

Guide for Publishers: Readers to Assess Children's/YA Books in Other Languages

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Intro

This is a list of readers who are familiar with children's and teen publishing in English and in the other languages they read. It is intended to help English-language publishers who hear about a title in another language, are intrigued to know more and want to commission a reader's report.

Many countries cover the cost of translation samples and funding schemes like English PEN are also available for children's and YA literature.

Please email us at worldkidlit@gmail.com if you need to find a reader for any language not listed here!

Readers by Language

Please note: not all readers listed below are translators into English. Generally, translators work into their primary language (L1), their first language or the one of habitual use. It is possible for some exceptional translators to translate into their second language (L2) but it is likely that more editing would be required. Collaborations between translators are also possible, where one is L1 and the other L2.

Readers' bios are found at the bottom of this list.

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Details coming

Readers' bios

This list is alphabetical by surname.

Sarah Ardizzone is an award-winning literary translator with 20 years' experience, working from French to English. Sarah works across the age-spectrum: from picture books, children's and young adult fiction, to graphic novels and grown-up literary fiction, and has translated some 50 titles by writers such as Daniel Pennac, Faïza Guène, Joann Sfar, Timothée de Fombelle and Alexandre Dumas. Sarah won the Marsh Award for Children's Literature in Translation in 2004 for *Eye of the Wolf* by Daniel Pennac, and again in 2008 for *Toby Alone* by Timothée de Fombelle; she was awarded the Scott-Moncrieff Prize in 2007 for *Just Like Tomorrow* by Faïza Guène and garnered a New York Times notable book accolade in 2010 for her translation of Joann Sfar's graphic novel version of *The Little Prince*. Following a stint in the Algerian quarter of Marseille - and as a resident of Brixton, London for the past 20 years - Sarah has a keen interest in translating sharp dialogue, urban and migrant slang. Sarah is a judge and expert advisor for BookTrust's *In Other Words* project. Co-founder of *Translators in Schools*, Sarah also curates educational programmes - including *Translation Nation*, the *Big Translate* and the *Spectacular Translation Machine* (with Daniel Hahn). A regular on the festival and live literature circuit, Sarah loves finding exciting ways to bring her authors to new audiences. Sarah is co-chair of English PEN's *Writers in Translation* committee, and a patron of children's world literature charity *Outside In World*.

Alexandra Buechler is a literary translator working mainly between Czech and English (prose, poetry, non-fiction), with over twenty books into both languages. Interested in children's and YA books. Readers' reports for publishers and grants agencies. YA book into Czech (Isobelle Carmody).

Jane Bugaeva is a literary translator specialising in children's prose and poetry. Published translations include: *Catlandis* by Anna Starobinets from Pushkin Press (UK) and NYRB Children's (USA); *Beastly Crimes* series by Anna Starobinets from Dover Press; *The Land of Stone Flowers* by Sveta Dorosheva from Chronicle Books. Part-time editor for Interlink Books. Loves working with illustrated books for all ages.

Anna Bentley has lived in Budapest since 2000. A native speaker of English, she has been translating literature from Hungarian to English since 2015. She has recently completed the Balassi Institute's Literary Translation programme, and has translated stories about birds and animals by István Fekete, Hungarian folk tales and a chapter book by the renowned author Ervin Lázár which will be published by Pushkin Children's Press in 2019. Having two bilingual children who are keen readers and an interest in translating children's literature, she keeps an eye out for good books for children and young adults both in Britain and in Hungary.

Sophie Bowman is a Korean literature MA student at Ewha University in Seoul, winner of the 2015 Korean Literature Translation Awards operated by the Korea Times. You can find her translations of short stories in *Koreana* magazine and a sample translation of Korean children's fiction in Book Trust's 'In Other Words 2017' shortlist.

Ben Dawlatly is a literary translator with more than 20 children's picture books translated or edited. Works closely with NubeOcho Editoriales in the translation of children's fiction championing diversity. Translated children's chapter book, *Toletis* by Rafa Ruiz, to be published later this year with Neem Tree Press. Associate Teacher of Applied Translation at the University of Bristol.

