

# B00KSFROM SPAIN <br> <br> | <br> <br> | <br> NEW <br> SPANISH <br> BOOKS 

## 2023 | 2024



## PUBLISHED BY:

ICEX, España Exportación e Inversiones
www.icex.es

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:

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February, 2024

NIPO: 224240365

This publication is a selection of Spanish books with publishing rights, recommended by distinguished critics from Germany, France, United Kingdom, Japan, United States and Brazil. This selection has appeared online in the dedicated country sites of www.newspanishbooks.com.
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Writer, translator, editor, and consultant.

## MARGARETH SANTOS

Professor and doctor in the Department of Modern Letters at the University of Sao Paulo. Writer.

## RAFAEL FALASCO

Editor and researcher. Expert in exhibition catalog editing.

## ANTÔNIO XERXENESKY

Writer, professor, editor, and translator. Teaches courses in creative writing, literature, and philosophy.

## GÊNESE ANDRADE

University professor, researcher, and translator.

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## ASPASIA OULIOU

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## MICHI STRAUSFELD

Doctor of Philosophy, hispanist, romanist, and anglologist.

## $E X P E R T S$ JAPAN

## FUMIAKI NOYA

Emeritus Professor at Tokyo University. His best-known translations include Garcia Marquez's Chronicle of a Death Foretold, Borges' Seven Nights, Puig's Kiss of the Spider Woman, Cortazar's We Love Glenda So Much, and Bolaño's 2666 (Co-translation) and By Night in Chile. His own works include Majikaru raten misuteri tsua (Magical Latin Mystery Tour), Raten ni kisu seyo (Kiss in Latin), Ekkyo suru raten amerika (Cross-border Latin America), and others.

## KOUDAI ITO

As an editor, Koudai Ito has planned and edited both overseas and Japanese literature. Recently edited works included "New Mayan Literature (3 vols.)," "La Perra" by Pilar Quintana, and "JR" by William Gaddis, all of which were published by Kokushokankokai Inc. He started working in the editorial department of "Bungei" at Kawade Shobo Shinsha in November 2023.

## RYOTA KURE

The owner of Flanueur Books and president of Kure Books, Ryota Kure became an independent owner after working as the manager of a bookstore which sells new publications. While exploring the ideal look for today's high street bookstore at Flanueur Books, he also works - through Kure Books - as a consultant to support operational improvement and staff development in existing chain bookstores. He authored "Slip no Gihou (Techniques for Slips)" (Kurakudo) and co-authored "Hon Wo Okuru (The Gift of Books)" (3rinsha).

## NAOKO TAKANO

An overseas publishing coordinator and editor, Naoko Takano has worked in children's books for 25 years and published foreign picture books in Japan and Japanese picture books abroad. She has been involved in over one million overseas publications of picture books. She has recently become independent, establishing aima inc. While connecting children in Japan and other parts of the world through picture books, she is also active in promoting editing techniques by conducting editing and translation seminars in Japan and abroad. She also lectures at universities on picture book production.

## KAl NAGASE

Kai Nagase is an interviewer, writer, book reviewer, and part-time lecturer at J. F. Oberlin University. He writes book reviews and interviews for literary and culture magazines. In 2019, he was responsible for reviews of contemporary literature in "Shukan Dokushojin". His translations include "Discovery of Japanese Literature" by Michael Emmerich (in "Translation and Distribution of Japanese Literature" (Benseisha Publishing). He also co-authored "Post 3.11 in the World" (Shinyosha) and "The Guidebook of Korean Literature" (P-VINE).

# EXPERTS <br> <br> UNITED KINGDOM 

 <br> <br> UNITED KINGDOM}

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Bookstore at the British Book Awards 2022.

# UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 

## CHAD W POST

Publishing Director. Writer and translator. Advocates for international literature in the United States.

## KATIE KING

Is a journalist and literary translator with a PhD in Hispanic Studies.

## KATIE WHITTEMORE

Translator. English instructor for speakers of other languages.

## LAWRENCE SCHIMEL

Literary translator. Writer and anthologist. Lecturer.

## MARTA LÓPEZ-LUACES

Poet, writer, and translator. University professor.

## LAYLA BENITEZ-JAMES and DOUGLAS SUTTLE

Collaborators in book selection for the United States portal.

## BOOK REVIEW

## HOMMES FATALS; THE METAMORPHOSIS OF MALE DESIRE IN LITERATURE AND CINEMA

Author: Elisenda Julibert

From the reader report by: Gênese Andrade

In this comparative approach of the three works, the author evidences, based on psychoanalytic theories and their reception over time, the construction of the female figure as a villain as something naturalized and misogynistic. It emphasizes that the fact that the works are authored by men should not go unnoticed, but also the use of confession and the narrative focus as decisive in directing the reception of the version presented as incontestable.

By approaching a very thought-provoking theme based on classics of literature and cinema, the work is of interest to the Brazilian market, and should be well received for the fact that it is a pleasant text, which holds the reader's attention, with rigor and lightness at the same time.

|  | HOMMES FATALS; THE METAMORPHOSIS |
| ---: | :--- |
| Title | OF MALE DESIRE IN LITERATURE AND CINEMA |
|  | Hombres fatales Metamorfosis del deseo masculino en la |
|  | Literature y el cine |

Author's biography: Elisenda Julibert (Barcelona, 1974) has a degree in philosophy and has worked in publishing for over two decades. She has translated titles by George Sand, Guy de Maupassant, Marcel Proust, Albert Camus and Claude Lévi-Strauss from French and works by Sylvia Plath, Zygmunt Bauman and Simon Critchley from English. She is currently a desk editor, writes occasional pieces for the magazine ctxt and works as a translator.
https://www.rights-acantiladoqc.com/es/Author/elisenda-julibert/
Synopsis: Of the many fantastical creatures found throughout literature and cinema, the femme fatale is one of the most frequently recurring and versatile in the last two centuries, although she forms part of a historic bloodline that can be traced back as far as unfaithful Helen of the classical era, who brought about the Trojan War, or daring Eve who condemned the whole of humanity. Through the analysis of various literary and cinematic figures - from Carmen to Lolita and Madeleine in Vertigo to Conchita in That Obscure Object of Desire - the author examines the myth of the terrible femme fatale from a new perspective: what if, rather than bearing witness to the terrible character of certain women, the stereotype in fact denounces a singularly tragic representation of masculine desire? Like any good mystery, this book invites the reader to follow the clues of the men abandoned by these mythical women.

Publisher: Acantilado
Acantilado is an independent publishing house that was founded in 1999. From the very beginning, Acantilado's titles have been extremely well received by readers and critics alike, and the passage of time has allowed it to strengthen its relationship with its readers and so expand the platform afforded to literature and thought throughout Spain and Latin America.

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www.acantilado.es
Contact: Elena Barrio [rights2@acantilado.es]
Phone: (+34) 934144906
Reviews and prizes: "An essay which deconstructs the myth of the femme fatale in literature and cinema which has been used to counter the historic terror experienced by men faced with female liberation." El País
"If Hommes Fatals isn’t acclaimed as one of the essays of the year, we must be experiencing a literary golden age." Gonzalo T

## BOOK REVIEW

## THE CHOSEN ONES

Author: Nando Lopez<br>From the reader report by: Lisa M. Rodríguez

The story is solid, and it pulls the reader into its world. The dialogue is impeccable, clear, and rich. Nando López spent seven years writing this novel, and his attention to detail, both in historical details and in character development and story, is evident on every page. The text is dense yet contains nothing superfluous.

The tension caused by the dangers faced by Asun and Santos keeps the story moving forward, yet the novel never simply skims the surface. The reader has the impression of being deep in the world of the characters, and narrative details are far more than cursory plot tools. Each portion of the story moves the reader both forward in the events described and deeper into the society in which the characters live.

This novel fully deserves translation into English.

## AGENCIA DOS PASSOS

$\left.\begin{array}{rlrl}\text { Title } & \text { THE CHOSEN ONES } & & \\ & \text { LOS Elegidos }\end{array}\right]$

Author's biography: Nando López (Barcelona, 1977) is a novelist and playwright with a PhD cum laude in Hispanic literature. He won the 2020 Gran Angular prize with La versión de Eric ('Eric's Version') and was shortlisted for the 2010 Nadal prize for La edad de la ira ('The Age of Anger'), which was adapted into a television series by Atresplayer Premium. As a playwright, he has seen his plays performed in Spain and abroad, including in Chile, the United States, Venezuela, Costa Rica, Mexico and Panama. His current focus is on the audiovisual project Red Flags, for which he serves as scriptwriter and executive producer. His work has been recognised for its support of diversity and LGBTIQ+ visibility and has won awards such as the Triángulo culture award in 2022. "An author equally well known for his books for adults and younger readers." Babelia (El País)

Synopsis: The $14^{\text {th }}$ of January, 1950. Asún takes to the stage, where she performs folk songs with more cheek than talent, unaware that she will meet someone that night who will change her life: Santos is the Ateneo's librarian and, through his cultural and university connections, a frequent collaborator with the anti-Francoist resistance. A relationship will develop between them that is as superficially conventional as it is unique under the surface. While he offers her the possibility of freedom and revolution through literature, she offers him the cover of an engagement that will turn out to be essential when, in 1954, he becomes just one of many homosexuals persecuted under the new vagrancy act. The moving nature of the protagonists' lives and the in-depth historical research recreate an era that has never had its story told in the detail and authenticity it deserves...

Publisher: Destino
Agencia Dos Passos (Madrid, Spain) represents Spanish authors of fiction, non-fiction and children's literature. Our clients span the range of prize-winning novelists with well-established literary careers to new voices that stand out within the landscape of contemporary publishing. Our agency supports our authors in their professional development and protects their literary interests throughout the world and in all formats.

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Phone: (+34) 915215812
Comments: The novel will be published on the 26th of April 2023 with SIGNIFICANT BACKING from Destino (Planeta).

## BOOK REVIEW

## FILSTRUP

Author: Jaume Copons | Òscar Julve<br>From the reader report by: Katharina Diestelmeier

The lavishly illustrated comic novel tells the story of the "white sheep" Linus, who feels completely out of place in his family. The plot itself is entertaining, but above all, in my opinion, the book lives from the many funny details. When Grandpa Filstrup repeatedly tells criminal heroic stories of his ancestors and one recognizes historical events, when the family drives the dead great-grandfather around in a wheelchair, for which they continue to collect a pension, when the kind-hearted Linus does not realize at all that his great love Rita only shamelessly exploits him and is actually obnoxious, when quite casually prejudices against gays, The fact that fat people and foreigners are taken ad absurdum and that the gender reassignment of the accountant also has its place very sensitively - this enriches the story immensely.

| Title | FILSTRUP <br> Filstrup |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Jaume Copons \| Òscar Julve | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 232 | Spanish retail price | $11.95 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-9142-596-0$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Jaume Copons is a Catalan writer. He has written novels for children and young adults, as well as scripts for TV, radio and other media. Òscar Julve is a Catalan comic book artist, illustrator, and puppet maker. Together, they are a successful team.

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www.jaumecopons.com | www.oscarjulve.com
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Synopsis: There is a black sheep in every family, but -what happens when a white sheep is born in of a family of black sheep? I will explain it to you, if you please: I'm Linus Filstrup, an honest boy who has nothing to do with Arlo, my twin brother, who is a real hooligan and the pride and joy of the Filstrups, a family of proper thieves and swindlers. I was getting by in high school, until the disastrous day when I stood accused of having stolen a large sum of money. So, I had to start investigating to unmask the real culprit, clear my name and... let my family down again!

## Countries where the publishing rights have been sold: Italy

Publisher: Algar Libros
Algar is a publishing house specializing in children's and young adult's books. Their fundamental mission is to encourage younger readers to acquire good readings habits by offering them quality books that cater to their interests.

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www.foreignrights.bromera.com
Contact: Carol Borràs [carol@bromera.com]
Phone: (+34) 962402254
Comments: Filstrup is a gangsta graphic novel with a dark sense of humor.

## BOOK REVIEW

## BEST BEFORE

## Author: Andrea Genovart

From the reader report by: Judith Willis

This short, prize-winning novel, narrated in first person by 30-year-old Alba, covers in its eight chapters eight scenes from her life over roughly six months. It mainly takes place in present-day Barcelona with a brief period spent in a village in Castile. There is a kind of development as she is forced to question her identity and confront her future, although a circularity is suggested by the phrase "així, en general" (in general), which occurs both in the first sentence ("I don't know what I am in general...") and as the heading of the final chapter and the closing words of the book. Other than this, there is no dynamic narrative thrust or plot as such. The interest lies in the main character, her vision of contemporary life, her humour and her means of expression.

## ANAGRAMA EDITORIAL

| Title | BEST BEFORE <br> Consum preferent |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Andrea Genovart | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Catalan |
| Pages | 192 | Spanish retail price | $17.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-33901-85-9$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Andrea Genovart (Barcelona, 1993) has a degree in literary theory and comparative literatura fro $m$ the University of Barcelona and a masters in cultural affairs from the Factoría de Arte y Desarrollo in Madrid. She took part in the contemporary artistic and creative project 'Espositivo in Marid and has written scripts for adverts. She currently works as a press officer for various publishing houses. Consum preferent is her first novel and will be published in both Catalan and Spanish editions by Editorial Anagrama.

Synopsis: The novel tells the story of a young woman in contemporary Barcelona. It is narrated in the first person with a Joycean 'a day in the life of...' style of voice, although the novel takes place over several different days. It recounts the vicissitudes of a girl who has to face the contradictions of a generation on the verge of turning thirty and finds herself living an entirely different reality to the one experienced by her parents at the same age, a generation that, due to historical reasons, was more politicised, more conscious of class distinctions, and yet her personal situation is much more precarious. The narrator has an unstable job - she ends up getting fired - she is involved in a relationship which, seen through the lens of post-modern libertarian logic, will end up failing; she will see her closest friendships shaken and, with all this, she will find it hard to find a sense of equilibrium.

Publisher: Editorial Anagrama
Anagrama is an independent publishing house founded in 1969 and has published around 4,000 titles. Our aims over the course of those five decades have remained constant: the search for new voices - that is supporting potential future classics in both the narrative and essay genres, in our country and other markets; resurrecting twentieth century classics that have either been forgotten or gone out of print; exploring the most important contemporary political, moral and cultural debates.

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Reviews and prizes: Anagrama novel prize 2023
Comments: www.anagrama-ed.es/libro/llibres-anagrama/consum-preferent/9788433901859/LA_107

## FIIIRE!

## Author: Andrea Freire

From the reader report by: Margareth dos Santos

Luuume! It's a Galician-language story that starts from a simple (and ingenious, of course) idea to understand the outbursts of childish intransigence.

So there is nothing more luminous (excuse the cheap pun) than turning a burning match into a metaphor for this situation. Another interesting aspect of this image is found in the title of the book, whose repetition of the vowel "u" (Luuume) embodies the duration of its main character's vivid whimsy.

Nothing to get in the way of this exquisite little book, which deals with a thorny subject with skill and cunning without falling into the commonplace.

## FIIIRE!

| Title | FIIIRE! <br> Luuume! |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Andrea Freire | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Galician |
| Pages | 42 | Spanish retail price | $16.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-0936-810-5$ |  |  |

Author's biography: I'm Andrea Cid Freire, and I was born in Ourense in the Autumn of 1989. Puppeteer and teacher. I love to play, feel, listen, and learn. It was the combination of these verbs and my love of childhood that inspired me to create the story "Luuume!" (Fiiire!), my first picture book and my debut in children's literature.
https://antelaeditorial.com/index.php/2022/02/18/andrea-freire/

Synopsis: Matchstick (Cerilla) is always cross, and, in the meantime, life carries on. Her family and friends try to help her but, is there anyone who will succeed? In this children's picture book, we will tell you the story of the little matchstick who is always cross. A beautiful story told in a fun, attractive way, aimed at helping kids to learn about self-acceptance and managing their anger.

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Phone: (+34) 675080711

## BOOK REVIEW

## MIQUITS

Author: Alba De Evan | Javier Domínguez<br>From the reader report by: Antônio Xerxenesky

When we talk about a comic strip starring a lazy and greedy cat, but at the same time full of personality, the name that comes to mind is that of Garfield, the orange feline that transcends generations. Miquits, from Evan, Domínguez and Cheshire, is a comic who seems to be very aware of this reference, and seeks to dialogue with it, as well as that of another commonplace - that witches, in the collective imagination, all have a companion animal, in general, as the cliché goes, a black cat.

Thus, there is something metamodern about Miquits, that is, from the first comic strip of this book, it is assumed that the reader is familiar with these cultural references that are so present in the West.

Despite dealing with a plethora of widespread references, the humor also works with younger children, who are amused by the unexpected twists and speed of the comics. Thus, Miquits proves to be a good accessible comic, which would work in territories other than Spanish.

| Title | MIQUITS <br> Miquits |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Alba De Evan \| Javier Domínguez | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Cómics | Language | Galician |
| Pages | 52 | Spanish retail price | $12.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-1254-520-3$ |  |  |

Author's biography: She studied Music Teaching at the University of Santiago de Compostela between 2004 and 2007, and devoted herself to teaching at several schools in Galicia.

As a result of her profession, her inclination towards writing, and her determination to make a difference in the education of young children, brought about her decision to write books for children and young adults.
https://es.wikipedia.org/wiki/Xabier_Dom\�\�nguez_P\�\�rez

Synopsis: Miquits is a cat. But not just any cat -he is a witch's familiar. By her side, he lives dangerous and exciting adventures that will make you laugh. Do you dare to follow him? In this children's comic book we read the story of Miquits, a witch's cat. They have a gazillion fun adventures and learn the value of friendship and companionship.

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Phone: (+34) 675080711

## BOOK REVIEW

## NOBODY IN THIS LAND

Author: Victor del Árbol<br>From the reader report by: Faye Williams

This novel certainly is more than simply a crime story; it is a dark, complex and beautifully written exploration of the relationship between victims and perpetrators which considers the motives and impulses behind the most evil behaviour. Two interconnected plotlines of drug trafficking and child sexual abuse are woven through past and present, framed within the deeply corrupt system that facilitates them. Universal themes including loyalty and betrayal, guilt and remorse, revenge and justice are explored from an unexpected perspective and del Árbol analyses human behaviour through an original lens.

Although the storylines are complicated, the narrative is extremely well-structured and wellwritten, and the prose clean and direct, meaning that the reader remains committed and engaged throughout. Del Árbol switches deftly between past and present and whilst the pace is never frenetic, it propels the plot steadily forward, gaining considerable momentum in the last third.

## PUBLISHED IN NEW SPANISH BOOKS UK

## ANTONIA KERRIGAN AGENCIA LITERARIA

| Title | NOBODY IN THIS LAND <br> Nadie en esta tierra |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Victor del Árbol | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 440 | Spanish retail price | $20.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-2336-71-4$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Víctor del Árbol (Barcelona, 1968) is a writer. His novels include El peso de los muertos ('The Weight of the Dead’, winner of the 2006 Tiflos novel prize), La tristeza del samurái ('The Sadness of the Samurai', winner of the Prix du Polar Européen 2012), Respirar por la herida ('Breathing through the Pain', shortlisted for the best foreign novel prize at the 2014 Festival de Beaune), Un millón de gotas ('A Million Drops', winner of the 2015 Grand Prix de Littérature Policière and one of the most outstanding books in the United States in 2021 according to Publishers Weekly), La víspera de casi todo ('The Eve of Almost Everything', winner of the Premio Nadal de novela 2016), Por encima de la lluvia ('Above the Rain', 2017), Antes de los años terribles ('Before the Awful Years' 2019) and El hijo del padre ('The Father's Son', 2021). His books have been translated into multiple languages and have enjoyed great success in France, where he was made a chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres in 2018.
https://www.antoniakerrigan.com/es/Author/958/Arbol-Victor-del
Synopsis: Julián Leal is an inspector with the Barcelona police and is going through a rough time. The doctor has diagnosed him with cancer and said he doesn't have long to live and he's also just had a case brought against him for beating up a suspected child abuser. After paying a visit to his hometown in Galicia, bodies started appearing that could be connected to him and his boss wants to charge him with the murders in revenge for grudges related to events in their past. He and his colleague Virginia will find themselves dragged into an investigation much deeper and more complicated than they can imagine and which could cost them their lives and the lives of all those they love. Julián needs to settle his scores in both the present and with his past. This is a story about the route our dreams sometimes travel on the way to becoming nightmares.

