

Kids Books That Travel

25 German Children's Books and Picture Books in English Translation

25 deutsche Kinder- und Bilderbücher in englischer Übersetzung

Authors B - D

Melanie von Bismarck, Axel Scheffler (Illustration) Flying Rabbits, Singing Squirrels and Other Bedtime Stories Als die Hasen noch fliegen konnten

Once upon a time everyone was green, rabbits could fly, squirrels sang in choirs and dogs told each other the best jokes. Molly isn't sure if she can always believe her father, but this doesn't matter at all. Her father simply tells the best bedtime stories. Melanie von Bismarck's inspired collection of 14 short stories, often bordering on the absurd, are brought to life by the warm, witty and richly detailed pictures by Axel Scheffler, illustrator of The Gruffalo.

GERMAN: BELTZ & GELBERG 978-3-945034-79-8

TRANSLATED BY DAVID HENRY WILSON 2018, HC, 214 PP. MACMILLAN CHILDREN'S BOOKS 978-1-4472-5338-9

Dieter Braun Wild Animals of the South Die Welt der wilden Tiere: Im Süden

Famous German illustrator Dieter Braun is fascinated by the beauty of animals in their natural habitat. This is perhaps even more obvious in this book than in his other works. Here, with splendid illustrations, he once again offers his readers accurate representations of the animals. This time, he has dedicated his art and his knowledge to show us the animals of the southern hemisphere. A book that dazzles the readers – and makes them fall in love once again with all the creatures of nature.

GERMAN: KNESEBECK VERLAG 978-3-86873-734-9

TRANSLATED BY JEN CALLEJA 2017, HC, 144 PP. FLYING EYE BOOKS 978-1-909263-97-0

Dieter Braun Mountains of the World Die Welt der Berge

It is a joy to leaf through this book. Author and illustrator Dieter Braun leads us on a journey to the highest peaks and plateaus of planet Earth. He takes us from the Alps to the Andes, and to the peaks of the Himalayas. There we meet the animals and the people who have made their homes on these rocky peaks. Nothing is left out: blazing volcanos, waterfalls, icebergs, glaciers and caves. There is even space for myths like the legendary yeti. A world of wonders put into pictures full of wonders themselves.

GERMAN: KNESEBECK VERLAG 978-3-95728-130-2

TRANSLATED BY JEN CALLEJA 2018, HC, 96 PP. FLYING EYE BOOKS 978-1-911171-70-6

Antje Damm **The Visitor** Der Besuch

"Elise was frightened of spiders, people, even trees. So she never went out, at night or by day." But then, "One day a strange thing flies in through the window and lands at her feet." There is a knock at the door and Elise receives a visitor who will change everything. At the centre of Antje Damm's new picture book is the loneliness of one elderly person. But it also tells the story of a shy friendship slowly blossoming and bringing light and colour back into Elise's life. The unique artwork consists of cardboard dioramas for each scene, which Damm has captured in photographs.

GERMAN: MORITZ VERLAG 978-3-89565-295-0

2018, HC, 32 PP. GECKO PRESS 978-1-77657-188-8

Antje Damm **Waiting for Goliath** Warten auf Goliath

This is another of Antje Damm's unique cardboard dioramas turned picture book, and it has all the atmosphere this special technique offers. Bear has been sitting and waiting since dawn. "I'm waiting for Goliath. He's my best friend." At last the bus pulls up, but no one gets out. "He'll definitely show up. You'll see!" The robins fly south and the first snow falls. When Bear wakes from a long sleep, he hears a noise like a hand sliding slowly across paper. Goliath is coming! There is no doubt about the message of this heartwarming story: friends will always be there for one another.

GERMAN: MORITZ VERLAG 978-3-89565-332-2

2017, HC, 32 PP. GECKO PRESS 978-1-77657-141-3

Sonja Danowski **Little Night Cat** Kleine Nachtkatze

The perfect book for all animal lovers! Sonja Danowski's delicate, true-to-life illustrations are sure to warm every heart. As will this tale about Toni, a little boy, who bravely offers his favourite stuffed toys to the animal shelter to raise money for the needy dogs and cats. Of course, later that night he misses his toys. Touched by his tender-hearted reaction at the shelter, his mum offers him her own old stuffed cat, Paul. From this day on Toni and Paul are inseparable. Not long after, his mum rewards him for his concern in a way he hardly dared to imagine.

