

Foreign Rights
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AKIARA books
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Foreign Rights Catalogue Bologna 2024



AKIARA hunks

Books shining with their own light

AKIARA was born in Barcelona in February 2018. Our name "AKIARA" plays with the expression 'here and now' ('aquí i ara' in Catalan), and with the Japanese name Akira 明, meaning 'bright'.

We publish beautifully illustrated books, working from scratch with the authors and illustrators.

Our books, through inspiring texts and illustrations, aim to kindle a sense of wonder in children and teenagers. Our topics include nature and ecology; justice and human rights; mind, body and spirit, and tales of wisdom from other cultures. We work with sustainability criteria, minimizing the environmental impact.

All of our books are published simultaneously in Spanish, Catalan, and Portuguese. They have received many international awards and have been already translated into 20 languages.

Our catalogue includes classic album format (AKIALBUM), specially printed poetry books for children (AKIPOETA), fiction books for teenagers (AKINARRA), inspirational speeches for teenagers and young adults (AKIPARLA), non-fiction books about the wonders of the world (AKIWOW), silent books for the little ones (AKIMIRA), and real-life stories for teenagers and young adults (AKIVIDA).

We invite you to discover our newest catalog!

Inês Castel-Branco

ines@akiarabooks.com



Fran Pintadera & Ana Sender

Why Are We Afraid?

"Dad, have you ever been afraid?", says Max.
And his dad tells him about shadows, mazes,
blows, dreams, and armors.
A beautiful and inspiring picture book
reminding us that fear has always been

reminding us that fear has always been part of life and needs to be expressed. It keep us alert and allows us to get to unexplored places in ourselves.

40 pages · hardcover 28 x 24 cm · 1st edition 2022

5+ years · 14.50 €

© Rights sold: English (for North America), French (for North America), Portuguese (for Brazil) Italian, Greek, Danish, German, Turkish, Russian, Polish, Serbian & Japanese





40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2023 · 5+ years · 15,00 € © Rights sold: Portuguese (for Brazil).

Fran Pintadera & Ana Sender

Verbena and Hummingbird

Every day, Verbena and Hummingbird meet for a few moments. They share conversation, friendship and what they see in the world. Their views seem opposite, but in reality they complement each other. From the creators of Why do we cry? and Why are we afraid? comes a new story about motion and stillness, doing and not doing, observation and acceptance.

* 2024 Cuatrogatos Foundation Recommended





40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2023 · 5+ years · 15,00 €

Elena Bernabè & Alba Azaola

With Your Hands

Grandma talks to her granddaughter about the hands, which are the antennae of the soul, and invites her to move them creatively. Through the creative movement of our hands we can transform pain, express our intuitions, accompany thoughts and emotions, and reach the deepest, truest and wisest part of ourselves.

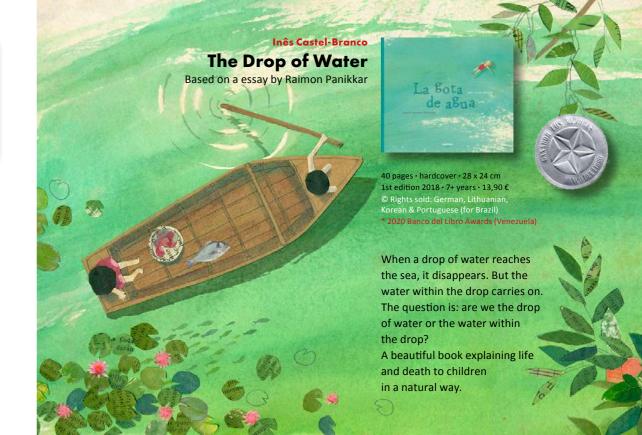






40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 12th edition 2022 · 3+ years · 13,90 € © Rights sold: English (for North America), French, German, Italian, Polish, Portuguese (for Brazil), Korean & Chinese simplified

'Mum, I can't sleep tonight.
I am anxious and my head won't stop thinking and thinking.'
'Let me show you how to breathe...'
A beautifully illustrated picture book that helps children to overcome their anxieties through easy and playful breathing, stretching and relaxation exercises. The better we breathe, the better we live.





