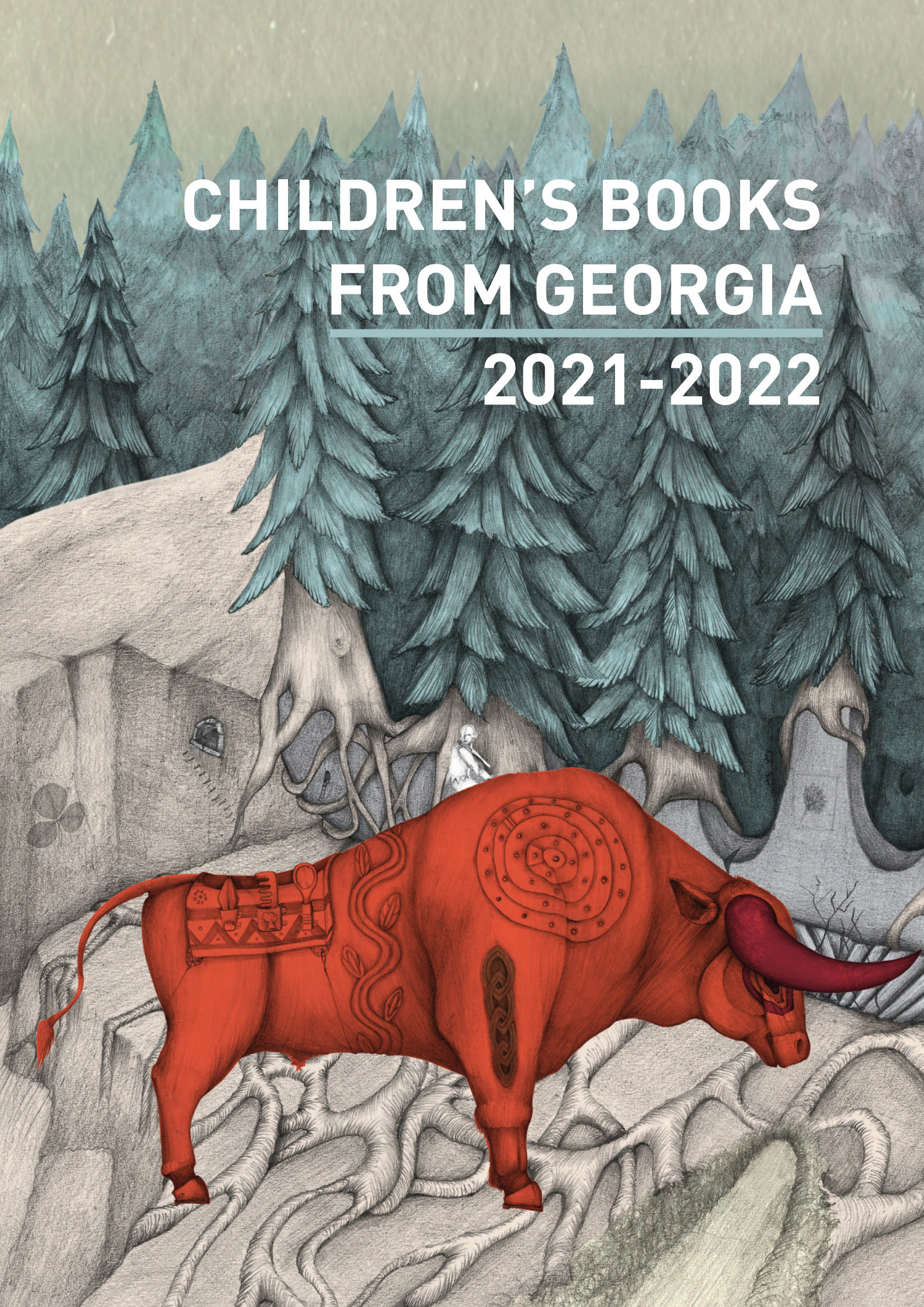


CHILDREN'S BOOKS FROM GEORGIA

2021-2022



Published by Writers' House of Georgia

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WRITERS' HOUSE OF GEORGIA

Writers' House is located in an enchanting Art Nouveau mansion built in 1905 by the biggest Georgian philanthropist of the times, David Sarajishvili, and has witnessed series of significant events and historical highlights since the beginning of the 20th century. One of the core cultural organisations in the country and the region today, Writers' House is savoring the great literary heritage, continuing to create an active platform for arts and literature and connecting artists with their audience. The organisation manages an impressive number of cultural and literary projects and also acts as a facilitator of publishing and translation processes. It has been established in 2008 by the Ministry of Culture and Monument Protection of Georgia. Today, Writers' House is an open institution with the main task of representing Georgian culture - its traditions and modern processes and serves the interests of the national policy of the Government of Georgia for literature and the promotion of Georgian books and literature abroad.

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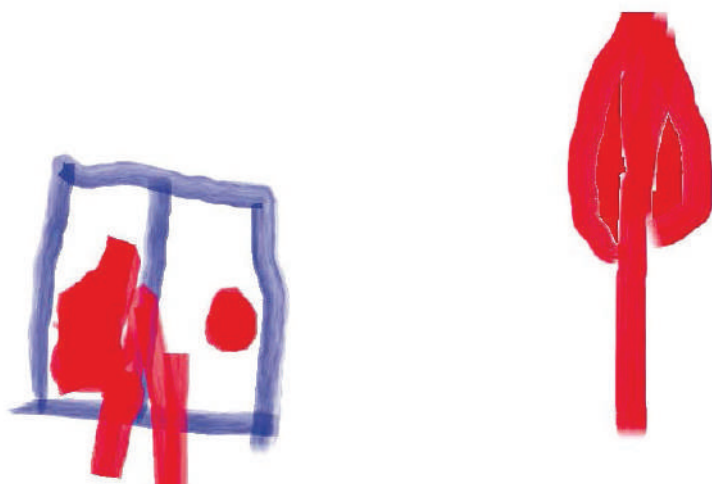
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MINISTRY OF EDUCATION,
SCIENCE, CULTURE
AND SPORT OF GEORGIA



TALES WRITTEN IN A DRAWING ALBUM

By Diana Anphimiadi (Mother)

Illustrated by Giorgi Barbakadze (Son)

This humorous book of tales is based on drawings by a nine-year-old boy with autism spectrum. The Mother brought her child's drawings to life and made them speak even before the boy could say his first words. This interactive method is useful for any parent and child, to those who are looking for new ways of communication. The light, colorful stories talk about love, friendship, the mother-son relationship, anger, play, books and, most importantly, about the uniqueness of every human being.

The book helps fighting social stigmas and stereotypes about autism. The text itself employs a vocabulary that is inviting for beginning readers, considering that the stories are told in a light and gentle didactic tone that makes the reading pleasurable as well as educational.



6+

Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour, hardcover, 60 pages

Artanuji Publishing, 2017

Rights: Diana Anphimiadi

diana@saba.com.ge



Born 1982 in Tbilisi, Diana Anphimiadi is a poet, author of culinary prose and children's books, publicist, translator and teacher. Her poetry has received prestigious awards in Georgia, including the first prize at TSERO 2008 and the Literary Award SABA 2009 for Best First Collection. The German translation of her book *Prediction with Jam* won the special award Prix Culinaire in silver within the Prix Prato 2018. The book was published 2018 in German (Drava Verlag).



Giorgi Barbakadze was born in Tbilisi on 1st January 2011. He attends the third grade of elementary school and takes an interest in painting, mathematics and astronomy.



