

Czech Books for Children and Young Adults 2020–2022





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Introduction

Dear readers,

We are bringing you a selection of 14 new Czech books for children and young adults that have been published over the past three years and which we consider to be the most outstanding, the most essential, the most successful and the most attractive for readers. We have arranged the catalogue according to age suitability. Logically, then, we begin with the youngest readers, and we are pleased to say that there are also books aimed at teenagers which will appeal to all generations. We have set the age limits according to what we believe are people's reading levels.

The unusual timespan of three years of Czech publishing is due to the Coronavirus pandemic, which prevented authors from having any direct contact with readers at book fairs and festivals, but which, fortunately, did not prevent them from writing. One of the children's stories even has a poetic take on the lack of personal contact in the novella *The Coat and the Handbag* by the writer, musician and puppeteer Marka Míková, whose romantic story set in a deserted Prague was awarded the 2021 Magnesia Litera Award.

This was not the only publication which caught the eye of both the authors of this catalogue and the expert Czech literary awards panels for its originality. International readers should also look out for the action fantasy *The Sapphire Kingfishers and Glutaman* by Bogdan Trojak, which won Magnesia Litera Award, as well as the modern stage-like fairy tales by Jan Jirků entitled *Dad and Princess Rozárka*, which received the 2021 Golden Ribbon Award for the text and illustrations by the talented young animator Marie Urbánková. The list of award-winning books would be incomplete without the collective publication *A City for Everyone*, which was written by the architect Osamu Okamura, while the graphic design was the work of award-winning artists David Böhm and Jiří Franta (recipients of the Czech Grand Design Award). Their 180-page guide with the subtitle "A Beginner's Guide to Urbanism" won the international Bologna Ragazzi Award and is sure to appeal to mature readers of all ages.

We hope you'll find our selection interesting thanks to the diversity of the themes and genres. In addition to the fairy tales you'll also find a parable about an ogre (who doesn't look where he's going, which is a very apt metaphor in light of the ongoing Russia-Ukraine war), and a historical anecdote about the extinction of one species (man has also been anthropocentric in this regard since time immemorial). At the heart of our selection is strong narrative prose with child protagonists who can clearly communicate current issues to today's readers, whether they concern the environment, social exclusion, fighting illness, historical awareness, or the dangers of spreading harmful disinformation.

The remarkable range in this selection of books is exemplified by the books featuring animal protagonists: *The Cow Řičanová* is a stylistically original encyclopedic book, *Tibbles* is a bite-size comic book with the titular ginger cat in the main role, while *The Great Story of the Great Pardubice Steeplechase* is a unique art-educational publication on the legendary steeplechase.

It is by pure coincidence that there is a relatively balanced gender representation amongst the authors in this catalogue, though women slightly predominate amongst the writers and illustrators. A certain trend in contemporary Czech books for children and young adults is undoubtedly reflected in the generational bias – dominant amongst the most significant voices are those writers born in the 1970s (you'll have undoubtedly heard of Pilátová, Řičanová and Stehlíková), whilst the illustrators (at least those whose work is represented in this catalogue: Dolenský, Janíček, Logosová) tend to be from the 1990s. Most of the young artists have also benefited from studying abroad or from their work experiences – their visual style is refreshing, unusual and original, unencumbered by conventions and stereotypes, which is naturally something which goes hand in hand with literature for children and young adults. All that is left is to hope that these exceptional Czech books we have recommended to you will not only receive the attention they deserve at home but also from readers abroad.

Jitka Nešporová
(on behalf of all the contributors)

CzechLit – Czech Literary Centre

CzechLit – Czech Literary Centre is a state-funded organisation supporting and promoting Czech literature abroad and in the Czech Republic. The centre is a section of the Moravian Library.

