, magazines, record companies and design agencies around the world. She principally illustrates children's books and comic books.





# Rock, Paper, Scissors

Joanna Bartosik

3+

**PUBLISHER:** Widnokrąg

**SIZE:** 230×230

**PAGES:** 56

**ISBN:** 9788368060225

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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**RIGHTS SOLD:** Turkish, Tamil,  
English (India)

On more than one occasion, I have thought how great it would be if there was a book reinterpreting one of the most famous games in the world – rock, paper, scissors. A book showing that instead of competing, the rock, paper and scissors can cooperate and help each other out.

Finally, that book exists. Starting from this simple children's game, Joanna Bartosik tells a story that touches on the essence of the problems of the modern world and simultaneously reveals a solution that is within reach, even if it's hard for us to accept.

Perhaps it's because we're always hearing about relationships, interdependence and cooperation, but these words rarely translate into the reality of our experience. What we need is a form that will allow us to really feel them. We need a great story, a strong concept and consistent execution.

That's what Joanna Bartosik's book provides.

It allows us to reflect on the fact that everyone has their own power – but it is only in encounters with others, beyond the logic of conflict and domination, that we discover the meaning of not only our own strength, but also the synergy that comes from combining with the strength of others.

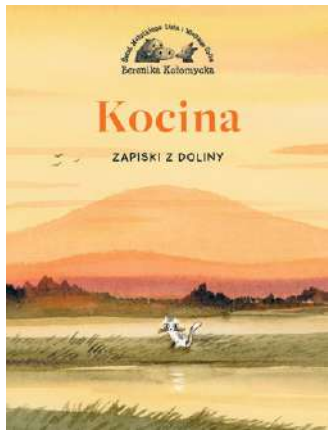


Thanks to this book, we can begin to believe that a different story about the world is possible. A story in which strength lies not in winning, but in coexistence; in which diversity and cooperation are the foundation of community, and community is the condition for peaceful and meaningful coexistence.

*Rock, Paper, Scissors* is a picture book with a perfectly thought-out, original visuality, operating at the level of a metaphor that is understandable in every culture. This is a book that does more than just tell a story – it actually changes the perception of reality – and that is why its potential is so far-reaching.

Przemek Staroń

**Joanna Bartosik** is an author and illustrator of children's books, and the creator of the award-winning board book series *Raz, dwa, trzy* (*One, Two, Three*). Her books have been featured at the Bologna Children's Book Fair and in the *Absolute Beginners* exhibition at the Salaborsa Library. She has illustrated over 30 books, collaborating with publishers in Poland and abroad.



# Miaoumiaou. Notes from the Valley

Berenika Kołomycka

3+

**PUBLISHER:** Egmont

**SIZE:** 190x250

**PAGES:** 64

**ISBN:** 9788328169722

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

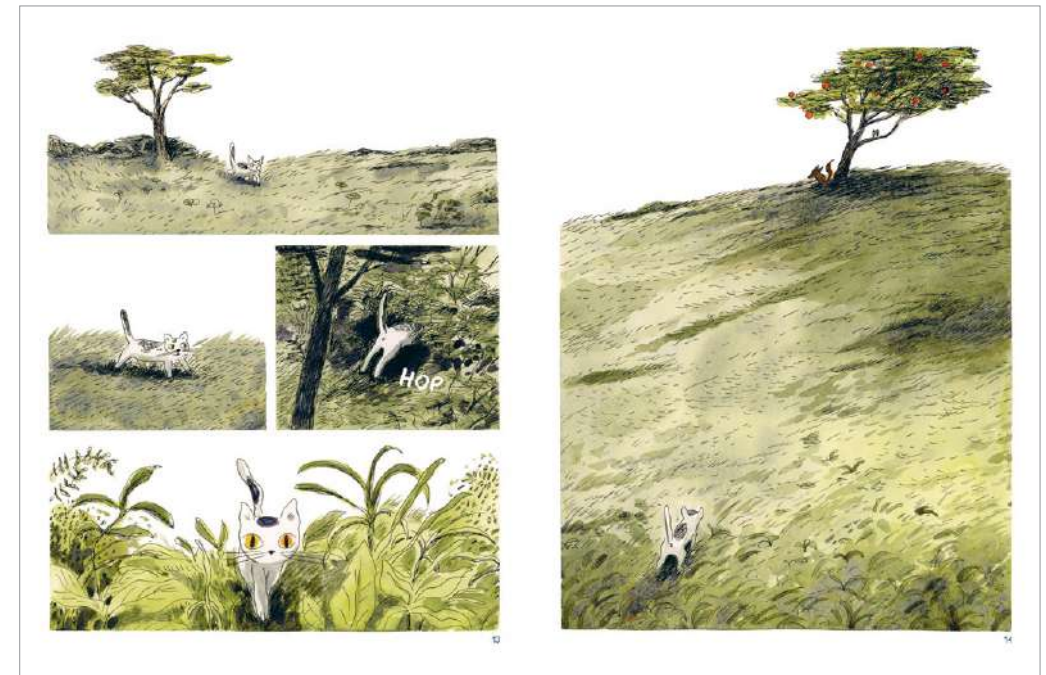
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karolina@ka-books.com

**AWARDS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Comics Award  
(Polish Section of IBBY)

A comic book for young readers, part of a series dedicated to the world of Tiny Fox and Great Boar (one loves apples, the other is strong and caring). Fox Valley is also inhabited by earthworms, beavers, a hare, a rabbit, a weasel with three curious kids, and a self-sufficient badger who doesn't like to leave his burrow underneath a rotten tree. On behalf of the author, the resolute Miaoumiaou sets off into this world to reveal some secrets. She observes and conducts interviews, learning in the process about responsibility, kindness, and the relationships between the inhabitants of Fox Valley. The sequences of drawings show the world sometimes from a bird's eye view, other times from an ant's perspective. Readers migrate from the general to the specific and back again. At the end, there is a set of questions about emotions, along with the answers provided by Fox and Boar. There is also a section for readers' responses – a space for reflection on one's own relationships with others.

Anita Wincencjusz-Patyna



**Berenika Kołomycka** is an illustrator and comic book author, winner of the Grand Prix of the International Festival of Comics and Games in Łódź, and creator of the award-winning series *Tiny Fox and Great Boar*.



# Fish's Magic Piano

Joanna Olejarczyk,  
illustrated by Marianna Oklejak

**3+**

**PUBLISHER:** Bajka

**SIZE:** 210×235

**PAGES:** 48

**ISBN:** 9788367697194

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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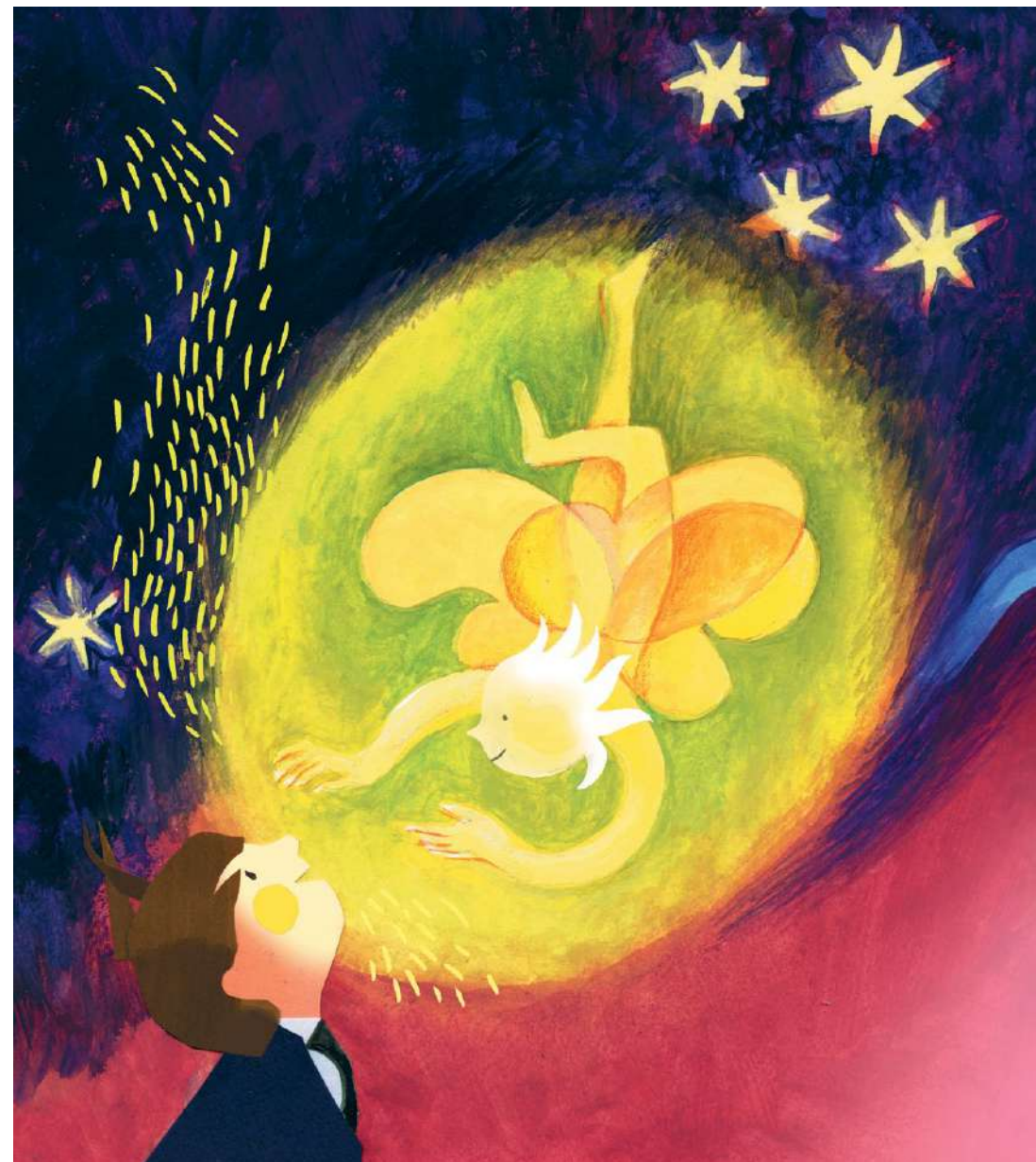
**AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Nominated – Graphic Category  
(Polish Section of IBBY)



What a wonderful composition! A story about a gift-ed, extremely sensitive child combined with beautiful, colourful images created using a variety of techniques. The book not only allows you to see the music, but it gives value to this seeing. It shows how we can also experience the special gift of hearing that is the privilege of the few, often associated with great sensitivity. Many worlds can be created while reading or listening to this story: a world of children building positive beliefs about themselves; a world in which music gives them the power to act and allows them to appreciate their uniqueness; a world whose inhabitants want to share in this power. Marianna Oklejak also brings to life a world of visible sounds, for which I am extremely grateful. I didn't know that it existed. Her trademark freedom in combining techniques brings to mind a child-like courage in creation, showing that in art, the rules are there to be broken, and the boundaries between artistic fields should be blurred. Both the text and the accompanying images are reminiscent of another foundation of a worthwhile existence – the creation of beauty and the joy that accompanies it.

Joanna Piekarska



**Joanna Olejarczyk** is a translator of English and author of books for young readers, exploring self-discovery, imagination and the world around us. Several of her titles have appeared on the Golden List of *All of Poland Reads to Kids*. She is a mother of three, a travel enthusiast and an amateur photographer.

**Marianna Oklejak** is an illustrator, graphic designer and artist whose work has won awards in Poland and abroad. Her book *The Wonders of the Wreath* received accolades from the IBBY international committee and the Internationale Jugendbibliothek in Munich.



# Barbara the Capybara

Eliza Piotrowska

3+

**PUBLISHER:** Agora dla dzieci

**SIZE:** 165×216

**PAGES:** 96

**ISBN:** 9788383802145

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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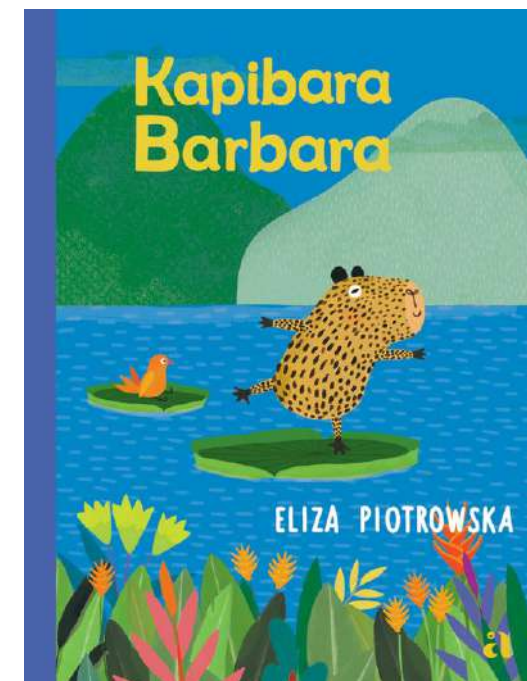
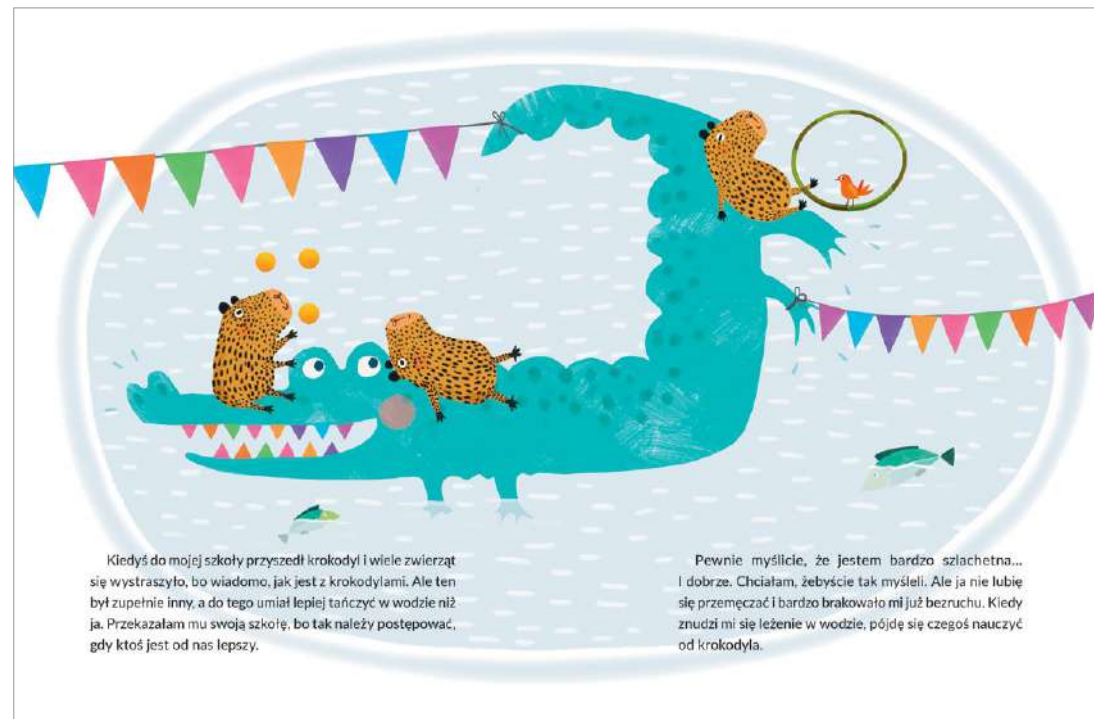
**RIGHTS SOLD** (1st Volume):  
Latvian



Who'd have thought that such ordinary capybaras could lead such extraordinary lives? Ballet, dance school, writing lessons, travelling, even running their own businesses. And although they have so many wonderful experiences, it's the simple things they value most – splashing around in the water, listening to the birds singing, and eating grass from right to left according to family tradition. Full of humour, lightness, tropical colours and family adventure – and not lacking in tenderness and empathy – this is a story about being yourself, the meaning of the things we do, building relationships with others, and the joy of learning about yourself and the world.

