

IBBY SA



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- IBBY SA is the South African section of IBBY.
- IBBY is the International Board on Books for Young People.
- IBBY SA's area of interest is everything to do with South African books for children and young people.

- If you are a member of IBBY SA, you are also a member of IBBY.
- IBBY's 2004 World Congress was hosted by IBBY SA in Cape Town.
- The 23 - 26 August 2012 World Congress will be in London.

Wamkelekile! Sithemba ukuba uza kuthanda ukufunda eli phepha eli futshane eli neendaba. Come on in, and enjoy what the newsletter has to offer by way of news and thought-provoking ideas!

>> EXCLUSIVE BOOKS IBBY SA AWARD ANNOUNCED

At an intimate brunch held at **Dutch** restaurant in the Chelsea village in Wynberg on Wednesday 7 December, the winner of this Award was announced by Exclusive Books Corporate Social Investment & Children's Books Manager Colleen Whitfield. This Award is given every second year to the book adjudged the best children's picture book or illustrated children's book published in South Africa. The period covered for the current Award is 2009–2010. And the winner is ...

In die Nimmer-Immer Bos / In the Never-Ever Wood

The **author Linda Rode** and the **illustrator Fiona Moodie** each received a cheque for R5 000.00, presented to them by IBBY SA Chairperson Robin Malan.

The Chair of the Jury who decided on the Award, Lona Gericke (almost the Vice-Chairperson of IBBY SA), read the Citations for the writing and the illustrating of the book. Of Linda Rode's contribution, Lona Gericke said, among other praise: 'Linda Rode knows her trade, she writes with a sure confident hand and with great sensitivity. Her choice of words is always so right and appropriate, ensuring that every story reads well, and the original character of the tale stays intact. Congratulations to the writer of a very special book, a worthy winner of the Exclusive Books IBBY SA Award.'

Fiona Moodie's illustrations, Lona Gericke went on to say, 'make a huge contribution to the overall impact of the book. Exquisite tiny pictures are accompanied by full-page illustrations, with lots of detail, soft subtle colours; and with every page symmetrically balanced.'

Present at the mid-morning event were representatives of Exclusive Books, staff of NB Publishers (including Aldré Lategan and Michelle Cooper), who published the book, the members of the IBBY SA Exec, as well as members of the

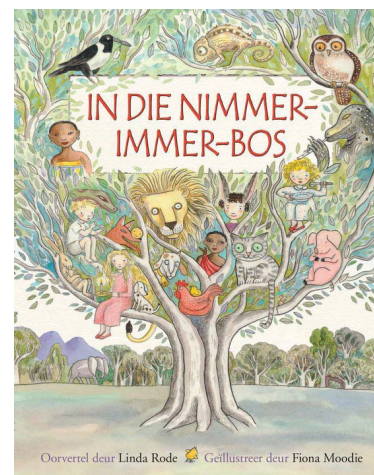
Jury who decided on the Award. Included on the Jury are distinguished names in the world of children's books in South Africa, such as Annari van der Merwe, Jay Heale, Marianne Serfontein, Johanna de Beer, Jill Joubert, Genevieve Hart; and IBBY SA Exec members Isabel Essery, Kathy Madlener and Nonikiwe Mashologu.

A sad and noticeable absence at the event was Veronica Behm Croucher, who died earlier this year. IBBY SA Chairperson Robin Malan made the point that Veronica was instrumental in the initial establishment of this Award in 2007. It was he and Veronica who first met with Colleen Whitfield's predecessor Penny Hochfeld in Veronica's Milnerton Library to discuss the creation of the Award and to set up the framework and the rules for the Award. 'Veronica's involvement in the organising of the jury process in 2007 and 2009 was wholehearted and totally enthusiastic, as was all of her work for IBBY SA. She loved the Exclusive Books IBBY SA Award.'

The Award is given every second year. In the first year, in 2007, there were five joint winners

(*The Cool Nguni*, *Fynbosfeetjies*, *Ouma Ruby's Secret*, *UTshepo mde / Tall enough*, and *Zanzibar Road*). In 2009, the Award went to *Siyolo's jersey / Siyolo se Trui*, written by Mari Grobler and illustrated by Elizabeth Pulles.