CzechLit:

- Promotes prose, literature for children and young adults, poetry, drama, comics, non-fiction and new forms of literature
- Acts as an information hub for foreign publishers, translators, Czech studies specialists, event organisers and others interested in Czech literature
- Provides grants for authors to attend cultural events abroad
- Cooperates on international literature and translation projects with partner institutions abroad and in the Czech Republic
- Organises residencies for foreign translators, Czech studies specialists and authors
- Runs the bilingual website czechlit.cz with information about books, authors, grants, residencies and Czech literature news
- Cooperates with the network of Czech Centres, which promote Czech culture abroad, as well as with other governmental and non-governmental cultural and non-profit organisations and individuals
- Is involved in the presentation of Czech literature at book fairs abroad in cooperation with its parent institution
- Holds the annual Susanna Roth Award for young translators of Czech literature

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Jan Jirků, Marie Urbánková DAD AND PRINCESS ROZÁRKA

With this series of fairy tales, theatre director Jan Jirků (1977) becomes an addition to those authors who pay tribute to dads as storytellers. This time, however, Dad has an invaluable helper. In those tender moments before falling asleep, his daughter Rozárka acts as the initiator, a no-nonsense co-author, sometimes ungrateful, who guides the flow of his words with questions, occasionally pushing him forwards with childish immediacy, or opening up a new path with a refreshing idea. The seven stories sparkle with a madcap

humour, though between the lines we can sense the girl's unspoken fears and the need to reassure herself about the stability of the family ties. Fortunately, in the stories at least, it is possible to improve a grumpy king's mood with a Sunday meatloaf, or smooth over parental arguments with a bouquet of daisies. The unmistakable artistic style of Marie Urbánková, whose collages accompany this book of fairy tales, gives an almost stage-like dimension to these dialogue-formed stories.

Age 4+



TÁTA A PRINCEZNA ROZÁRKA
Prague, Albatros 2020, 64 pages

RIGHTS:
Albatros Media
Tomáš Jodas
foreignsales@albatrosmedia.cz
www.albatrosmedia.eu

AWARDS:
2021 Golden Ribbon Award
– Literary Section: Fiction for Children
– Art Section: Literature for Younger Children

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Tereza Šiklová

THE GIANT

One day for the giant is like a whole year for us. Our hurried lives seem ridiculous to him. He invites us to slow down and live in the moment. However, the giant is still a giant, he walks high above us, lives according to his own rules, and doesn't hesitate to destroy things which people value. In the first part of this gentle, free-flowing story, the reader finds out what this majestic character does during a day/year: he wanders, occasionally steals a snack from a truck, and drinks a lake. In the second chapter of this short book he sets out to the city to be among people, but they soon cease to amuse him because of their nonstop rushing around.

In this, her debut book, the young artist Tereza Šiklová (1996) follows the sympathetic giant in full-page and double-page pictures, with a poetic reminiscent of children's artwork and the style of Jiří Šalamoun, to name but one. Her giant is a smiling ungainly creature which is actually invisible to humans because he is so slow, despite the fact that people have to climb over his feet to get to the other side of the street. The narrative contains an unexpected sense of absurd humour which can be seen, for example, in the scene where the giant plays golf using a wind turbine ripped from the ground.

Age 5+



OBR
Prague, Baobab 2021, 56 pages

RIGHTS:
Baobab Publishers
baobabooks@gmail.com
www.baobab-books.net/en

AWARDS:
2021 Most Beautiful Czech Books
– 2nd place, Children and Young
Adults Literature
2022 Golden Ribbon Award
– Art Section: Literature for Older
Children and Youth

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Nejvyšší čas jít dál...



To by jeden neřekl, kam až se dá obří chůzí dostat.
Stačilo pár kroků a hory jsou, co by kamenem dohodil.

Vzhůru na procházku! Není nad to si za teplého
letního dne trochu protáhnout perka.

Tereza Říčanová THE COW ŘÍČANOVÁ

17

This book, which was written and illustrated by the author, won the 2022 Golden Ribbon Award and was nominated for the annual Magnesia Litera Award. It tells the true story of a cow, though you might wonder what could be so surprising about a monothematic book on this domestic animal, when we know what cows look like, we drink milk, eat yogurts, cheese, meat and other products. However, behind all of this we make the surprising discovery of how this member of the rural household is cared for on a daily basis. The artist Tereza Říčanová (1974) shows us how people coexist with cows as living beings, and how this relationship is both mutual and rewarding.

