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young readers

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Joan BARRIL
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Juan BONILLA
Martín CASARIEGO
Nicolás CASARIEGO
Josep Mª FONALLERAS
Ignacio GARCÍA-VALIÑO
Ignacio MARTÍNEZ DE PISÓN
Miguel MENA
Ana MERINO
Miquel OBIOLS
Vicenç PAGÈS JORDÀ
Javier PELEGRÍN
Fernando ROYUELA
Juanjo SÁEZ
Màrius SERRA
Àngela VALLVEY

JUAN LUIS ARSUAGA

Dr. Arsuaga (Madrid, 1954) is a Paleoanthropologist and Professor of Human Paleontology in Madrid, Visiting Professor at the University College of London and co-director of excavations at Sierra de Atapuerca (World Heritage Site). Premio Príncipe de Asturias 1997, Member of the American National Academy of Sciences, he is a regular contributor to Nature, Science, American Journal of Physical Anthropology and editor of the Journal of Human Evolution. Dr. Arsuaga's books have enjoyed tremendous success and been widely translated. This is his first book for children.

Mi primer libro de Prehistoria. Cuando el mundo era niño (My first book of Prehistory. When the world was just a child)

"A long, long time ago, when the world was just a child..." That is how all the Shamans (sages or wise men) start to tell the stories of their tribes. And that is how this book begins. And although it may appear to be an adventure novel, this is in fact a book about Prehistory. As the author, Juan Luis Arsuaga says, our tribe is now the whole of Humanity, the people that speak all the languages on the planet that we share. On these pages can be found the scientific story of our History. But at the same time, we learn about the dangerous episodes that our ancestors experienced. Because science is the great adventure of exploring the unknown.

Sold to: (Spain, Espasa Calpe)
Ages: 7-9



ANA ALONSO / JAVIER PELEGRÍN

Ana Alonso (Terrassa, 1970) has lived for almost all her life in Leon. A biologist by training, she is a writer and translator. She has written five books of poetry, which have earned her several prizes. She has also published the novel *Los cabellos de Santa Cristina* (*Saint Christine's Hair*) and she has translated Robert Louis Stevenson, Henry James and Nathaniel Hawthorne. With Javier Pelegrín, is the co-author of *The Key of Time*, a series of fantasy and sci-fi geared towards a juvenile audience, published by Anaya. *The Key of Time* tells the story of 5 youths in a fantastic future civilization. Its 6th book is *La puerta de Caronte* (*Charon's Door*). In 2008 both authors won the Barco de Vapor Prize for the book titled, *The secret of If* (SM, 2008).

Javier Pelegrín (Madrid, 1967) graduated as a Philologist in the University of Murcia and completed his studies in Paris and Torino. He's a high school teacher of Spanish Literature, a great connoisseur of juvenile literature and of the fantasy genre in general. The series *The Key of Time* and the novel *The secret of If* were written in collaboration with Ana Alonso and they are the result of "a common adventure and of a shared vision of life".

Tatuaje (*Tattoo*). Some tattoos are more than just a simple skin decoration. Their magic could unite you forever with the person you desire... Or prevent you from touching that person, and becoming your worst nightmare. Alex is seventeen and he is madly in love with Jana, the mysterious girl in his class. He never could have imagined that, after following her leaving a party, his life could change so much. Jana, who is an orphan, lives with her brother, the elusive David, and rumour has it that they both survive thanks to a bizarre trade: magic tattoos. Alex will soon test their power, which will lead him to discover the existence of the Medu clans. These eerie beings have lived infiltrated among humans for a long time, fighting among themselves, but now they are aware that they have to join their forces to defeat their most feared foe: the Last Guardian, destined to erase all the clans from the face of the earth.

Tattoo is the first novel of a YA trilogy written by the renowned authors Ana Alonso and Javier Pelegrín. A thrilling novel that will fly you to a fascinating universe of magic, adventures and sensations.

Sold to: Spain, Viceversa (just published)

Ages: 14-16



***El secreto de If* (*The secret of If*)**

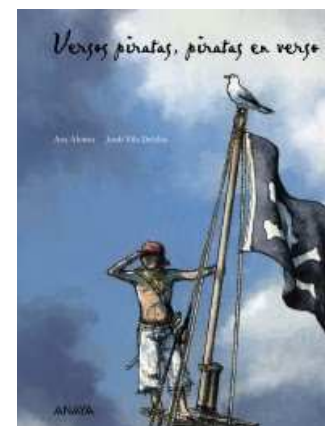
Princess Dahud goes to If, the only kingdom where magical creatures live with humans, to marry the future king. But there's something strange about this marriage which was arranged from birth. The princess will face monsters, unveil complex mysteries and will risk her own life in order to find out. The main characters must face their destiny to achieve freedom. The true secret of the kingdom of If does not reside in its labyrinthine tower, nor in their magical creatures, but in a much more powerful force, one we cannot

touch, but lives inside each of us. A traditional story which transmits current values such as freedom, truth or loyalty.

Illustrator: Marcelo Pérez

Sold to: (Spain, SM – Barco de Vapor Award 2008)

Ages: 12-14



***Versos piratas, piratas en verso* (*Pirates Verses, in Verse Pirates*)**

Aside from their ferocious faces, their wooden legs, their maps and their treasures that make our imaginations fly, pirates can be very, very amusing and readers of this book can verify that.

Illustrations by Jordi Vila Delclós

«A subject of proven success, a great sense of humour and beautiful illustrations are some of the incentives that this wonderful album offers. Its most enchanting ingredient is that it is narrated in verse, helping young readers to

approach poetry.» Care Santos, *Mercurio*

Sold to: (Spain, Anaya)

Ages: 7-9

THE KEY OF TIME SERIES

Throughout the different titles, the adventures of five young people develop in a fantasy future civilisation. Four of them possess an immune system and mental capacities never before seen... but why? What mystery is hidden behind this strange genetic composition? Who can tell them the incredible enigma of their origin? To these, and many other questions, the main characters will try to provide answers by initiating a long search that will take them to the most unexpected places and to meet a whole range of characters. They soon find out that their enemies are more powerful than they could ever have imagined, and they will need all their audacity and intelligence to face up to them.