The next Exclusive Books IBBY SA Award will be given in 2013.



Covertel deur Linda Rode • Geïllustreer deur Fiona Moodie

>> THE HONOUR LIST BOOKS 2011

Every second year the National Sections of IBBY are invited to nominate authors, translators and illustrators whose work has made 'a significant contribution to the recent literature' of books for children and young people.

These books are then presented at the IBBY World Congress in the following year. A handsome brochure is produced featuring all the Honour List books from the 74 National Sections; a plenary session of the Congress is devoted to a presentation of the books; and the books are on display throughout the Congress.

At a happy event on Wednesday 26 October at the Centre for the Book in Cape Town, the following announcements were made.

Author: Afrikaans – Linda Rode for *In die Nimmer-Immer Bos*

Author: English – S.A. Partridge for *Fuse*

Translator – André P Brink for *Die avonture van Alice in Wonderland* (from the original English *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll)

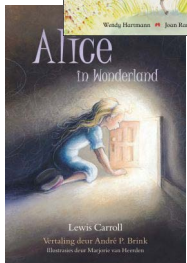
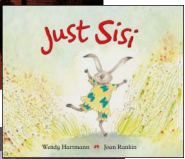
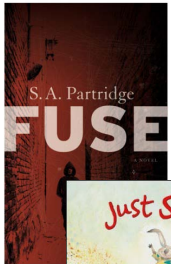
Illustrator – Joan Rankin for *Just Sisi*



Lona Gericke with the publishers Michelle Cooper (Tafelberg) and Aldré Lategan (Human & Rousseau)



Wendy Hartmann (the writer of *Just Sisi*) receives the certificate on behalf of the illustrator Joan Rankin



S.A. Partridge with Lona Gericke

>> AT THE HONOUR LIST EVENT

Linda Rode was nominated in the category 'Author: Afrikaans', and there was a photograph of her receiving her certificate from IBBY SA Exec Vice-Chairperson Lona Gericke. The question is ...



A



B

Which is the "official" photograph?

>> PERCY FITZPATRICK PRIZE FOR YOUTH LITERATURE 2010

The Percy FitzPatrick Prize for Youth Literature for 2010 was awarded on 6 September 2011 at the Golden Jubilee Conference. Here is winner Andy Petersen's acceptance speech:

Good evening everyone.

I don't know how to address this because I've never actually done one of these things before. Not that I've never won a prize, I won third runner up in a fifth grade cake and candy sale amongst other prestigious awards, but I'm fresh out of high school, and back there every time I tried to grab the microphone from whoever was presenting me the award, I'd get escorted offstage by security, so to actually be allocated 10 minutes speaking time, I feel a little bit like a 5-year-old at a candy store – slightly giddy, nervous at the prospect, and certain in the fact that I'm going to be feeling a little bit sick later on. I probably won't even use the full 10 minutes, especially considering this is the last award of the night, though I also noticed that there's no orchestra to start playing when people speak for too long, so I might just ramble on for ages and see if anybody stops me.

I'd like to start off with thanking the English Academy, firstly for that very generous citation and for the prestige of handing me this award. Even to be nominated alongside people twice my age and probably triple my ability was an honour, but actually to win is beyond what I could have imagined.

*I finished writing **Daniel Fox** in its final draft form just over three years ago, and though I certainly knew I was in for something when Penguin agreed to publish me, I couldn't possibly have anticipated the journey that I'd be taken on in the next few years. From reading about characters and stories from the minds of authors I loved, to actually going around the country speaking about my own characters and stories was a jump I never thought I'd be able to manage so soon, but it certainly was a humbling one and I've learnt so much – mostly what I learnt is that I still have a hang of a lot to learn.*

The leap of faith I took as a 14-year-old boy when I sat down at my old Acer PC and started dreaming up the world I'd soon permanently inhabit seems rather demented now that I'm a few years older and can actually reflect. The audacity

I must have had to think at that age that I could write an entire novel and have it published and have people actually read it makes little sense even to me, but I think it was that very same audacity, along with an inability to accept anything short of exactly what I wanted that got me here, rather than any sort of talent or ability. I guess I was probably just a lot more arrogant than most 14-year-olds, but if it was arrogance that allowed me to experience all of this, then I hope never to be modest.