Říčanová often bases her subject matter on Christian traditions and simple rural experiences. She draws from her own personal experiences of life on a farm and so can offer us a first-hand account of what is involved in raising cattle – how they graze, how they digest with their four stomachs, how they are milked and what can be produced from them. The story of Málina the cow has a unique visual style spread over expressive double pages. She provides us with details which educate and amuse, and at the same time we find out about the varied and demanding work surrounding the cow in its shed, while also learning how to make cheese and butter.

Age 7+



KRÁVA ŘÍČANOVÁ
Prague, Baobab 2021, 64 pages

RIGHTS:
Baobab Publishers
baobabooks@gmail.com
www.baobab-books.net/en

AWARDS:
2021 Bologna Ragazzi Award
– The BRAW Amazing Bookshelf
2022 Golden Ribbon Award
– Art Section: The Best Artistic Work





Marka Míková, Galina Miklínová THE COAT AND THE HANDBAG

In literature it goes without saying that inanimate things will sometimes come to life and start to talk. This short children's story about an unusual love story in the time of Covid, set against the backdrop of a deserted Prague, brings together a warm winter coat and a pink ladies' handbag. They are both travelling one morning by bus when the distracted coat accidentally places its sleeve on the small handbag, which primly asks it to move. From then on they find themselves thinking of one another and on one occasion they even spot each other: the coat flying through the air and the handbag

caught on a string. What might happen in a nonsensical fairy tale with a romantic plot? The cheerful episodes, depicted with a dash of humour and indispensable tension, are experienced by the reader twice – firstly as it actually happens and afterwards when the romantic couple describe them. The versatile artist Marka Míková (1959) was awarded the 2022 Magnesia Litera Award for this charming love story. The atmosphere is brilliantly captured in Galina Miklínová's colour illustrations, whose imagery also brought socks to life a few years ago in Pavel Šrut's *Oddsockeaters* book series.

Age 8+



KABÁT A KABELKA
Prague, Argo 2021, 80 pages

RIGHTS:
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www.praglit.de

RIGHTS SOLD:
Germany

AWARDS:
2022 Magnesia Litera Award
– For Children and Youth

English, French and German sample translations available.



Tereza Nová, Jiří Forejt, Nikola Logosová YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHERS

This art-educational book on photography is based on the teaching experience the authors, Tereza Nová (1986) and Jiří Forejt (1989), gained from their photography workshops for children. The narrative focuses on the simple story of two siblings who meet a mysterious neighbour, Josef, while staying with their grandmother. Gradually he lets them peer into the past and present of photography, visually explaining to them what a reflex camera is, what a darkroom looks like, how photographs are developed, how photographs were (and still are)

taken in studios and outdoors, and the role that light has played. The book has an eye-catching dark-red cover with black pages and black-edged pages, where the illustrations by the award-winning Nikola Logosová work well against a bright background. With dense colour they manage not only to capture the photographic equipment but also the children's adventures. The book also includes practical instructions on how to make a photogram, a flipbook and how to play with light and shadow when taking photographs.

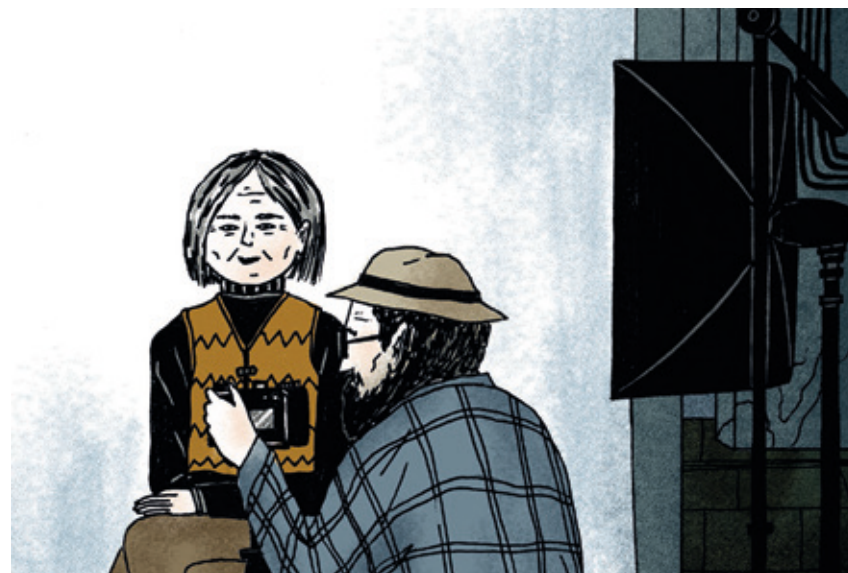
Age 9+



MALÍ FOTOGRAFOVÉ
Prague, Běžilíška 2021, 108 pages

RIGHTS:
Albatros Media
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www.albatrosmedia.eu