Born 1982 in Tbilisi, Diana Anphimiadi is a poet, author of culinary prose and children's books, publicist, translator and teacher. Her poetry has received prestigious awards in Georgia, including the first prize at TSERO 2008 and the Literary Award SABA 2009 for Best First Collection. The German translation of her book *Prediction with Jam* won the special award Prix Culinaire in silver within the Prix Prato 2018.



Born 1986 in Batumi, Ana Janelidze is an illustrator of children's books and early childhood education specialist. She started illustrating books for young children in 2017. Since then, she illustrated five books, published from 2017-2019. In 2018, she received the Gogebashvili Literary Award in the category of Best Illustrated Picture Book for the youngest children (age 3-6).



COOKBOOK FOR KIDS:

Twelve recipes inspired by classic children's stories

By Diana Anphimiadi

Illustrated by Ana Janelidze

Some books smell delicious. Have you ever tried to cook a dish from your favourite book? Have you ever wondered what a Willie Wonka chocolate bar would taste like in real life? Diana Anphimiadi has gathered some of the most famous literary culinary creations and has turned them into fun recipes that can be made by the little ones, featuring David Copperfield's vanilla pudding, Pippi Longstocking's pancakes, home-made ice cream scoops from the Snow Queen and many others.



Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour hardcover, 24 pages

Zoliani Kata, 2018

Rights: Zoliani Kata

kataeditorial@gmail.com



A BIRD'S EYE VIEW OF TBILISI

By Alex Chigvinadze and Lasha Bakradze

Illustrated by Ana Janelidze

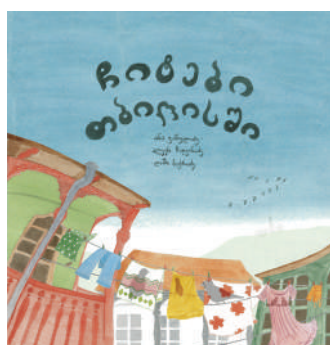
A pictorial journey to the magical capital of Georgia. With the first swallows of spring, fly across the ancient city of Tbilisi in this beautifully illustrated book. Visit its historic buildings, monuments, parks. Take the Metro and enjoy the everyday life of the city. While a baby swallow receives flying lessons over Tbilisi, father swallow tells him the stories of the fascinating sights as they pass by. Why is the Dry Bridge dry? What made King Vakhtang build a new capital here after a hunting trip? And where can you buy the best lemonade in town? Curious kids will find the answers to all these questions and many more in this delightful and wonderfully detailed picture book full of stories, jokes and local knowledge.



Born 1986 in Tbilisi, Alex Chigvinadze is a playwright, screenwriter, poet and children books' author. He has published books: *Pink Bus*, *Second Hand Dreams* and *The Lover of the City Mayor*, *In the Pharmacy at Christmas Night*. His poems have been translated into German and English. He received the Literary Award SABA for Best Play 2013 and the Tumanishvili Prize in the category of New Georgian Theatre Play (2016, 2017, 2018). Two of his plays were staged at the Royal District Theatre and in the experimental performance spaces of Poti, Bolnisi and Tbilisi Marjanishvili theatres. He also received the Gogebashvili Literary Award 2018 in the category of Best Illustrated Book.



Born 1965 in Tbilisi, Lasha Bakradze studied German literature and linguistics at Tbilisi State University. Later on, he pursued scientific activities in German studies at the University of Jena, theology at Bern University and political science at Potsdam University. He worked on his dissertation in modern and contemporary history at the Humboldt University of Berlin and received his doctoral degree from Tbilisi State University in 2002. He was actively involved in academic life teaching at various universities in Georgia. Since 2009, he is a professor at the Ilia State University of Tbilisi and he is the director of the Giorgi Leonidze State Museum of Literature since 2010.



3+

Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour hardcover, 32 pages

Zoliani Kata, 2018

Rights: Zoliani Kata

kataeditorial@gmail.com



Born 1986 in Tbilisi, Alex Chigvinadze is a playwright, screenwriter, poet and children books' author. He has published books: *Pink Bus*, *Second Hand Dreams* and *The Lover of the City Mayor*, In the *Pharmacy at Christmas Night*. His poems have been translated into German and English. He received the Literary Award SABA for Best Play 2013 and the Tumanishvili Prize for New Georgian Theatre Play (2016, 2017, 2018). Two of his plays were staged at the Royal District Theatre and in the experimental performance spaces of Poti, Bolnisi and Tbilisi Marjanishvili theatres. He also received the Gogebashvili Literary Award 2018 in the category of Best Illustrated Book.



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HIPA MAKES CAREER CHOICES

By Alex Chigvinadze

Illustrated by Ana Janelidze

Hipa might be the biggest sleepyhead in the family, but he is also the most curious little cat who cannot stop himself from messing around in search of big discoveries. He tries a lot of things: tattoo art, austronautism, meteorology, investigation, but for some reasons, it all fails. In the end, he writes a book about it.

A wonderfully humorous story about a fussy, fluffy cat exploring the world of adulthood.



3+

Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour, hardcover, 24 pages

Zoliani Kata, 2017

Rights: Zoliani Kata

kataeditorial@gmail.com



ALUBALA THE DANCING BIRD

By Alex Chigvinadze

Illustrated by Ana Janelidze

Alubala is not like the other birds. She does not go with birdy stuff like the usual spinning in the sky or singing beautiful songs. Alubala is a born performer and she loves to dance: to bounce, to jump, to leap and to twirl, everything that involves real dancing. At first she receives attention and she makes it into the papers. She does not mind being famous: She is a happy bird, until one day she too will need to build her own nest and things change... Will she continue with what she loves the most? A funny story about the most unusual dancer that encourages us to follow our dreams.



3+

Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour, hardcover, 24 pages

Zoliani Kata, 2019

Rights: Zoliani Kata

kataeditorial@gmail.com



Born 1970 in Tbilisi, Maka Kasradze graduated from the Department of Classical Philology of Tbilisi State University, took post-graduate courses at the Tbilisi Institute of Manuscripts and defended a dissertation at École Pratique des Hautes Études (Sorbonne). From 2003-2005, she worked as a copyright manager at the Tallandier Publishers as, at the same time, being a reader of the Albin Michel and Seuil publishing houses. She headed the Zebra children's publishing house since 2009.



JOURNEY TO GEORGIA

Head of project Maka Kasradze

Book design by Beka Berikashvili

Text by Maka Kobakhidze

Illustration by Ruska Kvavadze

Thanks to this book with its exceptional pictures, little children will get familiar with Georgia, with its landscape, the number of regions adjacent to the sea, its mountains. Children will discover beautiful towns and castles, winter resorts, the sea coast, and plains. They will find attractive sites of Georgia behind most of the windows.



3+

Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour, hardcover, 10 pages

Zebra group in cooperation

with Studio Velocipede, 2019

Rights: Zebra Group, Studio Velocipede

Contact: Maka Kasradze

mkasradzefr@yahoo.fr



THE FLOOD IN THE ZOO

By Tea Topuria

Illustrated by Sonia Eliashvili

What do animals do when the zoo is flooded, their cages washed away, and when they can move freely around the city? And how do people react when a hippopotamus suddenly walks along the street, when a crocodile hides in a toy shop, or a sleepy lion makes himself comfortable on the sofa?

We do not know exactly, but maybe it happened the way this story describes the 2015 flood of the Tbilisi Zoo.



Born in 1977 in Sukhumi, Tea Topuria is an award-winning writer and poet. She graduated from the faculty of journalism at Tbilisi State University. Since 1998, she has been working as a journalist in the field of human rights and environmental protection. Currently, she works as a journalist at the Tbilisi office of Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. She is regarded as one of the most talented and notable authors in Georgia, contributing to children's literature. She has been short-listed for and has won many prestigious literary competitions. In 2014 and 2015, Topuria, was nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award.