GERMAN: NORDSÜD VERLAG 978-3-314-10337-7

2016, HC, 48 PP.

NORTH-SOUTH BOOKS

978-0-7358-4266-3

Authors G - M

Dagmar Geisler I Won't Go with Strangers Ich geh doch nicht mit Jedem mit!

Little Lu is waiting to be picked up after school. It's been a long wait, and it's starting to rain. Ms. Smith walks by and offers to take her home. She lives in Lu's neighbourhood – but does Lu really know her? What's her first name? Does she dye her hair red? What's her dog's name? Lu doesn't know and she says, "I don't know you, so I won't go with you! And besides, Mama said I should wait." This lovingly realised picture book deals with an especially sensitive topic. It illustrates perfectly how clear rules and arrangements can help protect and empower children at an especially vulnerable time of day.

GERMAN: LOEWE VERLAG 978-3-7855-6239-0

TRANSLATED BY JEN CALLEJA 2018, HC, 32 PP. SKYHORSE PUBLISHING 978-1-5107-3534-7

Ole Könnecke **Sports Are Fantastic Fun!** Sport ist herrlich

Not only are sports fantastic fun, so too is Ole Könnecke's illustrated encyclopaedia of sport. Könnecke is a virtuoso of the minimalist who creates exceptionally expressive characters. The precision of his animal figures and the ease with which his pictures tell charming little stories are marvellous. A great gift for anyone who loves sport!

GERMAN: HANSER VERLAG 978-3-446-25484-8

2017, HC, 144 PP. GECKO PRESS 978-1-77657-201-4

Torben Kuhlmann

Armstrong: The Adventurous Journey of a Mouse to the Moon

Armstrong: Die abenteuerliche Reise einer Maus zum Mond

A long time ago a mouse learned to fly ... and it crossed the Atlantic. But what happened next? Torben Kuhlmann's stunning book transports the readers to the moon and beyond, to a world where dreams are determined only by the size of your imagination, and where the biggest innovators are the smallest of us all. The book ends with a brief non-fiction history of human space travel – from Galileo's observations on the nature of the universe, to a man's first steps on the moon.

GERMAN: NORDSÜD VERLAG 978-3-314-10348-3

TRANSLATED BY DAVID HENRY WILSON 2016, SC, 128 PP. NORTHSOUTH BOOKS 978-0-7358-4262-5

Sabina Lipan Manuela Olten (Illustration) **Mom, There's a Bear at the Door** Mama, da steht ein Bär vor der Tür!

A bear on the doorstep? In the middle of a city? All the way up on the 11th floor? Impossible says Mum. Her son is more than happy to explain, and he tells her a truly amazing story that defies all the laws of logic. Manuela Olten's illustrations don't hold back either, as they follow his incredible tale, with its mixedup, odd, exciting plot, and tender scenarios.

GERMAN: TULIPAN VERLAG 978-3-86429-183-8

2016, HC, 34 PP.
WILLIAM BEERDMANS PUBLISHING
978-0-8028-5460-5

Sebastian Meschenmoser **Gordon and Tapir** Gordon und Tapir

This story of an odd couple is the perfect gift for anybody who is moving house. Sebastian Meschenmoser has a knack for creating droll characters. These unlikely room mates – a fussy penguin and an untidy tapir – are no exception to the rule. Conflict is in the air, but it wouldn't be Meschenmoser if he didn't find a wonderful solution, one that tells us friendship will prevail, although it might need a little patience and quite a bit of tolerance now and then

GERMAN: ESSLINGER VERLAG 978-3-4802-3189-8

2016, HC, 60 PP. NORTHSOUTH BOOKS 978-0-7358-4253-3

Sebastian Meschenmoser Mr. Squirrel and the King of the Forest Herr Eichhorn und der König des Waldes

The forest is one of Sebastian Meschenmoser's favourite settings, not only in his picture books, but also in his paintings.
This luscious picture book combines both of his worlds, as an artist and illustrator.
In this way, not only does he acquaint readers, young and old, with an ancient legend, he also introduces them to the pictorial language of early German Romanticism. His touching oil paintings leave no viewer unmoved.

GERMAN: THIENEMANN VERLAG 978-3-522-43800-1

2019, HC, 64 PP.