I'd like to thank a few people, some present and some in their absence. Firstly, everyone from Penguin – Alison Lowry, Louise Grantham and Ellen van Schalkwyk – who were so amazing to me and for giving me the

opportunity and for believing in this book. Then to my friends, some of whom are present tonight, for keeping me sane, and for never letting me forget, even for one damn second, that I wrote a book once. And then to my family – my sisters are both back in Joburg, but they are amazing and I love them – my cousin Bronwyn who was my first and most devoted reader – and then my parents, who are here and who somehow never found it weird that their teenage boy preferred sitting in the study by himself to going out and doing whatever it was that teenagers were supposed to do.

I'm honoured and humbled, and I thank each and every one of you. Good night.



>> COMPETITION - "WHAT WERE THEY THINKING!"

Supply the thought-bubble for any or all of the IBBY SA Exec members caught at the event announcing the 2011 Honour List of Books. Give the first name of the Exec member and then the text of what they were *thinking* (not *saying*).

Send in your entries, together with your postal address and your choice of one of these two Honour List books (either *Fuse* or *Afrikaans Net Sisi* or *English Just Sisi*), which the publishers are offering as a prize to the best TWO entries.



from left: Noni and Kathy



from left: Isabel and Lona



from left: Tholisa and Jean

>> IBBY SA GETS A NEW CHAIRPERSON

At its January meeting, the IBBY SA Exec unanimously endorsed Ms Nonikiwe Mashologu as the incoming Chairperson of IBBY SA, to replace Robin Malan, who is stepping down as Chair but continuing as a member of the Exec.

Nonikiwe Mashologu is a Children's Literature Consultant previously working on the First Words in Print (FWIP) Project at Centre for the Book. She is currently the Editor of the PUKU Children's Literature Website www.puku.co.za. Nonikiwe has always had an interest in Literature having grown up in a home full of books but the birth of her son 8 years ago really got her hooked on Children's Literature. She is passionate about promoting, editing and translating African Children's Literature.



We welcome Nonikiwe in her new role, and wish her a happy and fruitful time. We know she'll do a great job!

>> LETTERS

What a shock to hear of the death of Veronica! I wasn't even aware that she was ill. Typically, perhaps, she never mentioned it to me in the brief interchanges we enjoyed in the last few years.

I feel impelled to write of the two or three times she and I went off to the du Noon schools and other schools in the Milnerton area to do a little book-mongering. I had decided on a 'no school-visit' policy a couple of years back yet I responded positively when approached because there was something so honest and true about Veronica I found it hard to turn her down.

I sensed that this was someone who put her money where her mouth was. She did not sit in the ordered book-bunker of the Milnerton library waiting for children to come to her but on her own initiative went out there into the messy, book-poor reaches of her geographical locale and did her thing. She did not rail – as I was sorely tempted to – against the du Noon headmaster who proudly showed us a locked cupboard of untouched books in his office, but took her arsenal of carefully chosen books and her guitar into one dusty, under-resourced classroom after another.

The unsaid philosophy was something like: 'I take it upon myself to make the difference, not blame others for the problem.'

Without a shred of self-consciousness, she read and sang to the children in her quiet yet assertive way, and because it was not just a one-off visit and because they sensed her fundamental integrity, the rapport she had with the children was palpable. The language barrier thinned in those classrooms to the point where it was almost non-existent. It was a delicate thing in the air, something closer to trust than mere word-sharing.

I returned home knowing that I was privileged to have witnessed something rather special and that it made not a jot or tittle of difference that I did not share Veronica's religious convictions.

