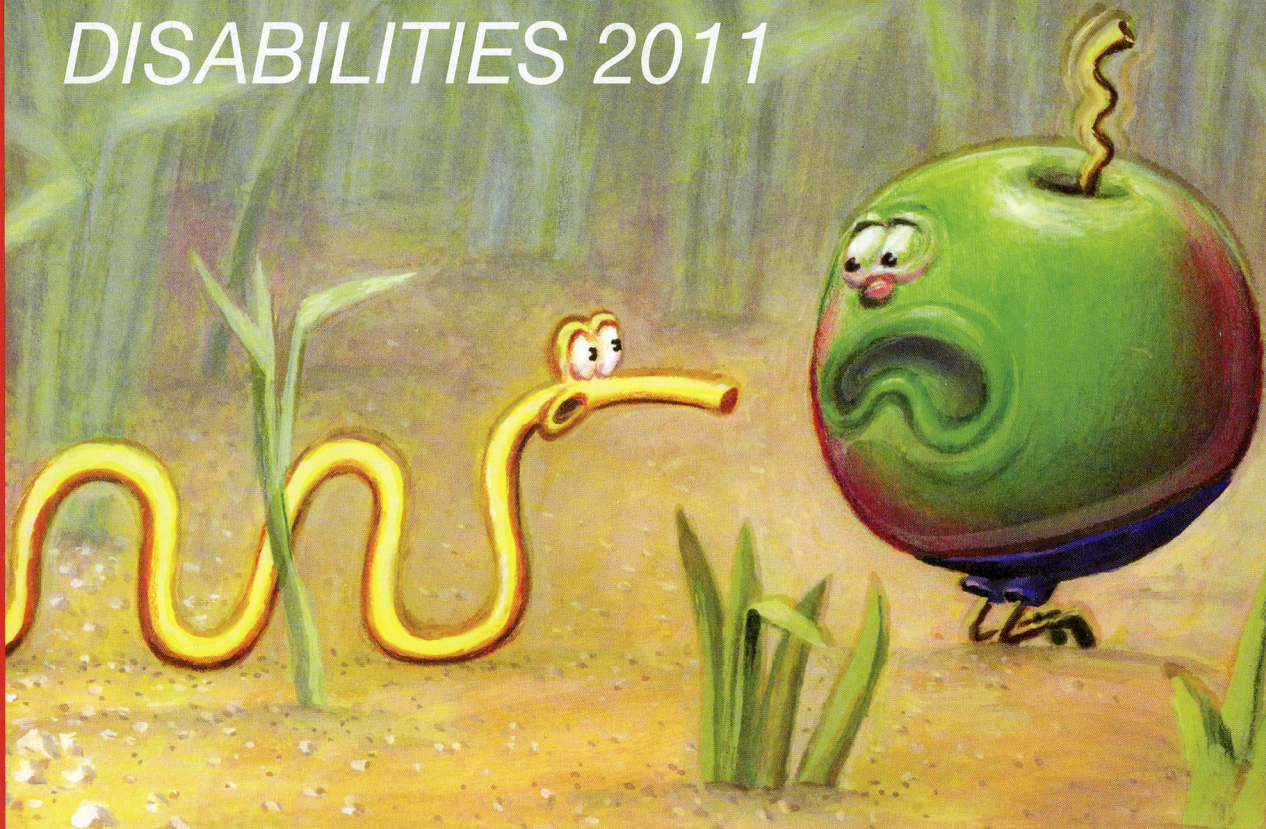


**iBbY**

INTERNATIONAL BOARD ON BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

# OUTSTANDING BOOKS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES 2011



## **Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities 2011**

by Heidi Cortner Boiesen

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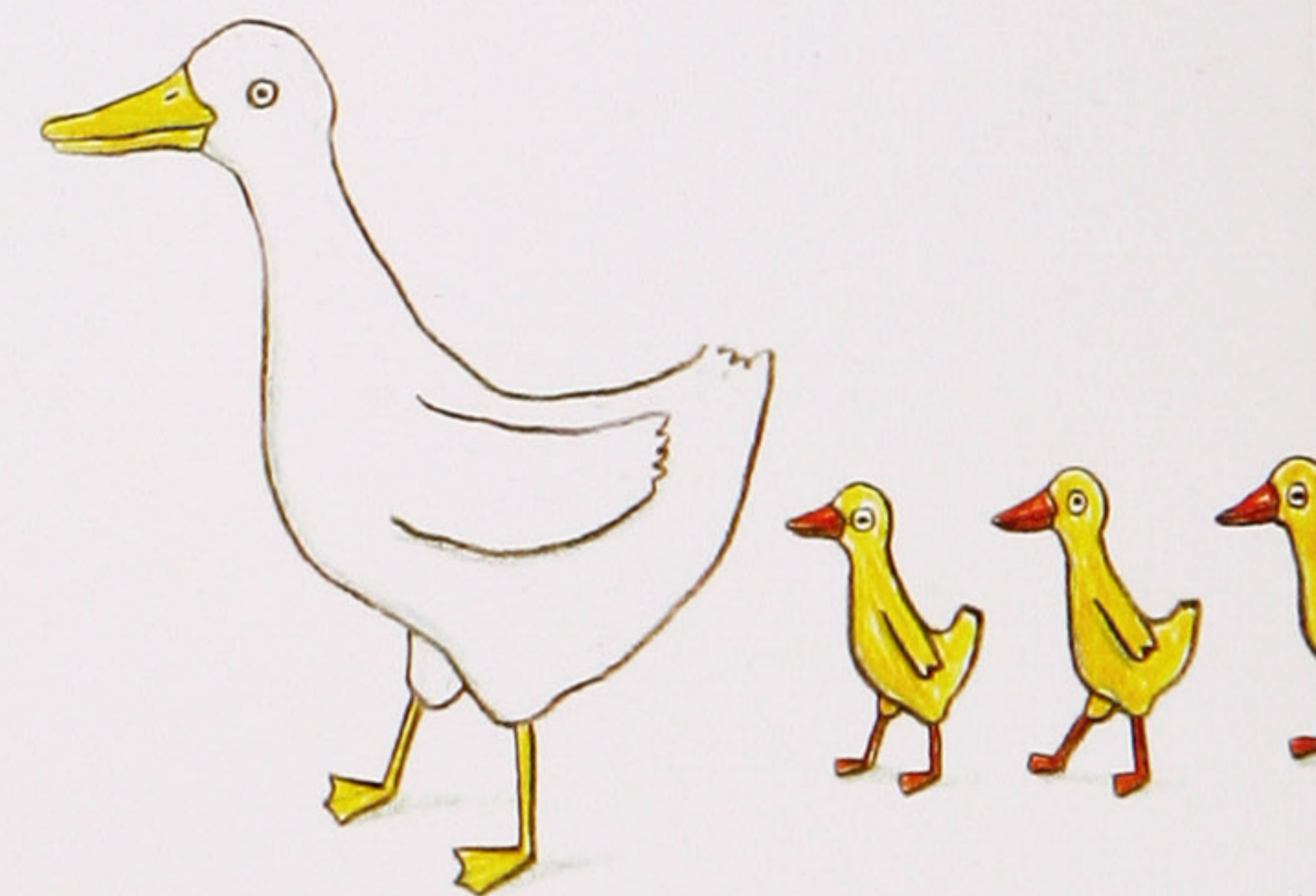
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Hauska Matka (cat. no. 6)

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In front of my house (cat. no. 25)





Jésus Betz (cat. no. 35)

# FOREWORD

The present annotated catalogue continues the IBBY project that started in 1997: '*Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities*'. In 2002 the Documentation Centre was transferred from the Department of Special Needs Education of the University of Oslo to the Haug School and Resource Centre (HSRC). The 2011 collection is the fourth in a series of regular biennial selections that is presented by the Haug School. The IBBY National Sections were requested to submit books that were published in 2006 or later. We have also included two outstanding titles that were published earlier than 2006.

There were many positive reactions to the previous catalogues that were distributed internationally, including the special 2002 Jubilee edition. Each selection was first exhibited at the Bologna International Children's Book Fair and has subsequently travelled all over the world.

For this catalogue and exhibition, titles have also been evaluated from countries where the National Sections did not participate in the project. Some particularly relevant titles were sent directly by publishers or submitted by enthusiastic contact persons.

The aim was to select 40 outstanding books, but due to an overwhelming response to our invitation – over 130 titles were evaluated – 60 were selected.

The selection was the responsibility of the Director of the IBBY Documentation Centre of Books for Disabled Young People in Norway. Sissel Hofgaard Swensen, formerly at the centre *Books for Everyone* in Oslo, and Chloë Hughes, Associate Professor at the Western Oregon University gave valuable assistance.

Our most sincere gratitude goes to colleagues and partners who helped us identify some of the best books currently available for disabled young people. We hope that this catalogue will encourage publishers to translate and produce new books, and stimulate parents and educators to share them with disabled young people.

Oslo and Basel, February 2011

*Heidi Cortner Boiesen*, Director, IBBY Documentation Centre of Books for Disabled Young People

*Elizabeth Page*, IBBY Executive Director

a little **hill.**



On the little hill ...

In front of my house (cat. no. 25)

# INTRODUCTION

Many young people with disabilities cannot read or enjoy a regular book, or they cannot find a suitable book among the many publications available. Therefore, they need specially produced books or selected regular books of literary and artistic quality that meet their special needs regarding design, language, plot structure and pictures.

It is neither possible nor desirable to make a blueprint of what is a suitable book, because young people with disabilities are, like all of us, individuals with very different needs and skills. Only a wide choice of books based on profound knowledge of the various special needs can, in the end, give young people with disabilities access to books.

As an instrument for communication and participation, literature has an important role to play in the development of our identity and quality of life. IBBY launched this project in order to give young people with disabilities the opportunity to enjoy books as others enjoy them.

For the nominations, the IBBY National Sections were asked to cover one or all of the following main categories:

**I** Books produced specifically for young people with special needs, published in 2006 or later

The types of books sought in this category were:

- a.** Picture books with sign language illustrations
- b.** Story books with BLISS or pictograms (non-verbal communication systems, where words and concepts are represented by pictorial symbols)
- c.** Books with tactile pictures (raised pictures) that blind children can understand, and tactile/textile books for young people with mental disabilities or multiple handicaps
- d.** Special 'easy-to-read' books for young people with mental disabilities

**II** General picture books, published in 2006 or later

When selecting entries for this category, special needs with regard to design, topics, illustrations and texts had to be considered in combination with artistic and literary quality. We also stressed the importance of books with a 'grown-up' look that are suitable for adolescents with language disabilities.

We hoped to discover books that inspire joy, curiosity, and imagination, as well as those that encourage general understanding and special skills, such as language, visual perception and motor skills.

||| General children's books – picture books and stories – portraying young people with disabilities, published in 2006 or later

The books in this category portray people with disabilities, children as well as adults, books that not only focus on their disabilities and the difference it makes to their lives, but which also stress similarities between them and the world at large. Important books in this connection include stories that open the way to understanding and acceptance, and to the inclusion of young people with disabilities in society.

The final selection and the number of books listed in this catalogue is rather limited, and does not give the full picture of existing books and possibilities. Nevertheless, we hope that this catalogue and exhibition will promote more understanding and knowledge.

Furthermore, we hope that it will suggest ideas for the publication and promotion of new books in this field.



Redd (cat. no. 17)



# APPROACHES FOR CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

Among the many good books that we received for this project, we would like to make a special mention of twelve.

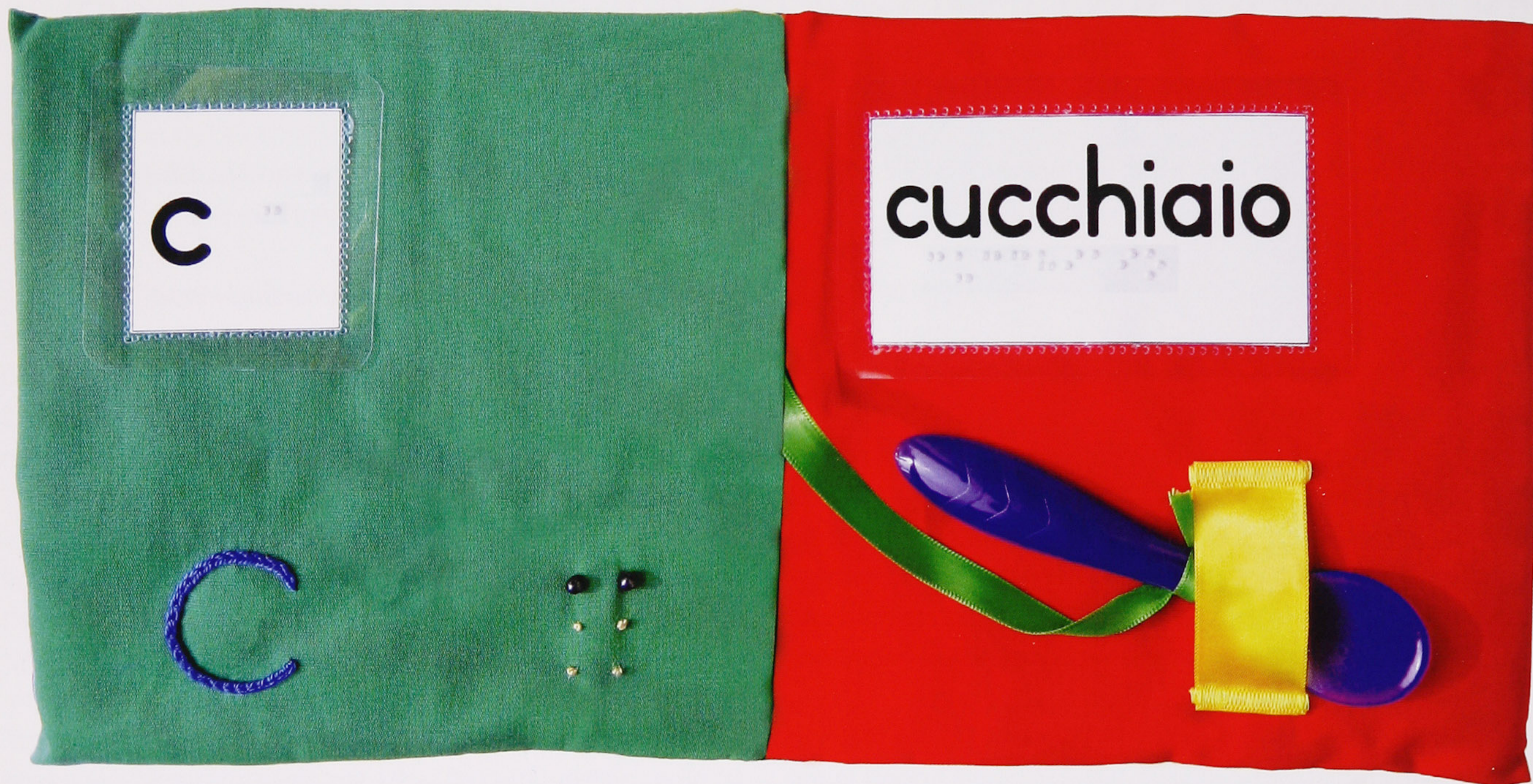
Children with no hearing difficulties develop language by playing with words. Similarly, deaf children develop their primary language, the sign language, by playing with signs. **Raccontare con le parole e con le mani** [*Tell (me) with words and with (your) hands*] (cat. no. 2) by Marisa Bonomi is a set of picture books with nursery rhymes or songs in several languages, including Italian Sign Language. Besides being meant for children with hearing difficulties, the rhymes are also suitable for children with no language problems. A disabled child and a person without disabilities can thus enjoy the book together.

