



ROMANIAN AUTHORS

LIVIA STOIA
LITERARY AGENCY

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE
2026

Translation Grants

- **The Romanian Cultural Institute**, through the National Book Center, has three financing programmes for translations of Romanian books abroad:

- **Translation and Publication Support / TPS** (supports the translation and publication abroad of relevant fiction and non-fiction works belonging to Romanian authors in the fields of literature, arts, social sciences and the humanities);
- **Publishing Romania** (publishing albums and books showcasing Romanian culture)

Details: [HERE](#)

- **Romanian Books for Children / RBC** (translation and publication by foreign publishing houses of illustrated children's books and illustrated young adult books written by Romanian writers)

Details: [HERE](#)

- **TRADUKI** - Translations from, to and within Southeast Europe: translations from Romanian to German, Albanian, Bosnian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Macedonian, Montenegrin, Serbian and Slovenian

Details: [HERE](#)

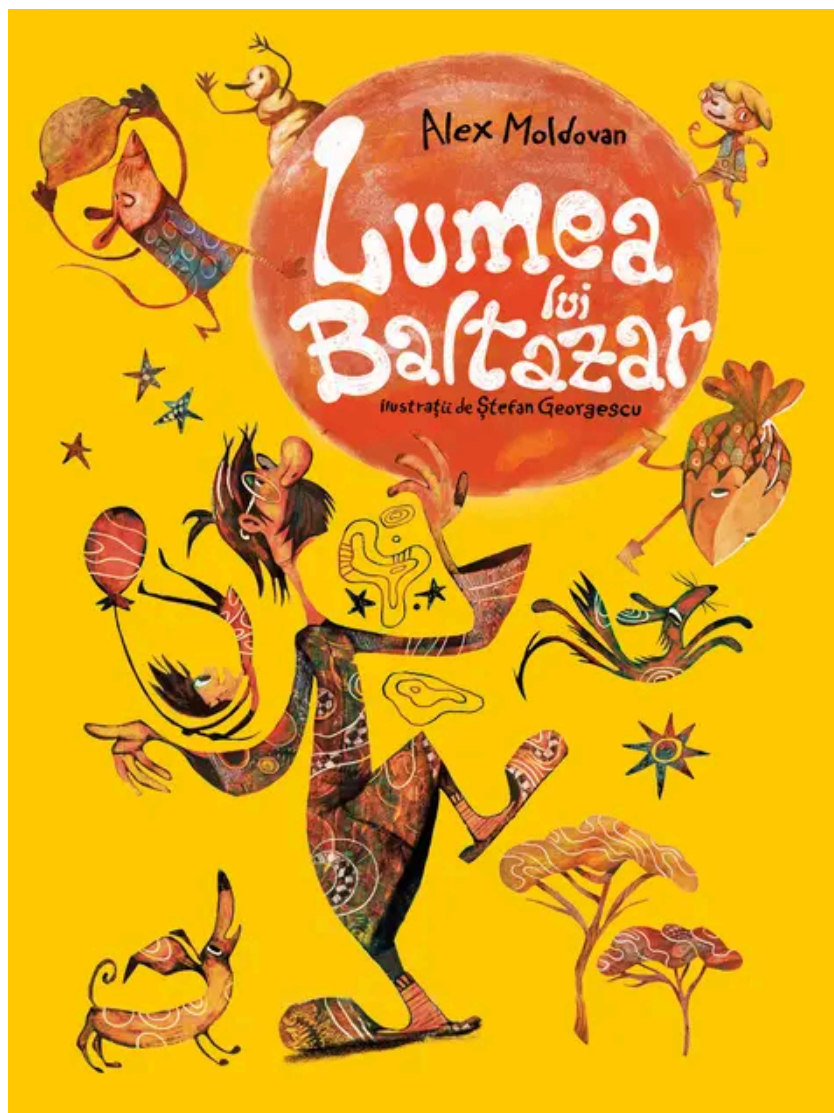
- **Republic of Moldova: Ministry of Culture's Program for the translation and editing of the national book abroad**

Details: [HERE](#)

PICTURE BOOKS

Balthazar's World

Alex Moldovan, ill. by Ștefan Georgescu



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: Romanian PDF, English sample

Pages: 32

Publication: 2025

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2026, section The Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year

Balthazar's day is quite busy, as it is no easy task to invent all sorts of important and useful things—like the dormouse, chewing gum, the wheel, and happiness—even if you wake up at the crack of dawn. On top of that, everything must be carefully weighed and properly arranged, which can cause quite a headache: what's to be done about school and the winter cold? Are they good to have around the house, or should we just sweep them under the rug? It remains to be seen, as Balthazar, a true perfectionist, takes his creation very seriously.

REVIEWS

"Balthazar's world is a cheerful, expansive, and warm world—the perfect pretext for me to use yellow. It is a story like a long childhood summer, where the biggest worry was deciding what I wanted to play with and what I wanted to draw. Much like Balthazar, I sought to fill my world. Time didn't exist; there was only room for will."

– Ștefan Georgescu

ALEX MOLDOVAN is one of the most beloved contemporary Romanian authors for children. He is best known for the "Olguța" series, which has become a phenomenon in Romanian children's literature. Originally from Cluj-Napoca, Alex is also an editor and translator, deeply involved in promoting reading among the younger generation. His writing is characterized by humor, sharp observation, and a profound understanding of a child's perspective.

By the same author:

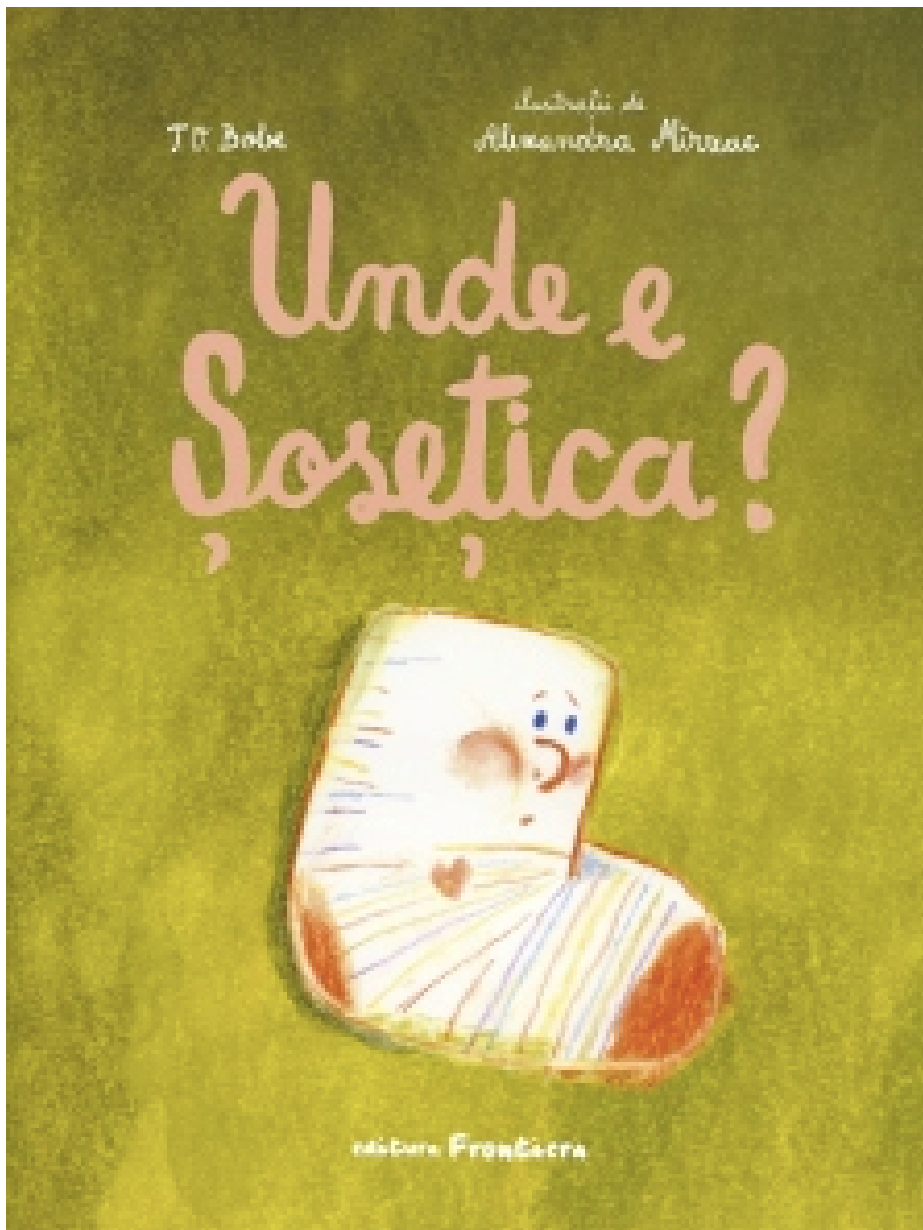


The Little Boy Who Could Bite His Nose (2019)

One fine day, for no particular reason, Vlad did something altogether unusual: he started biting his own nose. His parents were amazed, the doctors, baffled. Who had ever heard of such a thing? It was simply unprecedented! Unheard of! Mom and Dad decided right then and there that the whole world had to know just how special their little boy was. They called the press, they alerted the TV stations; there was a huge fuss, and a great, big spectacle was announced! Everyone came to see the little boy who could bite his own nose. And they waited, and waited; they pleaded with him, they encouraged him. All in vain. Vlad wouldn't bite his nose...

Where is Socksy Wocksy?

T. O. Bobe, illustrations by Alexandra Mîrzac



Publisher: Frontiera

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English sample

Pages: 48

Publication: 2025

Age: 4-8 years

Topics: friendship, courage & mutual help, coming-of-age experiences

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2026, section The Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year

It's spring. Socksy Wocksy wakes up thinking of a peaceful new day in the toy-filled room. But soon, she feels her tiny red heart, sewn by her ankle, tighten – her twin sister has gone missing! Where could she be?

Shy but determined to find her, Socksy Wocksy embarks on an amazing journey through the messy land of the bedroom. Accompanied by her friends, the Spade Pope and the Elastic Band, she will face hidden dangers in the darkness under the bed, encounter mysterious figures, and receive unexpected help in the greatest adventure a piece of fabric has ever known.

The characters' journey and the challenges they face mirror a child's coming-of-age experience when confronted with the vast world. T.O. Bobe's humor adds charm to this tender story about friendship and solidarity, beautifully complemented by Alexandra Mîrzac's delicate illustrations.

REVIEWS

Only in the craziest stories do socks end up living together until old age. Well, here, that's exactly what happens!

– Carmen Tiderle, writer

T.O. BOBE was born by the sea and has been writing for 35 years. He graduated from the Faculty of Letters at the University of Bucharest and has worked as a warehouseman in the Port of Constanța, a literary secretary at Teatrul Mic in Bucharest, an editor and TV screenwriter, a copywriter, and is currently a freelance writer.

He has published several individual volumes, contributed to various collective works and anthologies, and some of his writings have been translated into German, English, French, Polish, and Croatian.

ALEXANDRA MÎRZAC is an illustrator and children's books author.

Her debut book, *Lost*, was published in the United Kingdom and translated into Korean, while in 2024, *The Unexpected Guest* won the Grand Award at the China Shanghai International Children's Book Fair. Alexandra studied graphic arts at the University of Arts in Bucharest and has retained her passion for printmaking techniques from her student years, which she continues to use in her illustrations today.

I Want To Be Invisible

Dan Ungureanu (text and illustrations)



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English sample

Pages: 48

Publication: 2024

Age: 6-8 years

Rights available

Winner of the Cărturino Prize 2025, section The Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year

Hi! I'm Toma.

My best friend is Moby. He's a wonderful puppy.

I love to read. I read dozens, hundreds, thousands of books to find out how to become invisible. That's what I want most. Because Toni, my little brother, won't leave me alone.

What's your greatest wish?

DAN UNGUREANU (b. 1981, Câmpulung Muscel) started drawing at the age at which all children start drawing and hasn't stopped since. In 2013 he enrolled for an MA in book illustration at Cambridge School of Art. And while studying the art of illustrating children's books, he realized he was ready to write. That's how *Nara and the Island*, the book nominated for the Kate Greenaway Medal.

In early 2016, he took his first trip around the world with the penguin Apolodor, illustrating *The Book of Apolodor* by Gellu Naum, and in 2017 he had pencils at the ready to mark every quirk of the penguin and his friends for *The Second Book of Apolodor*. The same year he published *Spune-mi Eli*, a graphic novel about life in an orphanage, based on Elisabeta Moldovan's biography.

In 2020, *Discovering birds in flight with Apolodor, in the Delta*, by Florin Bican, with illustrations by Dan Ungureanu, opens the *Apolodor Explorator* collection at Arthur Publishing House.

Who's Afraid of Red Riding Hood?

Georgiana Chițac (text and illustrations)



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English sample

Pages: 32

Publication: 2022

Age: 4+

Rights available



Arthur Trophy for 0-7 years, VIIIth edition

Finalist at Bologna Ragazzi Award 2025

included in BRAW Amazing Bookshelf at BBF2025

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2024, section The Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year

Spring has sprung and two well-behaved wolf cubs are sleeping in the woods under the moonlight.

They're kind of snuggled up in their cubs and can't find their place, because the big forest is very scary for little wolves, even if they have their daddy by their side. You just never know what dangers lurk nearby.

What if there's a Little Red Riding Hood chasing them? But are the dreaded Little Red Riding Hoods real? Or are they just bedtime stories?

- You little people know that not everything in books is true, right?
- We know, Dad. But you've always said that the Chipmunks exist.
- Yes... but maybe they're not as bad as you think, said Papa Wolf.
- I want to meet one! dared Wolficool. I'll pull her by the pigtails and break her shoes!
- I want my mom! whimpered Wolfiblu.