For such a thin, small-voiced person, she was so strong! When she next asked me to visit an ex-model C school, I was eager to try out a slightly new direction for me: talking to the senior primary students about a series of books I had been working on about bullying, learning difficulties and albinism. The venue was the usual soulless school hall with the children bunched up sitting on the floor at the front of the stage.

I baulked at the start: where to find the energy to communicate with this dishevelled, quick-to-be-bored lot? I looked at Veronica, who was sitting mixed in among them, and the look she gave me was so encouraging and calm and centred, I quickly found my way. The children/teenagers contributed with really good comments and questions and the ensuing discussion of over an hour was frank and fruitful. As we left, Veronica was gracious in her praise.

That's what I so liked about her ... she was quick to see the good. On that occasion, she also shared some personal stuff with me: how she had found love again after the death of her first husband, how she had felt just like a teenager when it had stuck – 'At my age!' – about her children and how they had responded – you know, the usual woman-to-woman stuff. So unpretentious and honest.

I really, really liked Veronica. I am so sorry that she is no longer going to be a small but lovely part of my life.

Reviva Schermbrucker



Veronica Behm Boucher

>> PRIZE-WINNER'S DONATION

Having won the illustrator's Exclusive Books IBBY SA Award for the drawings in *The Never-Ever Wood / Die Nimmer-Immer Bos*, Fiona Moodie has most generously donated her prize-money to IBBY SA. We are extremely grateful to Fiona for this, and we assure her we will use it wisely and well!

**Text: Fourie Botha, Kathy Madlener, Robin Malan
Layout and Design: Nastassja Benjamin**

ENGLISH

Jason Wallace, *Out of Shadows* (Andersen Press, London, 2010)

Why review a British book in a newsletter devoted to South (and Southern) African books? Because Jason Wallace spent most of his childhood in Zimbabwe, and the book is a novel about and born out of that time and that place.

First thing to be said about this book that won the 2010 COSTA Children's Book Award is that it is scary stuff; as they say, definitely not for the faint-hearted. The back cover states: 'Not suitable for younger readers.'

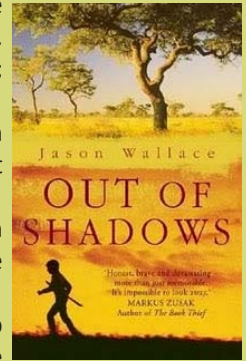
It's a novel without heroes. While you can sympathise with Robert Jacklin in his loveless home with an alcoholic mother and ineffectual deluded father, and his nightmarish private boarding school, you often can't approve of either his action or his inaction.

Set just after the end of the Bush War and the coming into power of Robert Mugabe, the novel gives an account of the bitterness and resentment virtually on all sides, but particularly the white 'Rhodesians' who have to adapt to the new political and social situation. Some can't. Some won't.

Newbie Robert starts life at his exclusive (and almost exclusively white) school with a promising friendship with a black fellow-newbie Nelson Ndube. But it is not long before he betrays that friendship and is sucked into the world of charismatic tough-guy Ivan. What follows ends up being horrific – a terrible indictment of our inability to contain and manage naked hatred when we are drawn into it.

Perhaps I find the final crunch-situation, on which the whole denouement depends, somewhat over-the-top or a touch far-fetched, but, then again, you can say the same about *The Manchurian Candidate*; and I guess no one attending the performance of *Our American Cousin* at the Ford Theatre in Washington DC on 14 April 1865 exactly expected to witness the President being assassinated.

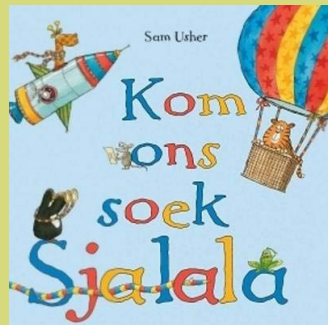
The publisher's website tells us that, as in fiction Robert did, so Jason Wallace in fact shook the hand of Robert Mugabe when he came to visit the unnamed school Wallace attended. Final trivial-pursuit moment: so did I, when he visited my Africasouth Books in Swaziland stand at an early Zimbabwe International Book Fair in the early 1980s. Little did we know then ... – Robin Malan