Alina Januszczuk

**Eliza Piotrowska** is an author and illustrator (including the bestselling *Ciocia Jadzia* series). She has been writing and drawing since childhood – and she's still not tired of it! She enjoys observing the world, asking questions, and delighting in how much there still is to learn.





# The Seed Keepers: Therapeutic Fairy Tales

Aneta Bujnowska & Natalia Fiedorczuk,  
illustrated by Maria Dek

3+

**PUBLISHER:** Natuli

**SIZE:** 260×210

**PAGES:** 104

**ISBN:** 9788367288750

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Karolina Jaszecka

karolina@ka-books.com

*The Seed Keepers* is a warm story that focuses on emotions – those of both children and adults. It comprises 10 therapeutic fairy tales that can be read separately; when read together, they create a coherent story about the lives of magical forest creatures – Lolo, his parents, his newborn sister and his animal friends. The heroes of the story live in a cosy underground burrow and fulfil a unique role – they are the keepers of seeds, from which beautiful flowers grow in the spring. Over time, we discover that they also tend to children's emotions and needs. The authors tackle important topics with great sensitivity, including separation anxiety, the birth of siblings, anger, neurodiversity (autism, ADHD, different learning styles), adapting to school or pre-school, grieving, and the first steps towards independence. Each chapter is preceded by a commentary for parents, providing practical tools on how to maturely and empathetically accompany a child through these sorts of challenges. The warm, emotional illustrations by the brilliant Maria Dek complement the story, making it a safe space for conversation, closeness and shared growth.

Gabriela Dul

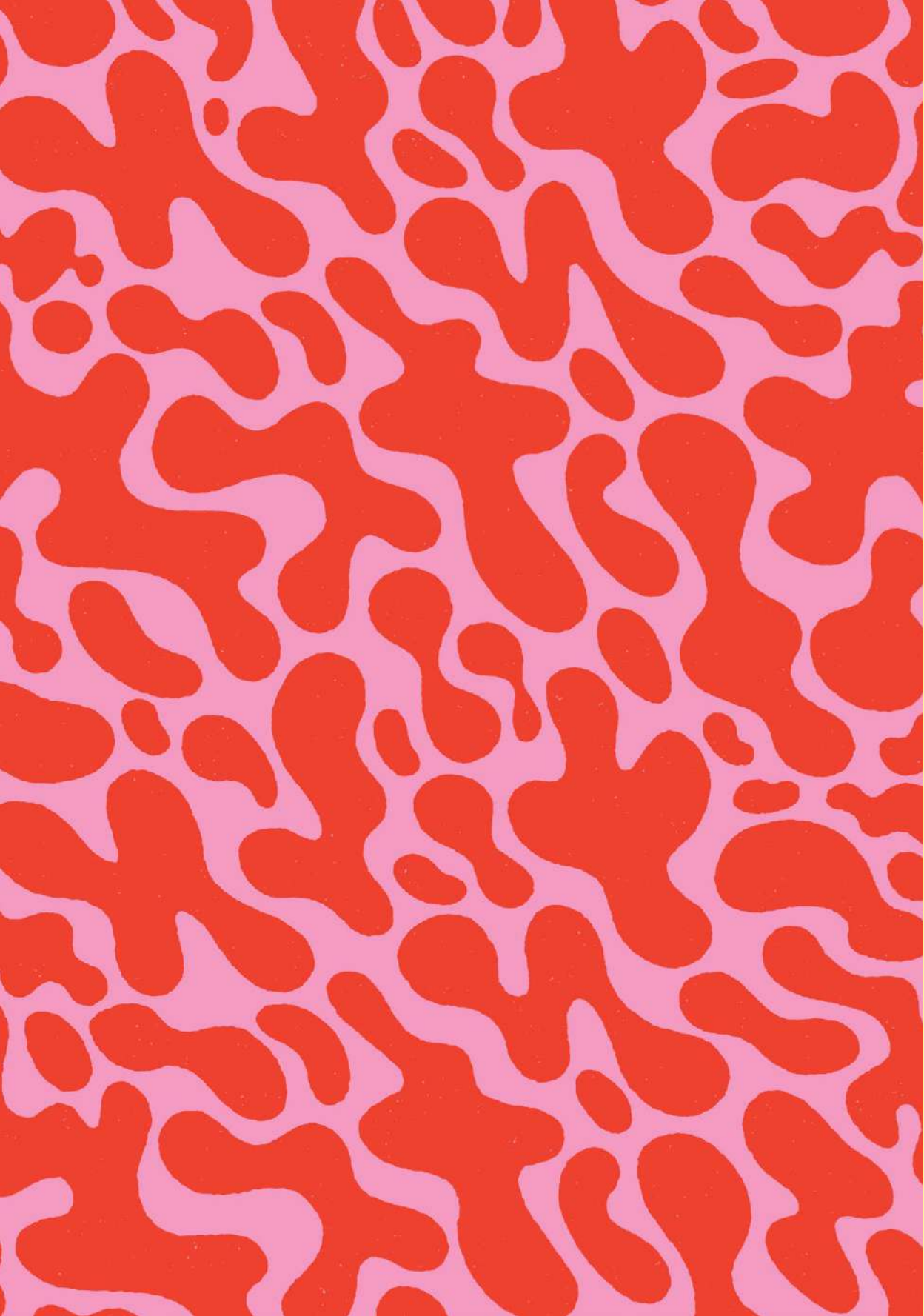


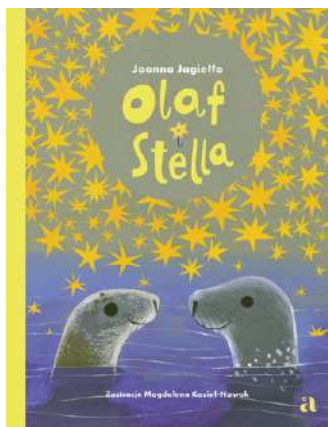
**Aneta Bujnowska** is a children's rights activist, educator, Polish language specialist, and GPS Method (Development Through Play) therapist. She is a crisis mentor in the positive crisis therapy approach and the author of personalised therapeutic stories written for individual readers, as well as two children's books: *Tadzik i rak* (*Tadzik and Cancer*) and *Droga do domu* (*The Way Home*). She enjoys forest walks, children's literature, the purring of cats, and chocolate.

**Natalia Fiedorczuk** is a singer, instrumentalist, songwriter and author of children's books. Since 2006, she has performed solo under

the name Nathalie and The Loners and, since 2008, she has been the vocalist and lyricist for the band Happy Pil.

**Maria Dek** is an illustrator and author of picture books. She is a graduate of the University of the Arts in London and the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. She cooperates with domestic and foreign publishing houses (her books have been published in various countries including France, Spain and the US). She readily uses traditional artistic techniques.





# Olaf and Stella

Joanna Jagiełło,  
illustrated by Magdalena Koziel-Nowak

6+

**PUBLISHER:** Agora dla dzieci

**SIZE:** 165x216

**PAGES:** 152

**ISBN:** 9788383801605

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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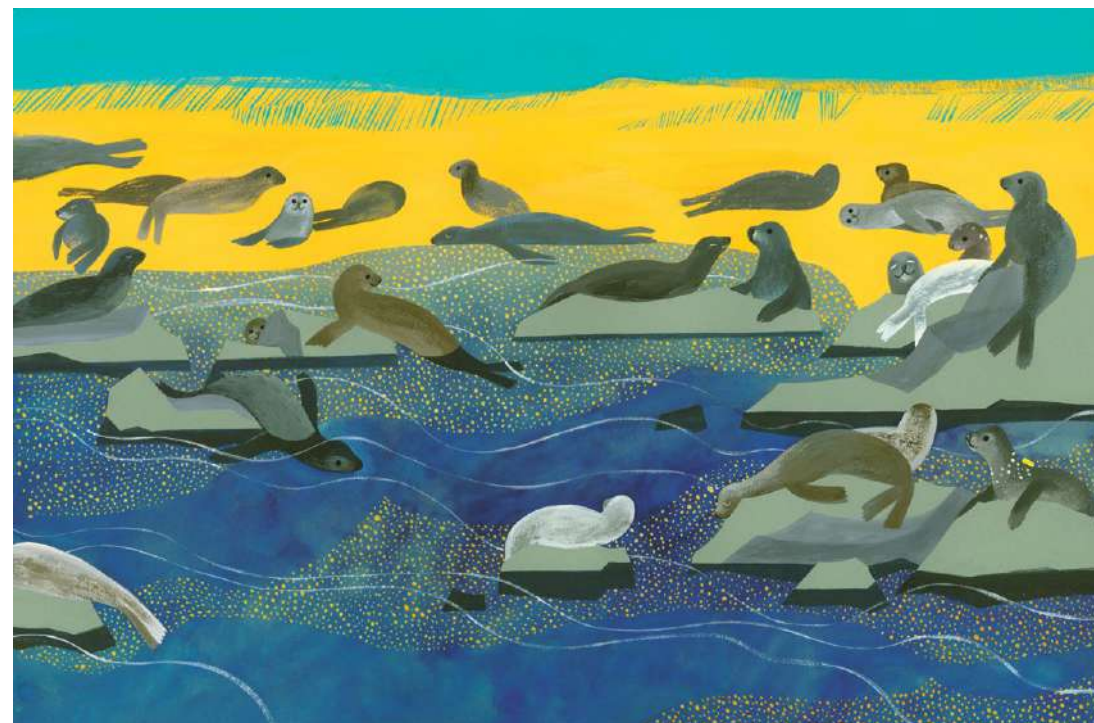
**AWARDS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Graphic Distinction  
(Polish Section of IBBY)

This fictional story about the life of Baltic seals is bound to appeal to true nature lovers. Having been raised in the seal sanctuary in Hel (a Polish research centre dedicated to the protection of seals), Olaf is released into the wild and begins his great mission of independence. He has to catch his own food, learn to avoid dangers, and navigate the difficulties of life in a herd. He discovers the meaning of rejection, but he also encounters great love. A beautiful stranger from the far North, Stella, introduces him to a new world and fresh experiences. Her rejection by the group motivates Olaf to set out on a journey that will completely change his life. His expedition into the unknown is an opportunity to meet other marine animals (gulls, porpoises, cod) and the largest marine predator – humans.

Joanna Jagiełło's novel teaches tolerance; it shows the real, though not obvious, beauty of wild nature, and helps us to understand the rules that govern the animal world. Magdalena Koziel-Nowak's fascinating, painterly illustrations capture the imagination and provoke dreams of experiencing a true Baltic adventure.

Biserka Čejović



**Joanna Jagiełło** is a writer, poet, and author of books for young adults, children and adults. Her debut novel *Kawa z kardamonem* (*Coffee with Cardamom*) was nominated for Book of the Year in the Polish Section of IBBY and was the first book in the popular 'Coffee Series'. Her novel *Jak ziarnka piasku* (*Like Grains of Sand*) won Book of the Year in the Polish Section of IBBY (2018) and was included on the White Ravens list.

**Magdalena Koziel-Nowak** is an illustrator and graphic designer specialising in children's books. A graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Wrocław, she has illustrated many acclaimed picture books published in Poland and abroad. Her work is known for its warm colours, expressive characters and playful sense of humour.





