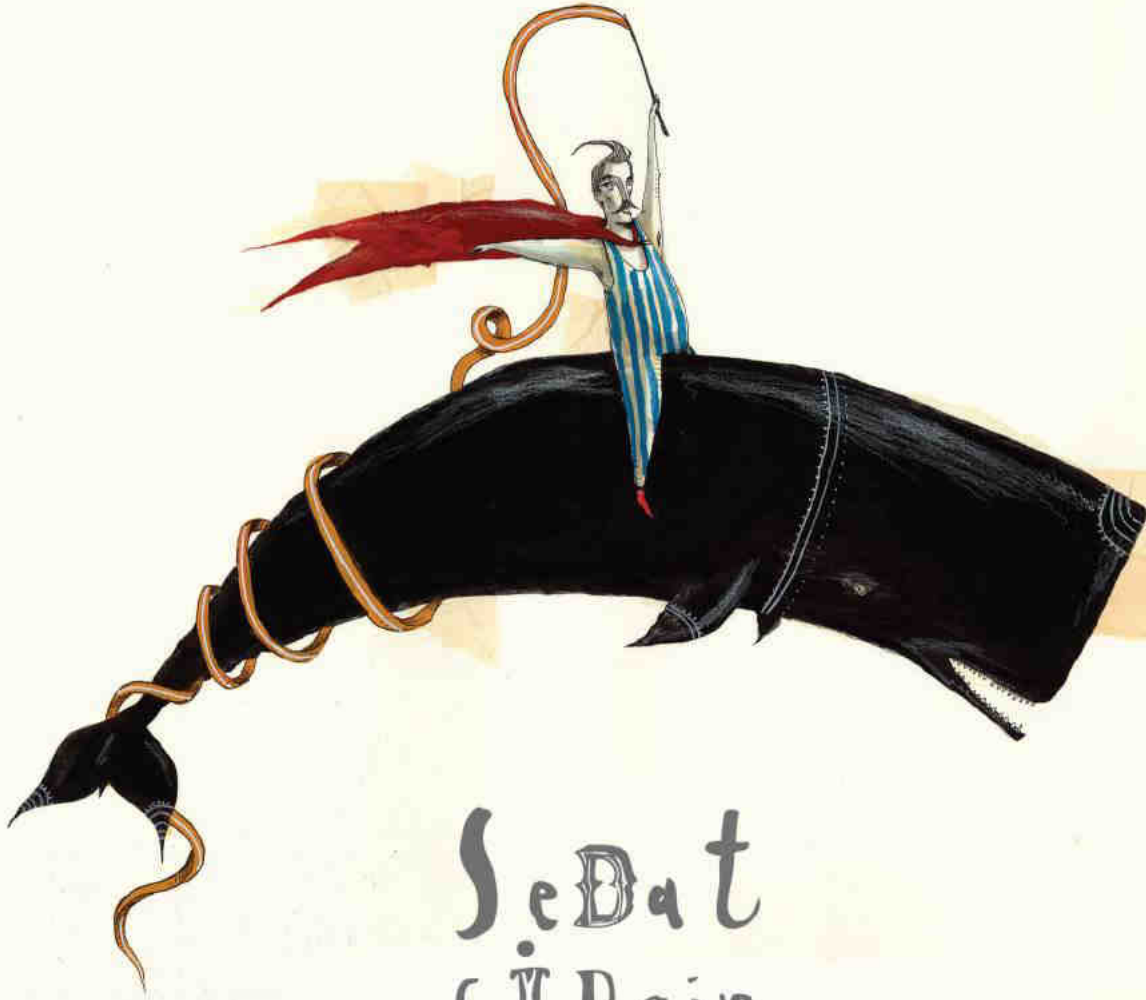


NOMINATED FOR THE 2018
HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD
BY THE TURKISH SECTION OF IBBY



Sebat
Girgin



Sedat Girgin

NOMINATED FOR THE 2018
HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSEN AWARD
BY THE TURKISH SECTION OF IBBY

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BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION





Born in İstanbul in 1985, Sedat Girgin graduated from Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University, Department of Industrial Design. He has illustrated more than 80 books for many publishing houses. He has worked as a freelance illustrator for several magazines and digital agencies. In 2007, the book he illustrated titled *Ant's Brother* [Karıncanın Kardeşi], in collaboration with author Suna Dölek, received the third prize at Tudem's Book-Making Competition and it was translated into German. With his design "Hot Vespa" he received the first award at Art Vespa Competition in 2010. He has been making the cover illustrations of *The Guide İstanbul* since 2014. The book he illustrated titled *Sefa, The Lazy Fish* [Tembel Balık Sefa] in collaboration with author Tülin Kozikoğlu, has recently been selected for the 2015 White Ravens Catalogue by Internationale Jugendbibliothek. His distinctive children's books illustrations have been exhibited at the *Biennial of Illustration Bratislava* [BIB].

He has participated in many national and international group exhibitions, organized workshops, attended seminars and been invited to the selection committees. He opened his first solo exhibition *Circus of Wonders* [Hayretler Sirki] in 2013. He now lives and works in İstanbul.

www.sedatgirgin.com

GROUP EXHIBITIONS

- Local Illustrators 2 [Yerel İllüstratörler 2], Mtaar, İstanbul, 2010
- Liselim, Tophane-I Amire, İstanbul, 2010
- Beastly [Hayvan Gibi], Milk Gallery, İstanbul, 2012
- Year Of the Dragon [Ejderha Yılı], Milk Gallery, İstanbul, 2012
- Before the Waves [Dalgadan Önce], Babylon Lounge, İstanbul, 2012
- Children's Book Illustrations [Çocuk Kitabı İllüstrasyonları], Tüyap Kitap Fuarı, İstanbul, 2012
- Hybrit [Kırma], Bant Mag. Mekan, İstanbul, 2013
- Hitchcock Tribute, Bant Mag. Mekan, İstanbul, 2013
- David Lynch Tribute, Bant Mag. Mekan, İstanbul, 2013
- Woody Allen Tribute, Bant Mag. Mekan, İstanbul, 2013
- Art In Mind, Bricklane Gallery, Londra, 2014
- 100 Years of Turkish Cinema Through 100 Illustrations [100 İllüstrasyonla Türk Sinemasının 100.Yılı], Antalya Altın Portakal Film Festivali, Antalya, 2014
- Contemporary Istanbul Fair with Milk Gallery, İstanbul, 2015
- Coffee & Life, İstanbul Coffee Festival 2014, İstanbul, 2015



