

# Children's Books from Bulgaria 2020

## *Writers and Artists*



NATIONAL  
PALACE OF CULTURE  
CONGRESS CENTRE  
SOFIA



NATIONAL  
BOOK CENTRE

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SOFIA



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National  
Culture Fund  
Bulgaria

The project has been made possible with the financial support of the National Culture Fund, Bulgaria.



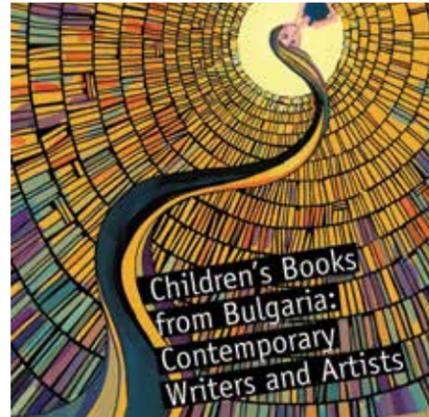
VIVACOM, along with the National Book Centre and Peroto Literary Club at the National Palace of Culture – Congress Centre Sofia, support Bulgarian literature.

# Children's Books from Bulgaria 2020 *Writers and Artists*

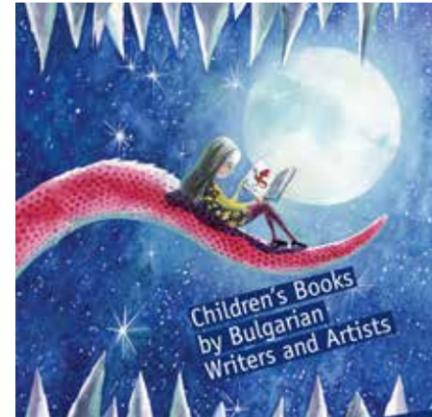
2016



2017



2019



## Children's Books from Bulgaria 2020: *Writers and Artists*

National Book Centre Catalogue

Editorial Selection/Guest Editor: Valentina Stoeva, Chair of Children's Books Foundation

**Writers/Illustrators** © Adriana Gerasimova, Albena Limoni, Alexandra Dimitrova, Aneta Ducheveva, Angela Minkova, Anna Boyadzhieva, Antonia Angelova, Asya Koleva, Bistra Maseva, Damyan Damyanov, Dima Damyanova, Dylan Thomas, E. T. A. Hoffmann, Elena Panayotova, Elitsa Dimitrova, Ema Vakarelova, Eugène Ionesco, Gergana Dzingarova, Hristina Eftimova, Ina Hristova, Iva Gikova, Iva Sasheva, J. K. Rowling, Kalina Hristova, Kalina Muhova, Kapka Kaneva, Katina Nedeva, Katina Peeva, Kiril Zlatkov, Lyuba Haleva, Lyuben Zidarov, Margarita Doncheva, Maria Nalbantova, Marin Troshanov, Mateya Arkova, Maya Dalgacheva, Miglena Papazova, Mihaela Karadzova, Mila Yaneva-Tabakova, Milen Haliov, Milena Valnarova, Monika Popova, Nevena Angelova, Peter Stanimirov, Petya Alexandrova, Petya Dimitrova, Radoslina Nikolova, Rositsa Raleva, Rositsa Yachkova, Silvia Bogoeva, Slavi Stoev, Svetlana Mircheva, Svoboda Tsekova, Ted Hughes, Tekla Alexieva, Teodora "Tech" Doncheva, Tonya Goranova, Victoria "Mouse" Georgieva, Vyara Boyadzhieva, Zhenya Adamova, Zornitsa Hristova

English Translation © Gergana Rantcheva

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ISSN 2738-7313 (Online)



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**Dear READER,**

There has always been a strong tradition of children's literature in Bulgaria. Nevertheless, recent years have witnessed a renewed drive among Bulgarian publishers to introduce new writers and artists, authors of high-quality works of children's literature. This has been accompanied by a notable increase in professional standards, as well as the level of readers' expectations.

This fourth edition of *Children's Books from Bulgaria* presents a selection of ten children's books written by Bulgarian writers and five foreign titles illustrated by Bulgarian artists, all published in 2019 and all interesting, notable, and impressive works.

Literature brings light and positive values to children's minds. It teaches children to draw a line between good and bad, and gives them examples of how to cope with difficulties in order to become good citizens of their local communities and the world. The power of children's literature goes beyond borders and nations – it is universal and its final recipient is any young person who might need it.

Through children's books, we can understand much about a country and the current state of its culture. We believe that the suggested titles are representative and that the creative input of writers' and artists' work they display is strong in diversity, original in implementation and powerful in integrity.

We hope that you will be interested in having a glimpse of recent Bulgarian writers' and artists' contributions to the field of global children's literature.

**ANGEL MITEV**  
Executive Director  
National Palace of Culture –  
Congress Centre Sofia  
Republic of Bulgaria

## NATIONAL PALACE OF CULTURE

The National Palace of Culture – Congress Centre Sofia (known in short as the “National Palace of Culture”) is one of the largest multi-purpose venues in Southeastern Europe. Opened in 1981, the National Palace of Culture is designed to host a wide range of events, such as international congresses, official meetings, conferences, international conventions, summits, exhibitions, festivals, concerts and other cultural events. The National Palace of Culture houses a rich variety of the most distinguished Bulgarian collections of visual art designed by some of the country’s most prominent artists. These monumental works are integrated into the conceptual architecture and design of the building.

Currently, the National Palace of Culture seeks to give new dynamics to its environment by establishing diverse contemporary art spaces that are meant to shape Sofia’s cultural life. In 2018, the National Palace of Culture hosted the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

## NATIONAL BOOK CENTRE

The National Book Centre was founded at the National Palace of Culture – Congress Centre Sofia in February, 2015. Currently, the National Book Centre, along with Peroto (The Quill) Literary Club, forms the palace’s Contemporary Literature Division – a unit under the direction of Svetlozar Zhelev – which is housed within Marketing and Production Department of the National Palace of Culture.

The National Book Centre at the National Palace of Culture assists in the publication, distribution, translation and promotion of Bulgarian literature – at home and abroad. The National Book Centre at the National Palace of Culture works to support Bulgarian literature nationally and internationally, to create conditions conducive to its participation and visibility in the global literary field, and to affirm the National Palace of Culture’s image as an active contemporary culture centre – a venue initiating, fostering and producing cultural activity in the field of literature.

The main programs of the National Book Centre at the National Palace of Culture include two sponsorship programmes: the Translation Programme, designed for foreign publishers, as well as the Bulgarian Book Programme, open to Bulgarian publishers. The National Book Centre at the National Palace of Culture has also established the annual Peroto (The Quill) Literary Awards, named after the palace’s literary space, where the award ceremony is hosted. The National Book Centre at the National Palace of Culture also annually compiles and prints the *Contemporary Bulgarian Prose* and the *Children’s Books from Bulgaria* hybrid catalogue/anthology series.

The National Book Centre at the National Palace of Culture works in a close cooperation with the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Bulgaria, the National Culture Fund, the Bulgarian Book Association, VIVACOM, as well as other governmental, non-governmental and private bodies.

Complete information is available at <http://ndk.bg> or upon request at [nbc@ndk.bg](mailto:nbc@ndk.bg).

# **Children's Books Written by Bulgarian Writers**



## A Tale of the King and the Rain История за краля и гъжга

Writer: Zornitsa Hristova  
Illustrator: Kiril Zlatkov

Published in December 2019 by  
Tochitsa Publishing House,  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786197172249  
68 pages



The plot of the story focuses on a king at a time of a deluge. His kingdom is all but submerged; some are trying to save themselves, some animals and people are trying to save others. The king knows he can't save the kingdom, or the city, or the palace where he has lived for so long that he has had a headache in every room.

The illustrations, in grisaille, amplify and extend the meaning beyond the unexpected ending.

**Zornitsa Hristova** is a writer of children's literature and a translator. Her books have been published in Italian, Russian, Serbian and Macedonian. She has won the Hristo G. Danov National Award for children's literature twice – in 2014 (for *A Taste of Geography*) and in 2015 (for *When I Want To Say Nothing*, alongside Kiril Zlatkov). She is a three-time nominee for the Peroto Literary Award for Best Children's Book. She won the Elizabeth Kostova Award in 2019 and the Annual Award of the Bulgarian Translators' Union in 2010 and 2019. She is co-founder of Tochitsa Publishing House and the winner of the 2012 Golden Lion Award (Bulgarian Book Association) for her book *A Notebook for Fairy Tales*.