Born 1982 in Tbilisi, Sonia Eliashvili studied at the Academy of Fine Arts in Tbilisi. She has worked as an illustrator for several publishers and magazines and as a freelancer with different organizations. From 2010-2016, she was a member of Virgam Virtual Publishers, a group of young illustrators who breathed fresh air into the Tbilisi scene. In 2014 and 2015, she was a curator of the Tbilisi Book Days. In 2015, she won the idea competition for new illustrative books organised by the Georgian National Book Center. Edition Orient (Germany) published the book *The Flood in the Zoo* featuring her illustrations.



5+

Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour, hardcover, 40 pages

Zoliani Kata, 2018

Rights: Edition Orient

Stephan Trudewind

info@edition-orient.de



Born 1960 in Tbilisi, Mariam Tsiklauri graduated a chemist from Tbilisi State University in 1983. She worked as a teacher as well as an editor for various publishing houses. She also works as the curator for the Living Library project of the Ministry of Culture of Georgia. Mariam Tsiklauri is one of the founders of the Children's Literature Development Fund *Libo*. Her poems have been translated into the Lithuanian, English, German, Ukrainian, Italian, Russian, Armenian, Czech, Slovakian and Polish languages. She published 21 books (nine poetry and short story collections, non-fiction and 12 children's books). In 2017, Mariam Tsiklauri was shortlisted for the SABA Literary Prize for her poetry collection *For the Tameless*.



Born 1993 in Tbilisi, Julia Nikogosova-Kandalyan studied at the Department of Fine Arts of the Tbilisi Academy of Arts, specialising in art drawing (book illustrations). She worked as an illustrator of the *Dila* children's magazine from 2015-2019 and has worked as an illustrator at the *Shokoliti* children's magazine since 2019. She has illustrated several books for children.



AN UNUSUAL SUNDAY

By Mariam Tsiklauri

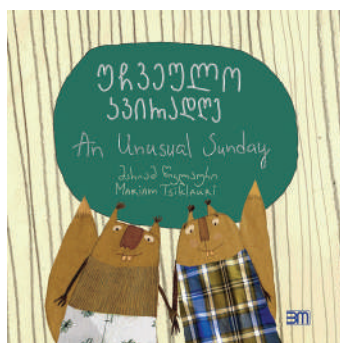
Illustrated by Julia Nikogosova-Kandalyan

The story occurs in a city. The main characters are: brother and sister, grandmother, two squirrels. The siblings live near the zoo and visit the animals on every Sunday spending all day with them. Sandro and Elene are good friends with all of the animals. They often take food to their friends. The squirrels – Buba and Bobo – live in a tree near the aviaries in the zoo. They love their friends Sandro and Elene very much always waiting for them to meet on Sundays.

One Sunday morning the kids won't come to the zoo. The animals are waiting for Sandro and Elene but they do not appear as they had been taken to an excursion by their teacher. Eventually, the squirrels decide to find the kids. Thus, they appear outside the zoo in horrible traffic with many noisy vehicles. Urban environment troubles the squirrels: The street dynamics, vehicles, people and the various noises frighten them. There are no trees around. In the end, the squirrels find their place on the top of a tall traffic light post they believe to be a tree. The kids see them from their excursion bus on their way back. They call their grandma who calls emergency services and the police help the squirrels. The kids are happy to see their friends saved.

The book is bilingual in Georgian and English translated from Georgian into English by Manana Matiashvili. The book is supplemented by a dictionary and various activities.

The story is translated into English, German, Italian, Russian and Ukrainian languages.



6+

Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour, hardcover, 36 pages

Bakmi Publishing, 2020

Rights: Mariam Tsiklauri

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THE VIOLET

By Vazha-Pshavela

Illustrated by Anna Bochorishvili

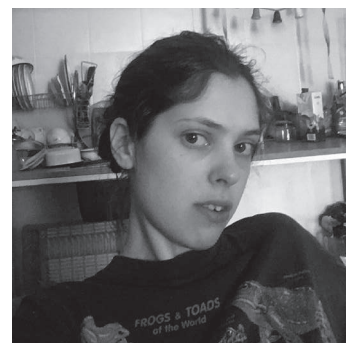
Vazha-Pshavela is one of the most iconic figures in Georgian literature: a humanist, a folklorist and a true poet of nature. His powerful verses and epic poems sing of freedom and of the sanctity of the living creatures the world: From leaves to trees, Vazha-Pshavela makes them all speak out against the brutalities of the human world. This gorgeously illustrated book is the lyrical story of a violet growing in the woods, bearing witness to the damage humans cause. In the almost mystical world of Vazha-Pshavela the violet speaks in the first person, allowing the reader to feel the natural world and see through nature's eyes, immersed into the unique perspective of the bard of the Caucasus Mountains.

"Qualitatively of a greater magnitude than any other Georgian writer".

/D. Rayfield, professor, translator/



Vazha-Pshavela (1861-1915), born in the small village of Chargali, situated in the mountainous region of Pshavi, Vazha-Pshavela studied in the cities of Telavi, Tbilisi and Gori. Finally, he came to study at the University of Petersburg, but had to quit due the lack of finances. Since 1888, he lived in Chargali, where he found employment as a teacher. He also gained prominence as a famous representative of the National-Liberation movement of Georgia.



Born 1995 in Tbilisi, Anna Bochorishvili studied at Tbilisi State Academy of Fine Art, but didn't graduate. She works as a freelance artist. Anna Bochorishvili participated in several group exhibitions and, in 2017, had one solo exhibition. She is also a member of *Let the Funk Ride* art project.



Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour, hardcover, 24 pages

Zoliani Kata, 2020

Rights: Zoliani Kata

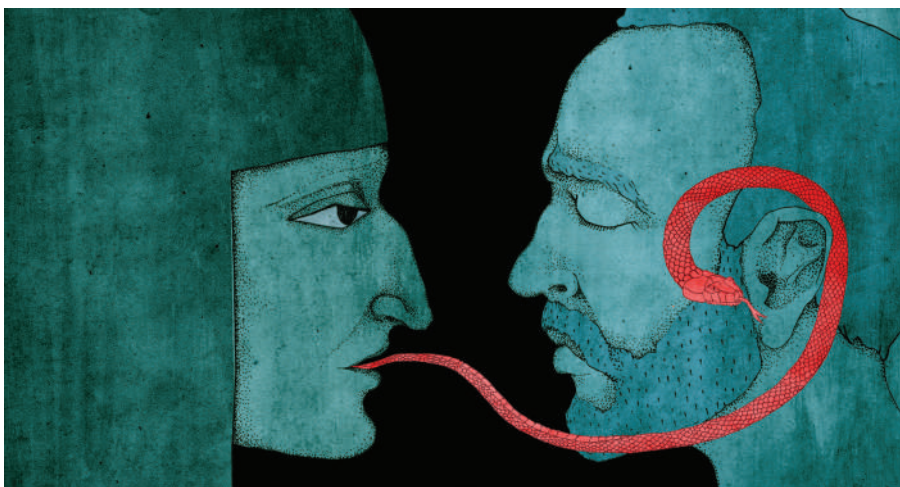
kataeditorial@gmail.com



Born 1988 in Tbilisi, Eka Tabliashvili is an author and illustrator of children's books. She studied at the Tbilisi State Academy of Fine Arts and has been working as a freelance designer with several publishing houses and also as an art teacher at Tbilisi Green School. Since 2016, Eka Tabliashvili is the co-founder and director at *Illustrator* (Studio and Concept Store). Since 2010, she is a member of Virgam Virtual Publishers. From 2014-2015 she was a member of BAC (Book Art Centre Tbilisi) and one of the organizers of the Tbilisi Book Days – International Picture Books exhibition. Her book *Tiny Spider and his Clock* has been published in Brazil and Macedonia.