"The best books for children and young adults of 2008 (...) A well-achieved mix of science fiction, adventure story and youth novel. The story stands out for the precision of its descriptions, the solidity of its plot and the clarity of its language." *Banco del Libro*

«At last we find a Spanish work that can become a best seller for young people, without sacrificing literary quality. » *(El Cultural)*

La torre y la isla (*The Tower and the Island*)

Searching for the key of time... What is the hidden meaning behind these mysterious words that Martin hears again and again?

In 2121, The Daedelus Corporation manages to bring four young people together with an immune system that will make them invulnerable to any illness. In exchange for their collaboration in the production of vaccines, Daedelus offers them a brilliant future on a paradisiacal island. But behind its apparent generosity, the Corporation is hiding a dark proposal. With the aim of uncovering it, our heroes embark upon a dangerous journey that, unexpectedly, leads them to discover the mystery that surrounds their origin.

La esfera de Medusa (*Medusa's sphere*)

La esfera de medusa is the second title of the series. After escaping from the grips of Daedelus, Martin and his friends get to know Deimos and Aedh, two mysterious brothers who seem intent on taking them to New Alexandria, and arrive in time for the meetings fixed by the Wind Rose. But their help has a price; a price that our heroes are maybe not prepared to pay... Who is waiting for them in the tower of Saint-Jacques? The answer is in Medusa, the fascinating submerged city where our heroes were born. ...and where they will live new and exciting

adventures that will take them a little closer to the truth of the amazing enigma of their existence.

La Ciudad Infinita (*The Infinite City*)

La Ciudad Infinita is the third episode in *La llave del tiempo*, a series that combines fantasy and science fiction to create a new universe in which mystery and adventure know no limits.

Following unexpected events in the city of Medusa, Martin and his friends begin a long and risky journey to Arendel (the Infinite City, built on Mars), where their next mission is based. There they will again have to face the evil scheming of the Daedelus Corporation that continues to pursue them. Meanwhile, in the great Double Helix building, a meeting is about to take place that will change the destiny of Humanity forever. But a new danger threatens Martin: an enemy that is capable of destroying him...unless someone is able to stop him!

El jinete de plata (*The Silver Horseman*)

The fourth instalment in the series *The Key of Time*. In the Red City of Ki, the world championships of the Arena Games are about to begin.

It's the perfect opportunity to enter the city without raising suspicions. And there's only one way to do it: by directly participating in the games. To do this, Martin will have to submit himself to rigorous training, which is much harder than he could have ever imagined. But it's the only way that they can all achieve their objectives. Our protagonist can't afford to make even the slightest error, because it's not just victory at stake, but also his own life.

Uriel (*Uriel*)

In this fifth volume of *The Key of Time*, Martin and his companions face a new dilemma: Should they return immediately to their era, in the future and convey the result of their discoveries or stay in the world they know and take part in the passionate space adventure that is about to begin? The decision isn't easy, but a terrible and unexpected event reveals which path to follow.

La puerta de Caronte (*Charon's Gate*)

This is the sixth book in the series and tells the story of the protagonists' arrival on Eldir, a mysterious extra-terrestrial satellite, where prisoners are used for experiments. Martin and his friends cross the threshold that leads to Eldir, the disturbing hell of the perfect people. What awaits them is a savage and inhospitable world, where mere survival is a continuous challenge. But, in reality, Eldir is much more...Its rough landscapes hide some of Aretés' best kept secrets and the key to discovering the origin of the enemy's enormous riches. In this book we find the first love triangle: Martín-Alejandra-Yohari. The main character introduced in this instalment is Yohari.

- Best Novel in a series 2010 - El Templo de las Mil Puertas

El palacio del silencio (*The Palace of Silence*)

In *El palacio del silencio*, the seventh instalment in *The Key of Time*, Martin and his friends travel to the Palace of Silence to free the prisoners of the infernal planet once and for all. There, they will find many of the answers they've been seeking, but they'll also face new enemies. What's hidden behind the mysterious life that covers the strange world at which they have arrived? Who are the tattooed men that inhabit it? And above all, where is the powerful and elusive Ixió hidden?

Sold to: (Spain, Anaya); (France, Fayard); (Italy, Fanucci); (UK, Sibling Press)

Ages: 11-13



JOAN BARRIL

Joan Barril was born in Barcelona in 1952. Throughout his long and successful career as a journalist he has published thousands of articles and opinion pieces in the Spanish press (*El País*, *La Vanguardia*, and *El Periódico*) and is a very well-known contributor to the other media as well. He is the author of several works of fiction and non-fiction. *Tots els ports es diuen Helena* (*Every Port Is Called Helena*) is a novella for teenage readers which won the Ramon Muntaner literary prize in 1998 and has a huge readership in Catalan, Spanish and Galician.

Tots els ports es diuen Helena (*Every Port Is Called Helena*). Guillem, a twelve year-old boy, lives by a quiet canal in Bruges with his mother and his step-father, a sturdy and taciturn man who runs a barge and with whom Guillem will take a journey to the heart of Europe, from Rotterdam to the Black Sea. This book portrays the awakening of love, the power of friendship, the illusion of heroism and how music serves as a great bonding element among cultures and people. At the same time, it is a reflection of the values and misfortunes that shake Europe. *Tots els ports es diuen Helena* won the Ramon Muntaner prize in 1998, the Premi Serra d'Or 2000 and has been a best seller since publication.