Publisher who has published: Destino
Publisher: Antonia Kerrigan Agencia Literaria
We represent authors working in Spanish, Galician, Catalan and Basque at a global level, plus other foreign agencies in Spain and Latin America. We now represent 150 authors working in a variety of literary styles, both in fiction and non-fiction.

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www.antoniakerrigan.com
Contact: Sofia Di Capita [sofia@antoniakerrigan.com]
Phone: (+34) 932093820
Reviews and prizes: https://elpais.com/cultura/elemental/2023-04-03/la-novela-negra-espanola-rompe-fronteras-y-renueva-el-genero.html | www.lavanguardia.com/cultura/20230404/8875546/lyon-rinde-crimenes-manera-espanola.html

## BOOK REVIEW

## COCK-A-DOODLE-DO!

Author: Nuria Otte<br>From the reader report by: Cat Mansfield

This is a strikingly illustrated picture book with a message for young children about female empowerment and breaking down barriers. It is also about resilience, with its focus on not giving up and not expecting to be able to do things right away (fostering a growth mentality).

The message is clear enough to spark conversations about these topics between the adult reader and the child.

The images are interesting to look at and include lots of detail, giving the adult and child reader plenty to look at and talk about together.

There are some nice humorous details, such as Peka fantasising about featuring on the cover of "Famous Hen" magazine and the funny faces of the sleeping hens and their chicks.

| Title | COCK-A-DOODLE-DO! <br> Cocorikiii |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Nuria Otte | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 36 | Spanish retail price | $15.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17028-54-1$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Nuria Otte is a programmer and art director for various web and multimedia projects. She studied illustration and animation at ESDIP and design at the European Institute of Design. She uses both digital and traditional techniques such as painting, and various forms of printing like silk-screen printing combining methods to produce multimedia works. Her art reflects the beauty of the world around us through the careful selection of themes and palette. Nuria's images evoke emotions and feelings that speak to her connection to and passion for nature. Since 2011 she has been living in Cardiff, Wales, where she has her own studio at the Chapter Arts Centre. Nuria won the Apila First Edition prize in 2022 for her book, Cocorikii (Cock-a-doodle-do!).
www.instagram.com/nuriaotte/
Synopsis: Peka the hen dreams of being able to sing and that one day, she will wake the whole valley with her call. But no hen has ever sung. It's something cockerels do. Perhaps her moment will come. Cock...a...doodle...do... Things in the hen house are about to change.

Publisher: Apila Ediciones
A publisher dedicated to producing picture books for kids aged 2 to 8 years.
Publishing rights available from: Apila Ediciones - CIF G99157547 Mosén Félix Lacambra, 36B, Alagón, Zaragoza
www.apilaediciones.com | www.instagram.com/apila_ediciones
Contact: Eduardo Flores [apila@apilaediciones.com]
Phone: (+34) 617227843
Reviews and prizes: Apila first editions prize in 2022

## BOOK REVIEW

## IS THERE ROOM?

## Author: Edu Flores

From the reader report by: Antônio Xerxenesky

Narrated from a space that is alternately occupied by different geometric shapes, such as the various types of triangle, towards an apotheosis finale where all the forms meet and sing together, ¿Hay sitio? It operates on multiple layers, including the type of humor. There is everything from a more slapstick humor to references picked up by older students or adults. Despite the volume's didactic eagerness, it preserves a tone of improvisation, as if it had been written during a game in math class.

Aimed at elementary school students, the book also works to be read with an accompanying child. In the home test of the critic who signs this review, many of the jokes, such as that of a loudmouthed triangle, or of bows that bark until they can't anymore, work to make a child laugh and memorize the names of geometric shapes at the same time.

| Title | IS THERE ROOM? <br> ¿Haysitio? |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Edu Flores | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 48 | Spanish retail price | $16.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17028-70-1$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Professor at the Higher School of Design of Aragon (ESDA) and combines his teaching work with children's illustration work. With the album The Bird of the Two Cages he has been selected for the 25th Bratislava Biennale 2015. Her album, Fred Astaire's Shoes and Other Incredible Stories was awarded the Golden Pinwheell Award in the category of Best International Children's Album, at the Shanghai Children's Book Fair in November 2013. He is one of the members of Apila Ediciones. In 2015 he published Jack's Mother. With this album Edu Flores was awarded the bronze medal in the category of best illustrator at the Moonbeam Children's Books Awards 2015 (United States).
www.instagram.com/edufloresmarco
Synopsis: Is there room? A different kind of picture book. Triangles, squares, semicircles... Geometry can be fun. A story where there is room for everyone. An original story full of joy and contagious optimism. With protagonists who make us understand things as important as communication or friendship through humour. A book that talks about accepting others and invites us to put an end to prejudices. All together...

Publisher: Apila Ediciones
Publishing house dedicated to the publication of children's illustrated albums, from 2 to 8 years old.
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Contact: Eduardo Flores [apila@apilaediciones.com] Phone: (+34) 617227843

Comments: This is a comic for children, a mix between album format and first comic. He tackles the subject of prejudice with humor and geometry.

## HELLO, FREDO!

## Author: Elena Hormiga

From the reader report by: Rafael Falasco

In short, iHola, Fredo! It is a book with the potential for school adoption. With a simple and accurate narrative, and well accompanied by illustrations of contemporary traits, the story is happy to convey a pedagogical and always current message about recycling and environmental responsibility. With charismatic characters (even the garbage bags are nice), humor in the right measure and a playful approach, the book has its audience and can find a publishing house concerned with composing a children's catalog concerned with environmental issues (or with the basic school curriculum).

| Title | HELLO, FREDO! <br> ¡Hola, Fredo! |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Edu Flores | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 48 | Spanish retail price | $18.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17028-64-0$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Degree in Graphic Design (European Institute of Design of Madrid), Master in Editorial Design (European Institute of Design of Madrid), Master in Children's and Young People's Literature (Autonomous University of Barcelona). His work focuses on the conceptual value of images and the communicative capacity of metaphor. In addition to writing and illustrating children's books, she has been teaching illustration since 2013 at the European Institute of Design (IED Madrid) and teaches creativity workshops for children. Among the awards he has received are the Edelvives International Illustrated Album Award (2013) and the Silver Laus awarded by the Association of Art Directors and Graphic Designers. His work has twice been selected by the Nami Concours of Illustration in Korea.

## www.elenahormiga.es/wp/

Synopsis: What would happen if the trash you got rid of during the day came home to live with you? Well, that's what happened to Fredo. On any given Sunday, Fredo threw his trash in the dumpster, but the next morning he was there again and talking to him. The next day another bag, and another, and another... Fredo will try to get rid of them without succeeding until he realizes that the solution is not to get away from the trash but to give it a second life by recycling. A humorous story about our responsibility for the things we own. Includes a fun and colourful explanatory poster for the little ones about recycling.

## Publisher: Apila Ediciones

Publishing house dedicated to the publication of children's illustrated albums, from 2 to 8 years old.
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www.apilaediciones.com | www.instagram.com/apila_ediciones
Contact: Eduardo Flores [apila@apilaediciones.com]
Phone: (+34) 617227843
Comments: The book has a poster about recycling.

## 15

Author: Andrés G. Leyva | David Muñoz<br>From the reader report by: Philippe Lançon

In a realistic, well-researched style, with great attention given to the dialogues, to the ways of speaking of the Spaniards of that time, both so pictorial and so concrete (hence the difficulties of translation), the narrative focuses on this anonymous and secondary drama that, like so many others, really took place. The most unspoilt living being, probably the only one, is the stray and surviving dog that clings to the soldiers, without following them when they leave. He is the witness who will not speak. Deserves translation.

## ASTIBERRI EDICIONES

## Title 15

| Author | Andrés G. Leyva | David Muñoz | Year of publication |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Genre | Comic | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 128 | Spanish retail price | $16.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-18215-40-7$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Andrés G. Leiva (Córdoba, 1969). Has a degree in Fine Arts, and has been working for 25 years as an art teacher. He is the author of comics such as Juana de Arco (Joan of Arc), Serie B and Uno de esos días (One of Those Days). 15 is his first graphic novel with writer David Muñoz.

## www.astiberri.com/authors/andres-g-leiva

David Muñoz (Madrid, 1968) studied fine arts and, like many other comics writers, is a frustrated comic artist. Even today, he dreams of one day drawing a graphic novel by himself. Has worked in films such as El espinazo del diablo (The Devil's Backbone) or La posesión de Emma Evans (Exorcismus); series such as La valla (The Barrier) and La embajada (The Embassy); comics such as La casa de los susurros (The House of Whispers), Trackers, Miedo (Fear), and in the comic script manual Escribir en viñetas, pensar en bocadillos (Writing in Vignettes, Thinking in Speech Bubbles). With Rayco Pulido, he is the author of Sordo (The (Silent) War), also made into a film. His latest graphic novels are 15, with artist Andrés G. Leiva, and Infectado (Infected), with Manuel Meseguer, both published by Astiberri.

## www.astiberri.com/authors/david-munoz

Synopsis: Madrid, summer of 1938. In the middle of the Spanish Civil War, in the early morning of a certain day, the bullets of a sniper end the lives of two militiamen. Few hours later, Captain Matías and his men discover that the murderer was a boy who, determined to avenge the death of his Falangist brother, is still locked up in the house from which he shot. Some of Matías' teammates want to rush there and shoot him to death, but the captain wants to give him a chance. However, the boy refuses to surrender. He is only 15 years old. And he is not afraid of death. Because the only time one is not afraid of dying... is when one has barely lived at all. 15 is a story of the Spanish Civil War based on true events. But it is also a story about all wars and about the effect they have on those who fight in them.
Publisher: Astiberri Ediciones
Since its inception in March of 2001, Astiberri is a comics publisher that has maintained a content policy aimed at an audience of adults (regardless of their age) not necessarily used to comics. Their main line of work, which has become their trademark, is the publication of works of remarkable literary quality, mostly by authors of Spanish, French or Anglo-Saxon origin, but also from other areas such as Latin America, Japan, and China.

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Contact: Lucía Álvarez Rovira [lucia@astiberri.com]
Phone: (+34) 685743598

## BOOK REVIEW

## THE FIRE

Author: David Rubín<br>From the reader report by: Jan Surmann

In his graphic novel El Fuego, published in 2022, comic artist David Rubín depicts an impressive and, due to the almost obvious parallels to current disaster scenarios, an almost frightening dystopian future for humanity. Although the book is classically set in the realm of science fiction, David Rubín knows how to incorporate prominent questions of technology mastery and a general cultural pessimism in the face of the dwindling abilities of the human species to design a humanistic perspective for the future in a very sustainable and subtle way. This makes the work a pleasure even for those readers who are generally not very attracted to the genre of science fiction. The central leitmotif of the graphic novel can therefore be seen as humanity's confrontation with existential crises. Of particular interest is how the author repeatedly takes up the question of the development of technology and the possibility of mastering it.

## ASTIBERRI EDICIONES

| Title | THE FIRE <br> El Fuego |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | David Rubín | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Comic | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 256 | Spanish retail price | $35.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-18909-51-1$ |  |  |

Author's biography: David Rubín (Ourense, 1977). As a screenwriter and cartoonist, he has made The Circus of Discouragement, The Teahouse of the Malayan Bear, Notebook of Storms and Romeo and Juliet, by William Shakespeare, The Mount of Souls, by Gustavo Adolfo Bécquer and The Hero. He is also the author of Beowulf in collaboration with Santiago García, two Battling Boy spin-offs, with Paul Pope, as well as La Ficción, together with Curt Pires, and Miguel EN Cervantes. The Altarpiece of Wonders, made with Miguelanxo Prado, while with Marcos Prior he signs Gran Hotel Abismo. For the American market, he made all three volumes of Ether, with Matt Kindt, Black Hammer 2. El Suceso, with Jeff Lemire, three volumes of the Rumble series with John Arcudi; and Cosmic Detective, along with Jeff Lemire and Matt Kindt. El Fuego (Astiberri, 2022) is his last work as a complete author.

Synopsis: A huge asteroid is approaching Earth on a collision course. Alexander Yorba, a famous middle-aged architect, is in charge of devising and building a lunar colony to ensure the survival of humanity in the face of inevitable disaster. Immersed in this construction, he is diagnosed with a brain tumor in the terminal phase; It barely has the same months left of life until the asteroid collides with our planet. This dramatic event will make him rethink his own professional and personal nature, which leads him to give up his work in the colony to reunite with his family, with whom he had little contact. A decision that will trigger a series of fateful events that will damage Alexander's professional credit and family life, condemning him to wander on a dramatic, visceral and revealing odyssey towards the end of time.

Publisher: Astiberri Ediciones
Astiberri is a comic book publisher that, since its inception in March 2001, has maintained a content policy aimed at an adult audience, regardless of their age, and not necessarily accustomed to comics. Its main line of work, which has become its trademark, is the publication of works with notable literary weight by authors with a basically Hispanic, French-speaking or Anglo-Saxon origin, but also from other fields such as Latin America, Japan or China.

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Contact: Lucía Álvarez Rovira [lucia@astiberri.com]
Phone: (+34) 685743598

## BOOK REVIEW

## TRANSIENTS

Author: Nadar<br>From the reader report by: Ms. Mana Takagi

This collection of short stories consists of four tales that capture a slice of the lives of people of different generations and with different attributes. The artist's drawing ability and story-composition skills are fully demonstrated in the simple panel layout. The gazes, gestures, and dialogues of the characters, the composition of each frame, and the watercolor style of the images weave the story gently together. The reader feels as if he or she is standing beside the characters and watching the story unfold. Japanese short manga frequently uses a monologue by the main character to explain his/her feelings, the background of the story, and the ending, but this is not at all the case in this work. Each story ends with no definite conclusion, so it has a strange magnetism that compels the reader to re-read each story. Each reader's interpretation and view of the stories will vary depending on his or her own life experiences.

## ASTIBERRI EDICIONES

| Title | TRANSIENTS <br> Transitorios |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Nadar | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Comic | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 144 | Spanish retail price | $20.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-18909-52-8$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Pep Domingo (Nadar) was born in Castelló de la Plana in 1985. During his university studies, he won several prizes in Spanish comic contests (Portugalete, Cornellà, CAM, INJUVE...). After graduating in Fine Arts from the University of Barcelona, he published his first short stories in magazines such as Dos Veces Breve. In 2012 he was awarded the AlhóndigaKomik scholarship (Bilbao) thanks to the project Papel estrujado (Astiberri, 2013). This is followed by the signing of El mundo a tus pies (Astiberri, 2015); Bless you! (Astiberri, 2018), with a screenplay by Philippe Thirault; as well as The Filmmaker (Astiberri, 2020), Justin (Astiberri, 2021) and Fatty. The First King of Hollywood (Astiberri, 2022), all three with a screenplay by Julien Frey. Transients is his new work as a complete author.

Synopsis: A mother's relationship with her son on the verge of puberty, impossible commissions to represent a fictional character as real, moral doubts about a teacher or the special legacy of a father are some of the questions addressed in Swimming in Transients, whose stories do not follow the most obvious path.

Publisher: Astiberri Ediciones
Astiberri is a comic book publisher that, since its inception in March 2001, has maintained a content policy aimed at an adult audience, regardless of their age, and not necessarily accustomed to comics. Its main line of work, which has become its trademark, is the publication of works with notable literary weight by authors with a basically Hispanic, French-speaking or Anglo-Saxon origin, but also from other fields such as Latin America, Japan or China.

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> Contact: Lucía Álvarez Rovira [lucia@astiberri.com]
> Phone: $(+34) 685743598$

Countries where the rights have been sold: France (Marabulles/Hachette)
Critics and awards: Award for Best National Work at the Barcelona Comic Fair 2023 "Nadar stands as an excellent period portraitist who reflects like no one else the fragility of our construction of the present. Transients is an infinite comic that continues to travel with you" Mery Cuesta

## BOOK REVIEW

## WOODWORM

Author: Layla Martínez<br>From the reader report by: Ms. Megumi Yoshida

Men and women, families chained by blood, poverty and wealth, society, and class: this Spanish horror fiction embraces these universal themes and depicts the hatred, resentment, and revenge of four generations of women. The story's development centers around the disappearance of the only son of a village landowner, moving back and forth between timelines from the viewpoints of a grandmother and a granddaughter. Readers will be shaken as they unravel the mystery to reach the truth. There is an interesting difference in the narrative styles of the grandmother, who sometimes has a Cuenca accent, and the mobile-generation granddaughter, whose sentences continue without punctuation. This novel is highly anticipated to join the genre of Spanish horror literature, which attracts readers from all over the world. The work is particularly likely to attract a female readership since comical expressions can be found throughout the gothic worldview, and readers will find it scintillating and exhilarating to encounter the women's words and actions toward the men, as well as their revenge.

## CASANOVAS \& LYNCH AGENCIA LITERARIA

| Title | WOODWORM <br> Carcoma |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Layla Martínez | Year of publication | 2021 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 144 | Spanish retail price | $18.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-94704-37-6$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Layla Martínez (Madrid, 1987) is a writer and editor at the independent label Antipersona. His most recent essay, Utopia is not an island, explores the idea of utopia in recent centuries and the possibility of constructing a utopian horizon in the present. Apart from her first essay Geestación Surrogate, her short stories, essays and articles have been published in several anthologies such as Hallucinadas, Estío, Once relatos de ficción climático, Infiltradas and No son molinos. He has translated essays and novels for several publishers and writes about music in El Salto, and about series and TV in La Última Hora. She has given workshops on horror literature and coordinated film cycles on social terror and utopia in cinema. Since 2014 he has co-directed the independent publishing house Levanta fuego. With Carcoma he won the 42nd award for revelation in Spanish 2022.

Synopsis: Carcoma is the Spanish answer to the established trend of gothic novels and the new magical realism. In her shocking debut, set in a remote village in the rural south of Spain, Layla Martínez uses Iberian and Catholic folklore to narrate with black humor and Lorca reminiscences the passionate revenge of a grandmother and her granddaughter, the last survivors of a family rejected and feared by all their neighbors. The disappearance of the son of the town's landowning family unleashes another wave of suspicion against both women: no one believes that this second missing person is related to them by chance. With rich, raspy voices, grandmother and granddaughter alternately tell us about their family, their home, and their dealings with angels and saints, trapping us as only a good horror story tells at night around a campfire. A History of Revenge and Class Struggle.

Countries where the rights have been sold: Arabic (Pi Press), Brazil (Companhia das Letras), Korea (EunHaeng), EE. U.U. (Two Lines), Germany (Eichborn), France (Seuil).

Publisher that has published: Amor de madre Editorial
Publisher: Casanovas \& Lynch Agencia Literaria
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Contact: Aloïse Denis [aloise@casanovaslynch.com]
Phone: (+34) 932124791

## THE YEAR THE DEMON WAS BORN

## Author: Santiago Roncagliolo

From the reader report by: Antônio Xerxenesky

The mix of historical romance and thriller is also at the heart of El año en que nació el demonio, whose more than 500 pages are quickly devoured. The narrator, a bailiff who voluntarily agrees to work for an inquisitor, turns out to be a slapstick, a mama's boy, and the author takes advantage of this character's stupid passivity to project onto him a whole worldview of the colonizers.

The whole book works, then, with this dialectic: between progress and obscurantism, rationality and religious fanaticism, mixing political intrigue with elements of thriller and folk horror. The result is a novel that is a pleasant read, which uses a historical narrative to discuss current issues in the process of discussing the effects of European colonization in Latin America.