NORTHSOUTH BOOKS

978-0-7358-4342-4

Authors M - P

Sebastian Meschenmoser It's Springtime, Mr. Squirrel Herr Eichhorn weiß den Weg zum Glück

It's springtime! The flowers are blooming, the bees are buzzing. In short: love is in the air! Hedgehog meets Lady Hedgehog and falls head over heel for her. But can he win her heart? What a stroke of luck that his friend, Mr. Squirrel, knows everything about love and how to win a lady's heart. A book wonderfully typical of Sebastian Meschenmoser, full of poetry and wit, and expertly illustrated.

GERMAN: THIENEMANN VERLAG 978-3-522-45805-4

TRANSLATED BY DAVID HENRY WILSON 2018, HC, 64 PP. NORTHSOUTH BOOKS 978-0-7358-4310-3

Jörg Mühle **Poor Little Rabbit!**Tupfst du noch die Tränen ab?

Little Rabbit needs our help. He has a graze on his arm that is bleeding... Jörg Mühle takes the everyday situations that small children know all to well, and turns them into enchanting, interactive board books. And his readers? They spring into action joyfully, comforting Little Rabbit, covering his graze with a tiny plaster, and drying his tears. All will soon be well. This, the third book in the Little Rabbit series, is set to thrill its little readers just as much as the first two did.

GERMAN: MORITZ VERLAG 978-3-89565-340-7

2018, HC, 20 PP. GECKO PRESS 978-1-77657-177-2

Hildegard Müller **Reach for the Moon, Little Lion** Der große kleine Löwe

The little lion is desperate. All the other animals are teasing him because he is so small. Luckily he has his friend, the artful raven. The raven helps the little lion to impress everybody. With just the right doses of humour and wit, Hildegard Müller show her readers how much a tiny lion can achieve in the right circumstances. After all, size is just a matter of perspective.

GERMAN: ALADIN VERLAG 978-1-77657-188-8

2017, HC, 32 PP. HOLIDAY HOUSE 978-0-8234-3777-1

Jörg Mühle **Bathtime for Little Rabbit** Badetag für Hasenkind

Is there any child that enjoys having their hair washed? I haven't met one yet. This little book is part of a charming series of interactive board books about children's daily routines. It encourages the readers to help Little Rabbit through the steps of taking a bath: turning on the taps, closing the eyes, dabbing the nose and, not least, standing in for a broken hairdryer. Great fun for everybody involved

GERMAN: MORITZ VERLAG

978-3-89565-315-5

TRANSLATED BY CATHERINE CHIDGEY
2017, HC, 20 PP.
GECKO PRESS
978-1-77657-137-6

Jens Raschke Jens Rassmus (Illustration) **Do Fish Sleep?** Schlafen Fische?

A touchingly honest book about loss and grief, told with sensitivity, warmth and an immense understanding of the emotional world of children. Most of all, it is filled with hope. After having been sick for longer than she can remember, Jette's brother Emil died a year ago. The feelings that losing him prompted in everybody are still present, and at times oppressive. Yet ever so slowly, the dark clouds surrounding her and her family seem to lift. This award-winning book has been a bestseller in Germany since its publication, and has been translated into several languages.

GERMAN: MIXTVISION 978-3-9585-4070-5

TRANSLATED BY BELINDA COOPER 2019, HC, 64 PP. ENCHANTED LION BOOKS 978-1-59270-285-5

Petra Postert Jens Rassmus (Illustration) I Need All of It Das brauche ich alles noch!

This caring tale of the wonders of daily life with children wins over readers of all ages with its fine humour and excellent rhythm. A little boy doesn't want to part with three objects that are in his pocket on laundry day – and he has the best of reasons. It is his wonderful, naïve logic, which beats his father at every turn, that makes this picture book so charming.

GERMAN: TULIPAN VERLAG 978-3-86429-223-1

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2018, HC, 32 PP. FEIWEL & FRIENDS 978-1-250-11271-2

Authors R - W

Kathrin Rohmann Franziska Harvey (Illustration) **Apple Cake and Baklava** Apfelkuchen und Baklava

Leila fled Syria with her family, leaving behind her grandmother and father. Max is a boy in rural Germany where Leila now goes to school. When Leila looses her most cherished object – a walnut from her grandmother's garden – Max helps her in her desperate search for it. This insightful story has a serious background, but it is first and foremost a tale of friendship and of what friendship can help you overcome.