**Kiril Zlatkov** is an artist working in various areas of the visual arts – graphics, painting, posters, mural paintings, graphic design, illustration, calligraphy and fonts. He has had several independent exhibitions and has participated in numerous joint exhibitions, biennials, triennials in Bulgaria and abroad. He won the Golden Lion Award for his design of *Selected Works* by Daniil Kharms and the Hristo G. Danov National Award in 2015 alongside Zornitsa Hristova. He has also won awards for advertising and for stage poster design (the grand prize in the stage poster contest for the 200th anniversary of Chopin's birth; the prize for a Bulgarian artist at the VI International Triennial of Stage Poster in Sofia, among others). He also conducts research on the current problems of the Cyrillic script in modern fonts.



Имало едно време един крал

# СМЕШНИ ФАКТИ за ЖИВОТНИТЕ

Водните обитатели



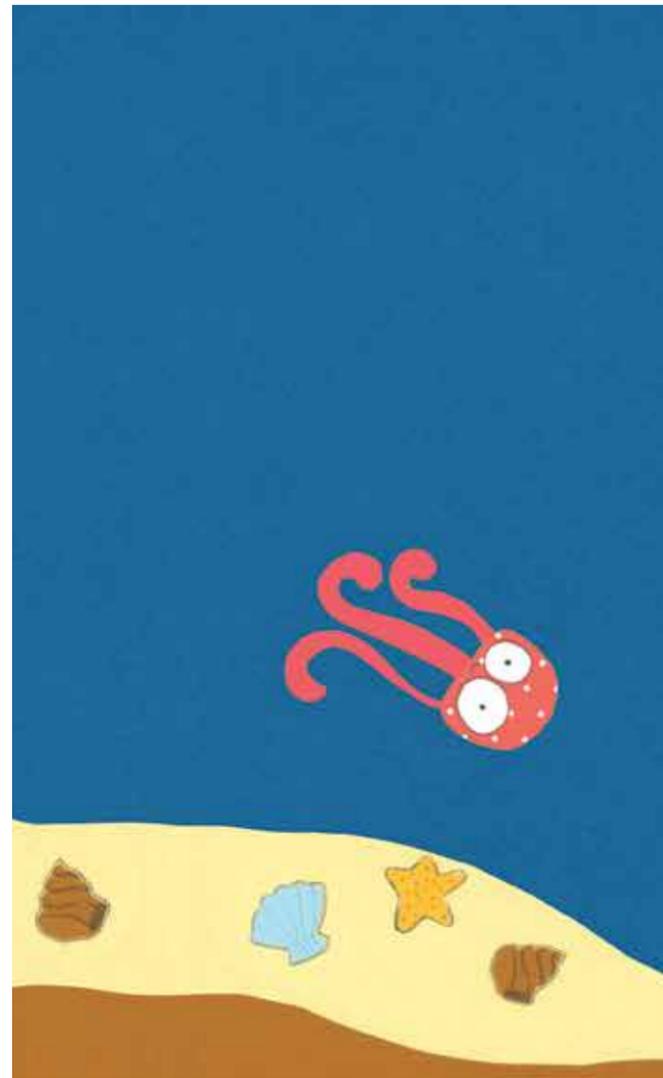
These interesting and funny facts about animals will inspire little explorers, while the peculiarities of the creatures in the book will make children fall even more in love with the surrounding world. The book reveals 10 facts about creatures living in the water, which in combination with the amusing illustrations are exceptionally memorable and intriguing for young readers and their parents.

**Katina Nedeva** was born in 1993. Inspired by her parents, she took her first steps into the world of art during her childhood years. Katina graduated from Tsanko Lavrenov National High School in Plovdiv with a specialty in Graphics and later did her Bachelor's degree in Book and Print Graphics at the National Academy of Arts in Sofia. Her first book *Bird Village*, which was also her final project at the NAA, was included in the prestigious *White Ravens* catalogue. She has since worked with writers, illustrating their books for children.

## Funny Facts about Animals. Water Creatures Смешни факти за животните. Водните обитатели

Writer, Illustrator: Katina Nedeva

Published in November 2019 by  
Robertino Publishing House,  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786192460013  
24 pages





A homeless puppy is searching for a home. "Are you my home?" the puppy asks the school, the hospital, the circus... And the talking buildings give him different answers. How does he find himself in a little doghouse in the end? Through the power of his dreams.

This is a story that is meant to be read and co-created – the illustrations give that away. You can build your own town and let your little puppy out for a walk. You can retell the story by changing the places where the puppy stops or you can embellish the plot any way you can imagine it. You can also contemplate questions that the story raises, such as what does it mean "when your fur bristles, you should listen to it"?

The book can be used as the basis of a project for language development, architectural and mathematical learning or philosophy for children. It is suitable for children between the ages of 7 to 10.

## How the Puppy Found a Home Как кученцето си намери дом

Writer: Maya Dalgacheva  
Illustrator: Nevena Angelova

Published in December 2019 by  
Janet-45 Print and Publishing,  
Plovdiv, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786191865338  
36 pages

**Maya Dalgacheva** (b. 1967) is a Bulgarian author of children's books of fairy tales, riddles and rhymes. She has written several rhymed plays for puppet theatre – that is the reason she has created many of her fairy tales in rhymed prose. She has been awarded the Golden Age Award by the Ministry of Culture (Bulgaria, 2006), Second Place in the International Fairytale Contest "Europe in a Fairy Tale" (2007), the Children's Literature Award (Union of Bulgarian Writers, Bulgaria, 2009), the Konstantin Konstantinov National Award for Best Author (Bulgaria, 2009), and the Petya Karakoleva National Award for Children's Literature (Bulgaria, 2013). She is an Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award Nominee.

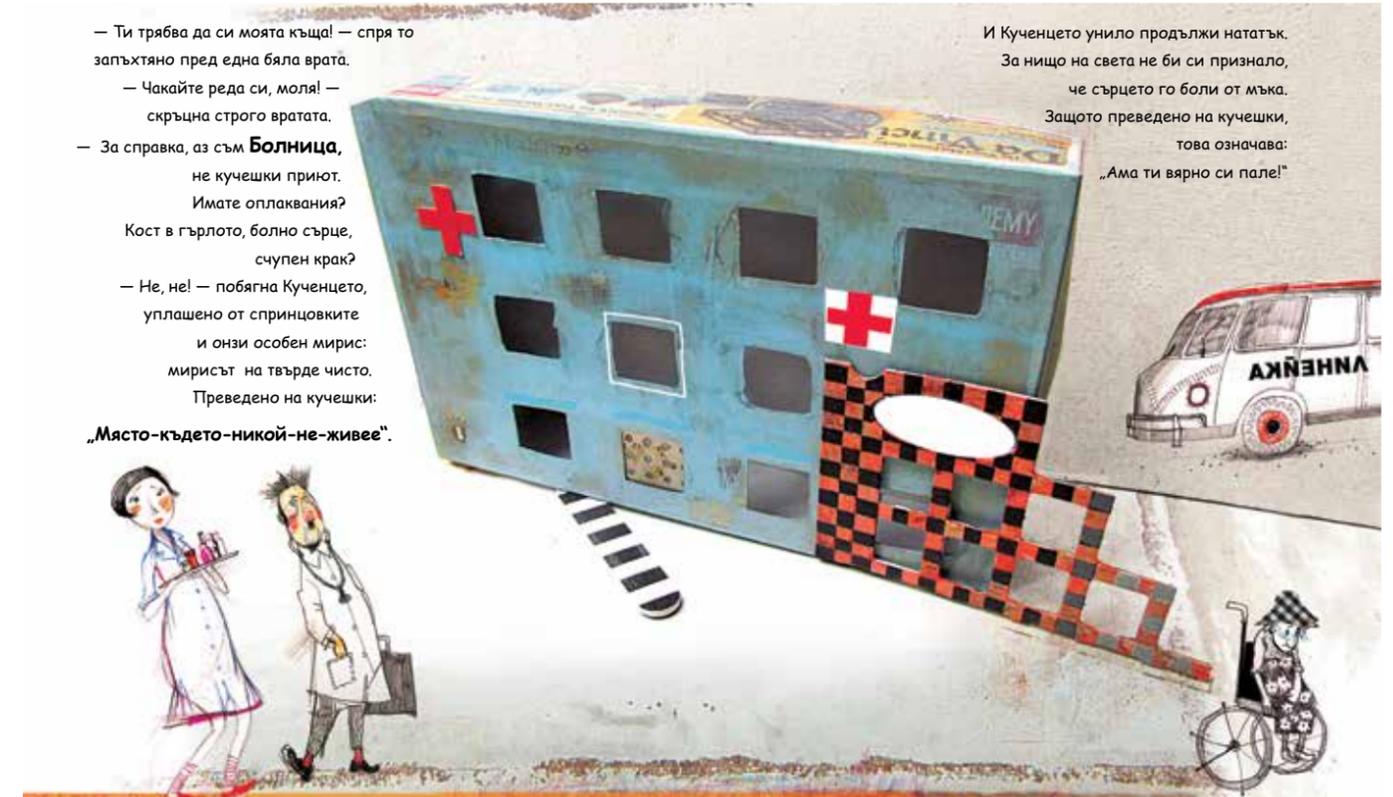
**Nevena Angelova** (b. 1974) graduated from the National Academy of Arts, Sofia, specializing in Book and Print Graphics. Over the last 10 years she has worked as a lecturer at the same academy. Besides at numerous exhibitions in Bulgaria, Angelova's works have been shown in the Netherlands, Switzerland, and other countries. She has illustrated and designed various editions for children and adults.