## CASANOVAS \& LYNCH AGENCIA LITERARIA

| Title | THE YEAR THE DEMON WAS BORN <br> El año que nació el demonio |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Santiago Roncagliolo | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 560 | Spanish retail price | $22.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-60-70797-88-0$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Santiago Roncagliolo (Lima, 1975) is a writer, screenwriter, playwright, journalist and translator. His novels have been translated into more than twenty languages, including English, French, Chinese and Arabic. In 2010 Granta named him one of the best writers in Spanish under the age of 35 and The Guardian chose his novel Abril rojo as one of the great works on Peru. She received many awards such as the Alfaguara and the Independent Foreign Fiction Prize for her novel Abril rojo, and was a finalist for the Violeta Negra prize in France with La pena maxima. He wrote a trilogy of non-fiction novels about the 20th century that sparked controversy in the Hispanic world: "The fourth sword", "The uruguayan lover" and "Memoirs of a lady". In addition, he has collected his chronicles on cinema in El material de los sueños. His columns and reports on cultural and humanitarian issues have appeared in El País, Vogue, Vanity Fair and El Comercio.

Synopsis: Viceroyalty of Peru, 1623. The devil became flesh in the City of Kings on the night a novice gave birth to a beast with two heads, a forked tongue and eight limbs. The birth of the spawn coincides with the appearance in the capital of a woman named Rosa, who, it is said, is able to speak with God and the Devil. Witch or saint, she has become the target of the Holy Office, which will not rest until it reveals the young woman's intentions, as well as her possible relationship with the demonic birth and the terrible events that will be unleashed with it. In a city marked by crime, corruption and bad omens; Alonso Morales, a novice bailiff of the Holy Office, discovers how difficult it is to distinguish the paths that separate good from evil. An exciting, vivid and adventure-filled story that absorbs the reader without forcing them to completely detach themselves from the present.

Publisher: Seix Barral
Publisher: Casanovas \& Lynch Agencia Literaria
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Contact: Aloïse Denis [aloise@casanovaslynch.com]
Phone: (+34) 932124791

# THE LAST DAY OF THE PREVIOUS LIFE 

Author: Andrés Barba<br>From the reader report by: Ms. Kazumi Uno

Barba is a master of far-from-innocent childhood innocence and incomprehension, even when conveyed by a third-person narrator. In the end the boy is trapped inside his fear, sure that he has caused all this strange horror. Trapped in his unmoving body, all he can do is try to move in his imagination. He imagines he goes inside the house as a horse, imagines he throws himself on his bed and pretends to cry. Then we see the final interaction with the real estate agent from the other side. She shakes him and says words he doesn't understand, places her hand on his cheek and turns around to leave. Then he's back in the garden, playing at being a horse but he feels the sun on his skin and is able to move, and in his head is the thought "it's not my fault."

A slim ghost story that reads like a realistic tale of contemporary solitude with a depth of prose and characterization that make it feel like a much longer novel. One of those rare books that you want to start reading again as soon as you finish. Highly recommended.

## CASANOVAS \& LYNCH AGENCIA LITERARIA

Title THE LAST DAY OF THE PREVIOUS LIFE El último día de la vida anterior

| Author | Andrés Barba | Year of publication | 2021 |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 144 | Spanish retail price | $16.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-33901-77-4$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Author biography: Andrés Barba is a novelist, poet, essayist and translator. His books have been translated into more than 25 languages, from his first novel La hermana de Katia ('Katia's Sister'), which was followed by Ahora tocad música de baile ('Now Play Dance Music'), Versiones de Teresa ('Versions of Teresa'), Las manos pequeñas ('Such Small Hands'), Agosto, octubre, ha dejado de llover (August, October, It's Stopped Raining') and the novellas collected in La recta intención ('The Right Intention'). Together with Javier Montes, he is also the author of the essay Ceremonia del porno ('Porn Ceremony'), which won the XXXV Premio Anagrama de Ensayo in 2017. In 2010 he was selected for Granta magazine’s 'Best Young Spanish-Language Novelists’ edition. His novel República luminosa ('A Luminous Republic') won the XXXV Premio Herralde de Novela. He held the position of Cullman Center Fellow at the New York Public Library in 2019-20, during which he wrote the fictionalised biography of a Spanish architect: La Vida de Guastavino y Guastavino ('The Life of Guastavino y Guastavino', 2020). He was shortlisted for the 2021 Eccles Centre \& Hay Festival Writer's Award.

Synopsis: An estate agent with a passion for her job is preparing a house for a visit from some buyers when she runs into a seven-year-old boy who doesn't blink. Having been trapped in this place for a very long time, like an insect in a glass bottle, the boy hopes for something from her he can barely even ask and which ends up creating an absolute and disturbing mutual dependency between them. In this "ghost story without ghosts", Barba reveals an exquisite talent for dissecting human intimacy. By replicating the style of the genre, he creates a distillate of the best of his realist writing. Full off doubles and temporal crossings, the almost mechanical precision establishes this novel alongside great classics of the genre like Henry James and Bioy Casares, but in a contemporary version full of lyricism, delicacy and cruelty, similar to the aesthetic of Lindqvist or Shirley Jackson.

Countries where the rights have been sold: Spain and Latin America (Anagrama); Germany (Luchterhand); Brazil: Todavía; United States and Canada (HaperVia); France (Bourgois); Italy (La Nave di Teseo).

Publisher: Casanovas \& Lynch Agencia Literaria
Representation for Spanish and Latin American authors on the worldwide stage and for foreign publishers and agencies in Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries.

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Contact: María Juncosa [juncosa@casanovaslynch.com]
Phone: (+34) 932124791

## GLORIA

Author: Andrés Felipe Solano<br>From the reader report by: Jamie Mullin

The novel touches on a number of themes, some of which include family history, complex family relationships, sexuality, coming to terms with the loss of a parent at a young age, finding oneself in brief encounters with strangers and in moments of solitude, as well as the freedom found in solitude itself.

Common themes like those mentioned above are treated in an original way. The overall storyline is at times constructed in fragments as memory often is, hopping between the present, past and future, with a variety of plotlines blending together to form a work that is intriguing, engaging and also quite moving and personal. I believe this novel is an excellent candidate for translation and would be well received in the US.

## CASANOVAS \& LYNCH AGENCIA LITERARIA

| Title | GLORIA <br> Gloria |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Author | Andrés Felipe Solano |  |  |
| Genre | Literature | Year of publication 2023 |  |
| Pages | 132 | Language | Spanish |
| ISBN | $978-84-19261-27-4$ | Spanish retail price | 16.90 |

Author's biography: Andrés Felipe Solano (Bogotá, 1977) is the acclaimed author of four novels, a chronicle, and two non-fiction books. In 2010, he was recognized by Granta as one of the best writers in the Spanish language under the age of under 35 . His work has appeared in The New York Times, McSweeneys, Granta, Freeman's, Anew, Words without Borders, and World Literature Today. With MINIMUM WAGE - LIVING WITH NOTHING, he won the Bolívar Prize; a previous version was included in The Best of Journalism in Latin America, as well as the Anthology of Current Latin American Chronicles, and was a finalist for the 2008 New Ibero-American Journalism Foundation award, chaired by Gabriel García Márquez. His non-fiction book KOREA: NOTES FROM THE TIGHTROPE received the Biblioteca de Narrativa Colombiana Award in 2016. He has been writer-in-residence at Yaddo, Casa Ledig, Toji Cultural Center, Yoeonhui Arts Space, and the University of Alcalá de Henares.

Synopsis: April 11, 1970. Argentine singer Sandro will become the first Latin American artist to perform at Madison Square Garden, and Gloria will be one of the lucky attendees at that fabled concert. She is twenty years old when she walks down the electric streets of New York City, which invite you to forget everything you know and learn it all over again. Disappointments will come, but not today: this could be a perfect day. Decades later, Solano looks back on his mother's early years and realizes that her youth and his, both marked by New York City at the same age, were not so different. With an outlook that is optimistic but not without its darkness, and in a prose as sincere as it is sophisticated, he retraces the moment when his mother discovered that love is a perpetual game of tightrope on the edge of a precipice. This book filled with emotion is about beginnings, and about all the possible futures of a woman stemming from one day in her life.

Countries where the rights have been sold: Sexto Piso, 2023. Italy: Sur (auctioned)
Publisher: Casanovas \& Lynch Agencia Literaria
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Reviews and awards: GLORIA's narrator travels back in time and spies on her mother. [...] And I, the reader, get to witness that miracle. A gorgeous novel, I cried from the first to the last page. M. García Robayo

## BOOK REVIEW

## ADRIANA'S VOICES

Author: Elvira Navarro<br>From the reader report by: Christina MacSweeney

Elvira Navarro's novel is an exceptional evocation of three generations of women that addresses the central issues of all their lives, the lives of the women of their respective generations in a way that is remarkably natural given the complexity of the narrative. Contemporary readers would easily identify with the main themes of the work. The first section speaks candidly of the concerns of women in an ageing society that still expects them to be primary carers of their parents, of the effects of social media, in particular internet dating, on their relationships, and the isolation often felt by those who don't follow the conventional path of marriage and motherhood. The grandmother's story deals with the conventions of Catholicism and the resignation of women who must accept or ignore their husband's infidelities and the narrowness of their existences. Adriana's mother is a mid-point in the social changes that occur over those years as she attempts to find a path through the difficulties of juggling her professional and family lives. Through Adriana's voices we invest as readers in these characters as their stories unfold in the palimpsest structure of the work. The quality of Elvira Navarro's writing shines through in her ability to create metaphor from the most ordinary of situations and the inclusion of her poetry in this work is a surprising but highly successful divergence from the author's usual prose narrative.

## CASANOVAS \& LYNCH AGENCIA LITERARIA

| Title | ADRIANA'S VOICES |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  | Las voces de Adriana |  |  |
| Author | Elvira Navarro | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 142 | Spanish retail price | $17.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-39738-02-2$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Elvira Navarro (Huelva, 1978) has a degree in philosophy. Included in Granta magazine's "Best of Young Spanish-Language Novelists" edition in 2010, El Cultural named her as one of the key Spanish voices of the future in 2013. The author of six novels and short story collections, she has won numerous prizes and awards for her work. La isla de los conejos ('Rabbit Island', short stories) was shotlisted for the National Book Award for Translated Literature while her three most recent novels, La trabajadora ('The Worker'), Los últimos días de Adelaida García Morales ('The Last Days of Adelaida García Morales') and Las voces de Adriana ('Adriana’s Voices') have confirmed her status as a key author in Spanish literature. She publishes articles and short stories in the magazines Ínsula, Turia, Calle 20, El Duende de Madrid, Critica and El Perro and in the newspapers Público and El País. She also works as a literary critic for the magazine Qué Leer and delivers creative writing classes.

Synopsis: Adriana cries to her mother as she cares for her sick father. Frozen with pain, fearing the disappearance of her family, she is aware of the emotional weight she is carrying. Navarro separates out the layers of family story from the present to the past, to the very end, a sort of cathartic dialogue with Lorca-style reminiscences, three voices reconstruct a terrible crime whose effects have echoed down the family for generations. Perceptive, subtle and delicate, Navarro describes the process of pain with lucidity and some hilarious passages. With her unmistakeable austere, daring and elegant style, she creates a story of great emotional and psychological richness while continuing to explore the extremes of reality, fiction and sanity. A bold and moving novel in which pain is the catalyst for a literary journey about family, memory, and what we can learn from death.

Countries where the rights have been sold: Spain \& Latin America (Literature Random House, 2023); USA (Two Lines Press )

Publisher: Casanovas \& Lynch Agencia Literaria Representation for Spanish and Latin American authors on the worldwide stage and for foreign publishers and agencies in Spanish and Portuguese-speaking countries.

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Contact: María Juncosa [juncosa@casanovaslynch.com] Phone: (+34) 932124791

Reviews and awards: "A monumental story that lies between social criticism and the exploration of the primitive forces of existence. Navarro is one of the great Spanish writers of today. A precise and accurate surgeon of the most hidden emotions." Vilas "Deeply original... Navarro shines once again. " ABC cultural.

## BOOK REVIEW

## US

## Author: Manuel Vilas

From the reader report by: Kathleen Monaghan

Us would be an excellent candidate for translation into English. A story about the nature of the love between two people, the difference between the fantasy of love, the memory of love, grief, mourning, and mental illness. The subject matter would travel well in the United States because the themes are universal.

The overall idea of the book seems to concern a woman of 50 who is processing the grief of having recently been widowed by taking a trip around the Mediterranean coast of Spain and Italy. As the novel progresses, however, the reader slowly starts to realize that the main character, Irene, is not exactly who she thinks she is, and that her memories of her past are not reliable, and that this is not the novel one expected it to be.

The themes of grief and loss and the mind's ways of processing them are treated in a mysterious and original way in this novel.

## CASANOVAS \& LYNCH AGENCIA LITERARIA

| Title | US <br> Nosotros |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Author | Manuel Vilas | Year of publication 2023 |
| Genre | Literature | Language Spanish |
| Pages | 368 | Spanish retail price $21.50 €$ |
| ISBN | 978-84-23362-75-2 |  |

Author's biography: Manuel Vilas (Barbastro, 1962), narrator and poet, is truly ahead of his time. He is the author of three short story collections and several novels, including Ordesa (2018), an autobiographical novel that surprised critics and Spanish readers with an honesty rarely found in literature. It sold over 250,000 copies worldwide and won the coveted Prix Fémina Étranger in 2019. That same year, Alegría, a Planeta Award finalist, was published, followed by Los Besos (2021). In 2023, his latest novel We won the Nadal Prize, one of the oldest and most prestigious literary awards in Spain. His collection of poems Resurrección (2005) received the XV Jaime Gil de Biedma Poetry Prize, and Calor (2008) won the VI Fray Luis de León Prize, earning rave reviews and being considered one of the best books of the year according to Quimera magazine. He currently lives in lowa, where he teaches creative writing.

Synopsis: Irene is sure that she has lived the most perfect marriage in the world. She remembers her relationship with Marcelo, her late husband, as years of absolute dedication and passion between two human beings. Her connection astonished even those closest to them; they were a couple who lived for each other, as if for them every day was the first. Their relationship, the greatest of love stories, kept them isolated from others, on the margin of society. After having lost Marcelo, Irene's world is destroyed, but she discovers an unusual way to continue having him by his side, so she can go on. This way of reminiscing and evoking the memories of who was the love of her life creates this literary fantasy. Exploring the limits of love as a feeling, US is a journey into the innermost depths of the soul of a woman trapped in an intimate, imaginative, deadly utopia. However, little by little we will discover that loneliness conquers and destroys.

Countries where the rights have been sold: Spain \& Latin America (Literature Random House, 2023); USA (Two Lines Press )

Publisher: Casanovas \& Lynch Agencia Literaria
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Contact: María Juncosa [juncosa@casanovaslynch.com]
Phone: (+34) 932124791
Reviews and awards: An accessible, wisely crafted novel. Every single thing that is revealed to us bears the grace of a cultured, intelligently structured novel-La Vanguardia

## BOOK REVIEW

## THE SEVENTH CHORD

Author: Manuel Ramos Ramos<br>From the reader report by: Philippe Lançon

This deliberately sentimental coming-of-age novel, which flirts with clichés, could appeal to young readers, but also to not so young ones. He uses storytelling to familiarize us with flamenco, its different forms, the spirit that animates it and the great musicians who have been able to give it shape. The preface is an interview with one of them, Vicente Amigo. To be translated, in a collection for young people.

| Title | THE SEVENTH CHORD <br> La séptima cuerda |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Manuel Ramos Ramos | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 218 | Spanish retail price | $18.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $997-84-124-8520-2$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Manuel Ramos Ramos was born in Seville in 1974 and has always been insatiably curious when it comes to studying and experimenting with anything that captures his imagination. He has written and directed six short films, winning prestigious prizes including the RTVA Andalusian audiovisual project prize and a nomination for the Academy of Andalusian Cinema's Carmen awards. He has conducted workshops alongside notable directors including Benito Zambrano, Antonio Cuadri, Pablo Berger, Gracia Querejeta, Theo Court and Fernando Franco. He has also led two international workshops at the prestigious San Antonio de los Baños International School of Film and Television in Cuba. He has published four books embracing diverse genres including historical novels, short stories, micro-fiction and flamenco novels.

Synopsis: La séptima cuerda ('The Seventh Chord') is a novel about flamenco which recounts the challenges faced by a young guitarist in his quest to master this complex art. With forewords by Eva Yerbabuena, Rocío Márquez and Vicente Amigo, we are drawn into the search for the spirit of flamenco alongside characters including Estrella Morente, Carmen Linares, Javier Barón, Arcángel and many other artists who will help us gain a better understanding of this music which originated over a thousand years ago. Each chapter is accompanied by illustrations by Patricio Hidalgo and begins with the lyrics to a flamenco piece. From the third edition onward, QR codes allow the reader to listen to the pieces, making this novel into an educational resource where fiction and reality meet.

Publisher: Colibrí Ediciones
Colibrí Ediciones is an independent publishing house based in Seville that aims to serve as a benchmark for the world of Flamenco literature. It also publishes poetry, narrative works and graphic novels.

Publishing rights available from: Colibrí Films S.L. - CIF B90488776 Pasaje Honorio, 14, Dos Hermanas, 41089, Sevilla www.colibrifilms.es
Contact: Manuel Ramos Ramos [ produccion@colibrifilms.es] Phone: (+34) 655390737

Comments: The novel has been incorporated into the Andalusian education system over the past five years, proving particularly successful with students aged twelve and upward.

## BOOK REVIEW

## COME HOME LITTLE EGG!

Author: Lilith Moscón<br>From the reader report by: Cat Mansfield

This would be a fun picture book to read with babies and toddlers. The young readers will no doubt find it funny to see the "egg" magically turn out to be a cat, the moon etc. Flaps are always popular, and these ones are particularly clever as they transform the image from one thing to another.

The language is very simple, making this good to read with the
youngest readers who are just acquiring language.
It is brightly coloured (oranges, yellow, red, blue, white and green), with clear bold lines, making it quite attractive for a small child to pick up.

The image of Juana hugging her chick at the end is very sweet and could be a nice opportunity for a hug at bedtime with your baby.

| Title | COME HOME LITTLE EGG! <br> ¡Vuelve a casa, huevo! |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Lilith Moscón | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 14 | Spanish retail price | $12.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-91018-26-1$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Lilith Moscón is a writer and drama therapist. She has published other children's books with various publishers like A buen paso, Einaudi Ragazzi, Eli Edizioni, Libri Liberi, and Telos.
www.lilithmoscon.com
Synopsis: We don't always find exactly what we're looking for... Lift the flaps on the pages of this book and join Juana the hen as she tries to find her lost egg. A story that is revealed as the flaps are opened and that finishes on a tender, caring note.

Publisher: Editorial Casals
Combel and Bambú are both imprints of Editorial Casals, SA. For more than a century, Casals has been committed to fostering culture through reading, as well as promoting growth and personal development through education, at home and in school, based on values, creativity, and quality.

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Phone: (+34) 932449550

## BOOK REVIEW

## DISTANT TONGUE

## Author: Julia Rendón

From the reader report by: Antônio Xerxenesky

The novel reads like an open wound: sensitive and gushing with lyricism, it's a portrait of that very rootlessness, of mothering in a foreign place and between languages-English, Spanish, and the father's Catalan-and the weight of the choices a mother makes, or doesn't, in trying to provide the best life for her child. Sara is surrounded by other parents and children as she attends to Lola's social life, leading into thoughtful reflections on the microaggressions of other parents (a seeming obsession with Lola being Spanish, as if they forget she's half-Equatorian), their expectations for their children (Sara gives Spanish lessons to a peculiar young boy whose mother wants him to keep up his Spanish, less because it will provide a connection to his family past than because it will set him up a for a successful future at Columbia, where a second language is required), and their ease and confidence in this place that Sara will never feel settled in.