- From Past to Today: Can Children Books' Illustrations [Dünden Bugüne Can Çocuk Kitapları İllüstrasyon Sergisi], Saint-Michel High School Jeanne d'Arc Hall, İstanbul, 2015
- Living Legends of Sports [Sporun Yaşayan Efsaneleri], Jatomi Mag, Bant Mag Mekan, İstanbul, 2015
- Words Barış Manço [Sözler Barış Manço], Galatasaray Museum, İstanbul, 2015
- Biennial of Illustration Bratislava, Bratislava, 2015
- Illustration Vol: 1 [İllüstrasyon Vol:1], Karbon Gallery, İstanbul, 2016
- Painters of the Children's World [Çocuk Dünyasının Ressamları] / Children's Books Illustrators Museum at Ege University, İzmir, 2016
- Night is Young, Pera 64, İstanbul, 2016
- Seasons-Act 2 [Mevsimler-Fasıl 2], Bant Mag Mekan, İstanbul, 2016
- Characters Selfie, İstanbul Comics & Art Festival, İstanbul, 2016
- No:1, Bant Mag. Havuz BİNA, İstanbul, 2016
- The Natural Eye [Doğal Bakış] (with Society of Wildlife Artists, SWLA), Mall Gallery, London, 2016
- Contemporary Istanbul Fair with Gallery 77, İstanbul, 2016



SEMINARS & WORKSHOPS

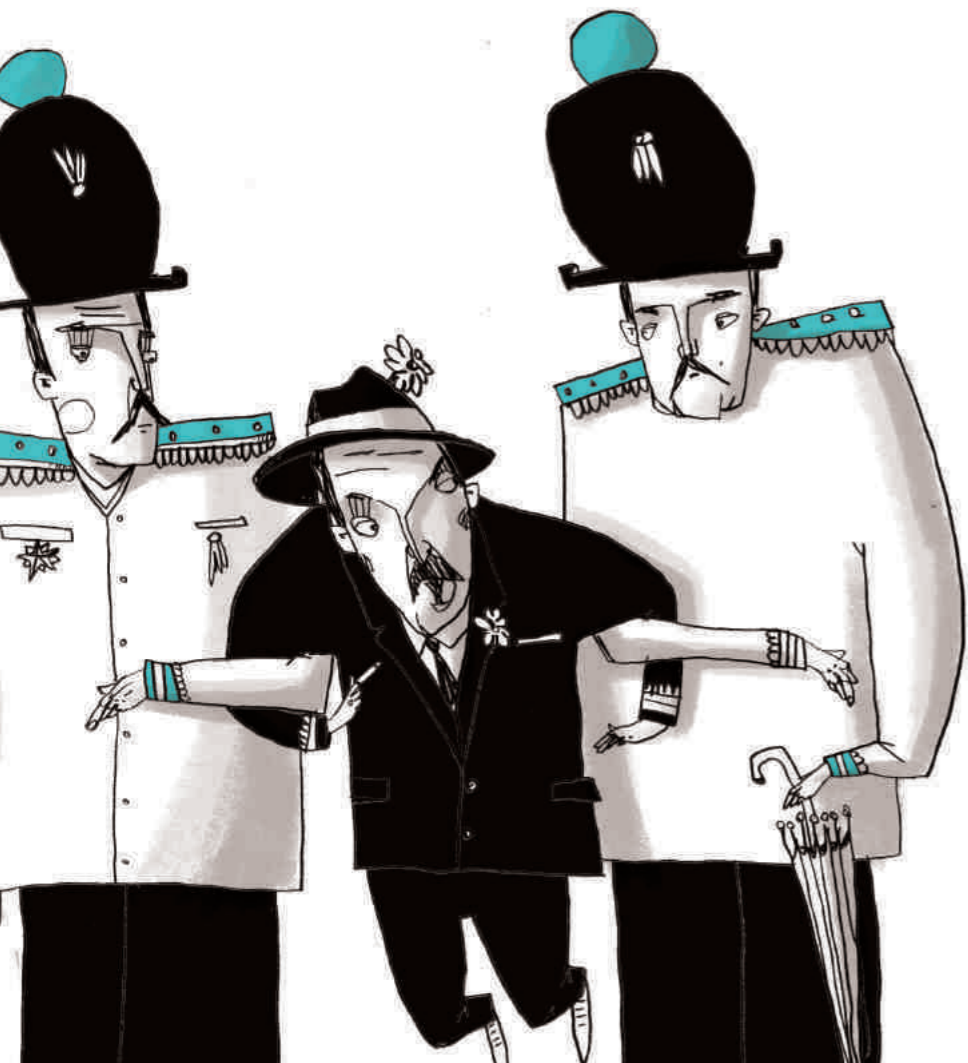
- Conversations with Illustrators 01 [Çizer Konuşmaları 01], Bant Mag Havuz, İstanbul, 2016
- Sakarya University Fine Arts Faculty, Sakarya, 2016
- İstek Semiha Şakir Primary School, İstanbul, 2016
- FFDA Design Fest, International Cyprus University, Nicosia, Cyprus, 2016
- Ataturk University Graphic Design Department, Erzurum, 2016
- Feyz Talks, Anadolu University Design Club, Eskişehir, 2016
- Lider Şişli College-Primary School, İstanbul, 2016
- Mimar Sinan Fine Arts University-Graphic Design Department, İstanbul, 2016
- Children's Book Fest-Primary School, Samsun, 2016
- Ted Bodrum College-Primary School, Bodrum, 2016
- Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, Jerusalem, Israel, 2015
- Osmangazi University Art and Design Faculty, Eskişehir, 2015
- Urla Rotaract Club Talks, İzmir, 2015
- Canlandırılar Animation Talks, İstanbul, 2015
- International Architecture Students Meeting, Seferihisar, İzmir, 2015
- Feyz Talks, Anadolu University Design Club, Eskişehir, 2015
- Enka Primary School, İstanbul, 2015
- Salt Galata Workshops, İstanbul, 2014

SOLO EXHIBITIONS

- Circus of Wonders [Hayretler Sirki], Milk Gallery, İstanbul, 2013
- La Sardina & Sedat Girgin (Photograph), Lomography Türkiye, İstanbul, 2013



A STATEMENT ON THE CANDIDATE



A young artist (born in 1985), Sedat Girgin has been a very welcomed new name in the field of book illustration in Turkey since his first published work *Where Did the Baby Bear Lost His Sleep?*, (2006). He has developed a unique style of his own at an early stage of his career.

Although he illustrates books and magazines for all ages, he is known mostly for his children's book illustrations. It is no exaggeration to say that Sedat Girgin's illustrations have added a new dimension to children's books in Turkey. They have added an extra area for the child to expand his or her imagination—the very aspect that is essential in children's literature.