GERMAN: BOJE VERLAG 978-3-414-82455-4

TRANSLATED BY RUTH AHMEDZAI KEMP 2018, HC, 20 PP. DARF PUBLISHERS 978-1-85077-319-1

Peter Schössow **Where Is Grandma** Wo ist Oma?

Henry really only wanted to visit Grandma in the hospital. When his nanny is held up he decides to go on alone. After all, he knows his grandmother well. But the hospital is much bigger than Henry thought. Going around the hospital he isn't at all sure anymore that he will find her. But he meets interesting people in every corridor, room or elevator he sets foot in on his adventurous quest. This picture book is an ideal introduction to hospital routines for children. It's also an opulent feast for the eye – a caring portrait that depicts a diverse and tolerant universe. Inspirational in every sense.

GERMAN: HANSER VERLAG 978-3-446-24952-3

2018, HC, 20 PP. GECKO PRESS 978-1-77657-154-3

Angela Sommer-Bodenburg **The Little Vampire** Der kleine Vampir

Nine-year-old Tony loves ghosts and horror stories, but when he's left at home alone one night, Rudolph the little vampire flies in and gives Tony quite a fright. But they become fast friends, and when they are together no adventure gets too scary. First published in 1979, this true classic of German children's literature has now been loved by several generations. More than twelve million books from the series have been sold to date. It has been translated into more than 30 languages, and it is still not getting old. A timeless story for children all over the world.

GERMAN: ROWOHLT VERLAG

978-3-499-21628-2

2017, SC, 144 PP. ANDERSEN PRESS 978-1-78344-576-9

Susanne Straßer **So Light, So Heavy**So leicht, so schwer

Susanne Straßer is a true virtuoso. This little board book for the youngest children is about Elephant's quest to get the seesaw moving up and down. It is short and simple with a story both clear and charming. But most of all it is truly memorable. It draws in toddlers and grown ups alike with its rhythm, well-timed repetitions, contrasts and humour, and it ends with an unexpected, delightful twist.

GERMAN: PETER HAMMER VERLAG

978-3-7795-0538-9

2018, HC, 22 PP. CHARLESBRIDGE PUBLISHING 978-1-58089-849-2

Britta Teckentrup **Look at the Weather** Alle Wetter!

The weather: ever-present, sometimes beautiful, sometimes terrifying, often capricious. This book tells us all about it. But it contains so much more than just the natural phenomena. It invites the reader to ponder weather's nature. Drawn in irresistibly by this sublimely illustrated non-fiction book – by its poetry and its aesthetic – we soon realise just how incredible that little thing called weather really is – and what a profound influence it has

GERMAN: JACOBY & STUART

978-3-942787-52-9

TRANSLATED AND ADAPTED BY SHELLEY TANAKA

2018, HC, 152 PP. OWLKIDS BOOKS

978-1-77147-286-9

Anna Wills Nora Tomm (Illustration)

Who Believes What? Exploring the World's Major Religions

Das Wimmelbuch der Weltreligionen

This colourful and lively picture book, designed in a search-and-find style, introduces young readers to the world's five biggest religions: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam and Judaism. It is a joyful expedition across the world and around our own neighbourhoods. The double-page spreads illustrate each religion. They show religious objects as well as people worshipping in symbolic places and performing rituals. The accompanying texts provide additional information on the history, festivals, places of worship, celebrations and religious leaders, and about the respective deities.

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GERMAN: BELTZ & GELBERG

978-3-407-82202-4

2018, HC, 40 PP. OWLKIDS BOOKS 978-1-77147-333-0

Authors Z

Valija Zinck **A Tangle of Magic** Penelop und der funkenrote Zauber

Penelop is different. Always has been. Her hair for example has been grey since she was born, but it's not just that. One day Penelop wakes up with sparkling red hair, and her mother confesses that her father, whom she believed had been dead for years, is still alive – and he's a powerful wizard to boot. Penelop, who has inherited his powers, embarks on a journey to find him. Zinck has written a truly bewitching tale of the strength of children, in a perfect mixture of adventure, fantasy and family story.

GERMAN: FISCHER KJB, 978-3-7373-4078-6

TRANSLATED BY HELEN JENNINGS 2018, SC, 256 PP. CHICKEN HOUSE PUBLISHING 978-1-911490-28-9

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