**Hauska matka** [*A joyful journey*] by Susanna Huikari (cat. no. 6) is a Finnish picture book with BLISS symbols added to the standard text. BLISS is an international non-verbal pictorial system that can help non-speaking people communicate. Some young people with mental disabilities also use BLISS as a means of communication, often in combination with photographs and pictures. By telling the story through amusing and lively

pictures combined with a regular text and BLISS symbols, this book can reach readers with different needs and skills.

**Cappuccetto Rosso** [*Little Red Riding Hood*] by Peppo Bianchessi (cat. no. 7) is a simple picture book version of the classic fairytale. The Pictorial Communication Symbols added to the text help the reading process for anyone with difficulties in understanding written words, or indeed for anyone trying to learn a foreign language.

A tactile picture book is an important kind of book for blind children because it stimulates the sense of touch and the art of recognizing and interpreting shapes, thus preparing them for learning Braille later on. Provided that the illustrations are comprehensible to the blind child, they can help develop language, although not all tactile pictures are easy to understand for a child without visual experience. We know that conventional, realistic pictures even if they are in raised print, are difficult to interpret for children who have been blind from birth. If such pictures are to be legible, they should represent small objects with the shape, size and texture that a blind child is familiar



Abc (cat. no. 15)

with in everyday life. **Goin' on a Bear Hunt** (cat. no. 13) by Suzette Wright is a picture book that offers Braille along with the printed text, realistic moulded images of objects and extremely simple raised line drawings. A Reader's Guide to exploring the book is attached inside the back cover.

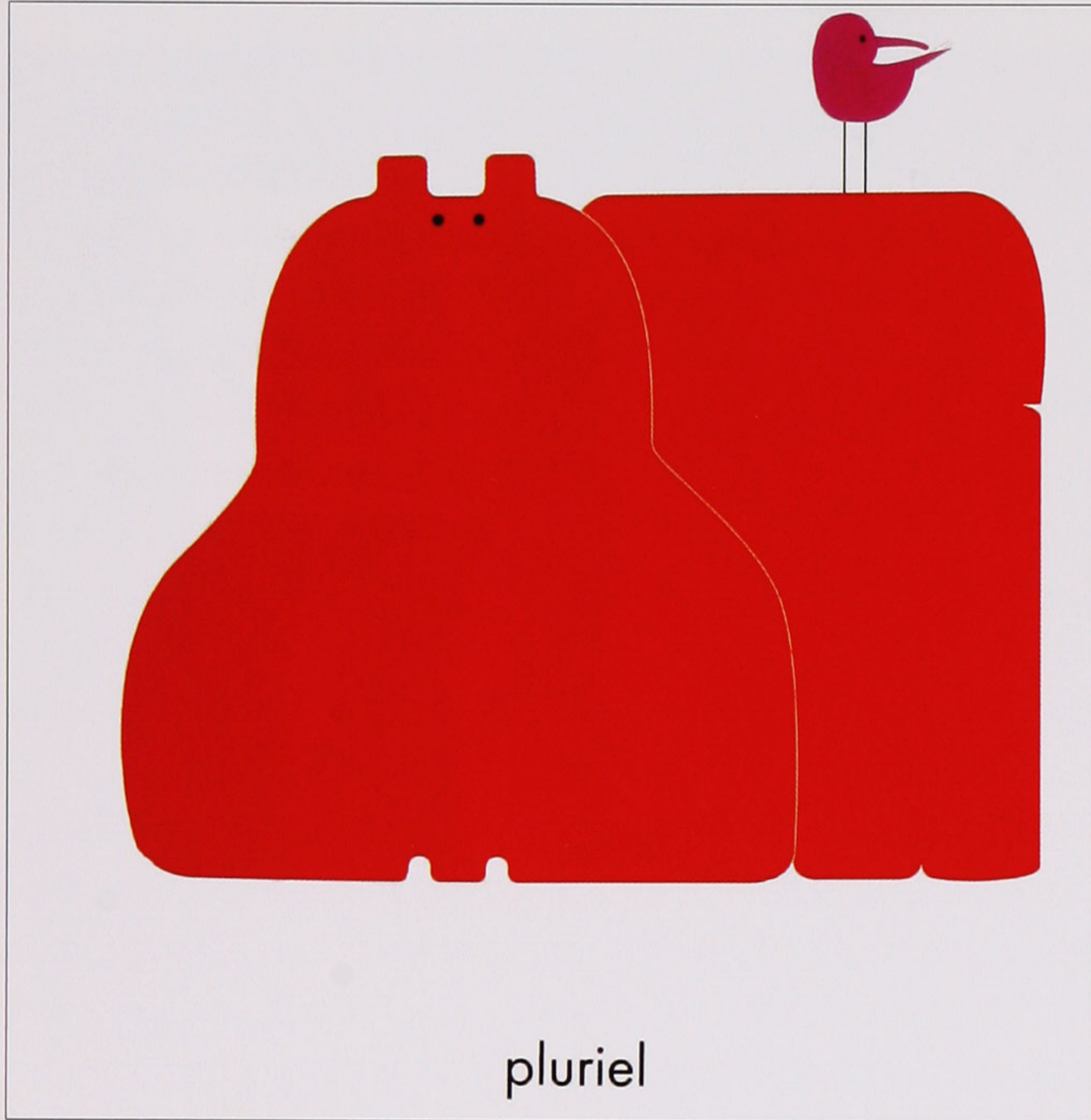
Certainly, children who are blind can take pleasure in tactile representations even if they cannot interpret all the pictures, or need guidance from a sighted person in order to understand them. But it is important that there are also books available with pictures that blind children can read spontaneously and without help. Some tactile picture books have small, simple, non-figurative or geometrical shapes and characters. Contrary to conventional pictures these figures need no visual experience in order to be understood.

A cloth book is another kind of tactile picture book. **Abc** (cat. no. 15) by Lynette Rudman is the first book in a series co-produced by *I read with my hands* in South Africa, *Federazione Nazionale delle Istituzioni Pro Ciechi* in Italy, and *Les Doigts Qui Rêvent* in France. They are ideal for introducing the blind or visually impaired child to the world of tactile graphics. *Abc* is a hand-made book that may be easily understood by sighted

and visually disabled children together. The series focuses on the pre-Braille and the beginner-reader phase and will present the whole alphabet in Braille, as well as in large bold print with an accompanying tactile illustration, and will be published in English, French and Italian. Made as didactical instruments with their multi-sensory approach, such as different materials, forms and textures, tactile picture books are in fact books for everyone.

Young people with reading difficulties spend a lot of time and effort on decoding words and then understanding and mastering the skill of reading. Motivating reading requires a wide supply of easy-readers that have fascinating and age relevant stories. **Pass deg, Line** [*Watch out, Line*] by Marit Hoem Kvam, (cat. no. 18) is a story that will be enjoyed by young adults as well as older persons with intellectual disabilities.

General picture books are another source of reading and a pleasant means of stimulating visual perception, language and communication and expressing feelings. These are important books because they can be picked from the general stock and are, therefore, widely available. **Mon hippopotame** [*My hippo*] by Janik Coat (cat. no. 22) is an entertaining way of



Mon hippopotame (cat. no. 22)



Goin' on a Bear Hunt (cat. no. 13)



Abc (cat. no. 15)

explaining opposites to smaller children or young people with reading difficulties. Anyone who has found a picture within a picture within a picture will enjoy the circular story **In front of my house** (cat. no. 25) by Marianne Dubuc.

Many writers and artists have created books that portray people with disabilities with sensitivity and insight while their books are real novels, fantasy or crime stories in their own right. Such books can answer questions and destroy the myths connected with disabilities.

Some people assume that a drooling person who is tied to a wheelchair and has no speech or control over their hands or body is someone of no account. Such a person is Melody in Sharon M. Draper's **Out of my mind** (cat. no. 42). What a refreshing experience to discover her sharp mind when she is equipped with a medi-talker, a computer-based device that helps her expressing her thoughts and emotions out loud.

**Torrie & the Snake Prince** (cat. no. 47) by K. V. Johansen is a fantasy novel full of magic, trickery and humour, where the young peddler Wren has to take charge when she discovers that heroes are not born – they happen.

**Terre de glaces** [*Land of ice*] (cat. No. 57) by Louise-Michelle Sauriol is an easy-to-read story about an adventure that turns into a tragedy for a young deaf girl one night during a snowmobile ride in Northern Quebec.

Finally, we would like to draw attention to one book, **Boy in motion** (cat. no. 52) by Ainslie Manson. In this inspiring story we meet the athletic and agile young boy who never sat still, but after an accident that left him in a wheelchair he discovered that as a paraplegic he did not have to leave behind any of his dreams.

Heidi Cortner Boiesen



In front of my house (cat. no. 25)

Si me



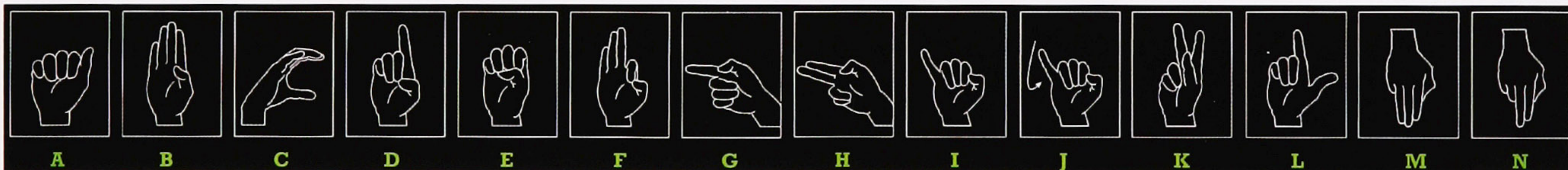
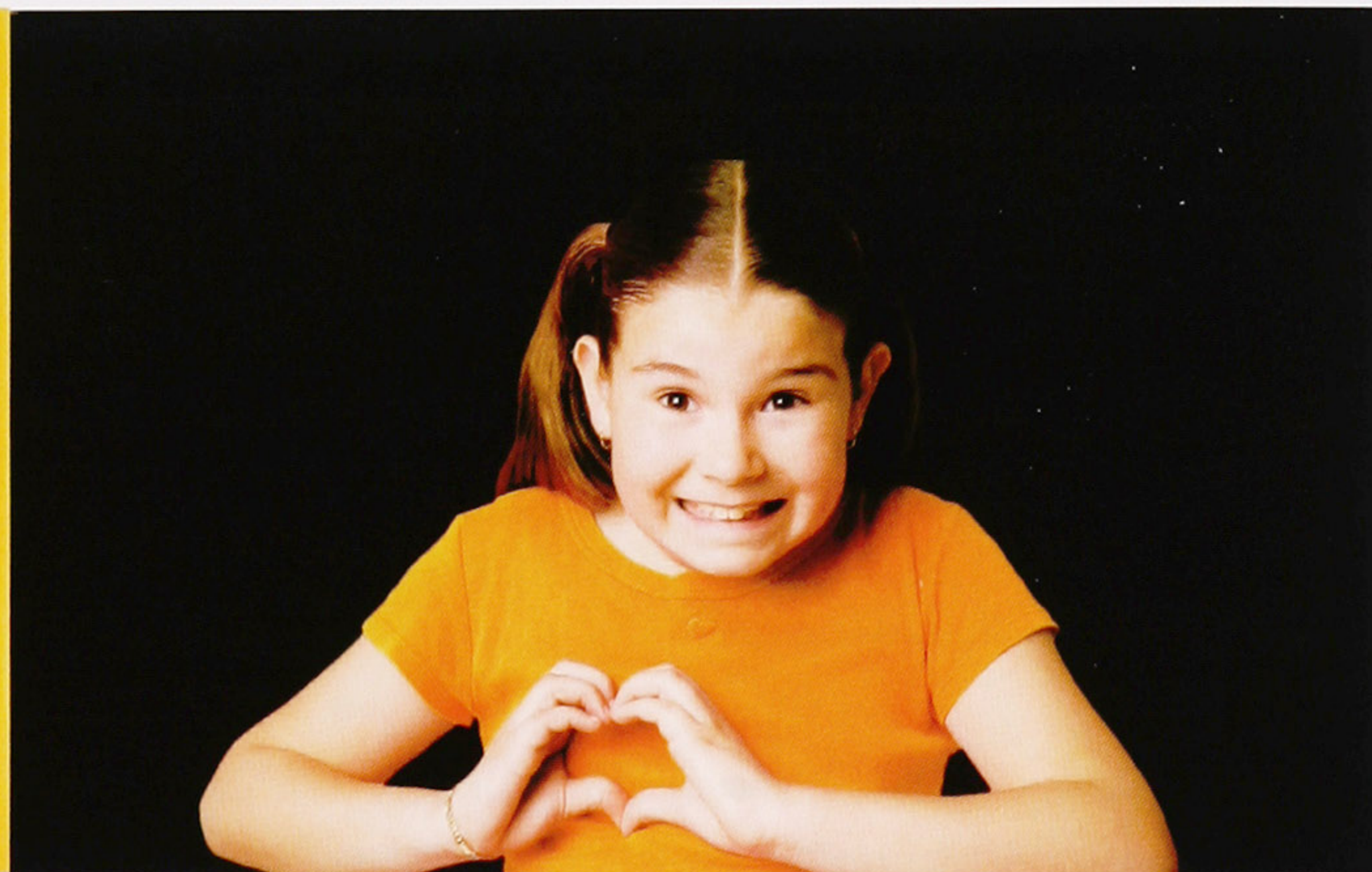
a

m

a

s

yo te quiero



Escucha mis manos (cat. no. 3)