AWARDS:
2021 Most Beautiful Czech Books Award
– 1st place, Textbooks and Didactic Books
2022 Golden Ribbon Award
– Publishing Achievement

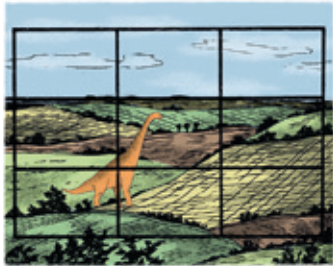




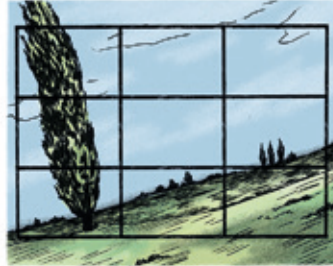
A) Umístit hlavní motiv doprostřed obvykle skončí nudnou fotkou.



B) Ve třetině obrazu už to vypadá mnohem lépe.



C) I vedlejší motiv nebo linie umístí do třetiny.



D) Také snadno zkontroluješ, že držíš fotosparát rovně.



Vyzkoušeli jsme se sěgrou promítnout na zed' několik skvělých fotek, ale také známá umělecká díla: Sěgra chtěla být vědecky fotografkou! A já zjis modelem. Je super mít k facení sakového parádka, se kterým si užijete spurem srandy a máte podobné kvestivní nápady.



Markéta Pilátová, Martina Trchová BÁBA BEDLA

The thematically diverse work of Markéta Pilátová (1973), a respected writer for children and adults, has been expanded further by this new wartime story aimed at readers of around ten years old. The lives of four children a few days before the end of the Second World War are linked to a mysterious creature called Bába Bedla, who lives deep in the Sudeten forests of the border mountains of Hrubý Jeseník. She lives in a timeless fairy-tale world and awakens whenever children are in trouble nearby. And so she takes in Heika, an orphaned Jewish girl and her Czech friend Honza, a German girl called Sofía, and a young Russian deserter called Vasya. She impresses upon them

the basic rule for survival: evil can only be overcome if they stay together as a family. Bába is a shapeshifter who is able to change her human form to the appearance and properties of a large mushroom, and whoever tastes it becomes a mushroom themselves. The children not only hide this magic from the approaching army, but it will also provide them with a magical bonding experience in the kingdom of luminous fungi. The mysterious atmosphere of the forest and the unusual metaphors are impressively depicted in the blurred illustrations created in watercolour by the artist and musician Martina Trchová.

Age 9+



BÁBA BEDLA
Prague, Meander 2021, 72 pages

RIGHTS:
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Michal Šanda, David Dolenský TIBBLES

When an English gentleman, David Lyall, takes over as lighthouse keeper on the remote Stephens Island near New Zealand, he takes with him his ginger cat Tibbles. On the island, Lyall can pursue his many hobbies, such as ornithology, and so he immediately realizes that the dead bird Tibbles brought to him is not to be found in any of the specialist books. And so he decides to set matters right. Tibbles runs joyfully around his new island home, exploring everything that rustles. However, despite the fact that Tibbles doesn't pay any attention to the treats David leaves out for him, he is becoming inexplicably fatter. This playful bite-size comics by the

talented graphic artist and illustrator David Dolenský (1993) was created together with the experienced writer Michal Šanda (1965). Over just a few pages he not only tells a tragicomic historical anecdote about the extinction of a species, but he also manages to construct the world of Victorian society and science at the end of the 19th century, when the mischievous scenes of Tibbles's island antics are interspersed with convincing historical scientific sketches and illustrations. *Tibbles* won the 2021 Muriel Award for best children's comic by the Czech Academy of Comics.