Avery Fischer Udagawa is a translator of Japanese children's and teen literature into English. Avery's translations include the middle grade historical novel *J-Boys* by Shogo Oketani, the YA tale "House of Trust" by Sachiko Kashiwaba in *Tomo: Friendship Through Fiction—An Anthology of Japan Teen Stories*, and the middle grade mystery-fantasy novel *Temple Alley Summer* (Kimyoji yokocho no natsu) by Sachiko Kashiwaba (forthcoming from Chin Music Press in Spring 2019). She serves as SCBWI Japan Translator Coordinator and SCBWI International Translator Coordinator.

Paul Russell Garrett is a literary translator from Danish and Norwegian (and occasionally Swedish) into English. Paul has translated *Erik and the Gods* (Aurora Metro Books, 2016) and *Ukulele Jam* (Seren Press, 2017) for children and young adults respectively, as well as two short stories for the Aarhus 39 YA publication (Alma, 2017).

Fiona Graham has spent most of her career as an in-house translator at the Dutch Foreign Office and editor at the EU institutions. Since 2016 she has translated three books from Swedish, a children's short story from German for 'Quest', edited by Daniel Hahn, and a variety of samples from Swedish and German. She was among the 6 translators selected to take part in *New Books in German's* emerging translators

scheme in 2018. Fiona also reviews regularly for the 'Swedish Book Review', of which she is reviews editor, New Books in German, and the European Literature Network. She has some experience of working with young children in Latin America.

Veronika Haacker-Lukacs is originally a translator of contemporary Hungarian fiction. She developed an interest in translating children's literature after becoming a mum and reading Hungarian and German books to her trilingual children. She is currently working on a book about the adventures of time-travelling dinosaurs written by the award-winning Hungarian author Judit Berg. Apart from doing translation, she also enjoys talking about translation and has run school workshops and tasters on multilingualism, reading and books in translation.

Daniel Hahn is a British writer, editor and translator. He is one of the editors of The Ultimate Book Guide, a series of reading guides for children and teenagers, the first volume of which won the Blue Peter Book Award. Other titles include Happiness Is a Watermelon on Your Head (a picture-book for children), The Oxford Guide to Literary Britain and Ireland (a reference book), brief biographies of the poets Samuel Taylor Coleridge and Percy Bysshe Shelley, and a new edition of the Oxford Companion to Children's Literature.

Rosie Hedger is a literary translator from Norwegian into English. Rosie has worked on a number of published translations of children and young adult titles, including Marianne Kaurin's historical young adult novel Almost Autumn (Arthur Levine Books, 2017), two translated short stories included in the Hay Festival anthologies of 39 selected children's and YA writers from across Europe, and Mariangela DiFiore's picture book The Elephant Man (Annick Press, 2015). Rosie also regularly produces sample translations, in addition to providing reader reports for UK and US publishers.

Olivia Hellewell is a translator from Slovene and doctoral researcher in Translation Studies at the University of Nottingham. Her first published novel in translation was Jela Krečič's None Like Her, published by Istros Books in 2016. She puts her particular love of children's fiction down to being raised by two Early Years teacher-parents, but was first able to put her love for children's books into translation practice at the Slovene Book Agency's International Translation Seminar in 2016, where she translated numerous samples of Andrej Rozman Rosa's rhyming poetry. Olivia's upcoming translation projects involve two children's titles: Nataša Konc Lorenzutti's Nisem smrklja (wt: I'm Not a Brat) for Affirm Press, and Dunja Jogan's Srečkov kovček (Felix's Suitcase) for Tiny Owl.

Rachel Hildebrandt is a literary translator with an interest in contemporary literature for all ages. Experience in doing samples for German publishers of middle grade and YA novels. Also, co-founder of the Global Literature in Libraries Initiative and founder and publisher with Weyward Sisters Publishing, which focuses on translations of socially critical crime/noir fiction by women authors from Germany, Switzerland and Austria. Past and upcoming published adult fiction and nonfiction translations with Skyhorse Publishing, KBR Media, Unnamed Press, and Owl Canyon Press.