GEORGIANA CHIȚAC was born in Constanța but lives in Bucharest.

Although it's been more than twenty years since she left the seashore, the smell of seaweed and the sound of seagulls make her feel extraordinary. She is an illustrator and author of children's books. In fact, she has a little of each. She learnt to ride a bike in her thirties, which is proof that it's never too late to try something new.

Funny Ads For Adults And Children

Ionela Hadârcă, illustrated by Irina Dobrescu



Publisher: Cartier

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English sample

Pages: 64

Publication: 2023

Age: 10+

Rights sold: Hungarian

Winner of the Cărturino Prize 2024, section The Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year

One day, walking in the park, I noticed a post-it. I picked it up and realized it was an ANNOUNCEMENT. But it was very unusual, written in strange letters, as if it was written by a child who was just learning to write. I could hardly make out the following text:

"I have a zpecial drim
I'd love to be go fisshing
There is no crime
Lov, the CATERPILLAR."

Since then, I started to pay attention to every detail that surrounded me. And... wonder! I started to find such ads EVERYWHERE - some stuck in tree branches, some stuck on lampposts, some forgotten on benches, and sometimes, when I leave the window open, someone throws them directly into my house! I suspect it's the crow that follows me, curious, from the roof opposite. When more of them gathered, I decided to decipher and publish them. By reading them, perhaps you'll be more aware of the errors, the colors and the snail- callers!

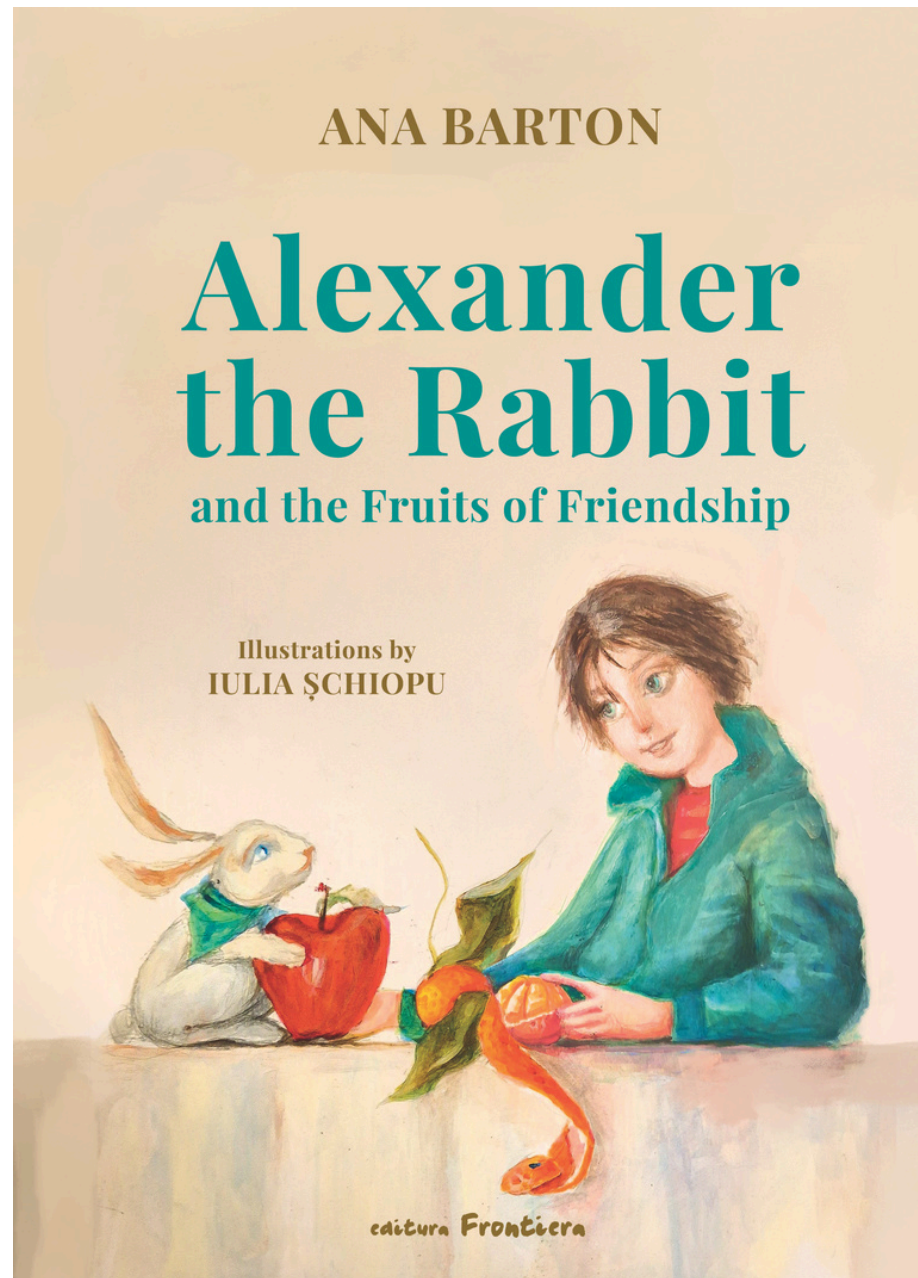
IONELA HADÂRCĂ was born in Chișinău in 1979. She is a graduate of the Faculty of Law at the State University of Moldova.

She has published the following children's books:

- *Uf! A Guide to Living with Younger Brothers and Sisters*, Prut International Publishing, 2020;
- *Uhu – A Guide to Re-educating Parents*, Prut International Publishing, 2021;
- *The Incredible Adventure of the Hodoronc Family*, Prut International Publishing, 2021;
- *Arci and the Council of the Forest*, Cartier Publishing, 2022.

Alexander The Rabbit and The Fruits of Friendship

Ana Barton, illustrated by Iulia Şchiopu



Publisher: Frontiera

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English sample

Pages: 40

Publication: 2024

Age: 5+

Topic: family & friendship, knowing yourself, coming-of-age experiences

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2025, section The Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year

A rabbit with an injured leg arrives at the home of Alexander, an only child, and the two become inseparable friends.

As their friendship deepens, unexpected anxieties, doubts, and rebellions begin to stir in each of them. The rabbit starts to resemble the humans who adopted him more and more, but deep down, he longs to return to the world of rabbits. Alexander enjoys the novelty of his “little brother”, but becomes jealous of the animal’s closeness to his mother and wishes to be left alone with his human family.

What will the rabbit do when, one day, the long ears of his natural family appear in the garden of his adoptive family?

REVIEWS

“A story told in simple, tender words that draws you closer to great and important things. It will spark many conversations between parents and children that we might not have otherwise known how to have.”

–Vlad Stroescu, psychiatrist and writer

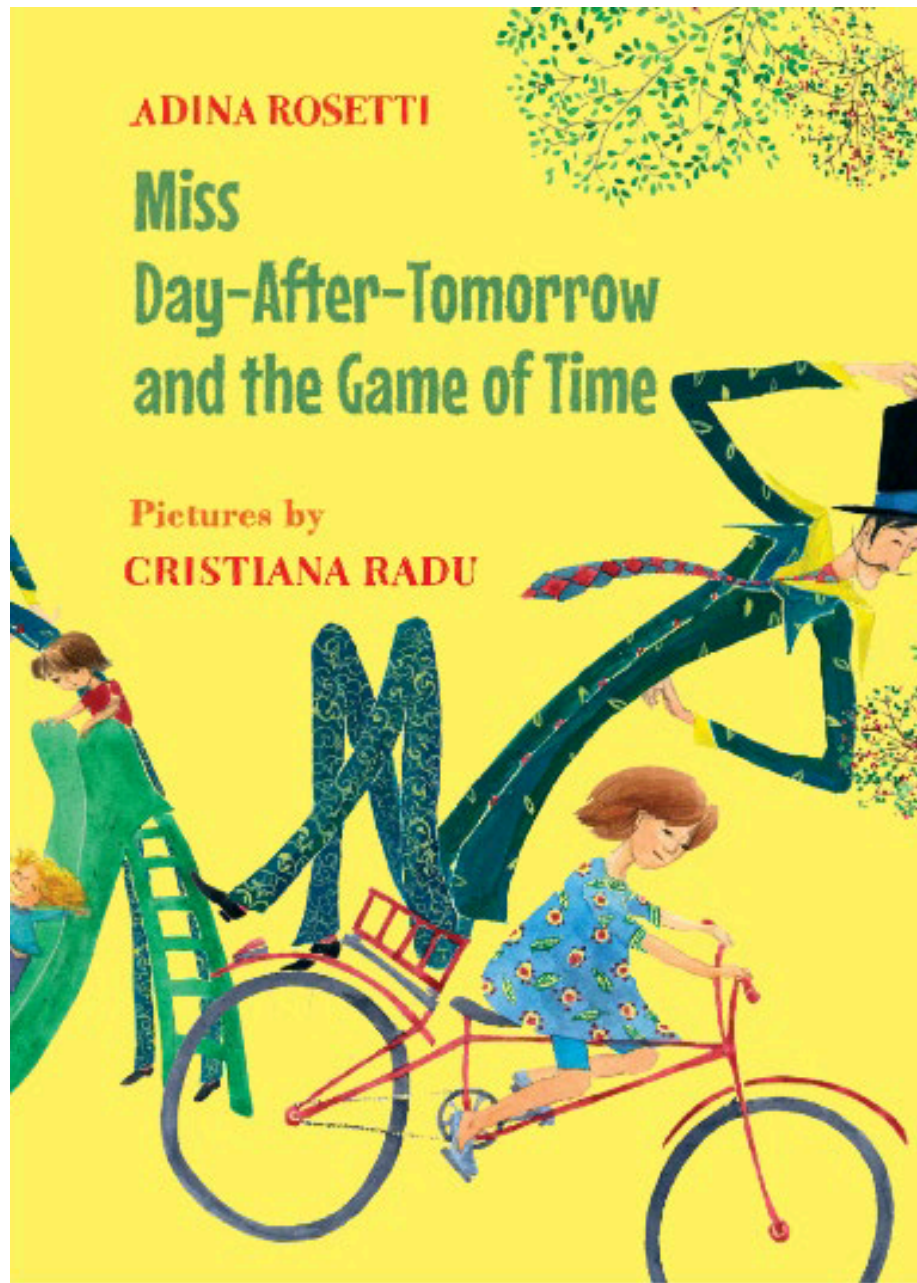
ANA BARTON a writer and workshop facilitator focused on reading programs for children. During the last ten years she has published several novels, short story collections and poetry books for adult readers. Additionally, she has authored texts for two photography volumes. Her writings can also be found in several collective volumes published in Romania.

Born in Braşov, painter **IULIA ŞCHIOPU** is known for her surrealist paintings and her hieratic style of depicting human figures. With numerous solo and group exhibitions in Romania, France, and Germany – ranging from museums and public institutions to biennials and private galleries –, Iulia Şchiopu has a rich portfolio that also includes cover illustration work.

Alexander the Rabbit and the Fruits of Friendship is Ana Barton’s first children’s books and the first book to be fully illustrated by Iulia Şchiopu.

Miss Day-After-Tomorrow and The Game of Time

Adina Rosetti, illustrations by Cristiana Radu



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English translation, Spanish sample, French sample, Turkish sample

Pages: 56

Publication: 2014, 2022

Age: 3+

Rights sold: Spanish, Bulgarian

Selected in the White Raven Catalogue 2015

Winner of the the Most Beautiful Book for Children (2014)

Winner of Best Children's Book in „Bun de Tipar” (Ready to print) competition in 2014.

The protagonist, the Great Time Magician, together with his family and his helpers, conjures the abstract time-terms and directs their actions in a universe of its own. Mr Today, old Mrs Yesterday, Miss The Day After Tomorrow, witch Never and elf Ever – all meet together in this funny story; suddenly time begins to flow faster than usually, as all children dream to when they are small and eager to grow up faster.

What time is, what it means and which philosophical ideas are connected with it are topics to be pondered for a long time. For children such reflections are not always easy to follow, so it is all the more appealing to consider temporal phenomena and time riddles imaginatively and playfully.

The book succeeds in making terms like “yesterday”, “today”, “tomorrow”, “never” and “sometime” or “back then” more concrete, so that they may find their way into children's understandings, by embedding questions and answers about time in a fairytale story.

The story was selected in “The White Raven” catalogue for 2015, a Selection of International Children's and Youth Literature, and was presented at Bologna Book Fair. It was adapted for stage by Momolino Children Theater and it is currently playing in Bucharest.

ADINA ROSETTI is a Romanian writer and journalist, Founder & president of DE BASM – Romanian Association of Children and Youth Literature Writers. In 2007, she was awarded “Young Cultural Journalist of the Year” by Freedom House. As a writer, Adina Rosetti participated in international book fairs, literary festivals and public reading events in Bucharest, Berlin, Bologna, Beijing, Madrid, Perugia, Budapest, Iași, Istanbul, Leipzig, Paris, Praga and Torino. She currently lives in Bucharest with her two kids, teaching creative writing for children and developing literary projects. She is interested in fiction for adults, children and YA.

Your Face

Bianca Mereuță, illustrations by Oana Hajos



Publisher: Signatura
Original language: Romanian
Reading material: English translation
Pages: 40
Publication: 2022
Age: 3+
Topic: picture book, fiction

Rights available

A poetic dedication to mothers from all around the world. Through gentle words and emotional illustrations, the book reveals the feelings and values that are the foundation of the child-mother relationship: love, kindness, protection, caressing, respect and peace.



The Stories of the Year

Oana Hajos



Publisher: Signatura

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: available

Pages: 64

Publication: 2021

Age: 3+

Topic: picture book, fiction

Rights available

12 stories dedicated to each month of the year, accompanied by vivid illustrations and four poems, one for each season. Each story develops around the characteristics of each month and builds thoughtful characters and narratives through which the children can learn about natural elements like Earth, rain, Sun, forest or the sea.