Born 1988 in Tbilisi, Tatia Nadareishvili studied book illustration and graphic design at the Tbilisi State Academy of Fine Arts. After graduating, she worked as an art therapist with children with disabilities, and has been a member of the Virgam Book Art Centre illustrators' collective for many years. Today, she is a freelance illustrator and co-founder and manager of *Illustrator* (Studio und Concept Store). Two of her illustrative books have been published in Switzerland by Baobab Books (*Sweet Dreams*, 2017; *Tina has a courage*, 2020).



TSIKARA

Illustrated by Tatia Nadareishvili and Eka Tabliashvili

The story tells of a boy who has as a friend a red bull called Tsikara. His stepmother wants to slaughter the animal to see the child unhappy. In the distress, the bull and the boy flee. The little boy takes three objects - a mirror, a comb and a whetstone with him to help them escape from his stepmother and the wild boar. This amazing tale of true friendship, loyalty and courage is undoubtedly one of the most famous and beloved Georgian folk tales.

Giorgi Jincharadze, Eka Tabliashvili and Tatia Nadareishvili together with Khatia Chitorelidze have been co-organizers and participants of the *Tsikara Museum* project which was part of the events accompanying Georgia being the Guest of Honour at the Frankfurter Buchmesse 2018.



5+

Category: Fiction, illustrated book

Features: Full colour, hardcover, 32 pages

Sulakauri Publishing, 2020

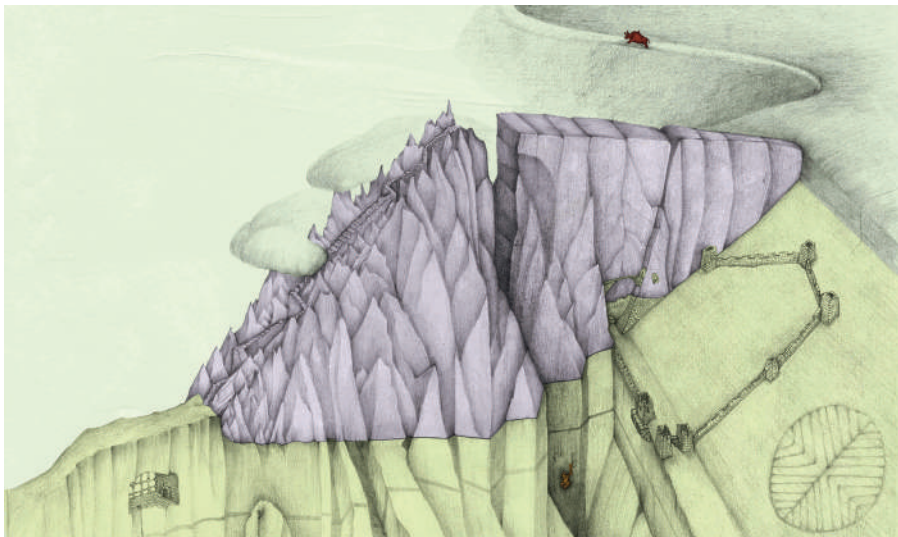
Rights: Sulakauri Publishing

Contact: Maka Shulaia

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Born 1981, Giorgi Jincharadze is an illustrator, freelance designer and artist. He has led numerous workshops on printmaking at the Book Art Center Tbilisi. His artful pencil drawings, loaded with details and allusions to mythical motifs, have won the Tbilisi Picture Book Idea Award at the Tbilisi Book Days 2015. He has been a member of Virgam Virtual Publishers since 2012. Additionally, Giorgi Jincharadze has worked on many Georgian movies as a set designer and decorative artist.



TSIKARA

Illustrated by Giorgi Jincharadze

Tsikara, an amazing tale of true friendship, support and courage between magical bull and a little boy is undoubtedly one of the most famous and beloved Georgian folk tales. This edition comes with brand new illustrations by Giorgi Jincharadze, one of the organisers and participants of the *Tsikara Museum* project which was part of the events accompanying Georgia being the Guest of Honour at the Frankfurter Buchmesse 2018.



Category: Fiction, illustrated book
Features: Full colour, hardcover, 28 pages
Zoliani Kata, 2019
Rights: Zoliani Kata
kataeditorial@gmail.com

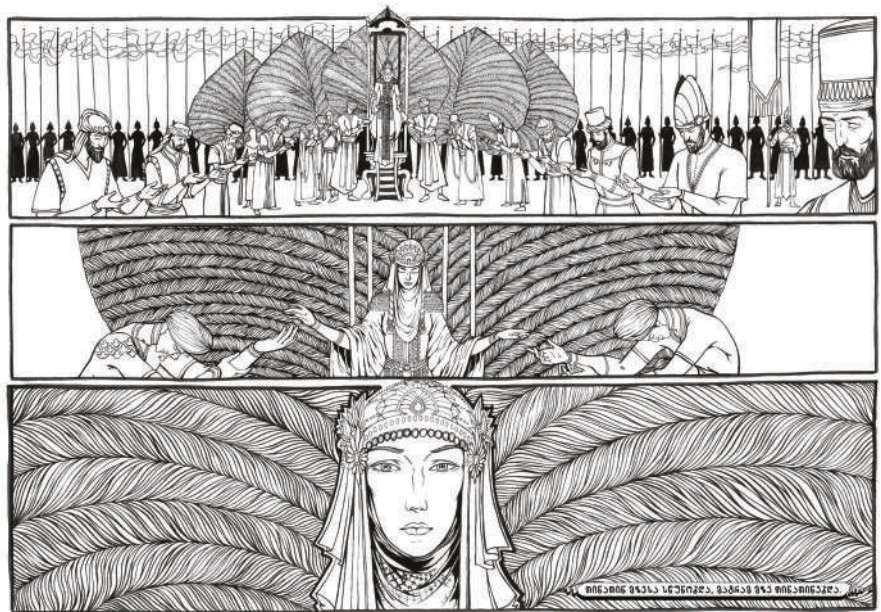




Born 1976 in Tbilisi, Dato Machavariani enrolled at the Tbilisi State Academy of Arts. During his time at the academy he was a drummer for Irakli Charkviani, a famous singer after Georgia became independent. Having graduated, he went to the United States where he worked for the Cinetic Theater. Since 1997, he has published his comics and illustrations in numerous magazines and newspapers. In addition to illustrating books and articles, he is a stage and costume designer for the experimental theater at Georgia Cinetix.



Born 1986 in Kutaisi, Salome Benidze studied journalism and political science in Tbilisi, Vilnius and Thessaloniki. In 2012, she received the SABA Literary Award in the category of Best Debut of the Year. Her book *The City on the Water* received the Tsinandali Award in 2016 in the category of Best Prose Collection. She is intensively involved in translation work and translated several authors into Georgian, including Milorad Pavić and Salman Rushdie. Currently, she works as a public relations specialist and is actively engaged in civil activities to defend women's rights.



THE KNIGHT IN THE PANTHER'S SKIN

Illustrated by David Machavariani

Text by Salome Benidze

The graphic novel *The Knight in the Panther's Skin* is based on the iconic epic 12th century poem of the same name written by Shota Rustaveli. First printed by king Vakhtang VI. of Georgia in 1712, the poem has been translated into more than 20 languages.