David Jacobson is a journalist, publisher and translator. His journalistic pieces have been published in English and Japanese in the Associated Press, NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corp.), CNN and other media venues. Between 2008 and 2017, he worked as editor, marketer, and fact-checker for Seattle-based

publisher, Chin Music Press. Since publishing "Are You an Echo? The Lost Poetry of Misuzu Kaneko" in 2016, a picturebook bringing the work of a beloved Japanese children's poet to the English-speaking world, he has been involved in the promotion of literature in translation through the Global Literature in Libraries Initiative, for which he is a board member. He is also on the committee for the 2020 GLLI Translated YA Book Prize. As a translator, he has translated several documentaries for Fujisankei Communications International and news articles for the Nihon Keizai Shimbun. He also helped prepare the Japanese application for the 2018 Hans Christian Andersen Award for the Japan Board on Books for Young People.

Ruth Ahmedzai Kemp is a literary translator with a particular interest in children's fiction and nonfiction. She tweets at @worldkidlit and is co-editor of three children's book blogs: World Kid Lit blog, ArabKidLitNow and Russian Kid Lit. Recent translations include:

- a) 4 picture books by Syrian, Jordanian and Omani authors and illustrators for Darf Publishing and Editora Trinta Zero Nove;
- b) middle grade novels from German and Russian: Katja Frixe's *The Magical Bookshop*, Oneworld and Simon & Schuster; Kathrin Rohmann's *Apple Cake and Baklava*, Darf; Yulia Yakovleva's *The Raven's Children*, Puffin; and 2 novels by Pyotr Vlasov, both tr. with Maria Wiltshire, seeking publisher;
- c) an Arabic YA novel for Neem Tree Press'
- d) illustrated non-fiction for B Small, The History Press and Phaidon (the latter two co-translations with Jessica West).

Hanna Leliv is a freelance literary translator based in Lviv, Ukraine. In 2017–2018, Hanna was a Fulbright scholar at the Iowa Translation Workshop. Among her translations into Ukrainian are texts by Kazuo Ishiguro, Ernest Hemingway, and Stephen Hawking. Children's and YA books she translated include a six-book series about George and his cosmic adventures by Stephen and Lucy Hawking, a mystery novel "Smart" by Kim Slater, and a range of non-fiction books for kids. Her translations of contemporary Ukrainian literature into English have appeared in the *Washington Square Review*, the *Adirondack Review*, *The Puritan*, and *Apofenie*. She's currently translating a chapter book about a six-year-old boy with cancer written by a contemporary Ukrainian writer.

Antonia Lloyd-Jones translates Polish picture books, middle-grade and YA novels. Her published translations include:

1. Picture books: Daniel and Aleksandra Mizieleński/a, *Maps* (Templar/Candlewick 2014), *Maps Deluxe* edition (Templar 2017), *Under Earth/Under Water*, (Templar/Candlewick 2016), plus activity books; Paweł Pawlak, *Oscar Seeks A Friend* (Lantana Publishing, 2019); Julian Tuwim, *Mr Miniscule and the Whale* (Book Island, 2014); Józef Wilkoń, *Little Kitty Miaow Miaow* (Hokus-Pokus, 2014).
2. Rhyming verses: Julian Tuwim, *The Locomotive* (Modern Poetry in Translation, 2015); Stanisław Jachimowicz, *The Sick Kitten* (Fundacja Festina Lente 2013); Michał Rusinek, *Little Chopin* (Znak/Fryderyk Chopin Insitute, 2012); Józef Ignacy Kraszewski, *The Old Man and His Wife* (Fundacja Festina Lente 2013).
3. Middle-grade novels: Krystyna Boglar, *Clementine Likes Red*, co-translated with Zosia Krasodomska-Jones (Pushkin Press, 2017). Shortlisted for the inaugural Warwick Prize for Women in Translation; Janusz Korczak, *Kaytek the Wizard* (Penlight, 2013), Science Fiction & Fantasy Translation Awards, Long Form Honorable Mention. Adapted into a puppet show by US company BriAnimations.

She mentors emerging translators, of whom two, Kate Webster and Zosia Krasodomska-Jones, have also worked on middle-grade novels.