# BOOKS WITH SIGN LANGUAGE ILLUSTRATIONS

**1 Anthony, Michelle and Reyna Lindert**

## **My first signs**

New York, NY: Scholastic, 2009  
16pp. ISBN 978-0-545-10924-6

In this photo book adults and children demonstrate signs in American Sign Language (ASL) for familiar items such as ball, milk, bed and crackers. The words that they are signing are also illustrated by large textural pictures. For easy access to words, there are tabs on the edge of the pages with pictures of the item that is being signed on that page. This is a great book for young children just beginning to learn sign language.

**2 Bonomi, Marisa** (text)  
**Pietta, Cristina** (ill.)

## **Raccontare con le parole e con le mani**

*[Tell (me) in words and with (your) hands]*

Rome: Sinnos Editrice (Strumenti per educare *[Instruments to learn]*), 2008  
[30pp.], [34pp.], [34pp.], [42pp.]  
ISBN 978-88-7609-134-6

This is a package that comprises four books: two with familiar nursery rhymes and songs, one with small dialogues, and a guide to parents. All have lively and expressive illustrations and are printed in Italian, Arabic, Hindi, Urdu or Italian Sign Language. The books are very useful tools for the integration of deaf or hearing-impaired children.

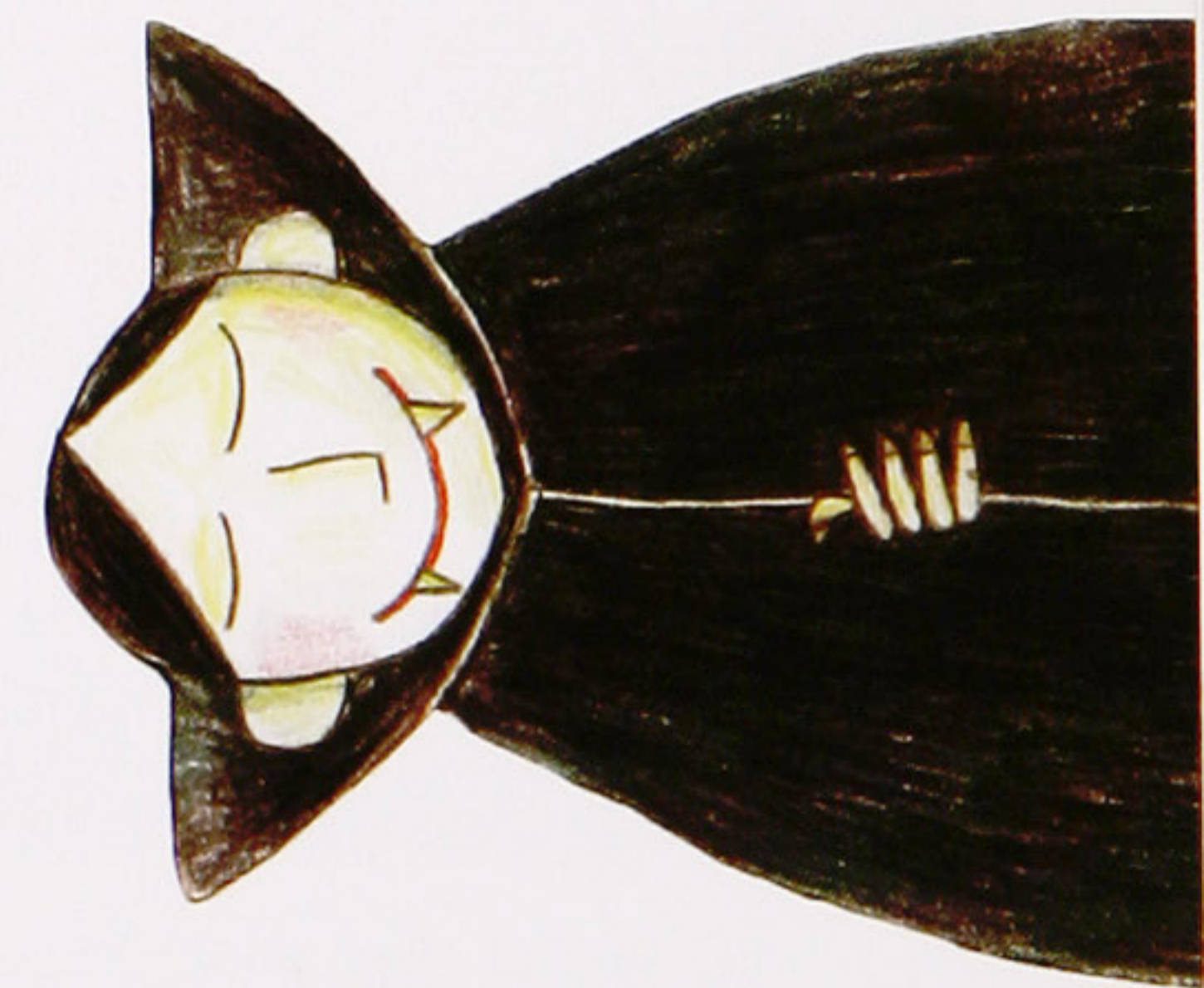
**3 Cuevas, Alvarito** (text)  
**Ramírez, Raúl Ramón** (photos)

## **Escucha mis manos**

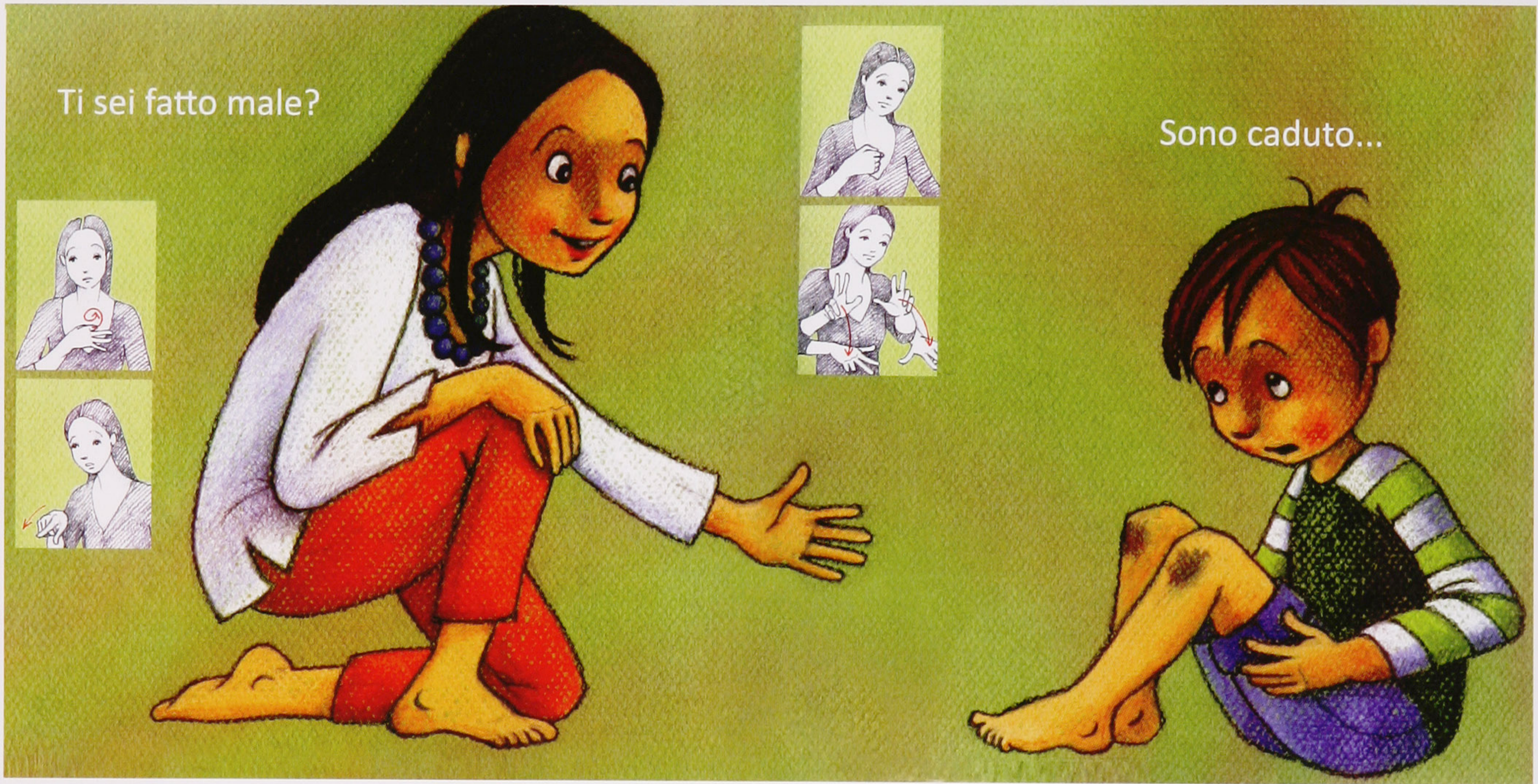
*[Listen to my hands]*

México D.F.: Ediciones Tecolote, 2007 [22pp.] ISBN 978-970-9718-67-6

A simple and very instructive picture book in which ten-year old Karen uses sign language in short sentences to tell the reader about herself.



In front of my house (cat. no. 25)



Raccontare con le parole e con le mani (cat. no. 2)



**4 Katz, Jody R.** (text)  
**Krebs, Patricia** (ill.)

**Classic Songs, Rhymes and Activities  
in English, Spanish and ASL, Book 2**

McLean, VA: Classic Tales 'n Tunes  
LLC, 2008  
45pp. ISBN 978-0-9823047-1-6

This treasury of 15 classic songs and rhymes is presented in three languages: English, Spanish, and American Sign Language (ASL). Children aged six and younger will love the lively songs and activities, which appeal to all different kinds of learners. Large text and colourful illustrations make this book engaging and easy to use for both adults and children. More than 150 photographs throughout the book demonstrate the signs. The author also includes tips for teaching signs to young children, a key to Spanish pronunciation, and a guide on how to use the book.

**5 Rodríguez, Alicita and  
Joseph Starr** (text)  
**Hood, Judy** (ill.)

**ASL Tales: The Princess and the Pea**

Created and Performed in American  
Sign Language by Pinky Aiello  
Portland, OR: ASL Tales, 2008  
[32pp.] ISBN 978-0-9818139-0-5

ASL Tales has presented a read-aloud version of the classic fairytale *The Princess and the Pea* in a format that supports hearing-impaired young people. The accompanying DVD has a video of the illustrations in the book along with an 'artistic version' of American Sign Language (ASL) that includes mime and gesture. Combined with the book, the video offers hearing-impaired children the opportunity to share in the dramatic reading of the story. A website offers additional information about ASL and learning tools for using the DVD as well

as the ability to download a copy of the video if needed.



The Princess and the Pea (cat. no. 5)

# A BOOK WITH BLISS

**6 Huikari, Susanna** (text)

**Kolehmainen, Mika** (ill.)

**Hauska Matka** [A joyful journey]

Oulu: Lohipadon yksikkö, 2010,  
23pp.