The newly interpreted graphic novel by David Machavariani and Salome Benidze tells about a young knight who, with the help of his noble friends, fights to rescue his beloved princess captured by Kadji magicians in a high castle. Equality, love, friendship, dedication, and compassion are subjects the novel covers. The hundreds of immaculate hand-drawn illustrated panels in shades of black and white is, besides the story itself, the strong feature of this book. The text, partially presenting the original 12th century verses, is graphically linked to the comic bubbles, reflecting the dynamic of the characters' vibes.



13+

Category: Fiction, illustrated book, graphic novel

Features: Full colour, hardcover, 222 pages

Sulakauri Publishing, 2019

Rights: Sulakauri Publishing

Contact: Maka Shulaia

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LEVAN BOLKVADZE

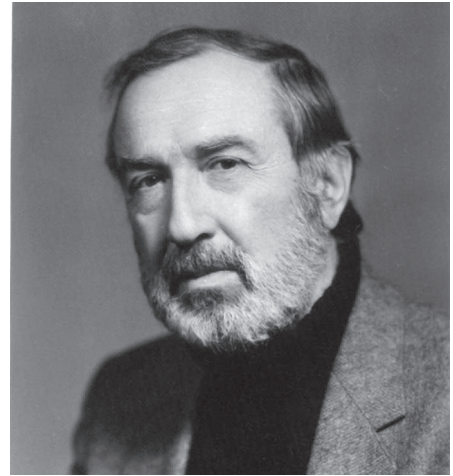
THE STORY OF A BOY WHO WAS IN THE TALE

Going through his grandfather's old things, a boy finds a strange book with a spell leading him to a fatal stone that opens the way to a completely new world.

Thanks to the journey to imaginary cities, young readers become familiar with many interesting themes and are motivated to draw parallels not only with other books, but with history. For example, the people of Chigidi's realm do not know the weather until the king announces it in the morning, so they must wait to choose their clothing. If winter is declared, they light fireplaces, put on fur coats, and throw ashes onto the roads, even if the day is lit up by the sun.

This attitude towards dissidents was typical for an authoritarian regime. King Chigidi noticed that Kompotini was smarter than his ministers, so he declared him mad. However, he did not completely foredoom him – he opened a "kindness laboratory" for him in the palace and granted him a pension, too.

The chapter called *Calm city* is distinguished by its artistic employments and ironic undertones. The lifestyle of the city is "scientifically justified" and exemplary compared to other countries, but it is hurting to see wild animals tamed like lapdogs, families created according to the colours of their hair, and other harmful consequences of radicalism.



Levan Bolkvadze (1924-1986) was arrested at the age of 21 and exiled into a Soviet camp where he spent eight years followed by a three-year settlement sentence. At the time, he met Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, whose several characters bear clear resemblance to Levan Bolkvadze. Being a philologist by education affected his writing, because a certain standard of refinement is achieved by writers who treat language not as a mere means of expression, but as the object of study. *The Story of a Boy who was in the Tale* was written in 1971 and is his only published book.



10+

Number of pages: 152
Published in: 2014 / Intelekti Publishing
Rights: Intelekti Publishing
Contact: Gvantsa Jobava
intelekipublishingrights@gmail.com

"The work is devoted to many issues. One of its main objectives is to promote reading and show younger generations that educated people always manage to govern illiterate people". (M. Ldokonen, writer, critic)

NATALIE DAVITASHVILI

THE STORY OF LILE FROM IRO



Born in 1964, Natalie Davitashvili is a writer of fantasy fiction. She had already written several children's tales when her real career as a writer began. From 2000, she set about creating original texts in a successfully chosen genre: children's fantasy. The following year, she won the first prize in the Golden Feather competition for hitherto unpublished works of children's literature with *When the Winged Lions Return*, which was published in 2009. From 2010-2015, four more books by Natalie Davitashvili were published, one of which won the GALA Literary Prize and gained instant popularity with the readers. The author creates her own unique world. The stories of her creative works unfold within a world which, as required by the fantasy genre, has a strong logic and a firm structure. Natalie Davitashvili has a teenage son for whom she writes.

Nato Davitashvili writes fantasy novels that are simultaneously modern and based on Georgian mythology.

If you find Georgian mythology boring, you must have never heard about *The Story of Lile from Iro*. The first book of *The Iroeli Chronicles*, *Story of Lile from Iro* is the ideal example of a harmonious fusion of mythology, tradition, and imagination. The book is not just a simple story about good and evil. *Story of Lile from Iro* is filled with various geographical locations, ethnicities and Georgian traditions. The author is highly intentional, treating every detail of the story with precision. Readers of any age love the protagonist Father Tsitsile. The story does not lack strong female characters: The reader will become familiar with Queen Tekla, Tuta, and Kaisa.

The Story of Lile from Iro employs a simple and dynamic style of narration, impressive names and images of heroes, and epic fantastical scenes that make the reading experience so exciting that readers of any age or gender rush to buy the next book of the series immediately after finishing the last page.



12+

Number of pages: 380

Published in: 2007 / Karchkhadze Publishing

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nato.davitashvili@gmail.com

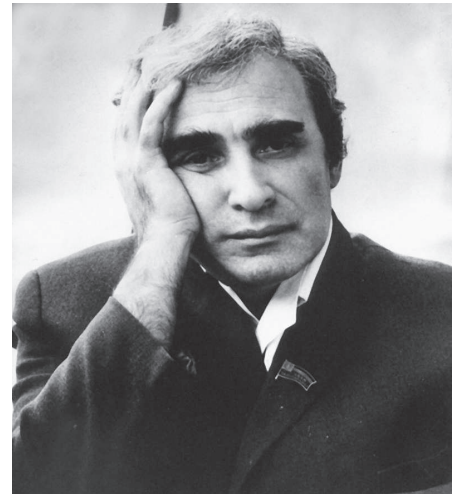
NODAR DUMBADZE

GRANNY, ILIKO, ILLARION, AND I

Granny, Iliko, Illarion, and I is Nodar Dumbadze's first, semi-autobiographical and most successful novel, released in 1960. The novel is set in a Georgian village and deals with the time of the Second World War, as the author himself experienced it as a teenager in Georgia. All able-bodied men leave to fight, leaving only women and elderly men behind. At the center of the novel is a young orphan, Zurikela, his grandmother, and the two sharp-tongued but wise and generous elderly neighbors Iliko and Illarion. Iliko and Illarion maintain an amazingly warm friendship but at the same time constantly argue with each other. Their relationship with Zurikela and Grandma Olga have gone far beyond friendly neighbours: Instead, they live as one family, sharing joys and troubles, and raising Zurikela. Throughout the story, Zurikela falls in love with his classmate Meri, writes his first poem, takes the university entrance exams, graduates from university and returns to his village.

This novel is full of genuine humour, warmth, and kindness. It depicts colourful pictures of an orphan boy from a village and the amazing people around him.

There is a very special film with the same name that is just as popular as the novel.



Nodar Dumbadze (1928-1984) was a Georgian writer. Dumbadze's father, a senior party official, was killed during the political purges of 1937 and his mother was banished to Siberia. Dumbadze therefore grew up with his grandmother. From 1945-1950, he studied economics at the State University of Tbilisi. After successfully completing his studies, he worked as a laboratory assistant at the Chair of Economic Planning. From 1967-1972, he was the editor of the satirical magazine *Niangi* ("Crocodile"). He was a member of the USSR Writers' Union and the Georgian Writers' Union, which he chaired from 1981-1984. Nodar Dumbadze received many awards. His works have been published in up to 90 countries.



11+

Number of pages: 232
Published in: 2016 / Sulakauri Publishing
Rights: Nana Dumbadze
kndumbadze@gmail.com

Nodar Dumbadze in translation / Dumbadze's works have been published in numerous countries, among them: Switzerland (Daltas Verlag, 2019); Armenia (Atrares, 2016); Macedonia (Ikona, 2014); Germany (Aufbau Verlag, 2002).