AFRIKAANS

Sam Usher, *Kom ons soek Sjalala* (Human & Rousseau, 2011)

In hierdie vrolike kleurvolle prentboek kruip Sjalala die bangbroekslang op elke bladsy weg, en die jong lesertjie kry die geleentheid om hom te soek! Van kleurballone, tussen terte en



koeke, tussen toegedraaide pakkies, bote wat dobber op die see, 'n wasgoedlyn met flappende wasgoed, tussen speelgoed, in die ruimte, tussen lekkerlees-boeke op 'n rak. Sy vriende soek hom, en as hulle hom skrikmaak kan hy nie anders as om in die lug te spring nie! Die rymvertaling is gedoen deur die talentvolle Philip de Vos, en hierdie is sowaar 'n boek wat baie ure van pret en plesier aan jong lesers gaan verskaf. Ek sien al hoe hulle belangstellend al nader na die boek skuif as ons stories lees; elkeen om eerste vir Sjalala te vind. Soms is dit nog moeilik ook.

Pieter W Grobbelaar, *Jakkals en Wolf*, met illustrasies deur Séan Verster (Human & Rousseau, 2011)

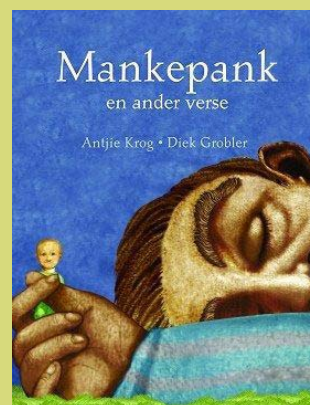
Wat 'n pragtig versorgde boek! Die omslag met die karikatuuragtige Jakkals met 'n slinkse kyk, en Wolf (Hiëna) met 'n uithang-tong en groot starende oë teen 'n donker agtergrond maak jou sommer lus om om te blaai. En ai, al die illustrasies is sterk, lewendig, beweeglik en net reg om kinders betrokke te kry by nie net stories wat gevra word om gelees te word nie, maar ook om die interessante en humoristiese prente te geniet. Hoogs aanbeveel.



Christien Nesor, *Blou sjokolade* (Lapa, 2011)

Hierdie is die derde titel in die gewilde tienerreeks oor Elle Kroon en haar maats en hulle avonture saam. Dit volg op *Kondensmelk en Koshuiskoffie*, maar elke verhaal kan ook alleen gelees word, daar is genoeg verwysings na wat voorheen gebeur het. In hierdie lekkerlees verhaal moet Elle haar droom vergeet om Frankyk toe te gaan as hul toer gekanselleer word. Alex Mostert

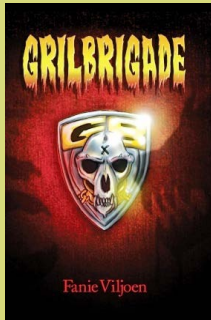
kom egter met die voorstel dat hulle in die vakansie die Otterwandelpad in die Tsitsikamma Nasionale Park moet gaan loop. Dit is ook 'n uitreik-aksie na kinders wat met kanker moet saamleef. Sy vind heel gou uit dat die staptoer nie vir sissies is nie; dit gaan uithouermoë en stamina verg! Daarby is daar nuwe verhoudings en intriges sodat tieners by die verhaal se verloop betrokke sal bly.



Antjie Krog, *Mankepank en ander verse*, met illustrasies deur Diek Grobler (Tafelberg, 2011)

In 1985 verskyn Antjie Krog se *Mankepank en ander monsters* – 'n versameling van 21 gedigte geïllustreer deur Hanneltjie de Clercq. Hierdie 21, tesame met nuwe ongepubliseerde verse word hier in 'n pragtig versorgde boek aangebied, werklikwaar die ideale geskenk vir lesers en ouers wat hou

van uitstaande gehalte werk. Diek Grobler se illustrasies is iets heel besonder, hy slag daarin om die gevoel en atmosfeer van elke gedig vas te lê in verbeeldingryke illustrasies, soms baie realisties, soms spelerig en vol fantasie. Die skrywer meld dat sy die ouer gedigte vir haar kinders geskryf het, en die nuwes vir haar kleinkinders van verskillende ouderdomme. Die gedigte wissel dus van heel eenvoudig na meer kompleks, maar deurgaans word die leser amper oorweldig deur haar wonderlike talent om met woorde en gedagtes te toor. 'n Besondere aanbieding.



