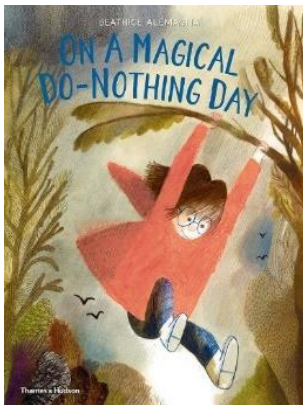


Children's Literature in Translation

This list includes books published since the appearance of the School Library Association publication *A World of Books in Translation* compiled by Joy Court and Daniel Hahn
<https://www.sla.org.uk/publication.php?isbn=9781911222002>

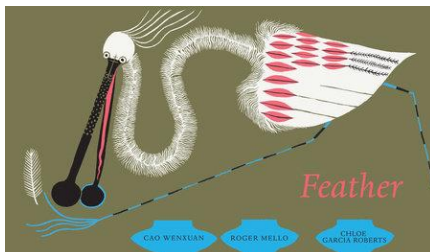
Picture Books



On a Magical Do-Nothing Day by Beatrice Alemagna, translated from French by Jill Davis
Thames & Hudson 9780500651322

During a stay in the countryside, a girl is bored without her computer game. However, when she ventures outdoors she makes discoveries in the rainsoaked natural landscape that appeal to all her senses.

[A CLPE core book](#)



Feather by Cao Wenxuan and Roger Mello, translated from Chinese by Chloe Garcia Roberts
Elsewhere Editions 9780914671855

This story about a feather seeking the bird to which it truly belongs is a beautiful collaboration between Chinese writer Cao Wenxuan and Brazilian illustrator Roger Mello, both winners of the Hans Christian Andersen Award.



The Real Boat by Marina Aromshtam & Victoria Semykina, translated from Russian by Olga Varshaver
Templar 9781783708208

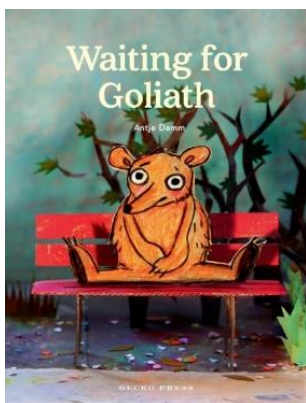
A paper boat sailing happily around a pond is challenged by the frogs and ducks as to whether he is a real boat. So he sets off along a little stream towards the ocean to discover if he can live up to the name. Highly commended for the 2018 Klaus Flugge Prize.

[Teacher notes written by CLPE staff](#)

[A CLPE core book](#)

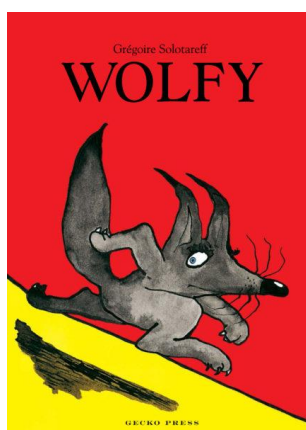


A CLPE booklist



Waiting for Goliath by Antje Damm, translated from German by Sally-Ann Spencer
Gecko Press 9781776571420

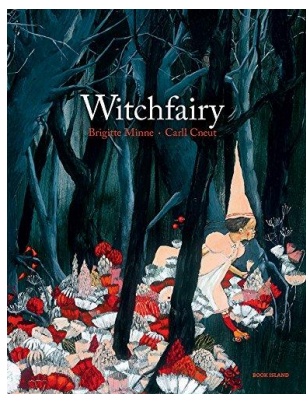
Bear is waiting ... and waiting for his friend Goliath. The birds don't believe that Goliath will ever come but Bear stays faithful throughout the changing seasons, depicted in the collage mixed media illustrations. Sometimes he forgets why he is waiting. Will Bear's patience be rewarded and who is the mysterious Goliath? Also by Antje Damm: *The Visitor* Gecko Press 9781776571895



Wolfy by Grégoire Solotareff, translated from French by Daniel Hahn
Gecko Press 9781776571567

It is many years since the classic French picture book *Loulou* was first published in France and the story of a wolf and a rabbit who have a reassuring relationship is as timeless as ever. The wolf has never seen a rabbit before and the rabbit has never seen a wolf but they are both aware that wolves are reputed to eat rabbits. However, they become firm friends and learn from each other. One day a game of *Who's-afraid-of-the-big-bad-wolf?* gets a bit too real for the rabbit. Will Wolfy be able to convince his friend that he will never eat him?