Sedat's style is mostly linear, and he uses soft tones when it comes to coloring. Washy water colors, over linear figures are typical of his work. Most of his figures have a shady undertone that send invitation to personal interpretations. In many of his works one figure hides many more, in a very subtle shade, that are there for the viewer to decyphre.

The deformed realism that is a typical aspect of his works, is at times extended to surrealism.

Be it for children or for grown-ups, Sedat's illustrations motivate the imagination because they are actually more than what they seem to be at first glance.

Among many books by prominent Turkish authors, Sedat Girgin has illustrated books by various world-wide known authors (i.e. G. Rodari). We are very proud to nominate him for the HCA Award 2018.

IBBY Turkey

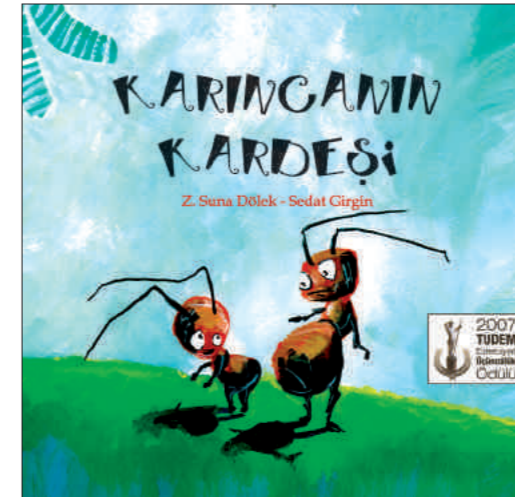
LIST OF
AWARDS AND
OTHER
DISTINCTIONS





First Place at
Art Vespa Competition
Editorial Flomboyant

2010



Third Place at “Make A Book:
Illustrated Children’s Books Competition”
held by Tudem Publishing

2007



Mention Award at Shop Window Design Competition
held by Tudem YKM

2008



First Place for Roxy Music Days [with his music band “Eskiz”]

2010

COMPLETE
BIBLIOGRAPHY
OF THE
CHILDREN'S
BOOKS



■ 2006

Where Did the Baby Bear Lost His Sleep?

Ayı Yavrusunun Uykusu
Nereye Kaçtı?
Tudem Publishing

■ 2007

Legends of My Country

Ülkemin Efsaneleri
Tudem Publishing

■ 2008

Wintersmith

Kış Ustası
Tudem Publishing

Fifteen Turkish Fairy Tales

On Beş Türk Masalı
Can Çocuk Publishing

Stories from Memories 1

Anılardan Öyküler 1
Tudem Publishing

Stories from Memories 2

Anılardan Öyküler 2
Tudem Publishing

■ 2009

The Magic of Theatre

Tiyatronun Büyüsü
Tudem Publishing

Flying Waves

Uçan Dalgalar
Tudem Publishing

As Much As You Can

Karınca Kararınca
Tudem Publishing

Çipilip

Çipilip
Tudem Publishing

the Oak of Kelkaya

Kelkaya'nın Meşesi
Tudem Publishing

Ant's Brother

Karıncanın Kardeşi
Tudem Publishing

Gip in the Television

Televizyona Düşen Çocuk Gip
Can Çocuk Publishing

The Adventures of Pinocchio

Pinokyo'nun Serüvenleri
Can Çocuk Publishing

■ 2010

Aliens are Coming

Uzaylılar Geliyor
Can Çocuk Publishing

Fairy Tales and Fictional Tales

Masallar Kurgu Masallar
Can Çocuk Publishing

the Cake in the Sky

Gökyüzünden Gelen Pasta
Can Çocuk Publishing

Tobia and the Angel

Tobia ve Melek
Can Çocuk Publishing

Hide-and-Seek with İstanbul

İstanbul'la Saklambaç
Can Çocuk Publishing

The Adventures of Marko and Mirko

Marko ile Mirko'nun Serüvenleri
Can Çocuk Publishing

My First Novel

İlk Romanım
Can Çocuk Publishing

the Magic Circle

Büyülü Çember
Can Çocuk Publishing

Dictionary of Educational Terms

Eğitim Terimleri Sözlüğü
Redhouse Publishing

■ 2011

Dictionary of Art Terms and Concepts

Sanat Terimleri ve Kavramları Sözlüğü
Redhouse Publishing

Dwarf Prince

Cüce Prens
Can Çocuk Publishing

Little İzo Mizo

Küçük İzo Mizo
Can Çocuk Publishing

Haiku

Haiku
Can Çocuk Publishing

Blizzard

Tipi
Can Çocuk Publishing

Reynard the Fox

Kurnaz Tilki
Can Çocuk Publishing

Fishbone Kite

Kılıçık Uçurtma
Can Çocuk Publishing

Riddle Me This, Riddle Me That

Bil Beni Bileyim Seni
Can Çocuk Publishing

Farmer Ants vs. Slaver Ants

Çiftçi Karıncalar Köleci Karıncalara Karşı
Tudem Publishing

While Clouds Are Passing Over Haliç

Haliçten Bulutlar Geçerken
Doğan Egmont Publishing

A Wondrous Voyages

Acayip Bir Deniz Yolculuğu
Günışığı Publishing

■ 2012

Fables from Around the World 1

Dünya Halklarından Hayvan Masalları 1
Can Çocuk Publishing

Kofi or the Art of Forgiveness

Kofi veya Bağışlama Sanatı
Can Çocuk Publishing

Question Mark Ringlets

Saçlarında Soru İşaretleri
Can Çocuk Publishing

the Blue Arrow

Mavi Ok
Can Çocuk Publishing

Adventures of Invisible Tonino

Görünmez Olan Tonino'nun Maceraları
Can Çocuk Publishing

My Sweet Compote Journal

Benim Tatlı Komposto Günlüğüm
Artemis Publishing

Where Are You Going, Şatşat?