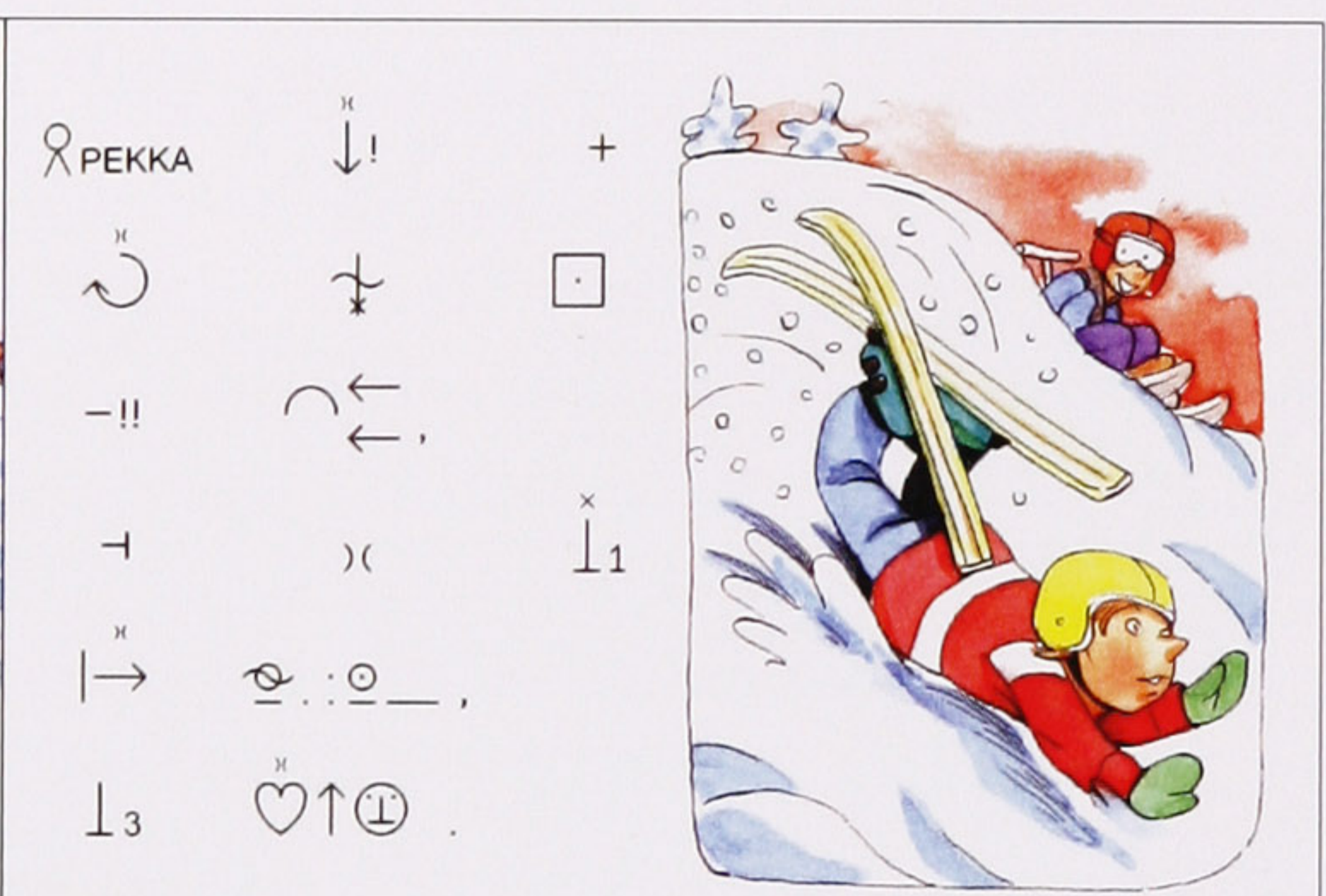
Markus and Pekka are good friends. One winter they travel to Lapland with their uncle Viljo and every day they go skiing. They take a reindeer ride and sometimes even see the wonderful Northern Lights.

The text is written in plain language supported by Bliss symbols and the illustrations that follow the text closely give the book a colourful and action-packed style.



Aamulla minä vuokraan laskettelukelkan.  
Rinteessä on paljon väkeä, mutta laskettelemme yhdessä.  
Minun mielestäni Petra on kaunis.

$\triangle$   $\perp_1$   $\uparrow \ominus$   $\square$   $\perp_1$   $\curvearrowright$   $\ominus$   
 $\triangle$   $\ominus$   $\times$   $\perp_1$   $\rightarrow$   $\perp_1$   
 $\curvearrowright$   $\perp_1$   $\curvearrowleft$   $\text{PETRA}$   $\ominus$   $\circ$   $\heartsuit$   $\uparrow$



$\text{PEKKA}$   $\downarrow!$   $+$   
 $\curvearrowleft$   $\downarrow$   $\square$   
 $-!!$   $\curvearrowleft$   $\perp_1$   
 $\rightarrow$   $\times$   
 $\perp_3$   $\heartsuit$   $\uparrow$   $\ominus$   
 $\triangle$   $-$   
 $\ominus$   $\heartsuit$   $+$   $!$   
 $\perp_1$   $\perp_1$   $\times$   $\ominus$   $\perp_1$

Pekka kaatuu ja pyörii lumessa.  
- Ei hätää, mutta nyt mennään kaakaolle, hän hymyilee.  
Tunturin alapuolella on mukava, pieni kahvila.

$\ominus$   $..$   $\circ$   $\perp_1$   $,$   
 $\heartsuit$   $\uparrow$   $\ominus$   $.$

$\curvearrowleft$   $\uparrow$   
 $\uparrow$   $,$   
 $\times$

# A BOOK WITH PCS

7 Bianchessi, Peppo (ill.)

## Cappuccetto Rosso






[Little Red Riding Hood]

Crema: Uovonero, 2010

[32pp.] ISBN 978-88-96918-01-2


The classic tale of *Little Red Riding Hood* is illustrated and retold in a simple language in this easy-to-handle board book. The PCS translation is an extra key to any reader who needs a little

assistance because they are too young to read, are struggling to read, or who speak a different language.


CAPPUCETTO ROSSO		DICE:	
			
«NONNA,	CHE BOCCA	GRANDE!»	
			
IL LUPO	DICE:	«PER MANGIARTI MEGLIO!»	
			



**CAPPUCETTO ROSSO**



**IL LUPO**



Cappuccetto Rosso (cat. no. 7)



Per fortuna  
se stringo l'orsacchiotto  
contro le mie guance,  
è veramente morbidissimo!



Ho un po' paura (cat. no. 8)

# BRAILLE OR TACTILE ILLUSTRATIONS

## 8 Constantin, Laure

### **Ho un po' paura**

*[I'm a little afraid]*

Rome: Federazione Pro Ciechi,  
(A spasso con le dita *[Fun for fingers]*),  
2010

[22pp.] ISBN 978-2-911782-86-2

Children have many rational and irrational fears: a door slamming, angry voices, uneven or unknown roads. This beautiful tactile book for toddlers confronts these fears with images of a tender gesture, an unexpected gift or an exciting experience; such as mum and dad being close, a lovely warm bubble bath, the light touch of the wind in the face, or a teddy bear to hug. The text is in Braille and large print and the illustrations are simple and easy to understand.

## 9 Cottin, Menena (text)

### **Faría, Rosana (ill.)**

### **El libro negro de los colores**

*[The black book of colours]*

México D.F.: Ediciones Tecolote, 2008

[24pp.] ISBN 978-970-825-019-1

This story is about two friends and we learn that one of them, Tomás, is blind. His friend tells us how Tomás can smell, touch, hear and taste colours, while he can only see them. This book encourages the reader to perceive the world without visual images. It is an invitation for the sighted person to inhabit the eyes of the blind through an elaborate fiction. The book is completely black and it includes print and Braille characters, as well as remarkable illustrations created in textures for the sighted to approach the literacy and perceptual universe of the blind.

## 10 Kermauner, Aksinja (text)

### **Čoh, Zvonko (ill.)**

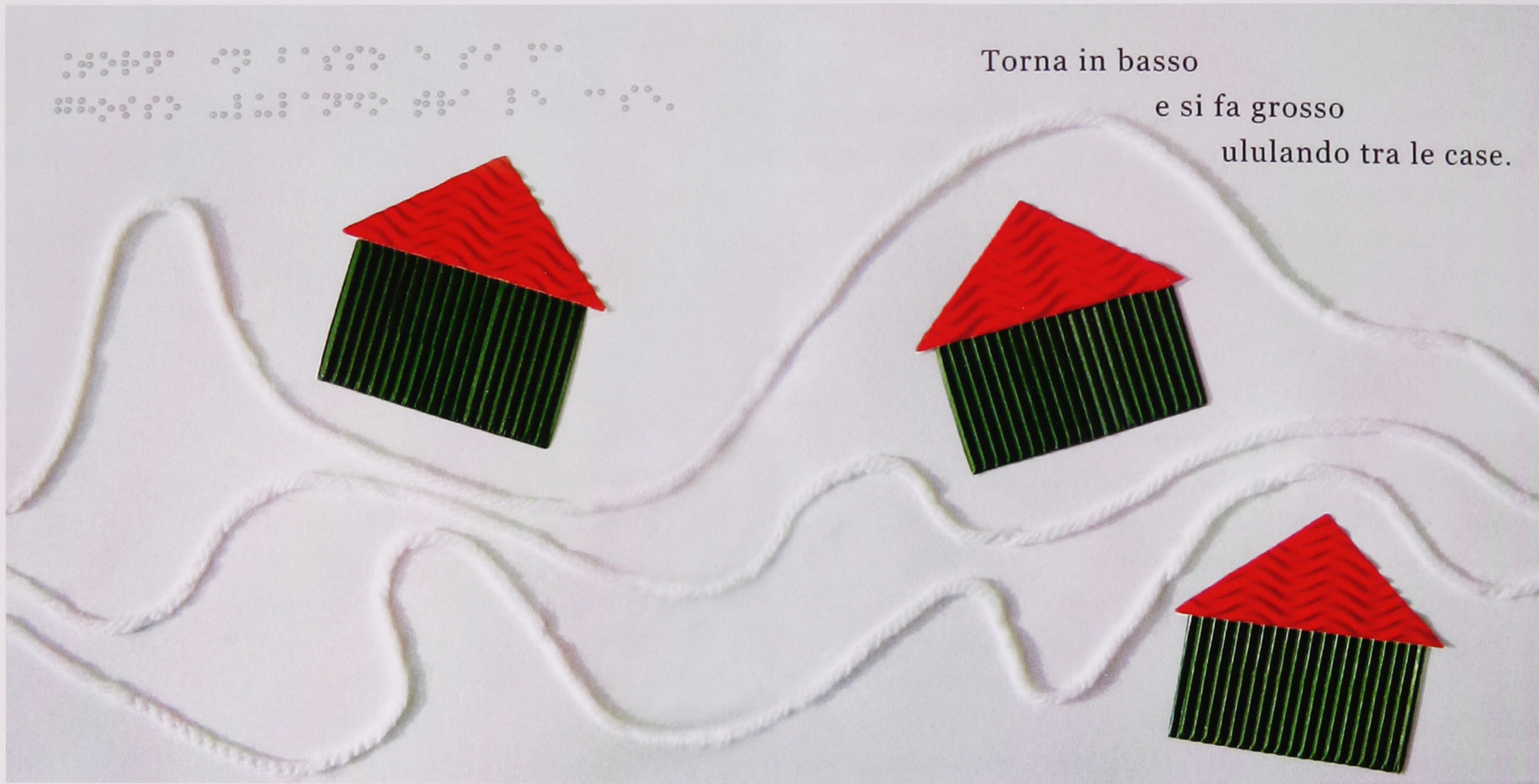
### **Žga špaget gre v širni svet**

*[Spaghetti Joe goes into the wide world]*

Dob pri Domšalah: MIŠ, 2010

21pp. ISBN 978-961-6630-98-6

Spaghetti Joe escapes from the cooking pot and on his way into the world comes across an apple. The apple is convinced that this strand of spaghetti is an enormous worm that will eat him. The illustrations are clear and concise and the objects depicted are life-size. This picture book, with its visual, tactile, even olfactory stimulus, is multi-functional, that offers ultimate artistic enjoyment to readers with or without visual difficulties. The text is in Braille and print and the few tactile illustrations are clearly outlined, which allows the reader to distinguish the different bits of information by touch.



Soffio di vento/Souffle de vent (cat. no.11)

**11 Lodolo, Elisa** (text) **Rintala, Aune** (ill.)

**Soffio di vento/Souffle de vent**

[*A Wind blowing*]

Rome/Talant: Federazione pro Ciechi/  
LDQR, 2009

[16pp.] ISBN 978-2-916170-99-5

One morning, the Earth sighed deeply and released Little Breath of Wind. In this book Little Breath of Wind is represented by three threads of wool. The reader can follow the threads and go on a beautiful journey across fields and mountains, playing with clouds and howling around houses – before finally slipping into the ear of a young girl and telling her about his travels. It is a poetic and moving book made from board and tactile materials. The book is published in cooperation with the Italian National Federation of Institutions for the Blind and the French publishers *Les Doigts Qui Rêvent*.

**12 Um, Jeong-soon**

**Jeomi moyeu moyeo**

[*Together, dots make a picture*]

Gyeonggi-do: Changbi Publishers,  
(Reading Fingers Series), 2008

[24pp.] ISBN 978-89-364-5418-0

This accordion book shows how dots make a line and lines make a shape. As they trace the shapes of the drawings with their fingers, young readers will be able to use their imagination to create countless stories. This book will help visually impaired children perceive pictures by allowing them to feel how diverse shapes can be made from dots, lines and shapes.

**13 Wright, Suzette**

**Goin' on a Bear Hunt**

Louisville, KY: American Printing House  
for the Blind, Inc. (Moving Ahead), 2002  
32pp.

This is a tactile interpretation of the classic tale *Goin' on a Bear Hunt*. It is a simple story told in Braille and print of a family's journey through the woods to find a bear. There is much repetition in the story, which makes it accessible to a young reader, and in addition to the story the trek through the woods can be followed by the tactile path across the pages. The path winds across a bridge, skirts a pond, crosses a river and goes into a cave. The young reader can retrace the path as the characters run back home after discovering the big bear. Illustrations of the bear, house, pond, and other items are also tactile.

# CLOTH BOOKS

## 14 Noguchi, Mitsuyo

### O-dekake Buu!

[Piggies go for an outing]

Kanagawa: Group Mokomoko, 1991 [12pp.]

This is an exquisite cloth picture book that will enchant readers of all ages by telling a simple story of a family of five pigs that get in the car to go on an outing. The secret of the popular book is that the pigs will squeak when you press their snouts. The book is not for sale.

## 15 Rudman, Lynette

### Abc

Grahamstown: I read with my hands (*Oukou Pata*), 2010

[6pp.]