In the wetlands of Hokkaido, in Japan, since Tancho was a kid he has been looking forward to the first snow and the arrival of the red-crown cranes that spend the winter on the island. However, as years pass by, less and less cranes are coming. The older people who used to feed the cranes are gone, and now everyone is too busy and seems to have forgotten about them. But Tancho hasn't... Inspired by a real story, this

Luciano Lozano

A Boy on the Beach

Two boys meet on the beach, by the Strait of Gibraltar. One is the son of a local fisherman. The other is Kai, bright-eyed, curious, and just arrived from a faraway country: Japan.

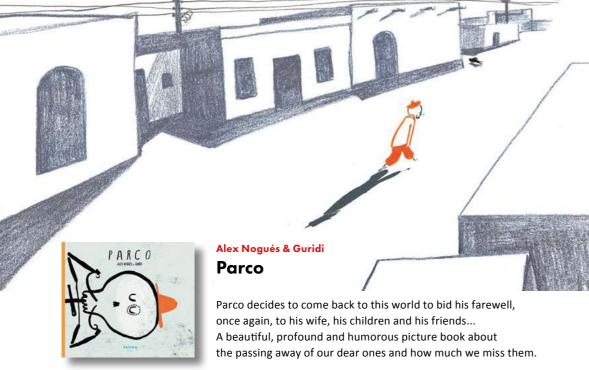
Two cultures meet through their friendship. They share games and ways from Andalusia and Japan, without realizing how this will mark their lives forever. An ode to friendship and diversity, simple and profound, with autobiographical elements, joining the luminosity of the Mediterranean with the delicate balance of Japanese aesthetics.



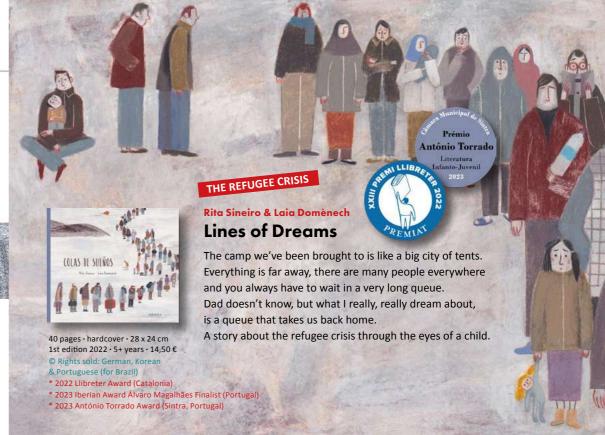
48 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2023 · 4+ years · 15,00 €



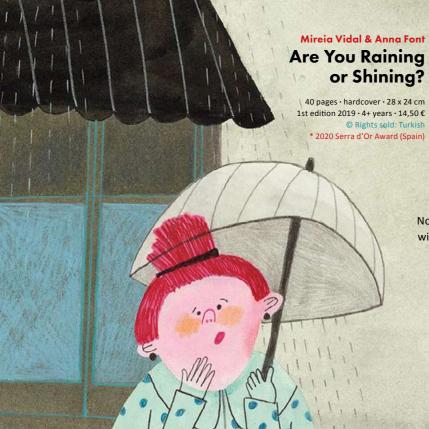
book is an invitation to live in deep harmony with nature.



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2018 · 6+ years · 13,90 € © Rights sold: Russian









Look above you. Is it raining or shining? Look inside you. Are you raining or shining? Now look at this story and you will see how everything we do has an impact on someone.

Go and tell this secret to everyone. But be careful, because it's up to you: are you raining or shining?



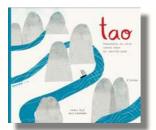
40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2018 · 4+ years · 13,90 €

Wilfred

The Two Wolves

According to a Native American tale, we all have, inside us, a good and a bad wolf. 'Which one of them will win?', a Native American girl asks her grandfather... His answer is both revealing and right on target.



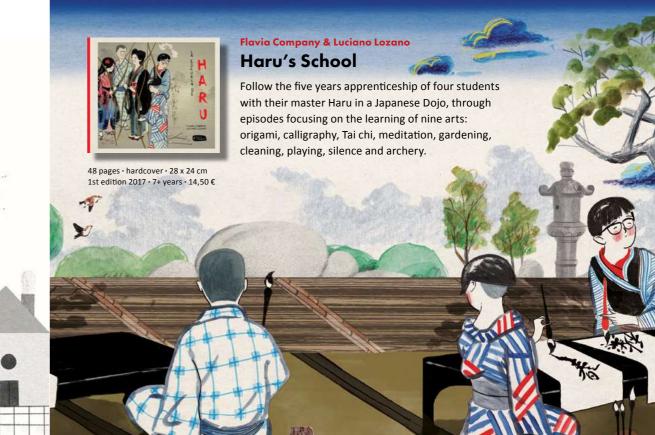


40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2017 · 6+ years · 13,90 € © Rights sold: French

Manel Ollé & Neus Caamaño

Tao Fragments of Master Laozi's Philosophy

Adapted selections from the classic wisdom book of Taoism, the *Tao Te Ching*, introducing children to everlasting wise reflections based on the detailed observation of nature and life.