Şatşat Nereye
Doğan Egmont Publishing

Travel Companion

Seyahat Arkadaşı
Redhouse Publishing

Little Philosophers' Club 1

Filozof Çocuklar Kulübü 1
Final Kültür Publishing

■ 2013

Pera Chronicles – Hotel of Secrets

Pera Günlükleri- Sırlar Oteli
Can Çocuk Publishing

Pera Chronicles – Land of the Blind

Pera Günlükleri- Körler Ülkesi
Can Çocuk Publishing

Kork, the Lion King

Aslan Kral Kork
Can Çocuk Publishing

Fables from Around the World 2

Dünya Halklarından Hayvan Masalları 2
Can Çocuk Publishing

Little Philosophers' Club 2

Filozof Çocuklar Kulübü 2
Final Kültür Publishing

Little Philosophers' Club 3

Filozof Çocuklar Kulübü 3
Final Kültür Publishing

the Ogre

Umacı
Tudem Publishing

Chronicles of Bolbadim 1

Bolbadim Günlükleri 1
Günışığı Publishing

Chronicles of Bolbadim 2

Bolbadim Günlükleri 2
Günışığı Publishing

Chronicles of Bolbadim 3

Bolbadim Günlükleri 3
Günışığı Publishing

Twice Upon a Time there was a Baron called Lamberto

İki Kere Doğan Baron
Can Çocuk Publishing

Ara Güler

Ara Güler
Can Çocuk Publishing

■ 2014

The Country of Liars

Gelsomino Yalancılar Ülkesinde
Can Çocuk Publishing

Pera Chronicles – The Guard of the Seals

Pera Günlükleri- Mühürlerin Muhafızı
Can Çocuk Publishing

Newspaper Whispers

Gazete Fısıltıları
Can Çocuk Publishing

Cornelius and the Warehouse of Impossibles

Cornelius ve İmkânsızlar Ambarı
Can Çocuk Publishing

Tales of the Early World

İlk Dünya Hikâyeleri
Can Çocuk Publishing

In Search of Kunikul

Kunikul'un Peşinde
Doğan Egmont Publishing

Rıza, the Angry Spider (Stories from Leyla Fonten)

Öfkeli Örümcek Rıza (Leyla Fonten'den Öyküler Serisi)
Redhouse Kidz Publishing

Dila, the Unhappy Cat (Stories from Leyla Fonten)

Mutsuz Kedi Dila (Leyla Fonten'den Öyküler Serisi)
Redhouse Kidz Publishing

Mina, the Stubborn Hedgehog (Stories from Leyla Fonten)

İnatçı Kirpi Mina (Leyla Fonten'den Öyküler Serisi)
Redhouse Kidz Publishing

Tuna, the Smarty Mouse (Stories from Leyla Fonten)

Bilmiş Fare Tuna (Leyla Fonten'den Öyküler Serisi)
Redhouse Kidz Publishing

■ 2015

Sema, the Coward Bird (Stories from Leyla Fonten)

Korkak Kuş Sema (Leyla Fonten'den Öyküler Serisi)
Redhouse Kidz Publishing

Fables of Tailed Animals

Kuyruklu Hayvan Masalları
Can Çocuk Publishing

Pera Chronicles – Ice City

Pera Günlükleri- Buzlar Şehri
Can Çocuk Publishing

Ela, the Jealous Frog (Stories from Leyla Fonten)

Kıskanç Kurbağa Eda (Leyla Fonten'den Öyküler Serisi)
Redhouse Kidz Publishing

Sefa, the Lazy Fish (Stories from Leyla Fonten)

Tembel Balık Sefa (Leyla Fonten'den Öyküler Serisi)
Redhouse Kidz Publishing

Kaya, the Shy Dog (Stories from Leyla Fonten)

Utangaç Köpek Kaya (Leyla Fonten'den Öyküler Serisi)
Redhouse Kidz Publishing

I Loved an Insect

Bir Böcek Sevdim
Doğan Egmont Publishing

Open Eyes, Good Ears

Gören Gözler Duyan Kulaklar
Doğan Egmont Publishing

Feza, the Impatient Fly (Stories from Leyla Fonten)

Sabırsız Sinek Feza (Leyla Fonten'den Öyküler Serisi)
Redhouse Kidz Publishing

The Cat in the Suitcase

Valizdeki Kedi
Doğan Egmont Publishing

Jump Bart!

Atla Bart!
Can Çocuk Publishing

■ 2016

Pencils

Kalemler
Yapı Kredi Publishing

A Quirky Present

Acayip Bir Hediye
Can Çocuk Publishing

Three Poems

Üç Şiir
Yapı Kredi Publishing

Three Stories

Üç Öykü
Yapı Kredi Publishing

The Road of Secrets

Sırlar Yolu
Günışığı Publishing

White Trousers

Beyaz Pantolon
Yapı Kredi Publishing

Uçankuş has Long Ears

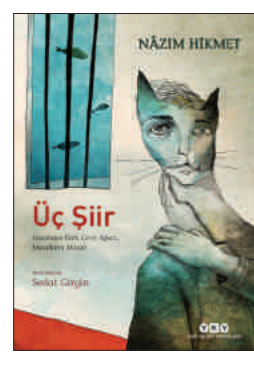
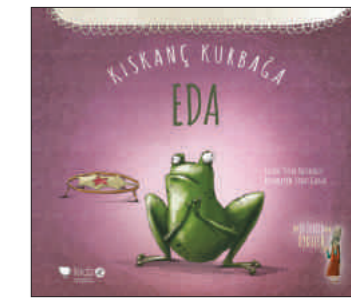
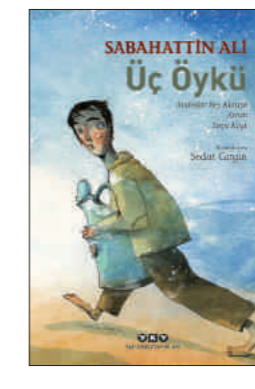
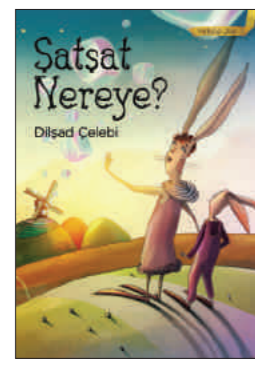
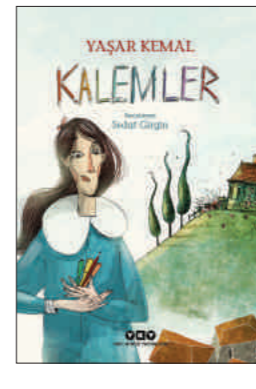
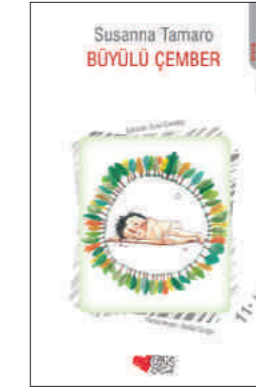
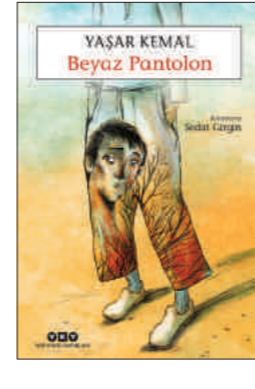
Uçankuş'tan Al Haberi
Can Çocuk Publishing