# The SuperMega-Important Mission

Przemek Wechterowicz,  
illustrated by Marta Ignerska

6+

**PUBLISHER:** Kultura Gniewu

**SIZE:** 220×280

**PAGES:** 64

**ISBN:** 9788367360982

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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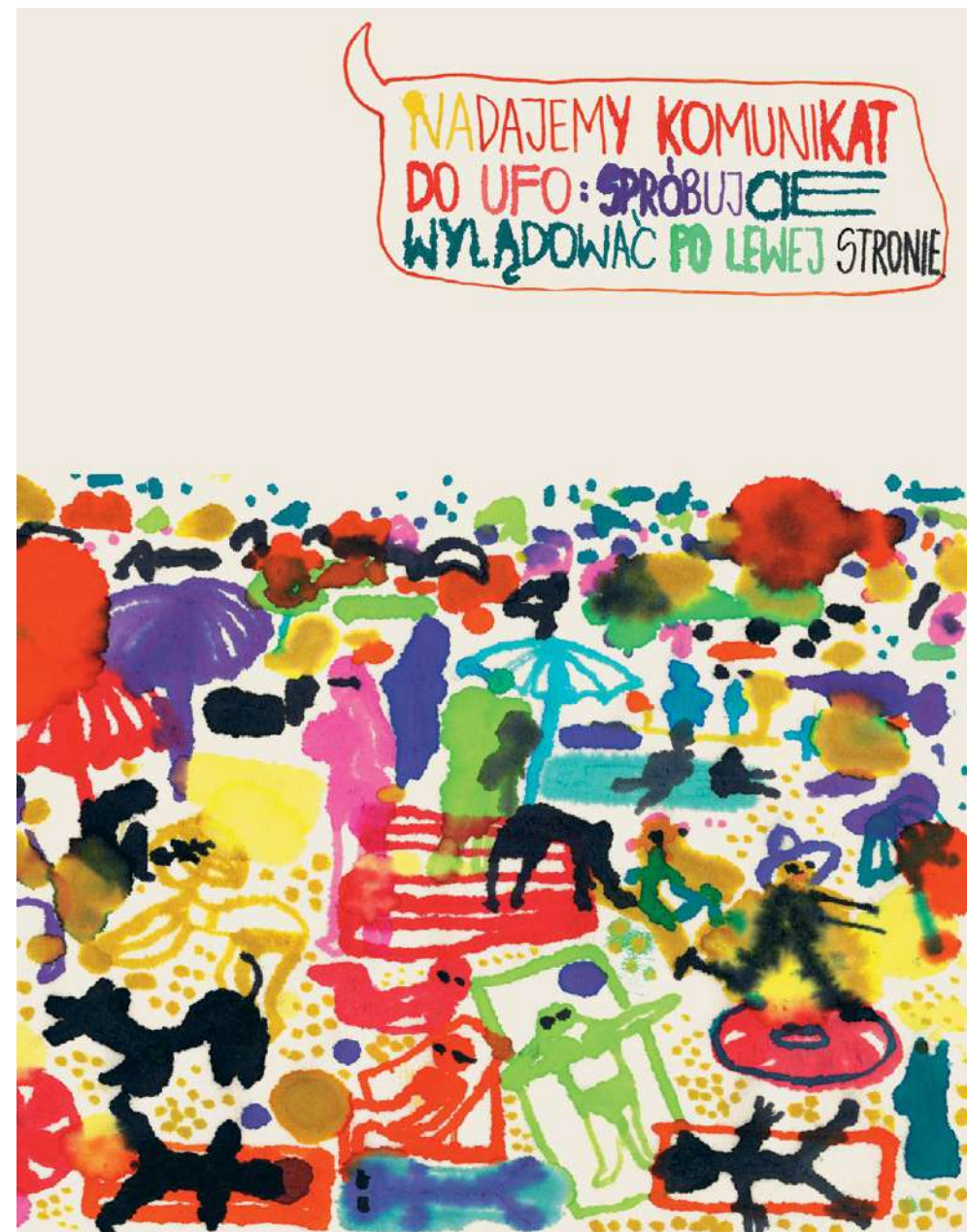
**AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Nominated – Comics Category  
(Polish Section of IBBY);  
Ferdinand the Great Award 2025  
Nominated



There has never been a mission like it – the type of very important mission that features a UFO, told through drawings full of energy and a story packed with wit. Here, regular life turns into unexpected surrealism. An ordinary neighbourhood becomes the setting for extraordinary events. Przemek Wechterowicz proposes a wonderful experiment in worldview perspective and brilliantly builds towards the climax of the narrative. Marta Ignerska presents these concepts in an originally constructed, para-comic sequence featuring scenes of graphic reportage about what happens when Earth is just a stopover on an intergalactic journey. The quivering contours – as if the line were attached to an electric current or under the influence of a magnetic field – are accompanied by blurred spots and streaks, pulsating with the cosmic energy of fluidly changing colours. A total trip!

Anita Wincencjusz-Patyna



Przemek Wechterowicz is an author of children's books, picture books, plays and poems. He has published 36 books translated into 20 foreign languages.

Marta Ignerska is an illustrator, graphic designer and children's book author. A graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw, she has illustrated numerous award-winning books published in Poland and internationally. Her work has received many distinctions, including the Bologna Ragazzi Award at the Bologna Children's Book Fair.



# The Kite

Barbara Kosmowska,  
illustrated by Emilia Dziubak

**6+**

**PUBLISHER:** Agora dla dzieci

**SIZE:** 165x216

**PAGES:** 176

**ISBN:** 9788383801513

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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**RIGHTS SOLD:** Spanish,  
Simplified Chinese

**AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Nominated – Literary Category  
(Polish Section of IBBY)

The latest book by this excellent duo is a heart-warming story about intergenerational friendship and the importance of inviting hope to dwell where sadness reigns. The main character, the sweet and sensitive Mieszko, is struggling with his parents' separation. He misses his dad, with whom he has no contact, and worries about his mum, who has changed a lot recently – she no longer smiles and has stopped doing her favourite activities. Fortunately, an elderly gentleman named Albert comes into his life and quickly becomes a kind of step-grandfather to Mieszko, supporting him through this challenging time. Together, they cook magical dishes, have honest conversations, tend to their emotions, and build not only the titular kite, but also a new framework for living.

In this subtle story, the simplicity of everyday life interweaves with a great depth of feeling, highlighted by the incredibly vivid and poetic illustrations by Emilia Dziubak.

Gabriela Dul

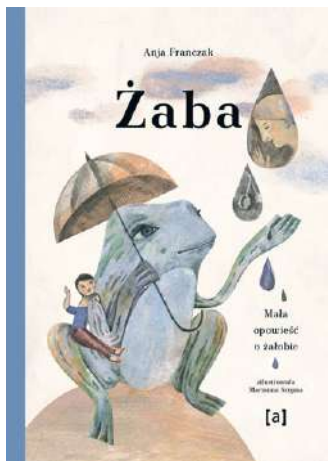


**Barbara Kosmowska** is a literary scholar and award-winning author, who writes novels for both adults and younger readers. Her books *Teren prywatny* (*Private Property*) and *Buba* brought her wide recognition and opened the way to further literary successes. She is a multiple winner of major Polish children's literature awards, including the Guliwer and the Żółta Cizemka. Two of her books, *Dziewczynka z parku* (*The Girl from the Park*) and *Pozłacana rybka* (*The Gilded Fish*),

are included in the Polish school reading curriculum.

**Emilia Dziubak** is an illustrator and children's author. She made her debut in 2011 with a cookbook for children entitled *A Treat for Picky Eaters*. The book was selected for the final of the prestigious 4th CJ Picture Book Award, a competition held in South Korea for the most beautiful book illustrations.





# The Frog: A Little Tale of Mourning

Anja Franczak,  
illustrated by Marianna Sztyma

**6+**

**PUBLISHER:** Albus

**SIZE:** 240x170

**PAGES:** 48

**ISBN:** 9788367085212

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Karolina Jaszecka  
karolina@ka-books.com

**AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Nominated – Picture Book /  
Original Book Category  
(Polish Section of IBBY);  
Dobre Strony Editorial Award 2025  
Nominated

*The Frog* is a book that seems to achieve the impossible. It addresses one of the most important and difficult topics – the experience of grief – and by preserving its inexpressible essence, it embraces it in every possible way.

Anja Franczak guides the young reader through the process of mourning the loss of a beloved grandmother with both extraordinary gentleness and immeasurable wisdom. With the help of the titular frog, readers gradually come to see that sadness is not a bad thing, but the natural language of love. Its existence is actually a consequence of the fact that we are capable of love.

The author, who is the founder of the Institute of the Good Death, has fully utilised all her knowledge and experience in creating a story that gives space for what is most important: silence, questions that have no easy answers, and emotions that need time. As a result, *The Frog* is not only a book for children, but also an invaluable source and tool of support for adults accompanying a child in experiencing the loss of a loved one.



*The Frog* can reach anyone, anywhere, because connection, love and loss are experiences fundamental to every living being, shared across languages and cultures. The beautiful illustrations by Marianna Sztyma add to the universal potential of this book. Its visual world – subtle, symbolic, yet warm – enhances not only the artistic value of the story but also its therapeutic function, resulting in a book that can support conversations about loss and the overall experience of grief in every corner of the world.

Przemek Staroń

**Anja Franczak** is a pioneer of death and grief education in Poland, a certified grief companion (certified in Germany) and an end-of-life doula. She is the founder and president of the Institute of the Good Death, where she leads workshops, trainings and humanistic farewell ceremonies.

**Marianna Sztyma** is a painter and illustrator who specialises in press illustration and children's books, in addition to comics and book cover design.



# Mo

Marcin Szczygielski,  
illustrated by Maria Strzelecka

**6+**

**PUBLISHER:** Wytwórnia

**SIZE:** 160×200

**PAGES:** 96

**ISBN:** 9788367032438

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Karolina Jaszecka

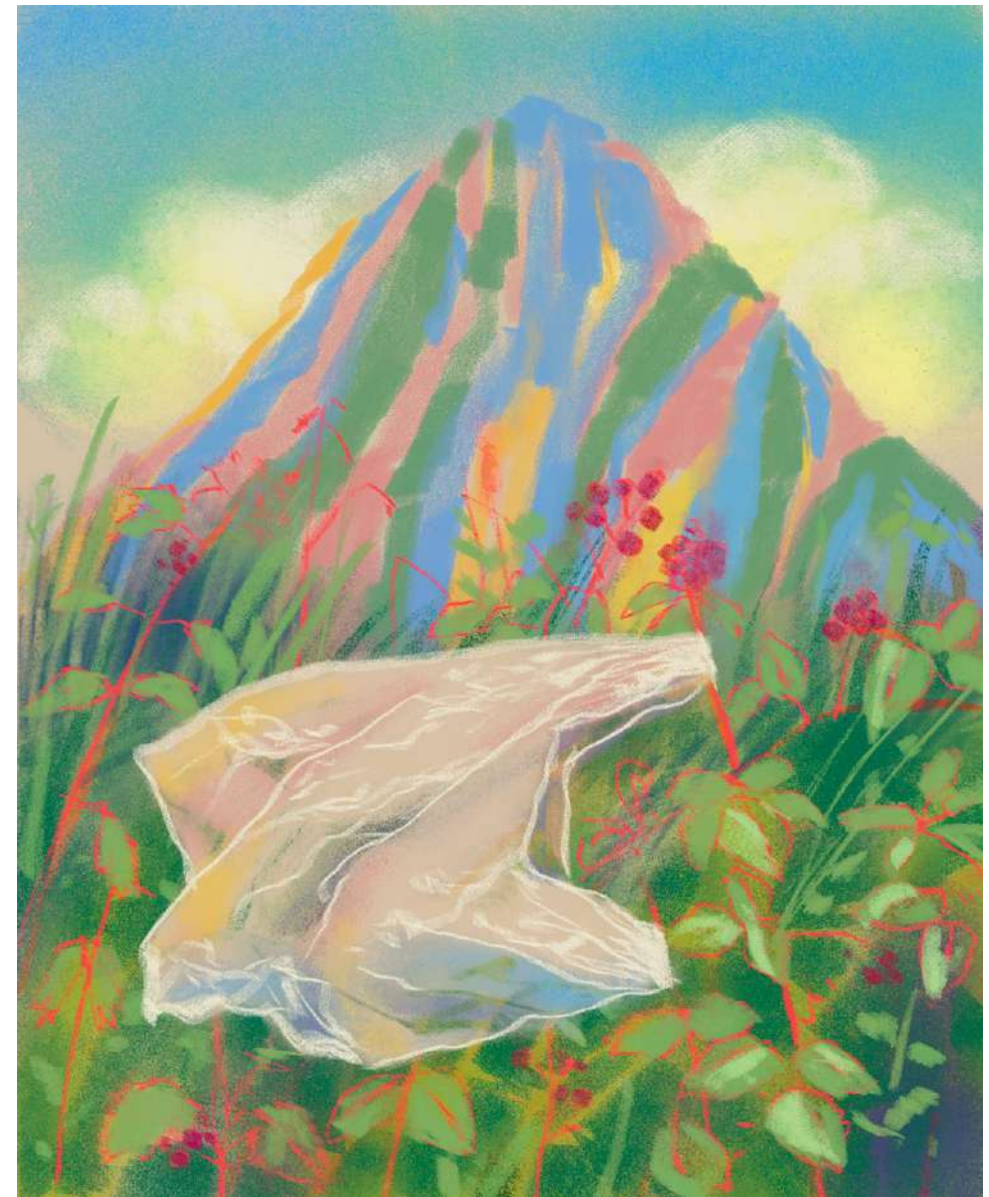
karolina@ka-books.com

*Mo* is a contemporary fairy tale about our relationship with nature and the responsibility that comes from being a part of it. The titular character appears unexpectedly in the magical world created by Marcin Szczygielski. She is a child of nature – created by the mountain, the animals and the elements. Each of them gives her their most valuable trait and a unique power that allows *Mo* to influence people's minds.

Meanwhile, humans have taken over the world and are using its resources with no respect for the laws of nature, leading to its gradual degradation. *Mo* arrives in this strange world with a clearly defined mission: she must find someone who will listen to her song and take action to save the increasingly devastated planet. After a series of failures, she meets Vit and Mouse – siblings who are sensitive to the beauty of the reality that surrounds them, and who care deeply about the fate of the Earth. They become *Mo*'s allies, igniting a spark of hope that could turn into a flame of true change.

When her task is complete, *Mo* returns to where she came from. She transforms into a tree, an eternal reminder of the inseparable bond between humans and nature.

Katarzyna Humeniuk



**Marcin Szczygielski** is a writer, journalist and graphic designer. He is a three-time winner of the Astrid Lindgren Grand Prix Literary Competition and has also won the Duży Dong Award, the Green Gosling and the City of Warsaw Literary Award. He has been nominated and awarded several times in the Book of the Year competition organised by the Polish Section of IBBY.

**Maria Strzelecka** is a painter, illustrator and writer. She is based in Warsaw, but her spiritual home is the Low Beskids, to which she devotes her books in the series 'The Beskids for Real'. Its success has seen her receive the most prestigious Polish awards for children's books. Her book *Nikifor* (2022) was included among the 100 most beautiful books of the world at the exhibition of the 60th Bologna Children's Book Fair.