40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 3rd edition 2022 · 4+ years · 13,90 € © Rights sold: English (for North America), German, Italian & Ukrainian

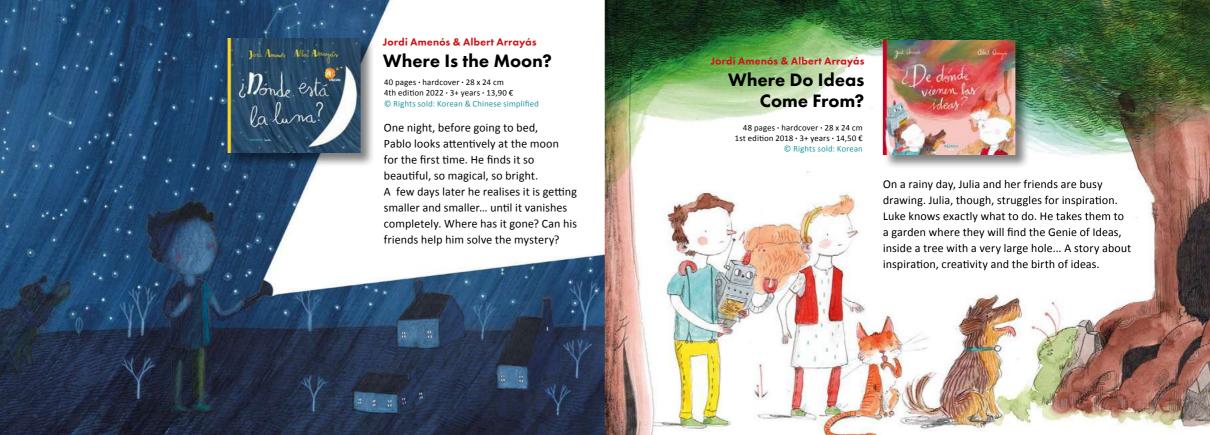
Míriam Raventós & Maria Girón

Yoga

Can you do many things at the same time? It's not so hard...
Many years ago, in India, some people realised that doing many
things at the same time was fairly easy, but they wondered what
would happen if they only were to do one thing, the simplest,
the most natural one of all: breathing, with a quiet mind...
A beautiful introductory book to Yoga.











40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2020 · 5+ years · 14,50 €

Halil Bárcena & Laura Borràs Dalmau

In the Dark

The sudden arrival of the travelling circus was greeted with enthusiasm by everyone. They were keeping in secret a mysterious animal from India. What did it look like?

A new version of the old Eastern story about the blind men and the elephant, inviting us to reflect on our partial view of things.



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2022 · 5+ years · 14,50 €

Núria Parera & Carolina Luzón

The Big Jump

Babu was a little boy with big eyes, a lost kid in a world too big. One day the circus arrived and Romina invited him to express his creativity.

A story about overcoming sadness and challenges through the power of laughter and creativity.



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2017 · 6+ years · 13,90 €

Marta Millà & Rebeca Luciani

Jatakas Six Buddhist Tales

A long, long time ago, some very peculiar animals with magic powers were born in Southeast Asia. They say that everywhere they went, they transformed shadows into light. Six beautifully illustrated Jatakas, old tales in which the Buddha and his disciples convey love and respect towards all sentient beings.



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2017 · 5+ years · 13,90 € © Rights sold: French

Laia de Ahumada & Mercè López

The Sixth Sense

Besides the five senses, we must have another one that enables us to notice what we cannot perceive with our eyes, our ears, our nose, our mouth or with touch: the sixth sense. A beautifully illustrated book about insight, sensitivity and listening to what we feel inside.



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2016 · 7+ years · 13,90 € © Rights sold: Portuguese (for Brazil)

Alain Allard & Mariona Cabassa

The Coming and Going Day

For thousands of years, people were nomads, following the rhythms of the Earth and the Sun, and the dance of time. Now they live in houses and they barely move. But once a year they honor their wandering roots jointly celebrating a Coming and Going Day.