For the Sake of Showered Twins

Gökten Yağan İkizler Aşkına
Can Çocuk Publishing

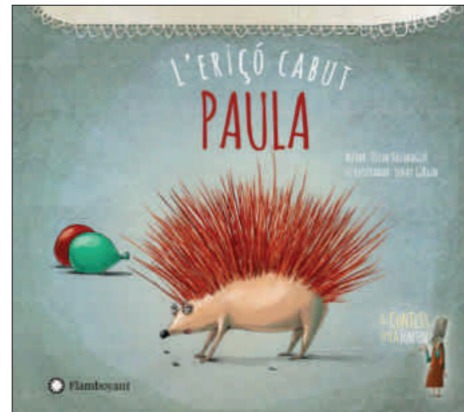
Dinosaur Birds

Dinozor Kuşları
Can Çocuk Publishing



LIST OF
TRANSLATED
TITLES AND
THEIR
LANGUAGES





Ínatçı Kirpi Mina
L'eriçó Cabut Paula [Catalan]
Editorial Flomboyant

2016



Korkak Kuş Sema
La Pajarita Miedosa Rita [Spanish]
Editorial Flomboyant

2016



Ínatçı Kirpi Mina
La Eriza Testaruda Paula [Spanish]
Editorial Flomboyant

2016



Karıncanın Kardeşi
Ein Geschwisterchen für die Ameise [German]
TALISA Kinderbuch-Verlag

2010



Korkak Kuş Sema
L'ocelleta Poruga Rita [Catalan]
Editorial Flomboyant

2016

5 SELECTED
TITLES SENT
TO THE
JURORS AND
SUMMARIES

1. KORK, THE LION KING
2. THE COUNTRY OF LIARS
3. THREE STORIES FROM SABAHATTIN ALI
4. THREE POEMS
5. KAYA, THE SHY DOG



KORK, THE LION KING

Who is the real king?

This book tells the story of the new king of a forest who sails under false colors to spread fear. However, the inhabitants of the forest will not keep still about this.

When The Roaring Lion, the king of the forest dies, a new king comes to the

throne. He calls himself Kork, the Lion King and decides to introduce himself to his people. When the inhabitants of the forest recognize that the new king isn't "forty-eyed, forty-eared, and forty-clawed" as he declared, they think he is posturing as the king of forest and decide to teach this "fake king" a painful lesson.



BOOK NAME: *Aslan Kral Kork*
Kork, the Lion King
AUTHOR: Süleyman Bulut
ILLUSTRATOR: Sedat Girgin
48 pages
PUBLISHER: Can Çocuk Yayınları
Can Çocuk Publishing/2013
GENRE: short story
AGES: 6-8 +

THE COUNTRY OF LIARS

A land where everything becomes reversed. In a country, people who are telling the truth are confined in an asylum and Gelsimo happens to pass there. Do you think the truth will come to light in this land where cats are barking and dogs are mewling?

A land where everything becomes reversed. In a country, people who are telling the truth are confined in an asylum and Gelsimo happens to pass there. Do you think the truth will come to light in this land where cats are barking and dogs are mewling?

In The Country of Liars, Gianni Rodari tells the adventures of Gelsomino who finds himself in The Country of Liars because of his unique, innate, vibrant voice. First published in 1959 with the original title "Gelsomino nel paese dei bugiardi", this book is another masterpiece for children by Gianni Rodari who artfully conveys his wondrous world of imagination.

Gelsomino has a special talent which is very unusual but formidable as well: his voice can be heard easily even miles away. When growing up, Gelsomino gets stuck in difficult situations and trouble because of his vibrant voice. At last, when he feels unpeaceful in his country, he decides to go away and this will be

the beginning of a new adventure for him. When he crosses the border, he reaches up an interesting country and he feels like a fish out of water while trying to understand what is going on. Ultimately, Topalcık, the three-legged cat chalked up on the wall, puts in the picture. Many years ago, the king of this country has banned telling the truth for his benefit, and messed up



BOOK NAME: *Yalancılar Ülkesi*
the County of Liars
AUTHOR: Gianni Rodari
ILLUSTRATOR: Sedat Girgin
208 pages
PUBLISHER: Can Çocuk Yayınları
Can Çocuk Publishing/2014
GENRE: novel
AGES: 9-11 +

everything. That's why inhabitants are calling bread instead of ink, and ink instead of bread; and they are put into prison if they tell the truth by mistake.

Gelsomino sings unconsciously while sleeping at night since he lowers his voice all day long. When the director of the national theater hears his song and discovers him, his reputation will spread far and wide. As the story moves along, Aunt Corn

and her cousin (the girl who chalked up Topalcık on the wall), Bananito the Painter and Welcome the old-clothes man joins Gelsomino and Topalcık in their adventures.

This group of friends with different characteristics take a stand against lying in The Country of Liars, do their best to change things and embark on adventures.



BOOK REVIEW OF

THE COUNTRY OF LIARS PUBLISHED IN "İYİ KİTAP"

HOW LONG LIVES A LIE?

Think of a country where anyone telling the truth is immediately put in prison; where anyone who doesn't replace good with bad cannot get out of trouble. Not so difficult to think of, isn't it? So, let's start...

*If there will be such a day
It will worth to memorize the date:
The day when no one is starving
Is the best day in the history.*
(from the book)

Rodari is among the best and most well-known children's authors of the world. He is making up wondrous, weird, astonishing stories which absolutely bear a grain truth as well. Unlike most of the authors, Rodari doesn't treat his characters with an artificial, annoying sense of decency. He neither fools the characters and the readers, nor underestimates their quick wit. In this sense, his books are much more realistic than most of the adult books.

IF EVER I TALK!..

Actually, Gianni Rodari wanted to be a musician. Afterwards, he became a music teacher. After a while, he found himself as a journalist by a twist of fate. And during the World War II, he was a revolutionary...

Dedications are significant. He reveals his suavity with the dedication : "A little bit form y daughter Paola, a little bit for all children." I'm saying that, please look up his bibliography apart from the book I'll tell of in a little while, and keep on reading

Rodari. For example, *The Cake in the Sky* is superb. By the way, his books are published by Can Çocuk Publishing and Marsık Publishing in Turkey.

The Country of Liars is among his best-known books. As he stated in the first sentence, "This is the story of Gelsomino." Beginning from his birth, Gelsomino demonstrates that he is an extraordinary child, and spells trouble as soon as he opens his eyes to the world. His very first cry awakens the inhabitants of the village, people assume that voice belongs to factory signals calling for work and they untimely set off for work.