[A CLPE book of the week](#)



Witchfairy by Brigitte Minne and Carll Cneut, translated from Flemish by Laura Watkinson
Book Island 9781911496076

Rosemary doesn't want to conform to the expectations of what a fairy should be like – sweet and neat and always clean. To her mother's horror, she declares she would rather be a witch and sets off for the wood to join them. As a result Rosemary and her mother discover that it is possible to have the best of both worlds. With highly distinctive illustrations by a Belgian artist with an international reputation.

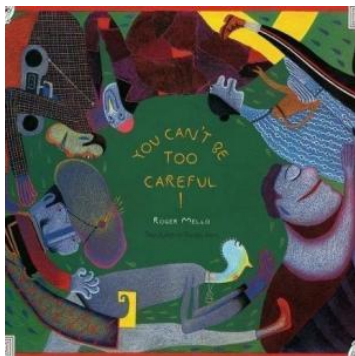


Locomotive by Julian Tuwim, illustrated by Lewitt and Him, adapted from Polish by Bernard Gutteridge and William J. Peace
Thames & Hudson 9780500650974

Rhymes by Julian Tuwim adapted from Polish and originally published in English in 1939 following publication in Polish the previous year. The illustrations by Jan Le Witt & George Him display the influence of Russian picture books of the period. In addition to the title story, the book includes two other rhyming stories, one of which is a version of 'The Enormous Turnip'.



A CLPE booklist

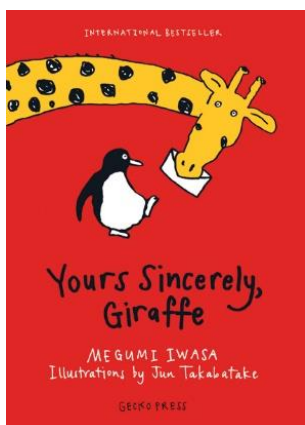


You Can't Be Too Careful by Roger Mello, translated from Brazilian Portuguese by Daniel Hahn
Elsewhere Editions 9780914671640

A complex chain of events and unexpected interrelationships is brought colourfully and quirkily to life in this picture book by Roger Mello whose illustrations challenge and excite the imagination. A gardener encloses a white rose in a pen and guards her against escape. What might the consequences be if he takes his eye off her for a moment? A succession of strangely shaped characters populate the pages accompanying a narrative that sometimes seems circular but bends back and forth.

[A CLPE book of the week](#)

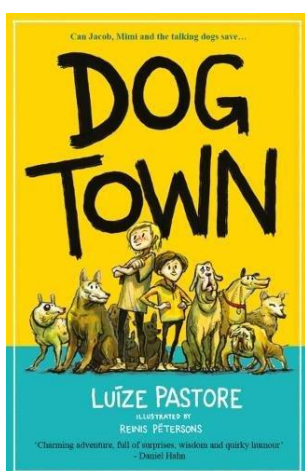
Fiction



Yours Sincerely, Giraffe by Megumi Iwasa, illustrated by Jun Takabatake, translated from Japanese by Cathy Hirano
Gecko Press 9781927271872

A giraffe is bored with his life on the African savannah. Seeking to learn about the world on the other side of the horizon, he enlists the help of a pelican in delivering a letter to the first animal he meets. An eyeopening exchange of letters with a new pen pal ensues.

Sequel: *Dear Professor Whale* 9781776572076



Dog Town (Firefly Press) by Luīze Pastore, illustrated by Reinis Pētersons, translated from Latvian by Žanete Vēvere Pasqualini.
Firefly Press 9781910080726

Jacob lives with his father in the Latvian capital, Riga. This story, with illustrations that include Jacob's maps, takes place one summer when he goes to stay with relatives in another part of the city and encounters a pack of talking dogs. A funny and thoughtful book in which urban regeneration & its problematic consequences are part of the story.