Based on modern language or on fable-like tone, the book brings together parents, educators and kids.



Nter's Story

Iulia Burlac



Publisher: Signatura

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: English translation

Pages: 36

Publication: 2021

Age: 4+

Topic: fiction, children's literature

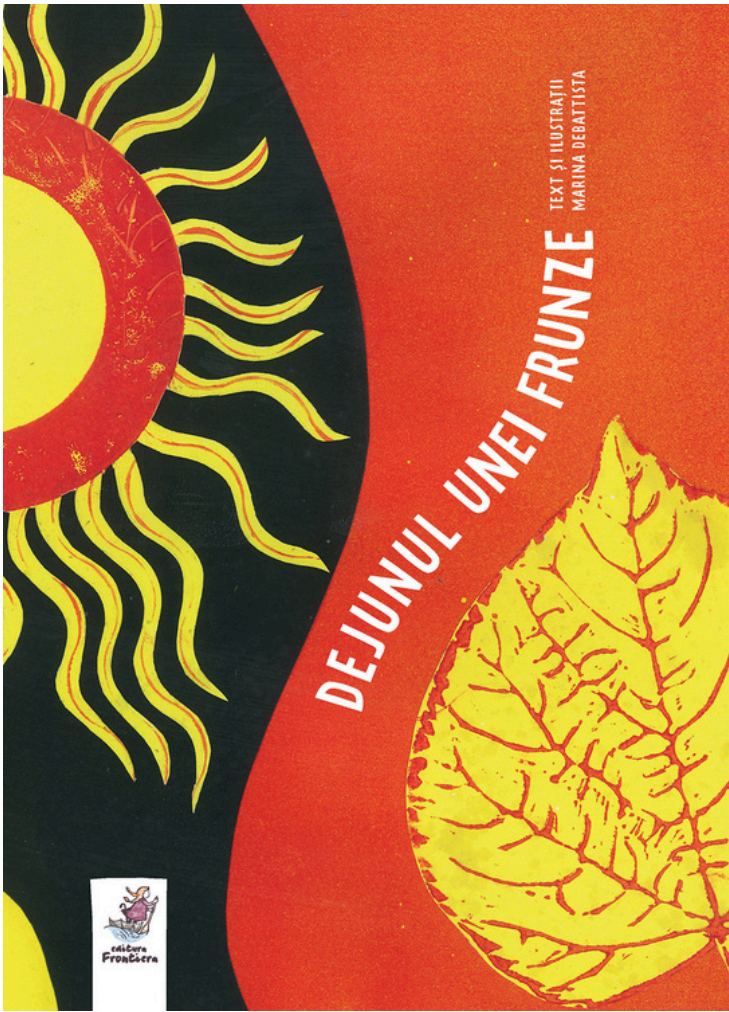
Rights available

Nter lives in the City of Robots, doing the same repetitive job day by day, next to his colleagues. Once he gets home, he only recharges his battery and reads the instruction manual. One day, he tries to escape the monotony, but reaches an isolate neighbourhood. He has no battery left when he finds the old recharging tree. But in order to connect, he needs to download a file. A peculiar file. A book. That he reads on and on, until his supervisors consider he was infested with a virus and permanently delete the file. Nevertheless, the tree planted in him the seed of knowledge and storytelling and Nter soon starts to spread around his tales on kindness, love and courage.



A Leaf’s Lunch

Marina Debattista



Publisher: Frontiera

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: English translation

Pages: 32

Publication: 2020

Age: 4+

Topic: fiction, children, picture book

Rights available

White Ravens Award 2021

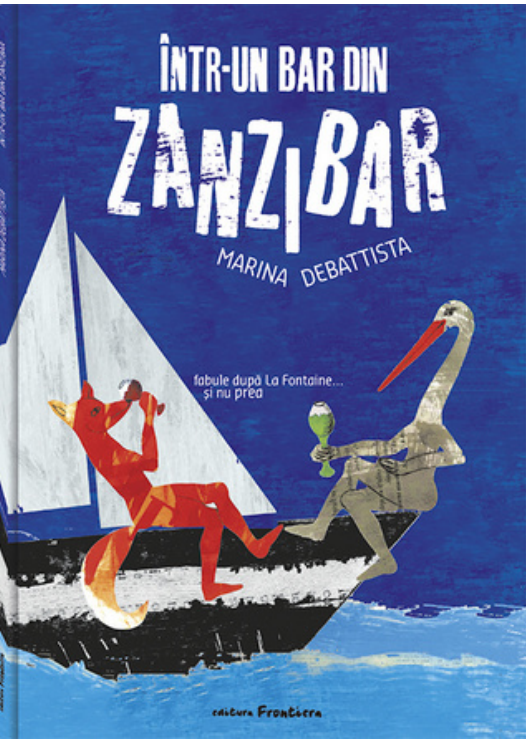
Humouros and tender children's verses that mingle science with pun words and silly tales. The freshness of the language and the visual playfulness of illustrations recommend it to children and adults alike.

The book demonstrates how charming, refreshing and entertaining it can be to observe scientific phenomena when they are incorporated into children’s poetry.



MARINA DEBATTISTA is a Romanian scientist, artist and writer living in Oxford, UK. She has a PhD in Physics and is interested in the interconnections between art, literature, and physics. While pursuing her MA in Publishing, Marina learned the art of typography and used the centuries-old letterpresses at the Bodleian Library in Oxford to complete her first hand-pressed book in 2014, an original translation into Romanian of the poem *The Hunting of the Snark*, by Lewis Carroll.

By the same author:



In a Bar from Zanzibar (2023)

Rights available

What did the stork and the fox do after that embarrassing lunch they had together some hundred years ago? Well, Aesop didn’t tell us. Neither did La Fontaine. But Marina Debattista met them in a bar in Zanzibar and here are her witty retellings of their classical fable. Linocut & collage by the author.

Let's Explore With Apolodor The Ants and Their World

volume #4 in the *Apolodor The Explorer* series

Florin Bican, illustrated by Dan Ungureanu



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English sample

Pages: 88

Publication: 2025

Age: 7-10 years

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2025, section The Best Illustrated Children's Book of the Year

Researcher Apolodor makes himself small, small, small so that he can enter the anthill and observe the world of ants up close.

Monkey and kitten Tiț witness the curious penguin's foray into the living, well-organized world of these miniature insects. With the help of these three friends, we learn all about ants and their lives: how they perceive their environment, how they communicate and how they take care of each other.

Here are some of the wonders of the ant world you'll find in the book:

- 17 mini-plans with easy-to-understand explanations;
- a glossary with 35 words to remember;
- what an ant's body is made of;
- how many kinds there are and where to find them;
- how many bones they have - or don't have?
- what the antennae on their heads are for;
- why they were all born princesses.

Apolodor the Explorer is a collection dedicated to children over 6 years old who are curious to explore the whole world with Apollodorus and his friends.

Other titles in series:



FLORIN BICAN (1956, Bucharest) learned to write before he could read. He then returned to conventional methods of study, graduating from the Faculty of Foreign Languages and Literatures at the University of Bucharest two decades after his debut in very short prose.

After learning to read well, he did not rush to return to writing. He worked, in turn, as a teacher, translator, and coordinator of a subversive project that encouraged foreigners to translate Romanian literature. Little by little, he returned to writing, translating into Romanian books by Lewis Carroll, T.S. Eliot, Shel Silverstein, Dr. Seuss, Sylvia Plath, Roald Dahl, Julia Donaldson, Maurice Sendak, J.K. Rowling, and Leonard Cohen. In 2013, he published *The Recyclopedia of Rhyming Stories Without a Moral*, the winning book of the first edition of the Arthur Trophy competition, and in 2014, *And I Told You the Story Like This*, in which several Romanian fairy tales are updated and woven together along the same narrative thread. In 2019, Florin Bican published *The White Book with Apolodor or Apolododecameron*, in which he revisits the birthplace of the illustrious Naumian penguin.

DAN UNGUREANU (1981, Câmpulung Muscel) started drawing at the age at which all children start drawing and hasn't stopped since. He painted at the Faculty of Arts in Timisoara, then drew in an animation studio, where he realized that he wanted to tell stories through images. In 2010 she drew a book for the first time, and she hasn't stopped since.

In 2013 she enrolled for an MA in book illustration at Cambridge School of Art. And while studying the art of illustrating children's books, he realized he was ready to write. That's how *Nara and the Island*, a book nominated for the 2017 Kate Greenaway Medal, came to be.

In early 2016, he took his first trip around the world with Apolodor the penguin, illustrating Gellu Naum's *The Book of Apolodor*, and in 2017 he had pencils at the ready to mark every quirk of the penguin and his friends for *The Second Book of Apolodor*. Also in 2017, he published *Spune-mi Eli*, a graphic novel about life in an orphanage, based on Elisabeta Moldovan's biography.

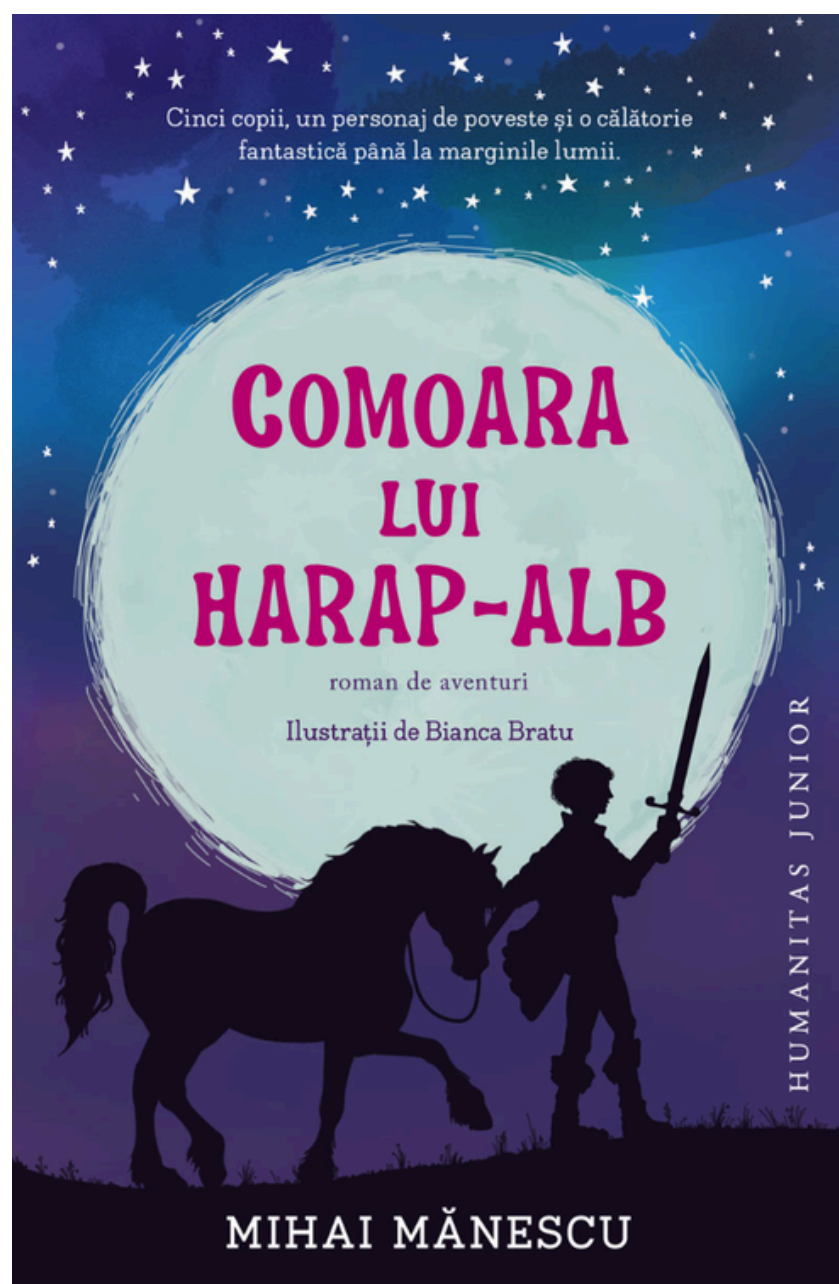
This was followed by illustrations for *Fram, the Polar Bear*, by Cezar Petrescu, and *The Little Prince*, by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, then *Apolododecameronul or The White Book with Apolodor*, by Florin Bican and *The Velveteen Rabbit*, by Margery Williams.

The latest book illustrated by Dan Ungureanu is *Discovering birds in flight with Apolodor in the Delta*, which opens the *Apolodor Explorator* collection.

CHILDREN FICTION

Prince Charming Treasure

Mihai Mănescu, illustrated by Bianca Bratu



Publisher: Humanitas Junior

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English translation

Pages: 240

Publication: 2024

Age: 10+

Rights sold: Macedonian

Winner of the Cărturino Prize 2025, section The Best Children's Fiction Book of the Year

What if a storybook hero crossed the border between fiction and reality and ended up here, among us? What if the years had come down upon him, and from a young, brave prince he has become a lonely old man, searching for a treasure that could change the world?

Prince Charming's Treasure tells the tale of Sebastian, a 13 year old boy whose life is thrown onto a path he could never have expected. After surviving a terrible car accident that claimed his mother's life, Sebastian is forced to move with his estranged father and resume his daily activities after a long period of recovery and confusion.

Together with his friends — Horia, Bobo, Leti, and Iris — Sebastian tries to move on and cope with what has happened. That is until one day, he comes across a mysterious letter addressed to his mother from someone whose initials are P.C. The letter mentions a lost treasure, prompting Sebastian to set out on a quest to find P.C.