Lengua ajena is a strong book. It carves out a place of its own among recent literature which seeks to complicate facile notions of womanhood and motherhood and shows Rendón to be a great storyteller and a writer to look out for.

## DE CONATUS

| Title | DISTANT TONGUE <br> Lengua ajena |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Julia Rendón | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 160 | Spanish retail price | $17.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17375-82-9$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Julia Rendón is an Ecuadorian who lives in Spain. She has a degree in literature and has published four books. She teaches creative writing and has worked in Boston, New York and Buenos Aires.
www.deconatus.com/libros/lengua-ajena/
Synopsis: A young Ecuadorian woman has a daughter with a Catalan banker and, in the middle of our broken contemporary society, tries to put an end to her family's cycle of emigration that has been ongoing since the Second World War and Nazi-occupied Vienna. A powerful array of uncontrollable images from the family's memories appear each day in a New York life marked by lack of love, growth and the search for a new life. Thought tries to follow a discourse that functions as a protective sheet while the vital impulses of youth overcome their sexual, amorous and family impulses. This is s a debut novel from an original writer who creates a text whose linguistic potential dazzles, which emerges as if from the depths of a need to name the world.

## Publisher: De Conatus

De Conatus is a publishing house that publishes the most literary and avant-garde contemporary literature.

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Contact: Beatriz Gonzalez Goce [Beatrizgonzalez@deconatus.com]
Phone: (+34) 655639868
Reviews and prizes: Lengua Ajena is the child, says Julia Rendón Abrahamson, "of my controllable desire to explain the world to myself through writing." Motherhood, identity, love, lack of affection, family are explained in this exceptionally written book." Rendón Abrahamson, breakthrough author, latinoamericana22

Comments: "Using brilliant prose, Julia Rendón Abrahamson recounts the life of a single mother in New York."

## BOOK REVIEW

## OCEANIC

Author: Yolanda González<br>From the reader report by: Suky Taylor

The language and style of the Spanish text also strongly reflect the themes of the book. The sheer immensity is apparent in the author's descriptions and the way she evokes all the senses in the scenes she creates. The flow of the language is almost visible as the pounding and vast movement of the waves and the journey of the whales; in its rhythm and repetition, with depth and musicality, and a sadness that is essential to the story and which would obviously have to be as integral to the translated English as in the original Spanish. It would require skills from the translator in creating an equivalent sense, which uses precise images and notes yet is not lost in the description and the torment behind the words. These underflowing emotions are also contrasted in the text with a sharp vision that critiques have described as political satire, and that brings modern hypocrisies into the light. This is all compressed in the drama of two plots into a tense thriller that leaves the reader deeply immersed throughout the book, both emotionally and intellectually. The style of the book is a series of contrasts and flow, combined and chopped up by its structure, language and story to create an all-encompassing experience for the reader. The task of the translator would be to penetrate and decipher all this, and then to reweave it in order to reproduce the narrative in English.

## PUBLISHED IN NEW SPANISH BOOKS UK

## DE CONATUS

| Title | OCEANIC <br> Oceánica |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Yolanda González | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 336 | Spanish retail price | $19.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17375-66-9$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Yolanda González has a degree in Arabic literature. She worked as a literary critic for El País and teaches creative writing. She has published four books and has won the Café Gijon book prize.

Synopsis: In August 2019, on the eve of the G7 summit, a whale becomes stranded on the beach at Hondarribia. Is it a cry from nature in the form of an awkward uninvited guest at a party for the rich? Or a ploy by anti-establishment groups, accusing the governments of ecocide? In either case, forty tons of animal carcass represent a public health risk. It is imperative to investigate the reasons behind the whale's death and find those responsible. Meanwhile, a chorus of anonymous voices sail the same ocean five centuries earlier, during the start of the great whale hunt. A novel about the dramatic state of our oceans which explores new environmental concerns and makes us face up to the deep contradictions in our ethics and our politics.

Publisher: De Conatus
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Phone: (+34) 655639868

## BOOK REVIEW

## OKO ISLAND

Author: Katia Klein | Rut Pedreño<br>From the reader report by: Joe Williams

This book is a quirky and humorous book for young children, complete with illustrations that harmonize well with the offbeat story, eccentric characters and the whimsical world which they inhabit, to produce a work that feels congruent and cohesive.

The book is very light on text, and the visual elements appear to be its main focus. Indeed, significant sections of it consist exclusively of images. The narrative, such as it is, is also very simple and seems secondary to the visual aesthetics, and the book feels more like a portrait of a colourful and vibrant world inhabited by whimsical and eccentric characters, who are all animals.

## ECC EDICIONES

| Title | OKO ISLAND <br> La isla de OkO |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Katia Klein \| Rut Pedreño | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 64 | Spanish retail price | $15,95 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-19920-88-1$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Katia Klein (Santander, 1986) is an actor, illustrator, and screenwriter. She lives in Madrid, was born in Santander but spent her childhood in Barcelona. A professional actor since the age of fifteen, she has worked not only on several popular TV series but also in theatre and cinema. A self-taught illustrator she has exhibited her work successfully on various forums. Her paintings and illustrations are characterised by their freshness, vitality, and creativity, as well as a very personal use of colour.
www.aidunnou.com
Rut Pedreño (Valladolid, 1996) is a comic book illustrator and author. After graduating in fine arts from the Complutense University, Madrid, in 2018 she returned to her native city to develop her career.

Synopsis: Oko and Leo are half-brothers. Oko, the oldest, is in a music band with a bird, he loves skateboarding, and playing Animalemon cards with his friends. Leo is a huge blue tiger, a joker, and he hates Sundays. Oko loves having two families and when he goes to Leo's house, he always has a fantastic time.

Publisher: ECC Ediciones
A comic book publisher.
Publishing rights available from: El Catálogo del Cómic S.L - CIF B60977527
Santa Tecla 1, $1^{\circ}$, 08012 Barcelona www.eccediciones.com
Contact: Marina Bladé [marina.blade@eccediciones.com]
Phone: (+34) 663993569
Reviews and prizes: Finalist for the Golden Pinwheel Young illustrators Competition 2021 (China); 40 Salón del Cómic Barcelona illustrator's prize for best children's comic.

40 Salón del Cómic Barcelona prize for the best children and young adult's comic; 40 Comic Barcelona nomination for best children and young adult's comic

Comments: A comic that uses the power of imagination to combat boredom and make life fun. A fast-paced story with two engaging characters, Ollie and Flip, on an adventure that culminates in an explosion of colour.

## MALVARINA. I WANT TO BE A WITCH

Author: Susanna Isern | Laura Proietti<br>From the reader report by: Miriam Tobin

Malvarina is an endearing and spirited narrator whose sense of fun brightens the darkness of the story and its setting. She manages to approach all her witchy tasks in a unique way and become her own distinct brand of witch. The writing is bright and witty, zipping along in a lively manner and the message that it's ok to do things your own way is certainly a lovely one. Her narrative voice is perfectly pitched and creates a sense of collusion with readers who she addresses directly with little asides, tempting them to look through the keyhole into illustrations of the secret laboratory, for example. The effect of this narrative voice is to successfully appeal to children's sense of adventure and encourage them to be brave and join her on this journey. The accompanying illustrations are fun and characterful, depicting the distinct appearances of the three witches, the castle's intricate interior with labels to point out all its features, and the various comic moments in Malvarina's education to become a witch. There are also tender touches such as the introductory image of Malvarina herself which includes a label indicating her fear which she's hiding inside. There is plenty to look at, explore and enjoy for readers in the target age group.

## EDITORIAL FLAMBOYANT

| Title | MALVARINA. I WANT TO BE A WITCH <br> Malvarina. Quiero ser bruja |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Susanna Isern \| Laura Proietti | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 116 | Spanish retail price | $14.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-18304-66-8$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Susanna Isern is a writer, psychologist, and mother to three children. Since her first picture book went on sale in 2011, she hasn't stopped writing for children. Her work has been translated into more than fifteen languages and is sold across the globe. Her books have also won multiple prizes.

Synopsis: It all happened in a valley. But not just any valley, in fact, it was in an enchanted valley. A valley ruled by three thoroughly wicked witches who were famous and feared because of their spine-chilling spells. Yes, I know your hair must be on end, perhaps your teeth have begun to chatter... But if you, like me, want to become a real witch you will have ventured to knock on the door of the Forbidden Castle... A book aimed at kids where the main character, Malvarina, tries to learn how to be a witch but following her own rules, which, of course, attracts the attention of the three wicked witches. An unconventional character, little Malvarina's innocence and courage will find her a place in the heart of every reader. A witches cat...? No, Malvarina must have a rabbit. Flying on a broomstick...? That's just so uncomfortable, Malvarina prefers a flying carpet. Will Malvarina be able to become the witch she wants to be?

Publisher: Editorial Flambloyant
Picture books by the best national and international authors and illustrators. We aim to cover the needs of children, parents, and teachers as we contribute to the intellectual development of children: awakening their imagination and artistic sensibilities, fostering their sense of empathy, enriching their world view, providing emotional education, and helping them to form their own ideas.

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## BOOK REVIEW

## IM-PERFECT

## Author: Zuriñe Aguirre

From the reader report by: Mr. Ei Nakayama

In this eccentric story, the main character is a group of graffiti-like lines named Gargot (Scribble), who lives on the tip of a pencil. The pencil itself with its face on is therefore easily recognized, but Gargot has no eyes or mouth, so it is difficult for children to perceive the main character as a "person" in the same way. The book's message that perfection is not necessary and that everyone is attractive precisely because it's not perfect may not be easily understood when read only once or twice. However, the work has a fun and endearing appeal to children, whose eyes will wander from one scene to the next as a variety of objects are carefully depicted, including in the backgrounds: "scribbled" clothes, a girl, a cat, a vacuum cleaner, a broom, an outlet, a chimney, a ship, a classroom, and many more.

## EDICIONS BROMERA

| Title | IM-PERFECT <br> Im-perfecte |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Zuriñe Aguirre | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Catalan |
| Pages | 40 | Spanish retail price | $15.95 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-13584-24-9$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Zuriñe Aguirre is an illustrator and designer. Many people call her Zu. She was born in Vitoria, Spain, and now lives in Seville. She loves drawing, India ink, textures, textile design, children's stories, things that are different and special... And her favourite character is Mafalda. She loves light and shadow, colours that convey joy and peacefulness, playing with silences and noises in her illustrations and the different challenges of each project. She is in love with pattern design, and she applies it to her creations. She enjoys giving children's illustration and pattern design classes at the University of Fine Arts in Seville.
www.zuaguirre.es
Synopsis: Doodle (Garabato) lives inside the point of a pencil. He is very shy and doesn't want to leave his hideout, because he feels there's something wrong with him: all day he sees marvellous shapes go by. Until one day, the pencil makes him see that, despite not being as prefect as a circle or a square he can be very original. Because being an imperfect being is an opportunity to discover what we want to be. An allegorical tale that shows us that we are all imperfect because we are all different.

Publisher: Edicions Bromera
Founded in 1986, Edicions Bromera offers a catalogue of 4,000 titles published in Catalan in 30 different collections constituting a selection of the best literature for children, young adults, and adults with open minds.

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Contact: Carol Borràs [carol@bromera.com]
Phone: (+34) 962-402-254
Critical reception and prizes: 4th Algar children's literature prize, 2022
Comments: An allegorical tale that shows us that we are all imperfect because we are all different.

## BOOK REVIEW

## MATER

## Author: Martí Domínguez

From the reader report by: Ms. Akiko Sato

This excellent science fiction adventure story kept me on my toes until the very end. A nearfuture society is described, in which far more advanced forms of technology such as artificial intelligence and robots are already in practical use. This society seems to be less than ideal, despite several characters in the story being thankful for it. The work also describes a "city" where Al and robots perform jobs, where people have lost the meaning of life, and where the suicide rate is high. Despite the science fiction setting, the work makes us think deeply about the issues of modern society, motherhood, religion, and technology. It personally reminded me of "Never Let Me Go" by Kazuo Ishiguro.

## EDICIONS PROA

| Title | MATER <br> Mater |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Martí Domínguez | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Catalan |
| Pages | 384 | Spanish retail price | $20.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-75889-85-6$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Martí Domínguez (1966) is a professor of journalism at the University of Valencia. He won the National Prize for Journalism for his work as editor in chief of the scientific magazine Método. His novels include Las confidencias del conde de Buffon ('Count Buffon's Secrets'), El secreto de Goethe ('Goethe's Secret'), El regreso de Voltaire ('Voltaire's Return’), El fracasado ('The Failure), La siega ('The Harvest'), El asesino que amaba los libros ('The Killer Who Loved Books') and El espíritu del tiempo ('The Spirit of Time’), which won the 2019 Òmnium prize for best novel. He won the IV Proa novel prize for Mater in 2022. He is also the author of the essay El sueño de Lucrecio ('Lucretius' Dream'), which won the Carles Rahola prize.

Synopsis: In the new society described in Mater, pregnancy takes place outside the female body. So, when, to her surprise, Zoe discovers that she's pregnant, she decides to run away with a friend and go into the woods where small colonies of humans still remain, hidden and persecuted, beyond the reach of scientific progress. The contrast between these two worlds is disturbing. In this passionate and vibrant adventure, Martí Dominguez asks the key questions at the heart of human nature and sings a hymn to motherhood as the great origin of everything.

Publisher: Edicions Proa
Proa is considered a benchmark brand in the country's literary landscape. Its various imprints have published and disseminated works by Jaume Cabré, Joan F. Mira, Pep Coll, Joan Margarit, Ramon Solsona and universal classics like The Odyssey, One Thousand and One Nights, Montaigne's essays and Dante's Divine Comedy along with great works from contemporary literature.

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## A HUG FOR SPIKE!

Author: Juani Velilla<br>From the reader report by: Ms.Yuko Wada

Despite the surprisingly large number of picture books featuring hedgehogs, this book is unique in that the educational aspect is strongly emphasized, which is not evident in other "hedgehog" books. It conveys the author's abundant desire that we accept ourselves, realize the importance of friendship, and understand the benefits of hugs. This is partly because the author is an educator with a degree in educational psychology and works in a public school in Madrid. Despite the lack of a hugging custom in Japan, the story is enjoyable and would be widely accepted in this country. It could be used in educational settings for children to think about self-acceptance overall.

## EDITORIAL BABIDI-BÚ LIBROS

| Title | A HUG FOR SPIKE! <br> iUn abrazo para Púas! |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Juani Velilla | Year of publication | 2018 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 38 | Spanish retail price | $14.96 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-18017-98-8$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Juani Velilla has a degree in psycho-pedagogy (specializing in guidance and counselling), and a teaching diploma (infant school). Her passion for writing stories started when she was a child. She loves writing stories, poems, and songs for her students. A lover of children's literature, she directs the "Cuentos para Dragoncitos" (Stories for little dragons) blog where she publishes reviews of stories and interviews with writers. Her objective is to introduce children to literature so they will learn to love stories from the youngest age and become avid readers as adults. She writes articles for a cultural magazine in London.

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www.juanivelilla.com
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Synopsis: Spike is a little hedgehog who wants to hug his friends but he's afraid of hurting them with his bristles. Every time he thinks about hugging his friends his head fills with negative thoughts that stop him from going ahead. He is so miserable that he hatches a crazy plan: he will get rid of his bristles! He has it all figured out. What he doesn't realise is that his friends do too. Will Spike finally get to hug his woodland friends?

Publisher: Editorial BABIDI-BÚ Libros
BABIDI-BÚ was founded in 2013 and publishes books for children and young adults. We specialise in publishing hardback books. We focus on the theme of implicit values publishing titles about the management of emotions, diversity, transgender issues, and respect for the environment.

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Contact: Paz Mateo [paz@babidibulibros.com] Phone: (+34) 653754771

Comments: A warming, entertaining story about friendship and the importance of hugs that promotes values essential to the emotional development of children such as accepting others exactly as they are and forming high self-esteem.

## BOOK REVIEW

## FISH

Author: Emilio Urberuaga | Javier Zabala<br>From the reader report by: Katharina Diestelmeier

The publisher advertises the title as a story of self-realization according to the motto "You can achieve anything if you just want to". I read the book more as a funny, absurd, almost Dadaist narrative that is just so fun, without any profound message.

The illustrations are quite versatile, sometimes rather large, sometimes quite small, always in strong colors. Different techniques such as watercolour or collage alternate and there are echoes of Matisse, but also of Eric Carle or David McKee, to whom the book is dedicated.

I really liked the title and I think it's also suitable for the German market - maybe not for the masses, but as an extraordinary picture book.

## EDITORIAL BULULÚ

| Title | FISH |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  | Pez |  |  |
| Author | Emilio Urberuaga \| Javier Zabala | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 32 | Spanish retail price | $17.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-18667-39-8$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Emilio González Urberuaga (Madrid 1954) He has published more than a hundred titles, as the author of the illustrations and as the author of the texts. His work is exhibited in top-level art centers, being the only Spanish illustrator with work in the Chihiro Art Museum in Tokyo. He has been awarded the National Illustration Award in 2011.

Javier Zabala (León, 1962) has illustrated more than 80 books, some of which he is also the author of the text. He has published with some of the most prestigious publishers in the world and his books have been translated into 18 languages. His awards include the National Illustration Prize 2005 and two Honorable Mentions at the Bologna International Fair Awards in 2005 and 2008. In 2015 he received a Golden Apple at the Bratislava Biennale and won the Golden Medal of Times Illustration Book Award 2016, in China.
www.javierzabala.com
Synopsis: PEZ is a non-conformist, and neither the sea, nor the land, nor the sky are enough to drown his desire to explore and explore beaches and streets in an ironic hymn to freedom, creativity and personal development of a crazy coelacanth who lives without the ties of 'political correctness'.

Publisher: Editorial Bululú
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Reviews and prizes: Selected for The BRAW Amazing Bookshelf - Bologna Ragazzi Award 2023 Purple Island Award at Nami Concours 2023 Nominated for the Grand Prize of the 2023 Bratislava Biennale of Illustration

## HOMO IMPERFECTUS

## Author: María Martinón-Torres

From the reader report by: Mr. Takahiko Ueno

Scientific books on "imperfect creatures" have become popular in recent years, suggesting the paradox that biological evolution, which appears to be a "failure" or an "inconvenience," is actually important for survival and adaptation to the environment. This book also attempts to reconsider the seemingly "imperfect" shortcomings of humankind. However, the work's true uniqueness lies in the author's use of his humanistic background to write in depth about a wider range of topics than other similar books do while drawing on his experiences as an internationally active researcher and accompanying these with the titles of literary works and films.

## EDICIONES DESTINO

| Title | HOMO IMPERFECTUS <br> Homo imperfectuS |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | María Martinón-Torres | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Technical Scientist | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 272 | Spanish retail price | $18.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-23361-55-7$ |  |  |

Author's biography: María Martinón-Torres (Ourense, 1974) holds a European PhD in Medicine and Surgery and specialises in Human Evolution from the University of Bristol and in Forensic Anthropology from the Complutense University of Madrid. She is currently the director of the National Centre for Research on Human Evolution (CENIEH) and honorary professor in the Department of Anthropology at University College London. She has been a member of the Atapuerca research team since 1998 and co-principal investigator of the Atapuerca Project since 2019. His research focuses on the evolution of early hominids from Asia and Europe and the study of disease in the past. Of particular note is his proposal of an Asian origin for the first European hominids and the recent publication in Nature of the oldest human burial site in Africa, which earned the cover of the magazine.

Synopsis: Why do we get sick? Why do we age? Why does a species that presumes to be adapted live with suffering on a daily basis? Why hasn't natural selection eliminated the disease? Is evolution a botch? In this book, María Martinón-Torres invites the reader to delve into the darkest corners of our biology to discover that what we had catalogued as imperfections hide key aspects of the adaptive success of Homo sapiens. In the light of evolutionary theory, the great evils of the human being - cancer, infections, disorders of the immune system, anxiety, cardiovascular accidents, neurodegenerative conditions, old age or the fear of death - chronicle the struggle of our species to survive in a changing world.