NAIRA GELASHVILI



Born in 1947, Naira Gelashvili is a Georgian writer, literary critic and civil society activist. She began her literary activities with translations of German philosophy and poetry and gained popularity among readers for non-conformist prose, which eventually provoked a negative reaction from the Soviet authorities. Despite this, Naira Gelashvili has written a number of novels and short stories and has won several literary awards, including the Literary Award LITERA 2018 for *My Bird, My Rope*, *My River* in the category of Best Novel, the Literary Award SABA 2013 in the category of Best Novel for *I am That One* and, in 2010, for *The First Two Circles and All the Others*; the Ilia Chavchavadze Prize for Artistic Work (2008); the Literary Prize GALA 2007 in the category of Best Literary Project for Rainer Maria Rilke (works in five volumes with commentaries); the Prize of the Austrian Ministry of Culture 1999 for translations of R. M. Rilke's works. The range of Naira Gelashvili's literary writings encompasses novels, stories, essays, poetry and children's prose, as well as children's songs and musical tales. In 1994, the writer founded and still heads the cultural-educational NGO Caucasian House - Centre for Cultural Relations, which plays a significant role in the peaceful cooperation of different cultures and religions among the people of Caucasus.

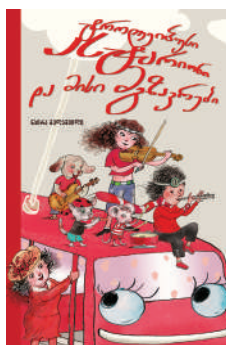
Naira Gelashvili in translation / Rights on Gelashvili's novels have been sold in many countries, among them: Germany (Verbrecher Verlag, 2017, 2018); Short Stories (Edition Braus, 2008; Suhrkamp, 2000); Turkey (Benceajans Basın Yayın Dağıtım Eğitim Bilişim, 2017); Czechoslovakia (Lidove Nakladatelství, 1986).

TROLLEYBUS ASTARION AND HIS PASSENGERS

Astarion is a pink trolleybus with white speckles, no numbers, and only one overhead wire connected to the clouds. The trolleybus wanders around, and stops where it wants, opening its doors wide to those whom he likes, inviting them. However, some people ignore Astarion because they see him as a dim-witted means of transport. But those who board Astarion are pleased to meet each other.

Some of Astarion's passengers live on Earth and others in the sky, but no matter where they meet, they immediately recognize each other. Taking care of the Earth unites them. They search for friends everywhere, trying to explain that we, residents of the Earth, have a lot of things to do together. In addition to taking care of ourselves and our families and homesteads, we have to take care of the Earth, too. The race of the timber-headed has badly damaged it, poisoning seas and rivers, chopping down forests, and polluting the air and even the space. We will be able to help the Earth, but only if people and creatures unite as friends and work together.

The "invisible guards" of the city inspire everyone, they are deeply convinced that "if you no longer do good things, you gradually become uglier and fall ill". They share their knowledge with the younger generation. They regard children as their companions and teach them that when they see someone damaging something, they must raise their voice.



9+

Number of pages: 128

Published in: 2005 / Caucasian House

Illustrated by Sophia Kintsurashvili

Rights, Contact: Naira Gelashvili

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MIKO AND REI THE MYSTERY OF THE PURPLE ICE-CREAM

An unknown woman called Prizela rides a bicycle through the city, distributing purple ice-cream to the public. Several days later, something changes: People become indifferent, losing the ability to express sympathy for others. Rei, a boy of 10, lives with his grandmother ever since his parents disappeared without a trace many years ago. Rei cannot understand why everyone has changed.

Miko, a girl, has just arrived from the planet of Belatrix in order to save the city people from indifference and lack of empathy. Miko helps Rei understand the change in personality of the city. The purple ice-cream is the reason for all this. Prizela acts in accordance with the orders of Parjelo, a person intent to make people lose sympathy for each other so they will be vulnerable to subordination. However, there are special people on earth, known for their warmth: the children of the Sun.

Miko chooses Rei to save the Earth from Prizela's magic ice-cream because he is one of these children. He learns that Miko's parents are also held captive by Parjelo. With the help of small magic wheels, Miko and Rei reach the Kingdom of Plombirons and Eskimons, located on the Ice-Cream Island in the south and become close with the king and the queen during the annual ice-cream festival. They attend an official dinner with them in the Iceberg fortress, and manage to travel through time and learn the secret of the purple ice-cream. Prizela tries to stop the children, but Miko and Rei overcome all obstacles and achieve their goal.

Miko leaves the Earth for her planet and Rei goes back to his home, where his parents are waiting for him.



Born 1971 in Gori, Vaso Guleuri graduated from the Architecture Institute of the Georgian Technical University. He won second place at the Literary Contest TSERO 2007 for his collection of children's poems *Nursery School*. His first collection of children's works, *Foxy's shop*, was published in 2007 by Diogene Publishers. In 2011, Public Radio and Elf Publishing announced a contest of Christmas fairy tales in which Vasil Guleuri's play *Returned Sounds* won first place. In 2018, he was nominated for the ALMA (Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award). Throughout his career, he has written 17 books for children, including poems as well as fairy tales.

His book *Miko and Rei* received the Iakob Gogebashvili Award 2019 for Children's and Youth Literature in the category of Best Children's Book.



Number of pages: 120

Published in: 2018 / Publishing House Qartuli

Rights, Contact: Anastasia Inasaridze

anastasia.inasaridze@gmail.com

NANA KATSIASHVILI



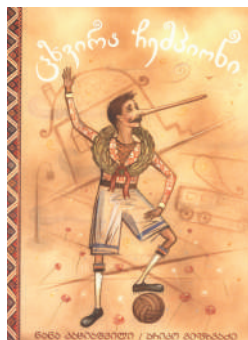
Born 1959 in Tbilisi, Nana Katsiashvili earned a degree in economics and then in film directing after high school. She began writing children's stories in 1996 for a competition announced by the publishing house Diogenes. At this time, that she wrote *Mr. Nosey the Champion* and several short stories. She has been writing for adults ever since this time as well. Her fairy tales have been included in a collection of Georgian children's writers. She has worked for almost twenty years as an instructor and teaches computer graphics' programs. She writes film scripts.

MR. NOSEY THE CHAMPION

A strange man, Murtaz has a nose of an enormous length. He is very kind, with a distinguished love for children. The nose causes some great discomfort for Murtaz, but it also has many positive aspects. When Murtaz sneezes, lightweight things nearby fly into the air. He always buys two tickets for municipal transit due the nose's length, but his position of senior expert at work is due to precisely his extraordinary ability to smell... Murtaz thinks the nose hinders his search for happiness. He is a good football player. He even uses the nose with great success during fencing. He has many admirers. Murtaz also receives letters from a delighted fan...

The football championship is approaching in the town. One time, Murtaz has a strange dream. In the dream, he finds out that he has an extraordinary admirer – a pretty and attractive confectioner who is in love with the talented footballer and will also most certainly be at the decisive match of the championship. Roused to action by his unknown admirer, Murtaz jabs at the ball with a desire increased ten-fold – he prepares for the championship with utter devotion. Murtaz plays amazingly well in the decisive match, yet his entire attention is directed towards the spectators – he is searching for the unknown confectioner. The futile expectation is reflected in Murtaz's game as well – he is no longer interested in the ball or the whistling and shouting of the unsatisfied crowd. The final minutes have just started when Murtaz is startled by the shout of a strange, pretty girl – Murtaz realizes that this is his beloved. The guy carries out some wonderful moves and makes the game-changing goal. Murtaz's team becomes the champion.