Age 9+

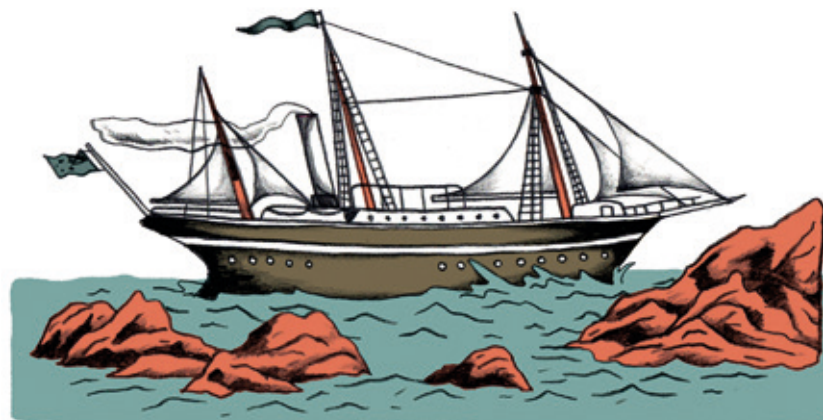


TIBBLES
Prague, Meander 2021, 24 pages

RIGHTS:
Albatros Media
Tomáš Jodas
foreignsales@albatrosmedia.cz
www.albatrosmedia.eu

AWARDS:
2021 Muriel Award – Best Comics
for Children
2022 Bologna Ragazzi Award
– The BRAW Amazing Bookshelf

Na Štěpánův ostrov přijíždí delegace Britského klubu ornitologů.





Tereza Marianová

THE GREAT STORY OF THE GREAT PARDUBICE STEEPLECHASE

The most famous continental steeplechase, where year after year the finest thoroughbreds compete in a nine-minute race over 6,900 metres, is described in Tereza Marianová's (1993) book so vividly that it seems as though we are watching it from the grandstand in a timelapse box. The introductory flyleaf sets out its course while the final one describes all thirty obstacles. As they are being analysed, comic episodes are introduced with stops at context boxes containing descriptions of the terminology and discussions such as the controversy

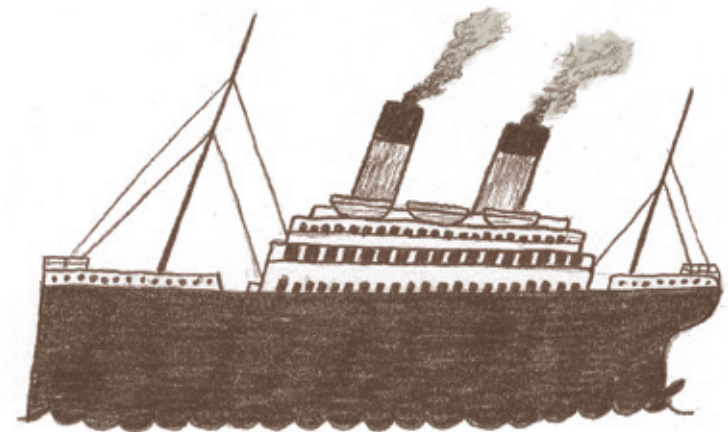
over the Grand Taxis Ditch. This is also accompanied by digressions into the historical background and the various times when the state ideology unsportingly interfered in the organization of the season's top event. And yet it still managed to reach the very pinnacle! The portraits of the two- and four-legged heroes of this 147-year-old steeplechase add sparkle to the confident form of this encyclopedic work, which highlights the connection between this race and the favourite Czech "racing" variation of the classic Monopoly board game.

Age 10+



VELKÝ PŘÍBĚH VELKÉ PARDUBICKÉ
Prague, Albatros 2020, 104 pages

RIGHTS:
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Tomáš Jodas
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www.albatrosmedia.eu



Bogdan Trojak, Jindřich Janíček THE SAPPHIRE KINGFISHERS AND GLUTAMAN

The poet Bogdan Trojak (1975) was inspired by his role as a father to write for children. The adventures of the Sapphire Kingfishers from a school in Prague, who first consist of three and then five children who identify with a knife in the shape of this beautiful bird, involve fighting against an all-consuming evil personified by the aptly named Glutaman. All of today's problems are present in Glutaman – a mad scientist who has betrayed humanity – and in his gigantic supermarket and underground factory he creates artificial food which

transforms consumers into a stupefied herd. The supermarket starts to swallow up the markets which the author has described so exquisitely in his short verse that you can't help salivating over the oriental food and other delicacies. This imaginative fantasy with an adventurous spirit stands out thanks to its hidden historical and linguistic games, which both educate and entertain. With its elegant illustrations by the award-winning book designer Jindřich Janíček, this publication won the 2021 Magnesia Litera Award.

