

IBBY SA



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Books for Africa Newsletter email: booksforafrica@iafrica.com

website: www.ibbysa.org.za



- 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 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!



ASTRID LINDGREN MEMORIAL AWARD NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

184 candidates from 66 countries were nominated for the world's largest award for children's and young adult literature, said Larry Lempert, Chairperson of the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award jury, at this year's Frankfurt Book Fair. The figures show a distinct increase compared to last year. "It's very gratifying that the number of nominated candidates and countries represented continue to increase," says Lempert. The jury is full of enthusiasm for the exciting and difficult task to consider the work of so many qualified candidates.

Among the nominees 38 per cent are authors, 21 per cent illustrators, 20 per cent promoters of reading and organisations, and one per cent oral storytellers. 20 per cent of the candidates are nominated in more than one category. Among the candidates 81 are men, 74 women and 29 organisations and projects dedicated to the promotion of reading.

The nomination list has eight new countries represented compared to last year: Cyprus,



Ecuador, Eritrea, Greenland, Moldova, Mongolia, Tanzania and Zambia.

A complete list of nominees is published on www.alma.se/en. The recipient or recipients of the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award 2012 will be announced on 20 March in Vimmerby, the birthplace of Astrid Lindgren, and online at www.alma.se/en. In 2012 the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award will be presented for the tenth time.

The Australian illustrator and author Shaun Tan won the prize in 2011. Previous laureates include Philip Pullman (2005) and Maurice Sendak (2003).



THE ASTRID LINDGREN
MEMORIAL AWARD

©Illustrations: Björn Berg, Ingrid Vang Nyman, Ilon Wikland

Text: Robin Malan, Kathy Madlener, Fourie Botha
Layout & Design: Raiël le Roux

» SOUTH AFRICAN SCHOOL WINS 2011 INTERNATIONAL KIDS' LIT QUIZ

This report on the Kids' Lit Quiz is a follow-up to the report in our March 2011 newsletter. As mentioned, a small government school in Durban, Manor Gardens, won the SA finals, which was held in Cape Town in February. Isobel Sobers, their librarian, writes about their amazing performance at the World Finals in New Zealand in July 2011:

This team of avid readers from Manor Gardens Primary School were part of the Kid's Lit Quiz 2011 World Finals. They came first, beating teams from the UK, NZ and Canada among others.

We were hosted by the Waikato Children's Literature Association and Southwell School, who were welcoming and very hospitable.

We had two days of orientation. We spent a day at the movies and saw the last Harry Potter film, and had a "Buddy School" day, where we spent time getting to know children from New Zealand as we all joined in a New Zealand Children's literary treasure hunt.

The quiz was held in the Performing Arts Centre at Southwell School. The six teams sat on the stage facing a large audience including the wife of the New Zealand Governor General, Lady Susan Satyanand.

The first round was "Anthropomorphic Animals". The South African team were stunned as they did not know the meaning of "anthropomorphic". They recovered in the second round, "Authors", as they had spent time finding out about authors of children's books.

The questions asked in the World Finals are difficult and the answers are unwrapped slowly as often cryptic clues are given. Wayne Mills, who runs the quiz worldwide, spends much of his spare time and energy working on questions for the different rounds of the quiz. They require children



to have a keen understanding of the meaning of words as well as a deep knowledge of children's literature.

Here is an example of a typical question from the round "Name the Book". Each sentence is a clue, teams can answer at any stage but if their answer is incorrect they cannot try again:

The lad in this novel has a terrible name. He lives with his alcoholic father, while his father's sister wants him to live with her. Just before Christmas the boy's father accidentally hits his head on the fireplace when pushed and dies. To cover up the death the boy conspires with his pretty neighbour to dispose of the body in a disused quarry. Unfortunately the girl's boyfriend learns that the lad was about to come into a substantial inheritance and blackmails them. Written by Kevin Brooks, the book's title is the same as the name of the main character ...

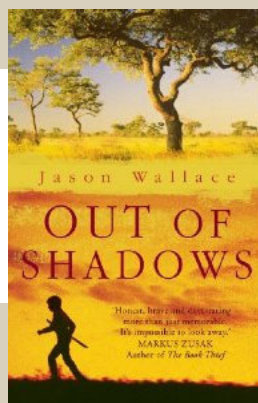
This win for a small government school stands as encouragement that reading can be enjoyed by all South African children and has inspired many of our younger children to find exciting books and give reading a try!