* 2017 Junceda Award (Spain)



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2016 · 7+ years · 13,90 €

Nina da Lua & Gemma Capdevila

The Song of Silence

'Where do the stars hide when the day comes?' a little boy asks his mother. 'What if we asked this to the silence?' she replies. A sensitive and dreamlike text, reminiscent of haikus, taking us on a journey through pain, separation, friendship, dreams, hope... Silent situations where stars hide.



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2016 · 5+ years · 13,90 €

Tina Vallès & Gabriel Salvadó

Dripperlipper

Dripperlipper is an unlucky boy. He has a distracted eye and a surprised eye, and he always walks around with an open mouth and with his shirt soaked with a trail of falling saliva. Boney is a scrawny fish living in the fish stall of a travelling funfair. And one day the funfair moves into Dripperlipper's street...



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2016 · 7+ years · 13,90 € © Rights sold: French & Italian

Ignasi Moreta & Àfrica Fanlo

The Heathen and the Three Wise Men

Based on a essay by Ramon Llull

A heathen, that is, a man not practicing any established religion, met three wise men: a Jew, a Christian and a Muslim. He listened to the three of them, realising they had much in common...



32 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2016 · 4+ years · 13.90 €

Inês Castel-Branco & Maria Ella Carrera

Your Song

There is an African tribe in which, when a woman finds out she is pregnant, all the women of the community go into the rainforest to discover, together, the song of the new child, the one they believe will accompany him in his own life.



Àlex Tovar & Àfrica Fanlo

The Tightrope Walker

Life is like a rope we walk on every day, taking one step after another, climbing high and going down, facing the rain and the storms, getting lost and finding the way again... We are all tightrope walkers.

* 2016 Best Published Books: 2nd Prize

40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 2nd edition 2019 · 4+ years · 13,90 € © Rights sold: German & Chinese simplified



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2018 · 7+ years · 13,90 €

Mario Satz & Maria Beitia

The Feather

The story of a feather that one day fell off in flight. From the strong wing of a pigeon it fell down to the ground, among bushes, stones and mud. But falling is not as bad as it seems...



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2019 · 5+ years · 13.90 €

Laia Massons & Zuzanna Celej

My Pirate Grandpa

Every Sunday, Grandpa was telling stories to his grandkids, sitting on a bench in the park next to their home. Pirates' stories or childhood memories that were coming to his mind. But one day he was taken to hospital and everything changed...

* Honourable Mention of the 2020 Banco del Libro Awards (Venezuela)



40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2019 · 6+ years · 14,50 €

Pere Martí i Bertran & Núria Tomàs Mayolas

I Have a Toy Tank

I have a toy tank / And little lead soldiers. / Every evening I would play / And kill off two of them. / Until one day on the telly / I saw real soldiers / And tanks that crushed them. / Everything was covered in blood!... An illustrated poem inviting us to reflect on the banalization of war in today's world.

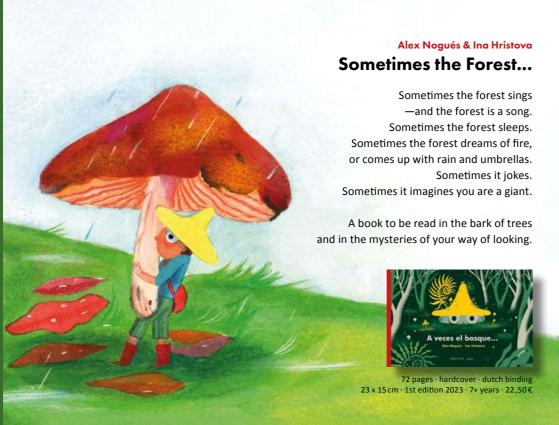


40 pages · hardcover · 28 x 24 cm 1st edition 2019 · 7+ years · 14,50 €

Mario Satz & Yara Kono

The Path

An entertaining poem on the art of walking, full of surprising questions. Walking is always a pleasure, even if we don't always know where we are going. There are many diverse paths, and one of them is ours. To find it, we will need attention and patience.





Jordi Pigem & Neus Caamaño Rediscovering

Rediscovering the World

72 pages · hardcover · dutch binding · 23 x 15 cm 1st edition 2023 7+ years · 22,50 €

Science, philosophy and all creative activity are born from the sense of wonder before the world. Leonardo da Vinci praised the «wonderful works of nature». The more in-depth science explores the processes of nature, the more we discover prodigies that we can't explain and that trigger a sense of wonder.