«Barril is a master of language, producing texts that seduce us with their beauty.» (Eva Piquer, *El Periódico*)

«A Bildungsroman for children.» (Julià Guillamon, *La Vanguardia*)

Sold to: (Spain: Empúries - Catalan -- hardcover and pocket edition; SM / Spanish; Xerais - Galician); (Portugal, Texto Editora)

Film Rights: Mallerich Audiovisual

Ages: 11-13

FELIPE BENÍTEZ REYES

Felipe Benítez Reyes was born in Rota in 1960. He is a novelist, poet, essay writer and regular contributor to the press. He is the author of several novels for adults. Felipe Benítez has been granted many prestigious literary awards, including the National Book Award and the Critics Award. For his last novel *Mercado de espejismos* was awarded the Nadal Award 2007. He is the author of three books for young readers, *Lo que viene después de lo peor* (Booket, 1998) and *Los libros errantes* (Anaya, 2002) and *El caballo cobarde* (Anaya, 2008)

***El caballo cobarde* (The Cowardly Horse).** A king wanted to be the owner of the best horse in the whole world, and he swore that he would not stop until he had found it. So when, on a farm, he found a grey foal with a golden mane and tail, he knew that this was his horse and he didn't mind paying a hundred pieces of silver for him. However, in battle, the horse didn't behave exactly how the king had expected... A beautiful parable about ambition and luck, written by well-known poet and novelist Felipe Benítez Reyes With illustration by Beatriz Martín Vidal.

Sold to: (Spain, Anaya)
Ages: 9-11

***Lo que viene después de lo peor* (What Comes After Worst).** He has just turned sixteen and takes a look at his life. His dad is a shrink who collects stamps. His mom, a surrealist painter and frog collector. His big brother collects girlfriends and bottle caps. His little sister has hundreds of penpals. His friends are a precocious philosopher and a girl fakir. And then, all of a sudden, there it is — what comes after the worst.

Sold to: (Spain, Booket); (Italy, Mondadori)
Ages: 11-13

***Los libros errantes* (The Wandering Books).** Using two very different characters as the thread, the author plunges us into a trip through the history of literature and the written word. On the way, he shows us the impact and importance that the act of reading has had on the human race throughout time.

Sold to: (Spain, Anaya)
Ages: 9-11

JOANA BONET / JORDI LABANDA



***Fadapaca* (Fadapaca)**

You still don't know her? She is *FadaPaca!* Many little girls want to be fairies, but there is only one fairy who wants to be a little girl like you. In the land of the fairies it is never warm or cold, times go by without moving and the power of magic is so strong that everyone seems happy. There are never any fights or tears, everything is new and tidy and the peace that reigns there would astonish any human being. But, among all the fairies, there is one who is different. One who is fed up with the tickle cakes, the silence and the order. What she wants fervently is to go to school, taste some fries and play with a ball.
Illustrations: Jordi Labanda

«Here we have a very special fairy. Restless, contradictory, she dreams of living on Earth and being an ordinary girl. An innovative revision of traditional fairytales.» Jordi Turtós, *La Vanguardia*.

Sold to: (Spain, Catalan, Estrella Polar / Spanish, Roca)
Ages: 5-7

JUAN BONILLA

Juan Bonilla was born in Jerez de la Frontera in 1966. He is the author of the short story collections *El que apaga la luz* (Pre-Textos, 1994), *La compañía de los solitarios* (Pre-Textos, 2000) and *La noche del Skylab* (Espasa Calpe, 2000). As a novelist, he has published *Nadie conoce a nadie* (Ediciones B, 1996, made into a very successful film), *Cansados de estar muertos* (Espasa-Calpe, 1998) and *Los príncipes nubios* (Seix Barral, 2003) which has been translated into 7 languages. *Yo soy, yo eres, yo es* (Booket, 1999) is a book for children.



Yo soy, yo eres, yo es (*I am, I are, I is*).

Mario and Junot are good friends. They are both crazy about Andrea, one of their classmates. Her face, like the captive princess in their favourite video game, is unforgettable. No matter how intelligent she may be, she ignores all subject pronouns except for the first («I am, I are, I...»). Both friends feel a pressing need to do something about their feelings for Andrea. The school year is about to end and they won't ever see her again unless, of course, something unexpected happens.

Sold to: (Spain, Booket); (Brazil, Siciliano); (Italy, Mondadori)
Ages: 11-13

MARTÍN CASARIEGO

Martín Casariego (www.martin-casariego.com) was born in Madrid in 1962. He has published articles and short stories in all of the major newspapers and magazines. He is the author of several feature film scripts and many novels for adults. Among his books for children and young readers one should mention *Y decirte alguna estupidez, por ejemplo, te quiero* (*And Say Something Stupid Like I Love You*, Anaya, 1995; Germany, Hanser; Portugal, Dom Quixote); *El chico que imitaba a Roberto Carlos* (*The Boy Who Wanted To Be Roberto Carlos*, Anaya, 1996, also made into a film), *Qué poca prisa se da el amor* (*Love Is In No Hurry*, Anaya, 1997) and *Dos en una* (*Two in One*, Anaya, 2003). *Por el camino a Ulectra*, his latest book for young readers, has won the Anaya Award 2007.

Por el camino a Ulectra (*On the road to Ulectra*). In 2314 all human beings are programmed to die at the age of seventy-five. They do not know how to read and they have microchips inserted in their brains full of broad knowledge. A simple pill allows them to fall in love without suffering and they are never ill. Politicians and scientists have created a society that is apparently happy, but which in fact is a dark world.

Glaster and Miguel discover that their parents have died in strange circumstances while trying to recover the ability to read - that age-old, mysterious privilege that is capable of avoiding the mechanisation of men, and return them their freedom.