Publisher: Ediciones Destino
Since its creation in 1942, Ediciones Destino has published the most important Spanish writers of the second half of the 20th century.

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## SANDUNGA

## Author: Mateo Miguel

From the reader report by: Ms. Maki Miyazaki

This is truly a "drunken" novel. However, it is not merely "drunk;" the entire novel is shaking, unstable, and elusive. It is unclear whether it is reality, illusion, delusion, or a tall tale, and of course, there is no explanation. This is both the charm and the difficulty of the novel. The story centers on the life of an Indian man from a village in Oaxaca, Mexico. This novel focuses on a typical large multi-generational family in Latin America, which ranges from the man's grandmother, father, and child to his grandchild. Furthermore, woven into the story and adding depth to it is the historical and cultural background, beginning with the Mexican Revolution experienced by his grandmother. Although this may not be for everyone, the novel will appeal to those who enjoy experimental literature.

## EDITORIAL DRÁCENA

| Title | SANDUNGA <br> Sandunga |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Mateo Miguel | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 224 | Spanish retail price | $15.95 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-12493-26-9$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Mateo Miguel was born in 1960 in Mexico City. He studied biology at the National Autonomous University of Mexico and also took various biochemistry courses at the Centre for Research and Advanced Studies at the National Polytechnic Institute. He became involved in publishing at a young age and even took a diploma at the Writers' School of the Sociedad General de Escritores de México. He has edited magazines, science and general interest books and has written various reports, accounts and interviews. He also wrote short stories that were printed in various newspapers and cultural supplements. In 1997 he won the Efraín Huerta National Short Story Prize for A las puertas de su casa ("At the Doors of His House" 2007). His other (unpublished) collection of short stories is Paisajes interiores ("Interior Landscapes"). He published his first novel, Negro corazón ("Black Heart" in 2016 and is now ready to share his second novel, Sandunga.

Synopsis: Sandunga prays each morning: "give us each day our daily alcohol, don't abandon us during the night or the day" and then, having had his first slug of aguardiente, goes out to do as he wants, without pressure, without a goal, going with the flow. This is the plotless plot of this magnificent novel - with frequent tragedies, but always seen and narrated under the influence of his incredible delirium. As a result, Sandunga sits alongside other notable novels set in Mexico, such as Under the Volcano by Malcolm Lowry or Héctor Vázquez Azpiri's Spanish-language Fauna, both interwoven with drunken binges. Sandunga lies somewhere between poignancy and hilarity, but is also a surprisingly lively experience.

Publisher: Editorial Drácena
Drácena's goal is to publish previously published texts that have become lost over time, and, of course, as many previously unpublished ones as we like, with the sole condition that they must originally have been written in Spanish.

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## BOOK REVIEW

## TROUBLED DAYS

## Author: Antón Riveiro Coello

From the reader report by: Philippe Lançon

Each short story is so gripping that it invariably pushes the reader to move forward in this labyrinth of emotions. Yet, despite the darkness of the human experiences of inconceivable cruelty that are recounted in it, the haunting presence of children and women, of intergenerational solidarity, does not exclude tenderness, love and friendship that find their place even in horror, whether under the bombs of the Mariupol theater or in a poor Vietnamese village occupied by the Americans during the Vietnam War.

## EDITORIAL GALAXIA

| Title | TROUBLED DAYS <br> Días de intemperie |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Antón Riveiro Coello | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Galician |
| Pages | 120 | Spanish retail price | $16.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-91519-07-2$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Riveiro Coello (Xinzo de Limia, 1964) is currently one of the most highly regarded authors in Galician narrative literature and has won all of the major prizes. Particularly noteworthy examples of his works, which have been translated into various different languages, are Valquiria ("Valkyrie", 1996), winner of the Camilo José Cela prize; Parque Central e outros relatos ("Central Park and Other Stories", 1996); A historia de Chicho Antela ("The Story of Chico Antela", 1997); A quinta de Saler ("Saler's Fifth", Galaxia, 1999), shortlisted for the Torrente Ballester prize; Animalia ("Animal", Galaxia, 1999), winner of the Café Dublín prize; As rulas de Bakunin ("Bakunin’s Rules", Galaxia, 2000), winner of the García Barros prize; Homónima ("Homonym", Galaxia, 2001), winner of the Álvaro Cunqueiro prize; Cartafol do Barbanza ("The Barbanza Folder", 2002); A esfinxe de amaranto ("The Amaranth Sphynx", Galaxia, 2003); Limaiaé (2005); Casas Baratas ("Cheap Houses", Galaxia, 2005); A voz do lago ("The Voice of the Lake", Galaxia, 2007); Os ollos de K ("K’s Eyes", Galaxia, 2007), shortlisted for the Casino de Santiago European novel prize; As pantasmas de auga ("The Water Ghosts", 2010); Laura no deserto ("Laura in the Desert", Galaxia, 2011), winner of the Premio da Crítica Española, the AELG prize for narrative and the Frei Martín prize.

Synopsis: Cities, fidelity, homosexuality, cowardice, vengeance, loss of identity, the love of books, smuggling and orphanhood are some of the themes that comprise this extraordinary book, whose backdrop is always the war. As he has done in previous works, Antón Riveiro Coello puts his characters in extreme situations to show us both the best and the worst of ourselves. Challenging stories that force us to look in the mirror and consider the role we might play in conflicts as diverse as those featured in these stories. And it doesn't matter whether the war plays out in Ukraine, Syria, Russia, Vietnam or the border between Galicia and Portugal. The important thing about these stories is moving result of powerful writing which, once again, strips the characters bare and leaves them in a period of trouble that could well be our own.

Publisher: Editorial Galaxia S.A.
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## BOOK REVIEW

## A CITY ON MARS

Author: Sheddad Kaid-Salah Ferrón | Guillem Anglada-Escudé | Miquel Sureda Anfres | Eduard Altarriba i Bigas<br>From the reader report by: Mr. Sohei Kunisada

This book explains in plain language difficult topics related to space engineering and environmental engineering. The text is accompanied by illustrations that make it easy to visualize the content. Overall, it will be an excellent resource for children in Japan, many of whom are familiar with manga, to familiarize themselves with natural science. Furthermore, the rich content of the book will satisfy the intellectual curiosity of adults, while anyone with an interest in astrophysics will find it a stimulating read. The book has no guiding character, as many Japanese science books for children do; nor does it have a Martian or science fiction-like storyline. It contains a series of simple explanations of physical laws and introductions to data, and the content is very straightforward. However, the beauty of the stylish illustrations makes the reader want to keep turning the pages. The unique atmosphere of the illustrations is one of the book's main characteristics. If this book were displayed in the bookstore section of science books for children, it would also attract the attention of adults.

## EDITORIAL JUVENTUD

| Title | A CITY ON MARS <br> Una ciudad en Marte |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Several authors | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Children \& Youth | Language | Catalan |
| Pages | 56 | Spanish retail price | $19.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-26148-35-3$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Physicist and PhD in Aerospace Engineering, but I am also interested in art in its many expressions, philosophy, palindromes,... For some years now I have been combining my work at the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya with my passion for scientific dissemination. I write on this blog, give lectures and hover among interesting people to never stop learning.
www.gaiaciencia.com
Synopsis: Humans are curious animals. The desire to know and the search for new resources have pushed us to climb mountains, conquer the poles or cross immense seas. This tireless search has taken us all the way into space. Beyond that, the final frontier awaits: Mars. Science, technology and imagination accompany us on a spectacular journey to get to know the Red Planet and discover what life will be like for its first inhabitants. Mars gives us the opportunity to start from scratch... Ready for launch? A book written by eminences in the field.

Publisher: Editorial Juventud
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## IN THE WOLF'S DEN

## Author: Elvira Lindo

From the reader report by: Sabine Giersberg

A clear recommendation. With her successful psychogram, in which reality and fantasy merge, Elvira Lindo has prepared a complex and topical topic in such a way that it "grabs" the reader. At the same time, it is largely a very poetic book, in which nature unfolds a great, one might almost say healing, effect. In short: a book that resonates for a long time. And the translation of which is certainly a pleasure. May it soon conquer the German book market and inspire many readers.

## EDICIONES DESTINO

$\left.\begin{array}{rlrl}\text { Title } & \text { IN THE WOLF'S DEN } & & \\ & \text { En la boca del lobo }\end{array}\right)$

Author's biography: Elvira Lindo was born in Cádiz in 1962. She studied journalism at the Complutense University of Madrid and in 1981 she began working for Radio Nacional de España, where she worked as a scriptwriter, announcer, commentator and presenter, tasks that she repeated in Cadena SER and on television. It was in the radio scripts that the character of Manolito Gafotas emerged and, since the publication of the first book in the series in 1994, he has enjoyed enormous success. Her work includes the novels El otro barrio/The other neighbourhood (1998, 2019), Algo más inesperado que la muerte/Something more unexpected than death (2003), adapted for the stage, Lo que me queda por vivir/What I have left to live (2010), Lugares que no quiero compartir con nadie/Places I don't want to share with anyone (2011), Noches sin dormir/Sleepless nights (2015) and A corazón Abierto/Open hearted (2020); the play La ley de la selva/The law of the jungle (1996), her chronicles for El País in Tinto de verano (2001), Otro verano contigo/Another summer with you (2002) and Don de gentes/People person (2011), etc.

> www.elviralindo.com

Synopsis: Julieta and her mother arrive in La Sabina to spend the holidays. At eleven years old, this lost village seems to Julieta the best place to leave behind problems she can't put a name to. That eternal summer, full of first times, she will discover that the foundations of the village are made of secrets and memories; the edges of the forest, of stories and legends; and the hearts of the people of fear, hate, love and hope, the four feelings that nourish her dreams and, also, her worst nightmares. In the wolf's den (En la boca del lobo) emerges from the gaze of an author who has devoted a large part of her work to observing childhood in all its richness, singularity and vulnerability, and shows that the stories we share, and those we tell ourselves, can break the curse of a poisoned inheritance. Elvira Lindo returns to pure fiction, creating a literary territory of her own.

Publisher: Ediciones Planeta
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## THE PIRATE GAMERS 1. DESTINY: MYTHICAL INFINTE

## Author: Roberto Santiago

From the reader report by: Suky Taylor

This book tackles some very relevant issues for today's young people, in a very thorough and multifaceted approach. It would be as appealing and as useful to children with a love of gaming from any Western culture, with its focus on uniting diversity and respecting differences, and would therefore be effective for a UK readership as in Spain. The book meets many of the criteria of what makes popular content in today's society, and is inclusive and far-reaching in its ideas. It shows all the markers of doing well in the English-speaking market, with the added appeal to gamers and lovers of comics in particular.

## EDITORIAL PLANETA

|  | THE PIRATE GAMERS 1. DESTINY: MYTHICAL INFINTE |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Title | LOS Gamers Piratas 1. Destino: Mítica Infinite |  |  |
| Author | Roberto Santiago | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 368 | Spanish retail price | $12.95 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-08260-22-6$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Roberto Santiago is a writer, playwright, and cinema director. He has written fifty novels for children and young adults, including a collection about football and mystery: "Los Futbolísimos" (The Super- Footballers) that has sold four million copies in Spain and has been translated into several languages. He has been awarded several prizes such as the Barco de Vapor and the Edebé prize, for his children's fiction, and the Cervantes Chico prize for his life's work. Among his most well-known films are "El penalti más largo del mundo"(The longest penalty in the world) for which he was nominated for the Goya award for best screenplay; "El Sueño de Iván" (Ivan's dream) which was sponsored by UNICEF due to its appeal to childhood. In 2021 he instigated an incredible project: "el multiverso SUPERHÉROES" (The Superheroes Multiverse), four independent collections with a common strand: the main characters are all children who find out they have superpowers on their eleventh birthdays.
https://es.literaturasm.com/autor/roberto-santiago

Synopsis: Much more than a game. Pegasus and Delta have many things in common. They're shy, they don't make friends easily and both are really good at video games. But they never guessed the Twitch live-streams of them playing Mythical Infinte would go viral worldwide. The day their families organise a surprise party for their eleventh birthdays, everything changes. After a terrible accident at the party, Delta and Pegasus find out that... they have superpowers. They still have no idea how it happened or why, but what's for certain is that they're now very different from everyone else. Soon they will transform into the legendary Pirate Gamers.

Publisher: Ediciones Planeta
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Contact: Jordi Berché Mayoral [jberche@planeta.es]
Phone: (+34) 645188628

## BOOK REVIEW

## THE SEA BEHIND

Author: Ginés Sánchez<br>From the reader report by: Ursula Bachhausen

All in all, El mar detrás is a thoroughly interesting young adult novel that focuses on an urgent, current problem. In contrast to previous titles for young people on the refugee crisis on the German book market, the novel does not approach the topic by describing the causes or the circumstances of the departure, but consistently focuses on the conditions at the external borders of the EU, i.e. at a point in time when the sea is already behind the refugees, as the title of the novel suggests. The intense depiction is certainly designed to captivate young readers. However, the text could still gain if a German version intervened moderately.

## FUNDACIÓN SANTA MARÍA

| Title | THE SEA BEHIND <br> El mar detrás |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Ginés Sánchez | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 184 | Spanish retail price | $12.50 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-13924-33-5$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Ginés Sánchez was born in Murcia in 1967 and spent all of her childhood being a skinny kid with glasses who wouldn't say boo to a goose. Then she studied Law and became a lawyer. But she got bored and so she stopped and went to see the world. She worked in all sorts of places while travelling and as she wended her way she got in training for the moment when she would write. And then she got down to it. Ginés has written several books for 'adults' and The sea behind is her debut novel for children. At present she splits her time between writing and teaching creative writing at the Club Renacimiento. And when she's allowed, she dreams about sea turtles.

Synopsis: If you were lucky enough to cross it, you would leave the sea behind you. In front of you, thousands of shops, filth, monotony, and sadness. Every day is the same as every other... Until one day everything changes. Then you look beyond the shops and the queues, and the billboards. To the mountains. To the future. All you have to do is find a reason to risk it all.

Publisher: Fundación Santa María
From 1978 onwards, Ediciones Santa María began broadening its teaching vocation by creating two collections of high-quality children's and young adult literature: El Barco de Vapor and Gran Angular each of which includes books that make time fly, books that will never lose their relevance or freshness.

Publishing rights available from: Fundación Santa María. - CIF G28534204
Impresores 2, P.E. Prado del Espino 28660 Boadilla del Monte, Madrid
www.literaturasm.com
Contact: Marta Gallas Martínez [marta.gallas@grupo-sm.com]
Phone: (+34) 914226358
Prizes and reviews: Gran Angular Prize 2022.

## THE WINTER OF THE GOLDFINCHES

Author: Mohamed El Morabet<br>From the reader report by: Erin Goodman

The lines of this novel echo the lines of Brahim's early sketches: sometimes blurry, sometimes sharp, often in greyscale, rarely in color, but always replete with humanity and the simple companionship of family and neighbors against the backdrop of a region emerging into the post-Franco era. The settings of Alhucemas and Tetouan are shrouded, intriguing. Like Olga, we wish to discover the people and the place, to truly get to know them, but we find it just beyond reach. Brahim, Olga, and this book have lingered in my mind weeks after I turned the final page.

| Title | THE WINTER OF THE GOLDFINCHES <br> El invierno de los jilgueros |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Mohamed El Morabet | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 288 | Spanish retail price | $20.50 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-19075-38-3$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Born in 1983 in Alhucemas, in the Moroccan Rif, he has lived in Spain since his teens. The Winter of the Goldfinches is his second novel, and the winner of the 2021 Málaga Novel Award. Mohamed El Morabet is a part of a generation of young writers of North African origin, including Narat El Hachmi, who arrived in Spain as children and have chosen to write in the languages of their country, and who have won recognition both inside and outside of Spain.

## https://twitter.com/grupomohamed?lang=es

Synopsis: In the springtime, the goldfinches return to Alhucemas from the desert, the same desert from which Brahim's brother is returning after participating in the Green March. For Brahim, Alhucemas is his home, his habitat; he knows everyone there, and everyone there knows him. His life is spent at school and within the walls of his house, where his mother takes care of him and his older brother. From a very young age, Brahim has learned that death, disease, war, and madness are a part of an apparently simple world -a world in which, however, uncertainty is the only constant. Years later, Brahim goes to study at the School of Fine Arts in Tetouan, where his art teacher Olga has also moved, eager to reconnect with her art far from her native Madrid. Olga and Brahim meet as teacher and student, and from their meeting something is born between them that will change their lives.

Publisher: Galaxia Gutenberg
In recent years, Galaxia Gutenberg has undergone a great expansion over various Latin American countries and is now being distributed in 12 Spanish-speaking countries besides Spain. Moreover, through its Foreign Rights department, Galaxia Gutenberg manages the international rights of many of their authors in order to make them known in languages and territories beyond the reach of the Spanish language. Currently, Galaxia Gutenberg publishes around 75 new books each year, a dozen of which are in Catalan, mainly in the genres of narrative and essay.

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Contact: Nuria Cicero [ncicero@galaxiagutenberg.com]
Phone: (+34) 692094045
Reviews and prizes: 2021 Malaga Novel Award. "Painting is creating space," it is said at one point in this beautiful story by El Morabet, intimate and existentialist in its narrative texture and its descriptive language. This is a novel that tells us that to live is to create one's own space. _Zenda.

Comments: In Morocco, in the era between the mid-1970s and the early 1990s, two brothers struggle to find themselves after the Green March, the death of their mother, and the changing identity of their city. More than a bildungsroman, it portrays unexpected love, and the roles of respect and art in the demolition of borders.

## OF BEASTS AND BIRDS

## Author: Pilar Adón

From the reader report by: Naho Kozukue

Told in past tense and in the third person, this story presents events from the viewpoint of Coro, the main character. The style is sensuous, with many periods and short, simple phrases. Although it may not be to everyone's liking, I found the story easy to get into, although the interpretation is complex. Many elements have symbolic meanings, but these are not made clear in the story. However, the reader's desire to know both the ending and the symbolic interpretation will be enhanced by elements such as the lively writing style, the poor communication with other characters, the seemingly inescapable presence of Betania, and the stagnant lake beneath the house.

| Title | OF BEASTS AND BIRDS <br> De bestias y aves |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Mohamed El Morabet | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 208 | Spanish retail price | $18.50 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-19075-45-1$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Madrid 1971. In 2015 Galaxia Gutenberg published her novel Las efímeras ("A universal writer from her particularity and in the fullness of her talent", Carlos Pardo, Babelia; "It happens to their books that, without forcing them, they talk about literature on their own", Pilar Castro, El Cultural), in 2017 her book of short stories La vida sumergida and in 2022 her novel De bestias y Aves, winner of the 2022 Umbral Prize and the Cálamo Prize "La otra mirada". Her novel Las hijas de Sara (Alianza, 2003) was considered by critics to be one of the ten best of that year. Her book of short stories Innocent Journeys (Páginas de Espuma, 2005) earned her the Ojo Crítico Prize for Narrative. She published the book of short stories El mes más cruel (Impedimenta, 2010), for which she was named New Talent Fnac. She is the author of the poetry collections Da dolor, Las ordenes, Mente animal and La hija del cazador.

## www.pilaradon.com

Synopsis: Nature, a house inhabited only by women who abide by their own rules, and an unknown one. The newcomer is Coro Mae, lost, ends up on a stony path that leads to closed doors; your car runs out of gas; The woman of the city finds herself in the most absolute abandonment, without knowing that she has arrived in Bethany, a house where a group of women live, far from everything, under their own laws. Invited to spend the night, Coro will not be able to leave this wild and matriarchal place, either because of the insistence of Gloria (the one who sleeps in the basement), because of one of the evasiveness of the others, or because of her own inability to recover a life that is fading. Is it being held? Or have you surrendered to the feeling of ignorance? A sensory novel that delves into the territory of the sinister, a state of alert and poetic fear experienced with prehistoric wonder.