We offer you a display of the wonders of the worlds of birds, mammals, insects, fish, plants, forests, ecosystems and the microscopic forms that nature endlessly creates.



72 pages · softcover · exposed smyth sewing 16,5 x 27,5 cm · 1st edition 2022

* 2022 Best Published Books: Third Prize

6+ years · 16,50 €

* 2023-24 Atrapallibres Award Finalist

J. N. Santaeulàlia & Luciano Lozano

Haiku Time

Haikus are short poems, of only three lines, that originated in Japan.

They help us to feel the plenitude of the moment and to discover the beauty of details.

We invite you to immerse yourself in nature through the rhythm of the four seasons.







56 pages · softcover exposed smyth sewing 16,5 x 27,5 cm 1st edition 2024 7+ years · 16,50 €

Fran Pintadera & Anna Font

The Song of Knock, The Bird

He likes wood. And likes to fly. But Knock, the bird lives locked up in a metal cage.

This is the story of Knock, the bird, poetic lines about freedom and its spreading power.



40 pages · softcover exposed smyth sewing 16,5 x 27,5 cm 1st edition 2024 10+ years · 16,50 €

M. Carmen Aznar & Raquel Catalina

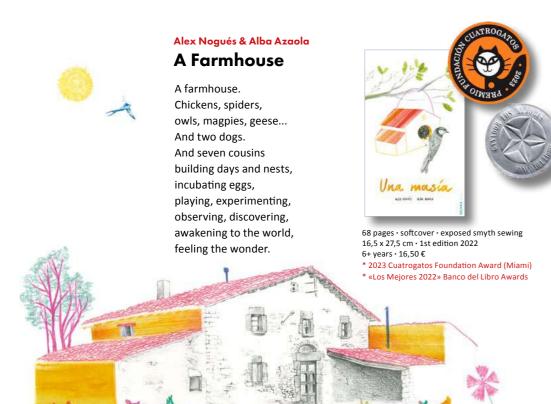
The Garden You Live in

Women are the true gardeners. They are the caretakers of their own beautiful teeming gardens, of bits of nature nearby seeded with life and poetry.

THE GARDEN YOU LIVE IN is an intimate and feminine collection of poems running through the entire life of a woman through the metaphor of the garden.









16,5 x 27,5 cm · 1st edition 2020 · 6+ years · 16,50 €



40 pages · tubular folding 16,5 x 27,5 cm 1st edition 2022 · 3+ years 18.50€





Vanina Starkoff

Thank You, Mother Earth!



The Thanksgiving Address of the Haudenosaunee (the Six Nations of the Iroquois Confederacy) is much more than a poem, a speech or a prayer: it is a great song of greeting and gratitude for all living beings. It has ben recited collectively in the morning over centuries, in a territory that embraces part of the United States and Canada. It is also an inventory of the natural world, in which each element of the ecosystem is given thanks for their contribution to the prodigy of life.

We present this treasure of the Haudenosaunee indigenous tradition in an exquisite illustrated edition —with a very special format that unfolds into a great 3m long mural of Creation.

- * 2022 Best Published Books: Second Prize
- * 2024 Special Mention Bologna













18 pages · leporello 16,5 x 27,5 cm 1st edition 2020 3+ years • 12,50 € © Rights sold: Chinese simplified

semilla



A Little Seed

Seed that will be tree, tree that will drop seeds. Each page of this book is a story about the fertility of the earth and the miracle of life.



You can start wherever you want, above or below the earth's surface, to flow with the amazing cycles of nature.















40 pages · 20 x 20 cm · dutch binding 1st edition 2022 • 1+ years • 16,50 €



Let's Play Hide & Seek

A wordless book.

A popular game.

Seven friends in the forest.

One thousand corners to explore.

Meanwhile, it gets dark.

A kid doesn't turn up.

A little adventure with a happy ending.

- * 2022 Silent Books Collection (IBBY Italia)
- * 2023 Cuatrogatos Foundation Recommended













Let's Go to the Beach

A book without words.

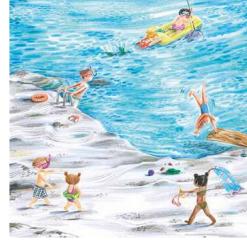
Seven friends go to the beach. They get bicycles, backpacks, and towels ready.