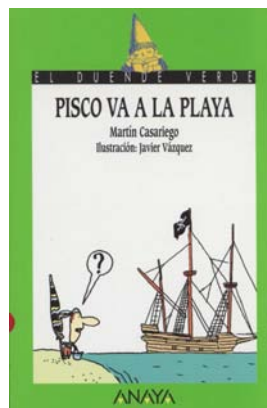
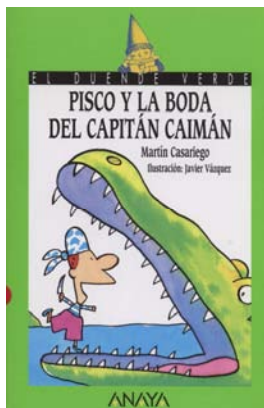
In order to complete the mission of their parents, the two young men, with the help of the easy-going Flecha, set out on a long journey to strange planets, confronting fearful monsters and endless dangerous situations, which take place in Ulectra.

Sold to: (Spain, Anaya)
Ages: 9-11

Dos en una (*Two in One*). The same day Mateo starts dating Lara he sees her again at night dressed differently and completely looking like a different person. Lara acts as if she didn't know him and says her name is Clara. Does she have multiple personalities? Mateo lives the incredible adventure of falling in love with the same girl twice, of cheating on her... with herself, of giving her a first kiss twice. Everything seems really exciting but it soon turns out to be a nightmare for our sensitive Romeo.

Sold to: (Spain, Anaya)
Ages: 9-11

THE PISCO SERIES



Pisco is designed as a series of eight titles (the first four, for children that are between 6 and 8 years old; the second group of four, for children between 8 and 10). The main character is Pisco, a seven-year-old boy who is like many other boys his age: curious, enthusiastic, and once in a while he tells a little white lie. He has a younger sister, Anita, who is very bright but doesn't speak properly.

Their babysitter, Margarita, starts to tell Pisco, in the first volume (published in 1996), the story of Captain Caiman, a 17th century Spanish pirate. Caiman is a brave sailor that everyone is chasing after: his rival, Black Tooth; the British; and Admiral Deep Sea, the father of his girlfriend (Marisa del Cerro), who wants to have him tried in Spain for the murder of the Viscount of San Esteban.

The books can be read separately, although Captain Caiman's adventures continue (Margarita gives a brief synopsis of the previous book at the beginning of the one that follows it). In the last book we discover the pirate's true identity, and he is proved innocent of the crime they accuse him of.

While always striving to entertain young readers with adventures and humor, the series extols values such as friendship and love (sometimes unrequited, as Sergeant Windward and Pisco himself know full well), and slips in little life lessons (don't be afraid of making mistakes, in

"Pisco pasea por la ciudad;" dialogue within a family can solve problems, in "Pisco sueña con el Capitán Caimán;" you have to learn to share things, especially with your siblings, in "Pisco va a la playa;" friends and freedom are the real treasures, in "Pisco y la Isla de las Plantas Carnívoras"...)

The idea behind the series is to create books in which realism (a child's everyday life) is mixed with fantasy (pirate adventures), as both dimensions are always present in childhood. The two planes blend together in this series when Pisco becomes Lieutenant Nobody and Anita becomes Pirate Badblood and they join Captain Caiman in his adventures.

Titles published in Spanish:

Pisco pasea por la ciudad (Pisco Takes a Walk Through the City), *Pisco sueña con el Capitán Caimán* (Pisco Dreams of Captain Caiman) *Pisco y la boda del Capitán Caiman* (Pisco and Captain Caiman's Wedding) *Pisco va a la playa* (Pisco Goes to the Beach) *Pisco y la Isla de las Plantas Carnívoras* (Pisco and the Island of Man-Eating Plants), *Pisco y el Contramaestre Diente de Oro* (Pisco and the Boatswain Golden Tooth), *Pisco y el asesino de guantes blancos* (Pisco and the White-Gloved Killer), *Pisco y la penúltima aventura del Capitán Caimán* (Pisco and the next Caiman Captain Adventure)

PISCO Y EL CONTRAMAESTRE DIENTE DE ORO

PISCO AND THE BOATSWAIN GOLDEN TOOTH

This time, alongside Captain Caiman, Marisa del Cerro and the Pirate Malasangre, has to face the dangerous Black Tooth and his cousin Golden Tooth, whose shark, Dentón, gives them more than one headache. Besides this, we'll discover the Captain's real name and find out why he is the prime suspect in the mysterious murder of the Vice-Count of San Esteban, which could send him to the gallows.

PISCO Y EL ASESINO DE GANTES BLANCOS

PISCO AND THE WHISTE-GLOVED KILLER

At the end of *Pisco y el Contramaestre Diente de Oro*, Captain Caiman is saved by a miracle: the shot from a cruel and mysterious character got lodged in the medal he wore on his chest. Someone wants to see him dead and the white-gloved assassin could get away with it next time round. Caiman will have to have his wits about him and move swiftly to expose his enemy...

Sold to: (Spain, Anaya)

Ages: 6-8

NICOLÁS CASARIEGO

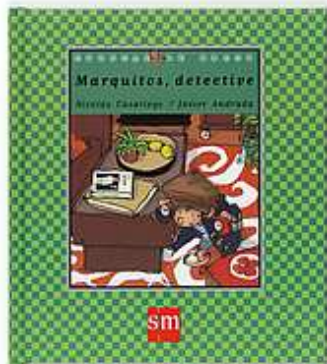
Nicolás Casariego (Madrid, 1970) is author of several novels, books of short-stories and essays. In addition, he has published stories in various anthologies and newspapers and travel articles for the supplements of *El País* and *El Mundo*. He is also co-scriptwriter of two feature films. His second novel, *Cazadores de luz* (Destino, 2005) was finalist for the Nadal Award 2005. *Lo siento, la suma de los colores da negro* (Destino, 2007) is his most recent book. *Marquitos detective* is his first work for children. The second volume of the series, *Marquitos caballero*, has been published in 2009.

Marquitos caballero (*Marquitos Knight*). Marquitos goes to the beach with his parents. But as soon as he gets there, he puts on his helm, takes his sword and becomes a knight. Along with his friend Max, another valiant knight, he will live extraordinary adventures.