Marcia Lynx Qualey is a freelance cultural journalist for The Guardian, The National, BookRiot, Al Masry Al Youm English edition, World Literature Today, the Believer, as well as other publications. She is the founder and editor-in-chief of ArabLit.org, a website that brings together translators, authors, publishers, critics, academics, and readers around discussions of Arabic literature in translation. She works as a book critic, reader, editor, and ghostwriter, and translator of Arabic children's books. She will be keynote speaker at a conference on Egyptian children's literature in the fall of October, and her translation of the middle-grade novel Ghady & Rawan is forthcoming from University of Texas Press. Founding member of ArabKidLitNow, a site for promoting Arabic children's books.

Nanette McGuinness is an award-winning opera singer, voice talent, and translator of over 50 books and graphic novels for children, young adults, and adults, from French, Italian, and German into English. Two of her latest translations—Luisa: Now and Then (Life Drawn/Humanoids, 2018) and California Dreamin': Cass Elliot Before the Mamas & the Papas (First Second, 2017)—were chosen for YALSA's Great Graphic Novels for Teens; Luisa: Now and Then was also a 2019 Stonewall Honor Book and a GLLI Books for Teens 2020 Honor Book. Other titles include the well-known Geronimo Stilton Graphic Novels (Papercutz), Thea Sisters, The Sisters (except v.2), Dinosaurs, and Sea Creatures graphic novel series (all also with Papercutz), No Pasaran: Sin Ilusion (NBM), Superman Isn't Jewish (Humanoids), and California Dreamin': Cass Elliot Before the Mamas & the Papas (First Second Books). Nanette has sung in French, German, Italian, Spanish, Latin, Yiddish, Portuguese, Hungarian, Czech, Auvergnat, Basque—and, of course, English.

Lyn Miller-Lachmann is an author of YA and MG fiction and translator of children's and YA books and scholarly works in the fields of anthropology, sociology, history, and education. Her YA novel GRINGOLANDIA, set in Chile and among Chilean exiles in the U.S. during the Pinochet dictatorship was selected for the YALSA Best Books for Young Adults list and the Bank Street Best Children's Books list, and was an Américas Award Honor Book. She has translated picture books from Portuguese for Enchanted Lion, Eerdmans Books for Young Readers, and Charlesbridge. Her first two translations for Enchanted Lion, THE WORLD IN A SECOND by Isabel Minhós Martins and Bernardo L. Carvalho and LINES, SQUIGGLES, LETTERS, WORDS by Ruth Rocha and Madalena Matoso, were both CCBC Choices

Denise Muir has published picture, activity and novelty books and games (fiction, non-fiction, rhyming, prose) educational texts drawing on Montessori principles, associated teaching guides, stories performed to music, chapter books for young readers and three novels for young adults. One of these, the Distance Between Me and the Cherry Tree, was selected as an IBBY UK 2020 nominee in the translation category while another, Manuela Salvi's Girl Detached, was nominated for the 2017 Carnegie Prize. Red Stars by Davide Morosinotto, publishing in August 2020, was a Book Trust honour title in 2018. For adults, Denise is often asked to translate texts which frame scientific research in a more conversational, gently literary way, making academic writing more mainstream. Breakfast with the Centenarians by Daniela Mari, presented at the 2019 Edinburgh Book Festival, revealed the medical studies and incredible stories behind individual longevity, while The Hidden Life of Ice, dispatches from a Disappearing World by Marco Tedesco will publish in the US later this year. Denise's enjoyment of reading, translating and performing children's stories has taken her into classrooms and libraries in Italy to read aloud and run workshops, an

interest she may continue in the UK now she is training to be a teacher. Online she is Magicamente Translations and @MagicaTransla, and can be found at her Italian book blog, www.italianchildrensbooks.co.uk

Guy Puzey is a literary translator from Norwegian into English and a lecturer in Scandinavian Studies at the University of Edinburgh. He grew up in the Highlands of Scotland, just a short swim from Norway, and he has translated work by a wide range of authors, especially from Nynorsk, the lesser-used of the two official written standards of Norwegian. He was shortlisted for the 2015 Marsh Award for Children's Literature in Translation for *Waffle Hearts*, his translation of Maria Parr's *Vaffelhjarte*.