Age 10+



SAFÍROVÍ LEDŇÁČCI A GLUTAMAN
Prague, Baobab 2020, 158 pages

RIGHTS:
Baobab Publishers
baobabooks@gmail.com
www.baobab-books.net/en

AWARDS:
2020 Most Beautiful Czech Books
– 1st place, Children and Young
Adults Literature
2021 Magnesia Litera Award
– For Children and Youth



Bára Dočkalová, Jindřich Janíček THE BATTLE OF THE DIAMOND

The word diamond is also used for a baseball field – and it is this diamond which children from two remote American mountain villages fight over at the end of an adventure story written by the English studies scholar Bára Dočkalová (1977), originally as a script for a school play. The prose adaptation was successful not only in terms of its composition but in particular from the psychological perspective of the characters and the emphasis on the values held by the main character, eleven-year-old Luke: he is courageous and goes his own way. Even though he has a minor physical handicap he trains with determination

and dreams that one day he will move up from the home team to the high-school select from a nearby town. A chance meeting with a professional baseball player not only changes the lives of several village boys but it also affects a long-standing feud between the neighbouring communities. At first Luke has to contend with great disappointment before being faced with the challenge of his life. This dynamic sports-themed story appeals to both boys and girls; the exciting story is made even more vivid by the introduction to each chapter with detailed drawings by Jindřich Janíček, a popular, award-winning book designer, comics illustrator and recipient of the Czech Grand Design Award.

Age 11+



BITVA O DIAMANT
Prague, Labyrinth 2022, 224 pages

RIGHTS:
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labyrinth@labyrinth.net
www.labyrinth.net

NÁHODA



Olga Stehlíková, Andrea Tachezy MOJENKA

Mojenka is an eleven-year-old school-girl and single child, growing up near Prague. Above all she loves nature – not just the garden and forest surrounding the home where she lives with her parents – but she also has a fondness for exotic humpback whales and dolphins. Mojenka's love for animals was instilled in her by her mother, a naturalist who lectures at university, and who taught Mojenka from a young age to recognize and protect nature, and to be courageous and self-sufficient too. Mojenka makes good use of all of these characteristics when one autumn day her mother has to go for an operation and since then has been fighting cancer. The poet and

writer Olga Stehlíková (1977) looks at this sensitive topic with incredible empathy – thanks to the character of the father there is still some humour and the girl's knowledge is used for gentle, illustrated explanations (the mother's illness is compared to galls on the leaves of trees). The narrative switches between a description of the moments shared with her mother and Mojenka's adventurous trips to the forest, the breeding kennels and school. With their breadth of motifs, Andrea Tachezy's fragile, dreamlike illustrations highlight the turbulent world of an adolescent girl.

Age 11+



MOJENKA
Brno, Host 2022, 180 pages

RIGHTS:
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Tereza Horváthová, Juraj Horváth SYDNEY (THE TWO OF US FROM B.)

A miserable life in a South Bohemian village as seen through the eyes of twelve-year-old Tonda, whose mother and stepfather have failed completely and are mired in self-destruction. The boy is forced to rely on help from the neighbours and his own rock-solid resolve. As a result he becomes all the more passionate about looking after his stepbrother, a first-year pupil with attention deficit disorder, who Tonda takes responsibility for despite his tender years. Although the state takes the brothers to a refuge in Prague and away from the kaleidoscopically depicted misery of the “village by B.”

(as in the novella’s subtitle), where a wrecked car symbolizes the boys’ dream of travelling to Australia, Tonda soon loses friendly support there and sets out on an adventurous journey “home”. His suffering, compounded by his escape, is described with emotional honesty, although we suspect that the young narrator of this story, which was nominated for the 2021 Golden Ribbon and Magnesia Litera Awards, is running out of options. This sombre tale is the work of the co-owners of Baobab publishers, Tereza (text) and Juraj (illustrations) Horváth.