Gelsomino, which means "jasmine" in Italian, gets into trouble when he started school because of his sharp voice as well. During an oral exam his voice



breaks window pane, when he sings the blackboard flies to pieces. So, he resorts getting away from people. He thinks that he can only live in the mountains or forests. But this time, when he leans his head to the ground and screams with might and main; all the animals living underground, moles, worms react and they come above ground. Failing once again, Gelsomino decides to keep silent.

AUTHORITARIAN, CLUMSY, PARANOID

One day he crosses a border, he reaches up an interesting country. Everybody is quite weird there, calling bread instead of ink, and ink instead of bread. Fake means real, and real means fake. The good is actually the bad, and the bad is good... In other words, everything is reversed. If you find it confusing, let me explain. Because this is *The Country of Liars*, where everyone has to say the exact opposite in order not to get arrested. For instance, if anyone comes across the King, he says “You really

look terrible, my King.” If someone likes the food, he appreciates by saying “Hmm, disgusting!” Thus and so, they all live “happily.”

As I mentioned earlier, Rodari is against the war. This is reflected in most of his books. In his stories rulers are authoritarian, clumsy, paranoid and even a little stupid. King Giacomone, the ruler of *The Country of Liars*, is one of this kind. People accept behaving weirdly as such, because they’re afraid of the King. But Gelsomino will change things in this country with his well-known voice...

In the book there are some other marvellous characters: Aunt Corn who is keeping the animals, Topalcık the barking cat, Bananito the Painter and Welcome for example. But of course, the most marvellous one is Gelsomino, our gentle and smart protagonist.

Lastly, I’d like to say that I don’t recommend this book to anyone because it is really terrible. It’s a total waste of time and gripes one’s soul. Do we have a deal!

Elif Türkölmez

THREE STORIES FROM SABAHATTİN ALİ

CARS FOR PEANUTS-AYRAN-THE GLASS MANSION

When it comes to recognizing humans in every aspect, there comes Sabahattin Ali...

Known for his everlasting works like *Madonna in a Fur Coat*, *The Devil Inside*, *Yusuf of Kuyucak*, Sabahattin Ali is now published by Yapı Kredi Publishing in Doğan Kardeş series.

Three impressive stories to become acquainted with a great master of Turkish literature, “forever young” Sabahattin Ali; who tells the stories of a human being in every aspect. These three realistic and melancholic stories, “Cars for Peanuts”, “Ayrın”, and “The Glass Mansion”, are presented with Sedat Girgin’s illustrations.



BOOK NAME: *Üç Öykü/Three Stories*
AUTHOR: Sabahattin Ali
ILLUSTRATOR: Sedat Girgin
52 pages
PUBLISHER: Yapı Kredi Yayınları
Yapı Kredi Publications/2016
GENRE: short story
AGES: 11-15 +



BOOK REVIEW OF

THREE STORIES FROM SABAHATTİN ALİ PUBLISHED IN “İYİ KİTAP”

SABAHATTİN ALİ TELLS THE TRUTH AND THE IMAGERY

The social realities emphasized by Sabahattin Ali are like herald dreams announcing nothing less was impossible. As long as someone believes. A humanist system which will put a smile on children's faces worths struggling evermore...

One should become acquainted with the world of literature during childhood, the most creative period of our lives. Literature is an essential point for a child to set off his unconditioned imagination and to introduce life to him. However, due to boring textbooks and didactical texts it was ignored for years. Recently, the flourishing presence of children's literature in our country lead by both translations and original works can be counted among a few hopeful things. Nowadays, this presence is getting stronger with a Sabahattin Ali title which was just published for children of 11-15 years.

Yapı Kredi publishing has taken a major step in bringing young readers together with literature, and published Three Stories by Sabahattin Ali, the grand master of Turkish literature, as a part of Doğan Kardeş series. Edited by Filiz Özdem, and illustrated by Sedat Girgin's distinctive drawings, the book is a special present not only for children but for readers of all ages, especially for the admirers of *Madonna in a Fur Coat*, *The Devil Inside*, *Yusuf of Kuyucak*.

Known for his realistic narratives as a part of socialist realism, Sabahattin Ali is holding the same line in “Cars for Peanuts”,

“Ayran”, and “The Glass Mansion”, mentioning simple lives of the poor.

FIGHTING KIDS ON THE STREETS

“Cars for Peanuts” introduces readers a little salesman who is selling toy cars with his mother to earn some money after school. “Ayran” tells the story of little Hasan who is trying to sell the ayran he is carrying in a copper vessel longer than him in a desolate train station, just to make enough money to keep up his siblings. As being served as a civil servant and teacher for years, Sabahattin Ali has the opportunity to observe all segments of the society closely. Thus, he successfully portrays these two kids who feel the class distinction up to the hilt and the storms to be breaking within their hearts. In both stories, we are deeply immersed in their desperate loneliness, find ourselves sharing their despair for injustice.



In “Cars for Peanuts” we are witnessing a conversation between the little salesman and his schoolfellow and the humiliating behaviors of schoolfellow's mother. After all, some think that friendship can be build between the equals, and equality is mostly measured by wealth. Apart from the kids and their mother's manners, I'm deeply impressed by the description of an haberdashery store. The author has demonstrated his literary genius by fitting the reality of whole world into this tiny piece: “A bit ahead from the corner they were standing at, there was a haberdashery store with a shiny display window. Behind the big crystals, various neckties with eye-catching colors, belts with elegant buckles, woollen jumpers, gloves, and many other things both necessary and unnecessary for a human being were flashing smiles at passerbyers. Mother and son were straining not to turn their heads when they were passing by the store and moving in their corner. Probably they even would not distinguish it, if the lights reflecting on muddy pavements of the street weren't brightening the store in patches. However, most of the passerbyers, especially kids were stopping in front of the shiny display, and staring at the toys which were piled with a subtle disorder on one side. Afterwards, when they crestfallenly took their way, they were looking at the wooden carriages they came across pejoratively and disgruntledly as if the carriages were ruining the beautiful images of the display in their minds.”

Mastering at details, while telling about the desolation of the train station in little Hasan's story, Sabahattin Ali also tells about the doomed villages and the the people who reset their fight for survival every morning: “Standing all alone in the midst of this lengthy plain surrounded by barren mountains on two sides, and seeming more miserable with the naked locust trees

around, this cold building looked like a piece of rock which was accidentally thrown there. Even the train which was heading twice a day, seemed to be wondering to stop in this meaningless place; and after resting for a few minutes it was whistling with pleasure while pulling away.”