He discovers that P.C. is none other than the well-known character from stories: Prince Charming. However, Prince Charming is not as we remember him from the fairy tales. He is now a funny, somewhat forgetful old man in trouble, threatened by a wicked villain who plans on beating him to finding a magical treasure. Prince Charming challenges Sebastian and his friends to set out on a fantastic journey to find a treasure hidden in a mysterious forest, a treasure that could bring Sebastian's mother back to life and change the whole world.

Thus begins a movie-like adventure that carries the six friends from the light-adorned center of the city to its dangerous and dodgy edges, and from there, farther and farther still, to the border of the known world, where reality meets fantasy.

There's no shortage of chases, family secrets, villainous characters who block the heroes' path, obstacles they must overcome to gain self-confidence, kind-hearted figures who help them when they're at facing crossroads, and bursts of laughter that strengthen the bond between friends and make the journey, or treasure hunt, all the more enjoyable.

Prince Charming's Treasure will be adapted for cinema & VOD in 2026, a film directed by Igor Cobileanski, a Romanian-Moldovan international coproduction, with support from the Romanian National Film Center and the Republic of Moldova National Film Center.

MIHAI MĂNESCU is an established Romanian screenwriter, producer, children's author, and communication specialist. He graduated from UNATC in 2007 and earned a PhD in cinematography and media in 2011. He has been teaching screenwriting at Hyperion University for over 10 years, with his courses being influenced by the principles of the hero's journey, developed by the renowned mythology professor Joseph Campbell (whose seminal book, *The Hero with a Thousand Faces*, he also translated in 2013 for Herald Publishing).

He is a Humanitas publishing house author, making his debut in children's literature in 2022 with the novel *The Wishing Tree: Childhood Memories* (*Copacul dorințelor: Amintiri din copilărie*, Humanitas Junior, 2022), which originated from the screenplay of the film bearing the same name. In 2023, he published another children's book with Humanitas Junior, *Stories About Hope*, and in December 2024 he released the children's novel titled *Prince Charming's Treasure* (*Comoara lui Harap Alb*). The novel won the most important Children's book prize in Romania: *Cărturino Awards*, for the „Best Children's Literature Book of the year”.

Currently, he works in the field of education as the communication manager of Romania's only standardized testing platform, and he created *MiniPovesti.ro*, a literacy hub offering free stories and resources for teachers. Since 2023, he has been a member of the *Association of Writers for Children and Young Adults: De Basm*.

With over 10 years of experience in the NGO sector, where he served as communication manager for one of Romania's largest medical foundations, Mihai also founded the *Susțin.org Association* in 2022, leading several successful CSR projects that have been recognized with Effie awards (3 Gold Effies in Romania – 2023 & 1 Bronze Effie Best of Europe – 2023).

The Last Challenge

Adina Rosetti



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: Romanian PDF, English sample

Pages: 312

Publication: 2025

Age: 12-14

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2026, section The Best Children's Fiction Book of the Year

Four classmates on the threshold of adolescence find themselves in an unexpected situation that takes them beyond the boredom of their usual routine—school, homework, and tutoring for the National Evaluation exam. Alex is passionate about football, but an injury threatens his dream of playing in an international tournament. Between his divorced parents, a lack of friends, and the approaching exam, Ezra seeks refuge in the study of geological eras and his passion for dinosaurs. Mara has lost her father and wants more than anything to be truly accepted by her friends in her new class. And Erika, behind a mask of popularity, hides many secrets whose consequences will soon appear in the form of a "bomb" emoji that could threaten the entire school.

REVIEWS

“The beginning was very atypical. Usually, I start from an idea or an image, and I build the atmosphere and the characters as I write. This time, I knew nothing except for the fact that I wanted it to be a novel with and about teenagers. I began long discussions with my daughter, during which we outlined the characters—three different typologies. In the beginning, there were only three: Mara, Alex, and Ezra; the story started with them. Along the way, Erika gained more and more importance in the unfolding of events, so from a certain point onward, I decided to give her her own space. She is a character who 'earned' her voice.”

– **Adina Rosetti**

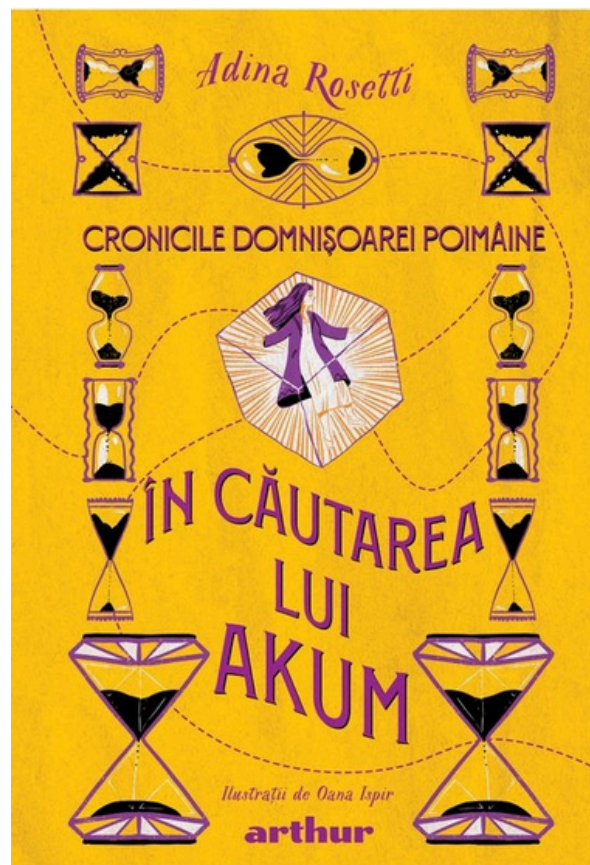
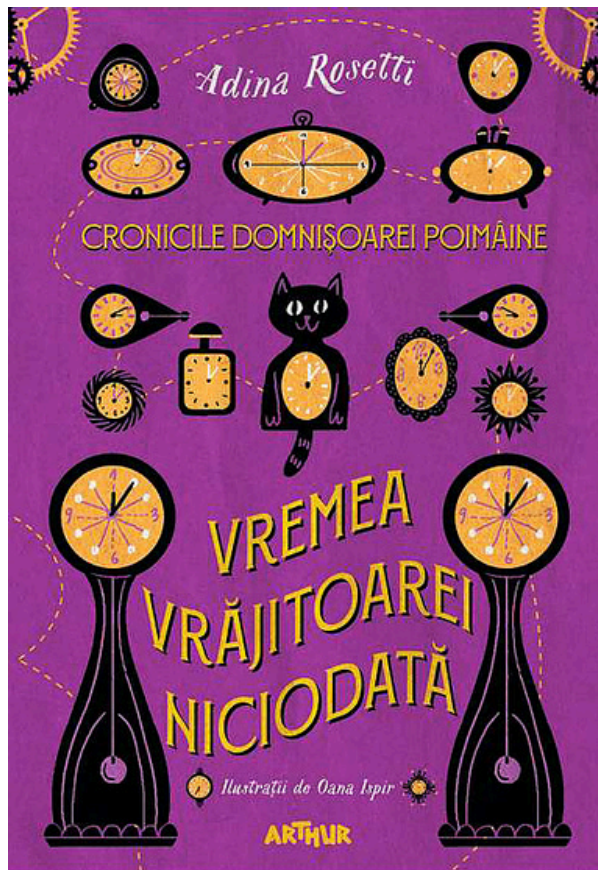
“Suspense, adventure, deeply real and sensitive problems and challenges, fresh dialogue, and credible, complex characters—all make Adina Rosetti's novel a book capable not only of keeping kids on the edge of their seats but also of showing them they are not alone. Even if they are fictional, there are other teenagers out there enduring the wrong choices of their parents, the ill-fated consequences of their own decisions, the pressure of school and exams, and the intensity of emotions and relationships of all kinds, but who also have the capacity to enjoy good friends, cultivate their passions, and have fun. It is a book that shows parents, too, that they are not alone.”

– **Oana Purice**

ADINA ROSETTI is a Romanian writer and journalist, Founder & president of DE BASM – Romanian Association of Children and Youth Literature Writers. In 2007, she was awarded “Young Cultural Journalist of the Year” by Freedom House. As a writer, Adina Rosetti participated in international book fairs, literary festivals and public reading events in Bucharest, Berlin, Bologna, Beijing, Madrid, Perugia, Budapest, Iași, Istanbul, Leipzig, Paris, Praga and Torino. She currently lives in Bucharest with her two kids, teaching creative writing for children and developing literary projects. She is interested in fiction for adults, children and YA.

The Chronicles of Miss Overmorrow

Adina Rosetti, illustrations by Oana Ispir



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: English sample

Pages: 296; 328; 424

Publication: 2019; 2021; 2023

Age: 12+

Volume 1: The Times of Witch Nevermore

Volume 2: Looking for RightNow

Volume 3: The Mystery of Monfriday (**Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2025, section The Best Children's Fiction Book of the Year**)

Rights sold: Macedonia (Prozart)

At first glance, the trilogy The Chronicles of Miss Overmorrow seems to plunge its readers into a magical kingdom where pirates, witches and other fairy-tale characters go through various adventures. Upon closer inspection, however, the story talks about the consequences of toying with time, about the mistakes of an unruly youth, forgiveness and change, the thrills of falling in love for the first time and how it is the little things that can change the world.

Miss Overmorrow made her debut in a children's book, but then, just like her readers, she grew up and she has now become a rebellious teenager, ready to challenge norms and conventions.

Why the Dragon Lost His Tablet

And Other Fantastic Tales

Adina Rosetti, illustrations by Andrei Măceșanu



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: English sample

Pages: 112

Publication: 2022

Age: 9+

Topic: middle grade, fiction

Rights available

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2024, section The Best Children's Fiction Book of the Year

Dissatisfied with the way her story ends, the Princess abandons her pink bedroom and sets off to the Enchanted Forrest to find out what happens next. Once there, however, she learns that things have gone berserk: the Dragon has lost his tablet, The Great Monster has misplaced the love poem, and Prince Charming is being held prisoner by the Big Ogre!

Each of the characters has something to fight for (or against), and craves for their happy ending – even the frog, in search of the magical kiss that will turn him into a prince.

As a bonus, a tremendous recipe from the Big Ogre's famous cookbook, on how to prepare Pea Soup — the dietary, non-fat version (no Princess added).



— Tableta mea Măr Verde, ultimul model. Nu mă descurc deloc fără ea, mai ales că am renunțat la celelalte șase capete ale mele... Am rămas cu un singur cap, dar din păcate e fix capul de rezervă, care nu-mi folosește la nimic!
— Capul de rezervă?
— Da, pentru cazul în care vreun Făt-Frumos voinic mi le-ar rețea pe celelalte...



din fire, spiridușul o ridică și începu să o netezească, până când dintre culele foi începură să se deslușească niște versuri de dragoste.

— „Colți de fiară... inima-mi albastră... flăcări dalbe... să-nfulecăm un pește! citi el, silabisind.

După desenele care împodobeau scrisul, înțeleg că poemul fusese scris de însuși Zmeul Zmeilor, un personaj de temut, și îi era dedicat Dragoniței din Turnul de Gheață, cea de care nimeni nu îndrăznea să se apropie. Umbla zvonul prin pădure că dragonița aceasta ascultă muzică așa de tare încât, dacă te apropiai la mai puțin de 10 picioare, riști să asurzești. Spre deosebire de alți dragoni, care suflau foc părjoli-tor, ea avea răsuflarea de gheață. Vai de cei care se încumetau s-o cucerească trimițându-i epistole ce conțineau greșeli de ortografie și punctuație!



ADINA ROSETTI is a Romanian writer and journalist, Founder & president of DE BASM – Romanian Association of Children and Youth Literature Writers. In 2007, she was awarded “Young Cultural Journalist of the Year” by Freedom House. As a writer, Adina Rosetti participated in international book fairs, literary festivals and public reading events in Bucharest, Berlin, Bologna, Beijing, Madrid, Perugia, Budapest, Iași, Istanbul, Leipzig, Paris, Praga and Torino. She currently lives in Bucharest with her two kids, teaching creative writing for children and developing literary projects. She is interested in fiction for adults, children and YA.

By the same author:

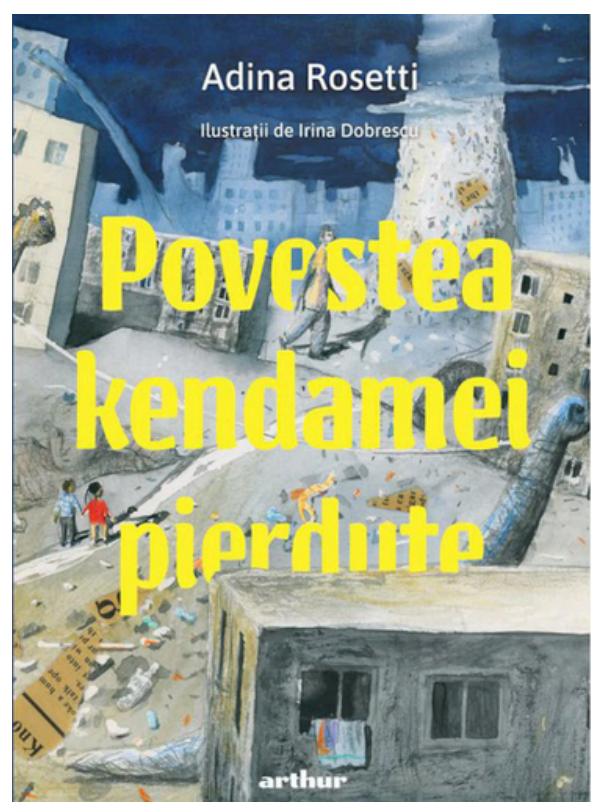


A History With the Taste of Kiwi (2023)

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2024,
section The Best Illustrated Children’s Book
of the Year



My First Word as a Pioneer (2021)



The Story of The Lost
Kendama (2018)

Rights sold: Italian (Cisla
Editore)



Why Do Witches Fly on Broomsticks?
And Other 10 Fantastic Questions
(2016)

Olguța and The Adventure from The Orient Express

Alex Moldovan, illustrated by József Vass



Proprietor: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English sample

Pages: 264

Publication: 2024

Genre: literary fiction, middle grade, bestseller, series

Age: 10+

Volume #4 in Olguța series

Rights sold: Hungary (Cerkabella), Macedonia (Bata Press)

Olguța is shocked and hurt, feeling betrayed by Dora. She can't even talk to Victor about it, there's too much at stake. Her parents have big money problems and Olguța is struggling to find a solution on her own.