Sold to: (Spain, SM)
Ages: 5-7

Marquitos detective (*Detective Marquitos*). Today, Marquitos picks up Little Lion, his favourite toy. But Little Lion is very strange: he is not dirty and he has both his eyes, and even his tail is not broken. Marquitos starts to cry. Little Lion is not his Little Lion!

Sold to: (Spain, SM)
Ages: 5-7



JOSEP MARIA FONALLERAS

Josep M. Fonalleras (Girona, 1959) has a long list of publications to his name, both for adults and young and older children. Among the children's books are: *Gertrudis and the days* (Cruïlla, 2003), *The Diary of Laia* (Cruïlla, 2005) and a series about Barça, including *Tomorrow we're going to the match*, *Joan* (Cruïlla, 2005); *The Photo of Marçal* (Cruïlla, 2005); *The End of Gorka* (Cruïlla, 2005); *Uri's Dreams* (Cruïlla, 2006) and *Fatimetu's T-shirt* (Cruïlla, 2007). In June 2007 he won the 2007 Vaixell de Vapor award for *The Biscuits of the Continental Tearoom*, published by Cruïlla.

Les galetes del Saló de Te Continental (*The Biscuits of the Continental Tearoom*). The relationship between Beatrice and her grandfather becomes greater as they look together at some war photos which the grandfather turns up. A story written with great sensitivity, shows the nostalgic relationship of a child with her grandfather, and is a great introduction, aimed at young readers, to a history which has been hidden, to the recovery of the historical memory. Through the conversations which Beatrice has every Thursday with her grandfather when she leaves the chess class in the Continental Tearoom, both she and the reader learn of the childhood of a boy during the Civil War. A photograph in an exhibition opens the door to the grandfather's memories, and from that moment on he reaps the anecdotes of his past and recreates a new world for Beatrice. The magic of friendship between grandfather and grand-daughter take on a new importance when the emotions that come with the memory of the upsets of the war start to affect the fragile health of the old man.

Sold to: (Spain, SM -Spanish / Cruïlla – Catalan)

Translation rights: working in conjunction with Cruïlla

Ages: 9-11

IGNACIO GARCÍA-VALIÑO

Ignacio García-Valiño (Zaragoza, 1968) is the author of six novels for adults, among which his latest *Querido Caín* (Plaza & Janés, 2006) was second winner of the Torrevieja Novel Award and has been translated to several languages. *Pablo y el hilo de Ariadna* (Anaya, 2003) was his first book for young readers. *Yago, el cocodrilo vegetariano* (Buchmann, 2008) is his latest title for children.

Yago, el cocodrilo vegetariano (*Yago, the Vegetarian Cocodrile*). Yago is a different kind of crocodile who would rather be friends with a zebra that eat it. That is why he hides in a backwater of the great river Bamba to eat the delicious grasses, and that is how he strikes up a friendship with Cora, and his adventure to save his new friends from going thirsty begins. An African legend that reveals the value of friendship and self esteem.

Sold to: (Spain, Buchmann)
Ages: 4-5

Pablo y el hilo de Ariadna (*Pablo and Adriadne's Thread*). I went to the window to watch her leave. Wiping the steam from the pane with the palm of my hand, I saw her black figure walking unsteadily behind her flashlight beam. She crossed the patio and ambled toward a grove of oak trees. Suddenly, from the distance, a sign of light appeared in her direction. It was another flashlight blinking on and off. Beatrice followed the brightness, drawn to it like a moth. And I felt a shiver run up my spine.

Sold to: (Spain, Anaya)
Ages: 11-13

IGNACIO MARTÍNEZ DE PISÓN

Ignacio Martínez de Pisón (Zaragoza, 1960) is the author of several novellas, short story collections and novels widely translated. Several of his novels have been made into films. His books for young readers, originally published by SM, are being relaunched by RBA this year with titles such as *El viaje americano* (1998; Italy, Feltrinelli), *Una guerra africana* (2000) and *Los hermanos Bravo* (2001).

«Friendship, emotion, tenderness, tragedy and passion. A novel with all the necessary elements of true adventure stories.» (Antón Castro, ABC)

El viaje americano (*The American Journey*). There's no business like show business. Hollywood in the 30s. Silent films are already a thing of the past and the talkies, which are shot at the same time by different teams and in different languages, are at the peak of their success. Our young hero works as a waiter on an ocean liner en route from Le Havre to New York and makes friends with a group of artists on their way to Hollywood. Among them is bewitching Margarita, who knows how to turn him into an idol with thousands of admirers.

Sold to: (Spain, RBA); (Italy, Feltrinelli)
Ages: 11-13

Una guerra africana (*An African War*). North Morocco, summer 1921. The Spanish Colonial army has just undergone the most bloody and humiliating of defeats. A boy will witness and participate in some of the after effects: the cruelty of the reprisals, the desperate search for missing people, protest campaigns carried out by the revolutionaries, and an adventure that will put both love and friendship at stake.

Sold to: (Spain, RBA)
Ages: 11-13

Los hermanos Bravo (*The Bravos*). The Bravos' parents run a cheap hotel by the side of the road. Since the highway was built, hardly anyone comes by. But one day a dark man with a star tattooed on his left forearm arrives... in a fabulous Alfa Romeo! Juan, Rafa and Eduardo had never dreamed of getting into a car like that and then...

Sold to: (Spain, RBA)
Ages: 11-13

MIGUEL MENA

Miguel Mena (Madrid, 1959) lives in Zaragoza, where he works as a journalist. He has published scripts, articles, feature stories and novels for young readers, such as *Bendita calamidad* [*Holy Smoke!*] (Alba, 1996), *El escondite inglés* [*Red Light, Green Light, One, Two, Three*] (Alba, 1997) and *Cambio de marcha* [*Shifting Gears*] (Alba, 2002). He depicted the media ironically in the novel *Onda Media* [*Medium Wave*] (Alba, 1999). *Días sin tregua* [*Relentless Days*] (Destino, 2004) is his most recent work of fiction for adults and has been awarded with the Premio Málaga de Novela 2005.