# Two Dots Over U

Kasia Minasowicz

6+

**PUBLISHER:** Widnokrąg

**SIZE:** 180x240

**PAGES:** 52

**ISBN:** 9788368060287

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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karolina@ka-books.com

**AWARDS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Graphic Distinction – Picture Book / Original Book Category (Polish Section of IBBY);  
The Unpublished Picturebook Showcase dPICTUS 2025 Selected



Kasia Minasowicz's original book, published simultaneously in Polish and German, is a metaphorical story about home and its loss, especially in the context of forced migration. It consists of 23 sentences that gradually develop into the moving tale of a girl searching for closeness and safety in a world ravaged by war. The girl tries to build a new understanding of her reality, giving meaning to the objects that unexpectedly appear in her life. Minasowicz creates a clever narrative about adapting to a foreign space and trying to find one's place in a new, often incomprehensible world.

The illustrations are as expressive as the literary layer. The subdued, sepia-toned images are almost ascetic, but still eye-catching, and details highlighted in red accentuate key moments of the story. This enchanting visual layer serves to deepen the emotional dimension of the story, subtly leading the reader through the various stages of the heroine's experiences.

The story of the inhabitants of post-war Wrocław takes on a universal dimension here – it becomes a tale about loss, memory and rebuilding a sense of home. This is a touching and beautifully illustrated story about the power of imagination and the need to put down roots, which will move readers of all ages.

Katarzyna Humeniuk



**Katarzyna Minasowicz** is an illustrator and graphic designer, and a graduate of Warsaw University of Technology and the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. She creates minimalist picture books where text and image interact. That includes a new edition of *Na Jagody (Picking Berries)* by Maria Konopnicka, which was nominated for Book of the Year in the Polish Section of IBBY (2022) and won the MUST HAVE award (2023). Currently, she is working on a children's book about the Warsaw architect Halina Skibniewska.



# The Upcyclers

Agata Loth-Ignaciuk,  
illustrated by Berenika Kołomycka

6+

PUBLISHER: Druganoga

SIZE: 190x250

PAGES: 96

ISBN: 9788397246508

TRANSLATION RIGHTS:

Karolina Jaszecka  
karolina@ka-books.com

AWARDS:

Child-Friendly World Award 2025

An environmental story about imagination, creativity, and giving a second chance to things that usually end up in the bin.

The book's heroes manage to escape from the rubbish and start a new life. A TV box becomes a pirate ship, a jar turns into a lamp, and a plastic bottle ends up in a museum as a work of art. They are saved by the imagination, creativity and skilful hands of people who see new beauty in discarded items.

The book encourages readers to get involved, offering creative activities that are easy to follow. It shows that you don't need another factory-made plastic toy to have fun – all you need is an idea.

The real problem of the modern world emerges in the background: growing mountains of waste and an oceanic island of rubbish where marine animals get trapped.

Iwona Haberny

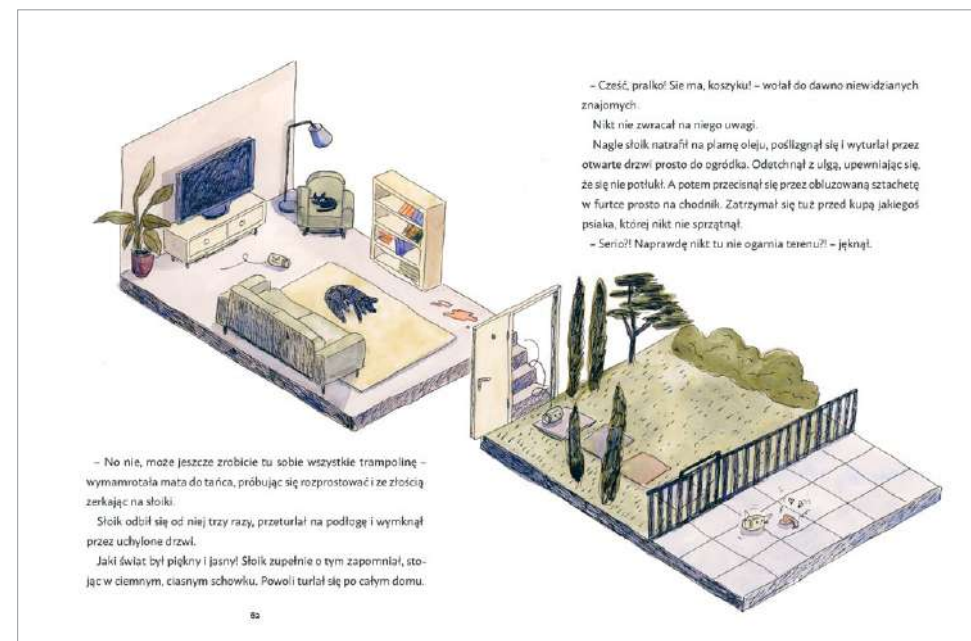


– Na terenie muzeum nie wolno biegać – powiedział pan w mundurze i srogo spojrzal na Tosię i Zygę.  
– Wiem, wiem – mrknęła dziewczynka. – Wolno tylko patrzeć i podziwiać – dodała znużona.

84

Przemierzali powoli kolejne sale. Butelka wyginała się i oglądała obrazy. Podobały jej się portrety ludzi, dziwne stwory, pejzaże. A najbardziej widoki miast. Tylko że Tosia prawie się przy nich nie zatrzymywała, więc trudno było dostrzec szczegóły.

85



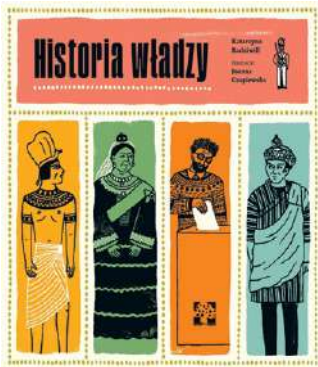
– No nie, może jeszcze zrobicie tu sobie wszystkie trampolinę – wymamrotała mała do tańca, próbując się rozprostować i ze złością zerkając na słoiki.  
Słoik odbił się od niej trzy razy, przetrwał na podłogę i wymknął przez uchylone drzwi.  
Jaki świat był piękny i jasny! Słoik zupełnie o tym zapomniał, stojąc w ciemnym, ciasnym schowku. Powoli turlił się po całym domu.

86

– Cześć, pralko! Sie ma, koszyku! – wołał do dawno niewidzianych znajomych.  
Nikt nie zwracał na niego uwagi.  
Nagle słoik natrafił na plamę oleju, poślizgnął się i wylurzył przez otwarte drzwi prosto do ogródka. Oddechnął z ulgą, upewniając się, że się nie potłukł. A potem przecisnął się przez obłożoną sztachetę w furcie prosto na chodnik. Zatrzymał się tuż przed kupą jakiegoś psia, której nikt nie sprzątnął.  
– Serio?! Naprawdę nikt tu nie ogarnia terenu?! – jęknął.

Agata Loth-Ignaciuk is an author, illustrator, and the founder of the publishing house Druganoga. Her books have won recognition in national and international competitions, and their rights have been sold to countries including Germany, Italy, France, Spain, Czechia, Slovakia, Ukraine, Slovenia, Korea and China.

Berenika Kołomycka is an illustrator and comic book author, winner of the Grand Prix of the International Festival of Comics and Games in Łódź, and creator of the award-winning series *Tiny Fox and Great Boar*.



# Power Through History

Katarzyna Radziwiłł,  
illustrated by Joanna Czaplewska

6+

**PUBLISHER:** Muchomor

**SIZE:** 240×275

**PAGES:** 56

**ISBN:** 9788365650917

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Karolina Jaszecka  
karolina@ka-books.com

**RIGHTS SOLD:** Croatian

A fascinating history of power in a nutshell – or rather, in a whole bag of nutshells of different colours and contents. From the belief in the divine origin of rulers in ancient Egypt, via the development of democracy in ancient Greece, to the formidable family ruling the Inca Empire, the *liberum veto* principle that paralysed the exercising of power in the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth, racial segregation in South Africa, and contemporary varieties of democracy. From gigantic territories under the leadership of an individual (the British Empire under Queen Victoria and the Soviet Union under Stalin) to the tiny kingdom of Bhutan, where the happiness level of inhabitants is measured regularly. Joanna Czaplewska's black-and-white drawings are the result of a combination of realism and satire, often flirting with images known from art history, thus delivering knowledge and entertainment in equal proportions. And for those who like to attend to the details in illustrations, every story about human power also features dogs – and sometimes other animals too.

Anita Wincencjusz-Patyna



**Katarzyna Radziwiłł** is an author of children's literature and a co-founder of and editor at Muchomor Publishing House, which specialises in ambitious and educational books for young readers.

**Joanna Czaplewska** is a graphic designer and illustrator collaborating with cultural institutions. She graduated from the Faculty of Graphic Design at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk, where she currently works as an assistant in the Design for Culture Studio. She is a lover of children's books (and more), the sea, and her hometown of Gdynia.



# Who Wouldn't Want a Dog?

Marta Guśniowska,  
illustrated by Daniel de Latour

6+

PUBLISHER: Wilga

SIZE: 152x191

PAGES: 224

ISBN: 9788383875699

TRANSLATION RIGHTS:

Marta Górska

marta.gorska@gwfoksal.pl



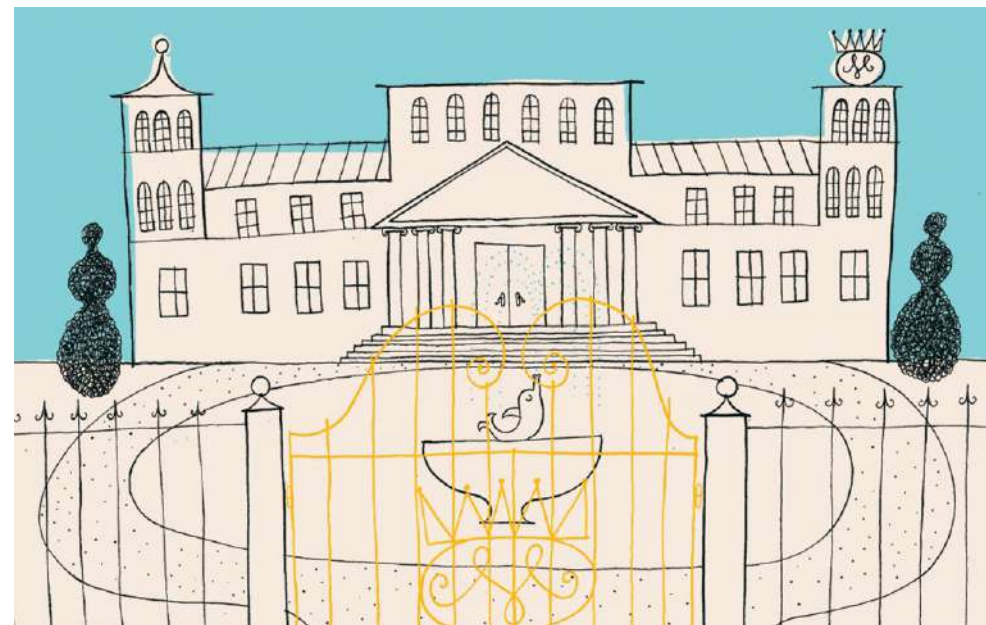
A warm and humorous story for children who have a dog, or dream of having one.

Henry Snootman the Eighth already has everything. Now he really wants a schnauzer. Why? He's not quite sure.

His life is turned upside down at a shelter for stray dogs, where he meets shaggy dachshund cross Ruffian and little Fluffball. In their company, for the first time in his life, he sets off into the city on his own, without his chauffeur-driven limo.

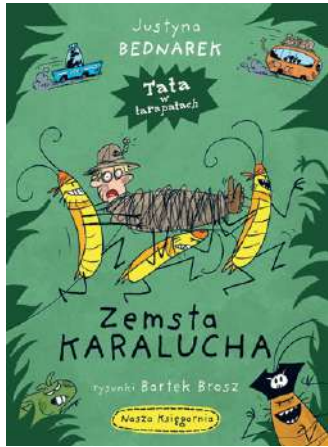
The journey is full of crazy adventures. The humorous narrative is accompanied by Daniel de Latour's fluid illustrations. But this book is not just about having fun. Between bursts of laughter, readers accompany Henry in discovering how to build a true bond, what responsibility is, and why it's a bad idea to entrust the care of your dog – feeding, walking, and cleaning up after them – to someone else.

Iwona Haberny



**Marta Guśniowska** is a playwright and the author of several books and over a hundred theatre plays for young audiences, which have been performed in Poland, Czechia, Slovakia and Hungary. She studied philosophy and has collaborated with the Białystok Puppet Theatre since 2007 as a playwright and literary consultant.

**Daniel de Latour** is a comic book author and illustrator of children's books. He has won the City of Warsaw Literary Award and has been nominated for Book of the Year in the Polish Section of IBBY. He is known for his dynamic strokes and distinct sense of humour.