Lawrence Schimel is a bilingual (Spanish/English) author and translator living in Madrid. He has published over 100 books as author or anthologist in many different genres, for both adults and younger readers. His picture book NO HAY NADA COMO EL ORIGINAL (Destino) was chosen by the International Youth Library for the White Ravens and his picture books ¿LEES UN LIBRO CONMIGO? (Panamericana) and JUST LIKE THEM/IGUAL QUE ELLOS (Ediciones del Viento) were both chosen by IBBY for Outstanding Books for Young People with Disabilities. As a literary translator, he has translated into Spanish, board books like TÚ ERES TÚ by Richard van Camp illustrated by Julie Flett for Orca Books, picture books such as Wanda Gág's MILLONES DE GATOS for Libros del Zorro Rojo or Fatemeh & Zahra Sarmashghi's BALLENA NEGRA for Amanuense, and graphic novels like George Takei's NOS LLAMARON ENEMIGO for Top Shelf. Kidlit translations into English include MG novels THE WILD BOOK by Juan Villoro for Restless Books in the US and Hope Road in the UK and THE TREASURE OF BARRACUDA by Llanos Campos for Little Pickle Press/Sourcebooks, picture books THE DAY SAIDA ARRIVED written by Susana Gomez Redondo & illustrated by Sonja Wimmer for Blue Dot and SOME DAYS by Maria Wernicke for AmazonCrossingKids, pop-up art book MEET THE ARTIST: PICASSO by Patricia Geis for Princeton Architectural Press, and a long etc. He also founded the Spain chapter of SCBWI and was the RA for 5 years, hosting the International SCBWI Conference in Madrid and programming the first two SCBWI-Bologna Conferences.

Claire Storey is a translator working from German and Spanish into English. Having taken time out to be a stay-at-home mum to her two children, Claire has a great passion for children's and young adult literature. She now dedicates herself to pursuing a career in literary translation having participated in the BCLT Summer School in 2018. She co-translated her first picture book for Spanish publisher Nube Ocho with Ben Dawlaty. She also writes a blog reviewing books on her website and, in 2018, she undertook a World Kid Lit Challenge with her kids, reviewing 30 books in 30 days.

Helen Wang translates contemporary Chinese literature, including novels, picture books and graphic novels for children and young adults. Her translation of Cao Wenxuan's *Bronze and Sunflower* won the 2017 Marsh Christian Award for Children's Literature in Translation Award. She also received the Chen Bochui Special Contribution Award, at the Shanghai Children's Book Fair in 2017. She works collaboratively with the China Fiction Book Club, Paper Republic, and the Leeds Centre for New Chinese Writing. In 2016, she co-founded Chinese Books for Young Readers. She lives in London, and is Curator of East Asian Money at the British Museum.

Rachel Ward is a literary translator with published YA and picture book translations, inc. *Traitor* by Gudrun Pausewang (Andersen Press) and a story in the Aarhus/Hay anthology. Reader for New Books in German

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and UK publishers. Also lots of sample translations of childrens' books, esp. for Bastei Luebbe and Uebereuter. Blog: adiscounttickettoeverywhere.wordpress.com Website: www.forwardtranslations.co.uk

Laura Watkinson is a literary translator with a focus on children's literature. She has translated many children's books, from picture books to YA, including Dutch children's classics by Tonke Dragt for Pushkin Press (The Letter for the King, The Secrets of the Wild Wood and The Song of Seven). Other publishers she works with include Arthur A. Levine, Eerdmans, Book Island and Enchanted Lion. She founded the Dutch chapter of the Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators. Her translations have won the American Library Association's Mildred L. Batchelder Award for children's book in translation three times. The Letter for the King won the Vondel Prize for Dutch-English translation.

Jessica West is a literary and commercial translator with an interest in fantasy, speculative fiction and non-fiction. Six published book translations, including a kids' craft book for Phaidon (co-translation with Ruth Ahmedzai Kemp) and two instructional art books for beginning artists. Awarded a Distinction in MA Translation Studies from the University of Portsmouth and has had several articles published in the ITI Bulletin, the journal for the Institute of Translation and Interpreting.

Catherine Wolterman is a teacher and German-English translator with a Masters from the University of Leeds. She is currently working in the early years sector while taking her first steps in literary translation. She is also one of the co-founders of York's new German Saturday School.