The pupils from Manor Gardens celebrating their win.

» JASON WALLACE WINS THE 2011 BRANFORD BOASE AWARD

Out of Shadows by Jason Wallace published by Andersen Press has won the 2011 Branford Boase Award. The Branford Boase judges are the latest to recognise Wallace's talent: *Out of Shadows* won the Costa Children's Book Award and was also short-listed for the Carnegie Medal.





Come to the Spring BookBash!

IBBY SA will name its Honour List Books to be presented at the IBBY World Congress in London in 2012.

The books are in the following categories:

Author: Afrikaans **Author: English**
Translator **Illustrator**

Please come to the announcement of these Honour List Books at the Centre for the Book

62 Queen Victoria Street Cape Town

at 4.00 for 4.20 p.m.

on Wednesday 26 October 2010.

(Parking behind the building.)

Catering courtesy of NB Publishers and Leopard's Leap

Books on sale, so bring some cash!

After the announcement, there will be a short presentation on the mission and the work on the international mother-body, the International Board on Books for Young People (or 'Big-IBBY').

RSVP to Yvette by SMS to Cell 083 740 3580
or email sacbf@worldonline.co.za before 23 October.

nb

UITGEWERS
PUBLISHERS

Tafelberg
Human & Rousseau
Queillerie
Kwela
Pharos
Best Books



IN MEMORIAM: VERONICA BEHM CROUCHER

IBBY Exec Member Veronica Behm Croucher passed away on Thursday 6 October after a long illness. With the death of Veronica, we have lost a much-loved and highly-valued friend and colleague. Veronica's work for this organisation has always been unstinting: generous in offering new ideas and wholehearted in the devotion she always brought to her work.

Her reach went way beyond the organisation she served so loyally: to all the young people who passed through her library, and to the students of the schools in the township areas and informal settlements around Milnerton. Although it is impossible to measure, be assured that her influence was felt widely and deeply by the young people she had contact with.

OUTGOING CHAIRPERSON

The current Chairperson of IBBY SA, Robin Malan, has given the Exec notice of his intention to stand down from his position during the course of the next year.

Robin Malan joined the Exec in 2005; was elected one of two Vice-Chairpersons; became the Acting Chairperson on the resignation of Carina Diedericks-Hugo in November 2006; and was then elected Chairperson in August 2007. The Exec has instituted a succession procedure, already



under way. At the January 2012 meeting of the Exec, they will formalise their election of a Chairperson

Designate to shadow the current Chairperson for some months.

As soon as the Exec has minuted their election of the Chairperson Designate to succeed Robin Malan, they will announce this to members. Robin's tireless work and leadership over the years are deeply appreciated.

REVIEWS / RESENSIES

BY LONA GERICKE

ISIXHOSA REVIEWS BY ANDISIWE D MGIBANTAKA

Until we find a new manager for our website (any offers, anyone?), we reproduce the full reviews here: Totdat ons 'n nuwe webmeester vir ons webwerf kry, plaas ons die volledige resensies hier:

ISIXHOSA REVIEWS

Qaphela emanzini, Helena Ramsay, ill. Colin King (Ndlovu-Tlou, Evan Publishing, Cape Town, 2010)

Le ncwadi isixelela ngeendlela ezibalulukileyo nezi-khuselekileyo abantwana mabaziphathe ngazo xa bekwii-ndawo zokuqubha, nakwiindawo ezinamanzi abalekayo. Ngalo lonke ixesha kubalulekile ukuba umamele umzali wakho, uqale ubuze kuye phambikokuba ungene emanzini ukuba kukhuselekile na? Imnandi lencwadi kwaye inemfundiso ebantwaneni.

Qaphela abantu ongabaziyo, kwanabo ubaziyo, Paul Humphrey & Alex Ramsay, ill. Colin King (Ndlovu-Tlou, Evan Publishing, Cape Town, 2010)

Inika imfundiso ebalulekileyo lencwadi, yimfundiso ekumele siyinyike abantwana bethu. Kubalulekile ungumntwana umzali wakho akwazingalo-lonke ixesha apho ukhoyo, nokuba uhamba nabani, nizakubuya nini, nokuziphatha ngendlela eyiyo kubalulekile. Kubalulekile ukuba ungathethi nabantu ongabaziyo, zonke ezomfundiso kumele abazali bazinikeze abantwana, kwenzela abantwana bazokuzikhusela bangadibani nabantu abangalunganga. Isibonisa nokubaluleka kokuqala ucele emzalini ngalolonke ixesha. Yonke le mfundiso siyifumana apha ifundisa thina bantu abadala kunye nabantwana sakhe ikusasa elikhanyayo.