Bendita calamidad (*Holy disaster*). Two brothers in a dire financial situation mistakenly kidnap the bishop of a small city. Their flight through the surrounding mountains turns into an adventure, as they fight against a cheeky hostage and their own clumsiness as criminals. A journalist, convinced that this is the case that is going to make her career, complicates things even more. *Bendita calamidad* is a furiously paced comic novel in which mystery and fun come together along with a cast of characters that are as hilarious as they are likeable.

Sold to: (Spain, Alba Editorial)
Ages: 11-13

El escondite inglés (*Red light, green light*). Nuria loses her suitcase as soon as she lands in London. What she can't possibly imagine is how that small stroke of bad luck will set off a chain of events that involve her in an adventure with a shady diplomatic official, an ambassador with a reputation as a ladies' man, two clueless detectives, a policeman who wants to be Sherlock Holmes, a peaceful tramp and a self-portrait by Francisco de Goya. Many different fun characters take part in this game filled with humour and suspense that's as tremendously fast paced as the author's previous novel, *Bendita Calamidad*.

Sold to: (Spain, Alba Editorial)
Ages: 11-13

ANA MERINO

Ana Merino (Madrid, 1971) has published five books of poetry *Preparativos para un viaje* (Rialp 1995) winner of the 1994 Adonais Award, *Los días gemelos* (Visor 1997), *La voz de los relojes* (Visor 2000), *Juegos de niños* (Visor 2003) winner of the Fray Luis de León Award, and *Compañera de celda* (Visor 2006), translated into English as *Cell Mate* (Harbor Mountain Press, 2007). An anthology of her poetry has been translated into German and published by teamart Verlag Zurich, 2009. She is also the author of a youth novel *El hombre de los dos corazones* (2009). Merino also writes about Comics and Graphic Novels Criticism: *El comic hispánico* (Cátedra 2003) and *Chris Ware la secuencia circular* (Sinsentido 2005). Ana Merino is an Associate Professor in the Department of Spanish & Portuguese at the University of Iowa, specializing in Creative Writing. She is a member of the executive committee for the International Comics Art Forum (ICAF) and a Director Board for the Center for Cartoon Studies. She has served as curator for three comics exhibitions.



El hombre de los dos corazones
(*The Man with Two Hearts*)

Raquel is a girl who has nightmares and calls her parents to dispel her fears. One such night, her mother, Reyes, invents a story about a man who had two hearts so that the girl can sleep: but the story carries on developing in Raquel and Reyes' dreams. The man with two hearts wants to discover whom his second heart is from and so embarks on a journey in which he will have many adventures and share them with Reyes and Raquel, and that will carry them off to discover unimaginable worlds. The author's fantasy and originality make this novel a consuming tale, which traps

the reader and in the end transforms him or her into one of the story's protagonists.

Sold to: (Spain, Anaya)
Ages: 11-13

MIQUEL OBIOLS

Miquel Obiols or Leuqim Sloibo is a writer from Catalonia (Roda de Ter, 1945), who entered university to study to be a pharmacist and ended up with a degree in Romance Languages. In 1977 he published *¡Aí, Filomena, Filomena!* and was one of the inventors of the first children's television program in Catalan: *Terra d'escudella*. Since then he has been creating and writing television programs and writing books (*El misterio de Buster Keaton*, *El tigre de Mary Plexiglás*, *Libro de las M'Alícias*, among others). He has also done some translations. He has won awards (Joaquim Ruyra, Ministerio de Cultura, Generalitat de Catalunya, Critici in Erba...). He is an enthusiast of theatre, film and painting. And he likes to play with language. He married a schoolteacher and they have two daughters. He lives in Barcelona but he hasn't forgotten his small-town roots. His childhood experiences, mixed with the most modern reality, are the basis of his stories of imaginary worlds.

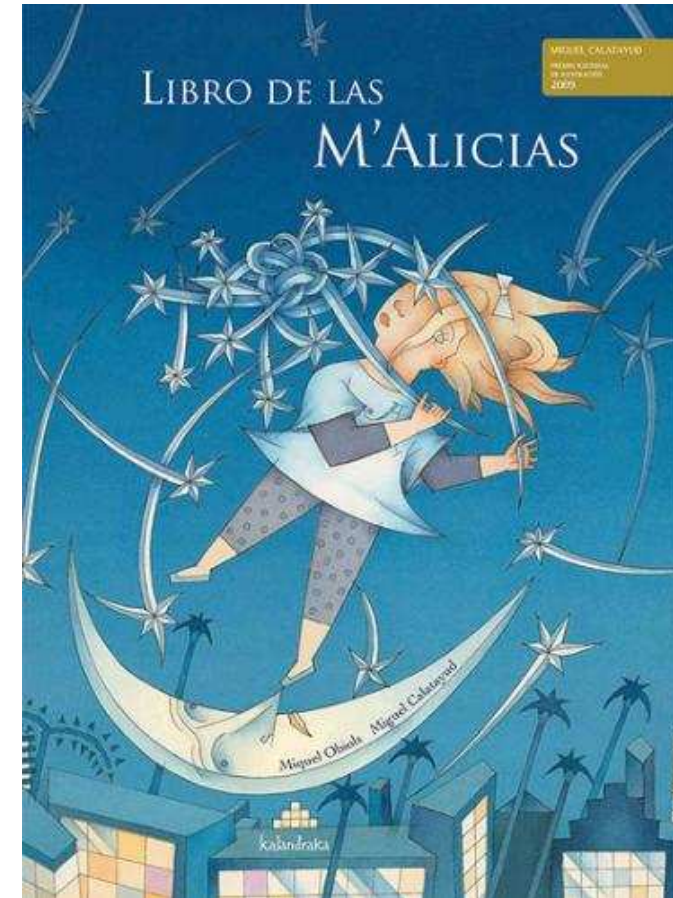
***Llibre de les M'Alícies* (Book of the M'Alices)** Illustrations by Miguel Calatayud, National Prize for Illustration 2009.