# Danger Dad: Revenge of the Cockroach

Justyna Bednarek,  
illustrated by Bartek Brosz

6+

**PUBLISHER:** Nasza Księgarnia

**SIZE:** 140x192

**PAGES:** 304

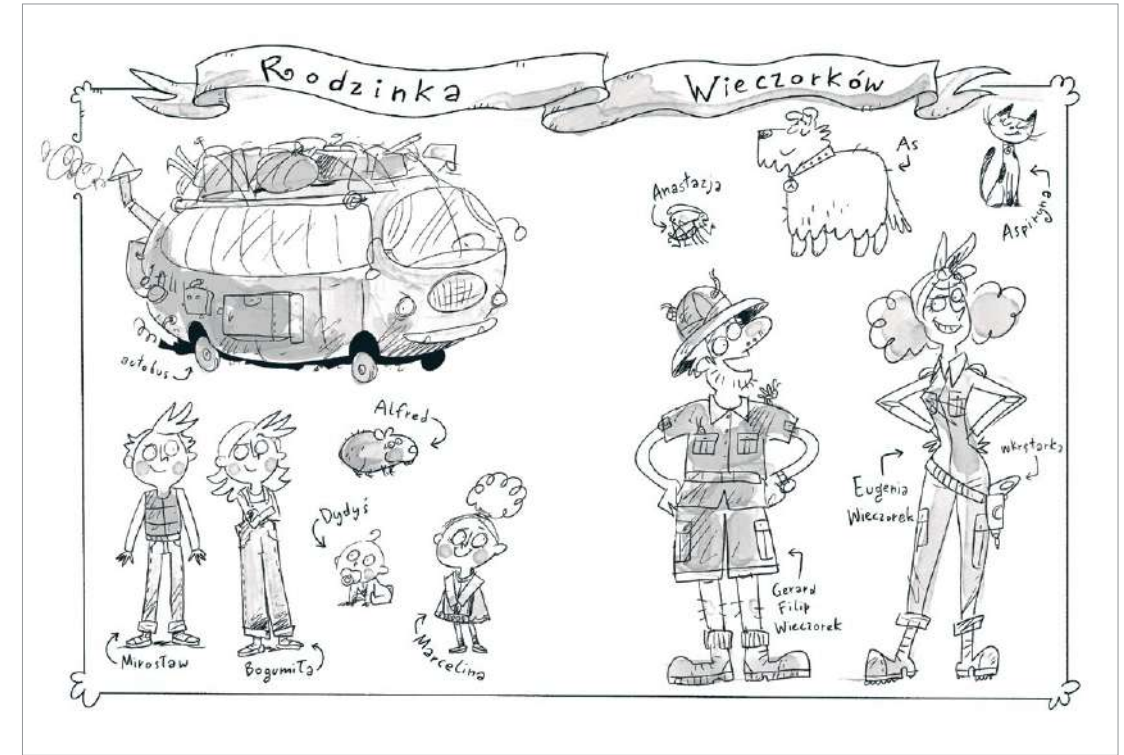
**ISBN:** 9788310141545

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Agnieszka Zielińska  
a.zielinska@nk.com.pl

This crazy, humorous and fast-paced story about the Wieczorek family – parents, three children, a dog, a cat, a hamster and a cricket – is a true joy to read. On the one hand, the story of a search for Dad, an entomologist, who has been shrunk to microscopic size and kidnapped by a gang of cockroaches, is full of situational and linguistic jokes worthy of the best comedy. On the other hand, the avalanche of gags does not obscure the book's vision of intergenerational and interspecies bonds. It is not only the adults who have agency here, but also the children and animals, who are treated seriously by the head of the family (the mum, contrary to gender stereotypes), and at the same time with humour and tenderness. It was a brilliant idea to dress this story in a robe of prose with comic book elements – the textual layer penned by Justyna Bednarek and the graphics by Bartek Brosz work together beautifully, creating a one-of-a-kind comedy of errors suitable for children.

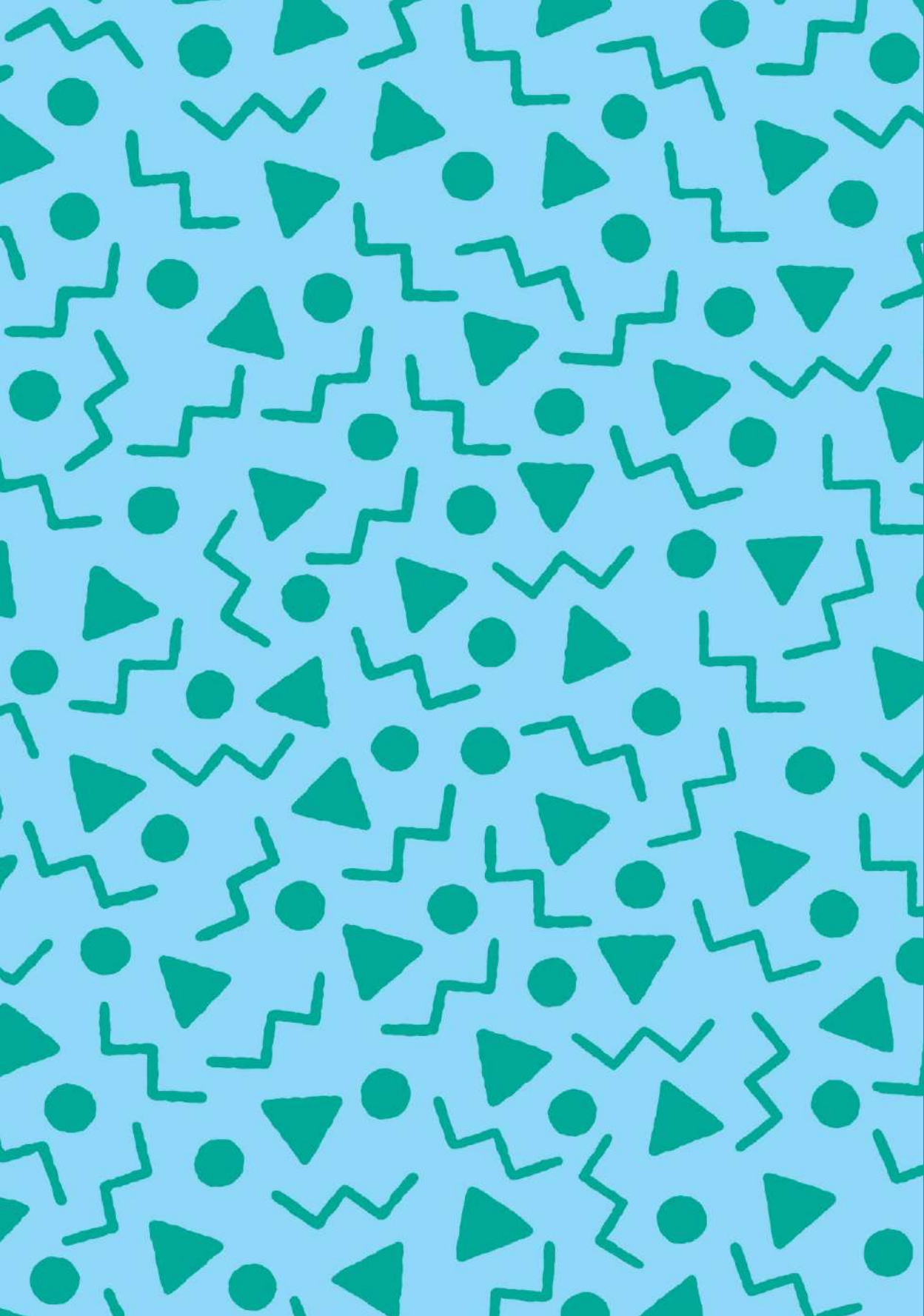
Maciej Skowera



**Justyna Bednarek** is a children's author who graduated in Romance Studies. She has written over 50 books, including *The Amazing Adventures of Ten Socks* (now part of the Polish school reading curriculum), *Five Clever Martens*, *Bab-cochy*, and the *Dusia and Psinek-Świnek* series. Her work has received numerous literary awards, such as the Warsaw Literary Award, the Empik 'Przecinek i Kropka' Award, the Kornel Makuszyński Prize, and Book of the Year (Polish Section of IBBY) for the latest *Ten Socks* instalment. She lives in Warsaw with her three children, three dogs, a cat, two chickens and two runner ducks.

**Bartek Brosz** is an illustrator, comic artist and graphic designer for books, games and media. Born in 1974 in Gdańsk, he trained under prominent Polish artists before later studying architecture at Gdańsk University of Technology. He has illustrated dozens of children's books and textbooks, created graphics for educational and adventure games featuring popular cartoon characters, and collaborates with publishers such as Adamada, Nasza Księgarnia, and Literatura.







# Arthur Thumbs His Nose at Boredom! The Strangest Book About Rubinstein

Grzegorz Kasdepke,  
illustrated by Joanna Rusinek

9+

**PUBLISHER:** Literatura

**SIZE:** 168×220

**PAGES:** 120

**ISBN:** 9788382083194

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Karolina Jaszecka  
karolina@ka-books.com

**AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Nominated  
(Polish Section of IBBY)



Have you ever thought that reading books is boring? Or maybe you consider the story of a renowned artist born over a hundred years ago (and dead, to boot) passé? Perhaps you think that Grzegorz Kasdepke has already told you all the interesting stories and the next one is bound to be dull? You'll soon find out that's not the case! This is an adventure novel, a detective story, and a biography all in one. Upon closer inspection, it turns out to be a psychological tale with elements of criminological analysis, and some parts that even resemble a cookbook. In less than 120 pages, there are many surprising plot twists and remarkable characters – both real and imagined. And there on page 96, hidden beneath the bedside table, is Arthur Rubinstein's right hand.

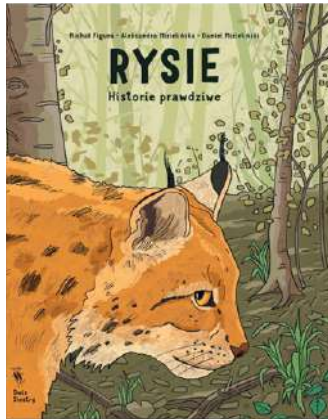
The author invites readers to enter an enticing investigation: solve the puzzle, meet prominent figures of the era, and search for important clues. Adults can also join in the fun while reading to children – there is space between the pages for conversation and delving into the biographies of the book's characters. This is a great jumping-off point for exploring and creating your own bizarre stories.

Joanna Piekarska



**Grzegorz Kasdepke** is an author of children's and young adult books, as well as a screenwriter and journalist. He studied journalism at the University of Warsaw and worked as editor-in-chief of the children's magazine *Świerszczyk*. Since his debut in 1995 with *Miasteczko misiów (Teddy Town)*, Kasdepke has published numerous bestselling books, including *Kacperiada*, the *Detektyw Pozytywka* series and *Horror. Skąd się biorą dzieci? (Horror: Where Do Babies Come From?)*. He has received multiple awards, including the Kornel Makuszyński Literary Prize, and in 2019 he was honoured as a Knight of the Order of the Smile.

**Joanna Rusinek** is a graphic designer and children's book illustrator, as well as a co-owner of the design studio Kreska i Kropka. A graduate of the Academy of Fine Arts in Kraków, she has created illustrations for newspapers, magazines, book covers, posters and animated films, including the children's series *Wierszyki domowe (Household Rhymes)*. She has illustrated dozens of books, including the Polish edition of *Peter Pan, Brzechwa dzieciom*, and works by Agnieszka Frączek, Joanna Papuzińska, Michał Rusinek and Zofia Stanecka.



# Lynxes: True Stories

Michał Figura,  
illustrated by Aleksandra Mizielińska  
& Daniel Mizieliński

9+

**PUBLISHER:** Dwie Siostry

**SIZE:** 200x250

**PAGES:** 304

**ISBN:** 9788381507059

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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**RIGHTS SOLD TO:** Czech, Spanish,  
Slovak

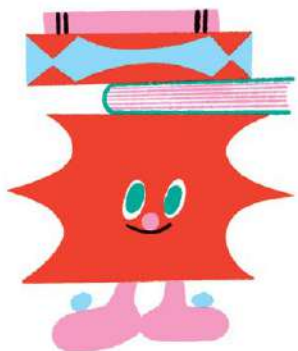
This graphic reportage depicting true stories of lynxes and humans was written by a wildlife scientist and two famous Polish graphic artists. It is a remarkable and extremely interesting book, dedicated to the mysterious predators known as lynxes, the largest wild cats in Europe. There are only 350 of them in Poland; they are strictly protected and require respect and care from humans. Michał Figura is a lynx specialist whose work involves looking after their wellbeing and studying their habits. The product of his collaboration with Aleksandra Mizielińska and Daniel Mizieliński is a fascinating nature documentary comic that illuminates the reality of protecting the lynx population in Poland. By presenting the fates of the lynx heroes – Marysia, Jantar, Skalny, Płona, and many others – the authors tell the story of the lives of these animals and the closely related lives of people. They show the true face of nature, based on scientific research, as well as authentic photographs, recordings and GPS coordinates, and highlight the fact that helping wildlife can be a truly difficult job.

Biserka Čejović



**Michał Figura** is a naturalist and member of the Wilk Association, which he co-founded. He studied political science with a focus on security and crisis management at the Academy of Humanities and Economics in Łódź, writing his thesis on human-wolf conflict resolution. His doctoral research at the Interdisciplinary Doctoral School of the University of Warsaw focuses on best practices for reintroducing rehabilitated wolves and lynxes into the wild. He monitors wolves, lynxes and bears, engages in environmental education, and publishes scientific articles on mammalogy and ornithology.

**Aleksandra Mizielińska and Daniel Mizieliński** are a renowned duo of graphic designers, illustrators and children's book authors, who founded Hipopotam Studio. They are best known for their worldwide bestseller *Maps*, celebrated for its distinctive comic-inspired style, vibrant colours and rich detail. They also create apps, websites and custom fonts.





# Escape to Dream Mountain

Rafał Witek,  
illustrated by Kasia Piątek

9+

**PUBLISHER:** Literatura

**SIZE:** 145×205

**PAGES:** 125

**ISBN:** 9788382083736

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Karolina Jaszecka  
karolina@ka-books.com

**AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:**

Book of the Year 2025

Nominated

(Polish Section of IBBY)

Where's the best place to search for an antidote to civilisational fatigue? In the mountains, of course! In this charmingly simple yet meaningful story, we meet a family of four setting out on a mountain expedition. Right from the beginning, they encounter unforeseen obstacles, which soon begin to accumulate alarmingly – suffice it to say that the family don't even manage to reach the hotel. However, as it turns out, the experience of the shared journey is more important than the destination. A regular family outing turns into a trek that is not only physical, but above all, symbolic – the kind that restores a sense of meaning and inner peace, allowing them to notice and preserve the moments worth remembering, the small events in which everyday life reveals its quiet beauty. Rafał Witek devotes a separate section to each family member, emphasising the equivalence of the experiences of adults and children. The story is accompanied by Kasia Piątek's illustrations, which perfectly complement the sparse, atmospheric prose.

Maciej Skowera



Na zdjęciach widniał budynek w góralskim stylu. Przytulne, żółte światło w oknach kontrastowało z zielenią iglastego lasu dookoła. W oddali majaczyły ośnieżone szczyty gór. Pokoje też prezentowały się świetnie: duże, przestronne, z nowymi meblami i tarasami. I z niezmiernym widokiem na dolinę, w której zalegały strzępki mlecznobiałej, na w pół przejrzystej mgły.