Имаше едно време едно малко бездомно Кученце.  
Най-много от всичко то мечтаеше да си има дом.  
То цял ден обикаляше улиците и душеше.  
Душеше и разпитваше къщите.

— Ти трябва да си моята къща! — спря то  
запъхтано пред една бяла врата.  
— Чакайте реда си, моля! —  
скръцна строго вратата.  
— За справка, аз съм **Болница**,  
не кучешки приют.  
Имате оплаквания?  
Кост в гърлото, болно сърце,  
счупен крак?  
— Не, не! — побягна Кученцето,  
уплашено от спринцовките  
и онзи особен мирис:  
мирисът на твърде чисто.  
Преведено на кучешки:  
**„Място-където-никой-не-живее“.**

И Кученцето унило продължи нататък.  
За нищо на света не би си признало,  
че сърцето го боли от мъка.  
Защото преведено на кучешки,  
това означава:  
„Ама ти варно си пале!“



## I Am a Bulgarian Woman Аз съм българка

Writer: Petya Alexandrova

Illustrators: Adriana Gerasimova, Albena Limoni, Alexandra Dimitrova, Angela Minkova, Anna Boyadzhieva, Antonia Angelova, Asya Koleva, Bistra Maseva, Victoria "Mouse" Georgieva, Vyara Boyadzhieva, Gergana Dzingarova, Dima Damyanova, Elena Panayotova, Elitsa Dimitrova, Ema Vakarelova, Zhenya Adamova, Iva Gikova, Ina Hristova, Kalina Muhova, Kalina Hristova, Kapka Kaneva, Katina Peeva, Lyuba Haleva, Margarita Doncheva, Maria Nalbantova, Miglena Papazova, Mila Yaneva-Tabakova, Milena Valnarova, Mihaela Karadzhova, Monika Popova, Nevena Angelova, Petya Dimitrova, Rositsa Raleva, Rositsa Yachkova, Svetlana Mircheva, Svoboda Tsekova, Silvia Bogoeva, Tekla Alexieva, Teodora "Tech" Doncheva and Tonya Goranova

Published in November 2019 by  
Ciela Norma AD,  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9789542830283  
168 pages

*I Am a Bulgarian Woman*, written by Petya Alexandrova, is a compilation of 40 stories about brave, intelligent and admirable women from Bulgarian history. Forty distinguished Bulgarian female artists drew the portraits for the book, making it a befitting Bulgarian rendition of the worldwide bestseller *Good Night Stories for Rebel Girls*. This special publication was compiled by the talented artist Kapka Kaneva. The stories of Veneta Boteva, Leda Mileva, Yana Yazova, Tsvetana Tabakova, Iva-Vanya, Vela Zhivkova-Blagoeva, Mara Belcheva – familiar and unfamiliar names from Bulgarian history – come alive again through the illustrations of Adriana



Gerasimova, Albena Limoni, Alexandra Dimitrova, Angela Minkova, Anna Boyadzhieva, Antonia Angelova, Asya Koleva, Bistra Maseva, Victoria "Mouse" Georgieva, Vyara Boyadzhieva, Gergana Dzingarova, Dima Damyanova, Elena Panayotova, Elitsa Dimitrova, Ema Vakarelova, Zhenya Adamova, Iva Gikova, Ina Hristova, Kalina Muhova, Kalina Hristova, Kapka Kaneva, Katina Peeva, Lyuba Haleva, Margarita Doncheva, Maria Nalbantova, Miglena Papazova, Mila Yaneva-Tabakova, Milena Valnarova, Mihaela Karadzhova, Monika Popova, Nevena Angelova, Petya Dimitrova, Rositsa Raleva, Rositsa Yachkova, Svetlana Mircheva, Svoboda Tsekova, Silvia Bogoeva, Tekla Alexieva, Teodora "Tech" Doncheva and Tonya Goranova.

Their original interpretations of the stories of Leda Mileva, Yana Yazova, Elisaveta Bagryana and many others turn *I Am a Bulgarian Woman* into a tapestry of images and stories, a tribute to the women who have been unfairly left out of our collective memory but who still live on in our genes.

**Petya Alexandrova** holds a degree in Bulgarian Philology from the University of Veliko Tarnovo St. Cyril and St. Methodius. She has worked as a journalist and teacher in Sliven. Since 1975 she has worked as a journalist for the newspapers *Trud* (Labour) and *Woman*, as well as for the magazines *Rodna Rech* (Native Speech), *Review* and *Evolution*. She has written eight books of poetry and prose for adults, 19 collections of fairy tales and poetry for children, the puppet play *Rashko the Donkey* and the animated film *The Tiny Rope*. Her poems have been translated into English, Polish, Romanian, Russian, Slovak and Turkish.

**Kapka Kaneva** graduated from the National School of Fine Arts and the National Academy of Arts with a degree in Book and Print Graphics. In 2006 she won a competition to work and reside in Cite Internationale des Arts, Paris, and in 2008 she defended her doctoral thesis on non-traditional publications for children. She works in the sphere of illustration, book and graphic design, paper plastic and collage. She is interested in the book as a spatial object.

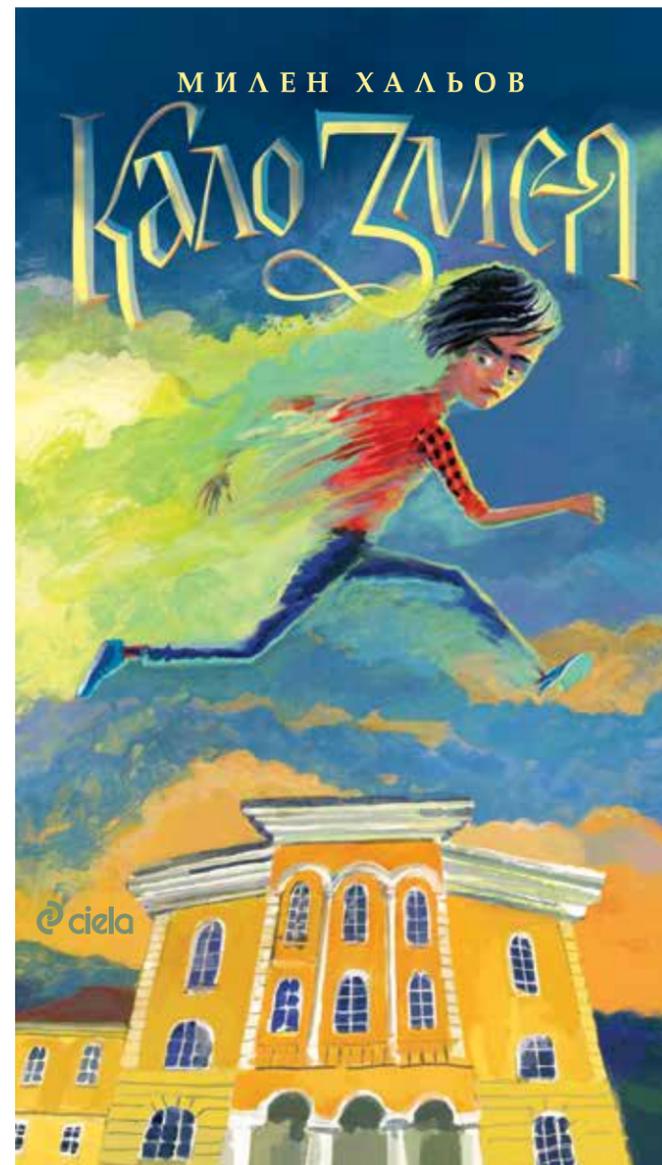


## Kalo the Dragon Кало Змея

Writer: Milen Haliiov

Illustrator: Damyan Damyanov

Published in May 2019 by  
Ciela Norma AD,  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9789542829010  
168 pages



