

The White Ravens 2005



A Selection of International Children's and Youth Literature



Internationale Jugendbibliothek
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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.
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Romance Languages /Spain

starting point for this novel. Through her diary, which was allegedly found in her coffin, Bianca directly addresses the readers, telling them about her life in the golden cage and her unhappiness in love. In this exceptional book, the fictional elements and the carefully researched and vividly described historical context are interwoven in a superb way. Another outstanding quality of this novel is its rich multi-faceted language. (12+)

141

Schimel, Lawrence (text)

Rojo, Sara (illus.)

No hay nada como el original

(There is nothing like the original)

Barcelona : Destino, 2004. – [28] p.

ISBN 84-08-05261-6

Single child – Loneliness – Boredom – Cloning – Identity

Creativity knows no bounds. When a boy is left alone in his mother's office, he spontaneously produces a bunch of copies of himself. Suddenly he has a wonderful supply of look-alikes who are going to play with him and take over all the tasks he himself doesn't feel like completing, such as doing his homework, visiting the dentist, cleaning his room, etc. Yet, what if the lovely homunculi decide to start a rebellion? What if Mum cannot tell the original from the copies anymore? In a witty and refreshingly non-didactical way, the text and illustrations of this very original picture book play with wishes and fears that are familiar to many children of our time. (5+)

142

Ventura, Antonio (text)

Novoa, Teresa (illus.)

Dos lobos blancos

(Two white wolves)

Zaragoza : Edelvives, 2004. – [36] p.

ISBN 84-263-5268-5

Winter – Wolf – Help

A starry winter night; snow-covered woods and mountains; two wolves following the call of a wounded female companion. With few words and cleverly selected voids that leave ample room for the readers' and listeners' imagination, Antonio Ventura creates a simple story that radiates with an almost archaic atmosphere reminiscent of ancient myths. The poetic power of the text also emanates from Teresa

Novoa's breath-taking pictures that stand out for their vastness and their fascinating perspectives. Readers can actually feel the impenetrable depth of the black-green night sky, the pale-grey coldness of the dawn, and the quiet loneliness of the forest in this exquisite picture book. (5+) ⚡

Spain (Catalan)

143

Gisbert, Montse (text/illus.)

Vergés, Elisenda (transl.)

Salvador Dalí, pinta'm un somni

(Salvador Dalí, paint a dream for me)

Barcelona : Serres, 2003. – [44] p.

ISBN 84-8488-128-8

(Spanish ed.: Salvador Dalí, pintame un sueño)

Dalí, Salvador – Art – Surrealism

To celebrate Salvador Dalí's 100th birthday in 2004, various children's books were published in Spain that introduce young readers to the life and work of the Catalan artist and famous representative of surrealism. One of the most original examples of these is this witty non-fiction book designed – quite appropriately – in collage technique. Montse Gisbert combines reproductions of Dalí's works with old and new photographs and fixes all of them onto her own double-page colour illustrations. The vitality of the pictures is also mirrored in the informative text that is presented as a biography told by Dalí himself. (8+)

144

Hernández, Pau Joan

El mussol i la forca

(The owl and the gallows)

Barcelona : Edebé, 2004. – 253 p.

(Periscopi ; 69)

ISBN 84-236-6955-6

Terrorism – Disabled person

A journalist and a police officer form a powerful team for solving a mysterious criminal case. When several people go missing and the graffiti of an owl appears in the very places where these people were last seen, the two of them start their investigation and end up in the sewers below the metropolis of Barcelona. In there, they uncover the preparations for a terrible attack. The novel's char-