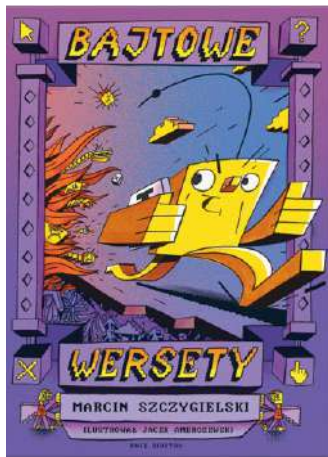
10

– Mają ekspresy do kawy w pokojach!  
– zachwyciła się mama.  
– I kryty basen – zauważyła Olka. – La!  
– „Sauna... Jacuzzi... Pyszne posiłki przygotowywane przez szefa kuchni!”... – Tata czytał na głos kolejne punkty z opisu hotelu. – Już to widzę... wyciągam się w tym jacuzzi w cieplej wodzie, bąbelki masują mi

11

**Rafał Witek** is an author of novels, short stories, poems and radio plays for children and young adults. He has written over 50 books, including texts featured in early education textbooks such as *Podróż z klasą (Travelling in Style)*, *Nowy Elementarz Odkrywców (The New Explorer's Primer)*, and *Wielka przygoda (The Great Adventure)*. Five of his titles have been included on the Golden List of the All of Poland Reads to Children Foundation.

**Kasia Piątek** is an illustrator and designer from Warsaw, specialising in children's book illustration and book design. She combines linocut, watercolour, digital tools and hand lettering to create playful, detailed illustrations.



# The Bite Verses

Marcin Szczygielski,  
illustrated by Jacek Ambrożewski

9+

**PUBLISHER:** Dwie Siostry

**SIZE:** 150×200

**PAGES:** 224

**ISBN:** 9788381506779

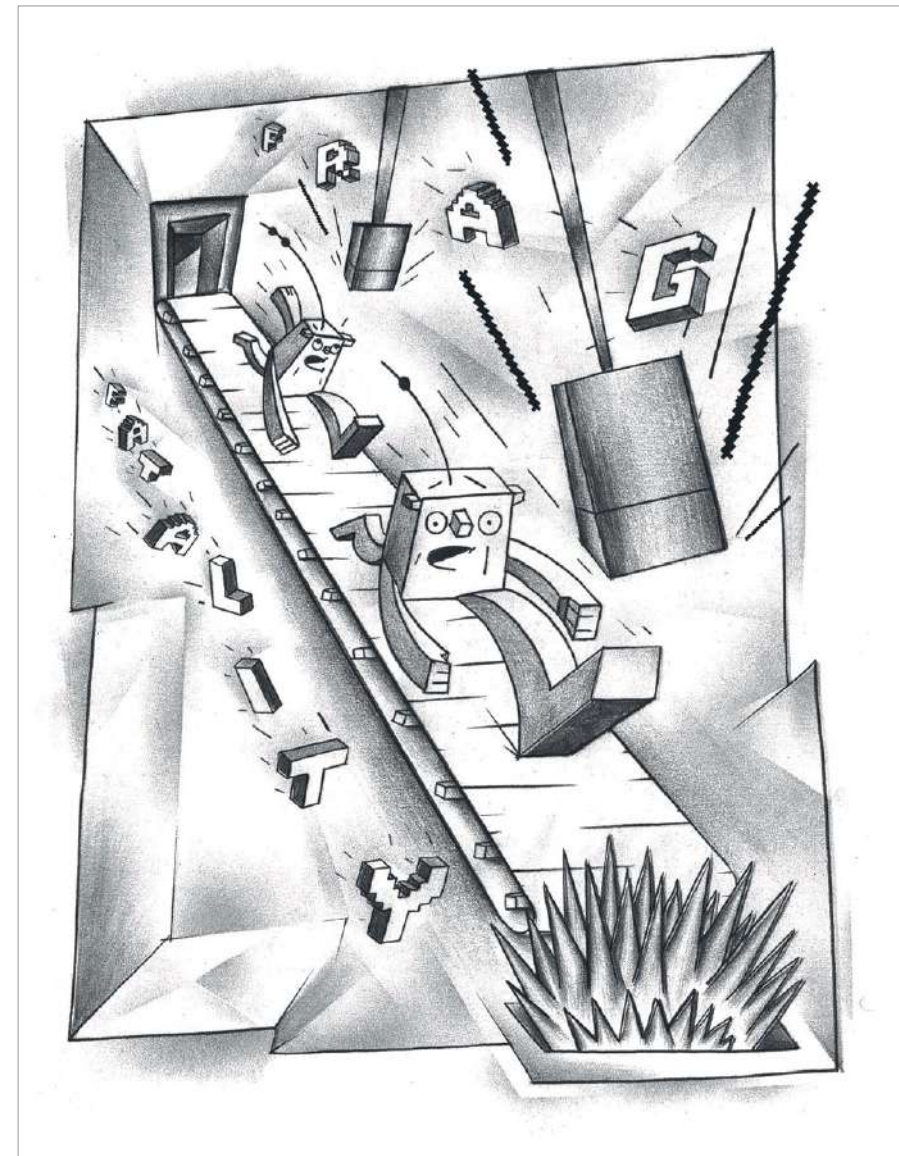
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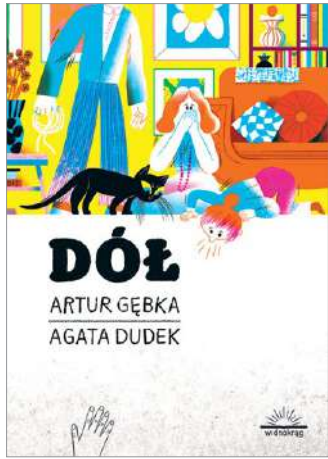
A children's equivalent of Salman Rushdie's *The Satanic Verses*, set in a digital space reminiscent of a religious dystopia? Why not?! In Marcin Szczygielski's novel, illustrated by Jacek Ambrożewski, we meet a young byte named Tol, who lives in sector BS112 on a disk created – according to what the byte community believes – by an enigmatic figure called Buk Marzenka IVC, enabling exiles from RAM to await eternal life in the cloud. One day, however, when the trumpets sound four times, announcing the apocalyptic Installation, Tolo sets off with his fellow bite, Partition, on a journey along the data river, and this expedition completely changes his way of seeing the world. In paraphrasing the Bible, experimenting with computer vocabulary, juxtaposing tradition and modernity, and painting a grotesque image of a virtual theocracy, Szczygielski seems to encourage young people to think independently and seek the truth. The narrative is beautifully complemented by Ambrożewski's contribution: the colourful cover and black-and-white, unconventional illustrations (certainly not computer-generated!) convey both the splendour and the horror of a digital reality in which, as it turns out, the eternal questions about who we are and where we are going tend to resurface.

Maciej Skowera



**Marcin Szczygielski** is a writer, journalist and graphic designer. He is a three-time winner of the Astrid Lindgren Grand Prix Literary Competition and has also won the Duży Dong Award, the Green Gosling and the City of Warsaw Literary Award. He has been nominated and awarded several times in the Book of the Year competition organised by the Polish Section of IBBY.

**Jacek Ambrożewski** is a graduate of the Faculty of Graphic Design at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. He works as an illustrator and graphic designer and has received multiple awards in both fields. His graphic design for Andrzej Fedorowicz's book *Podróżnicy. Wielkie wyprawy Polaków* (*Travellers: Great Expeditions of Poles*), created in collaboration with Zofia Frankowska, won the Graphic Award in the Polish Section of IBBY (2019) and the PTWK Award.



# The Pit

Artur Gębka,  
illustrated by Agata Dudek

This book by Artur Gębka, the renowned psychotherapist and prodigy of Polish children's literature, presents an extremely moving yet subtle story about a young person's experience of a mental health crisis, a state from which there appears to be no escape.

*The Pit* neither moralises nor oversimplifies, and thus, in a very delicate and professional way, it addresses a topic that is an urgent challenge for humanity as a whole. The strength of this book lies in the simplicity of the metaphor and the universality of the experience – after all, the pit into which the main character's sister is sinking can affect anyone, at any age, in any culture.

Furthermore – crucially, perhaps, given the subject – *The Pit* is a synthesis of what is most important: truth and hope. Indeed, Artur Gębka, carefully choosing words that combine the communicative daily reality of a child with a layer of metaphor, builds a story that leads the reader through an emotional landscape, from helplessness to the gradual regaining of light. Agata Dudek, meanwhile, using space, silence and colour, creates a fantastic, sensual complement to the story, which is both an opening and a beginning for everyone who reads it.

This is a title with enormous international potential: not only extremely topical, but also incredibly necessary, offering an opportunity for understanding, conversation, and help in emerging from any pit in which a person might find themselves.

Przemek Staroń



**Artur Gębka** is a psychologist, certified cognitive-behavioural psychotherapist, and member of the Polish Association for Cognitive and Behavioural Therapy and the Polish Association for Dialectical Behaviour Therapy.

**Agata Dudek** is a graphic artist and graduate of the Faculty of Graphic Arts at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw. She specialises in book and print media illustrations, graphic art, drawing, photography and the art of curating exhibitions. She has received multiple prestigious awards, and her work has been exhibited in Poland and abroad. She is the co-founder of Acapulco Studio.





# Skeleton Secrets: What Can Bones Tell Us?

Marta Guzowska & Wiesław Więckowski,  
illustrated by Joanna Czaplewska

9+

PUBLISHER: Nasza Księgarnia

SIZE: 195x254

PAGES: 144

ISBN: 9788310138637

TRANSLATION RIGHTS:

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a.zielinska@nk.com.pl

RIGHTS SOLD: German

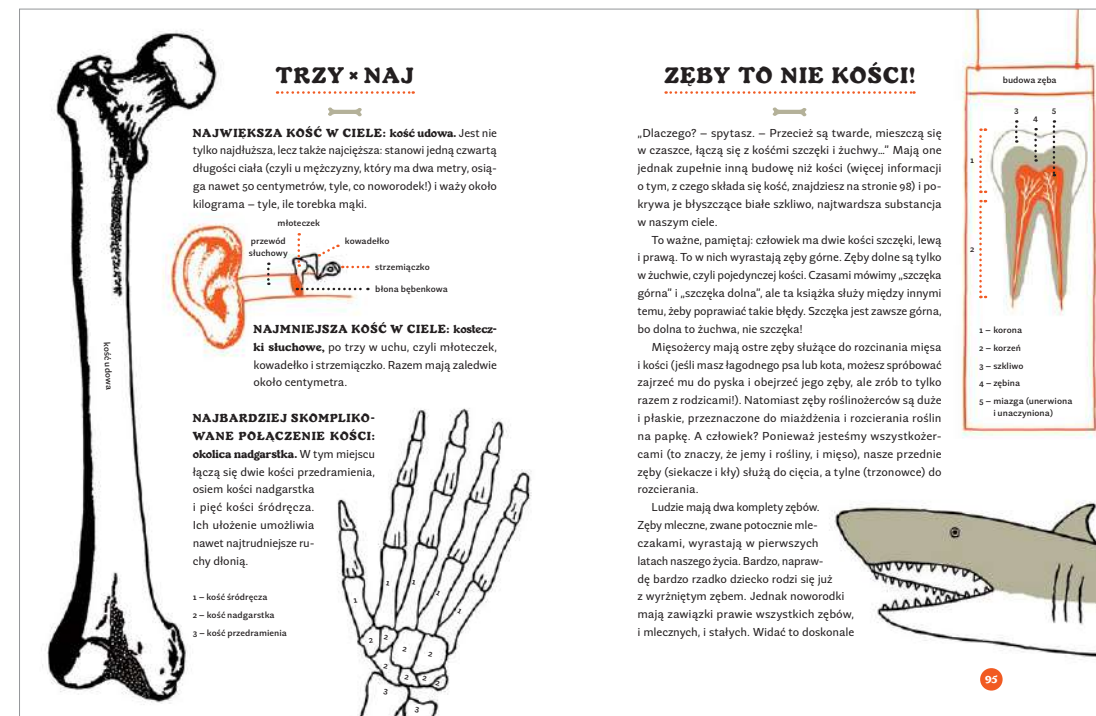
This fascinating book will awaken in readers – children and grown-ups alike – the intuition of an archaeologist, explorer and detective all in one. The authors – one an archaeologist, the other an anthropologist – take us on a journey into a world that usually remains hidden beneath the earth and escapes our attention: the world of bones and skeletons.

The book provides an accessible introduction to the theory of evolution, tells the story of our ancestors and shows how our own skeletons work. It also provides answers to some interesting questions: whether ancient bones stink, what colour they are, how they're unearthed, and why having a dog can help you make an important archaeological discovery.

Combining scientific theory with field research procedures, the authors show that you need to be a true detective to decipher the information and secrets encoded in bones. By examining skeletons, we can find out how old someone was, what sex they were, what part of the world they came from, what they ate and what diseases they suffered from.

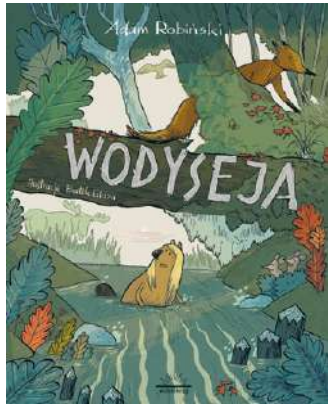
The excellent illustrations by Joanna Czaplewska make the story even more dynamic, giving it a light and humorous tone.

Gabriela Dul



**Marta Guzowska** is an archaeologist, writer and mother. She worked in Greece, Israel, and for over a decade in Troy, the world's most famous archaeological site. Debuting in 2012 with *Ofiara Polikseny (Polixena's Sacrifice)*, she has won multiple awards, including the Grand Calibre Prize, the Golden Bullet, and the Golden Hat. She is the author of nine novels for adults, a children's detective series, an audio series and non-fiction works. She co-created Poland's first crime fiction serial, *Lucja Słotka*. She has lived in Vienna for 15 years with her family.

**Joanna Czaplewska** is a graphic designer and illustrator collaborating with cultural institutions. She graduated from the Faculty of Graphic Design at the Academy of Fine Arts in Gdańsk, where she currently works as an assistant in the Design for Culture Studio. She is a lover of children's books (and more), the sea, and her hometown of Gdynia.



# The Watterssey

Adam Robiński,  
illustrated by Bartek Glaza

9+

**PUBLISHER:** Widnokrąg

**SIZE:** 165×205

**PAGES:** 208

**ISBN:** 9788368060218

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Karolina Jaszecka  
karolina@ka-books.com



Ash of Willowy Meadow is a young beaver who one day gets carried away by the water. Transported far from home by the strong currents, she soon gets lost. Frightened and alone, she searches for a way back, and has many adventures along the way. She meets a fascinating, protective moose, and a gang of cunning old beavers who don't want to let her go; fortunately, Ash finds a way to escape. As she journeys home, she overcomes her fears, learns to be cautious, and above all, makes new friends.