They cross a pine forest, a wetland, a sandy area.

They play, fish, enjoy the sun.

There is a child who does not appear. A little journey with a happy ending.

* 2024 Cuatrogatos Foundation Recommended







Laia de Ahumada & Gemma Capdevila

Sailor on Land

It's John's first summer in the mountains, alone with his grandmother, after having lived all his life on a sailing boat with his parents. He will discover the value of land and come to appreciate it as he did the sea. With summer and the imminent beginning of high school, it will also be time for him to move from childhood to adulthood. He confides in the logbook his mum gave him before leaving to help refugees and shares there all his new feelings and experiences.

64 pages · hardcover
12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2019
9+ years · 14,50 €
* 2020 Recommended Book Cuatrogatos Foundation



The Beach of the Useless

'My name is Sofía. I am 11 years old, and when I grow up I want to be useless'. So begins the charming, spontaneous, profound and moving story of a little girl who loves to play on the beach in winter, who prefers Mozart and Kandinsky to the school syllabus and who can't bear her father telling her that, one day, she will have to 'earn a living'. In praise of life and creativity in a stressed and heartless society.

80 pages · hardcover · 12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2019 · 9+ years · 14,50 €
© Rights sold: Portuguese (for Brazil) & Turkish









Jesús Ballaz & Kim Amate

The Condor's Grandson. From the Andes to Barcelona

A ten-year-old boy arrives on his own to Barcelona, where his mother works. But there has been a misunderstanding. Days go by and he can't find her. He realizes that he has no other home than a bench in a square. This is a story filled with the contrasts between life in an Andean village and the fast pace of a European city, between the expectations of a child and the harshness of the streets, between kindness and distance, between fear and celebration. A tribute to the many hidden stories of immigration and arrival.

* 2021 New York Public Library Best Books



184 pages · hardcover 12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2021 9+ years · 15.90 €





88 pages · softcover 16,5 x 23,5 cm 1st edition 2024 10+ years · 18,00 €

Forced to Leave

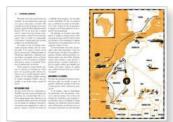
Six real-life stories of migrant people

This illustrated book shows six stories from real life, six journeys full of difficulties and challenges. Six migrants, three women and three men, tell us about their lives before leaving; why they had to leave, how they managed to complete their journey, and how they live nowadays in their new country.

These are stories of self-improvement, but also of pain, loneliness, hospitality, and integration. Stories that, despite everything, end well. These real-life accounts invite us to change our perspective, and to give a name and a face to the experience of so many people who are forced to risk their lives in the search for a more promising future.











80 pages · kraft softcover 12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2019

12+ years • 10 €

© Rights sold: English (for North America)







MALALA YOUSAFZAI MY STORY IS THE STORY OF MANY GIRLS

Clara Fons Duocastella & Yael Frankel // Bilingual edition

When Malala Yousafzai was fifteen, she was attacked by the Taliban for defending the right of girls to have an education. She survived multiple surgeries and has become an icon for human rights and particularly for the right to an education. She is the youngest person ever to have been awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize. In her acceptance speech, delivered in Oslo in 2014, Malala explains her story, which is also the story of milions of girls living in situations of discrimination or conflict.



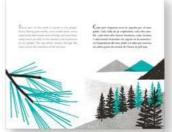
64 pages · kraft softcover 12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2019 12+ years · 10 €

SI'AHL / TED PERRY

EVERY PART OF THIS EARTH IS SACRED TO MY PEOPLE

Jordi Pigem & Neus Caamaño // Bilingual edition

In 1854, a well-respected indigenous leader, chief Si'ahl (more often spelled 'Seattle'), made an eloquent speech explaining why land cannot be sold. Since the 19th century, there have been many attemps to reconstruct the lost words of Si'ahl. Carefully avoiding the problems of previous editions, from what we can gather today, we present the most reliable version of his speech, with an essay highlighting the relevance of its ecological and spiritual approach for today's predicament.









SEVERN CULLIS-SUZUKI MAKE YOUR ACTIONS REFLECT YOUR WORDS

Alex Nogués & Ana Suárez // Bilingual edition

Severn Cullis-Suzuki was only twelve when she spoke to the whole world. What are we doing to the Earth, our home? Where is the limit to human greed? Little Severn left the entire audience of world leaders in silence, asking them to be coherent and to make their actions reflect their words. Her touching words, both simple and powerful, are no less alive today than when they were pronounced at the Rio Summit of 1992.