Alicia is tired of sitting in front of the computer, with nothing to do, and decides to go out, but she doesn't know what to wear. She opens the refrigerator. Inside there's a rabbit stew, and on a white plate, a left ear with a gold star-shaped earring.

Llibre de les M'Alícies is a taste of creative avant-garde for readers of all ages. This book was selected for the VI Symposium on Children and Young People's Literature as one of the 100 works of Spanish Children's Literature most representative of the 20th century. First published in 1990, it's a strange and amusing retake on the character *Alice in Wonderland*. It consists of twelve crazy short stories, full of humour and fantasy, in which Miquel Obiols presents a new female protagonist – unruly and irreverent – from the Lewis Carroll story, in a surreal and eccentric world that is far from conventional. This work represents a before and after in Miguel Calatayud's artistic journey, and an essential landmark in his aesthetic evolution.

«Kalandraka just recovered one of the most emblematic books by Miguel Calatayud, the most avant-garde Spanish illustrator of the '80s and, without a doubt, one of the renovators of the country's children's literature. It was awarded the National Prize for Illustrated Children's Books in 1992, in a splendid edition.» Victoria Fernández, *El País*.

Sold to: (Spain, Kalandraka - Spanish, Catalan, Galician)
Ages: 8-11



He tornat a jugar amb la mare i se m'ha espatllat (*I've been playing with mother again and she broke*). Restlessness, surprise, creation, imagination, fantasy, experimentation, originality, sensibility, poetry, surrealism... these are essential words to describe this short-stories collection in which words tend to be more than just a letter combination to make sense. Sit, open your eyes, sharpen your sixth sense and start reading these fantastic tales.

Sold to: (Spain, Cruïlla)
Ages: 11-16



El quadre més bonic del món (*The most beautiful painting in the world*). "Joan Miró had five splashes of paint hidden in his studio. They were wild, fresh and eager to mess around. Then Joan came in with his new whip and he put on a ringmaster's outfit, ringmaster's shoes, ringmaster's smile...and silver hair".

This work is a recreation of the artistic world of Joan Miró through the imaginary journey by the painter to discover five splashes of paint that are hidden in his studio. The author

introduces the metaphor of Miro's work as a surrealist text with great poetic content and much imagination.

Artistic and literary language come together in this work, to create a special album for readers from 9 to 99 years old.

Sold to: (Spain, Kalandraka - Spanish-Catalan-Galician; Italy, Kalandraka; Portugal, Kalandraka)
Ages: 5-7

VICENÇ PAGÈS JORDÀ

Vicenç Pagès Jordà (Figueres, 1963; www.vicencpagesjorda.net) was the winner of Biennal de Barcelona in 1989 and a year after he published his first book of short stories. Since then he has published several novels and essays. In 1997 he was awarded the City of Olot Prize for *Carta a la reina d'Anglaterra* (Empúries, 1997). In 2003 he was awarded de Sant Joan Prize for his novel *La felicitat no és completa* (Edicions 62; El Aleph, 2004). His latest work is *De Robinson Crusoe a Peter Pan. Un cànon de literatura juvenil* (Proa, 2006).

De Robinson Crusoe a Peter Pan. Un cànon de la literatura juvenil (*From Robinson Crusoe to Peter Pan. A Canon of YA's Literature*). Young readers' classics have tended to be replaced mostly by dull contemporary works, supposed to be closer to the young reader, easier to read, *politically correct*, but which often have nothing to do with what we have, up to now, considered to be literature. This book presents twenty-eight quality novels which both children and adults can enjoy reading: Stevenson's *Treasure Island*, Dumas' *The Three Musketeers*, Kipling's *The Jungle Book*, Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, Stoker's *Dracula*, Pushkin's *The Captain's Daughter* and Barrie's *Peter Pan*, just to mention a few. At the beginning of each chapter, Vicenç Pagès Jordà provides a guide to introduce the reader to the plot, the characters, the style and the context. Classics to introduce young readers to the pleasure of reading and awaken their imagination.

Sold to: (Spain, Ariel - Spanish / Proa - Catalan)

Carta a la reina d'Anglaterra (*Letter to the Queen of England*). Joan Ferrer takes a look at his own long existence—almost a thousand years, and exposes some of the things that have condemned him to a punishment which is as harsh as it is unjust. And that's why he writes a letter to the Queen of England. The author of this missive has lived through all kinds of vicissitudes, from the middle ages to the turn of the third millennium. He has frequented palaces and salons, he has known wise and powerful men; he has loved numerous women with whom he has spoken in many different languages. And now he writes a letter to Her Majesty, and it is not exactly a plea for clemency. Vicenç Pagès Jordà has written a parable about immortality; a story that guides the reader through the centuries.

Sold to: (Spain, Empúries - Catalan)
Ages: 11-13

FERNANDO ROYUELA

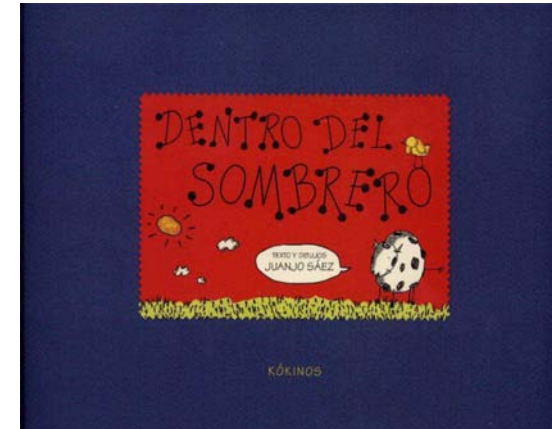
Fernando Royuela (Madrid, 1963) has published the novels *El prado de los monstruos* (Lengua de Trapo, 1996) and *Callejero de Judas* (Lengua de Trapo, 1997) as well as several short stories and books of poetry. The success of his novel *La mala muerte* (Alfaguara, 2000) confirmed his place among the most talented writers of his generation and earned him the prestigious Ojo Crítico Award for the best novel of the year. He then published *La pasión según las fieras* (Alfaguara, 2003) and *Violeta en el cielo con diamantes* (Alfaguara, 2005). His latest book is *El rombo de Michaelis* (Alfaguara, 2007).