But good news comes in the form of an invitation signed by her millionaire grandfather: the famous Orient Express train has been put at her disposal. Without a second thought, Olguța sets off with her friends and a chef who fulfills all their culinary wishes.

The dream adventure soon turns into a nightmare and the four of them end up trapped in a carriage with no chance of rescue.

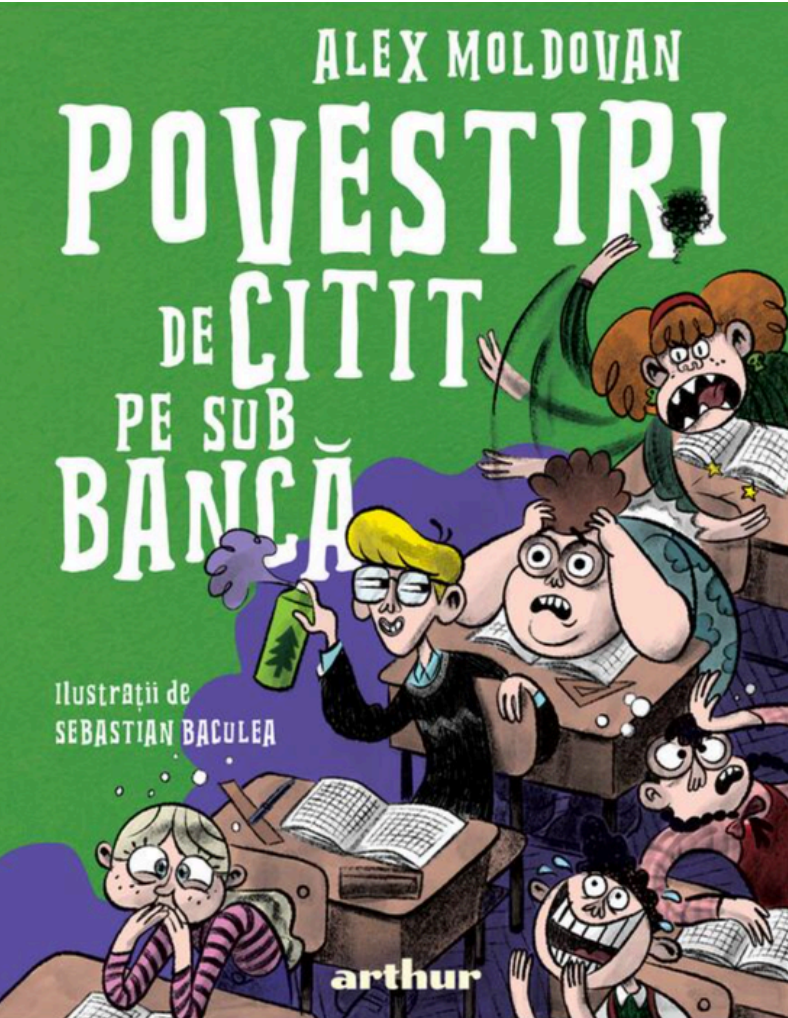
Other titles from the *Olguța* series:



ALEX MOLDOVAN was born in 1977 in Cluj, where he lives. He is passionate about children's literature, jazz and is a volunteer at an animal protection association. He studied Philosophy and has a Master's Degree in Philosophy. Among other things, he worked as a bookseller and is currently a literary translator, having translated about 40 books for several major publishing houses in Romania. He has a cultural blog and writes for Romanian cultural magazines on different topics. He has also written a poetry book which he has later disowned. *Olguța and the Million Dollar Grandpa* is his debut novel and one of the finalists of the Arthur Trophy.

Stories to Read under Your Desk

Alex Moldovan, illustrations by Sebastian Baculea



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: English sample

Pages: 200

Publication: 2002

Age: 10+

Topic: middle grade, fiction

Rights available

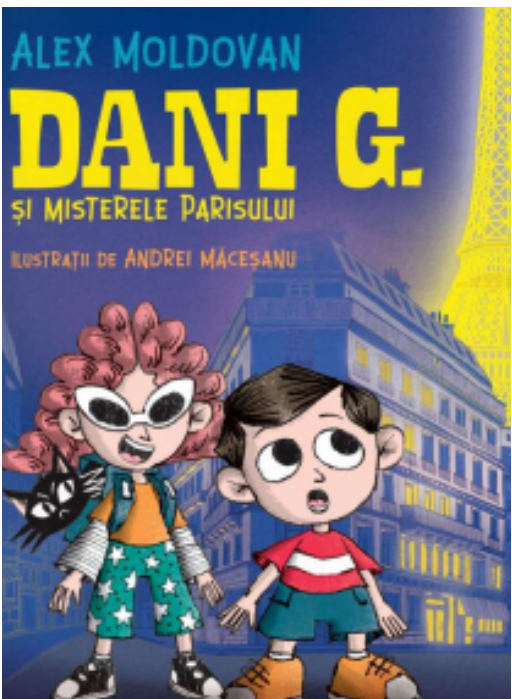
33 short stories to read under your school desk

Finally, here is a book for all those who are not exactly keen on school. Please meet the 5th graders from E class, whose main concern is to go out in their break. A lot of mysterious things happen to this class: all kind of things get animated, teachers become students and the other way around, classrooms strangely disappear, and Golden Fish run through the bathroom pipe. Also, there’s a new girl whose name nobody knows. There is also a missing story. And it’s better not to mention what happens in classroom number 26.

ALEX MOLDOVAN was born in 1977 in Cluj, where he lives. He is passionate about children’s literature, jazz and is a volunteer at an animal protection association. He studied Philosophy and has a Master’s Degree in Philosophy. Among other things, he worked as a bookseller and is currently a literary translator, having translated about 40 books for several major publishing houses in Romania. He has a cultural blog and writes for Romanian cultural magazines on different topics. He has also written a poetry book which he has later disowned.

Olguța and the Million Dollar Grandpa is his debut novel and one of the finalists of the Arthur Trophy.

By the same author:



Dani G. series illu. by Andrei Măceșanu

In Alex Moldovan’s new series, humor and adventure know no bounds. It all started with an explosion. BOOM! Dani G.’s house blows up. It turns out his family has a formidable enemy: Professor Inventio. Coincidence? Guță, their talking cat, says no. He used to be a cop; nobody can fool him.

Dani G., his sister Amandina Savarina, his mom and dad—and Guță—decide to get the better of him. That’s life: sometimes you have to ditch the pool, your spider collection—even your selfies!—and go save the world.

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2025, section The Best Children’s Fiction Book of the Year

Forest of the Little Witch

Mihai Buzea, illustrated by Ioana Pârvan



Publisher: Frontiera

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English sample

Pages: 120

Publication: 2025

Age: 7+ years

Topics: adventure, fantasy, wildlife, family, coming-of-age

Rights available

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2025, section The Best Children's Fiction Book of the Year

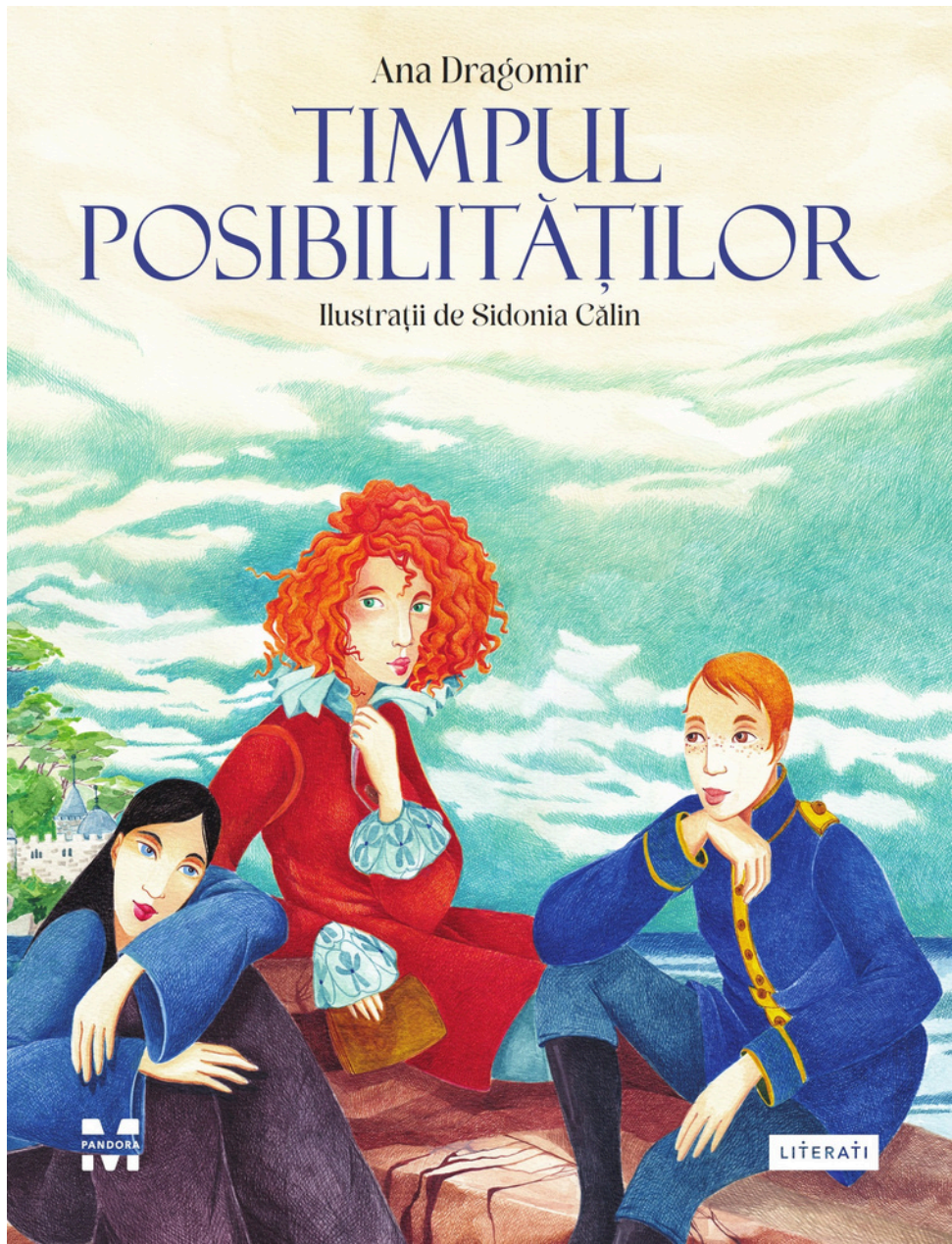
Everyday, Kittycone and her father wander through the forest nearby their home, a small wildlife haven in the middle of the city. While the man absently reads his book, the girl talks to plants and animals, discovering mysteries unveiled only to the young and innocent. But will she solve the greatest one of all, that of the Little Witch herself? A tender, insightful, and vividly illustrated chapter book, midway between Brothers Grimm's tales and contemporary stories.

MIHAI BUZEA graduated Philology studies. After an adventurous youth as a migrant worker in several European cities, in 2014 he went to London and became an arborist. He published eight novels and he is a regular contributor to several literary magazines in Romania. He now lives in Bruxelles and has a daughter, Diana, who inspired this debut in children's literature.

IOANA PÂRVAN is a freelance graphic designer and illustrator, with a vast experience as an art director in a Romanian independent communication agency. She has a Fine Arts degree, but she is self-educated in graphic design. She is passionate about details and typography, absolutely in love with the smell of fresh print. Forest of the Little Witch is her second illustrated book.

Time of Possibilities

Ana Dragomir, illustrated by Sidonia Călin



Publisher: TREI
Original language: Romanian
Materials available: English sample
Pages: 256
Publication: 2024
Age: 9-12 years
Rights available

In a distant land — both in time and space — an unfortunate King orders the burning of all books.

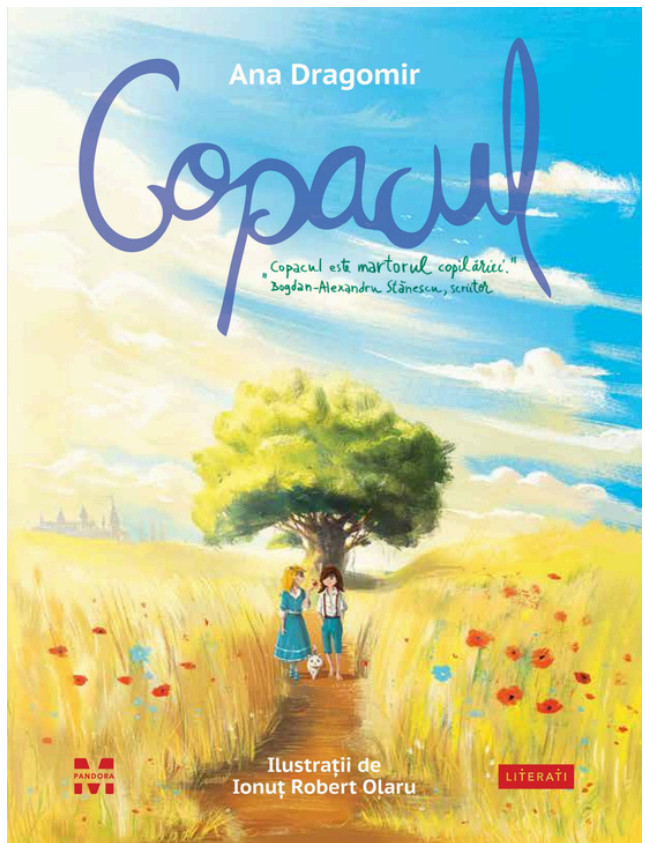
Other kings in this world have done it before, but none has been as stubborn as Leo against imagination and the word. Fortunately, however, a handful of brave people decide that the world cannot exist without the magic of the word and embark on a fantastic adventure meant to save fairy tales from a tyrant who hides a great sadness in his soul.