Fanie Viljoen, *Grilbrigade* (Human & Rousseau, 2011)

Ek is so beïndruk met die omslag van die boek – lekker donker kleure en mens voel sommer lus om uit te vind wat en wie die Grilbrigade nou eintlik is! En jy weet ook sommer Fanie Viljoen kan bangmaakstories skryf. Die Grilbrigade veg teen monsters, vampiere, spoke, al sulke goed. Tom Davids beveel toe ook aan dat Buks Jooste lid word van die Grilbrigade a.g.v. sy

heldhaftige optrede teen die Gromynse monster. Maar eers moet hy opgelei word, en die meisie Mel is hiervoor verantwoordelik. So begin die regtige opwindende avontuur, want Mel word gevange geneem, en Buks kom te staan voor Nelwel, die Skedelvrou. Lekker lees- en voorleesboek vir 9- tot 11-jariges.

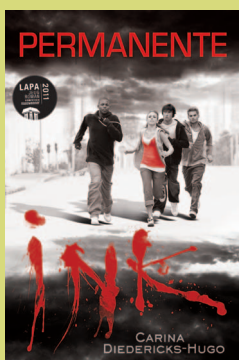


Elizabeth Wasserman, *Speurhond Willem en die wilddiewe* (Tafelberg, 2011)

Hierdie is die derde titel in die gewilde Speurhond Willem-reeks, en soos die ander twee titels belowe hierdie verhaaltjie om Willem en Adriaan se volgelinge op hul gebruiklik snaakse manier te vermaak! 'n Plaasvakansie wag op Adriaan en Willem saam met tannie Lolla op haar bosveldplaas. Maar gaan dit 'n vervelige vakansie wees? Nog nooit! Wilddiewe is baie geïnteresseerd in die renosters, en dit lyk asof hulle twee baie besig gaan wees om die stropers aan die kaak te laat ry. Lees baie lekker; die skrywer kan skryf!

Terry Jennings, *Kom ontdek die diereryk* (Human & Rousseau, 2011)

Hierdie is 'n kleurvolle bekendstelling aan die diereryk – die soogdiere, reptiele, voëls, en wonders onder die water. Jong lesers word eers na die dieretuin geneem waar hulle aan al die diere bekend gestel word, dan na 'n reptielpark, en met elke dier of reptiel is daar 'n kaart wat wys waar die dier vandaan kom, en 'n simbool wat aandui of die dier bedreig is. Elke dier word weer op 'n prentjie gewys sodat die kinders hulle kan identifiseer. In die akwarium leer hulle van visse en ander waterdiere. Op bladsy 10 en 11 kan die kind aandui watter diere hulle gesien het, dit word gevolg deur 'n woordelys waarin woorde soos koudbloedig, migreer, netelselle en buidel verduidelik word. Daar is ook 'n indeks en 'n nota aan ouers en onderwysers met nuttige webwerwe vir verdere inligting. Die hele diereryk word voorgestel met werklike foto's op kleurvolle bladsye sodat jy net eenvoudig nie belangstelling kan verloor nie, en verder wil lees. Mooi leersame aanbieding.



Carina Diedericks-Hugo, *Permanente ink* (Lapa, 2011)

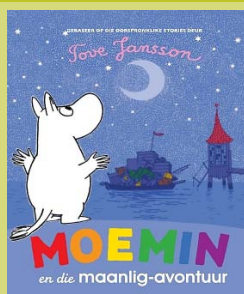
Hierdie jeugroman is die naaswenner in Lapa se jeugroman-kompetisie vir 2011.