Age 12+



SYDNEY (MY DVA Z B.)
Prague, Baobab 2020, 128 pages

RIGHTS:
Baobab Publishers
baobabooks@gmail.com
www.baobab-books.net/en



František Tichý, Stanislav Setinský RECRUIT 244

Fourteen-year-old Jony spends his time like most of the other “juniors”: in the safety of a Europe which is cut off from the rest of the world by a massive wall; he goes to a school where the teaching is done mostly using virtual reality, and in his free time he browses online games. He lets his life be run by the System, which knows what is best for everyone, what they should eat, drink, experience and feel. But then things begin to happen which force him to take off his rose-tinted digital spectacles. The teacher František Tichý (1969) has moved away from the Terezín Ghetto of his previous books (*Transport to Eternity*, 2017, Magnesia Litera Award; *The Labyrinth of Endless Encounters*,

2020), and in this final book of his loose trilogy he ventures forth to a dystopian world in the near future where freedom and individuality are completely subservient to the dictates of the Orwellian state machinery and the System. This gripping story manages to pose complex questions about the relationship between individual freedom and personal responsibility, and the limits and dangers of “enhancing” technologies. What impresses the most is the detailed worldbuilding of a believable future, elegantly captured in Stanislav Setinský’s illustrations, and a hyper-modern language which Tichý imbues with Anglicisms both existing and invented by the author.

Age 13+



REKRUT 244
Prague, Baobab 2022, 326 pages

RIGHTS:
Baobab Publishers
baobabbooks@gmail.com
www.baobab-books.net/en



Osamu Okamura, David Böhm, Jiří Franta A CITY FOR EVERYONE

This book by the architect, urbanist and university lecturer Osamu Okamura (1973) describes in a clear, understandable and yet playful manner how urban spaces have developed, what their main advantages and disadvantages are, and how a city should reflect the demands for new housing and the quality of life for its older residents. He shows us some of the problems such as the privatization of cities, environmental damage, increasing transport congestion, and derelict housing and urban areas. However, he doesn't just offer direct criticisms of the pace of modernization, instead he explains

Age 15+



MĚSTO PRO KAŽDĚHO
Prague, Labyrint 2020, 180 pages

the context of these developments (e.g. squares used to be important for markets, today they are mainly car parks), and the fact that the needs of residents change over the years, whereas the basic urban layout has remained unchanged for even centuries in some cases. For cities to have an optimistic future there have to be plans drawn up by specialists based on the requirements of businesses as well as citizens – who these adolescent readers of this book will soon be. In order to avoid getting bogged down in specialist terminology, the book contains traditional illustrations as well as a large 3-D model of real urban neighbourhoods. The book was awarded the international Bologna Ragazzi Award in 2021.

RIGHTS:
Labyrint
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RIGHTS SOLD:
Russia, China, Germany,
South Korea

AWARDS:
2020 Most Beautiful Czech Books
– 3rd place, Textbooks and Didactic Books
2021 Bologna Ragazzi Award
– New Horizons
2021 Golden Ribbon Award
– Art Section: The Best Artistic Work
2022 DAM Architectural Book Award





Osamu Okamura, David Böhm and Jiří Franta (from left to right). Photo: Pavel Horák

Grants for publishing Czech literature abroad

Every year, the Czech Ministry of Culture awards grants to support the publication of Czech prose, poetry, drama, essays, comics and children's literature abroad. The grants cover books, excerpts and magazines.