Qaphela endleleni, Paul Humphrey & Alex Ramsay, ill. Colin King (Ndlovu-Tlou, Evan Publishing, Cape Town, 2010)

Kubalulekile ukuba ngalo lonke ixesha abantwana bahamba nabantu abadala xa besiya edolophini nase zivenkileni. Ukuqaphela nokulinda iimotongamaxesha onke, nokuwela ngexesha elifanelekileyo. Ikwasibonisa nangendlela ekhuselekileyo abantwana abantwana kumele beyilandele xa bekhwele ibhayisekile, kunye nendlela yokunxiba. Imfundiso yalencwadi ibalulekile kakhulu nase-bazalini, yenza ikusasa elikhuselekileyo kubantu bonke.

Qaphela ekhaya, Helena Ramsay, ill. Derek Bozell (Ndlovu-Tlou, Evan Publishing, Cape Town, 2010)

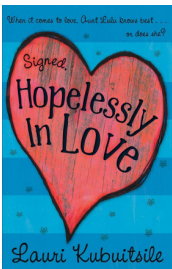
Le ncwadi inemfundiso encomekayo nefuna ukuqwalaselwa nangabantu abadala, ngoba kubalulekile xa unabantwana okanye uvakashelwe ngabantwana, indlu yakho ihlale icocekile ngamaxesha onke. Kwanazo zonke izinto ezinoba yingozi zibekwe kwindawo ekhuselekileyo, apho abantwana bangenakwazi ukufikelela khona. Ngoba abantwana abancinane abazazi izinto eziyingozi ezinokubonzakalisa. Kumele siqapheleni.

Predators, Heidi de Maine, illustrated by Keli Hazelton, (privately published)

Heidi de Maine is a qualified Marine Biologist and this is the second book in the series Abby's Aquarium Adventures, a local series of picture books about marine life. Abby works at an aquarium and she loves sharing her love of the sea with children, in this book she takes the kids to find out more about the "big eaters" in the aquarium.

With so much of public attention in SA being focused on the Great White Shark, children could be forgiven for thinking that they are the only predators in the sea round our coast ... readers here are introduced to lesser known, but none the less fascinating, creatures such as Honeycomb rays and Humphead Wrasse. The information is presented in a child friendly yet interesting way and it is a wonderful introduction to an important group of marine animals for children aged 6-10 years. Included at the end are a puzzle and crossword to reinforce the new words.

My quibble is with the cover which I don't think children would find immediately appealing and I am also not too sure about the black pages. - *Kathy Madlener*



Signed, Hopelessly in Love, Lauri Kubuitsile (Tafelberg, 2011)

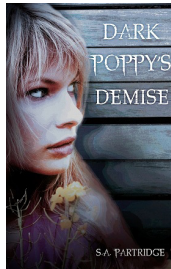
I can quite understand why this novel was a finalist in the 2009 Sanlam Prize for Youth Literature: Lauri Kubuitsile has her own voice: the writing has an honesty and directness which appeals.

In a school environment two friends Nono and Amo share their lives – Nono an athlete, Amo the school journalist who gets the assignment to do a column under the pseudonym Aunt Lulu. She answers the letters of readers with personal problems.

Amo is in love with the head boy John Gababonwe, and when she receives an anonymous letter asking for advice by somebody who is hopelessly in love with a girl, she immediately assumes that it is from him, and that she needs to tell him that she likes him too!

The author presents the reader with a believable mixture of events and situations: school sport, studies, relationships, gossip, and the usual competitiveness and jealousy – Nono's attempt to win a gold medal for the school is hampered by a student seeking revenge by attempting to injure her during a race; the Pig's 1965 National Athletics trophy gets stolen, and then there is Amo making a complete fool of herself ...

As she says: "They can cure terrible diseases, move genes around between plants and one day put a Motswana girl on the moon, and they still haven't invented the invisibility button? Where is science when we need it?" A good read.