Die Romeo-en-Juliet-reeksmoordenaar slaan weer toe met die moord op Michele van der Merwe en Johannes Harmse, haar kêrel, en inspekteur Liebenberg is moedeloos, veral as hy weer die bekende brief, in die bloed van die vermoorde geskryf, kry. By Hoërskool Duiwelspiek word vier graad 11-leerders deur die skoolhoof ingeroep. Hulle is om verskillende redes weer in die moeilikheid, by name Robert, Werner Swart, Amir Pieterse en Zelda Krige. Die hoof deel hulle mee dat hy en dokter Burke, die skoolsielkundige, besluit het dat hulle gemeenskapswerk moet doen wat beteken dat hulle die Ou Koshuis binne moet opknop sodat dit vir liefdadigheidsorganisasies beskikbaar gestel kan word. Zelda reageer erg dramaties met die opmerking dat die Ou Koshuis die steler van siele is. Dit skep die regte atmosfeer vir die verhaal vol intrige wat gaan kom. Die groep besluit om die werk so vinnig as moontlik te probeer afhandel deur een naweek voluit daar te werk. Amir en Zelda begin in mekaar belang stel, en Robert word erg jaloers.

Na die Valenteinsdans word Amir aangerand, en dadelik besluit hulle Robert is hiervoor verantwoordelik. Die klomp is dus redelik gespanne in mekaar se geselskap, en dit help ook nie dat dokter Burke Amir afknou nie! In die Ou Koshuis bereik die verhaal sy klimaks, en die spanning word vererger deurdat die leser reeds die identiteit van die reeksmoordenaar, oftewel Morfeust, ken. 'n Lekker-lees spanningsverhaal, goeie dialoog, die karakters word oortuigend geskilder waar die skrywer elkeen se eie besondere persoonlikheid en agtergrond geloofbaar maak, die polisie-inspekteur Liebenberg herinner ook aan 'n tipiese polisiebeampte. Vir tieners.

Tove Jansson, *Moemin en die maanlig-avontuur* (Human & Rousseau, 2011)

Die Moe-gesin besluit om te seil na die Eensame Eiland om 'n skat te gaan soek. Hulle tref al die voorbereidings, en toe dit aand word, verander dit in 'n maanlig-avontuur. Moemy is seker sy sien 'n skat in die water, en die dapper Moemin duik in die see in, en vind die pragtige skulp met 'n pêrel wat dieselfde kleur as die maan is. Moemin en sy vriende was 'n gewilde TV-reeks wat in die 1990's uitgesaai is, en nou word hierdie beminlike karakters weer in Afrikaans bekend gestel. Die Afrikaanse vertaling is gedoen deur Kobus Geldenhuys. Kleurvolle boeke met die karakters geskep deur Jansson, en in 1966 het die skrywer die Hans Christian Andersen-rys vir haar bydrae tot jeuglektuur ontvang. Die Moomin-handelsmerk is tans een van Finland se belangrikste uitvoerprodukte.



Michael Garton, *Teken jou eie diere* (Human & Rousseau, 2011)

In hierdie aktiwiteitsboek (160 bladsye) kry kinders die geleentheid om 26 diere te leer teken – byvoorbeeld 'n hond, kat, budjie, bok, skoenlapper, flamink en selfs 'n tier. Elke dier word eers gewys, en soos die kind omblaai word daar stap vir stap gewys met sirkels en driehoek hoe om die dier te teken. Daar is ook 'n blok waarin hulle kan oefen, en uiteindelik is daar die geleentheid om hulle nuwe tekening toe te pas en maats by te teken, of honde by 'n brandweerstasie te teken, om nog budjies in 'n voëlhok te teken; 'n goudvissie in 'n visbak te teken, en nog vele meer. Dus word elke dier se unieke omgewing ook verder uitgebeeld; die maaskaap kry nog lammetjies om op te pas. 'n Baie lekker boek vir jong kinders wat wil leer teken; en met die vaardigheid kry hulle ook die geleentheid om hul verbeelding verder te laat gaan. Hoe sou ek nie so 'n boek in my kinderjare waardeur het nie! Vir eie versamelings tuis.