BOOKS	EXCERPTS	REQUIRED DOCUMENTS	APPLICATION DEADLINES
<p>Publishers can apply for funding for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • translation costs (up to 50% of the total cost of publishing) • graphic design, typesetting and printing costs (up to 50% of the total cost of publishing) • copyright costs (up to 15% of the total cost of publishing) • promotion costs (up to 25% of the total cost of publishing) <p>In total, the grant can cover up to 70% of the total cost of publishing.</p>	<p>Publishers, agents and translators can apply for funding for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the translation of an excerpt of between 10–25 standard pages (1,800 characters with spaces) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • completed application form • contract with the copyright holder • contract with the translator (applies only to publishers and literary agents) • CV and translator's qualifications (education, translated titles) • the publishing plan for this year and next year (applies only to publishers) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>15th May</u> for books and excerpts to be published in the same year as the application is submitted • <u>15th November</u> for books and excerpts to be published in the following year after the application is submitted
	<p>MAGAZINES</p> <p>Magazines can apply for funding for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • translation costs (up to 50% of the total cost of publishing) of an issue where at least 50% of the total content is dedicated to original Czech literature. 	<p>PAYMENT CONDITIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The grant is paid to the applicant after the book / magazine has been published or excerpt has been translated. Proof of this has to be sent to the Ministry of Culture (for details see the grant application form). 	

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For more information visit:
www.mkcr.cz/literature-and-libraries-1123.html?lang=en

Travel grants

The Czech Literary Centre offers subsidies to support Czech authors travelling to literary events abroad (festivals, readings, book launches, lectures, debates etc.). The applicant can be an event organiser or an author.

Event organisers can request support for appearance fees, travel expenses, meal allowances, accommodation, promotion, interpreting and moderation costs. The subsidy can cover up to 70% of total costs for the event.

Authors can request support for appearance fees, travel expenses and meal allowances. The subsidy can cover up to 100% of the total costs. Accommodation is provided by the event organiser.

REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

- completed application form
- budget for the event (applies only to event organisers)

PAYMENT CONDITIONS

- Event organisers: can receive 40% of the awarded amount before the event (based on an invoice and proof that the author will be taking part in the event) and 60% after the event on the basis of a final report, invoices and documentation. Alternatively, they can receive 100% of the awarded amount after the event on the basis of a final report, invoices and documentation.

- Authors: can receive 50% of the awarded amount within 15 days after the presentation of the planned event in the organisers materials (on the basis of documentation proving the author's travel expenses and proof of the author's presence at the event) and the remaining 50% on the basis of a final report, invoices and documentation. Alternatively, they can receive 100% of the awarded amount after the event on the basis of a final report, invoices and documentation.

APPLICATION DEADLINES

- 31st May 2023 (for the period from 1st September to 15th December 2023)
- 31st October 2023 (for the period from 1st January 2024 to 31st August 2024)

Selected literary awards in the Czech Republic

MAGNESIA LITERA AWARDS

Magnesia Litera is a set of annual Czech literary awards in many categories noticeably covered by the media which has been awarded by the Litera Association in cooperation with sponsors since 2002. The main award, The Book of the Year, features a financial bonus of CZK 200,000.

MOST BEAUTIFUL CZECH BOOKS AWARDS

The Most Beautiful Czech Books of the Year competition looks at the polygraphy, graphic and illustrative aspects of books that are published by Czech publishers and printed by Czech printing companies during the previous calendar year. The award is bestowed in seven categories and students works category.

GOLDEN RIBBON AWARDS

With more than 30 years of tradition, the annual Golden Ribbon Awards have been awarded to the authors of the best books for children and young adults published in the Czech language. The Golden Ribbon is the only award in the Czech Republic focusing solely on children's literature. The award is organised by the Czech section of IBBY.

The Moravian Library

The presentation of Czech book culture at book fairs abroad has a long tradition. The Moravian Library, one of the leading Czech heritage institutions, has been in charge of coordinating the Ministry of Culture's national expositions since 2014. In cooperation with the Ministry of Culture, authorities of Czech literary culture and Czech Centres abroad, the Moravian Library focuses not only on presenting major publishing houses but also on small publishers and printers. Significant Czech literary awards and their winners, along with a selection of current fiction and non-fiction, are presented within the framework of a thematic national exposition. The accompanying cultural programme aims at bringing Czech authors together in the form of discussions and readings, especially at the Leipzig Book Fair (focused primarily on translations) or at the most important venue, the Frankfurt Book Fair. Czech book culture is presented in a similar scope also at the book fair in Bologna, which focuses on books for children, and at the London Book Fair. The Moravian Library is also the parent organisation of the Czech Literary Centre, which supports and promotes Czech literature abroad and in the Czech Republic.

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