Dark Poppy's Demise, S A Partridge (Human & Rousseau, 2011)

Dark Poppy is Jenna's online name. She says, "Mom used to own this ridiculous straw hat with a red silk poppy on it that she always wore when she went out. She also wore it the day she left for good. I've had mixed feelings about the flower ever since." Maybe that is why the author uses the word "dark" and "demise" in the title – this immediately conveys something sinister, maybe death?

Jenna has been in love with Eric Meyer since the eighth grade. When she learns that he is dating Claire Leighton, she is devastated.

Jenna is a solitary girl who likes to take photographs of things that move her, she also likes to be in the sanctuary of her bedroom, talking to her closest Facebook friend, Twiggy.

When she receives a request to become friends with Robert Rose, she immediately accepts because he is just devastatingly handsome. Things get even better when he declares his interest in her, and soon also his love for her, and this transports Jenna into a world of love and romance, she is so infatuated that she neglects her friends and brother.

Robert is there for her, but when he introduces her to his friend Ian who lives in an old neglected house, she immediately feels uncomfortable in Ian's presence.

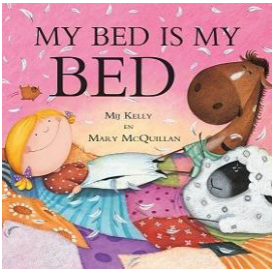
Then the evening of the Art Exhibition arrives, and Jenna receives the prize for the most outstanding artwork. She feels like the luckiest girl alive: she has a handsome, supportive boyfriend, and is reassured that her photos actually mean something. How will this evening end? Read the story to find out!

The author manages to convey the strong emotions and passion felt by a teenage girl in love for the first time. Excitement and suspense escalate, one senses that something bad is going to happen – is the guy a werewolf, a vampire, or does one only imagine that there is something wrong when a man is just too perfect – handsome, caring and loving?

Partridge writes effortlessly; Jenna is totally convincing and suspense is well sustained.

I like the title and cover of the book. The ultimate message is also that one should be cautious about accepting friend requests on Facebook.

Partridge is a talented writer, and I know teenagers will love this book!

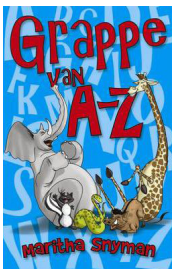


**My bed is my bed, Mij Kelly en Mary McQuillan (Human & Rousseau, 2011)
Afrikaans deur Philip de Vos**

Die skattige dogtertjie Betsie neem die leser saam na haar slaapyd, net om soos sy uit te vind dat hierdie prettige geleentheid deur 'n koei, 'n perd, 'n skaap, en 'n bok versteur gaan word. Sy kan nie slaap met al hierdie diere nie; behalwe dat haar bed oorloop van besoekers, mor en kla en steun hulle ook nog. My bed is my bed! Sê sy, maar die diere wil niks weet nie; hulle wil nie in die buitelug slaap nie. Sy lei hulle na die stal waar diere hoort, en lees vir hulle stories. Net om self droomwêreld toe te gaan, sodat die diere verplig voel om haar na haar eie bedjie te neem, want, "Ja, elkeen het sy eie bed, presies

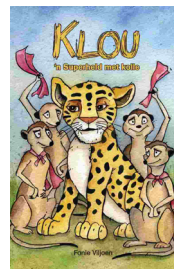
soos ek en jy".

'n Humoristiese vrolike verhaaltjie, lewendig berym deur Philip de Vos met net die regte aanslag. Betsie is die allerfraaiste klein dogtertjie, en die diere word karikatuuragtig geteken sodat die hele leeservaring lig en lekker is. Daar was lanklaas 'n lekker slaapydstorie in Afrikaans, en hierdie boekie behoort reg in die smaak van kleuters te val, veral die wat baie beslis voel dat hul bed hulle s'n is! Vir voorlees of selflees.