A TALE OF SOCIAL SATIRE

The last story, “The Glass Mansion” is much more satirical in which Sabahattin Ali fictionalizes the exploitations in capitalist systems. Three buddies who hold no brief for working, sneakingly overthrow the city of a socialist utopia by promising to build a glass mansion. The city which was based on communion and justice suddenly falls in the self-fulfilling prophecy of this mansion. Money and food were flowing in abundance to the mansion which is supposedly serving for the society. However, it became the focal point of a corrupt, blundering bureaucratic system of exploitation. The author once again works his magic: “As rulers were natural-born lazybones and the subsequents have forgotten about working long since, they were never reminding themselves their obligations to society in exchange for being fed; they were only minding their own business and they weren't giving a fudge about their people. Even a peasant was much more concerned about his cows and dogs.”

The moment of realizing the fragility of this system symbolizes the hopes of the author. The social realities emphasized by Sabahattin Ali are like herald dreams announcing nothing less was impossible. As long as someone believes. A humanist system which will put a smile on children's faces worths struggling evermore...

Karin Karakaşlı

THREE POEMS

ON LIVING, THE WALNUT TREE, THE TALE OF TALES

What you call a living is no laughing matter...

Many generations keep harping on the great master Nâzım Hikmet's three poems; "On Living", "The Walnut Tree" and "The Tale of Tales". They are now presented for readers of all ages

with Sedat Girgin's illustrations. "Living is no laughing matter, You should live in a serious spirit suchlike a squirrel, in other words, without expecting anything beyond and apart from living, in other words, as living is your millstone."



BOOK NAME: Üç Şiir/Three Poems
AUTHOR: Nazım Hikmet
ILLUSTRATOR: Sedat Girgin
48 pages
PUBLISHER: Yapı Kredi Yayınları
Yapı Kredi Publications/2016
GENRE: poetry
AGES: 10-15 +



KAYA, THE SHY DOG

Leyla Fonten is the great-granddaughter of Jean de La Fontaine, author of numerous fables. Leyla Fonten lives with nine quirky animals and one of them is this very shy dog named Kaya.

In this story, a special guest visits Leyla Fonten's house. All the animals in her house are trying to impress this guest dog. They put on flashy shows including a ballet performance, magic tricks, singing songs and even acrobatics, which all end up in disastrous ways. During all these shows, Kaya is hiding behind the sofa and keeping his distance from the stranger. Their guest is daunted by how each animal fails in their effort to

impress her. She runs away looking for a place to hide. Kaya the dog calls out to her that she can be safe in his hiding spot. The guest dog now understands why Kaya has been hiding from these lunatic animals.

Kaya, the Shy Dog [Utangaç Köpek Kaya] belongs to the series Stories from Leyla Fonten. There are nine books in this series. Each story shows readers different characteristic problems of these animals such as stubbornness, laziness, anxiety etc. Thus, children with the same problems can empathize with these animals.

The rights of this series have been sold in simplified Chinese, Spanish, Catalan and Polish.



BOOK NAME: Utangaç Köpek Kaya
Kaya, the Shy Dog
AUTHOR: Tülin Kozikoğlu
ILLUSTRATOR: Sedat Girgin
28 pages
PUBLISHER: Redhouse Kidz Yayınları
SEV-Redhouse Kidz Publishing/2015
GENRE: short story
AGES: 3-5 +



OTHER
ARTWORKS
TO
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EXHIBITIONS

CIRCUS OF WONDERS
SOLO EXHIBITION AT MILK GALLERY 2013





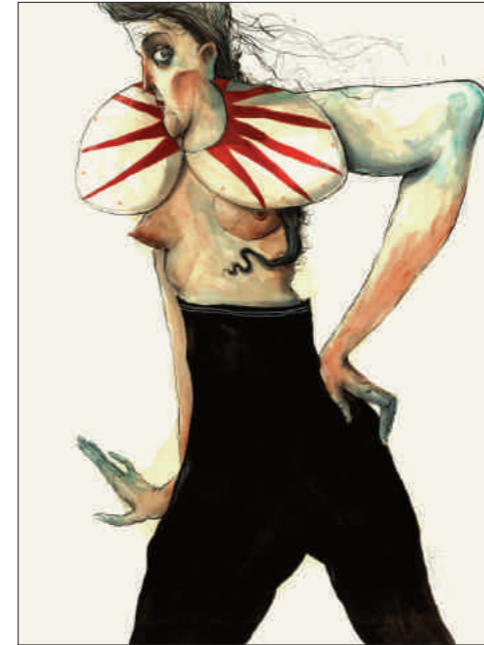
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GROUP EXHIBITION "DECAF" AT MILK GALLERY 2015