This tactile fabric book shows the first five letters of the alphabet in un-contracted Braille and large print. As an extra help, the outline of each letter is distinctly embroidered and the Braille symbol is added using French knots and small pearls. On each page the letter is illustrated with a tactile object and its name added in large print and Braille characters.



O-dekake Buu! (cat. no. 14)



# FOR CHILDREN WITH SOME ABILITY TO SEE

**16 Linder, Christin and Regula Stillhart**

**Berüter, Gabi** (ill.)

**Leo deckt den Tisch**

*[Leo lays the table]*

Würzburg: Edition Bentheim, 2007

[22pp.] ISBN 978-3-934471-66-5

The story about Leo helping his mother is a picture book without text that stimulates sight and the pleasure of reading for the youngest children with visual disabilities. Distinct outlines and clear colours support and strengthen the visual perception even in cases of severe visual impairment. The illustrations do not include unnecessary details, and the clear facial expressions of the protagonists make it easy to follow the story.



In front of my house (cat. no. 25)



Leo deckt den Tisch (cat. no. 16)



Redd (cat. no. 17)



Välituntirakkautta (cat. no. 19)

# EASY-TO-READ BOOKS

## 17 Fiske, Anna

### **Redd** [*Afraid*]

Oslo: Solum Forlag, 2009

[24pp.] ISBN 978-82-560-1610-5

This is the fourth book in *The Library of Feelings*. Earlier titles are *Sinne* [*Anger*], *Forelskelse*, [*Love*] and *Sjenanse* [*Shyness*]. These are picture books for grown-ups but they are appreciated by readers of all ages. The book shows many things that frighten us and the text reads: *Everybody is afraid of something, many of us are afraid of the same thing. It is not dangerous to be afraid, it is just the way it feels.* Fiske's characteristic illustrations are humorous and appeal to grown-ups and children alike; her texts are short and to the point.

## 18 Kvam, Marit Hoem (text),

### **Henriksen, Cici** (narrator)

### **Pass deg, Line** [*Watch out, Line*]

Oslo: Lydbokforlaget, 2009

71pp. ISBN: 978-82-421-4579-6

Twenty-year-old Line is proud to live in her own apartment. One day she meets Pelle, a grown man who starts talking to her. He says she is pretty and smart and asks if he can take her home. Line's parents have always told her never to go with a stranger, but Pelle seems very nice. When they are in her flat Line realizes that he is not a nice man after all. Fortunately her brother Ole rescues her just in time. The book deals with difficult questions of trust and threats, using words and concepts that are easy to understand. The book and the accompanying CD are adapted for young people with reading difficulties and has a slow and clear narration.

## 19 Marttinen, Tittamari (text)

### **Salminen, Aiju** (ill.)

### **Välituntirakkautta**

[*Love in the school yard*]

Kärkölä: Pieni Karhu, 2007

64pp. ISBN 978-952-5321-41-8

Here are thirteen colourful and sensitively written short stories about the infatuations and heartaches of young people – leading to hearts scratched on the desk tops, day-dreaming in lessons and the big question about how to make your dreams come true.

The story is written in Selko-language – a form of easy-to-read Finnish that is helpful for children with severe reading problems because of dyslexia, mental retardation, or for those learning a second language.



Guaenchana (cat. no. 21)

# BOOKS FROM THE REGULAR PRODUCTION

**20 Button, Lana** (text)

**Howells, Tania** (ill.)

**Willow's whispers**

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010

[30pp.] ISBN 978-1-55453-280-3

When Willow speaks, her voice is so low that nobody hears it. Although it creates all kinds of misunderstandings and disappointments for her, she lacks the confidence to raise her voice and speak up for herself. Her father wraps her in love and tells her that there is a big strong voice hidden away somewhere inside her and that one day it will wiggle its way out. Sure enough, after a while Willow finds her voice (along with her courage) and manages to get everyone's attention.

**21 Choi, Sook-hee**

**Guaenchana**

*[It's okay]*

Seoul: Woongjin Junior, 2005

[28pp.] ISBN 978-89-01-05292-2

Everyone is unique and precious – from the giraffe to the ant. The rich and colourful illustrations in this beloved Korean picture book for small children perfectly match the happy and heart-warming text.

**22 Coat, Janik**

**Mon hippopotame**

*[My hippo]*

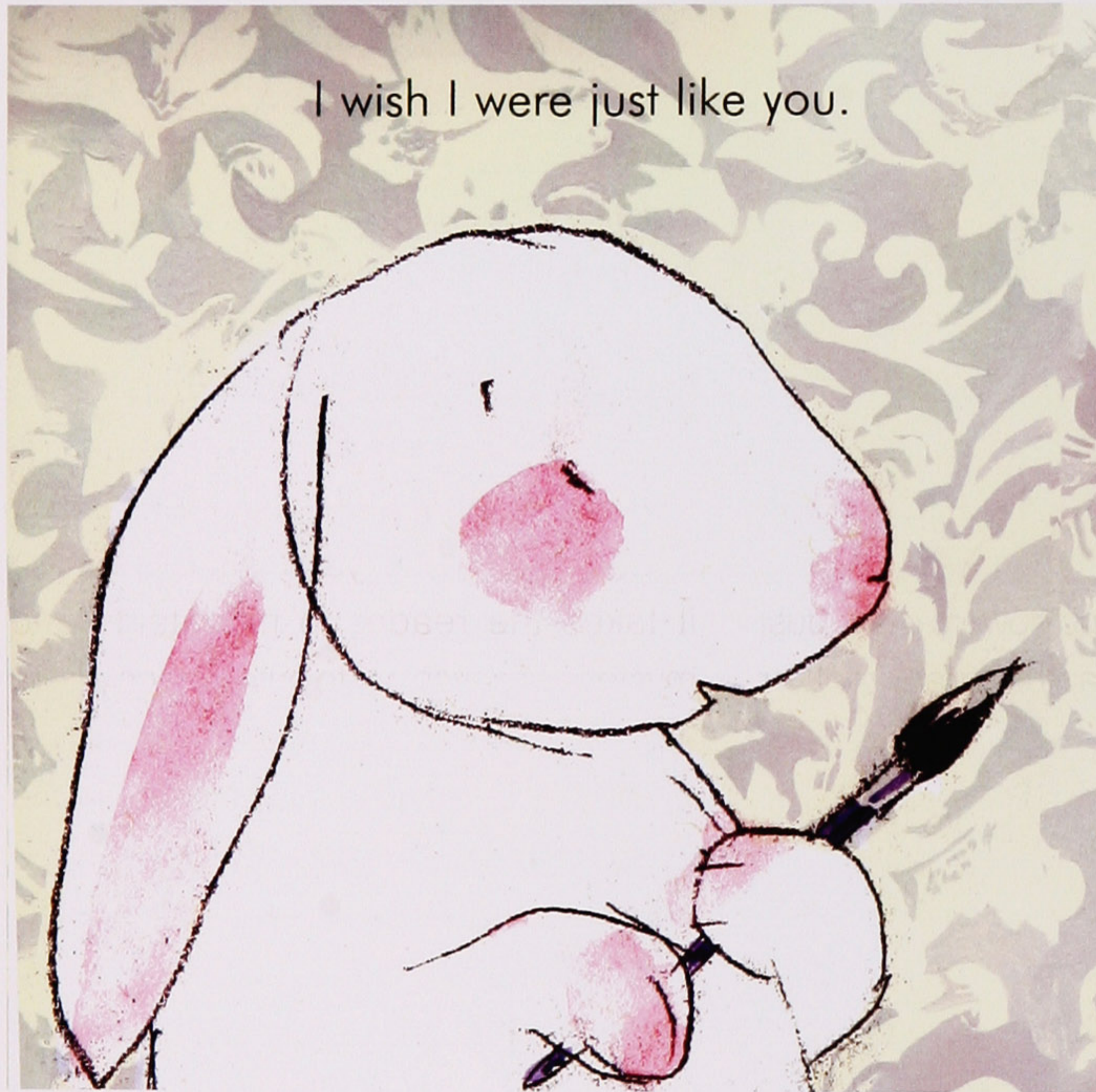
Paris: Autrement Jeunesse, 2010

[32pp.] ISBN 978-2-7467-1427-4

This is a large square book with sturdy cardboard pages - what could better suit a hippopotamus! The highly stylized illustrations of the hippo show it: small and big, empty and full, polka-dotted and striped, soft and rough. The placing of the hippopotamus on the pages, the way he occupies the space with humour and ingenuity, creates a whole world of opposites that are simple to play with.

Willow's whispers (cat. no. 20)





Me and you (cat. no. 23)

### 23 Côté, Geneviève

#### Me and you

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2009  
[32pp.] ISBN 978-1-55453-446-3

Two very different friends explore what it would be like to be each other and discover that they like it better when they are just who they are. This gentle story of friendship and individuality will appeal to all ages and reassure young readers that they are special and loved as themselves.



In front of my house (cat. no. 25)

### 24 Delaunois, Angèle (text)

#### Delezenne, Christine (ill.)

#### La clé

[The key]

Montréal: Éditions de l'Isatis, 2008  
32pp. ISBN 978-2-923234-37-3

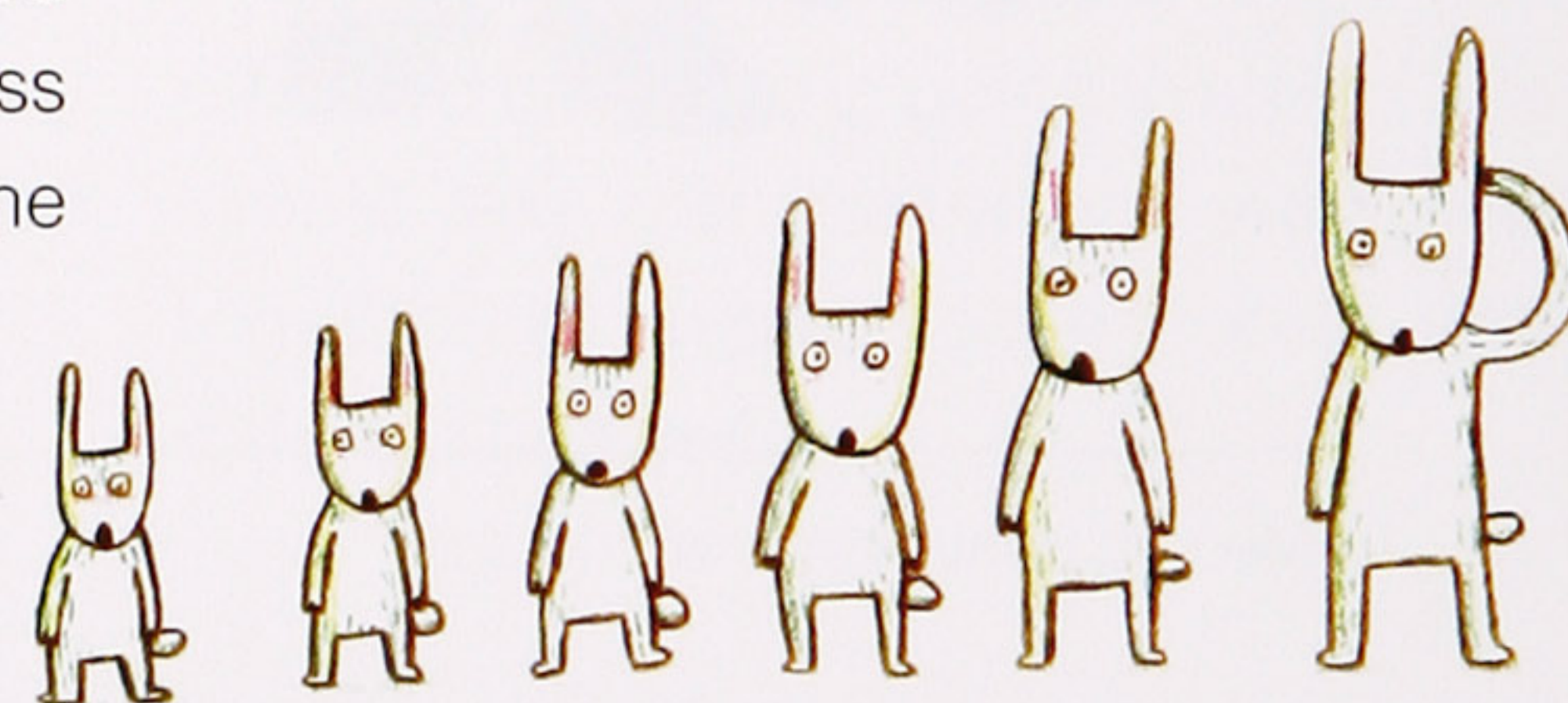
War and its procession of ruins forced the family to flee from their happy home where both children and flowers grew. Just before fleeing, Baba the grandmother hid the house key under her veil. Everyone hopes to return home one day, but as time trickles by any hope of returning gradually disappears. The rhythmic text of this prose poem describes in simple yet gripping words the fate of a displaced girl. The warm illustrations express childish light-heartedness as well as the horrors of war and fleeing.

### 25 Dubuc, Marianne

#### In front of my house

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010  
[120pp.] ISBN 978-1-55453-641-2

This is a whimsical celebration of a child's imagination and all the places it can travel. This circular story begins and ends in a tidy front yard, but in between it takes the reader to mountains and mysterious caves, up to outer space, down into the ocean and beyond. It's a journey as boundless and surprising as young imaginations. The charming illustrations are accompanied by a simple text.



دوست ایتالیایی من می گوید که بلد است پیتزا درست کند.  
 از راه دور که نمی شود دست پختش را چشید.  
 ولی البته می شود دید!  
 برای همین ساعت نیم بعد از ظهر سراغش رفتم که پیتزایش را  
 هم بینم!



دوست انگلیسی من همیشه از ساعت بزرگ لندن حرف می زند.  
 ساعت یازده و نیم است.  
 اما، ساعت بزرگش در عکسی که فرستاده، ساعت چهار را نشان  
 می دهد.  
 کلی حرف زدیم.