Publisher: Galaxia Gutenberg
In recent years, Galaxia Gutenberg has undergone a great expansion over various Latin American countries and is now being distributed in 12 Spanish-speaking countries besides Spain. Moreover, through its Foreign Rights department, Galaxia Gutenberg manages the international rights of many of their authors in order to make them known in languages and territories beyond the reach of the Spanish language. Currently, Galaxia Gutenberg publishes around 75 new books each year, a dozen of which are in Catalan, mainly in the genres of narrative and essay.

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## MADDI AND THE BORDERS

Author: Edurne Portela<br>From the reader report by: James Lyons

I think that this novel would be well received by the American public and should be translated for English speakers. It is paramount that people of the modern era remember how fascism affected average people. The era of the Second World War is fascinating to many Americans and Maddi's story of a smuggler and spy outwitting the invaders while living with them in the same hotel is highly compelling. Her story becomes absolutely rivetting as Maddi takes on increasingly dangerous missions and agonizes over the peril to which she exposes herself and loved ones.

Personally, I loved reading this book. I think it is necessary to make this novel accessible to as many people as possible, particularly the U.S. reading public.

| Title | MADDI AND THE BORDERS |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  | Maddi y las fronteras |  |  |
| Author | Edurne Portela | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 248 | Spanish retail price | $18.50 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-19392-23-7$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Edurne Portela is one of Spain's most talented young writers, and her popularity and recognition have grown incessantly over the last few years. Until 2015, she was a professor of Literature at the University of Lehigh (Pennsylvania), but she decided to forsake her university career in the US and return to Spain to make her living as a writer in a small town in the Sierra de Gredos with a population of ten. Galaxia Gutenberg published her essay "The Echo of the Shots: Culture and Memory of Violence" (2016), as well as three novels: "Better To be Absentt" (2017); "Ways of Being Away" (2019); and "The Eyes Closed" (2021, Euskadi Award to the best novel in Spanish). In 2023, she published her novel Maddi and the Borders, hailed by critics as one of the must-read fiction books of the year. She collaborates with the main Madrid newspapers and with Radio Nacional de España.
www. edurneportela.com
Synopsis: In 2021, Edurne Portela receives a call in which she is offered some historical documents about María Josefa Sansberro, known as Maddi. Maddi, born in Oiartzun in 1895, ran a popular hotel back in the 1930s, at the foot of Mount Larrún, on the border between Spain and France. At first glance, Maddi already seems a disquieting woman, full of contradictions, who has crossed physical and moral limits: a smuggler and a mugalari (Basque word for a person who helped politically persecuted people cross the border between Spain and France); a fervent Catholic yet a divorcée; a childless woman yet a mother, both a Nazi collaborator and an agent of the Resistance. Portela accepts the challenge and follows Maddi's life until her last moments. The result is a gripping novel about a woman who did not conform to the conventions of her time, and who always defied expectations.

Publisher: Galaxia Gutenberg
In recent years, Galaxia Gutenberg has undergone a great expansion over various Latin American countries and is now being distributed in 12 Spanish-speaking countries besides Spain. Moreover, through its Foreign Rights department, Galaxia Gutenberg manages the international rights of many of their authors in order to make them known in languages and territories beyond the reach of the Spanish language. Currently, Galaxia Gutenberg publishes around 75 new books each year, a dozen of which are in Catalan, mainly in the genres of narrative and essay.

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Contact: Nuria Cicero [ncicero@galaxiagutenberg.com]
Phone: (+34) 692094045
Reviews and prizes: "A political thriller that mixes memories, violence and redemption. It addresses with intelligence and sensitivity the difficult subject of historical memory." Eva D. Pérez, El País

## BOOK REVIEW

## CANDY WORDS

Author: Gonzalo Moure<br>From the reader report by: Ms. Naoko Muraoka

The first edition of this book was published in 2002. Since then, over thirty editions have been produced, with a new release issued to celebrate 20 years of its publication. In 2016, a short film based on the book was produced and subsequently nominated for a Goya Award. Having visited refugee camps in Western Sahara for many years, the author was inspired to write this story by a conversation he had with a hearing-impaired girl he met there. Although it describes a harsh reality, the book is full of tenderness, probably because the story is rooted in the author's affection with the people of Western Sahara with whom he has come into contact. In recent years, works for children and YAs on the themes of hearing disorders and sign language have received high acclaim. However, this book offers a new perspective in that it is written from a unique angle, that of a hearing-impaired boy living in a refugee camp.

## GRUPO ANAYA

| Title | CANDY WORDS <br> Candy Words |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Gonzalo Moure | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children \& Youth | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 80 | Spanish retail price | $15.95 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-69891-03-2$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Gonzalo Moure was born in Valencia in 1951. He studied political science and worked in the press and radio from 1973 to 1989. Since then, she has dedicated herself to writing books for adults and for children and young people. He has been awarded important prizes for children's and young people's literature, such as the Jaén Prize, the Barco de Vapor Prize or the Anaya Prize for Children's and Young People's Literature. In recognition of his entire career, in 2017 he was the winner of the Cervantes Chico Prize awarded by the City Council of Alcalá de Henares.

## www.gonzalomouretrenor.es | www.mariagiron.com

Synopsis: Kori is a deaf boy who lives in the refugee camps of the Sahara and goes to school without understanding what reading and writing is for. In his uncle's farmyard, a candy-colored camel is born, which soon becomes his friend. Kori is used to seeing words in the movements of his mouth; that's why, when the camel moves its lips, Kori thinks it speaks. And this is how the need to learn to write was born in him, in order to be able to capture the poetic words of his friend Caramelo. But one day, a terrible day...

Publisher: Grupo Anaya, S.A. (Unipersonal)
Anaya Infantil y Juvenil publishes fiction books aimed at all ages (illustrated albums, children's literature and young people's fiction), as well as leisure and knowledge books. The quality of its titles has been endorsed on numerous occasions by national and international awards.

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Prizes and reviews: Special edition to celebrate the twentieth anniversary of Candy Words. CCEI Honor List, 2003 Selection of Highly Recommended Books by Fundalectura

## THE MONSTER WHO GOT BANISHED

Author: Octavio Ferrero | Jordi Vila del Clos<br>From the reader report by: Ursula Bachhausen

A clear recommendation! The creative and charming approach to the perennial topic of "fears" is captivatingly simple and easy to understand even for the little ones. At the same time, El monstruo desterrado is at no point flat and simplistic, but offers all kinds of conversation occasions through the artifice of role reversal and the loving illustrations, which invite you to engage with the book beyond mere reading aloud. An enchanting picture book story that many readers are to be wished for.
$\left.\begin{array}{rlrl}\text { Title } & \text { THE MONSTER WHO GOT BANISHED } \\ & \text { El monstruo desterrado }\end{array}\right)$

Author's biography: Jordi Vila Delclòs, has illustrated textbooks, children's stories, and novels for publishers and magazines. He also works in other areas of illustration. He has won numerous prizes for his illustrations, among them, the Lazarillo prize (2010) for his book "Marco Polo" (Marco Polo, Bruño).

Octavio Ferrero wrote the book and is the creator and director of Opticks Magazine. He also runs the publishing house, Degomagom. He is the author of several titles for children, all published with Anaya.

Synopsis: Can you imagine a monster who's afraid of wolves, bears, birds, pixies, and toads; boys and girls, princesses, old people, dogs and cats who gets expelled from the room of a bad-tempered little boy? This is the story of The monster who got banished, a monster who finds themselves totally at odds with everything and is suddenly cast out to wander the world. Cold, hungry, without any shoes, he asks himself: 'In the whole of history, whoever heard of a monster who got banished?'

Publisher: Iglú editorial
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Phone: (+34) 669820680

## THE POLAR BEAR AND THE ANT

Author: José Federico Barcelona Martínez<br>From the reader report by: Gênese Andrade

By choosing a bear and an ant as protagonists, having as its theme the closeness between them, friendship and welcoming, this book has as its strong point the illustrations. With little text, structured on repetition and irregular rhyme, it will probably appeal more to children up to 3 years old.

The designs are expressive, eye-catching, suggestive, and the quality of the print is a strong point to consider. It is possible to understand the narrative by focusing only on them, which is to give an idea of its quality.

| Title | THE POLAR BEAR AND THE ANT |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  | El oso blanco y la hormiguita |  |  |
| Author | José Federico Barcelona Martínez | Year of publication | 2021 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 60 | Spanish retail price | $18.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-18488-13-9$ |  |  |

Author's biography: José Federico Barcelona Martínez writes literature for children, young adults, and adults, and has won several prizes and awards since he began publishing in 2019. He works with magazines like In-fan-cia (Rosa Sentat Association), culturadeinfancia.com, and CaoCultura. com. In 2020 his first children's book appeared in Iceland: Hvíti björninn og litli maurinn (SALKA, Reikiavik, 2020), which, in March 2021, was among the five finalists for the City of Reykjavik's literature prize for the best children's picture book published in Iceland in 2020. In October...

Synopsis: What can a tiny ant do, lost and alone on a mountain in a snowstorm? And why does a polar bear who should be sleeping all winter keep waking up time after time? This beautiful story narrates the tale of a tiny ant who finds refuge and warmth with a polar bear. But shelter and hospitality are not enough for an ant in a strange place in terrible conditions and they need company and recognition. The polar bear and the ant is a fable that conveys fundamental values about helping out, protecting others, being welcoming, friendship, and solidarity between the weak and the strong, the privileged and the disadvantaged. At the same time, this book supports language development, building self-awareness, and good body image through a story built on fun illustrations.

Publisher: Iglú editorial
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Critical reception and prizes: Finalist in the City of Reykjavik literature prize for the best children's picture book in 2020. The author won the Colombian National Culture prize for his book of short stories: "Una semana redonda" (A round week).

## BOOK REVIEW

## THE CHICKEN COOP

Author: María José Floriano<br>From the reader report by: Cory Stockwell

The strength of the book lies in the fact that, while it deals with very serious and indeed difficult subject matter, it does so in a way that, in my view, foregrounds the narrative aspects and even the beauty of the story; as such, I think children will be able to relate to it, learning all the while that they are entertained. The story is told not only through words but also through large, beautiful images, each of which takes up two facing pages of the book. Given the size of these images, and the skill of the artist, children will be able to spend a time examining the details of their favorite drawings, looking at what each of the children is doing, finding interesting elements in the background, etc.; I would go so far as to say that each image is a story in and of itself.

| Title | THE CHICKEN COOP |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  | El Gallinero |  |  |
| Author | María José Floriano | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 48 | Spanish retail price | $16.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-13431-62-8$ |  |  |

Author's biography: María José Floriano has worked as a journalist for several radio and TV stations, as well as for companies such as Prisa Internacional, El Mundo TV and Antena 3. Currently she is focussing on her literary work as an author while also speaking at conferences and giving writing workshops. In addition, she takes part in various creative projects to encourage reading such as meet-the-author events and book clubs for all ages.
www.tirandodelrizo.com
Synopsis: The story takes place in Cañada Real, the largest shanty town in the whole of Europe. The nucleus of this marginalised community is the setting that transforms the harsh reality of thousands of people into literature through the sweet, innocent perspective of childhood. An essential novel, audacious and committed to those excluded from society, that gives a voice to the children living on the margins, bringing to light a problem that has been entrenched over the years: that of finding homes for families displaced by partial slum clearance. The story includes a metaphorical interpretation of life as performing circus tricks, playing with risk and danger, extending this to the world of adults in which the most vulnerable struggle for survival.

Publisher: Kalandraka
Kalandraka is a multilingual publisher working in Spanish, Galician, Catalan, Basque, Portuguese, Italian, and English. Our major lines of work are original picture books, adaptations of traditional stories, recovered classics from children's and YA literature, books for pre-readers, easy reading books, audiobooks, poetry, and art. The result is a lively and diverse catalogue.

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Phone: (+34) 986860276

## BOOK REVIEW

## WAITING FOR MORNING

## Author: Fabiola Anchorena

From the reader report by: Suky Taylor

This book is beautifully illustrated, using dramatic colours and contrasts to emphasise the impact of the story, for which the words and images palpably work together to create the impression and the significance of the author's message in the book. For children reading the book, most of the impact probably comes directly from the pictures, which are accompanied by a few lines of text on each page. However, the language is clearly chosen with intention, and the little text there is could be described as poetic prose, which would require some thought to translate. While not written in verse, the words have a certain rhythm and pattern, maintaining simple language for young children yet cleverly complementing the drama portrayed in the pictures. The language itself remains gently suggestive, and much of the story is left to the reader's own perceptions.

| Title | WAITING FOR MORNING |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  | Esperando el amanecer |  |  |
| Author | Fabiola Anchorena | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 28 | Spanish retail price | $16.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-13431-78-9$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Fabiola Anchorena grew up between Peru and the USA. She studied architecture but works as an illustrator, mainly focussing on nature. She has worked with several initiatives connected to the textiles sector and corporate design. Since 2015 she has promoted Different Folks Co. a project that brings together a number of her creations made using various techniques such as printmaking and sculpture.

## https://differentfolks.co

Synopsis: The forest has been enveloped in total darkness for some time. Its inhabitants miss the moon and the stars but above all they miss the sun. Instead of the sun's life-giving warmth, the forest's inhabitants find devastation and panic; the result of an immense fire that can't be spoken of. This book is a cry of anguish at the destruction of the planet's lungs due to the huge conflagrations caused by climate change and human activity. The author, Fabiola Anchorena has chosen the destruction of the Amazon Rainforest as the setting here, but it could be any forest in the world. All animals, on land, in the sea, or on the wing, have a common cause encapsulated in Waiting for morning. A poetic text that contrasts with the harshness of the subject matter; its communicative force is found mostly in its illustrations: the double page format gives a powerfully cinematic effect.

Publisher: Kalandraka
Kalandraka is a multilingual publisher working in Spanish, Galician, Catalan, Basque, Portuguese, Italian, and English. Our major lines of work are original picture books, adaptations of traditional stories, recovered classics from children's and YA literature, books for pre-readers, easy reading books, audiobooks, poetry, and art. The result is a lively and diverse catalogue.

Publishing rights available from: Kalandraka Editora - CIF B36302024
Pastor Díaz, 1, 4.º B - 36001, Pontevedra, Pontevedra www.kalandraka.com
Contact: Silvia Pérez Tato [foreignrights@kalandraka.com]
Phone: (+34) 986860276
Countries where the rights have been sold: 25th International Compostela picture book prize,2022

Comments: The treatment of colour is astonishing, evolving from the darkest scenes where we can appreciate every shadow to the progressive entry of shards of light and incandescence that slowly chases away the shadows.

## BOOK REVIEW

## A SON LIKE ANY OTHER

## Author: Eduardo Halfon

From the reader report by: Cristina de la Torre

Final verdict. Halfon is well known in the Spanish speaking-world. He has merited countless literary awards. This book is FABULOUS. It deserves all the praise it has received. Again, YES, by all means, have it translated and add this touching and measured voice to the chaotic cacophony of so much of contemporary expressions.

## LIBROS DEL ASTEROIDE

| Title | A SON LIKE ANY OTHER <br> Un hijo cualquiera |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Eduardo Halfon | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 144 | Spanish retail price | $14.95 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-19089-19-9$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Eduardo Halfon was born in Guatemala City in 1971. Has published Esto no es una pipa, Saturno (2003), De cabo roto (2003), El ángel literario (2004), Siete minutos de desasosiego (2007), Clases de hebreo (2008), Clases de dibujo (2009), El boxeador polaco (2008; Libros del Asteroide, 2019), La pirueta (2010), Mañana nunca lo hablamos (2011), Elocuencias de un tartamudo (2012), Monasterio (Libros del Asteroide, 2014), Signor Hoffman (Libros del Asteroide, 2015), Duelo (Libros del Asteroide, 2017), Biblioteca bizarra (2018), Canción (Libros del Asteroide, 2021; 2021 Cálamo Extraordinario Prize) y Un hijo cualquiera (Libros del Asteroide, 2022).

Synopsis: In the texts collected in Eduardo Halfon's new book, parenthood -with its high and low points- is often the lens through which the author revisits some of the favorite themes of his literary world. Halfon writes about childhood, rootlessness, death, the vocation of the writer, and the quest for one's own identity, and does so with an economy of means inversely proportional to the result obtained.

Publisher: Libros del Asteroide
Libros del Asteroide is an independent publishing house founded in Barcelona by Luis Solano in 2005. Since its inception, it has published close to three hundred books and received praise from readers and critics alike.

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Contact: Luis Solano [aux@librosdelasteroide.com]
Phone: (+34) 932802524
Reviews and awards: "Halfon is one of the best writers of his generation and probably some other ones, past or future." Manuel Hidalgo (El Cultural)

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## BOOK REVIEW

## FLUIDOTECH

## Author: Berta Páramo

From the reader report by: Ms. Asa Hirano

Many picture books and illustrated books for children have been published on the themes of the human body or body fluids such as feces and urine. This book does cover these themes, but it is rare to find a book that focuses on body fluids to clarify how the human body functions. Welldesigned illustrations are used to assist readers to visually understand the concepts described in the text. It differs from other similar publications by giving the impression that one is reading a stylish picture book. Although much of the information overlaps with that covered in other similar books, the presentation style is original and humorous, and an attention to detail can be perceived throughout. As a fun introduction to the human body, this book is likely to be widely accepted by both children and adults in Japan.

## LITERA LIBROS

| Title | FLUIDOTECH <br> Fluidoteca |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Berta Páramo | Year of publication | 2021 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 152 | Spanish retail price | $17.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-12409-51-2$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Berta has always had a pea-sized bladder. Thanks to this, her parents got to know a huge number of motorway service stations, well, Berta could never make it through a journey without having to stop at least twice-even three times. She would never confess to picking her nose, but she does, when she's on her own, using her little finger as that strikes her as more refined. She doesn't eat her bogies, thank goodness, but she's also never said what she does do with those little balls of snot-which is a bit worrying. She accepted Juan's (our editor's) enthusiastic and slightly crazy suggestion to create this book as she'd already illustrated another one with him: "Cambio climático" (Climate change). She had no idea what she was getting into, but admits it was a very interesting journey and that she's learned a lot. Her illustration work has been selected for show at fairs across the world in Italy, the UK, China, the United Arab Emirates, Portugal, Serbia...
www.bertaparamo.com
Synopsis: Fluidotech is a passionate inventory of body fluids designed for young readers. And not so young readers. Because... do you really know what body fluids are? How important they are? Which do you know about? What is sweat for? Did you know that our blood goes through your kidneys 300 times a day? Or that our eyes are always full of tears? Or that our noses make up to a litre of snot every day? This fun and colourful (using more than 10 different shades!) voyage through our body fluids will delight the young... and not so young.

Publisher: Litera Libros
Kids often sleep in bunkbeds (that's what litera means in English!). They go up and down, chat, fight, learn, peer out, jump, fall, laugh, share, dream... and sleep. A bunkbed is more than two, three, or four beds. It's a collection of experiences. Our publisher is called Litera. And it is about growing. Which is all about going up and down, chatting, fighting, learning, peering out, jumping, falling, laughing, sharing, dreaming... and sleeping (when possible). Litera aims to be more than just a publisher. We want to be a good collection of experiences.

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Sant Josep 45, 46550 Albuixech Valencia www.literalibros.es
Contact: Juan Manuel Romero Corell [juan@literalibros.com] Phone: (+34) 669787684

Countries where rights have been sold: Italy, France (world), Korea and simplified Chinese.

## THE BIG BOOK GAME OF MONSTERS

Author: Joan Subirana "Subi"

From the reader report by: Jule Irsch

A hidden object book is a hidden object book. This is also the case with the present title, which, however, brings with it a certain element of surprise due to its unusual subject matter.