We have all read the tale “The Three Brothers and the Golden Apple”, but who has ever thought that the lamia from the story could be defeated by a real... dragon! Kalo the Dragon is here to fight the dark forces from folk tales and legends.

Kalo appears to be an ordinary boy – he doesn’t like studying and always looks for ways to get out of doing work and to run around with a ball instead. No one suspects that Kalo is the son of a dragon and possesses superpowers, that at night he can fly over the rooftops and that in moments of danger he can even summon a storm to help him.

Almost no one apart from his mother is aware of his secret. But soon everything will change – with the appearance of a devious enemy who has the strength to oppose Kalo’s powers and with the arrival of the beautiful Yoana and her sister Raya, who also hide secrets of their own.

What actually happened to his father? What is the Dangori organisation and why is Kalo so important to it? Can anyone defeat the dangerous karakaondzholi, the scary ustreli and the bewitching samodivi?

Great danger looms over Kalo and the people close to him. He must master his powers in order to save the people he loves, but he must also preserve the humanity within himself in the fight between good and evil.

**Milen Haliiov** was born in Russe in 1988. He studied at the Prof. Veselin Stoyanov National School of Arts in Ruse, where he won awards in the sphere of graphics and painting. His passion for writing and painting prompted him to continue his education at the Krastyo Sarafov National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts with a degree in Animation Directing. He has taken part in numerous festivals in Bulgaria and abroad with his final degree project, the film *Traffic*. He has taught animation for cinema in a private college in Sofia and art at 127 High School Ivan N. Denkoglu. While working at these educational institutions, Milen obtained a degree in Pedagogy and worked in advertising. In 2016 he started teaching at a private school.

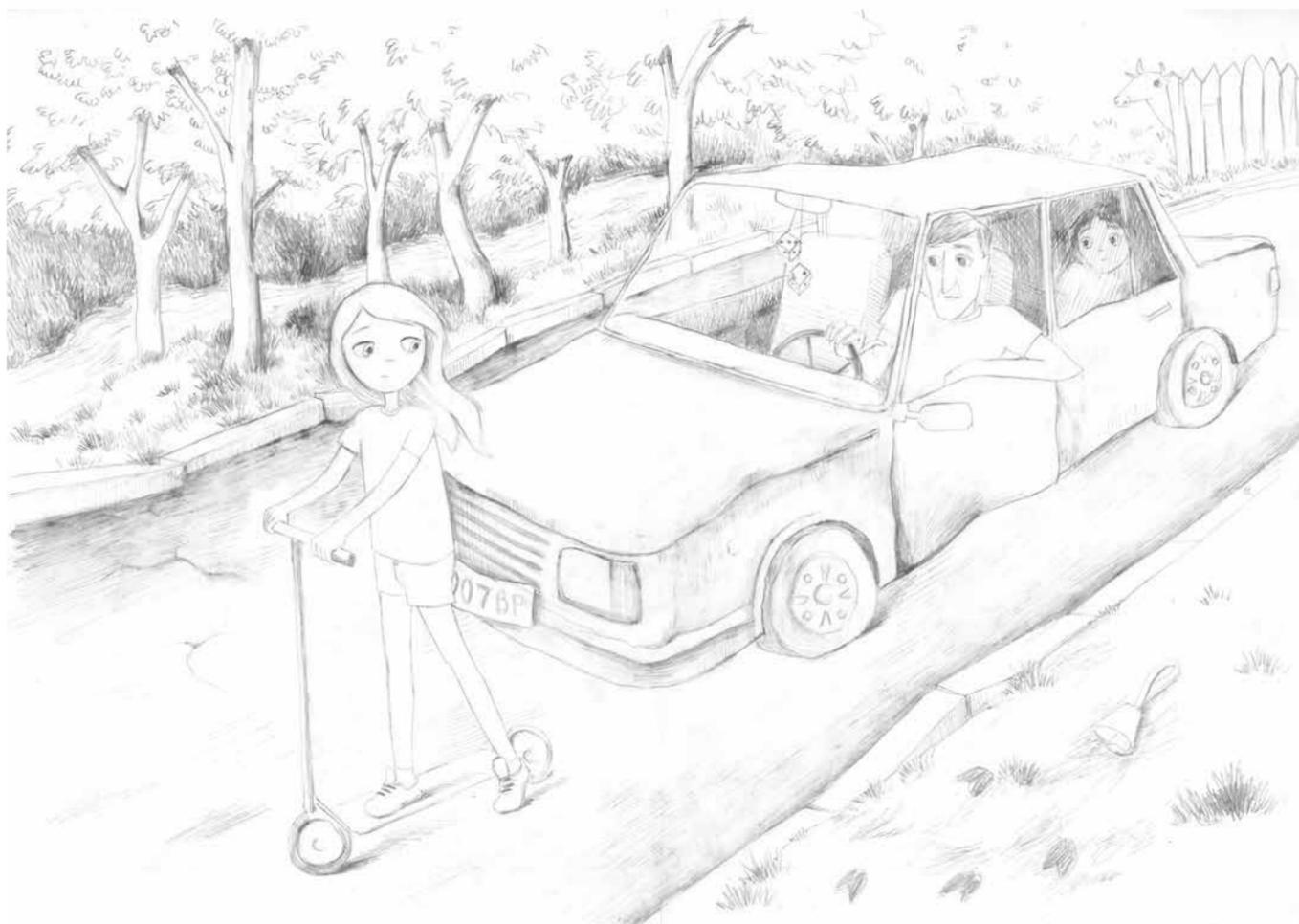
**Damyan Damyanov** is a multicultural artist whose works vary from posters, book design, illustration, postage stamps, typography and calligraphy. His illustrations for books by Gianni Rodari won him the National Award for Contributions to Book-Publishing for Children in 2017.



**Miss Wacky Jacky**  
Шантавія до шия

Writer: Radostina Nikolova  
Illustrator: Hristina Eftimova

Published in April 2019 by  
Marmot Books, Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786197241105  
160 pages



The twins Lina and Niko have plans for the summer, which go down the drain when their family moves to a new house ... in the countryside! In no time the children manage to get into trouble with their new neighbour, which kicks off a chain of amusing, scary and unexpected events. How is it that just when things start to get a bit messy, they get even messier?

**Hristina Eftimova** lives and creates in Varna. In 2008 she obtained a degree in Pedagogy of the Fine Arts with a specialty in Sculpture. She has been painting professionally for 20 years, but this is the first time we are able to enjoy her magical graphic style inside a children's book and outside of the galleries where she usually takes part in joint and independent exhibitions.

**Radostina Nikolova** is the author of the series *The Adventures of the Motts*, the book *My Beautiful Antlers*, the picture book *Waldo Without Wings* and the novel *Miss Wacky Jacky*. She is a three-time winner of the Enchanted Gem Award, which is decided by a children's vote across the whole of Bulgaria, and the Writer of the Year Prize for children's literature awarded by Sofia City Library. She holds a Bachelor's degree in English Philology and a Master's degree in Creative Writing from Sofia University.