Will the brotherhood led by Miranda, the girl with fire-coloured hair, succeed in bringing stories back to people and reviving imagination and reverie in a barren and wild world?

ANA DRAGOMIR is 17 years old and lives in Bucharest. She debuted in 2019, with *In Search of Inspiration*, an emotional and engaging story about the power of imagination and the journeys that bring us friends for life. A year later, she launched *Fairy dust*, in which she convinces us that the world of stories is equally important for children and parents. She loves spending her free time in nature, in the countryside – the place that inspired her to write her third book, *The Tree*.

Ana is passionate about reading, loves Great Britain and enjoys inventing stories that make the world more beautiful.

By the same author:



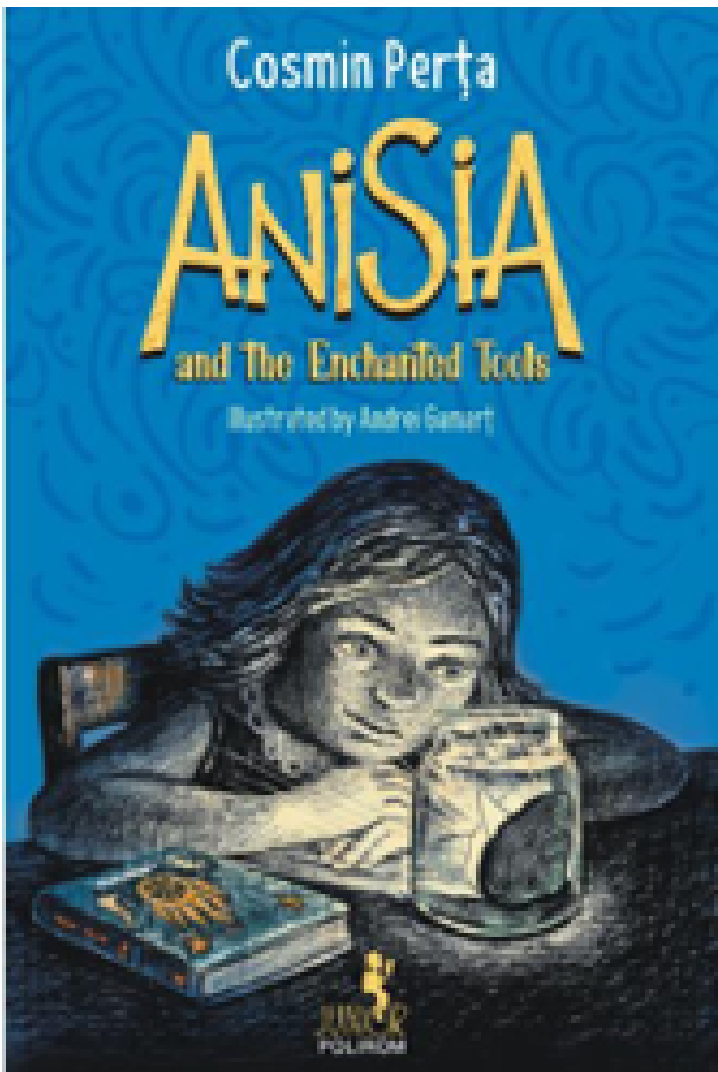
The Tree (2021)

The tree in Ana Dragomir’s story was born on the 17th of November 1558, the very day Queen Elizabeth I was crowned. It learned about the surrounding world and the human realm in the company of the boy who planted it, Thomas, and his unusual friend Rosie. This humanized tree will go through important moments in history, witnessing changes, wars, love, hatred, technological development, and many other things. It will watch them with sympathy or enthusiasm and grow attached to the people who speak to it kindly and stop to rest under its branches.

Anisia and the Enchanted Tools

volume #1 in the Anisia series

Cosmin Perța, illustrations by Andrei Gamart



Publisher: Polirom Junior

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: English sample

Pages: 112

Publication: 2021

Age: 8+

Topic: middle grade, fiction

Rights sold: Arabic (Sefsafa Publishing)

In a world where no one believes in anything anymore, Anisia, an orphaned thirteen-year-old girl, decides to embark on an unusual mission. Having the power to understand animals, she steals from the aquarium of the children's home where she is raised and educated a quahog shell and escapes in an attempt to find her younger brother, abducted from the same place a few years ago. What she doesn't know is that her mission is far more important than she imagined. Along the way, she discovers that her powers are not limited to understanding animals, and with her philosophical quahog shell and her Down Syndrome friend, she begins a saga not only of finding her family, but also of saving the planet by fighting against the toxic Lords of the Mist.

REVIEWS

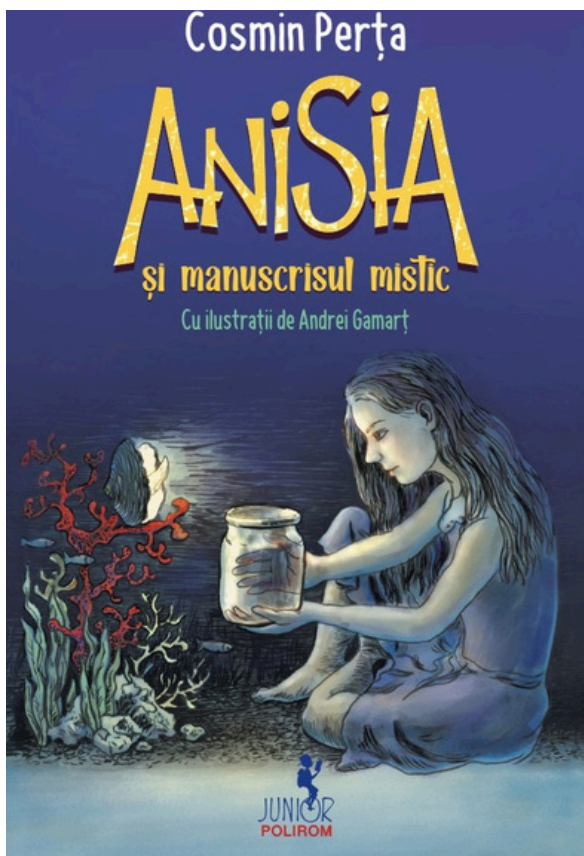
“Travel and adventure novel, *Anisia and the enchanted tools* has everything: story, humour, imagination, educational value, even a little magic. Cosmin Perța creates a mythical-medieval atmosphere, as in the great books of adventures and quests dedicated to children, which, together with the well-held plot, makes this volume a very valuable literary piece.”

— Luminița Corneanu – Literary critic

COSMIN PERȚA was born in Viseu de Sus, Maramures, in 1982. He is a poet, novelist, drama writer and essayist. He graduated from the *Literature Faculty* of the Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj. He went on to take an MA in Contemporary Literature at *Bucharest University*, followed by a PhD with a thesis about the fantastic in East-European literature.

In 2012 he was elected as the *Best Young Romanian Prose Writer*. In the Romanian and foreign press there are more than five hundred reviews and references to his work. In the last ten years he has been awarded some of the most prestigious Romanian literary prizes. He is currently freelancer editor and professor of comparative literature at the *Hyperion University* in Bucharest. His works have been translated into sixteen languages.

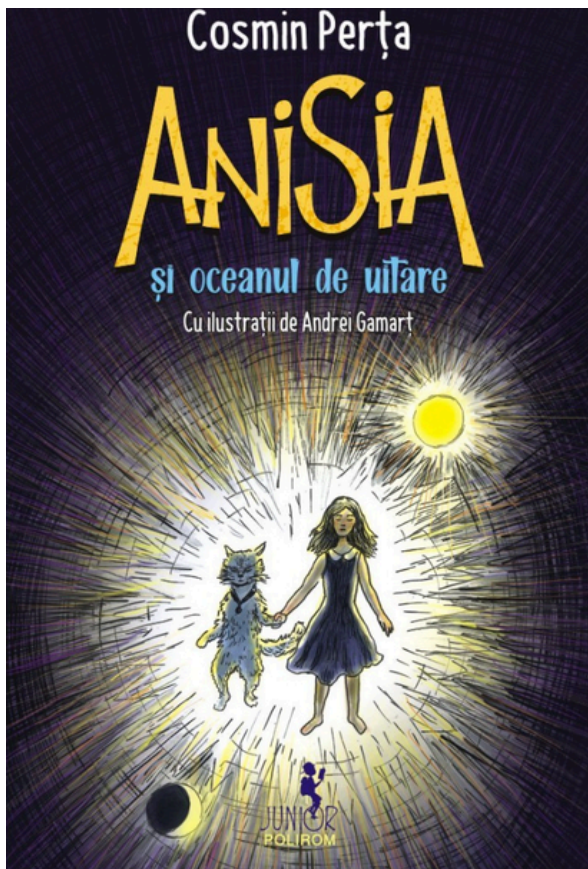
By the same author:



Anisia and the Mystic Manuscript (2022)

volume #2 in the Anisia series

Rights sold: Arabic

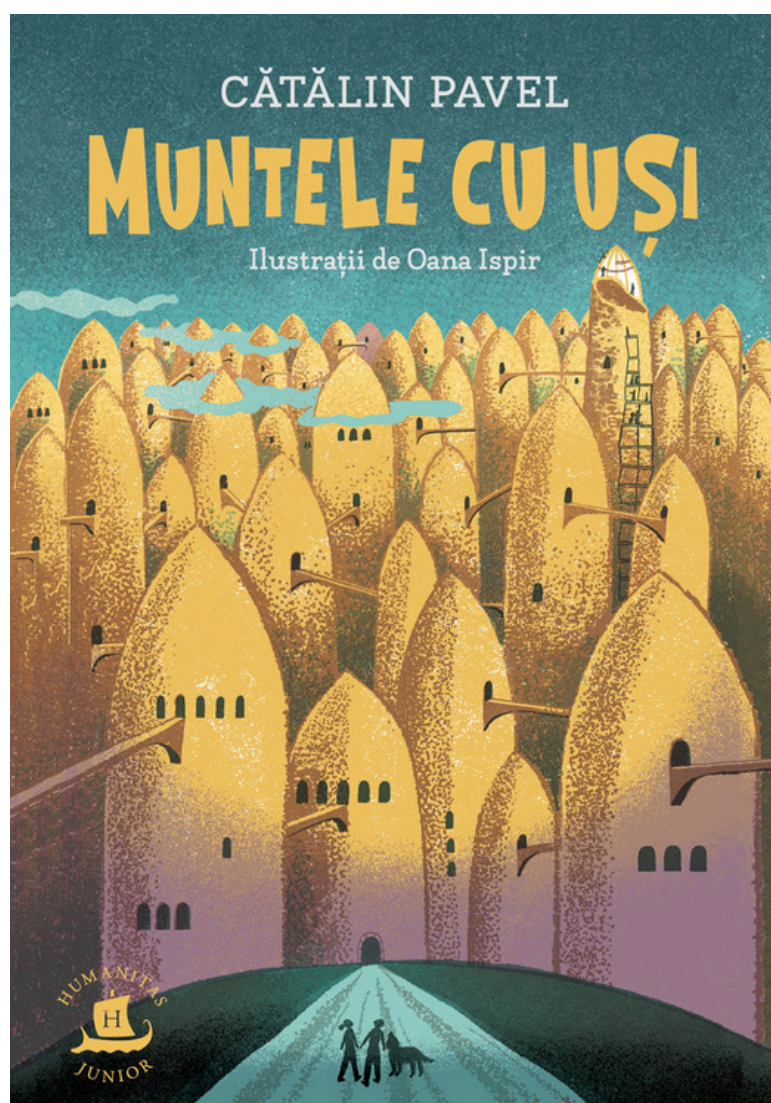


Anisia and the Ocean of Forgiveness (2024)

volume #3 in the Anisia series

The Mountain With Doors

Cătălin Pavel, illustrations by Oana Ispir



Proprietor: Humanitas Junior

Original language: Romanian

Pages: 136

Publication: 2024

Age: 8+

Genre: children's literature, literary fiction

Nominated for the Cărturino Prize 2025, section The Best Children's Fiction Book of the Year

What does a camel feel when it chews gum? Why were the world's first color photographs taken in Romania? How does Tagor the walking tree talk? These are just some of the little things that Sara will find out during her adventure through the Door Mountain with Rémy and Mr. Dog. Because the really significant things will only be found out at the end of the adventure: how to be patient with your parents and what is the terrible secret of Orbikon, king of the Endless House.

Books can't be written by prescription, but this book is 50 percent mystery and 50 percent laughter. And once you read it, you will never, ever, ever be afraid again.

CĂTĂLIN PAVEL (born 1976) is a Romanian writer and archaeologist. He is currently an Associate Professor of Archaeology at the Ovidius University in Constanța, Romania, where he coordinates PhD dissertations and directs the University's excavations in a sector of the ancient city of Histria. Pavel participated in archaeological excavations in Romania, Germany, France, Morocco, Israel, the UK and particularly Turkey (Troy, Miletus and Gordion). He held doctoral and post-doctoral fellowships at the Univ. of Oxford, the Univ. Paris 1 Panthéon Sorbonne, the New Europe College in Bucharest, the University of Hamburg and the Albright Archaeological Institute in Jerusalem, and published a good 40 scientific articles and chapters in books.