## MARINA BOOKS

$\left.\begin{array}{rlrl}\text { Title } & \text { THE BIG BOOK GAME OF MONSTERS } \\ \text { El gran libro de los montruOS }\end{array}\right)$

Author's biography: "Subi" is one of the most renowned Catalan illustrators. She has an extensive career and, working together with the writer Anna Obiols, they create stories that are enjoyed by both young and old.

Synopsis: Three games in one book! In this amazing playbook, children can play three different games in each illustration, while learning very interesting things about monsters from popular culture. Younger children will need to find certain objects hidden in the picture. From 3-4 years old. Mid-level students will look for details that start with a certain letter. From 5-6 years old. And the grown-ups will have to find repeated, hidden objects or characters from fairy tales. From 7-8 years old.

Agent: MARINA Books
International rights agency specialized in children's and young adult books.
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Barcelona
www.marina-books.com
Contact: Marina Huguet [marina.books.agent@gmail.com]
Phone: (+34) 604812703
Countries where rights have been sold: Catalan, Spanish, English worldwide

## AZUCRE

## Author: Bibiana Candia

From the reader report by: Félix Lizárraga

The novel is told through poetic vignettes, where even the most brutal, heartbreaking moments are conveyed by means of a beautiful, serene, yet poignant prose. We become privy not only to the boys' thoughts, but those of their jailers, and even the mules, horses, and oxen they encounter. In this sense, Azucre is closer to a prose poem than to the novel form, and reminds me of another unusual, exquisite book: Marcel Schwob's The Children Crusade.

I most emphatically recommend Azucre to be translated and published in the United States.

## MB AGENCIA LITERARIA

| Title | AZUCRE <br> Azucre |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Bibiana Candia | Year of publication | 2021 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 141 | Spanish retail price | $16.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17386-82-5$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Bibiana Candia, Coruña, 1977
Synopsis: Galicia, 1853. Galicia, 1853. The wettest winter in history has destroyed the crops, and a cholera epidemic begins to wreak havoc among the population. Orestes, Tísico, Rañeta, Trasdelrío, Comido, Tomás from Coruña and many other boys who want for a better future for themselves and their families decide to leave their homes and go to Cuba to earn a living in its sugar cane plantations. But that trip has an ordeal in store for them that their innocent minds would have never been able to anticipate. These shockingly beautiful, hypnotic and evocative pages, as far as possible from official reports and cold analysis, give voice to the silent victims of this terrible event that at the time was a big scandal and that memory cannot ignore.

Publisher who has published: Pepitas de Calabaza
Publisher: MB Agencia Literaria
Since their inception in 1997, MB Literary Agency has managed the publishing rights of Spanish and Catalan authors throughout the world. They also represent foreign agencies and publishers in Spain, Latin American countries, Portugal and Brazil.

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Contact: Txell Torrent [txell@mbagencialiteraria.es]
Phone: (+34) 932659064
Prizes and reviews: "Almudena Grandes 2023 Award» Festival du Premier Roman de Chambéry 2022 » 2022 Espartaco Award to the Best Historical Novel; Librería NoLlegiu 2021 Award» Librerías Navarras 2022 Award

## BOOK REVIEW

## THE ASTRONAUTS

Author: Laura Ferrero<br>From the reader report by: Catherine Jagoe

A kind of psychological detective story, Los astronautas explores the nature of memory, truth, love, and history. As the narrator doggedly questions her relatives, she meets all too often with reticence or blanks, hampered by her own reluctance to push too hard. As she pieces together information about her mother and father's lives, she realizes that each of them is shadowed by trauma and comes to an understanding of the role of the past in shaping the present.

A fascinating and original work that uses elements from the author's own life but explores them as fiction, Los astronautas is comparable to titles by other prize-winning authors of autofiction such as Annie Ernaux, Rachel Cusk, Douglas Stuart, Sigrid Nuñez, Ocean Vuong, Ben Lerner, and Karl Ove Knausgåard. I found it an engrossing and thought-provoking read. The tension increases the further the story progresses, up to the very end.

## MB AGENCIA LITERARIA

| Title | THE ASTRONAUTS |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
|  | LOS astronautas |  |  |
| Author | Laura Ferrero | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 336 | Spanish retail price | $18.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-20461-27-4$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Laura Ferrero is a journalist and editor who became a breakout author following the publication of her first book of short stories, Piscinas vacías ("Empty Swimming Pools", Alfaguara, 2016). She combines her work for various publishing houses and cultural institutions with her passion for writing. She is author of the blog Los nombres de las cosas ("The Names of Things") and her articles and reviews have appeared in publications like ABC Cultural, Vanguardia and FronteraD. Her debut novel was Qué vas a hacer con el resto de tu vida ("What Are You Going To Do With The Rest of Your Life", Alfguara, 2017). She has also published El amor después del amor ("Love After Love" 2018) in collaboration with Marc Pallarès, and the short story collection La gente no existe ("People Don’t Exist", Alfaguara 2021). Her latest novel, Los Astronautas ("The Astronauts"), is published by Alfaguara in 2023.
Synopsis: We all learn in early childhood which people form our family and what links connect us to each of them. All of us except the protagonist of this novel, who was never told that she, too, used to have a family at some point in her life. What happened over the years for every single trace of that time to disappear? The Astronauts tells of the deciphering of this ecosystem lost in time: a photograph found by chance, which depicts a little girl with her parents, throws light on the reality of her family thirty-five years too late. But, most importantly, it throws light on the voids, the silences and the secrets on which she was forced to construct her identity. However, a story never tells the truth, merely a truth.... Laura Ferrero uses autobiographical fact as the starting point to create moving, and sometimes heart-breaking, fiction, about -
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Publisher: MB Agencia Literaria
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Contact: Txell Torrent [txell@mbagencialiteraria.es]
Phone: (+34) 932659064
Prizes and reviews: "Almudena Grandes 2023 Award» Festival du Premier Roman de Chambéry 2022 » 2022 Espartaco Award to the Best Historical Novel; Librería NoLlegiu 2021 Award» Librerías Navarras 2022 Award.

Countries where the rights have been sold: Brazil

## BOOK REVIEW

## MONTEVIDEO

Author: Enrique Vila Matas<br>From the reader report by: Mr. Kentaro Fujii

This fascinating work by Vila Matas is expected to be well received by Japanese readers when it is translated and published as a new masterpiece. This author's work has already been translated into several Japanese editions and gained a certain level of popularity. The story is told in a unique style and form that is a combination of an essay and a novel. Meanwhile, fascinating themes are developed and explored, such as Paris as a city of literature; the city and literature; and being an author and writing (or not writing), with flexible references to other works and authors. I was fascinated by the thrilling process that revealed connections between seemingly unrelated events. The writer who plays a key role in the book, Cortázar, is popular in Japan, making this another likely point of interest for many readers.

## MB AGENCIA LITERARIA

| Title | MONTEVIDEO <br> Montevideo |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Enrique Vila Matas | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 300 | Spanish retail price | $19.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-32241-08-6$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Enrique Vila Matas, Barcelona, 1948
Synopsis: In the midst of a period of personal and literary transformation, the narrator of this novel begins to observe signs on doors and in adjoining rooms, symbols that communicate Paris with Cascais, Montevideo, Reykjavik, St. Gallen and Bogota, and that stealthily return him to writing, to the desire to transform into sheets of life certain experiences that, At the very least, they cry out to be narrated. Montevideo is a true fiction, a great treatise on the ambiguity of the world as a characteristic feature of our time, a novel in which the best Vila-Matas finds a way to name things again when everything seems already said; a feat all the more admirable because the central core of his work is none other than the modernity of the novel.

Publisher: Seix Barral

## Publisher: MB Agencia Literaria

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Phone: (+34) 932659064
Countries where the rights have been sold: Brazil: Companhia das Letras; France: Actes Sud; English World: Deep Vellum; Germany: Wallstein; Greece: Ikaros; Italy: Feltrinelli; Norway: Solum; Portugal: Dom Quixote; Romania: Vellant

## THE LOST MUSEUM

Author: Marina Sáez<br>From the reader report by: Miguel Del Castillo

It's always interesting when a children's book starts from a seemingly everyday premise and then suddenly reveals a bigger, deeper subject. This element of surprise moves readers, adults or children, in a unique way. That's what happens in this great El Museo Perdido.

The illustrations alternate points of view - sometimes we see the huge rooms in their entirety, other times we approach display cases with objects or enter smaller sections. The mixture of painting techniques (colored pencils, markers, paint) and the many contour strokes that form characters, objects and architectures contribute to the feeling of a huge diversity of things in one place.

A book that is both entertaining and moving, which subtly proposes important reflections to readers, in addition to providing empathy and identification.

## MTM EDITORES

| Title | THE LOST MUSEUM <br> El Museo Perdido |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Marina Sáez | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 44 | Spanish retail price | $18.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17165-66-6$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Marina Sáez was born in Barcelona. Every weekend she would wake her parents up will all kinds of drawings. Years later, things haven't changed much. She loves drawing cat's whiskers and colouring outside the lines. And although she does order her pencils by colour, she hates sharpening them. At the moment she combines her job as an illustrator with teaching. She has exhibited her work in Barcelona, Athens, Chicago, and Berlin.

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www.marinasaez.com
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Synopsis: Wouldn't it be fantastic if we could find everything we ever lost? In 1995, a little girl lost her left-hand glove. When she looked for it, she discovered the place where all misplaced objects go: The Lost Museum. It has so many floors and each one is full of amazing galleries containing gadgets you're never likely to see again. Go ahead, but don't get lost!

Publisher: MTM Editores
We are a small independent publisher based in Barcelona. We are defined by the production of creative and interactive books and games; things that encourage hands-on interaction, thinking, practicing, getting dirty, and feeling emotions.

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Diputació, 197, 3 1, Eixample, 08011 Barcelona www.mtm-editor.es/ www.mtm-editor.es/producto/el-museo-perdido/
Contact: Fiona Fearon [fiona@mtm-editor.es] Phone: (+34) 932130274

Critical reception and prizes: "Selected by OEPLI as one of the best books by a Catalan author in 2022; IBBYcat finalist at the Bologna 2023 Children's Book Fair Illustrators Exhibition; special mention in Biblioteca Insular de Gran Canaria $12^{\text {th }}$ International picture book prize.

## THE OPEN WINDOW

Author: Marina Sáez<br>From the reader report by: Suky Taylor

This book would undoubtedly do well in an English-speaking market, as an easily accessible book that offers far more than just an enjoyable story. It encourages its readers to explore further on their own and could be used by parents or teachers with groups to stimulate new topics and ideas. There are countless directions readers could take from the pictures and text, but it can also be simply a fun book for children to entertain themselves with.

## MTM EDITORES

| Title | THE OPEN WINDOW <br> La ventana indiscreta |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Marina Sáez | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 44 | Spanish retail price | $18.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17165-73-4$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Marina Sáez was born in Barcelona. Every weekend she would wake her parents up will all kinds of drawings. Years later, things haven't changed much. She loves drawing cat's whiskers and colouring outside the lines. And although she does order her pencils by colour, she hates sharpening them. At the moment she combines her job as an illustrator with teaching. She has exhibited her work in Barcelona, Athens, Chicago, and Berlin.

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www.marinasaez.com
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Synopsis: When you have a broken leg you can't run, jump, or climb. Julia is so bored, but then she gets an idea: why not check out what the neighbours are up to using her binoculars? Luckily the building opposite her is full of life and the day passes in a flash as she watches through her open window: the kids in the infant school, Cris's hairdressers, Ares room... there are so many widows to look through. And you, how do you use your binoculars to check out the world? The open window aims to break the cultural prejudices placed on girls and boys that limit their personal development. At the end of the book, you will find a guide to help navigate the themes of gender and sexuality.

Publisher: MTM Editores
We are a small independent publisher based in Barcelona. We are defined by the production of creative and interactive books and games; things that encourage hands-on interaction, thinking, practicing, getting dirty, and feeling emotions.

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Phone: (+34) 932130274

## THE PACT

Author: Paco Sordo<br>From the reader report by: Philippe Lançon

Paco Sordo uses the story he invents to tell the true story of Vazquez, of Gorriaga who would become an essential cartoonist of Spanish comics at that time. The imaginary narrative is regularly interrupted by two pages of interviews drawn with graphic novel specialists or witnesses of the time: fiction is illuminated - and as it were liberated - by the documentary; The recollection of facts allows the imagination to emancipate itself from them, like a dog running in all directions around its master. El Pacto thus pays homage, through its form, to the way in which Gorriega perverted and liberated the world of Spanish comics under Franco. We learn a lot about this universe.

El Pacto is a good book, both erudite and enjoyable, which sheds light on the history of the graphic novel under Franco through information and imagination. It received the "National Comic Award" in Spain last year.

## NUEVO NUEVE EDITORES

| Title | THE PACT <br> El Pacto |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Paco Sordo | Year of publication | 2021 |
| Genre | Comics | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 112 | Spanish retail price | $18.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17989-69-9$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Paco Sordo. He has been working in the most well-known animation studios in Europe, both for film and television. Since 2008 he has combined it with character design (Cartoon Network, ING Direct, Media Markt, Movistar...). He works as a freelancer in the fields of illustration and comics. From 2010 he began to collaborate with the magazine "El Jueves" where he has published the weekly series "Internet, mode of employment" until June 2014. He has illustrated a multitude of books, with "El Pacto" being his first foray into graphic novels, with which he won the 2022 National Comic Award awarded by the Ministry of Culture of the Government of Spain.

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www.pacosordo.com
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Synopsis: Miguel Gorriaga is an aspiring cartoonist in Barcelona in the 50s who is willing to do anything to become a professional. A mentally disturbed person who will end up taking an unusual path to achieve his goal: kidnapping the great Vázquez and forcing him to make comics for him. Miguel will be in charge of inking them and writing the dialogues, Vázquez will be in charge of drawing them. The result, unexpectedly, is a huge success. A story set in the time when some authors from the Bruguera publishing house abandoned it to set up the magazine Tío Vivo. Giving context and verisimilitude to the story, pages of alleged interviews with personalities from the comic field of the time are interspersed, in the form of a documentary. Although it may seem like a humorous story, it really isn't.

Publisher: Nuevo Nueve Editores
Nuevo Nueve is a publishing house specialized in European comics and graphic novels. With great care in the selection of stories as well as in the physical production of high-quality books, it has received last year the 2022 National Comic Award and the second prize for the Best Edited Book of 2021.

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Phone: (+34) 639337347

## GUS A DOG WHO WANTS TO DO WHAT HE LOVES

Author: Tyto Alba<br>From the reader report by: Mr. Ei Nakayama

Gus is a laid-back and gentle-looking hunting dog. The peaceful expressions of Gus and his friends remind us of the importance of not doing things we really don't want to do, living a life we feel comfortable with, and spending time with those we want to be with. Although it is a simple story with no dramatic twists and turns, the book makes us feel warm every time we read it. It may well become a favorite book for children, who are likely to read again and again before going to sleep.

Title

# GUS A DOG WHO WANTS TO DO WHAT HE LOVES 

Gus no quiere ir de caza

| Author | Tyto Alba | Year of publication | 2020 |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Genre | Children \& Youth | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 32 | Spanish retail price | $16.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-17989-51-4$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Tyto Alba. Badalona, 1975, took his first professional steps as a painter exhibiting in several galleries in Barcelona. He has worked for years illustrating opinion articles and develops the project "Little Cartoons" through the production of animated short films. He publishes "El hijo", with a script by Mario Torrecillas. In his next project he adapts the comic "Sudd" (Glénat, 2011), together with Gabi Martínez. With these last two works he won the Junceda prize in the comic category. Other works of his are "The Blue House". "La Vida", "Fellini in Rome" or "Balthus and the Count of Rola".
www.blog-tyto-alba.blogspot.com
Synopsis: Gus is a hunting dog. Gus can't stand being forced to do what he doesn't want to do. Gus teaches us to give our all without expecting anything in return. Gus just wants to be happy. Tyto Alba, illustrator and author of many graphic novels, gives us his first children's story, full of beautiful drawings and a great lesson about friendship.

Publisher: Nuevo Nueve Editores
Nuevo Nueve is a publishing house specialized in European comics and graphic novels. With great care in the selection of stories as well as in the physical production of high-quality books, it has received last year the 2022 National Comic Award and the second prize for the Best Edited Book of 2021.

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Contact: Ricardo Esteban Plaza [ricardo@nuevonueve.com]
Phone: (+34) 639337347
Countries where the rights have been sold: Korea
Comments: With Gus, children will learn the importance of helping others. Whether it's because they're older, because they have difficulty doing something, or any other circumstance. And if they can help with anything, they have to do it. A very important value that they have to be clear about from a young age.

## BOOK REVIEW

## THE BOMBATIC BOOK

Author: Inma Muñoz<br>From the reader report by: Ms. Yuko Wada

Some picture books invite children into the world of reading, but it is difficult to find a story like this, in which a book-loving child looks for a book as a gift. It is also unusual for a picture book to introduce the job of a bookseller, who searches for books one after another in response to requests. This book is filled with various book-related pleasures such as reading, creating stories, going to bookstores, and choosing books; readers can feel the author's message of wanting readers to experience these pleasures. After making us think no such book was possible, Emma has created a book that covers all the requirements of a "bombastic book." This made me want to read the story Emma created. Japanese children will accept the cute, friendly pictures as well.

| Title | THE BOMBATIC BOOK <br> El libro bombático |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Inma Muñoz | Year of publication | 2021 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 36 | Spanish retail price | $14.50 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-94929-14-4$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Inma Muñoz is an author, editor and storyteller who writes books for children and adults. She has studied widely at the Writer's School in Madrid and has also been mentored by Pablo Albo and Gracia Iglesias. She is trained in theatre, dance, and storytelling. She published her first book, "El puntito Chimpún" (A dot called Chipmunk) and began her career as a storyteller, presenting the book at book fairs in Madrid, Valencia, and Guadalajara; the Story Marathon, Guadalajara; Parla cuenta; the Madrid book salon; as well as in libraries in Alcalá de Henares and León; the Fuenlabrada library network; and schools in the Community of Madrid. After publication of her first book, she started her own publishing house, Ocho en punto, through which she published "El Sol de Elma" (Elma's Sun), "Un lugar para Gusti" (A place for Gusti), "Sigue la flecha" (Follow the arrow) and "El Libro bombático" (The bombatic book). The last of these, "Sigue la flecha" and "El Libro bombático", were selected among the 100 best books of the year.

## www.inmachimpun.com

Synopsis: Emma loves books. In a few days it will be her friend Sebastian's birthday and Emma wants to get him the best present: a "bombatic" book. The problem is that nobody knows what a bombatic book is. One afternoon she goes to Alicia's bookshop and asks for a bombatic book, but Ana doesn't know what it could be, and so she asks Emma for a clue. Emma says a bombatic book must have dinosaurs and Alicia shows her some amazing books. But Emma is not convinced and after thinking for a bit says that a bombatic book has to have dinosaurs and ballet dancers and... lots of other things. It's going to be complicated but, will Emma find a book extraordinary enough to give to her best friend?

Publisher: Ocho en punto editorial
At Ocho en punto we believe that books will last the test of time. We are a small imprint publishing original and entertaining stories. We love to play with imagination and encourage children to explore new places.

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Contact: Inmaculada Muñoz Moreno [hola@ochoenpuntoeditorial.com] Phone: (+34) 665122528

Critical reception and prizes:The book was recommended among the Miami-based Fundación Cuatro Gatos's 100 best books of the year in 2021

Comments: www.youtube.com/watch?v=UytpV6Qlrhg

BOOK REVIEW

## THE OPIUM DIARIES

Author: David Jiménez<br>From the reader report by: Mareike Philipp

Los diarios del opio tells many stories. Contrary to what the title suggests, those of the writers make up the smaller part, in fact the focus is on the experiences and observations that Jiménez has made in his more than twenty-year career as a war correspondent and Asia correspondent. This gives the book a very personal character and makes it all the more exciting due to its topicality. He skilfully combines biographical, autobiographical, journalistic, historical and cultural content to create a highly informative book about corners of the world, some of which are little known in the West. Again and again, the very topical questions of how to deal with literature of today's questionable colonialist and racist veneer, and how the respective writers ideologically felt about it. Biographical anthologies about wild poets are always a nice read, the combination with the socio-cultural and political analyses of a contemporary and well-traveled poet makes the book all the more valuable.