*The Badger and the Lonely Oak* is a deeply allegorical tale, centred around three main characters: a badger, a magpie, and an old oak. The badger lives in a lair near the oak. He spends his time gathering all the acorns falling from the oak and then chasing away everyone who comes near his riches. To him, this selfish existence is the only one possible. If sharing leads to hunger and insecurity, then hoarding must certainly bring about happiness. The magpie circling around the oak and hopping about the badger's lair represents the Other: the refugee, the beggar, the neighbour, the stranger on the path of life. The lonely oak signifies the natural world perpetually robbed of all its fruits and treasures. It is the dying forest, the last member of a hunted species.

At a time when human selfishness threatens to reduce society to a wasteland of alienation and conflict, and rampant greed sets the stage for an ecological apocalypse, Iva Sasheva's story distils the malaise gripping our contemporary society and offers a path for the salvation of nature and the individual. The meaning of life was known to the sages composing the ancient Vedas. It is simply giving, *dāna*. It fulfils one's wishes, cures sadness and loneliness, saves the trees, the forest, and, ultimately, life on the planet.

Nikolai Grozni

## The Badger and the Lonely Oak Язовецът и самотният гъб

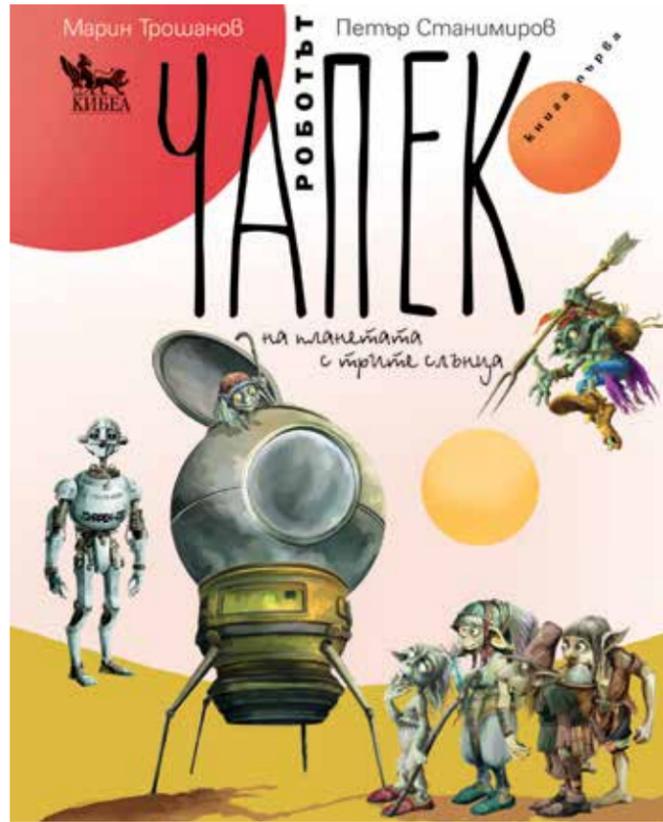
Writer, Illustrator: Iva Sasheva

Published in February 2019 by  
BEGEMOT, Bankya, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786199052891  
32 pages

**Iva Sasheva**, a professional freelance artist and writer, holds a Master's degree in Fine Arts, and has had a number of exhibitions in Europe and the UK. As an artist she has collaborated in the creation of many feature films and commercials, several graphic novels, and works of literary fiction. Her illustrations for classical and contemporary children's stories have been published by some of the most prestigious publishing houses – Harper Collins, Capstone, Miles Kelly, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, and Usborne. *Moon* by Nikolai Grozni, illustrated by Iva Sasheva, was included in the 2018 Munich International Youth Library's White Ravens catalogue.

Iva Sasheva is the author and illustrator of three published books: *Six Stories* (Begemot, 2017), *The Badger and the Lonely Oak* (Begemot, 2019), and *Unloved Toys* (Begemot, 2019).





**The Robot Chapek on the Planet with the Three Suns. Book One. Robot Adventures.**  
**Роботът Чапек на планетата с трите слънца. Книга първа. Роботски приключения**

Writer: Marin Troshanov  
 Illustrator: Peter Stanimirov

Published in May 2019 by  
 Kibea Publishing House,  
 Sofia, Bulgaria  
 ISBN: 9789544748432  
 56 pages

*Winner of the 2019 Peroto Literary Award for Best Children's Book, awarded by the National Book Centre, National Palace of Culture.*

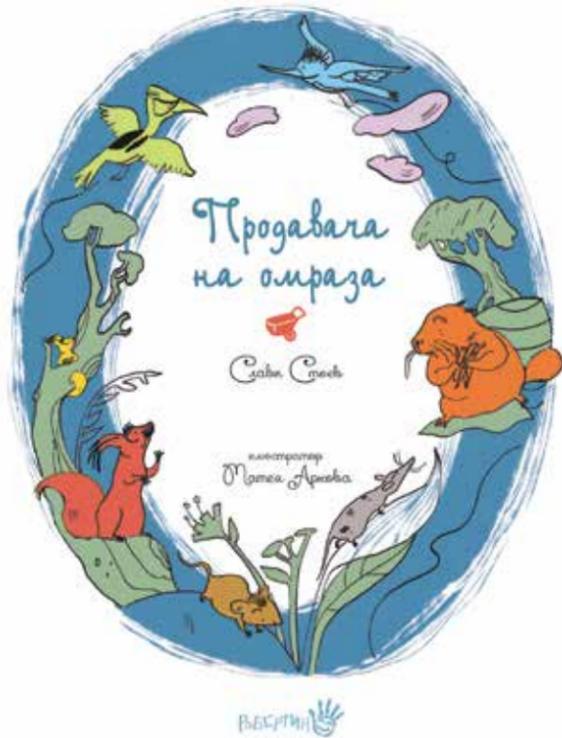
All aboard, robots! We are about to fly into outer space with the iron half-human Chapek the First; our interplanetary odyssey into strange worlds inhabited by unseen and unheard-of creatures will soon begin. We will become acquainted with myths, legends and historical facts from Earth's treasury, amusingly narrated and accompanied by completely new visions in text, illustration and comics. This is a book for all young explorers who love robots, technology from the future, travels to faraway lands and wacky aliens, masterfully entwined in enthralling stories with a moral and richly seasoned with humour and imagination. It is part of a funny, entertaining, unobtrusively instructive and educational series for curious children and parents. The other titles from the series are *The Robot Chapek and the Spy Mission of the Shadow Poofy* and *The Robot Chapek and the Labyrinth of the Grumpy Goopy Monster*.



**Marin Troshanov** holds a Master's degree in International Relations from Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski and a Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Sheffield. He writes fantasy, poetry and articles. He participates in projects organised by the illustrators of magazine *Daga* (Rainbow). His comics *Damga*, illustrated by Peter Stanimirov, won an award at the International Festival in Belgrade. He is the author of the fantasy trilogy *Lamia EOOD*.



**Peter Stanimirov** is an illustrator whose name is associated with the comics *Daga*, with the covers of books by Steven King and Dean Koontz, with the boom of game books in Bulgaria, with his work as art director for Haemimont Games studio and his active involvement in promoting Bulgarian comics in the country and abroad, with The Proekt Daga community and with the organisation of numerous comics exhibitions.