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**26 Gardner, Charlie**

**Flaptastic Sizes**

New York, NY: DK Publishing, 2009  
[10pp.] ISBN 978-0-7566-5451-1

This is a brightly coloured lift-the-flap board book with raised rectangles of different sizes decorating the cover. When the book is opened there is one word in large type with a simple, colourful photograph illustrating the word on each double page. The flap on the right side can be lifted to reveal the opposite word accompanied by an illustration. For example, there is an illustration of an elephant on one page with the word *big* on the opposite side. When the flap is lifted, there is a simple picture of a chicken with the word *small*. This book is a good way to learn basic concepts.

**27 Inui, Chie** (calligraphy)

**Kawashima, Toshio** (photos)

**Tanikawa, Shuntaro** (text)

**Tsuki Hito Ishi** [*Moon Man Stone*]

Tokyo: Fukuinkan Shoten, 2005

[28pp.] ISBN 978-48340-2028-1

The Kanji characters of Japanese script are based on the shapes of things. When they are written with a brush they seem to almost come alive. Each spread of the book shows a character written with the brush and with a photo of the thing that is expressed by the character on the opposite side, as well as a poem by a leading Japanese poet. At the back of the book the meanings of the thirteen characters shown in the book are given in 19 different languages.

**28 Khalatbaree, Farideh** (text)

**Mafakheri, Ali** (ill.)

**Man va dostanam**

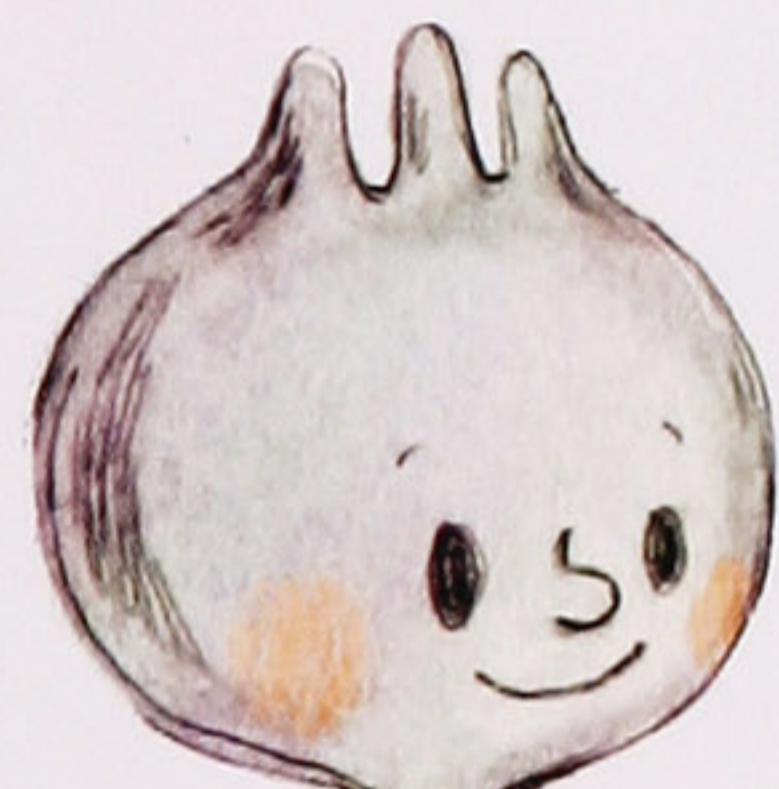
[*Me and my friends*]

Tehran: Shabaviz, 2006

[32pp.] ISBN 9464-5905-179-7

A young boy in Tehran surfs the Internet and chats with friends all over the world every day at 3:30 p.m. It is too early to talk to his friends in Alaska and Mexico, so he lets them sleep. His English friend is always talking about Big Ben and his Italian friend is making a delicious pizza. His Chinese friend describes China and his Australian mate sends him a picture of a kangaroo. In New Zealand it is 11:30 p.m. and his friend is going to sleep. The simple text and illustrations work well together to explain time zones and different cultures.

And that's how **Spork** finally and happily  
found his way to the table.



Spork (cat. no. 29)

**29 Maclear, Kyo** (text)  
**Arsenault, Isabelle** (Ill.)

**Spork**

Toronto: Kids Can Press, 2010  
[30pp.] ISBN 978-1-55337-736-8

Spork sticks out. In his kitchen, spoons are spoons and forks are forks. Mixing is uncommon. Spork tries to look more spoonish and then more forkish, but still he never gets chosen at mealtimes. He seems destined to a life in the drawer, until at last a *thing* comes along that does not care about cutlery customs and makes him feel accepted. A whimsical celebration of hybrid identities, Spork is a tale for all those who have ever felt like a misfit or wondered about their place in the world.

**30 Pelliccioni, Sanna**  
**Onni-pojan kierrätyskirja**

*[Onni's book of recycling]*  
Helsinki: Minerva, 2009  
[30pp.] ISBN 978-952-492-197-8

The topic of this book is recycling and is part of a popular series that tells about the everyday life of a small boy called Onni. After having breakfast with his parents Onni separates the waste into different materials. In the neighbour's garbage Onni and his father find a cardboard box that they decide to make into a sailboat. The whole family joins in. Onni's mother organizes a flea market in the backyard and all the neighbours contribute by exchanging their cast-offs. Onni buys himself a sailor's cap and that evening falls asleep in his 'ship' dreaming about great adventures at sea. The joyful text and illustrations help the reader to see recycling from a child's point of view.

The large letters, clear shapes, strong colour contrasts and sharp outlines make the book fun to read for all children, including those with disabilities.



Onni-pojan kierrätyskirjaa (cat. no. 30)



Surprised

What makes  
you go  
'Ooh!'?

I've got a feeling! (cat. no. 31)

**31 Reeder, Stephanie Owen**

**I've got a feeling!**

Canberra: National Library of Australia, 2010

[32pp.] ISBN 978-0-642-27697-1

Each opening shows a face expressing an emotion. Lift the flap to find the word for each feeling, such as happy, grumpy, jealous or proud. With large, expressive drawings and clear rhyming text this book helps children to recognize their own feelings and explore the feelings of others. Children with difficulties in this area will be especially helped by these demonstrations of clues in facial language.

**32 Taghdis, Susan (text)**

**Vafaiyan, Marjan (ill.)**

**Sedâ-ye pâ-ye bozghâle-hâ-ye sabz**

*[The sound of the footsteps of the little green goats]* Tehran: Shabaviz, 2007

[28pp.] ISBN 978-964-505-241-4

Little Bitā is stuck in her apartment recovering from an illness. In her imagination she is playing outside on the grass with goats that have silver bells hanging from their necks. A noise coming from the apartment upstairs wakes her so her father goes up to complain and Bitā follows him. A little boy opens the door and Bitā tells him about the goats in her dream. They become friends and make up a 'goat game', which they play together. This psychological story switches between reality and imagination. The illustrator's childish style focuses on details, providing the opportunity for the reader to create their own stories.

**33 Tullet, Hervé**

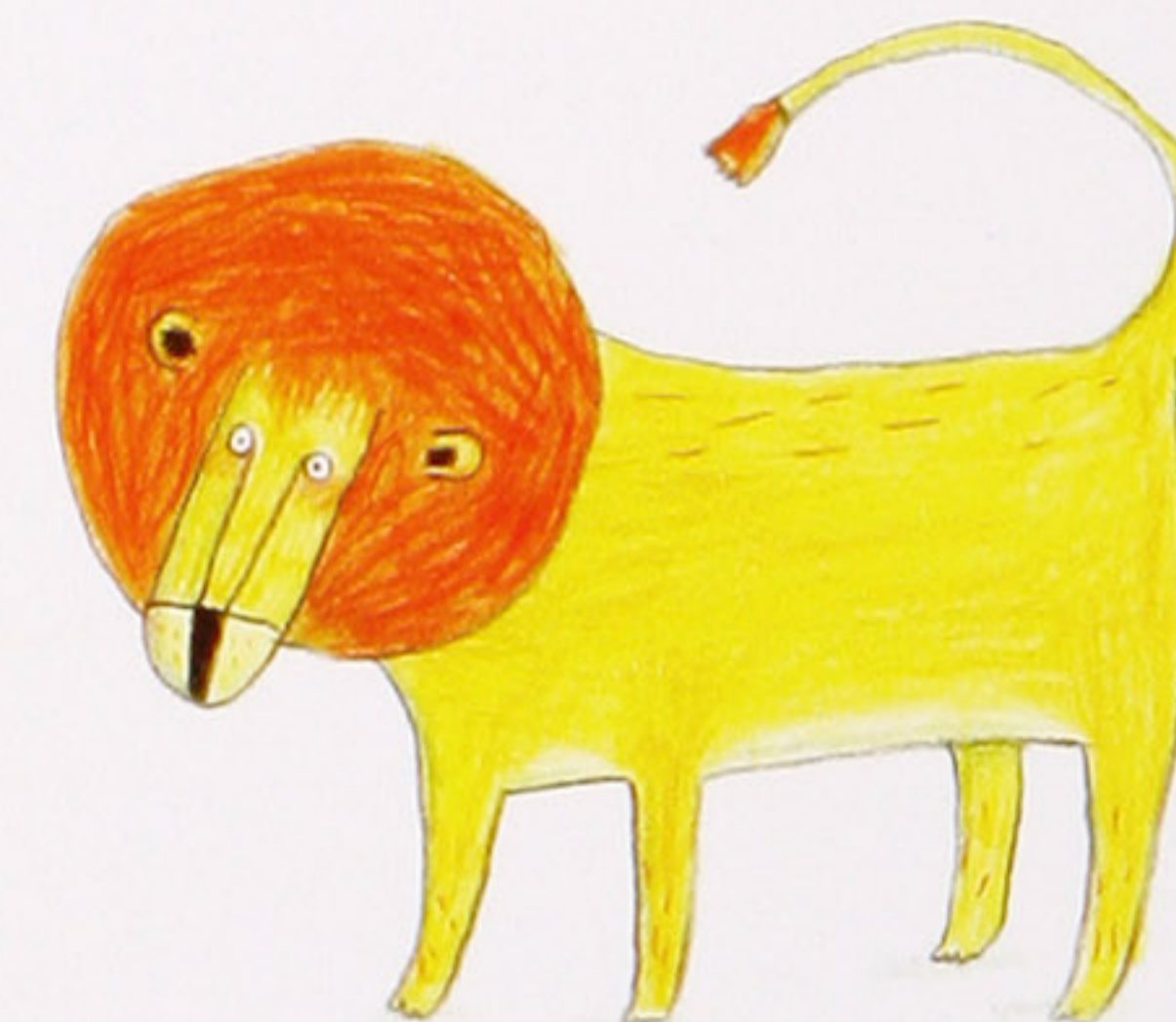
**Un livre**

*[A book]*

Paris: Editions Bayard, 2010

[60pp.] ISBN 978-2-7470-3230-8

*The reader is the creator of the book; he is the person who brings it to life.* This statement is wonderfully demonstrated in this imaginative picture book in which the yellow dot is the hero of the story. *Press hard and turn the page - a new yellow dot appears!* And then rub, click, shake, blow on it – it always works!



In front of my house (cat. no. 25)



Ein Geburtstag (cat. no. 53)

# PORTRAYALS OF PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

**34 Acheson, Alison** (text)

**Farnsworth, Bill** (ill.)

## **Grandpa's Music: A story about Alzheimer's**

Morton Grove, IL: Albert Whitman & Company, 2009

[32pp.] ISBN 978-0-8075-3052-8

When Grandpa comes to live with them, Callie's parents make a chart to help everyone remember their responsibilities. Grandpa's jobs are to garden, knead bread, and peel potatoes and Callie impulsively adds, making music. She and Grandpa share many happy moments at the piano. When Grandpa cannot remember a song's lyrics, he and Callie cheerfully make them up. Although Grandpa's memory loss makes it hard for him to remember something as simple as where to find the piano, his fingers still remember the tune, enabling him to play the old songs even when it is too

dark to read the notes. In the end Grandpa's deteriorating health makes it necessary for him to go to a nursing home, however, Callie and Grandpa can still play the piano and sing together. Research shows that practical jobs like gardening, or creative tasks such as storytelling, singing, or playing the piano can bring pleasure to persons with Alzheimer's. Although the relationship between Callie and her grandfather changes, it remains loving and strong.



Boy in Motion (cat. no. 52)

**35 Bernard, Fred** (text)

**Roca, François** (ill.) **Jésus Betz**

Paris: Seuil Jeunesse, 2001

[60pp.] ISBN 978-2-02037-854-3

Jésus Betz was born without arms or legs, but with a fine soprano voice and an excellent memory. This picture book is written as a letter from Jésus Betz to his mother. It tells about his life, from his birth in 1894 up to 1921 and is a sober text about his difficult and often cruel life. In 1909 he is left with the captain of a whaling boat. For five years he is bound to the mast, looking out for whales. After he loses an eye he is put ashore, where he joins a group of wandering singers who sing in bars and markets. The enormous Mamamita looks after him and when she dies he joins a circus where he meets Suma Katra, a trapeze artist, who loves him for his beautiful voice.