Soon the entire town is celebrating the wedding of the talented footballer and the pretty confectioner.



6+

Number of pages: 30

Published in: 2003 / Diogene Publishers

Illustrated by: Archil Vepkhvadze

Rights: Diogene Publishers

Contact: Mariam Gelenidze

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IRMA MALATSIDZE

SWEET LAND

The story *Sweet Land* tells us about one particular country and its life. In the country, there is an orange sun that rises in the morning and a banana moon that appears at night, the houses have the shape of jam pots, and instead of hail there is sugar candy that drops from the sky. There is a lemonade river and, instead of asphalt, there is a candy road.

Everyone is happy in this country – King Karamelius, Queen Marmeladina, their daughter Rafaela and all their subordinates, who are happy and kind people. The king and queen are so happy that they happily accept the choice of their daughter to marry a poor strolling musician.

In the story, kindness and cruelty constantly oppose each other – the king of the Bitter Land attacks the king of the Sweet Land, a vizier named “No one should know what we do” is organizing a conspiracy against the king, the chemist Alteusi’s magical drug will transform King Sting and Queen Zazu into kind people for several hours. Friendship and art help the musician Linovio to get the heart of the princess.

There is a lot of fear and many obstacles in the story, and the characters are easy to understand for children as well as the reader. The author uses the principle of creating names: The cruel vizier “No one should know what we do”, also the cruel Don Cactus and his children Biter and Spiker, the kind Queen Candy Jelly, the kind girl Rosy, Princess Rafaela, the nanny Bun, who is a fluffy and kind nanny, the shoe-maker Sole, the boy named Nut, who loves nuts, and the cruel King Sting II. There is a constant fight between justice and injustice, but eventually everything ends with the victory of justice.

The play written after the story was staged at the puppet theatre and at several children’s theatres.



Born in 1968, Irma Malatsidze is a writer, children’s book writer, journalist and translator. She graduated from the Shota Rustaveli Theatre and Film Georgia State University. She has worked as a journalist at Public Broadcasting and several news agencies and newspapers, among them *Alia*, *Resonance* and *Georgian Times*. Irma Malatsidze was the winner in the category of debutant children writer of the competition New Names in Georgian Children Literature, organized by the journal *Dila* in 2003. Since her first prize for the story *A Snail Named Keramucha*, she systematically publishes her texts in different literature editions. Irma Malatsidze is the founder and manager of the Children’s Literature Development Foundation *Libo*. She was an initiator of introducing National Children’s Book Day (27th of October) in Georgia.



6+

Number of pages: 96
Published in: 2018 / Sulakauri Publishing
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BONDO MATSABERIDZE

RAIN FAIRY TALE



Born in 1959, Bondo Matsaberidze graduated in 1990 from the Faculty of Poetry at the Maxim Gorky Literary Institute in Moscow. Back in his homeland, Bondo Matsaberidze established Alaverdi, one of the first independent publishing houses in Georgia, which he headed until 1994. Years later, he founded another publishing house, Bakmi, which specialises in children's literature and fiction with high design standards. Matsaberidze remains the head of Bakmi. Since 1995, he has been a member of the Writers' Union of Georgia. He is the author of a poetry collection, as well as of a collection of essays.

Chochromeli is an ant, who is industrious, skillfull, and hard-working. The crops he harvests are abundant and his household is quite well-functioning. However, his excessive generosity and kind heart place him in a difficult situation, as his mercifulness leads him to absolute destitution. Everyone forgets Chochromeli, who generously gave others what he had obtained due to hard work. Moreover, even birds abandon his barn that no longer has any grains.

In the meantime, the weather becomes colder and the village is facing the coming winter. The hearth also turns cold. How can someone, who has nothing, survive the winter? Chochromeli, who is doomed to starvation, finds it difficult to sustain himself. Finding no other way out, he closes the door of his home at dawn and sets off in search of fortune.

It is at this moment that he meets a bee, Pipi, who is as kind as he is. They familiarise themselves with each other, treat each other as host and guest, and until Pipi goes into hibernation, they have a sweet talk. However, their meeting and friendship do not end here. Chochromeli and Pipi vow to meet again in spring.

The author stops telling the fairy tale here, leaving a blank space in the text and asking children to think and write their own descriptions of Chochromeli's and Pipi's meeting early in spring. Children are to send him what they write and he promises to publish their descriptions as a book.



Number of pages: 38
Published in: 2017 / Bakmi Publishing
Illustrated by Rusudan Kipiani
Rights: Bakmi Publishing
Contact: Rusudan Mosidze
bakmipublishing@gmail.com

14 CRYSTAL THEORY

In 1843, famous Moravian traveler Volkan Leshezi saves a little Lappi boy in a dense forest of Lapland. Aamu, the father of the boy, vows to Volkan to serve his family for seven generations and moves to Moravia.

In 1868, Aleks, the son of Volkan, becomes the father of Brunhilda Leshezi. Baby Brunhilda is ought to die of a strange disease. She can only survive in very low temperatures. Old Aamu recalls an old Lappi legend about "Winter Forest" Lapland. Soon the whole family of Leshezi moves to their new habitat in "Winter Forest" nearby the village of Kaileeno.

In 1968, Inge, the little girl, is to spend her summer holidays in Kaileeno. It is an unusually cold summer. Inge's mother falls ill with an unknown disease and dies shortly after. Strange things are to be revealed soon: Inge receives an urgent message from the ancestral castle of Ursus-bergen in a very unusual manner. No one can be trusted. Something is there in the forest...



Born 1977 in Tbilisi, Giorgi Maskharashvili (pen-name Nils Simeon) is a well-known Georgian multimedia artist and actor. He graduated from the Tbilisi State Academy of Fine Arts in 2000, after which he started working as an illustrator of children's books. In the meantime, he moved to California where he opened his own studio. For *14 Crystal Theory* he received the Literary Prize SABA and the Iakob Gogebashvili Children's and Youth Literary Award for Best Debut of 2019.



9+

Number of pages: 288

Published in: 2018 / Sulakauri Publishing:

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ARCHIL SULAKAURI



Archil Sulakauri (1927-1997), Georgian writer and winner of the Shota Rustaveli State Prize for children's literature, graduated from Tbilisi State University with a degree in Georgian language and literature. Already by the age of nineteen, he was a published poet. Sulakauri was the head of the children's literature publishing house *Nakaduli* and editor-in-chief of the literary journal *Mnatobi*. He wrote numerous poems, stories and novels, including acclaimed works such as *Holiday on My Street*, *Waves Strive for the Shore*, *The Goldfish* and many others. Archil Sulakauri achieved immense success with Georgian audiences with his fairy tales *The Magic Dress*, *The Blue Deer* and *The Stubborn Rabbits*. His work *The Adventures of Piccolo* instantly became one of the most acclaimed children's books in Georgia. He also contributed to the Georgian film industry and wrote several popular film scripts.

"With impressive heroes, exceptional humour, and an attractive plot, this is one of the best fairy tales written in the Georgian language. It can be said that *The Magic Dress* is a kind of Georgian *Alice in Wonderland*". (Sh. Iatashvili, writer, critic)

THE MAGIC DRESS

Maka, a young student, plays hide-and-seek in the yard and ends up hiding in the attic, which is full of old items: jewel boxes filled with expired coins, stuffed animals, a cracked mirror, a wardrobe full of old dresses. Maka decides to try on one of the dresses, but finds it difficult as the dress shrinks. Shrinking with the dress, Maka becomes a doll-sized creature. Around her, the attic turns to life. Maka disappears deep into the wardrobe, finding herself in a realm of expired copper coins.