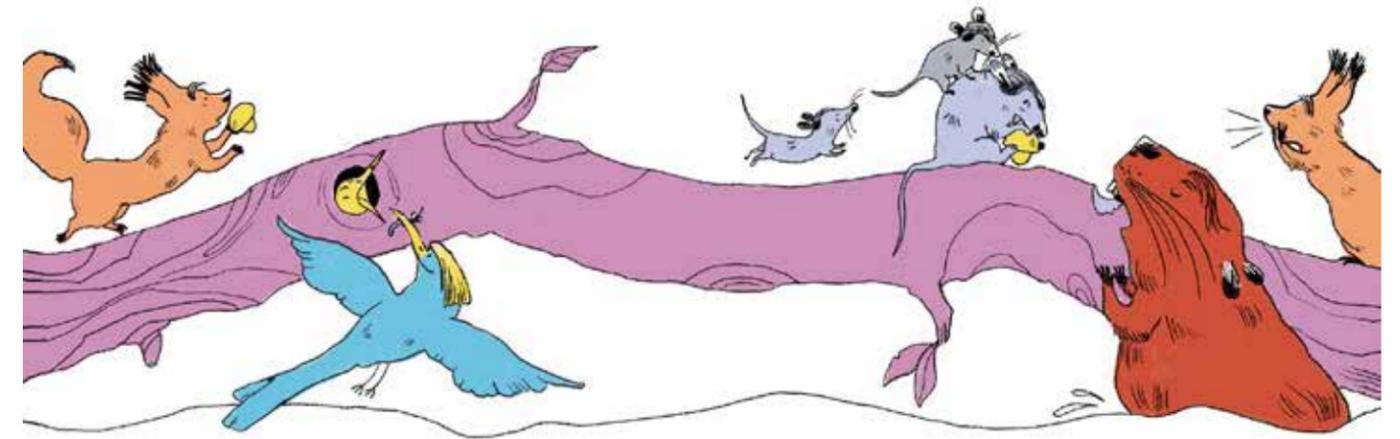
The book is designed to support children in becoming aware of hate speech as a social phenomenon and a method for manipulating the public's consciousness. The story teaches children how to recognize and oppose the "sellers of hatred" who cause conflicts between individuals and social groups for their own benefit. It exposes methods of fake news and propaganda by illustrating how they disrupt the quality of life of the animals living in a forest, who fall victim to fictitious and unnecessary arguments. This is a book about love and the important things in life. It addresses the question of how to deal with schemers who try to impose the belief that hatred is a solution to our problems. The book is suitable for individual and group lessons in social competence and civil conduct for children.

## The Seller of Hatred Продавача на омраза

Writer: Slavi Stoev

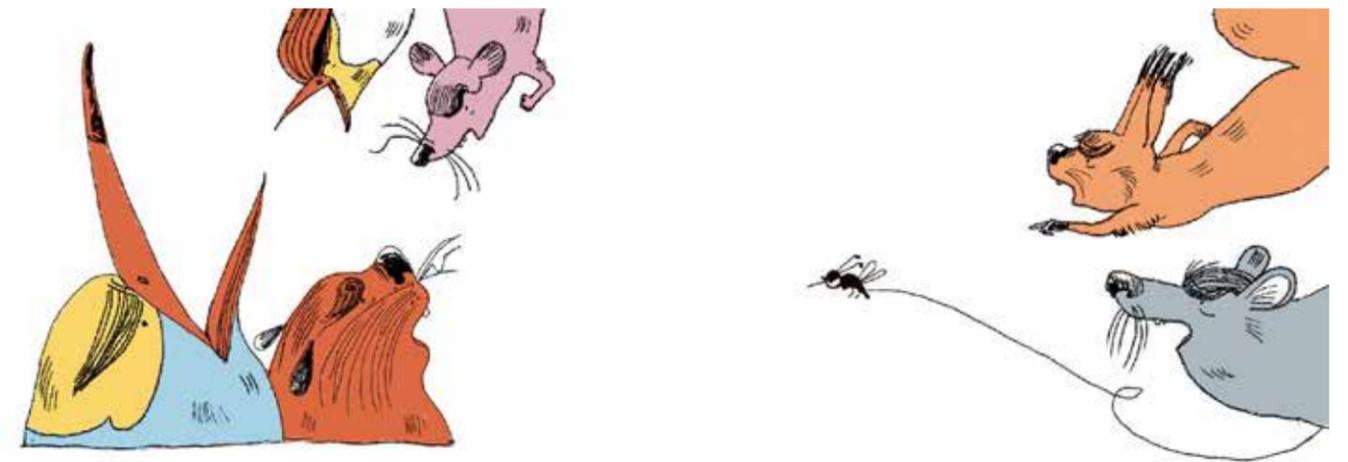
Illustrator: Mateya Arkova

Published in December 2019 by  
Robertino Publishing House,  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786192460037  
54 pages



**Slavi Stoev** is a psychologist working in the field of personal and organisational development. His first works were published in 2018 and were aimed at offering guidance to children in their exploration of their inner world and the one surrounding them. The purpose of the books was to teach children how to cope with any life situation. Slavi Stoev strives to talk about important issues in a comprehensible language that is also interesting both to the children and to their parents. He is a father and a lover of life.

**Mateya Arkova** is a Bulgarian freelance illustrator. She paints both digitally and with watercolour. She has created illustrations for Bulgarian and foreign publishers. Her works are recognizable for their dynamic feeling and the ethereal quality of the images and the space.





## Winter Sunflowers Зимни слънцоглегу

Writer: Aneta Ducheveva  
Illustrator: Katina Nedeva

Published in October 2019 by  
Janet-45 Print and Publishing,  
Plovdiv, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786191865161  
52 pages

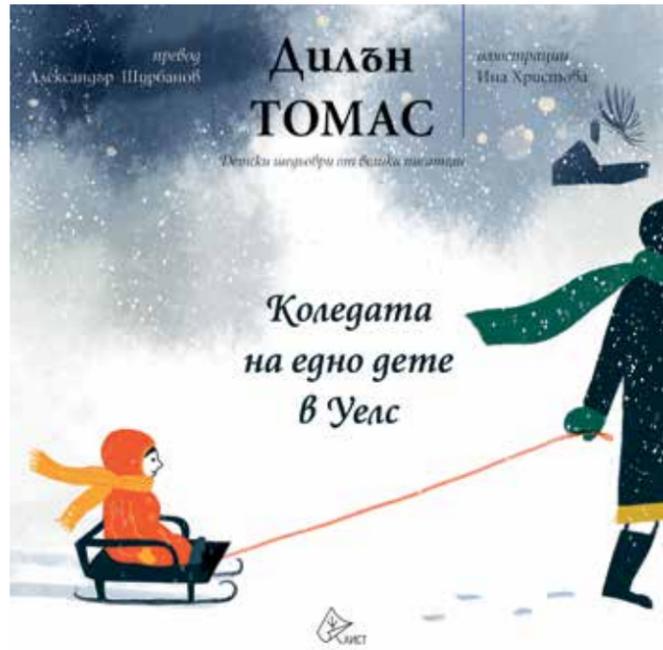
Grandma Lil sparks little Toni's interest in painting, and it soon becomes the girl's favourite thing to do. Toni wins competitions and dreams of becoming a famous artist just like her mother. But one day she finds out she has to leave Grandma Lil's house and move to a special Home. Toni comforts herself with the thought that she will only stay there for two weeks. But many months pass and she starts to wonder if anyone will ever come looking for her. Will she ever receive love and affection again? And will she be able to paint and make her dreams come true?



**Katina Nedeva** (1993) graduated from Tsanko Lavrenov National High School in Plovdiv, with a specialty in Graphics. She did her Bachelor's degree in Book and Print Graphics at the National Academy of Arts in Sofia under the guidance of Professor Victor Paunov. Her first book *Bird Village* was her final project at NAA, published by Janet-45 (2017) and was included in the International Youth Library White Ravens catalogue (2018). Katina does graphic design and illustrations, photography and comics, she also paints portraits and landscapes. Katina Nedeva has taken part in numerous independent and collective exhibitions and international projects. You can find out more about Katina at: [behance.net/KatinaNedeva](http://behance.net/KatinaNedeva)

**Aneta Ducheveva** (1960) is the author of the books *Tony-Pony* (published in German), *Gogo*, *The Tiny Pocket Man*, *The Moon Swing*, *Cardboard Piano* (Janet 45, 2016) and *Winter Sunflowers* (Janet 45, 2019). In 2014 she was awarded the prestigious Konstantin Konstantinov National Award for *The Moon Swing*, published by Janet-45. Aneta Ducheveva's books have been presented in many schools and libraries in Bulgaria, at the National Children's Book Festival in Sliven, at the Leipzig Book Fair, in various libraries in Germany, at the Bulgarian Cultural Institute in Berlin, and at the Bulgarian schools in Berlin and Hamburg.