Lo que comen los ratones (*What do mice eat?*). Bruno has forgotten what mice eat! Come with him on his big adventure to find out. Fruit shops, fishmongers, butchers? Where do they find their favourite food? A tale for children and adults with humour, colour and tenderness, the value of being oneself and of learning how to live alongside others.

Sold to: (Spain, Alfaguara)
Ages: 5-7



JUANJO SÁEZ



Juanjo Sáez (www.juanjosaez.com) was born in Barcelona in 1972, where he studied Art and Design. As an illustrator, he contributes to several newspapers and magazines and as a designer, he works for record companies, advertising agencies and the fashion industry. His work has earned him several awards. *Dentro del sombrero* (*Inside The Hat*, Kókinos, 2000 – to be relaunched by Mondadori this year) is his first book for children, an illustrated fable about growing up and discovering the world.

Dentro del sombrero (*Inside the Hat*). Once upon a time, there was a boy who lived happily inside a magician's hat. One windy day he fell from his home and faced a brand new world. He soon made friends with a bird and a cow — two animals he had never heard of! — and little by little, he stopped longing for his former safe life and realized everything there was yet to be discovered outside the hat.

Sold to: (Spain, Mondadori)
Ages: 5-7

MÀRIUS SERRA

Màrius Serra (Barcelona, 1963, www.mariusserra.info) has published more than 5,000 crossword puzzles, 1,000 articles, eight books of narrative and 3 of wordplay, among them *Verbalia* (2000), winner of the Octavi Pellissa Prize, the Serra d'Or Prize and the Lletra d'Or Prize. Serra has won the City of Barcelona Prize for the book of stories *La vida normal* (Proa, 1998). He is also the author of the novels *Mon Oncle* (Proa, 1995, FEC Prize), *AblanatanalBA* (Edicions 62, 1999), *Monocle* (Proa, 2003) and has written a non-fiction novel *De com s'escriu una novel·la* (Empúries, 2004). He holds a trilingual website dedicated to puns and wordplay (www.verbalia.com) and is a regular contributor to the media. His latest novel, *Farsa (Farce)* has been awarded the Premi Ramon Llull 2006.

Tres és massa (*Three's a Crowd*). Have you never fallen in love with your teacher? I'm sure that at some time you must have thought he was looking into your eyes. And what if he likes you too? Can you imagine it? What would you do? Emma will have to beat her twin sister to the attention of her English teacher. Because when it comes to love...three's a crowd.

Sold to: (Spain, Columna – Catalan)
Ages: 11-13

La veritable història de Harald Bluetooth (*The true story of Harald Bluetooth*). This book contains the first part of a story written and recorded specifically to be downloaded on a mobile phone. The Swedish engineer who invented the Bluetooth technology named it in honour of the Danish King Harald Bluetooth. This is his story. It is a true story because seventy percent of what is told is true. In the pages of this book you will find magnificent illustrations, fourteen chapters followed by a bonus track which concludes the story. I hope that, at the very least, you will enjoy the seventy percent of that which I have enjoyed writing it.

Sold to: (Spain, Editex / L'illa Diagonal – Catalan)
Ages: 11-13

ÁNGELA VALLVEY

Ángela Vallvey (www.angelavallvey.com) was born in Spain in 1964. She is a very popular adult fiction writer and her books have been translated to more than ten languages. Her books for young readers are *Kippel y la mirada electrónica* (*Kippel and the Electronic Gaze*), *Donde todos somos John Wayne* (*Where We're All John Wayne*) and *Vida sentimental de Bugs Bunny* (*Bugs Bunny's Love Life*), all of them published by SM.

Kippel y la mirada electrónica (*Kippel and the Electronic Gaze*). «I've decided to videotape my life. My videography...That way I will kill both boredom and desperation. Like they were on sale, two for the price of one...But then, why would I tell my stuff, my life, to a video camera? I don't know...but it's fast, cheap and comfortable...Everybody needs to talk, but sometimes you can't find anyone to listen...Or you don't feel like telling anyone else. Anyway, this is better than trying to find a friend...» *Kippel and the Electronic Gaze* is a realistic novel that pulls no punches in its reflection of the anxiety and confusion of a boy in search of his future, yet keeps its humorous side.

Sold to: (Spain, SM)
Ages: 11-13

Vida sentimental de Bugs Bunny (*Bugs Bunny's Love Life*). Arturo has just turned sixteen. He's a longhaired rebel, he likes poetry and he's full of confusion and acne. He tortures himself with problems that seem insignificant to everyone else. He wonders if his mother is an extraterrestrial and he is desperately trying to win the love of a woman who is most definitely out of his league — a beautiful television host who is much older than him. In spite of all that, Arturo is competing for her affections, at an embarrassing disadvantage, with his own Uncle Jaime, an attractive, adventurous and wealthy man. But Arturo knows that there is no way he can win if he doesn't try, so he launches himself into the adventure of getting his beloved to notice he's alive. *Bugs Bunny's Love Life* chronicles Arturo's hilarious life — filled with desires and frustrations, not to mention way too many hormones. It tells the story of one summer when this boy only wanted one thing — that his love life «stops being nonexistent, man».

Sold to: (Spain, SM)
Ages: 11-13