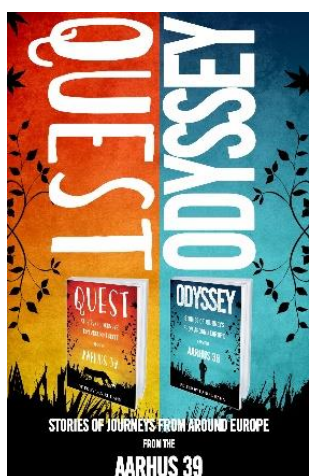


A CLPE booklist



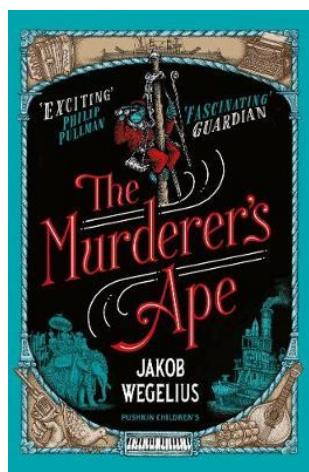
Astrid the Unstoppable by Maria Parr, illustrated by Katie Harnett, translated from Norwegian by Guy Puzey Walker 9781406366853

Astrid is the only child in Glimmerdal, a mountain village in Norway. The novel opens in snowy February and she is helping her elderly friend Gunnvald to design 'the perfect steerable sledge'. Astrid's independent personality leads her into situations which are often humorous and there is a strong and satisfactory emotional thread throughout the story about friendship and family relationships.



Quest. Stories of Journeys from around Europe edited by Daniel Hahn Alma Books 9781846884269

A collection of short stories shaped by a range of authors, translators and illustrators from around Europe. All interpret the theme of 'journeys' and they include stories translated into English from Dutch, French, German, Norwegian, Icelandic, Basque, Portuguese, Czech, Danish, Greek and Swedish. There is also a companion YA volume *Odyssey* Alma Books 9781846884290

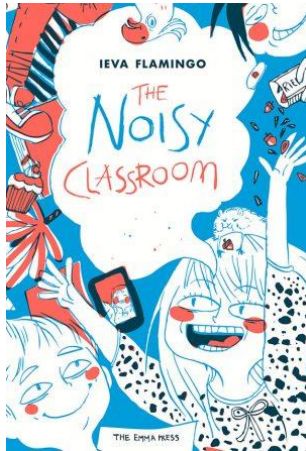


The Murderer's Ape by Jakob Wegelius, translated from Swedish by Peter Graves Pushkin Children's 9781782691754

An immersive adventure related in the words of Sally Jones, a gorilla who is a first class engineer, an excellent chess player and during the course of her adventures becomes an expert in the repair of musical instruments, all of which skills play a part in the story. When her friend the Captain of the 'Hudson Queen' is falsely imprisoned for murder, Sally Jones goes to considerable lengths, travelling from Lisbon to India, in order to clear his name. Despite not being able to speak any human language, Sally Jones can read and write and find ways to communicate and earns the respect and friendship of many along the way. There is also a prequel in graphic novel format: *The Legend of Sally Jones* Pushkin Children's 9781782692331



Poetry



The Noisy Classroom by Ieva Flamingo, illustrated by Vivianna Maria Staņislavska, translated from Latvian by Žanete Vevere Pasqualini, Sara Smith and Richard O'Brien
The Emma Press 9781910139820

The three translators who have rendered this collection of poetry freshly from Latvian into English have maintained a consistent first person voice of a child expressing his or her thoughts and feelings. The subject matter is rooted in daily life in school but it ranges wider, referencing the school of life as well as referring to actual classrooms and how they interrelate.

More poetry in translation published by Emma Press:

The Book of Clouds by Juris Kronberg, illustrated by Anete Melece, translated from Latvian by Māra Rozīte and Richard O'Brien

Everyone's the Smartest by Contra, illustrated by Ulla Saar, translated from Estonian by Charlotte Geater, Kätlin Kaldmaa and Richard O'Brien