# **Children's Books Illustrated by Bulgarian Artists**



## A Child's Christmas in Wales Колегата на едно дете в Уелс

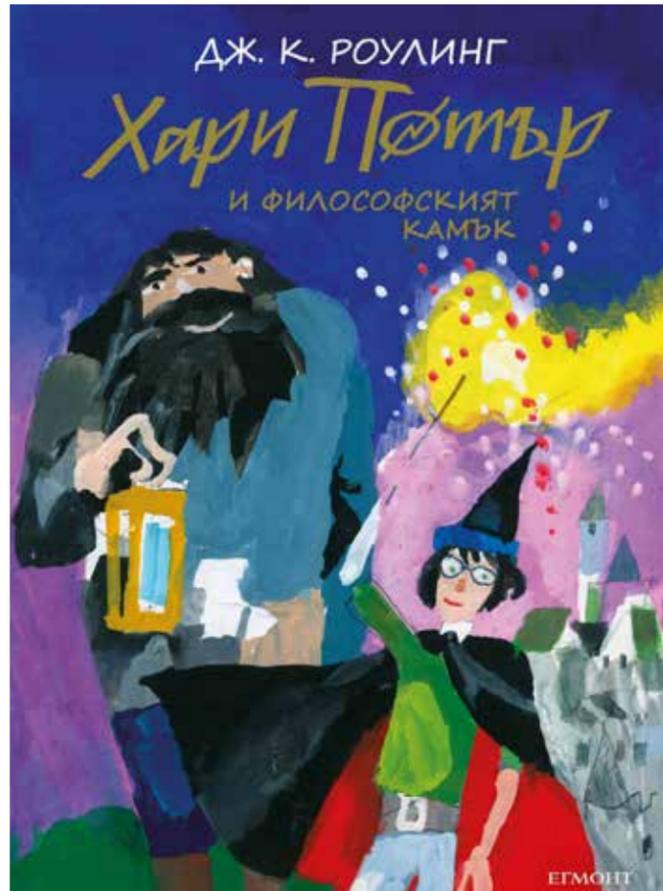
Writer: Dylan Thomas  
Illustrator: Ina Hristova

Published in December 2019 by  
List Publishing House,  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786197350586  
44 pages



**Dylan Thomas** created his wonderful story *A Child's Christmas in Wales* for a BBC radio program in 1937. In 1950 he sold it to *Harper's Bazaar* and it became one of his most popular works of prose. It has since been translated and published around the world, and the Bulgarian version was done by the master translator Professor Alexander Shurbanov and is accompanied by Ina Hristova's illustrations. Thomas' *A Child's Christmas in Wales* was inspired by childhood memories and with its first-person narration, the story sounds autobiographical. Nevertheless, as is the case with other works by Dylan Thomas, in this book imagination prevails over reality once again.

**Ina Hristova** was born in 1988. She obtained a degree in Art History and Pedagogy of Fine Arts from the National Academy of Arts in Sofia. She also specialized in Illustration in Escola Massana, Barcelona. She is currently residing in Barcelona, where she leads courses and seminars in illustration at Espai Brut.



*Golden Lion Award 2019 for a publishing project with the highest public significance and media interest "for its masterful and unconventional approach to design", annually awarded by the Bulgarian Book Association.*

Harry Potter is a series of fantasy stories written by the English writer J. K. Rowling. Seven novels follow the life of the young wizard Harry Potter and his friends Hermione Granger and Ron Weasley, who all study at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. The story arc follows Harry's fight against Lord Voldemort – a dark wizard who plots to become immortal, to destroy the governing body of the wizards' world, known as the Ministry of Magic, and to subjugate all wizards and Muggles.

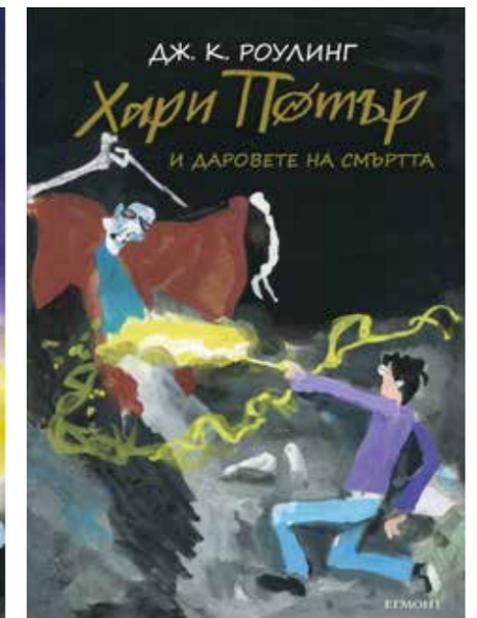
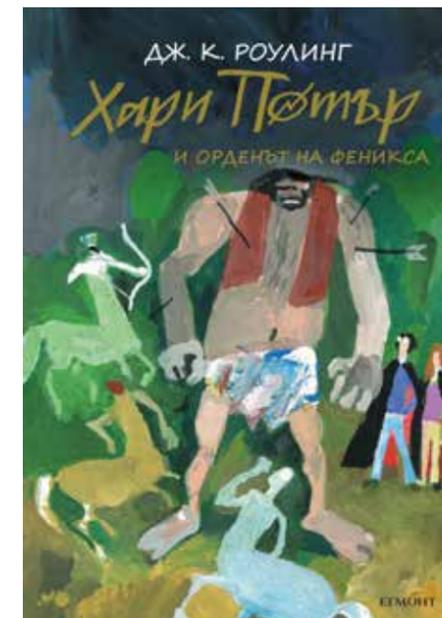
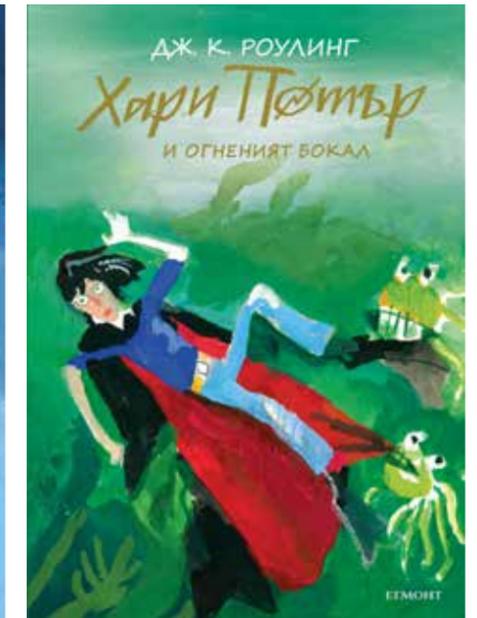
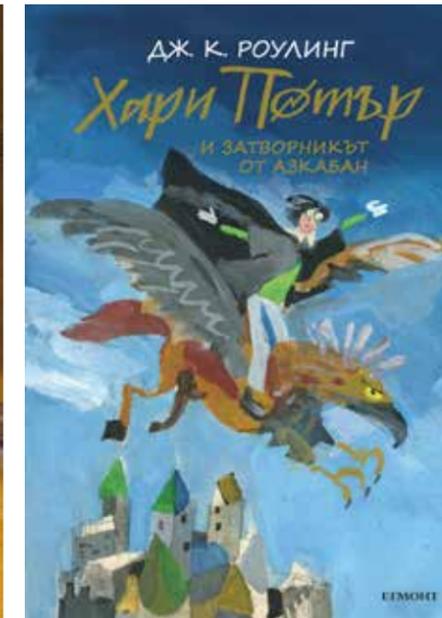
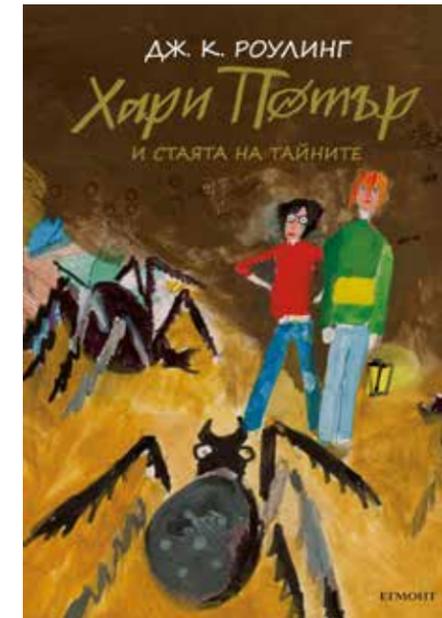
## Anniversary Editions of the Harry Potter Series in Bulgaria (vol. 1-7)

Юбилейни издания на поредицата  
Хари Потър в България (т. 1-7)

Writer: J. K. Rowling  
Illustrator: Lyuben Zidarov

Published in November 2019 by  
Egmont Publishing, Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9789542723073 (vol. 1). 240 pages  
ISBN: 9789542723066 (vol. 2). 256 pages  
ISBN: 9789542723080 (vol. 3). 320 pages  
ISBN: 9789542723127 (vol. 4). 544 pages  
ISBN: 9789542723097 (vol. 5). 736 pages  
ISBN: 9789542723103 (vol. 6). 496 pages  
ISBN: 9789542723110 (vol. 7). 576 pages

Lyuben Zidarov is the creator of a rich and versatile oeuvre in the sphere of illustration and book art spanning the last seven decades. Born in 1923, he graduated with a degree in Painting from the National Academy of Arts in Sofia in 1948, under the guidance of Professor Iliya Petrov. He has created the illustrations for more than 200 works of Bulgarian and world literary classics. There is hardly another Bulgarian artist who has influenced the formation of young readers' perception of visual culture as much as Lyuben Zidarov has.