In 2017-2019 Pavel was elected in European Union's CELA program for promoting literary talents. The EU programme Creative Europe / CELA translated some of Pavel's work and published it, particularly fragments of the novel *Portasar Not for an Instant* (*Nicio clipă Portasar*, 2015): Dutch by Jan Willem Bos, Spanish by Corina Oproae, Portuguese by Simion Doru Cristea, Italian by Maria Alampi, and also the short story "The Subway". Pavel also published some 400 articles in Romanian cultural weeklies (Dilema Veche) and monthlies (Ramuri), on topics ranging from archaeology to literature. He was offered several literary residences (FILIT, Passa Porta) and was an official guest at the Leipzig Book Fair 2023.

Iris Cartier's Miraculous Forgotten Life

Flavius Ardelean-Bachmann, illustrations by Radu Răileanu



Publisher: Polirom Junior

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: English sample

Pages: 200

Publication: 2023

Age: 9+

Topic: middle grade, fantasy, adventure

Rights available

**Nominated at Book of The Year Prize in
Prizes of the Year for Culture, Brașov 2023**

Winner of the Cărturino Prize 2024, section The Best Children's Fiction Book of the Year

Next to a sad and nameless town is Mrs. Krallé's orphanage, where the orphan Iris lives with her doll Siri. Living there is very unhappy for the little girl because Mrs. Krallé doesn't like her and the other children think she's a freak. But when Iris discovers a magic pearl in Siri's chest and blows on it, a miraculous world is revealed to her: The Cartier Theatre with its sleeping dolls.

With the help of Mrs. Kah and Mr. Wuh, creatures of dust and rust, Iris sets off in search of the Breath of Life through the underground universe guarded by the goddess Mamamana. Lights and shadows, love and hate, truth and lies, brave people and scary monsters - Iris Cartier's Miraculous Forgotten Life is the fascinating story of self-discovery, and Iris is each of us.

REVIEWS

"Flavius Ardelean-Bachmann's novel transports you from the first pages into a Miyazaki animated film: a dark universe where shadows come to life and memory hides, not reveals. Iris, the main character, the little girl who gives life to the dolls, lives in a hostile world, from which she takes refuge in a parallel, yet familiar existence."

"This is a book akin to Alice in Wonderland, but also to Pinocchio - Flavius Ardelean-Bachmann has mastered the art of suspense, but also the secrets of high-quality "children's" prose: he knows that such prose must show the world as it is - full of shadows, haunted by darkness and demons."

– Bogdan-Alexandru Stănescu

The Amazing Adventures of Vico, The Vampire Bat, in Mirabelia

Radu Țuculescu, illustrations by Radu Răileanu



Publisher: Polirom

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: Romanian manuscript

Pages: 160

Publication: 2022

Age: 9+

Topic: middle grade, fantasy, adventure

Rights sold: Germany, Spain

A story like no other is and will never be for adults, young people and children. Vico was born into a family of vampire bats. Even as a child he was an exception. A maverick. He doesn't sleep upside down like his parents and siblings. He feeds only on fruit, that's why he proudly declares himself a fruitarian! He has a lot of humor and is very talented in music. He learns to play the saxophone, and at the last school party he performs blues on stage with great success. After graduation, he takes his saxophone shining like gold and sets off into the world. He stops in Mirabelia, a country by the sea, rich in orchards and forests. Here he meets the serpent Sarisa. What an accident, what a meeting, what a coincidence! The serpent is a vocal blues soloist, very popular in the country. A vegetarian snake, master in the preparation of syrups and jams! The love of music will unite the two. They will live in a vast, rich forest, where animals of the most diverse kind live. Mirabelia is an imperial-royal country - like no other in the world -, ruled by an emperor (the giant rhinoceros) and a queen (the graceful gazelle) who organizes the Ball of Tolerance every year, in the great clearing of the forest, where all the living creatures of the land are invited. The many adventures of Vico the bat and Sarisa the serpent are thrilling, mysterious, unpredictable, suspenseful, but also humorous.

REVIEWS

"Mirabelia is the country where, among many other wonders, a bat-saxophonist, a snake-vocalist, a spider-percussionist, a chimpanzee-double bass player, a badger-musicologist and a squirrel playing piano alternately with a lizzard of the Moloch horridus variety... In the most perfect harmony. Not strange at all for the country hosting the Tolerance Ball! But because things can't be perfect anywhere all the time, Mirabelia is also hit by the sneezing pandemic. Good that we have our musicians! Only an author who is both a writer and a musician (even a magician) can write such a story. And Radu Țuculescu is all three."

– Florin Bican

RADU ȚUCULESCU (1949-2025) is a novelist, playwright and translator from German. He graduated from the Conservatory in Cluj, violin section. Among his published novels, we mention: *The Fingers of Marsias* (1985), *The Shadow of the Goose Feather* (1991), *The Tales of the Old Mother* (2006), *Stalin, with a Hoe Ahead* (2009), *Women of the Insomniac* (2012), *Blackbird* (2015), *The Kennedy Butchery* (2017), *The Marzipan Woman* (2020). He also published children's books - *Ina and Pit the Hedgehog. Adventures in Grandfather's Camera* (2 vols., 2017, 2018), *The Amazing Adventures of Vico the Bat in Mirabelia* (2022) - and theater volumes - *What the Hell Is Going on With This Train?* (2004), *Our Brave Micșă!* (2010), *Three in the Bedroom* (2021). He has received national and international awards for prose, theatre, translation and television film. His books have been translated in Germany, Italy, France, Hungary, Austria, Czech Republic, Israel, Serbia and Ukraine, and his plays have been performed in Czech, Hungarian, English, Hebrew, Italian and French. He received the European Literature Prize for *The Tales of the Old Mother* (2006), sold among others in Serbia and Germany.

Flavius Ardelean-Bachmann is a writer of fantasy literature for adults and children, member of the Horror Writers Association.

He has published nine novels and three volumes of short stories, for which he has received two Colin Awards for Fantasy Literature. His debut volume, *The Taming of the Waters*, was nominated at the *Festival du Premier Roman de Chambéry*, France, and Flavius has been nominated twice in a row for the *Young Writer of the Year* award at the *Young Writers' Gala* in Bucharest for his novels in the *Miasma* cycle.

His children's books were nominated for the *Book of the Year* award at the *Cultural Year Awards* in Brasov, and his most recent book, *The Miraculous Forgotten Life of Iris Cartier*, won the *Children's Literature Book of the Year 2023* award at the *Cărturino Awards* organised by Cărturești bookshops.

His novels and stories have been translated into English, Russian, Hungarian, Bulgarian and German.

You can find out more at www.ardelean-bachmann.net.

The Marquis' Tales

Brad Florescu, illustrations by Matei Alexandrescu



Publisher: Frontiera

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: English sample

Pages: 88

Publication: 2021

Age: 7+

Topic: fiction, world tales, middle grade

Rights available

Humorous and absurd tales from around the world retold in a modern language and delicate watercolour illustrations

The sausage died, the cat cried, the door squeaked, the tree waved and... what image what the marquis did! Humorous and absurd tale around the world retold in a modern language and delicate watercolour illustrations.

Cocorul dansator

POVESTE
DIN CHINA



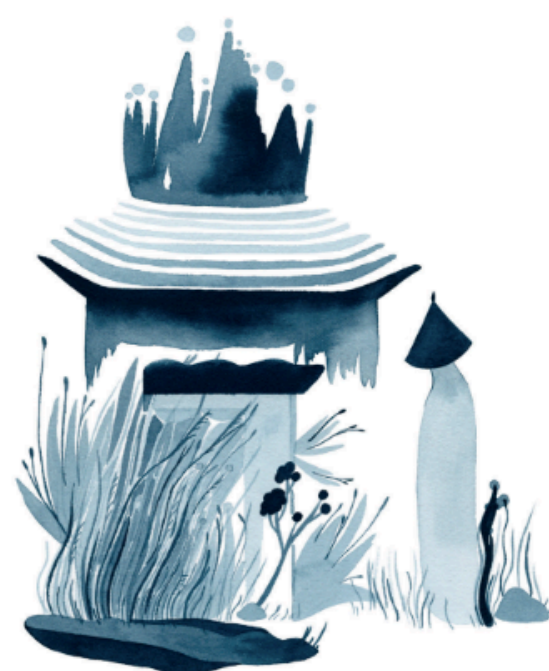
A fost odată un Nemuritor - pe nume Lu Dongbin - care umbla de colo colo prin China, căutând un om cinstit și nevoias pe care să-l ajute. Dar fiindcă umbla îmbrăcat în cereșor, nimeni nu-l băga în seamă pe Nemuritorul Lu Dongbin. Nimeni nu-l arunca un bănuș sau o coajă de pâine și, astfel, sarcina lui de a găsi un om de omenie se dovedea din ce în ce mai dificilă, dacă nu chiar imposibilă.

Într-o seară plătăsă, obosit, uși până la piele și mori de foame, Lu Dongbin începu să se la răd ospătăriele dintr-un orașel de câmpie. La fiecare ospătărie, se așeza la o masă și comanda de mâncare. Dar cărciumarii, văzându-l îmbrăcat în zdrențe și temându-se că nu va avea bani să plătească ce-a mâncat, îl dădeau pe ușă afară.

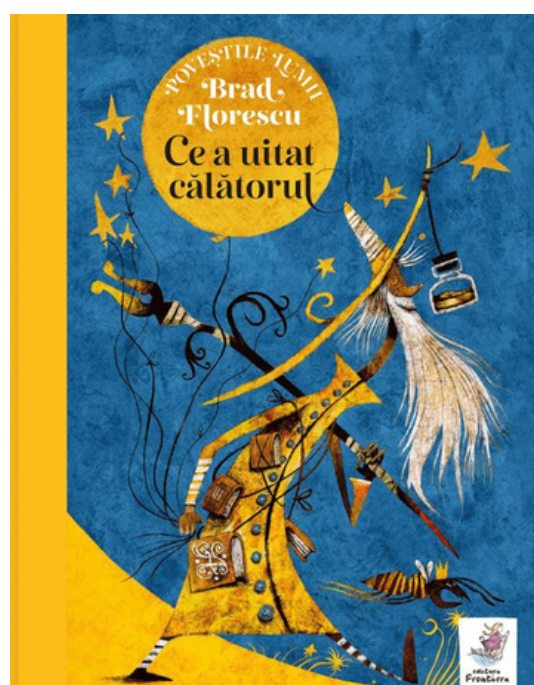
După multe încercări, cănd aproape că-și pierduse încrederea în omenire, Lu Dongbin ajunse la marginea orașului, unde-i atrase atenția un steag roșu pe care scria „Restaurantul Familiei Xin (Căin)”. Intră fără mare nădejde că va primi ceva de îmbucac.

Cărciumarul, domnul Xi Xin (Căi Căin), era un bărbat între două vârste, cu un chip amabil și un zâmbet sincer. Sări îndată din apotele tojbelei să-și întâmpine mustrorul. Îi puși la o masă și-i porunci ospătarului să aducă de îndată ceva cald și să-l întrebe pe mesen ce dorește.

Nemuritorul Lu Dongbin cîti mental de la cap la coadă și de la coadă la cap. Apoi, rușinat, îi spuse adevărul cărciumarului:



BRAD FLORESCU is a traveler and journalist. He has written travel pieces from around the world and has been awarded numerous prizes for photography and journalism. This series of tale retellings is modern, witty and extremely attractive for today's children

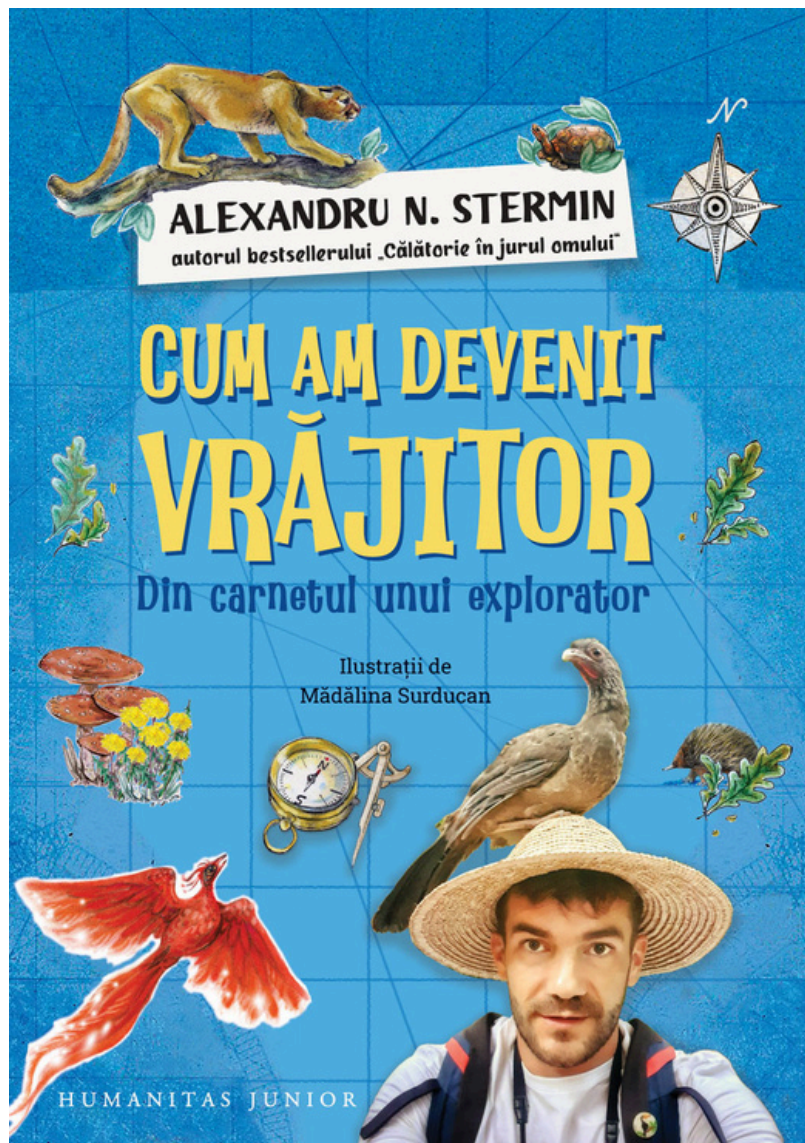


Second volume of the series: *The Traveller's Tales*
(ill. by Ștefan Georgescu, 2022)

How I Became Wizard

Notes from an Explorer

Alexandru Stermin, illustrations by Mădălina Surducan



Proprietor: Humanitas

Original language: Romanian

Material: English sample

Pages: 120

Publication: 2023

Age: 10+; 7-10 years

Rights available

Passionate biologist and tireless traveler in space, in time and in himself, Alexandru N. Stermin is, above all, a man who loves the magic of the surrounding world, which he travels and investigates with ever curious eyes. With these notes he invites you to accompany him on a fabulous journey through the world, from the past of mankind to the recent present and from the largest swamp in Transylvania to the Amazon jungle. Are you ready?