**Grappe van A-Z, Maritha Snyman
(Lapa, 2011)**

Maritha Snyman het eers die groot behoefte aan grapboeke in Afrikaans gevul met die bekende Lekker lawwe lagboek-reeks. Grappe is seker van die gewildste boeke by kinders, en daar is heelwat materiaal in Engels beskikbaar. Nou bring sy vir jong lesers hierdie heerlike versameling grappe, alfabeties gerangskik, en ook in SMS-taal vanaf bladsy 143 tot 151 vir dié wat versot is op hierdie manier van kommunikeer. Om net 'n paar voorbeelde uit die boek aan te haal: Wat is die definisie van 'n baba? 'n Soort engel waarvan die vlerke korter word soos wat die bene langer word. Kan bye in die reën vlieg? Net as hulle hul geel jassies aanhet! Wat is die verskil tussen 'n vrot rugbyspeler en Aspoestertjie? Aspoestertjie het darem by die bal uigekom! Hierdie boek sal kinders ure van vermaak verskaf.

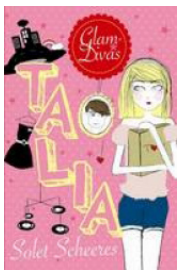


Klou, 'n superheld met kolle, Fanie Viljoen, illustrasies deur Karen Lilje (LAPA, 2011)

Klou die luiperd kry 'n boek met 'n superheld-storie en 'n popkometers in die pad nadat die kinders dit by die kar se venster uitgegooi het. Hy kyk na die prentjies van die superheld, en besluit met die popkometers oor sy skouers as mantel gaan hy net so sterk soos die superheld wees. Dalk gaan een of ander dier in gevaar wees, en hy sal hulle kan help.

'n Klomp meerkatte word bedreig deur 'n arend, en Klou besluit hy moet die meerkatte gaan red, want hy is Super-klou. Maar dalk gaan die meerkatte die geleentheid kry om hom te help, en nie andersom nie.

'n Lekker storie vir jong kinders wat net goed begin lees, so 7 jaar+ Die illustrasies werk ook goed saam met die verhaaltjie; sulke lekker kleurvolle volblad-illustrasies met Klou en die meerkatte as fokuspunt.



Talia - Glam Divas, Solet Scheeres (Lapa, 2011)

Solet Scheeres is die skrywer van die gewilde Klub 17-reeks vir tieners. Die drie vriendinne Talia, Lienka en Didi is in Graad 10 en die swak uitrustings wat die skool se dirigente gedra het, bring hulle op die idee om hul eie stylagentskap te begin – die Glam Divas.

Lienka-hulle het 'n garage oorkant die skool, en hulle omskep dit in hul winkel met haar pa se goedkeuring, want hy wil al jare lank hê sy moet 'n ondernemingskursus loop, en nou gaan hulle entrepreneurs word!

Hulle begin deur 'n spesiale partytjie vir die kleuterskool se Olifantklas te reël, en dan volg die maak van hoede en rokke, laasgenoemde wat amper op 'n katastrofe uitloop as Chanel, Dian se nare meisie, besluit om die lokaal toe te sluit waar die rokke hang om hulle pogings te probeer saboteer. Te midde van die meisies se kreatiwiteit is daar natuurlik ook Sarel, Lienka se broer, wat dinge interessant maak, Talia se ma en haar vriend Andrew se verhouding; Tannie Amanda van die kleuterskool se tweelingseuns Dian en Ruan.

Hierdie is 'n ligte verhaal wat aanklank by jong meisies sal vind wat sal hou van die idee dat drie meisies hul talente in die skoolsituasie kan uitleef. Soos Talia teen die einde van die verhaal opmerk: die Glam Divas het "die eerste kwartaal gerock". Ligte, vermaaklike leesstof. Vir dertienjariges en ouer.



Die kaskenades van Jakkals en Wolf, oorvertel en bygewerk deur Leon Rousseau, illustrasies deur Johann Strauss (Lapa, 2011)

Leon Rousseau is 'n bekende skrywer in Afrikaans, en ter viering van sy 80ste verjaarsdag op 5 Maart 2011, word hierdie boek uitgegee. Afrikaanse kinders soek gedurig na die gewilde en beminde Jakkals en Wolf-stories, en dit is verblydend om hierdie vrolik-geïllustreerde boek te sien!