The author, in his close observations of nature, creates an inviting tale, describing the beaver's world intricately and with great empathy. In addition, he plays with language, coming up with names that fit the world of the beavers, such as Ash and Burdock. Readers thus gain access to the characters' fictional dialect, while also encountering some puzzles to solve. Even though the story is told from the perspective of animals, it touches on several important issues for humans too. We are reminded of the importance of courage and following one's own path, and of the fact that one's family is a safe haven that will always be there, even when differences arise.

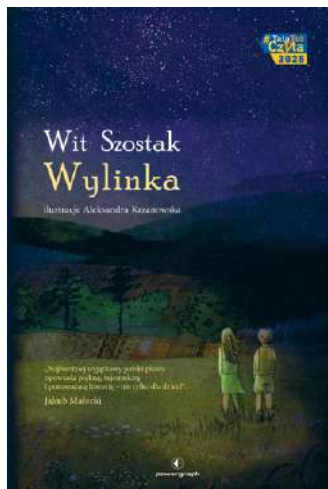
Alina Januszczuk



**Adam Robiński** is an author and journalist, who contributes to publications such as *Pismo* and *Tygodnik Powszechny*. He debuted in 2017 with the essay collection *Hajstry. Krajobraz bocznych dróg* (*Hajstry: The Landscape of Back Roads*) and in subsequent works explored the boundaries between human and non-human worlds, examining the intersection of culture and nature. He has received several awards, literary and travel nominations, and scholarships from the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage, the City of Warsaw, and the Swiss Fondation Jan Michalski. Based in Warsaw, he travels across Poland. *The Watterssey* is his first book for children.

**Bartek Glaza** debuted in 2017 with the comic *Tylko spokojnie* (*Take It Easy*), which won Comic of the Year, among other awards. He is also known under the pseudonym Henryk. He has twice been named Illustrator of the Year at the independent comics festival *Złote Kurczaki* in Wrocław. He creates comics and illustrations for *Pismo* magazine and co-authored the drawing guide *Narysuj MiLudka*. Born in Pomerania, he lives in Wejherowo with his family.





# Moult

Wit Szostak,  
illustrated by Aleksandra Krzanowska

**12+**

**PUBLISHER:** Powergraph

**SIZE:** 135×205

**PAGES:** 256

**ISBN:** 9788367845724

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

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kasia@powergraph.pl

**AWARDS:**

Book of the Year 2025  
Literary Award  
(Polish Section of IBBY)

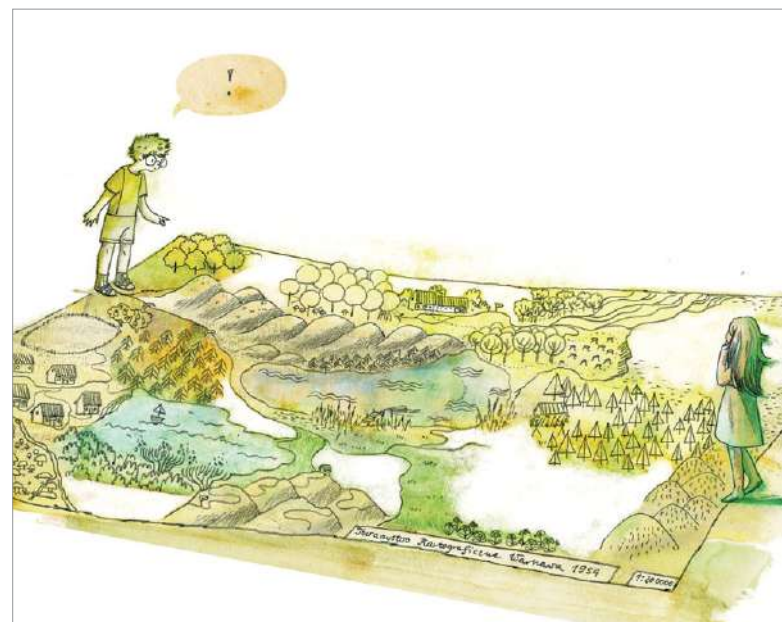
An atmospheric, multi-layered story combining elements of a thriller and detective novel with a philosophical parable.

Ten-year-old Klara wakes up alone in her family's deserted old summer house. Her parents have disappeared. It soon turns out that there's a boy living in the attic. He claims to have been there for years, explaining that the building is not a holiday home at all, but a sanatorium. He describes the numbered rooms, the bunk beds, the dining room with a serving hatch, and his fellow patients.

The once familiar place becomes increasingly mysterious as the children try to solve the puzzle of the house and their own identities. In this world where the past and present overlap, and where an invisible being is constantly leaving sweets for them in a metal tin, the line between reality and imagination gradually becomes blurred.

The surprising, ambiguous ending leaves the reader with questions that return long after the book is finished.

Iwona Haberny



**Wit Szostak** is one of the most respected contemporary Polish writers of prose and essays. He has been nominated many times for the major Polish literary prizes, including the Nike Literary Award. He is known for his expressive, poetic style and experiments with form. *Moult* is his debut as an author of novels for younger readers.

**Aleksandra Krzanowska** is an illustrator and visual artist whose work lies on the border between illustration and contemporary art. She creates sparse, atmospheric compositions with a distinct, original character, using light, texture and space.

# The Thief

Katarzyna Wasilkowska,  
cover design by Ludwika Gnyp

**12+**

**PUBLISHER:** Literatura

**SIZE:** 205×143

**PAGES:** 269

**ISBN:** 9788382084122

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

Karolina Jaszecka  
karolina@ka-kabooks.com

**AWARDS AND NOMINATIONS:**

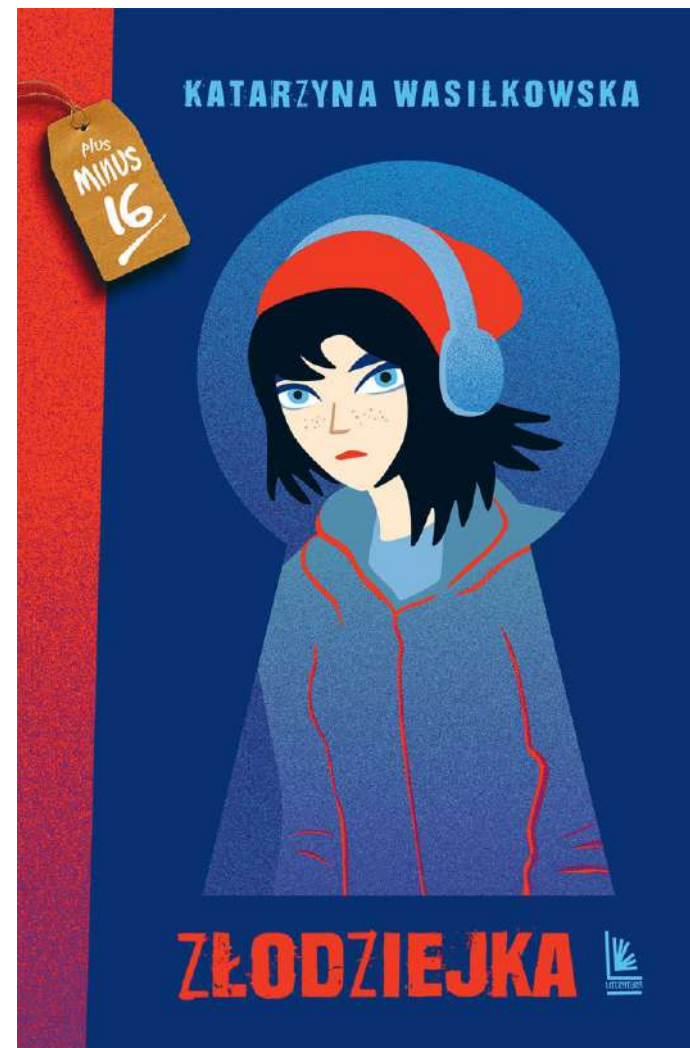
Book of the Year 2025  
Nominated  
(Polish Section of IBBY)



We often dream of returning to our early youth, the land of childhood, a place of eternal happiness in our memories. 'In my day...' we say. 'They have everything nowadays', or 'I've made sacrifices so he has everything'.

Yet young people are facing a profound sadness, increasingly recognised, diagnosed and difficult to bear. Can the answer to such a big problem really be so simple? Is it possible that the cure is time spent together, interest and attention from loved ones? Young people reading this book will realise that they are not alone in their perception of the world, and attentive parents and teachers will gain insight into this perspective. The book touches on important contemporary issues. Even so, you won't find simple solutions or cheap moralisation here. It is an incentive to reflect, to talk, to rethink priorities. Is a new, fashionable item of clothing worth the time a parent spends earning the money to buy it? Is that time stolen from the child? This novel is not only for young people; it should be required reading for parents of teenagers too.

Joanna Piekarska



**Katarzyna Wasilkowska** is the author of *Już, już! (Here We Go!)*, *Królestwa, jakich wiele (Kingdoms Galore)*, and *Jowanki i gang spod Gilotyny (Jowanka and the Gang from the Guillotine)*. She writes to share the world as she sees it, often working in her attic or under an old pear tree in her garden. Born and raised in Gdańsk, she now lives in a village near Warsaw with her photographer husband, children, two dogs, a cat, and a household full of mice and spiders. Though her books are often labelled for children and young adults, she believes they are for anyone who connects with them.

**Ludwika Gnyp** studied graphic arts at the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań. She has received scholarships from the Polish Ministry of Culture and National Heritage and Vysoká Škola Výtvarných Umění in Bratislava, as well as an award in the Maria Dokowicz Competition at the Academy of Fine Arts in Poznań. She works in graphic arts, photography, illustration and graphic design.

# The Ramshackle Palace

Marta Kisiel,  
illustrated by Joanna Kencka

**12+**

**PUBLISHER:** Mięta

**SIZE:** 135x202

**PAGES:** 336

**ISBN:** 9788368371796

**TRANSLATION RIGHTS:**

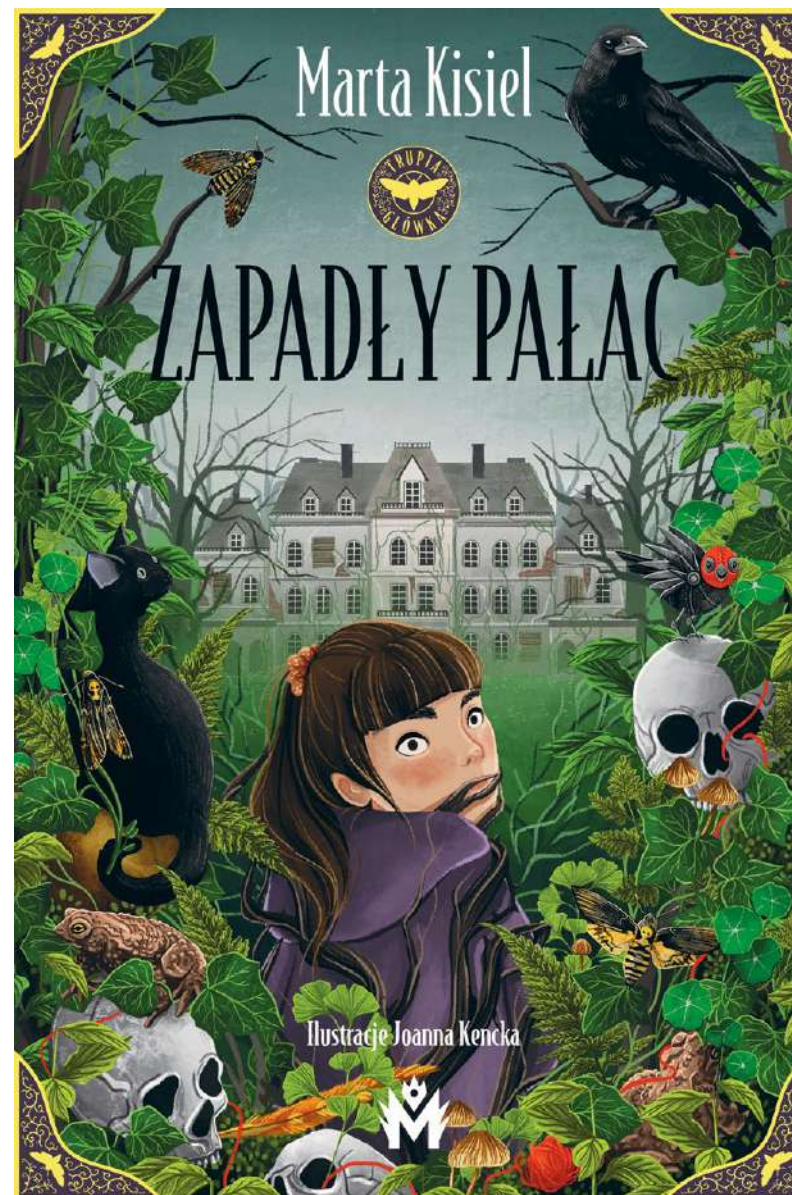
Joanna Maciuk

[jmaciuk@wydawnictwomieta.pl](mailto:jmaciuk@wydawnictwomieta.pl)



Marta Kisiel's novel, aimed at young teenagers, is a metaphorical fairy tale about growing up. The young heroes arrive at the titular ramshackle palace to participate in a private school recruitment camp. Initially, having failed to get into secondary school, they feel like failures, but it turns out that their invitation to the palace was no coincidence. The palace has plans for them and will subject them to a series of dangerous trials. They must participate in challenges related to classic European fairy tales – which, being modern teenagers, they either don't know or don't remember. Deprived of access to their electronic devices, they enter into a game whose rules they don't understand. They take it in turns to fight with an animated statue, turn into a lamb, freeze solid, or get swallowed by a toad. Along the way, they celebrate small victories and suffer defeats. As they do so, they begin to understand the importance of friendship and cooperation in the fight against a dangerous world. The characters – all of whom are misfits, sometimes atypical, or living with disabilities – are sure to be understood by modern readers.