Bibiana píská na prsty (cat. no. 36)



**36 Binar, Ivan** (text)  
**Podzimková, Veronika** (ill.)  
**Bibiana píská na prsty**

*[Finger-whistling Bibiana]*

Prague: Meander, 2009

96pp. ISBN 978-80-86283-73-9

A finger-whistle – the universal assembly call of little boys – sets off a tale in which little Bibiana is taught how to finger-whistle by her lively grandmother. Bibiana is orphaned and confined to a wheelchair after a car accident. No matter how well she has adapted to her handicap, she sometimes experiences feelings of sorrow and loneliness. When Bibiana unexpectedly manages to whistle, she enters the fairy-tale land of her grandmother's puppet theatre and meets the characters of an unfinished play about Johnnie Simple. With the active and courageous Bibiana by his side Johnnie gradually transforms from being simple into a vigorous and

bright hero. Bibiana's fairy-tale dream is a projection of her subconscious wishes, but she is not disillusioned at all when she wakes up because of her loving environment. The author sends out an important message to both able and disabled children; about real life values and dreams that encourage us rather than give an escape from reality. The illustrations are based on puppet-theatre motifs and the uniqueness of the main character is emphasized using collages with photographs.

**37 Brown, Mary Calhoun,**

**There are no words**

Athens, OH: Lucky Press, 2010

127pp. ISBN 978-09776300-7-3

Jaxon MacKenzie is a twelve-year-old autistic girl who is living with her grandparents in a loving and accepting environment. She is literate, but that is a secret, because

she cannot speak. Every day she takes a walk with her grandfather who talks to her about his life and especially about his dear friend Oliver Pack, an Afro-American boy who died in a terrible train accident many years ago. Jaxon likes to lie on the faded green carpet and study the old oil painting that hangs above the sofa in the parlour. One evening there is a girl in the painting who pulls her right into it. Jaxon suddenly finds herself back in 1918 where miraculously, she can speak. Jaxon is the only one who can save her grandfather's friend Oliver from dying in the train crash. In the end she has to decide if she wants to stay a 'normal' speaking person in 1918 or return to her grandparents as the mute girl they love. The story, seen from Jaxon's point of view, is a tender and charming tale and the use of old photographs sprinkled throughout the text gives the story an authentic touch.



**38 Collins, Paul** (text)

**Thompson, Jo** (ill.)

**The glasshouse**

Clifton Hill, VIC: Ford Street, 2010

[32pp.]

ISBN 978-1-921665-04-2

Clara lives in a world of her own where everything is snug and safe. Her pumpkins are flawless - delicious, smooth-skinned - and perfectly shaped. Her glasshouse is free of bugs and birds. Clara is happy and does not care about the world outside. One day a boy enters her glasshouse and slowly Clara realizes that her world is not perfect at all and that she must make allowances and compromise if she is to survive. The book is a metaphor for a child living with paranoia and fear of the unknown.

The lucky one (cat. no. 39)

**39 Cowley, Deborah** (text)

**Knowles, Kathy** (photos)

**The lucky one**

Winnipeg: Osu Children's Library Fund, 2008, 31pp.

In this true story, the narrator Masawoud was born with crooked legs and feet. His only way of getting around was by crawling on his hands and knees or when his brother carried him on his back. Masawoud was a good student and liked to go to the Nima Library after school. One day he met a Canadian photographer who was going to make a film about the library. He asked Masawoud to be in the film and wanted to help him to be able to walk. Many operations and months of pain later, Masawoud went home to his mother. He will perhaps always be dependant on crutches, but will be able to help his mother and go to school on his own two feet. He is indeed 'The lucky one'.

**40 Delaunois, Angèle** (text)

**Delezenne, Christine** (ill.)

**Une petite bouteille jaune**

*[A small yellow bottle]*

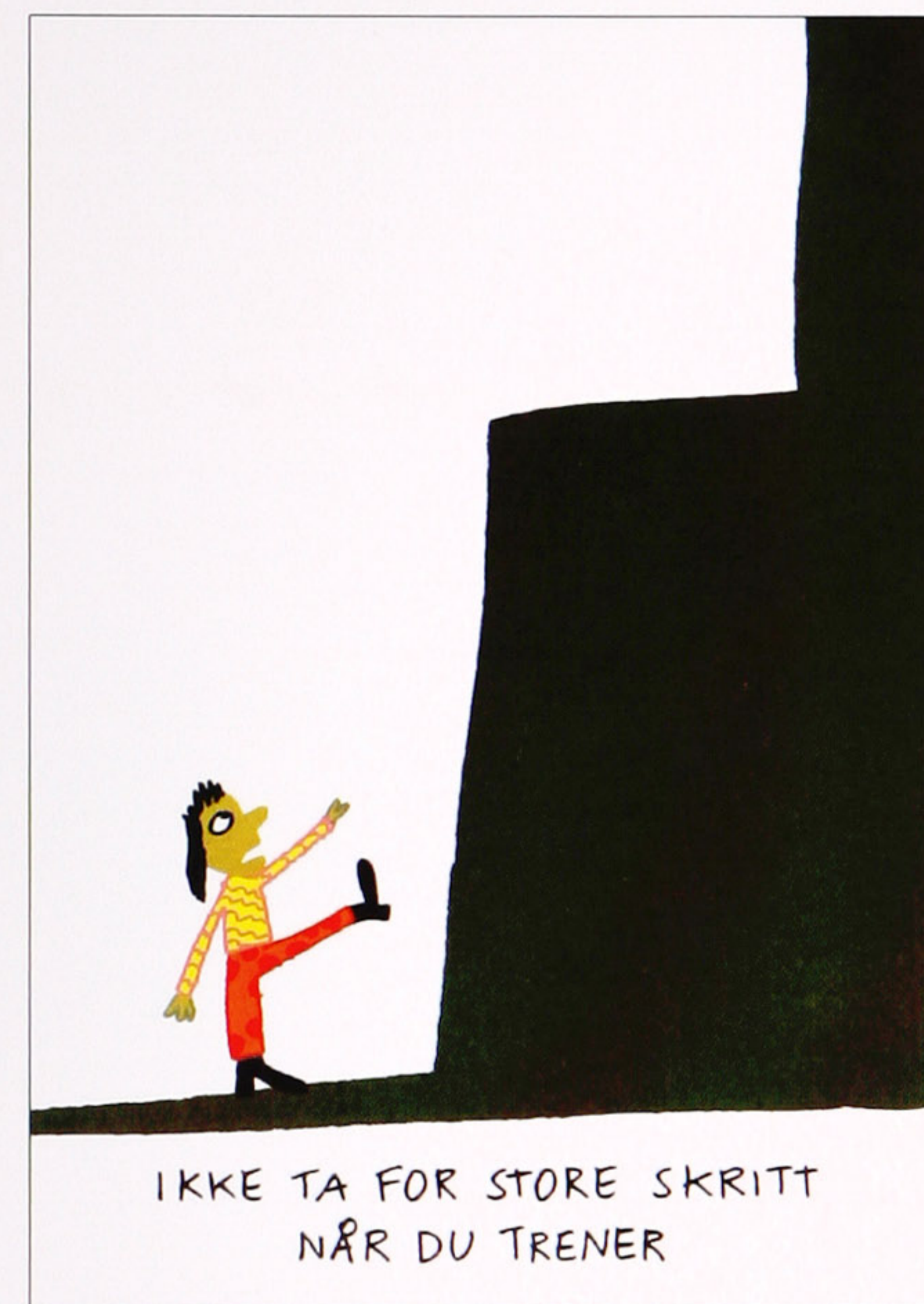
Montréal: Éditions de l'Isatis, 2010

[32pp.]

ISBN 978-2-923234-67-0

*I recognized it a second too late. My friend had picked up a small yellow bottle, half hidden in the grass. A nice long object that shone like gold in the sunlight. Nothing will ever be the same for Marwa and Ahmad. Mankind's madness had crossed their path and left deep scars in their bodies and in their hearts. However, the two friends do not run out of courage. At their own pace, slowly but surely, they learn to live again. This book is published in cooperation with Handicap International, a non-profit humanitarian association helping and supporting people who have been injured by anti-personnel*

mines. Among other activities, the organization fights against cluster munitions and has worked on mine clearing and victim assistance.



Redd (cat. no. 17)



**41 Dieckmann, Maijaliisa**

**Väläys pimeässä – Louis Braille ja  
pistekirjoituksen tarina**

*[A flash in the darkness –  
the story of Louis Braille]*

Helsinki: BTJ Kustannus, 2010

128pp. ISBN 978-951-692-769-8

This is a fascinating story about Leo - a young blind boy, whose teacher tells his students about another young blind student who lived about 200 years ago in Paris. Louis Braille was particularly gifted and eager to learn, and this book tells how the idea to create a new system for blind people to read came about. By reading this book the reader can compare the challenges both Louis and Leo meet and help children and young adults understand what it is to be 'different'.

Une petite bouteille jaune (cat. no. 40)

**42 Draper, Sharon M.**

**Out of my mind**

New York, NY: Atheneum, 2010  
295pp. ISBN 978-1-4169-7170-2

Unable to speak, eleven-year old Melody has cerebral palsy and is considered by her teachers at school to be mentally challenged. When her parents buy her a medi-talker - an electronic device that allows her to type her thoughts into a computer that speaks - people finally start to realize how intelligent she is. However, although she can now express herself it does not mean that adults and children are comfortable with her. When Melody competes and becomes a valuable member a quiz team, she has the possibility to start changing the minds of people who once thought having physical limitations means that one is also limited in intelligence.

**43 Fussell, Sandy** (text)  
**James, Rhian Nest** (ill.)

**White Crane**

Newtown NSW: Walker Books  
(*Samurai kids*), 2008  
252pp. ISBN 978-1-921150-20-3

When the entertaining narrator, Niya Moto, looks in the mirror, he sees not his reflection, but his spirit totem – the White Crane. Niya dreams of becoming the only one-legged samurai in Japan, but most of the samurai schools will not consider ‘crippled’ applicants. When an offer to join the Cockroach Ryu comes from the legendary sensei Ki-Yaga, Niya wonders at first whether the ancient warrior feels sorry for him. Upon arrival at the mountain school, however, he finds that fellow students have similar burdens to bear and that the kindly, but strict, Ki-Yaga has an exacting regimen of practice. He not only teaches physi-

cal skills, but also prepares the ‘little cockroaches’ mentally and spiritually to face formidable opponents at the Samurai Trainee Games. Through teamwork, the seemingly disadvantaged students find strengths that they can hardly believe.



Ein Geburtstag (cat. no. 53)



**44 Hilton, Nette** (text)  
**Agostino, Vincent** (ill.)  
**My silent world**

Sydney: Lothian, Hachette Australia, 2009  
[32pp.] ISBN 978-0-7344-1037-5

The child narrator is about to leave her silent world – one that is beautiful and safe to her. She shares her love of this world and her feelings about discovering sound. Striking illustrations full of movement and energy, and the use of a lively typeface, communicate both loss and excitement at this change. The text does not overtly express that the catalyst for this change is a cochlear implant.

My silent world (cat. no. 44)

**45 Haworth-Attard, Barbara**  
**To Stand on My Own:**  
**The Polio Epidemic Diary of**  
**Noreen Robertson**

Toronto: Scholastic Canada  
(Dear Canada Series), 2010  
192pp. ISBN 978-1-4431-0017-5

In 1937 tensions are rising in Europe, the Great Depression and a major polio epidemic holds Canada hostage. Almost twelve, Noreen Robertson initially resents her mother's insistence that she keep a diary instead of spending every moment of her summer vacation running round the neighbourhood. The diary soon becomes a place for Noreen to process minor frictions among friends and family as well as her growing concerns about the poverty, drought, and epidemic in Saskatchewan. After contracting polio and becoming paralyzed, Noreen uses the diary as a confidant with whom she

shares her innermost fears, and ponders life's significance and unanticipated joys. The compelling and intimate entries document Noreen's physical and emotional experiences with polio, and her coming of age. End notes and historical photographs help expand our understanding of the disease and its treatment.

**46 Jedrzejewska-Wróbel,**  
**Roksana** (text) **Jung, Jona** (ill.)  
**Kosmita** [*Alien*]

Katowice: Fundacja ING Dzieciom, 2009  
54pp. ISBN 978-83-928961-1-1

Hana is expecting a new brother or sister. Finally Casper is born and soon it is obvious that he is not like other children. His completely strange reactions and awkward behaviour, his inability to form relationships - he must be an alien! The only one who understands him is his 'guardian angel' - to whom Casper writes

letters, explaining why he is so strange. This book was published as a part of a bibliotherapy project and is addressed to families with autistic children to help them understand the condition, as well as offering assistance and support.



Kosmita (cat. no. 46)



Mujigae (cat. no. 49)

**47 Johansen, K. V.** (text)  
**Delezenne, Christine** (ill.)  
**Torrie & the Snake-Prince**

Toronto: Annick Press  
(*The Torrie quests*), 2007  
208pp. ISBN 978-1-55451-069-6

Abandoned at an orphanage as a baby, perhaps because of her clubfoot, Wren now loves the freedom of roaming the mountains peddling ornaments that she crafts from scraps. But Wren is searching for something more in life. Torrie, narrator of this enchanted novel and the oldest member of the Wild Forest, together with the mysterious minstrel, Rookfeather, recognize something more in Wren. They involve her in an exhilarating quest to rescue the recently abducted Prince Liasis, and Wren has to outwit goblins, deadly dryads, and an evil sorcerer. During her escapades, the young peddler unearths extraordinary truths about her-



self that both release Prince Liasis and set Wren on a new and magical path. A map of the Wild Forest, a glossary of terms, and black and white illustrations enhance this fantasy.

**48 Kamara, Mariatu with Susan McClelland**

**The bite of the mango**

Toronto: Annick Press, 2008

216pp. ISBN 978-1-55451-158-7

Mariatu Kamara begins her memoir by recounting everyday village life in Sierra Leone. It is an arduous rural existence: food is scarce and families are too poor to send their children to school. Female circumcision and polygamy are part of the traditional fabric of life. So, too, is communal living where everyone helps each other. Mariatu's life changes irrevocably when a brutal civil war rips through the country. Armed rebels, many no older than twelve-

year-old Mariatu, rape, maim or murder villagers. After forcing her to witness the atrocities, the rebels chop off Mariatu's hands, jeering that she will not be able to vote. In *The bite of the mango*, Mariatu takes us on a haunting journey through the war-torn bush to refugee camps in Freetown and on eventually to a new life in Canada. Her powerfully understated narrative is alive with courage, hope and advocacy. *I may not have hands, but I have a voice*, declares Mariatu.