56 pages · kraft softcover 12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2019 12+ years · 10 €

© Rights sold: English (for North America) & Portuguese (for Brazil)









JOSÉ MUJICA

I AM FROM THE SOUTH, I COME FROM THE SOUTH. WHERE THE ATLANTIC MEETS THE RIVER PLATE

Dolors Camats & Guridi

José Mujica, at the time president of Uruguay, gave this speech at the General Assembly of the UN in 2013. With powerful and compelling images, he criticizes the absurdities of today's economy, of world inequalities, and of the empty lifestyles generated by consummerism, making at the same time a powerful plea for the joy and the freedom of simpler lifestyles.

64 pages · kraft softcover 12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2019 12+ years · 10 €

© Rights sold: English (for North America)









WANGARI MAATHAI

PLANTING TREES, SEEDING IDEAS

Laia de Ahumada & Vanina Starkoff // Bilingual edition

In 2004 Wangari Maathai was awarded with the Nobel Peace Prize for having led the Green Belt Movement, planting tens of milions of trees in Kenya while at the same time transforming the social landscape of the country. We offer her famous speech in a bilingual edition, with two-color illustrations and an in-depth commentary on its key issues.

80 pages · kraft softcover 12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2020 12+ years · 10 €

© Rights sold: English (for North America)









STEVE JOBS

HAVE THE COURAGE TO FOLLOW YOUR INTUITION

Fran Pintadera & Matías Acosta // Bilingual edition

In 2005 Steve Jobs delivered the Commencement Address at Stanford University, summarizing his life journey and encouraging every student and every person to follow his or her own heart and intuition. We offer his famous speech in a bilingual edition, with two-color illustrations and an in-depth commentary on its key issues.

72 pages · kraft softcover

12 x 20 cm · 1st edition October 2020

12+ years • 10 €

© Rights sold: Danish









80 pages · kraft softcover 12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2021 12+ years · 10 €

JANE GOODALL Learning from the Chimpanzees

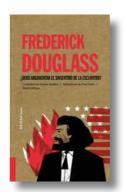
Irene Duch-Latorre & Joan Negrescolor // Bilingual edition

Renowned primatologist Jane Goodall explains her passion for Africa, her first contact with chimpanzees and her relationship with them, which has transformed our own view of the human species. Besides her work as a researcher, Jane Goodall is a great activist championing social and ecological values. Given the destruction of habitats that many species are suffering, Goodall argues that conservation has to be understood in a holistic way, involving the full participation of the local people.









80 pages · kraft softcover 12 x 20 cm · 1st edition 2021 12+ years · 10 €

FREDERICK DOUGLASS MUST I ARGUE THE WRONGFULNESS OF SLAVERY?

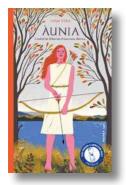
Arianna Squilloni & Cinta Fosch // Bilingual edition

On the occasion of the 4th of July, Independence Day of the United States, the former slave Frederick Douglass is invited to give a speech. His tone is intelligent and cultivated; his oratory is brilliant. Douglass formulates questions of great rhetorical power, often ironic. Why has he been chosen to speak at the independence feast of the whites? Must one argue that a slave is a human being? Using specific examples and moving descriptions, Douglass reveals the hypocrisy of his fellow citizens and the horror of slavery in one of the most famous speeches in American history, that is recited every year in public events.









364 pages · hardcover 13 x 21 cm · 3rd edition 2021 14+ years · 16,50 €

- * 2021 Llibreter Award (Catalonia)
- * 2021 The White Ravens

Ivan Vera

Aunia

The Longing for Freedom of a Young Iberian Woman

Little is known about the history of the Iberians, the people inhabiting the East and South of the Iberian Peninsula until early historic times. Building on all the archaeological and historical evidence, such as the remains of Iberian and Greek settlements in Catalonia and the chronicles of the Second Punic War, young author Ivan Vera (b. 1998) creates a powerful story (flavoured with classical and Tolkien elements) about a young woman that leaves home in search of freedom. Aunia leaves home as a girl and grows into a woman in times of war: Hannibal is crossing Aunia's land, recruiting Iberians to march through the Alps to fight the Romans, who have just started to invade her country. Aunia will come across love and hate, solidarity and betrayal, and will fight to the end defending freedom, her own and that of her people.