Vyftien Jakkals en Wolf-stories word saamgevat in hierdie versameling, en kinders kan lees van Jakkals en Wolf en die bottervat, hoe Wolf leer vlieg, hoe Wolf Jakkals se ryperd word as hulle gaan visvang, hoe Wolf 'n dam moet bou, en Jakkals en die mooi Sarie. Sowel kort aantekeninge as 'n nawoord deur die skrywer is ingesluit waarin hy gesels oor hoekom Wolf so dikwels deur Jakkals om die bos gelei word, en meld dat die bundel oorvertel is uit die versamelings volksverhale wat G.R. von Wielligh voor en kort na 1900 in verskillende dele van Suid-Afrika opgeteken het.

Lewendige, onderhoudende vertelling; kinders gaan die boek vreeslik geniet! Hoogs aanbeveel, veral met die snaakse, oorspronklike illustrasies.



Die Speletjie, François Bloemhof (Human & Rousseau, 2011) Eerste uitgawe in 1999. Ook in Engels beskikbaar as The Gotcha Game

Die speletjie van François Bloemhof word in 2011 heruitgegee met 'n lekker opvallende swart-en-groen omslag wat dadelik die aandag trek, met glanspapier en in 'n groter formaat as die 1999-uitgawe met 'n blou omslag; laasgenoemde voorblad glad nie so "wow" nie.

Hierdie skrywer se rillers is uiters gewild onder kinders, en ek is bly dat daar voorsiening gemaak is vir 'n heruitgawe. So dikwels verdwyn ons gewilde goeie Afrikaanse boeke van die rakke wanneer dit nie weer uitgegee word nie.



Lief vir leer: eerste woorde, Brenda Apsley, illustrasies deur Craig Cameron (Human & Rousseau, 2011) Ook beskikbaar in Engels as Little Learners: First Words.

Vir die kleintjies. 'n Lekker praktiese boekie waarin Oupa Bielie-Bear Tillie leer om te lees. Hy laat haar eenvoudige woorde eers met prentjies identifiseer, en dan is die woorde self in swart gedruk. Draaiwiele en uittrek-bladsye word gebruik om die kleintjies besig te hou; en die hele belewenis is groot pret. Baie kleurvol en die speleleëls wat op die laaste bladsy prakties in die gleufies geplaas kan word, laat die kind letters vind met woorde en prente. Handige boekies vir tuisversamelings en heerlike Kers- en verjaarsdaggeskenke vir o.a. kleinkinders.



Stalmaats 11: Sirkusperde, Lize Roux, (Lapa, 2011)

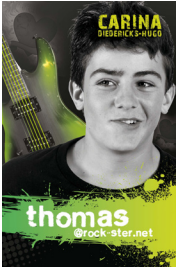
Stalmaats 11 en *Stalmaats 12* is hier! Dankie tog, in die biblioteek soek die meisies gedurig na die nuwe titels in die reeks. Anri vind in *Stalmaats 11* uit dat Sugarplum doodbang is vir honde toe hy skrik vir die nuwe skaaphondjie.

Dan volg die koerantberig waarin beweer word dat die Lombardi-sirkus wat hulle dorp gaan besoek, die sirkusdiere mishandel. Die drie vriendinne besluit om sirkus-speurders te word. Hulle ontmoet Danica, die eenaar se dogter, vind uit dat die diere reg behandel word, en Danica dink haar pa sal vir Sugarplum kan help.



Stalmaats 12: Afskeidsrit, Lize Roux (Lapa, 2011)

Dit is die einde van die skooljaar en die vriendinne hoor by Oom Dewald dat hy 'n spesiale afskeidsrit gaan hou met 'n lekker piekniek daarna. En intussen moet hulle 'n donkie afrig om by die kleuterskoolkonsert op te tree. Maar met die piekniek word Sugarplum deur 'n slang gebyt. En Vinette erken dat sy die hek van die perdekamp moedswillig oopgelaat het. Hierdie perdestories vir jong lesers is oortuigend geskryf, daar is verwysings na die vorige titels in die reeks, en kinders word selfs geleer van vriendskap, verantwoordelik wees en eerlikheid.