## Stories 1, 2, 3, 4 Приказки 1, 2, 3, 4

Writer: Eugène Ionesco  
Illustrator: Damyan Damyanov

Published in November 2019 by  
List Publishing House,  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786197350555  
52 pages



A father and his little girl are talking a walk on the Moon. They realise they are hungry and they take a bite out of the Moon's surface. "Don't eat the whole Moon, we should leave some for the others as well. It doesn't matter, it will grow..." says the father and the story continues.

The father is the great Eugène Ionesco, who is renowned for being the father of the theatre of the Absurd, and the little girl is his own daughter Marie-France. Their story on the Moon is the third of the four children's stories that the playwright created between 1969 and 1971.

**Damyan Damyanov** is a multicultural artist whose works vary from posters, book design, illustration, postage stamps, typography and calligraphy. His illustrations for books by Gianni Rodari won him the National Award for Contributions to Book-Publishing for Children in 2017.





## The Iron Man Железния човек

Writer: Ted Hughes  
Illustrator: Kapka Kaneva

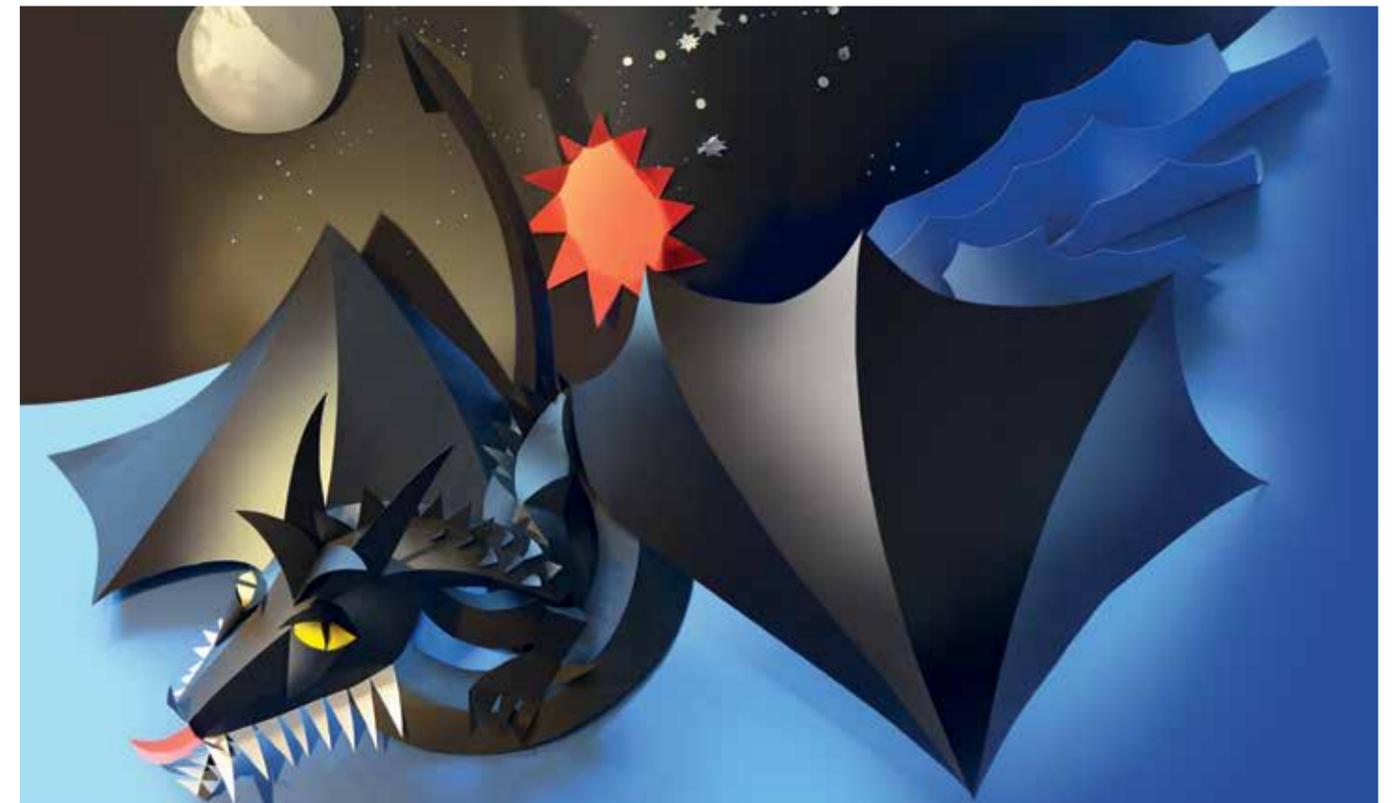
Published in July 2019 by  
List Publishing House,  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786197350500  
84 pages

Winner in the category of "Best Illustrations of Works for Children and Adolescents" in the *Obraz Knigi International Competition*.

The Iron Man marches on the surface of the Earth with his iron feet, each as big as a bed. He devours tractors and trucks and instead of spaghetti he eats wire mesh. He is so greedy that for him, greasy stoves are as tasty as chocolates! But instead of getting fat, he becomes shinier and shinier and he saves the world.

When it was published in 1968 in the United Kingdom, *The Iron Man*, a novel by the English poet Ted Hughes, made the bestsellers lists for science fiction books. Today it has become a classic.

Kapka Kaneva prefers to illustrate with paper, scissors and a camera. She teaches Book Design at the Bulgarian Academy of Art. Recently she has had solo exhibitions in Berlin and Yekaterinburg. Among the numerous international recognitions of her work is the prize of the International Triennial of Stage Poster.





## The Strange Child Неознамомо geme

Writer: E. T. A. Hoffmann

Illustrator: Katina Peeva

Published in May 2019 by  
Enthusiast Publishing House  
and Cultural Perspectives Foundation,  
Sofia, Bulgaria  
ISBN: 9786191642960  
128 pages



*Golden Lion Award 2019 for an original publishing project, awarded by the Bulgarian Book Association.*

*The Strange Child* is an unusual poetic fairy tale that tackles themes of family, the material and the intangible, and the question of “being” versus “having”. The story is delivered as an impression of the idea of man’s mortality and the eternity of nature. Not only does it introduce Hoffmann’s oeuvre to readers young and old, but it also sparks their curiosity towards the world.

Felix and Christlieb encounter a strange child in the forest who becomes their best friend. At the touch of his hand, the strange child turns plants and animals into their playmates and the wind into an adventure. But beware the terrifying Master Ink, king of the gnomes, enemy of imagination and dreams who is trying to spoil their magical and fun games! Will he succeed in destroying the kingdom of the strange child?



**Katina Peeva** is a 2D artist with an interest in the spheres of illustration, animation, stage and puppet design. Over the years she has worked as an assistant animator for numerous animated series, art films, and television commercials for clients in Bulgaria, the US, Canada, Germany, France and the UK. She has also worked as a designer of books and games. From 2009 until 2014 she was a guest lecturer for Professor Maya Petrova at the Krastyo Sarafof National Academy for Theatre and Film Arts. Katina Peeva has participated in joint performance exhibitions in Sofia, Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Varna, Roeselare (Belgium) and at the Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space.



**Children's Books from Bulgaria 2020: Writers and Artists**

National Book Centre Catalogue

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**Publication Coordinator:** Simona Ilieva, Expert at the National Book Centre, National Palace of Culture – Congress Centre Sofia

**Editing/Proofreading:** Angela Rodel

**Prepress:** Ivona Nikolova

**Printing:** Dedrax, Sofia, Bulgaria

National Palace of Culture – Congress Centre Sofia, 2020

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ISSN 2738-7313 (Online)