In this world, Maka is the daughter of the Sun and wears a gold amulet around her neck, pouring absolute excitement into the realm. Maka is taken with great honour to the palace of King Dharma I. Everyone is old in this country – the king, the viziers, the commander-in-chief. The king of the Country of Moneyboxes, Plaster XXVII., learns about the appearance of the daughter of the Sun. He visits Dharma I. and invites Maka to the Country of Moneyboxes with the malicious purpose of laying his hands on the gold amulet.

This is the main conflict of the fairy tale – a confrontation between the countries of coins and moneyboxes, that develops into war, to gain the gold amulet.

Written during the Soviet Era, the author metaphorically describes an image of the Soviet regime in this fairy tale. He shows Brezhnev's decrepit government, a fake commander-in-chief, who is a good-for-nothing braggart, and the empty king ("the king is naked" is replaced in the Country of Moneyboxes with "the king is empty").



Number of pages: 108

Published in: 1974 / Nakaduli Publishing

Rights: Giorgi Sulakauri

Contact: info@writershouse.ge

info@book.gov.ge

LELA TSUTSKIRIDZE

THE MERRY FAMILY AND OTHERS

Get to know Dudo and his family: a director with cats and the stringent teacher Meri, the eccentric Nora who wears a red ribbon and is in love with Simon, cousin Tartaline and her goat, a suitcase, and birds, the frog Croak-Croak, and many others. And there is also the magician Posi, who became so angry once that...

Lela Tsutskiridze not only wrote *The Merry Family and Others*, but also illustrated it. The black and white illustrations emanate a sense of humour, adding joy to a text that is already quite joyful. At the beginning, we see Grandma Meow flying in the air and discover what happened to the broken dinnerware set with geese and 50 sugared (hopefully, you will not be saddened because of this incident). Remember that from now on, you have to think and behave like a member of the joyful family. The book tells us the story of one big family and their friends. The characters are funny, but the story can sometimes be sad and scary. This book gives us a clear lesson about the importance of familial love and understanding and the consequences of a cold heart.



Born 1964 in Tbilisi, Lela Tsutskiridze is an author, children's writer, artist and illustrator. She graduated from Tbilisi State University where she studied Georgian language and literature. She has worked for various publishing houses and kid's shows. Currently she works as a teacher for a book club and Sunday school. Lela Tsutskiridze is the author of a USAID project on Georgia's elementary school textbooks. She has been published in various literary magazines, such as *Literaturuli Palitra*, *Tsiskari*, *Akhali Saunje*, *Arili*, *Literaturuli Gazeti*, the kid's magazines *Dila*, *Karuseli*. Lela Tsutskiridze was shortlisted for several literary prizes, among them SABA Literary Prize 2017 in the category of Best Poetry Collection for *Imagine*, *Elisabeth*. She worked as an illustrator and book designer for many books published in different publishing houses in Georgia.

Literary works of Lela Tsutskiridze have been translated into English, German, Greek, Latvian, Ukrainian and Russian.



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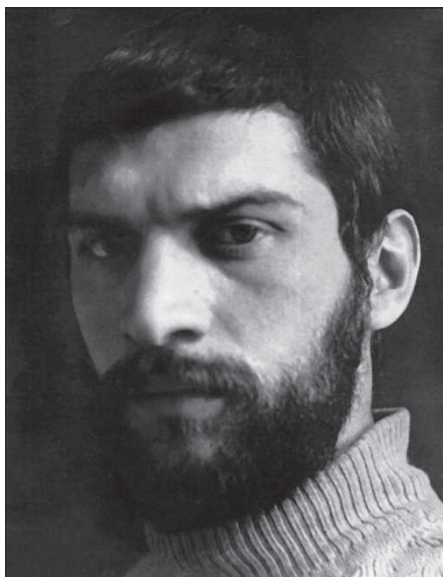
Number of pages: 156

Published in: 2018 / Academic Press of Georgia

Rights: Lela Tsutskiridze

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ZAZA TVARADZE



Zaza Tvaradze (1957-2007), writer and poet. He studied psychology at Tbilisi State University. From 1980, he worked as editorial director of a number of literary magazines and was a member of the Georgian Pen Club. His verses and short stories have been translated into English, French, German and Russian.

"The author always plays on the border between magic and reality, especially impressive in this fairy tale. Distinguished by its sudden transitions, contrasts, and light sarcasm, this story became one of the most beloved Georgian fairy tales".
/Sh. Iatashvili, writer, critic/

MONTEBULSU OR ELI'S UNUSUAL JOURNEY

Montebulsu or Eli's unusual Journey is the only fairy tale by Zaza Tvaradze published after his death. In 2009, it was awarded the Gala Prize for Best Children's Book of the Year.

Eli is a little but fearless girl, who is not even afraid of evil magicians. Eli lives in a multi-storey house on the outskirts of Tbilisi in Grmagele. She travels alone to the village of Okrokana, near Tbilisi, to search for her father, who went missing during the war. On her way to the village, she encounters evil magicians.

Montebulsu is an owl-shaped, copper talisman that Eli's father gave to her as a present. As Eli searches for her father, Montebulsu revives and helps Eli with her search. After thousands of dangerous adventures throughout fabulous places, Eli, finally, finds her father.



Number of pages: 254
Published in: 2009 / Sulakauri Publishing
Rights: Sulakauri Publishing
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TATIA NADAREISHVILI
Sweet Dreams

Translated into German
by Rachel Gratzfeld
Baobab Books, 2017
Switzerland



**The Most Beautiful
Georgian Fairy Tales**

Translated into German
by Heinz Fähnrich
Suhrkamp, 2018
Germany



**The King who could not laugh.
Fairy Tales from Georgia**

Translated into German by H. Fähnrich,
O. Karalaschwili and S. Minkner
NordSüd Verlag, 2017
Switzerland



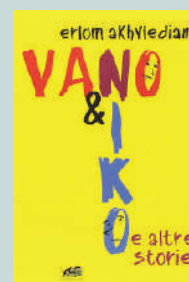
SULKHAN-SABA ORBELIANI
The Wisdom of the Lies

Translated into German
by Heinz Fähnrich
Edition Orient, 2018
Germany



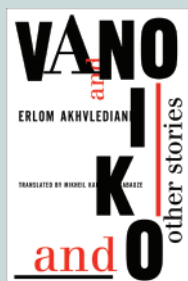
DIANA ANPHIMIADI
Tales written in a Drawing Album

Translated into German
by Tamar Rekk-Kotrikadze
Drava Verlag, 2018
Austria



ERLOM AKHVLEDIANI
Vano and Niko and other Stories

Translated into Italian
by Ketevan Charkviani
Atmosphere Libri, 2016
Italy



ERLOM AKHVLEDIANI
Vano and Niko and other Stories

Translated into English
by Mikheil Kakabadze
Dalkey Archive Press, 2014
USA



GIORGI KEKELIDZE
Thoma's Fairy Tales

Translated into French
by Maia Gio
Les éditions MEDUZA, 2019
France



GIORGI KEKELIDZE
Toma's Fairy Tales

Translated into Chinese
by Ana Gogvadze
China Translation & Publication House, 2018
China



ARCHIL SULAKAURI
The Adventures of Piccolo

Translated into Arabic
by Jihad El Shebini
Al Kotob Khan, 2016
Egypt



IAKOB GOGEBASHVILI
The magical Power of the Lullaby

Translated into German
by Helmut Kunkel
Daltas Verlag, 2018
Switzerland



BONDO MATSABERIDZE
Tales about Bekna and Tekla

Translated into Lithuanian
by Maria Kiknadze
Tikra Knyga, 2016
Lithuania

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