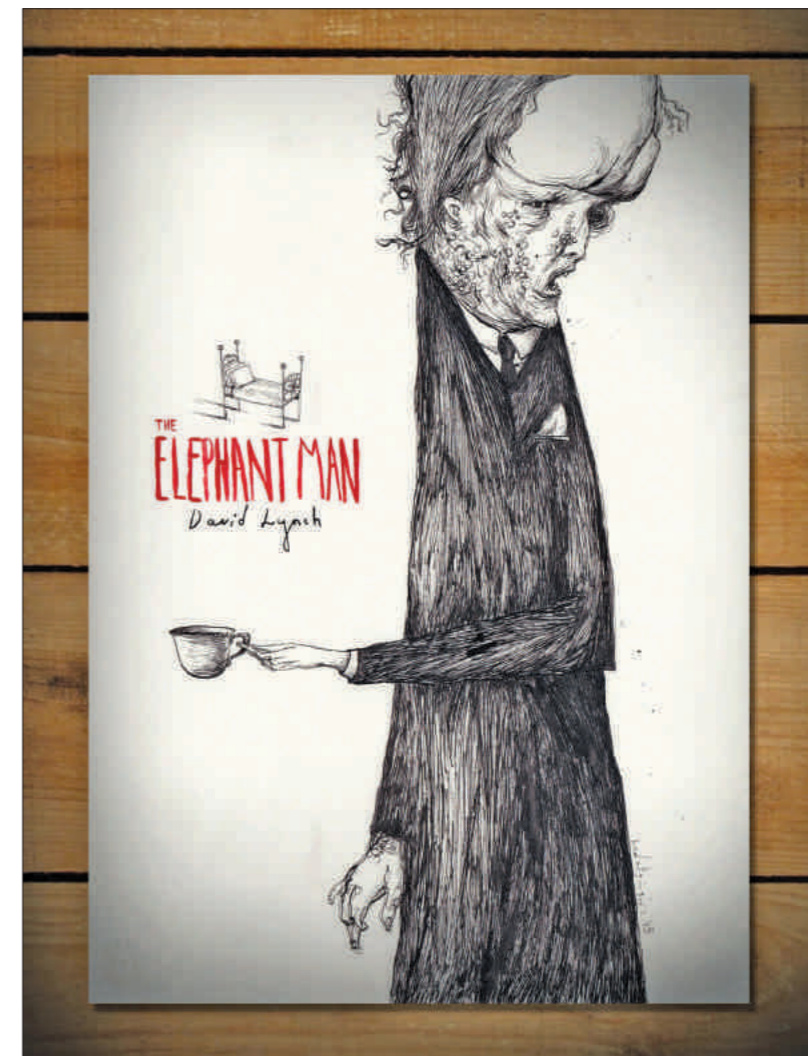




"THE DREAMS OF A FROG"
EXHIBITED AT LONDON BRICKLANE GALLERY 2014



"THE ELEPHANT MAN" ILLUSTRATION
FOR DAVID LYNCH TRIBUTE EXHIBITION AT BANT MAG 2013



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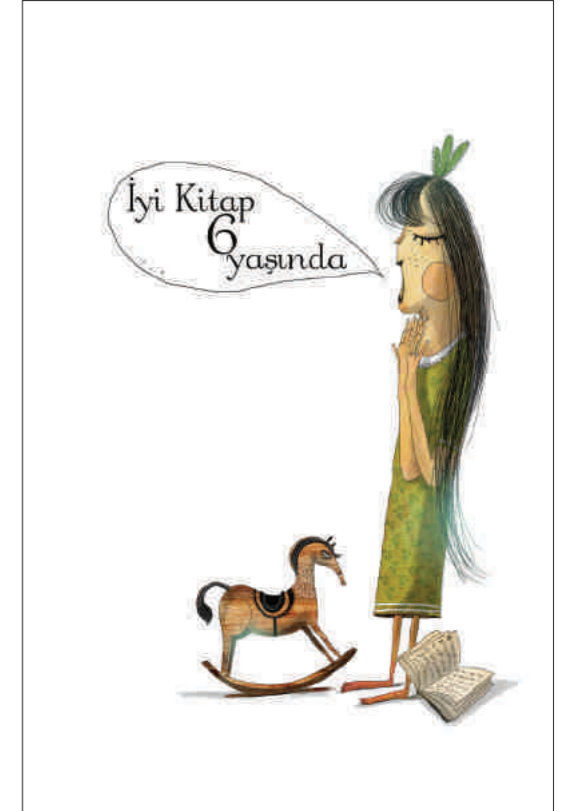




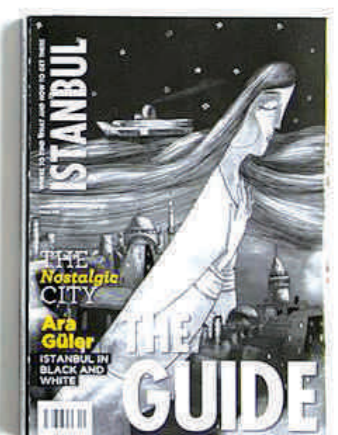
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COVER ILLUSTRATION FOR SABİTFİKİR MAGAZINE





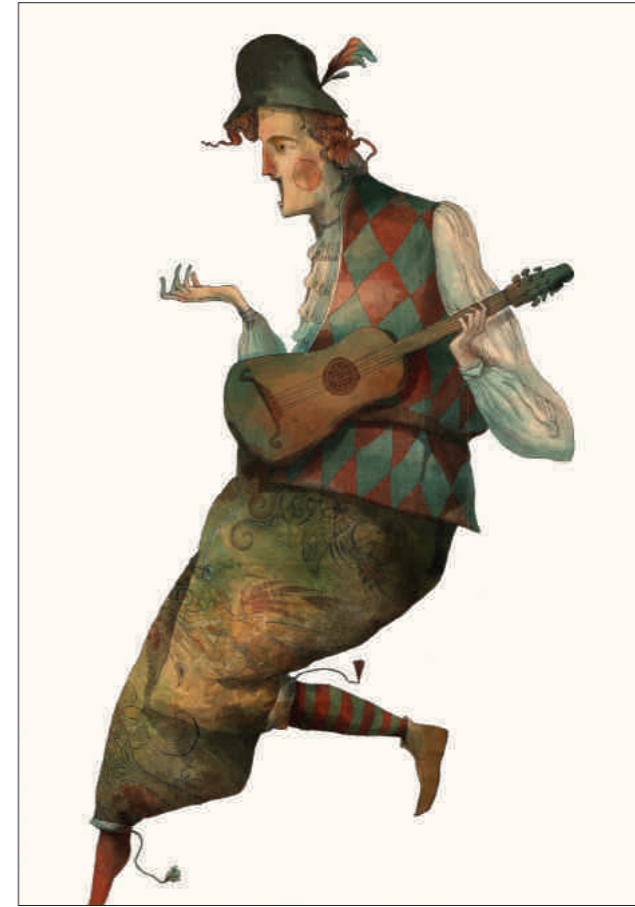


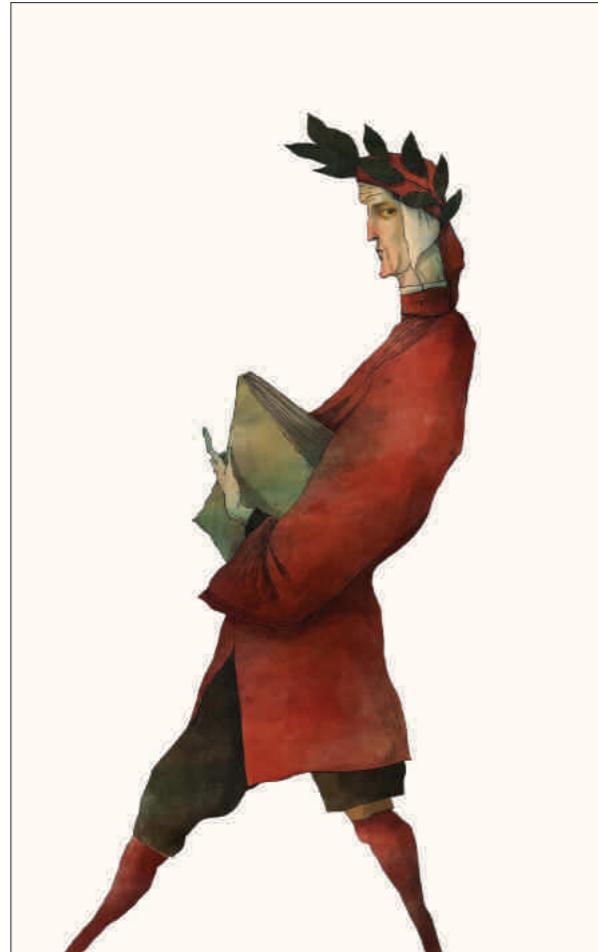




ARTWORK

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