Thomas@rock-ster.net, Carina Diedericks-Hugo (Lapa, 2011)

Hierdie is die agtste boek in die gewilde Thomas@ reeks. Vir die eerste keer bied die Thomas@-boek 'n geïntegreerde leeservaring met QR-kodes wat die leser lei na 'n foto, klankgreep en video; 'n Spesiale MXit-kamer net vir Thomas en sy vriende; Thomas en Thabo se nuwe gunstelingspeletjie, Fangs; en die Radikale Rockfees se webblad waar jy self 'n rock-ster kan word en self jou musiek kan meng. Die Thomas@-reeks is uiters gewild onder jong lesers, en soos gewoonlik slaag die skrywer daarin om haar karakters geloofwaardig en eietyds te teken. Thomas se vriende begin 'n band sonder sy medewete, hy skop per ongeluk 'n lëe koeldrankblikkie vas teen die skoolhoof, die aaklige meneer Voolschenk, se voorkop, en dadelik kry hy die straf om die skoolsaal te verf. Sy vriende se band word die Hectic Hamburgers genoem en hulle gaan aan die Radikale Rockfees by die skool deelneem. Thomas raak betrokke by die publisiteitswerk. En boonop maak die pragtige Fleur ook weer haar verskyning en huil op sy skouers oor haar ouers wat aan die skei is. Sy meisie Alex gee ook gans te veel aandag aan Hannes en die band. Maar sy ontmoeting met Fleur veroorsaak dat Alex hom afsê. En dan rand Billy Fourie mnr. Du Toit aan ... Genoeg van die storie! Populêre leesstof wat net so gewild soos die ander titels in die reeks gaan wees.



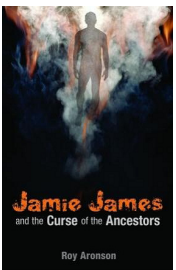
Doer in die oerwoud en Daar op die plaas, Graham Wise, illustrasies deur Jo-Anne Shilliam (Human & Rousseau, 2011). Al twee titels ook in Engels beskikbaar.

Doer in die oerwoud kruip die vyf klein olifantjies een na die ander weg, en kleuters moet die olifantjies soek, en ook die wiel draai om te sien wie by die soektog betrokke is. Die illustrasies is baie kinder-vriendelik; ek het die boekie uitgetoets op 'n leesgroepie, en elkeen wou die wiel draai, al was die vingertjies soms maar lomp! Daar op die plaas stel kleintjies weer voor aan die lammertjies wat wegkruipertjie speel, en hulle moet in die illustrasies gesoek word met die hulp van ander diere soos Hondjie, Perd, en Koei. Kinders raak betrokke by die stories, en die groot avontuur is om die wiel te draai en die diere te soek. Vir tuisversamelings.



Wurms met tamatiesous en ander lawwe rypies, deur Jaco Jacobs (LAPA, 2011)

Hierdie is die derde uitgawe. Jaco Jacobs het beide die Alba Bouerprys en die C.P. Hoogenhout-medalje vir hierdie bundel ontvang. Nou verskyn die rypies weer in 'n pragtige hardeband, in groter formaat, en met illustrasies deur Dale Blankenaar. Die voorkoms van die boek is nou amper meer gesofistikeerd, donkerder kleure word gebruik, en die nuwe illustrasies is heel oorspronklik en baie verbeeldingsryk. Meer as vyftig rypies word hier saamgevat; baie snaaks, vol pret en ook baie grillerig met tye! Dit is 'n versameling wat in elke biblioteek en huis 'n waardige tuiste behoort te vind. Hoogs aanbeveel.



Jamie James and the Curse of the Ancestors, Roy Aronson (Human & Rousseau, 2011)

What an extremely readable book! Jamie James wants to become a vet, and his first experience working in this field comes when he goes to Nelspruit to work under the supervision and instruction of a wildlife vet. A Sangoma tells him before he leaves that he has a great weight on his shoulders, and that his ancestors are trying to get his attention all the time; a darkness that happened many moons ago endures. Will this darkness disappear in the end? As the story develops, a voice tells Jamie: "I will slither and slip in and out of your life and you will feel my sting before you feel my forgiveness."

This prophecy is awakened and continues to be resolved when he first works with Ndlovu the elephant, and then with other animals, strangely enough it seems as if the animals are communicating with him in his head. Why is there the curse on the men in his family that they all die by the age of fifty? I do not want to give away too much of the story, but I really enjoyed this. I like the sensible, down-to-earth writing; the knowledge of the writer in this field is confirmed all the time, and this practical approach with little frills and attempts at pretty writing, makes the story very readable. The suspense is well sustained. The characters are convincingly drawn, and the experiences in the African bush are memorable and make for an exciting read. Well recommended. Jamie James will be an asset to all collections of children's books.