Biserka Čejović



**Marta Kisiel** is a writer and translator with a background in Polish Studies. She is the author of popular series such as *For Life* and *Małe Licho (Little Devil)*, as well as humorous crime novels. Her work has received multiple awards, including the Janusz A. Zajdel Award and the Book of the Year awarded by the Polish Section of IBBY.

**Joanna Kencka** is an illustrator and graphic designer known for her delicate, detailed artwork in children's books such as *Łąka (The Meadow)*, *Las (The Forest)* and *Wszyscy jesteśmy kapibarami (We Are All Capybaras)*. Her illustrations blend colour, whimsy and attention to nature, enhancing engaging texts for young readers. She has also worked on bilingual and picture books, bringing creativity and charm to every project.

# The Polish Book Institute's Small Book – Great Person



The Small Book – Great Person initiative is funded by the Ministry of Culture and National Heritage of the Republic of Poland.

The Polish Book Institute's Small Book – Great Person campaign reminds us of the benefits of reading together as a family, right from the first months of a child's life.

It has been devised to complement the bookstart programme, in which young parents are presented with a Reading Layette while still in the maternity ward. We believe that reading begins from the cradle, long before children begin to independently put letters together. Well-chosen books develop their minds and emotions, shape their linguistic competence, root them in culture and stimulate their imagination.

The Reading Layette consists of a selection of poems for children called *Tyci, tyci*, written by famous Polish poet Dorota Gellner and beautifully illustrated by Joanna Kłos, as well as a brochure which shows parents the incalculably important role that reading plays in a child's development. Our aim is to convince parents that reading together can be not just a great pleasure, but above all a wonderful opportunity to build intimacy and strong, lasting family connections.

The next stage of our campaign is dedicated to children about to begin their pre-school education (4–6 years old). Its aim is to encourage parents to visit libraries regularly and to read with their children on a daily basis. Every child who visits a library participating in the project receives, as a welcome gift, their first book from the Reading Layette, choosing from three titles:

- *Rita and the Horse (Rita i koń)* – Marta Kopyt, Muchomor Publishing House
- *Welcoming Summer (Przywitanie Lata)* – Maria Dek, Bernardinum Publishing House
- *Bobuś* – Martyna Skibińska, illustrated by Jacek Ambrożewski, Dwie Siostry Publishing House

Along with the first book, each child also receives a Little Reader's Card. Every time a Little Reader visits the library and borrows at least one book from the children's collection, they receive a sticker. After collecting 10 stickers, they are awarded a personalised certificate celebrating their reading achievements, along with the second book from the Reading Layette.

Children who wish to continue their reading adventure may collect another card in order to keep gathering stickers and, after 10 further visits, receive a third book. In this way, visiting the library and borrowing books becomes a natural habit for the child. Young readers can continue collecting stickers for borrowed books and receive further certificates marking the milestones of their reading journey. Pre-schoolers can borrow books from nearly 7,000 libraries across the country.

The third stage of our bookstart project is targeted at children starting primary school. Since 2020, every pupil beginning first grade has received the book *The Antiquarian's Granddaughter (Wnuczka antykwarusza)*, written by Justyna Bednarek and illustrated by Emilia Dziubak.

Thus far, six million Reading Layettes for newborns, pre-schoolers and pupils have been distributed under the programme.

Small Book – Great Person also has a 'social' element whereby it is present on television, radio and the internet, and organises many live events for children and parents, with an annual reach of 20 million Poles.

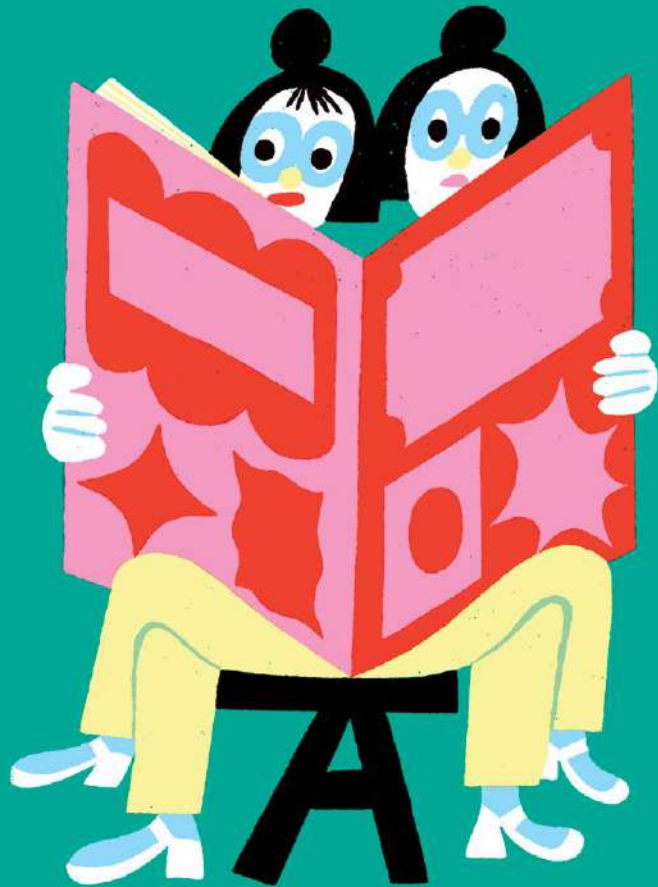
## The Polish Book Institute



The Polish Book Institute is a national institution established by the Ministry of Culture to promote Polish literature worldwide, and to popularise books and reading within the country.

The Book Institute's mission is to inform, encourage and support translators of Polish literature to translate Polish books, foreign publishers to publish them, and organisers of all sorts of literary events to include Polish authors in their programmes. We are present at all major international book fairs around the world.

Thanks in part to the financial support which we provide through the ©POLAND Translation Programme, over 3,500 translations of Polish books have been published abroad.



# Polish Book Institute Programmes

## ©POLAND TRANSLATION PROGRAMME FOR FOREIGN AND POLISH PUBLISHERS

The Book Institute provides financial support for publishers aiming to publish works of Polish literature in foreign-language translations.

The support offered by the programme goes towards financing the following publication costs:

1. translation
2. acquisition of rights
3. printing (of children's literature, comic books, graphic novels or richly illustrated books)

### Genres supported

- literature: prose, poetry and drama
- works in the humanities, broadly conceived, whether classical or contemporary (with particular consideration given to books about Polish history, culture and literature), excluding works of a specialist scientific nature
- non-fiction literature (literary reportage, biographies, memoirs, essays)
- literature for children and young people
- comic books

### Application periods and grant decisions

1st application period: 1 February – 31 March (results to be announced by 31st July)

2nd application period: 1–30 June (results to be announced in mid-October)

### How to apply

The publisher is required to submit an online application form supported by the following attachments:

- a copy of the current copyright license agreement
- a copy of the contract with the translator
- a bibliography of the translator's work

- a profile of the publishing house and its current publishing programme
- a plan for the dissemination of the work

For further information, please contact: [copyrightpoland@bookinstitute.pl](mailto:copyrightpoland@bookinstitute.pl)

## SAMPLE TRANSLATIONS ©POLAND

The aim of the programme is to promote Polish literature abroad by encouraging translators to present Polish books to foreign publishers.

### Programme regulations

- financing is given for 20 pages of a translation (1,800 characters per page)
- the translator must have published a minimum of one translation from Polish in book form prior to making an application
- the translator submits an application form, supported by the following attachments:
  - motivation for choosing the book in question
  - a plan of action
  - his/her bibliography
- the translation rates applied by the Book Institute are the average current rates in the country where the translator lives
- the Book Institute will consider applications on a rolling basis (but will not evaluate the quality of the translation)
- receiving a grant from Sample Translations ©POLAND in no way influences the Book Institute's decision to finance translations in the framework of the ©POLAND Translation Programme
- if the translator applies for more than one grant (up to a maximum of three per year), he/she is asked to inform the Book Institute of the order of importance of the applications

### Programme eligibility criteria

- it must be the first translation of the book into the relevant language, and the sample must not have been previously published
- the book must be a work of literature or essays, or a classical or contemporary Polish work in the humanities (with particular consideration given to books on Polish history, culture and literature), or literature for children or young people

### Preferences

- an initial declaration of interest from a potential publisher
- the Book Institute may establish in a given year additional preferences concerning a given linguistic region

For further information, please contact: [sampletranslations@bookinstitute.pl](mailto:sampletranslations@bookinstitute.pl)

### The World Congress of Translators of Polish Literature

Organised every four years, the World Congress is the largest event of its kind. To date, there have been five Congresses, each one attended by around 250 translators from every continent. Over the course of several days, there are meetings with writers, critics, scholars and various other experts. The Congress provides an opportunity to find out more about Polish literature, meet colleagues from other countries, and exchange information, ideas and opinions.

### Seminars for Foreign Publishers

Since 2006, the Book Institute has been inviting groups of publishers from various countries to Kraków in order to show them what Polish literature has to offer. We arrange meetings with writers, publishers and critics, encouraging our guests to publish Polish literature.

### The Transatlantyk Award

The award is presented every year by the Book Institute to an outstanding ambassador of Polish literature abroad. The winner might be a translator, publisher, critic or organiser of cultural events. The award was first presented in 2005 during the World Congress of Translators of Polish Literature. The winner receives €15,000 and a statuette.

### The Found in Translation Award

The award is given to the translator(s) of the finest book-length translation of Polish literature into English published in the previous calendar year. The winner receives a prize of 16,000 zloty and a one-month residency in Kraków. The Book Institute has been presenting this award in partnership with the Polish Cultural Institutes in London and New York on an annual basis since 2008.

For further information, visit: [www.bookinstitute.pl](http://www.bookinstitute.pl)  
Or contact: [office@bookinstitute.pl](mailto:office@bookinstitute.pl)

## Publishers



- **Agora dla dzieci**  
[agoradladzieci.pl](http://agoradladzieci.pl)
- **Albus**  
[albus.poznan.pl](http://albus.poznan.pl)
- **Bajka**  
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- **Druganoga**  
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## POLISH BOOKS FOR CHILDREN 2026

### Texts by

Biserka Čejović, Gabriela Dul, Iwona Haberny, Katarzyna Humeniuk, Alina Januszczyk, Joanna Piekarska, Maciej Skowera, Przemek Staroń, Anita Wincencjusz-Patyna

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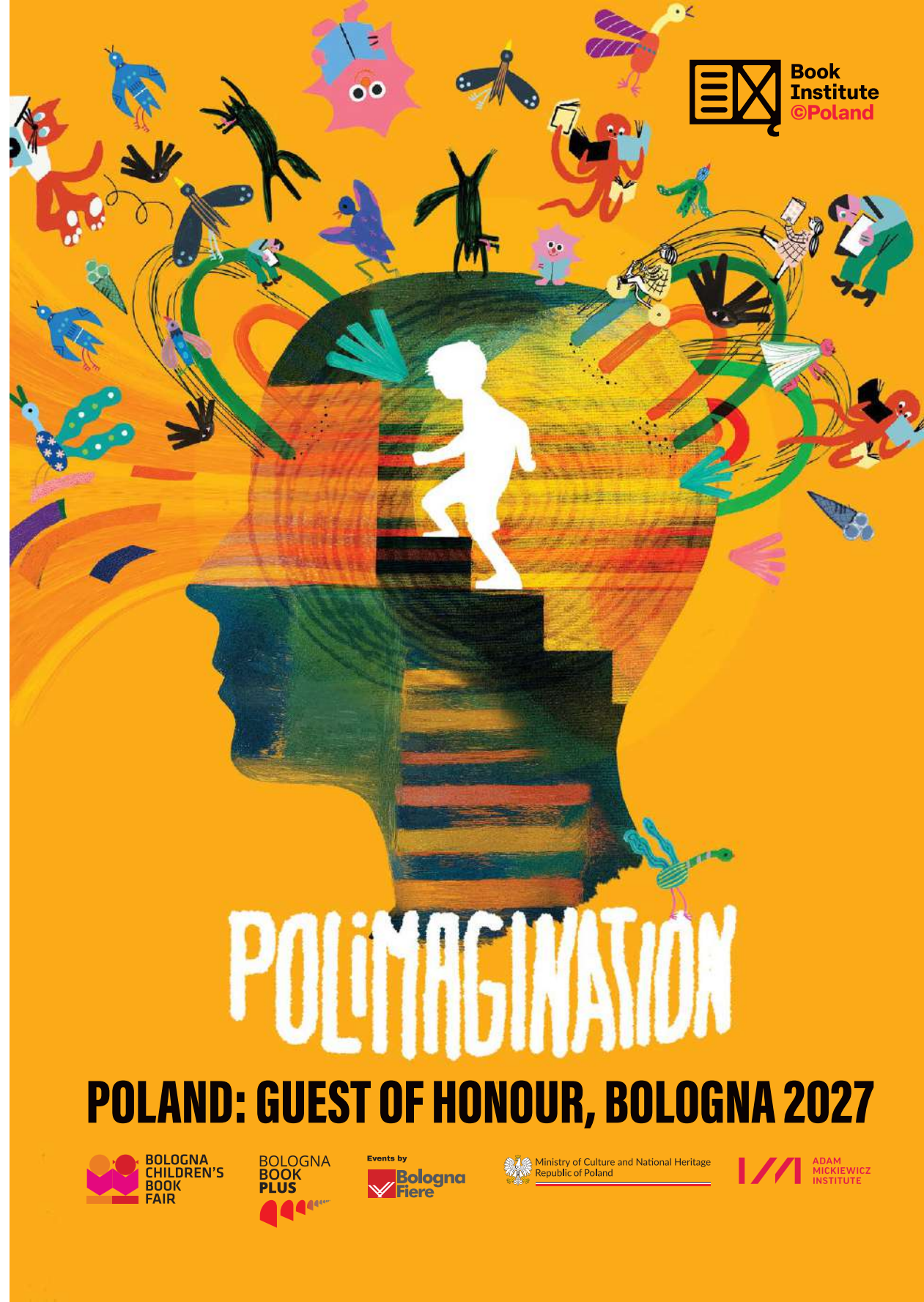
The Polish Book Institute, 2026

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bookinstitute.pl



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*Poland – Guest of Honor at the Bologna Children's Book Fair and BolognaBookPlus 2027*



# POLAND: GUEST OF HONOUR, BOLOGNA 2027





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