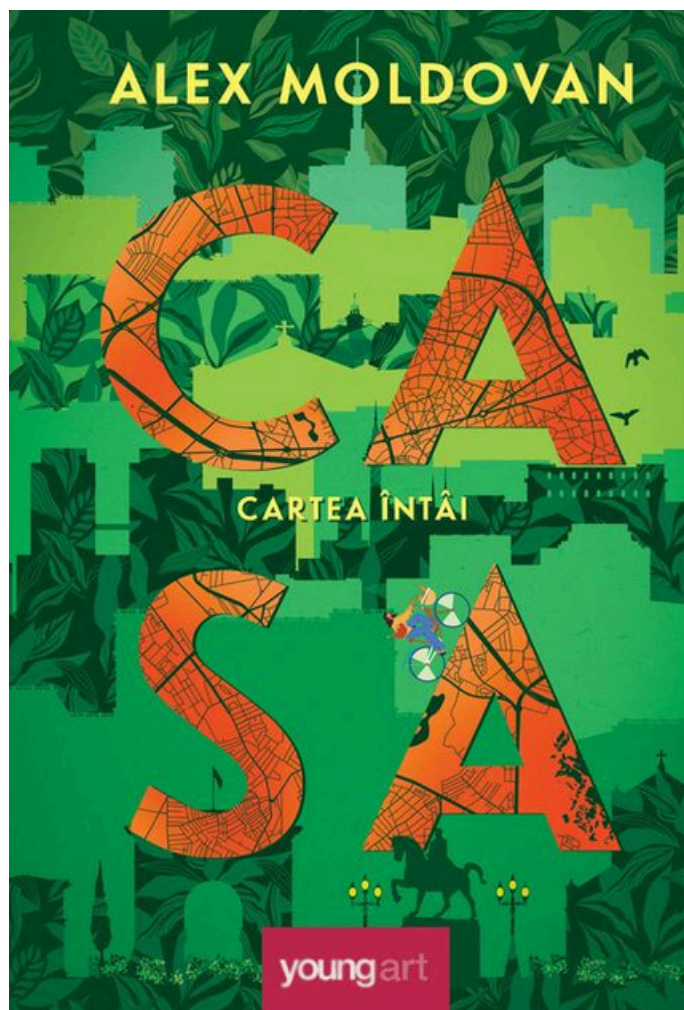
I've trekked through enchanted lands, got to explore the largest swamps in Romania and the world, explored the most pristine and teeming jungles on the globe, seen dragon-birds, searched for fire-birds and found three-eyed lizards. I learned the language of flowers and animals, and deciphered the signs hidden in the skull bones I discovered on expeditions. That's how I became a wizard. The stories I've written here really happened. I wrote them out of a need to capture the astonishing world we live in. I dedicate them to all the children, and to you, for the curiosity that urged you to take this book in your hands to wonder and to travel far away. - Alexandru N. Stermin

ALEXANDRU N. STERMIN is a biologist and explorer. He teaches courses on comparative anatomy of vertebrates, ethology, bioethics and human ecology at the Faculty of Biology and Geology of Babeș-Bolyai University. He studied Biology and Theology, completed a Master's degree in Philosophy and a training program in Positive Psychotherapy. He participated in expeditions in the jungle of South America and in Siberia, he was a scholar at the University of Greifswald and at the State University of Rio de Janeiro. He is actively involved in the popularization of science and nature conservation. In 2015 he contributed to the *Fauna of Romania (Birds)* series published by the Romanian Academy. In 2017, he released his first book, *Journal of an Ornithologist*. He writes articles for Sinteza and National Geographic magazines. In 2021, he received the Excellence Award from Babeș-Bolyai University, for cultural involvement and openness to the community.

YOUNG ADULT

The House. Book One

Alex Moldovan



Publisher: Arthur

Original language: Romanian

Pages: 392

Publication: 2023

Age: 14+

Topic: dystopia, ecology, politics

Rights available

We are in 2045. Many years have passed since the Green Revolution, and Romania has 30 million inhabitants. Ecology is religion: Bucharest is the greenest European city, everybody lives healthily, smoking and alcohol consumption are prohibited. There are no more personal cars, only public transport and bicycles.

When Tara Medinski is elected to the Council of the 301 and brought to the House, the official residence of the President, it comes as a surprise to everyone - but especially to her. A student in the twelfth grade, her only talent is causing trouble. She has ten days to join one of the three political factions in the House and begin her work as a state official. However, she finds herself trapped in a hostile environment, where power plays make victims. And as the time to join a faction approaches, choosing it becomes almost impossible.

ALEX MOLDOVAN was born in 1977 in Cluj, where he lives. He is passionate about children's literature, jazz and is a volunteer at an animal protection association. He studied Philosophy and has a Master's Degree in Philosophy. Among other things, he worked as a bookseller and is currently a literary translator, having translated about 40 books for several major publishing houses in Romania. He has a cultural blog and writes for Romanian cultural magazines on different topics. He has also written a poetry book which he has later disowned.

Olguța and the Million Dollar Grandpa is his debut novel and one of the finalists of the Arthur Trophy.

COMICS & GRAPHIC NOVELS

MyMotherIsSomething DontKnowHowToCallIt

Corina Dascălu, illustrated by Marta Crețu



Publisher: Grafic/ Art Publishing Group

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English translation

Pages: 64

Publication: 2025

Age: 14+

Rights available

"I would have loved to have read this when I was 14. And my mother would have loved to read it even more," said someone who saw the text some time before publication. Indeed, it is amazing how, in just a few words, Corina Dascălu constructs such a powerful text.

Depression, fear, anxiety, a child's need for love, who curls up in a little ball of fear when his mother is not her usual self – "brown eyes like two sweet, shiny chestnuts (...) strong, dexterous hands with which she kneads dough" – her teeth grow large and sharp, her tongue splits and you can no longer understand her.

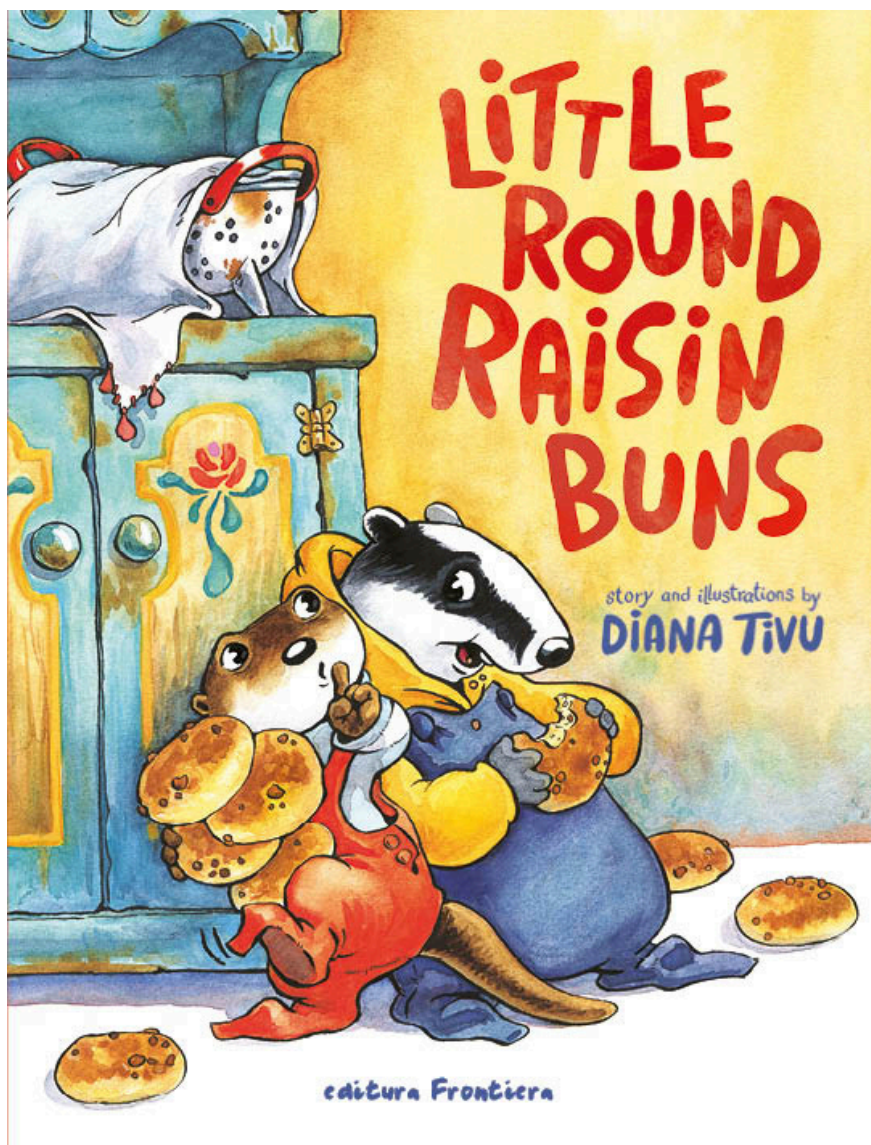
You never know what leads to this transformation and you learn to make yourself small and light, like a soap bubble, not to whine, to smile even when you feel like crying. Who, who is mother? *Mother is a Nuștiuce...*

CORINA DASCĂLU was born in Ploiești in 1989. Her first drawings, made with pieces of brick in the yard of the house where she grew up, resembled scribbled cats. When she grew up, she continued to draw, but without taking any classes. She thought she would devote herself entirely to poetry, until she discovered *Where the Wild Things Are* by Maurice Sendak.

MARTA CREȚU is a 12th grade student at a high school in Galați. Since she attended the "Live in a Story!" camp for the first time in 2022, opportunities have started to come her way: special mention at the *Animate the Festival* animation workshop, at the Animest 2022 film festival, participation in the *Let's Go Digital!*, film workshop under the umbrella of TIFF 2023, founding a film club, volunteering, numerous artistic projects, and now illustrating a book. Her interests include topics such as bullfighting, the Wild West, and monumentalism, and in the future she wants to work in the film and comic book industry.

Little Round Raisin Buns

Diana Tivu



Proprietor: Frontiera

Original language: Romanian

Materials available: English sample

Pages: 32

Publication: 2024

Age: 3+;

Genre: children's literature, literary fiction

Rights available

Otter and Badger are craving for little round raisin buns. The best ones are made by Mr. Bear, an excellent cook, but with a rather... frightening reputation. How will Otter and Badger sneak into his kitchen and enjoy the raisin buns without getting caught? The duo of Otter and Badger reminds us of the comic pair Laurel and Hardy, and the story's happy ending portrays Mr. Bear in an unexpectedly friendly light.

Little Round Raisin Buns is a comic book for small children which marks the debut in this genre of illustrator Diana Tivu. It is a project created following a masterclass in Bucharest by Italian artist Sergio Ruzzier, who appreciated both the story itself and the traditional illustration technique of pen drawing and watercolour.

REVIEWS

A sweet story about kindness and friendship, featuring charming characters, suspense, clumsiness, plot twists, and delightful illustrations crafted with skill."

– Cititoria

"The adventure of the friends Otter and Badger is inspired by the avalanche of emotions I vividly remember from childhood – those feelings that pounded in my chest, reddened my cheeks, and made the tips of my ears burn when I would sneak with my brother to nibble on a few freshly baked cookies that Grandma had just taken out of the oven and left to cool until after lunch."

– Diana Tivu

DIANA TIVU is an illustrator and author of children's books. She has a background in architecture, but in 2015 she became a self-taught artist, building a diverse portfolio that includes classic titles and contemporary stories written by Romanian authors, alongside her own stories, both written and illustrated.

Around the Block

A Collection of 55 Timeless Games to Play Outside



Rights sold: Netherlands, Russia, Germany, Georgia, Czech, Poland

Original language: Romanian

Reading material: English

Around the Block is a box with games children played in the 70s, 80s, 90s, but which are also slowly coming back to the kids and parents' attention. It's a set of games, but it can also be perceived as a journey through and a reminder of one's childhood. The authors are copywriters at a Romanian publicity agency and know their stuff when it comes to design and meeting public's expectations.

Each edition has a custom made illustration for the box. Also, each publisher adapted the activity-cards to their market and cultural background. The box contains 55 outside games, but the authors have more than 100 illustrated cards with outside activities around the world. To these, each publisher contributed with their own ideas.

The book is a proud finalist in the Design section of Cannes Lions 2015. The event is the world's most important festival celebrating creative communications and the positive social impact of each project.