## OH!BOOKS LITERARY AGENCY

| Title | THE OPIUM DIARIES <br> Los diarios del opio |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | David Jiménez | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Other | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 272 | Spanish retail price | $18.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-34436-42-8$ |  |  |


#### Abstract

Author's biography: David Jimenez has worked as a reporter in more than thirty countries, including North Korea, Syria and Burma. He is considered a journalist with global reach and influence. His books have been translated into half a dozen languages and include the bestseller The Director, his memoirs about the year he ran the newspaper El Mundo. He has also published Hijos del monzón, which won the Camino del Cid International Travel Literature Prize; The Happiest Place in the World and The Kabul Bellboy, a novel inspired by his coverage of the Afghan conflict. The author is a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University, a teacher of journalism, and a columnist at The New York Times.


https://davidjimenezblog.com/
Synopsis: The Opium Diaries follows in the footsteps of legendary writers such as Rudyard Kipling, Joseph Conrad and Graham Greene, among others, who were enchanted by the magic of the East. Thus, he travels through the settings of his books and embarks on an odyssey to solve the great mystery: what is the secret that has pushed explorers and writers to travel? A journey in which David Jiménez reveals what remains of the Asia that inspired ten literary greats. The result is an adventure across a boiling continent, a journey into the depths of human nature, and a fast-paced search for the elusive Eastern mystery.

Publisher who has published: Ariel
Agent: Oh!Books Literary Agency
A literary agency based in Barcelona, mainly focused on non-fiction titles and illustrated books, both for adult and children. We represent WW the list of several Spanish independent publishers, like Libros del KO, Arpa, Rosamerón, Capitán Swing or Nórdica Libros.

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Contact: Juanjo Boya [ohbooks@icloud.com]
Phone: (+34) 656392482
Comments: A sublime work halfway between reporting, historical chronicle, biography, travel book and essay on the Orient

NEW
SPANISH

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Author: Rosario Villajos<br>From the reader report by: Gerry Dunn

Potential publishers should note that this novel is dated by design: this is a depiction of Catalina's "physical education" in a world of misogyny and sexualized violence as it existed in the early 1990s. Villajos's themes are universal, and patriarchy is as old as time, but the specifics have changed. The feminist responses to many of Catalina's encounters with machismo will be immediately obvious to most readers in the 2020s, and that is intentional. This book does not make an argument for feminism; it assumes its readers are feminists from the get-go. Instead, it represents what is, from hindsight, the stunningly toxic behavior that was tolerated, elevated, and internalized as Gen X and older Millennials were coming of age. Personally, as someone who is usually grossed out by corporations and public figures trying to cash in on nostalgia (SunnyD Vodka Seltzer! Steve from Blue's Clues is on TikTok! Make America Great Again!), I found it refreshing to read a novel that realistically remembers that era's noxious dudebro culture. As a pleasant side effect, the novel is a reminder to appreciate the progress that has been made in many of our lifetimes.

## SEIX BARRAL

| Title | PHYSICAL EDUCATION <br> Laeducación física |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Rosario Villajos | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 304 | Spanish retail price | $19.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-32241-84-0$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Rosario Villajos was bornin Cordoba in 1978 and spent her childhood drawing, reading and watching films. Trained in fine arts, she has worked in the music, film, artistic and cultural industries. She is author of the graphic novel Face (2017) and the novels Ramona (2019) and La muela ("The Molar", 2021), a delirious story about loneliness and insecurity in contemporary society. She has lived in Cordoba, Seville, Granada, Barcelona, Montpellier and London. She currently lives in Madrid, where she combines her writing with a job in IT. She still has her Andalusian accent.

Synopsis: One afternoon at the end of August, Catalina, who has just turned sixteen, leaves her best friend's house on a suburban development following an unpleasant incident. When she reaches the main road, she decides that the only way of getting home is to hitch a lift. Like any young person her age, she is terrified of getting into a stranger's car, but even more terrified of breaking her parents' strict curfew. Set in the early nineties, La educación física ("Physical Education") draws a portrait of a teenage girl troubled by a complicated relationship with her own body and a bitterness towards a world that tries to blame her for the fact that she's a woman, and exposes the stories upon which the values of an entire generation are built.

Publisher: Grupo Planeta
Planeta is a family-run Spanish multinational that offers a global cultural service through the publication of books, educational and training resources and audio-visual entertainment.

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Contact: Pilar Lafuente [plafuente@planeta.es]
Phone: (+34) 934928244
Countries where the rights have been sold: Italy (Ugo Guanda, sold in advance).

## BOOK REVIEW

## NEW

## A MUSIC

## Author: Hernán Ronsino

From the reader report by: Ms. Miyuki Yamada
"The Purple Land" by W. H. Hudson is an important motif of this novel. The main source of this work is Hudson's tale of adventure in which the main character flees Europe for the Uruguayan frontier, with the starting point being his distorted relationship with his father. The most fascinating aspect is the power of the text itself. The story revolves around a single record, but the writing style, with its unique rhythm and propulsive force, is musical in itself. The first part, which takes place in Europe and Buenos Aires, as well as the second and later parts, which take place in El Refugio, have the same motifs, but these change dramatically and the various mysteries converge in the third part. Thus, it can also be read as a piece of music consisting of three movements. While it is a story about music, at the same time, the story itself is like one musical piece.

## SEXTO PISO ESPAÑA

| Title | A MUSIC <br> Una música |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Hernán Ronsino | Year of publication | 2023 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 208 | Spanish retail price | $17.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-19261-45-8$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Hernán Ronsino was born in Chivilcoy (Argentina) in 1975. He published the novels: The Decomposition (2007), Glaxo (2009), Lumbre (2013) and Cameron (2018). Also the essay Field Notes (2017). In 2020 she received the Anna Seghers Prize, which is awarded every year in Berlin to a Latin American author. And in 2021, the Municipal Prize for Literature of the city of Buenos Aires. His books have been translated into eight languages.

Synopsis: Juan Sebastián Lebonté is a musician, not by vocation but by paternal arrogance. On one of his tours of small towns in Eastern Europe, he receives the news that his father has died and decides to return to Buenos Aires. When the time comes to talk about the inheritance, Juan learns that his father, who achieved a very good economic position during the seventies, only left him a small field in the suburbs, in the area of the Paso del Rey train station, which no one in the family remembers. Hernán Ronsino, one of the most powerful voices in contemporary Argentine literature, constructs a captivating novel that explores the father-son bond, family secrets and also the possibility of finding a crack that allows the same story not to be repeated, a kind of escape.

Publisher: Editorial Sexto Piso España
Editorial Sexto Piso was founded in Mexico City in 2002 and since 2005 has had a headquarters in Spain. It is currently one of the largest independent publishers in Mexico and has an increasing presence in Spain and Latin America. To date, the catalogue has more than five hundred titles. Since its foundation, we have been dedicated to the recovery of little-known works of great classics; the publication of outstanding contemporary authors; and the publication of new voices in the current Hispanic American narrative. Our editorial line includes literary and philosophical texts, reflections on contemporary problems, and recently works by exponents of the graphic and illustrated genre, as well as children's books-albums. The publishing house has six collections: Classics, Narrative, Essay, Illustrated, Children, and Realities.

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Countries where the rights have been sold: United Kingdom.

## TUNNELS. INCREDIBLE CONSTRUCTIONS FROM HERE AND THERE

Author: Kiko Sánchez

From the reader report by: Ms. Shizuka Todoroki

The most attractive feature of this book is the exquisite illustrations. The tunnel construction scenes, the construction tools used, the views of tunnel networks stretching underground, the diagrams of tunnel interiors, and the three-dimensional views of the architecture are fascinating to look at. On the other hand, the text is descriptive and uninteresting. The Japanese version, for example, would be more readable if it included topics that children would enjoy, such as behind-the-scenes sections, trivia, and quizzes related to the tunnel's construction. A world map showing the location of each tunnel would also be a good idea.

## TORMENTA LIBROS

|  | TUNNELS. INCREDIBLE CONSTRUCTIONS FROM |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: |
| Title | HEREAND THERE |  |
|  | Túneles. Construcciones increíbles de aquí y de allá |  |
| Author | Kiko Sánchez | Year of publication |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language |
| Pages | 48 | Spanish |
| ISBN | $978-84-26148-41-4$ |  |

Author's biography: Kiko Sánchez is a writer and illustrator from Mallorca who now lives in Barcelona. He has loved drawing ever since he could hold a pencil. Most of all he likes creating tiny, intricate worlds full of detail; he specialises mainly in illustration, cut-out models, and maps of imaginary worlds-thanks to his interest in architecture. This interest is also what inspired him to write and illustrate "Túneles" (Tunnels, Juventud, 2023) which, even before its publication in Spain was already being sold in 5 languages.

Synopsis: Did you know there is a secret tunnel under the White House? And that the Soviets tried to build a tunnel to get to the centre of the earth, and that it's still the deepest tunnel ever dug? Since ancient times, human beings have made tunnels to avoid obstacles or take the shortest route. In caves, mountains, under the sea, underneath great cities... Discover the most fascinating tunnels ever built, from the first passageways of prehistory to the Large Hadron Collider, via the largest subway system in the world and other incredible constructions.

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Simplified Chinese (China).

## BOOK REVIEW

## LOOK AT THAT GIRL

## Author: Cristina Araújo Gámir

From the reader report by: Livia Deorsola

Mira a esa chica has ups and downs. It has high narrative voltage, well-built characters. On the other hand, it has passages that are sometimes too long and that could be streamlined for a better fictional performance. But it certainly deserves to be published and read, for two reasons: the topic is urgent and the treatment given to it brings facets that do not simplify the issues involved.

## TUSQUETS EDITORES

| Title | LOOK AT THAT GIRL <br> Mira a esa chica |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Cristina Araújo Gámir | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 376 | Spanish retail price | $19.50 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-11071-74-1$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Cristina Araújo Gámir has a degree in English literature from the Complutense University in Madrid. Following her studies, she worked in a dubbing studio, revising documentary translations for the History Channel, National Geographic, Discovery Channel, BBC and Telemadrid. She began writing when she was very small and her stories have won various prizes and been published in literary magazines such as Archiletras. Since 2011 she has lived in Frankfurt, where she began to write again. Mira a esa chica ("Look At That Girl") is her first novel and an extremely worth winner of the XVIII Premio Tusquets Editores.

Synopsis: Day is dawning and the aftershocks from yesterday's party can still be felt. A girl sitting on a bench. It's Miriam, with messy hair, grazed knees and her streaks of eyeliner disfiguring her face. Just a few days ago the teenagers were finishing their holidays around the pool, happy and carefree. Now nothing will be the same. If Miriam's life wasn't already complicated enough, battling her excess weight and trying to seem confident and rebellious around the boys, now everything will be truly terrible after a night when she confronted her worst nightmare. Mira a esa chica ('Look At That Girl') is a story full of subtlety and insightful psychology - about Miriam and her group of friends, and how a young girl and those around her react to a profoundly traumatic situation, revealing both the courage and misfortune present in our society in all their guises.

Publisher: Tusquets Editores
Founded in 1969, Tusquets Editores publishes literary fiction, essays, poetry, history, biography and popular science. It represents the translation and audio-visual rights of most of its Spanishlanguage authors.

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Av. Diagonal 662-664, Barcelona, Barcelona www.tusquetseditores.com
Contact: Alejandra Segrelles [general@tusquets-editores.es] Phone: (+34) 932530400

Prizes and reviews: Winner of the 2022 Premio Tusquets Editores de Novela. One of the best novels of 2022 according to Babelia and El Correo, selected as a book of the week by El País.

Comments: "A novel of great psychological depth, precise and perfectly constructed. It dissects the ins and outs of patriarchal thought with great intelligence, daring to approach it face on in all its complexity." Sara Mesa.

## BOOK REVIEW

## THE FEAR THAT MADE ME

Author: Miguel Ángel Oeste<br>From the reader report by: Eric Reyes Roher

Miguel Ángel Oeste delivers here a true domestic crime that is reminiscent of Yann Moix's Orléans in its harshness, by cross-referencing testimonies, memories and the healing effort while placing the events in the context of the democratic transition and the liberation of morals that accompanied it. A thirst for freedom that neither explains nor justifies the rape he suffered as a teenager by the same executioner determined to destroy those around him, Chronos devouring his sons.

This novel, at the crossroads of testimony, investigation and autofiction, moves forward in small doses, following the author's convalescent pace and his painful relationship with memory. It is a vivid expression of the work of healing, of confronting the past and pain, of seeking salvation and hope for a better future for oneself and one's descendants. A appalling book from which one does not emerge unscathed, but which has the remarkable merit of putting the right words on intrafamily barbarism.

## TUSQUETS EDITORES

$\left.\begin{array}{rlrl}\text { Title } & \text { THE FEAR THAT MADE ME } & & \\ & \text { Vengo de ese miedo }\end{array}\right)$

Author's biography: Miguel Ángel Oeste (Málaga, 1973) has a degree in history and communication. He has written the novels "Bobby Logan" (2011) and "Far Leys" (2014). His stories have appeared in various anthologies, and he edits several publications about the relationship between cinema and literature. He is also the author of several books on cinema, and the novel "Arena" (Tusquets Editores, 2020). "Brutal and potent. Hard and subtle. I liked it a lot. It took my breath away." (Sarah Table). He collaborates with various publications, including El Cultural, Rockdelux, Cayman, Cuadernos de Cine and Fuera de Series. He has written and directed documentaries such as "Vibraciones," "Melillenses," and "69 y algo más." He sits in the board of directors of the Malaga Film Festival and the Melilla Film Week.

Synopsis: Afraid of visiting his father, the narrator of this story decides to write about his family without his testimony. The fear of being near his father makes him feel paralyzed. And thus, like an infection that spreads everywhere, the story of everything, the narrative of this hell emerges. This deceptively domestic narrative tells the story of the start of the tourist craze in Malaga in the ' 70 s, when European money from vacationers and investors created an unusual opening in the form of fun and revelry during the Franco regime. Miguel Ángel Oeste descends into the abyss of his memories and compares them with those of relatives and acquaintances, producing a heartbreaking testimony that also works as a chronicle of the last forty years in Spain. A journey of which fear is the protagonist, first as an illness, and later as the urge that drives his writings.

Publisher: Tusquets Editores
Founded in 1969, Tusquets Editores publishes literary fiction, essays, poetry, history, biography and popular science. It represents the translation and audio-visual rights of most of its Spanishlanguage authors.

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Countries where the rights have been sold: Audiovisual rights optioned by Tornasol Films
Reviews and awards: 2022 Finestres Narrative Award, finalist for the 2023 Mario Vargas Llosa Biennial Prize. One of the best books of the year according to Babelia / El País (top 10), El Periódico, El Mundo, and best book of the year according to Top Cultural, Publishers Weekly in Spanish and The Objective.

## ANECDOTES OF THE HIGHEST ORDER

Author: Anna Molina

From the reader report by: Laura McGloughlin

I really liked this book. Each story has a distinct feel, whether poignant or terse or dream-like, and the threads connecting one story to another never feel gimmicky or contrived, rather as circumstantial and complex as life itself. This cross-referencing conceit could have ended up as a confusing, tiring tangle, but with Molina's controlled writing it makes this book an alluring read, with human relationships the arrows pointing to connections binding the stories together.

## UTE KÖRNER LITERARY AGENT

| Title | ANECDOTES OF THE HIGHEST ORDER <br> Anécdotas de primera magnitud |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Anna Molina | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Literature | Language | Catalan |
| Pages | 240 | Spanish retail price | $17.90 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-19013-67-5$ |  |  |

Author's biography: Anna Molina was born in Vilella Baixa in the commune of Priorat, near Tarragona, in 1972. She started out studying journalism and marketing, spent some time in London and, on her return, changed course to study English language and literature at the University of Barcelona. Destiny led her to settle in Denmark, a country where she has lived for twenty-five years and from which, in addition to writing, she manages the marketing of the ecological wines which she produces with a group friends. She enjoys travelling, people watching, inviting friends over for dinner at her house and, most of all, being invited for dinner at their houses. Her debut was the novel L’home de lava ("The Lava Man", Saldonar, 2016) followed by Voliac 2004 (Saldonar, 2017) and her short stories have been featured in collections and submitted for prizes.

Synopsis: Anécdotas de primera magnitud ("Anecdotes of the Highest Order") is a collection of human stories set out in an showcase. A journey which entraps the reader in a literary spiderweb woven by characters whose existence is hanging by a thread. Two small porcelain cups will cross borders and experience a series of stories, conflicts and emotions until we manage to discover their true origin. A tell-tale perfume leads us to travel around the world. Partners, mothers and daughters, brothers, sisters-in-law... photographs and portraits and many emotional ties combine to form a structure that is much more complex than it appears at first glance.

Publisher: La Magrana
Agent: Ute Körner Literary Agent
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## BOOK REVIEW

## Robotland

## Author: Berta Páramo

From the reader report by: Miguel Del Castillo

An illustrated guide for children on the history of robots: this is the not unambitious task that the author Berta Páramo has set herself in this Robotland. For 120 pages in large format, and with illustrations that are both playful and precise, we are introduced to different types of robots and also to their antecedents - the excellent premise of the book - that is, the automata and ancient mechanisms, dating back to Egypt before Christ, the Islamic Empire of the twelfth century or France of the nineteenth.

The illustrations are playful and at the same time precise, in the right balance between information and wonder. The set presents the strength and vigor of a very robust and original research done by Berta Páramo, who also succeeds in including small balloons with the biographies of some of the important inventors mentioned.

## ZAHORI BOOKS

| Title | ROBOTLAND <br> Robotland |  |  |
| ---: | :--- | ---: | :--- |
| Author | Berta Páramo | Year of publication | 2022 |
| Genre | Children and Young Adults | Language | Spanish |
| Pages | 120 | Spanish retail price | $22.00 €$ |
| ISBN | $978-84-19448-36-1$ |  |  |

Author's biography: | studied architecture at university and other subjects in many other places. I also did a master's in children's picture books at Iconl (5th intake). I'm still learning... It's because of Indiana Jones's holy grail notebook that I draw while travelling (it's also why I went on an archaeological dig in Egypt). Drawing helps me think and express my way of understanding the world. I illustrated Cambio Climático ("Climate Change", text by Yayo Herrero and María González, Litera Libros) which was also published in Italy (QuintoQuarto Edizioni). My book, Fluidoteca ("Fluidotech", Litera Libros) received a special mention in the debut work category of the Bologna Ragazzi Awards 2022. That book is a full-colour inventory of bodily fluids. It is already in bookshops in Italy (QuintoQuarto Edizioni), France (La Partie), and will soon be out in China and Korea. Robotland ("Robotland", Zahorí Books) is in bookshops...
www.bertaparamo.com
Synopsis: Be prepared to embark on this fantastic trip through the history of robots. Berta will be your guide! Robots have been part of our lives for a much longer time than you would imagine. They are the fruit of humanity's eternal drive to create artificial life that can work, measure time, observe the universe, and make music, among other things. Their evolution is continuous and getting ever faster. As you go on this amazing journey through Robotland, you'll meet all of its inhabitants, old and new... even some that belong in the world of fiction!

Publisher: Zahori Books
Specialising in richly illustrated books, our catalogue boasts a series of titles covering a wide range of topics: nature, history, the environment, sociology, animals, and science. Our aim is always to try to provide a different perspective or original way of presenting each topic.

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[^0]:    "A fluid conversation between the profession of being a writer and the profession of living."
    Francisco Millet Alcoba (La Opinión de Málaga)