**49 Kim, Jinki (text)**

**Kim, Jaehong (ill.)**

**Mujigae [Rainbow]**

Seoul: Prooni Books, 2007

[32pp.] ISBN 978-89-5798-121-4

A blind mother and her seeing daughter share their feelings through different colours. Red is the blush on the face of

the child when other children tease her about her mother, orange is the colour of the candles her mother makes, yellow is the colour of her favourite flower, green is the colour of the four-leaf clover they are looking for in their garden, blue is the sky that her mother remembers from when she was younger and still was able to see and indigo is the colour of the sea near her mother's home town. Purple represents the imaginary space where mother and daughter see each other. Although the mother cannot see, in her heart she sees a rainbow that reaches the heart of her daughter. No matter how people see a rainbow, either through the eyes or through the mind, it is visible in the hearts of all those who know love. The story shows the loving communication between the blind mother and her daughter. The illustrator beautifully describes love, care, empathy and emotional rapport between the two of them.



Okodademasen yo ni (cat. no. 50)

**50 Kusunoki, Shigenori** (text)

**Ishii, Kiyotaka** (ill.)

**Okodademasen yo ni**

*[May I not be yelled at]*

Tokyo: Shogakukan, 2008

[32pp.] ISBN 978-4-09-726329-6

*I am always being yelled at – at home, and in school. Yesterday, today, probably tomorrow, as well. What can I do so I won't get yelled at? – Am I a bad boy?* Everywhere there are children who need lots of care and understanding. These children do not always do things the way adults want them done, and are often labelled as 'problem children', and are thus always being yelled at. Even while they are trying to explain why they do things in a different way, they believe that another scolding is coming. The cover of this book shows the face of a boy with tears in his eyes. How do his teacher and mother respond to his desperate prayer?

**51 McMurphy-Barber, Gina**

**Free as a bird**

Toronto: Dundurn Press, 2010  
168pp. ISBN 978-1-55488-447-6

When eight-year-old Ruby Jean Sharp's devoted grandmother and caregiver suddenly dies her mother and soon-to-be stepfather take her to Woodlands School in British Columbia and leave her there, seldom visiting her. Ruby Jean was born with Down syndrome and she is now left to grow up behind bars suffering unrelenting abuse from the untrained 'uniforms' who treat their charges as 'cretins'. Isolated and bored in an overcrowded ward, Ruby Jean regresses. She stops talking and communicates through biting, screaming and scratching like many other children living in the institution. About to give up hope, Ruby Jean remembers the perseverance and courage of a crow that *dint hop so good*. Through her

own patience, imagination, and bravery, Ruby Jean becomes as *free as a bird*. Based upon personal experiences the author uses Ruby Jean's compelling and poignant narration to reveal the prevailing attitudes and ignorance toward individuals with intellectual impairments at that time.

**52 Manson, Ainslie** (text)

**Benoit, Renné** (ill.)

**Boy in motion**

Vancouver: Greystone Books, 2007  
[48pp.] ISBN 978-1-55365-427-8

Rick Hansen was a boy who never had time to stand still. He loved all kinds of sports, but most of all he loved fishing. Then one day, on his way back from a fishing trip, his life was changed forever when the truck he was riding in flipped over as it rounded a sharp curve. However, from his wheelchair he shows that he

does not have to leave behind fishing or ball games or any of his other dreams. This is a story of courage and triumph to touch and inspire young readers anywhere.



Boy in motion (cat. no. 52)



Onni-pojan kierrätyskirjaa (cat. no. 30)

**53 Meissner-Johannknecht,**  
**Doris** (text)

**Kemmler, Melanie** (ill.)

**Ein Geburtstag** [A birthday]

Zurich: Bajazzo Verlag, 2007

[32pp.] ISBN 978-3-907588-89-5

This is a picture book about twins, one of which is severely disabled, making the lives of the two boys completely different. Although the disabled twin does not live with his family, the boys always celebrate their birthdays together at home with their parents. The reader witnesses how on the day before their birthday the twin living at home lovingly prepares his room for the arrival of his brother. In his thoughts he speaks to him how they will listen to their favourite music and play their favourite games. But always he asks himself: Why you and not me?

**54 Nicolas, Sylvie** (text)

**Arbona, Marion** (ill.)

**Pied-de-Puce** [*Flea-foot*]

Québec: Éditions Trampoline, 2009

[32pp.] ISBN 978-2-923521-04-06

Pied-de-Puce has difficulties speaking, especially when she is emotional. But the little girl has a wonderful aunt who knows how to help her express her feelings. When her best friend Alexina draws an X across the sun that the teacher has stamped on Pied-de-Puce's drawing, her aunt takes her onto her lap and helps her relax. She takes the drawing that Pied-de-puce has crumpled up, irons it and glues a small flower over the X. And when she fastens the drawing on the wall, at last the words come to Pied-de-puce: *I... love you... aunt Féli.*

**55 Petrillo, Genevieve** (text)

**Lyon, Lea** (ill.)

**Keep your ear on the ball**

Gardiner, MA: Tilbury House, 2007

[32pp.] ISBN 978-0-88448-296-3

New to the class, Davey says, *Thanks, but no thanks* to the constant offers of help. Davey, who is blind, proves that he is perfectly capable of doing most things – reading and writing in Braille, art, music, even navigating the hallways and cafeteria. But when Davey refuses help at kickball, and when he keeps missing the pitch and even tramples the first baseman, no-one wants him on their team. Frustration and hurt feelings on both sides eventually give way to creative thinking and teamwork. Davey's peers come to respect Davey's self-reliance and learn to use his abilities to include him in the game. Davey learns that it is okay to accept appropriate help from others. Together, the children

show us that success in life depends upon a balance between independence and interdependence.



Keep your ear on the ball (cat. no. 55)



Ballerina Dreams (cat. no. 59)

**56 Rivlin, L.**

**The girl who wanted to fly**

London: College Publications, 2009

262pp. ISBN 978-1-904987-62-8

Narrator, Mo Tamworth, had much academic promise, determination and a wry sense of humour, but a bicycle accident six years ago has left her with severe physical and emotional scars. Now aged 14 and finding walking difficult, Mo is full of rage, pain and disgust over her imperfections. She has become the school bully who treats vulnerability in others with contempt and is on the way to being expelled. When horse riding is suggested as an alternative to her therapeutic swimming lessons, Mo is thrilled and dreams of flying like a show-jumper. But the searing sciatic pain she experiences as she rides seems likely to dash her hopes. A suggestion from Trish, a young woman with Down syndrome, leads Mo to try riding side-saddle,

and she at last begins to fly! Learning from Trish's insight, Mo begins to rethink her attitudes toward people with disabilities leading her to act with more self-confidence and emotional maturity.

**57 Sauriol, Louise-Michelle**

**Terre de glaces** [*Land of ice*]

Québec: Les éditions de soleil de minuit, 2002

208pp. ISBN 2-922691-17-9

Amina Sharif wins an art competition. Her prize is a week up in the far north with the Inuits. This is especially exciting for Amina who is profoundly deaf and came to live in Canada as a refugee from the Gulf War. This is a book about cultures meeting, as well as about the dangerous forces of nature and the ability to fight them. As a story within a story the reader learns what it means to live with a disability. It is also a story about young love and

why it may be difficult, but so important, to trust another person.

**58 Steinhöfel, Andreas** (text)

**Schössow, Peter** (ill.)

**Rico, Oskar und die Tieferschatten**

[*Rico, Oskar and the deeper shadows*]

Hamburg: Carlsen Verlag, 2008

224pp. ISBN 978-3-551-55551-9

Rico lives with his mother in Berlin and describes himself as 'lowly gifted'. He is unable to follow instructions, dislikes any changes to his routine and takes metaphors literally. When he meets the highly gifted Oskar, the two unlikely friends have no idea that they will soon play major parts in a kidnapping case. During the search for the victim, Rico turns out to be quite a shrewd investigator. This brilliant story told from Rico's perspective is a mixture of big city adventure and mystery story with speed, humour, respect and a lot of fond-

ness. Rico is quite grown-up regarding his disability and has the ability to laugh at his own mistakes; as well as realize his limitations.



Pied-de-Puce (cat. no. 54)

**59 Thompson, Lauren**

**Ballerina Dreams**

New York, NY: Feiwel and Friends, 2007  
[38pp.] ISBN 978-0-312-37029-9

This is a true story based on five girls aged 3-7 who so badly want to take ballet classes but cannot find a class to accommodate children with disabilities. Nicole, Shekinah, Veronica, Abbey and Monica have muscle disorders and wear leg braces or use wheelchairs and walkers to get around. Their physiotherapist, a dancer herself, decides to offer her own ballet class to supplement their physical therapy. She gives each girl a sparkling tiara and wand, even though the girls understand that no amount of glitter or magic will help them realize their dreams fully. Author, Lauren Thompson, recounts the story of their increasing strength, flexibility, balance and confidence that results from their feisty determina-

tion and year-round practice. Finally, the young ballerinas are ready for their first recital, dancing to music from The Nutcracker and Swan Lake. Luminous photos tenderly capture the inspiration and compassion that radiates from this grand performance.

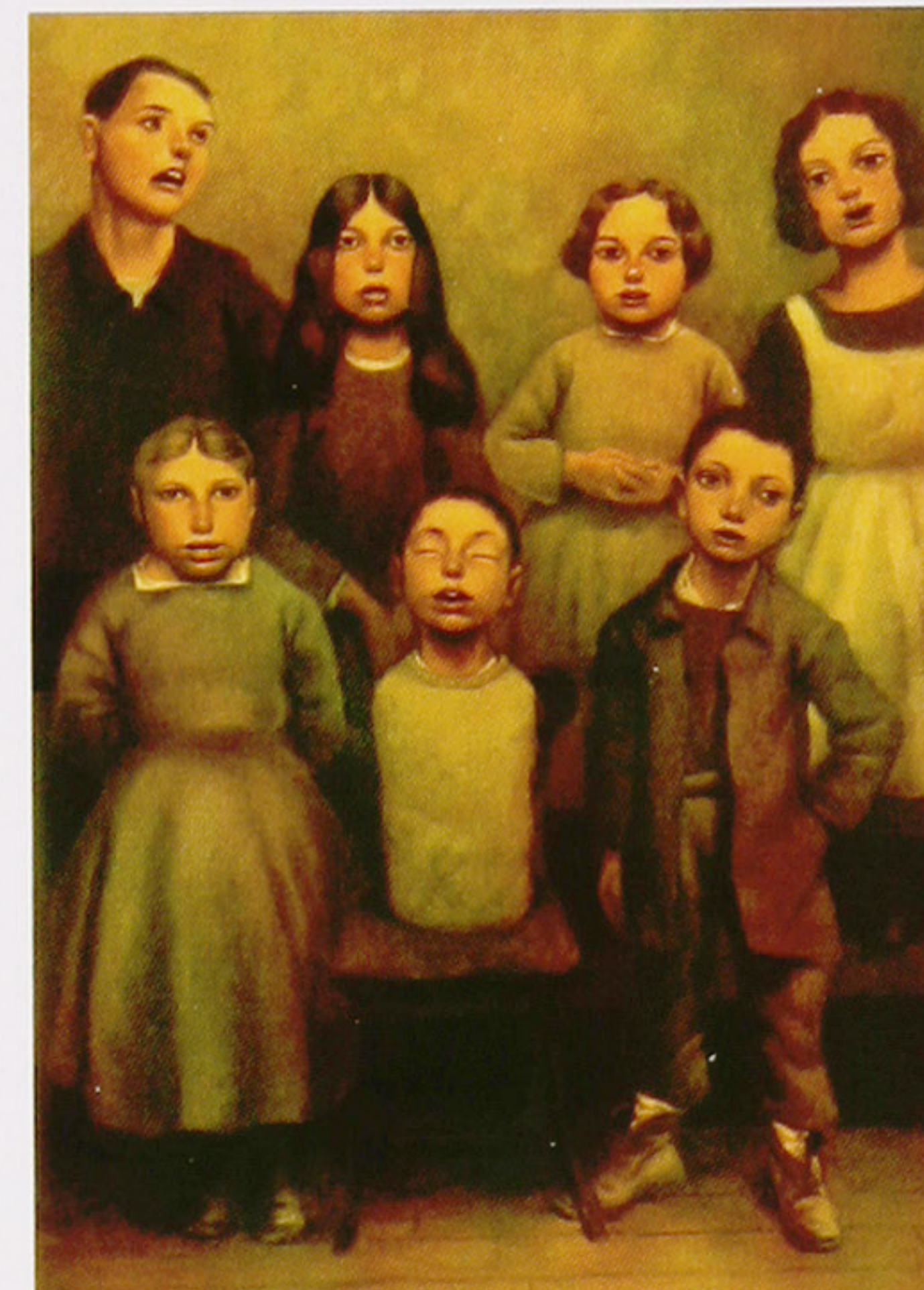
**60 Wolfson, Jill**

**Cold hands, warms heart**

New York, NY: Henry Holt and Company, 2009  
245pp. ISBN 978-0-8050-8282-1

This is a book about an unusual topic: organ transplantation. Fourteen-year-old Amanda is an accomplished gymnast. While competing in a gymnastic competition everything is going smoothly, when suddenly during the straight-arm swings around the bar something inexplicable happens and she hits the floor. Amanda is declared brain dead. Her parents are

asked to consider organ donation and we read how they struggle with this difficult decision. At the same time we meet fifteen-year-old Dani who desperately needs a new heart. The reader follows the destinies of the two families thrown together in a crisis while learning facts about this emotive and important topic.



Jésus Betz (cat. no. 35)



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