

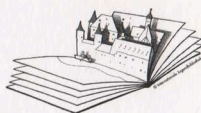
# The White Ravens 2001



A Selection of International Children's and Youth Literature



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## The Internationale Jugendbibliothek

- is the largest library for international children's and youth literature in the world. Since its inauguration by Jella Lepman in 1949, it has developed into an internationally recognised centre for children's literature from around the globe.
- features a collection of over 560,000 books: 530,000 books for children and young adults in more than 130 languages – including 80,000 historical children's books – and 30,000 volumes of secondary literature.
- lists 150,000 items in its online catalogue, 65,000 of which are searchable by subject headings.
- maintains a research library with a vast collection of documentary materials and 250 current journals.
- runs a children's lending library with a selection of 25,000 books and audiovisual media in 13 languages.
- houses »reading museums« featuring the life and work of the authors and illustrators Michael Ende, Erich Kästner, James Krüss, and Binette Schroeder and attracts visitors to the »Book Castle« with a range of activities including exhibitions, reading promotion projects, school programmes, and workshops for professionals of all fields of children's and youth literature.
- reaches out and creates international networks by publishing catalogues, compiling book lists, and curating a broad selection of travelling exhibitions.
- offers a scholarship programme financed by the Foreign Ministry of the Federal Republic of Germany, which each year enables up to 15 international professionals of all fields of children's and youth literature to pursue their research during a three-month stay in the Book Castle.
- is maintained by the foundation Stiftung Internationale Jugendbibliothek since 1996.
- is funded by Germany's Federal Ministry for Family, Senior Citizens, Women, and Youth, by the Bavarian State Ministry for Education and Culture, by the Culture Department of the Bavarian Capital City of Munich, and by the foundation.

## Romance Languages /Spain

hunters flown in from Africa, he succeeds in cornering the animal, but the struggle against the unequal opponent turns him into an animal lover. The entertaining, fast-paced story is told with slap-stick humour. The comedy is equally evident in the crazy, cartoon-like illustrations that parody familiar stereotypes with grotesque exaggeration. (5+) ✽

158

**Sánchez Alcón, Chema**

El radiofonista pirado que desenterraba filósofos para explicarse el mundo

(The presenter of the pirates' radio station who dug out philosophers to explain the world)

Madrid : Anaya, 1999. – 215pp

ISBN 84-207-9278-0

*Pirates' radio station - Philosophy*

This entertaining story is all about »philosophy for everyone«. A radio presenter questions the sense of his work, and, to overcome this crisis, he secretly starts a nocturnal feature on philosophical themes, inviting listeners to participate. When a concerned husband and father complains to the station, because he doesn't want his family spending the nights philosophising around the radio, it all comes out and the presenter is sent to prison. He suspects that he was really imprisoned for inspiring people to think for themselves. The book takes the reader into the world of philosophy with wit, humour and lightness. (12+)

## Spain (Catalan)

159

**Carbó, Joaquim (text)**

Gans, Francesc Luis (illus.)

Juma i el diamant

(Juma and the diamond)

Barcelona : Ed. Cruïlla, 2000. – 186pp

([El vaixell de vapor / Série vermella] ; 94)

ISBN 84-8286-853-5

*Africa - War - Violence - Solidarity - Refugee*

13-year-old Juma works like a slave in a diamond mine. Following his escape, he meets other children, and one after another they join him in his quest for freedom. Finally, they are a group of

six, and together, they struggle for survival, always hoping to see their families and homes again. Told from the perspective of children and their experiences, the misery and violence (e.g. the refugee trails) of the war-stricken African countries becomes cruelly evident. The story is realistic and never sensational. On the contrary, it gives a differentiated account of the social situation and develops a strong cast of individual characters. (11+)

160

**Gisbert, Montse (text/illus.)**

El bebé més dolç del món

(The sweetest baby of the world)

Valencia : Tandem Ed., [1999]. – [36pp]

ISBN 84-8131-237-x

(Span. ed.: El bebé más dulce del mundo)

*Bee*

Told from the perspective of a young bee, this book describes the life in a bee-colony: raising, »construction«, nectar collection, production of honey etc. A short appendix provides further information. Despite these informations, this book is first and foremost an imaginative picture book, heedlessly anthropomorphising the world of the bees. This is most evident in the brightly coloured, cheerful and wild illustrations. They show, for example, a bee swinging a broom or transporting construction material on a truck. This book is an unusual cross-over between the picture story- and reference book. (4+)

161

**Rius, Lluís (text)**

Ginesta, Montse (illus.)

Adormits!

(Sleepy-heads!)

Barcelona : LaGalera [et al.], 2000. – 30pp

ISBN 84-246-3410-1. - 84-226-8484-5

*Parents - Falling asleep - Waking up*

To wake up her parents, who once again have dosed off in front of the TV, their daughter assembles a team of very special helpers, who come from the other apartments of the house. Finally, a swaying pyramid makes its way through the stairway: the »downstairs-bringer«, the »upstairs-bringer«, the »light-on-turner« and – of course –

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