

ADULT NON-FICTION  
VOLWASSE VAKLEKTUUR

BRITS, Elsabé

Kyk my in die oë: bipolêre siekte.- Tafelberg, 2011.

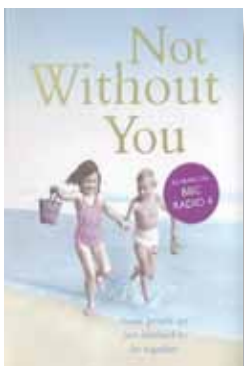


'Wat doen jy as jou gedagtes, rasend soos duisende voëls, skielik eendag in jou kop begin kwetter? Jou hart ondraaglik begin klop? Tien jaar terug het so 'n dag vir Elsabé Brits aangebreek. 'n Verlammeende gemoedstoornis is by haar gediagnoseer. Ongesiens het sy oor die rand van die horison geglip. Haar verhaal gebeur vinnig teen die agtergrond van 'n dagblad se besige nuuskantoor. Sy skets haar storie openhartig reg van die begin af tot nou toe. Die depressie verlam haar, niks werk nie en die psigiater praat

van elektrokonvulsiewe terapie, die laaste uitweg. Na elke sessie word sy wakker met 'n kloppende hoofpyn, gedisoriënteer, sonder 'n korttermyn-geheue. Dit is nie 'n sentimentele bieboek waarin die skrywer 'n slagoffer is of simpatie soek nie. Wat eerder in hierdie boek ontplooi is hoe sy haar siekte leer bestuur, hoe sy teen elke terugslag baklei en mettertyd tot die land se top-bekroonde wetenskapjoernalis vorder. Dis 'n ware verhaal van wanhoop en 'n nuwe begin waarby mense wat aan die siekte ly, hul vriende, familie en gesondheidswerkers sal baat vind. Maar die hart van hierdie boek is die hoop wat dit kweek dat ons die afgrond in die oë kan kyk en kan terugkom na ons lewens toe, sterker as ooit en wyser.' (Die Burger)

BROGAN, Alan and BROGAN, Irene

Not without you.- Hodder, 2008.

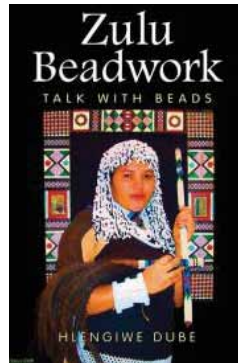


This is a story of love, heartache, loneliness, cruelty, lack of empathy and laughter thrown in between. It is a lovely memoir of two children who were meant to be together. Alan was seven years old when he met nine-year-old Irene in a children's home in the fifties. Their friendship blossomed but it was not allowed and as a result, when it was discovered, Alan was sent away without being able to say goodbye. The separation never prevented them from trying to find each other and eventually they did. Today they are happily married. This book

touched the heart of the nation when it was first broadcast on BBC Radio 4. ....LNG

DUBE, Hlengiwe

Zulu beadwork: talk with beads.- Africa Direct, 2009.

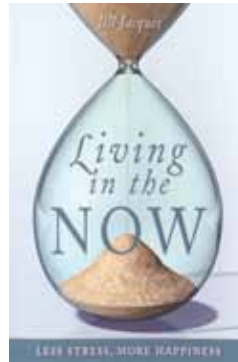


This is a local title on the study of Zulu beadwork by the director of the African Art Centre in Durban. She shares her personal experiences with beadwork and much of it is drawn from stories passed down by her mother and grandmother. In an engaging style, she talks about the unspoken words of traditional beadwork designs, the meaning and message each colour portrays and the colour combination of the beads. For example, white beads assure a lover 'whenever I see you my heart goes white as the milk of cattle

when they are milked in the morning'; the green beads proclaim, 'I am waiting for my husband as he works in Johannesburg'; et cetera. The style is simple and makes it very easy for the reader who may not be Zulu to identify the meaning of who wears which colour and/or design. For example, unmarried girls will not wear the same colour or design as those who are married. The text is accompanied with colourful photographs. ....LNG

JACQUES, Jill

Living in the now: less stress, more happiness.- Oshun Bks., 2009.



This local author is a member of Writers 2000 and a qualified Lifeline counsellor. She has run quite a number of *Living in the moment* courses. This book is about how we can stop stressing about the future and start living 'in the now'. Stop thinking what you must still do, just think about what you are doing now then everything will fall into place. 'Less stress, more happiness.' The author believes that being in the 'now' allows us to accept what we cannot change and respond appropriately to situations where

change is possible without being taken over by emotional reactions. Some practical exercises are also included. ....LNG

LOWE, Rob

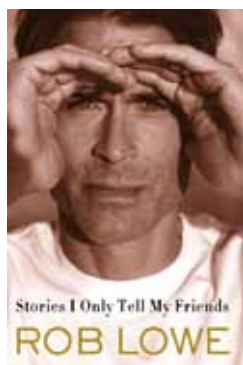
Stories I only tell my friends: the autobiography.- Bantam, 2011.

Rob Lowe, a former member of the Brat Pack elite, delivers a surprisingly tough-minded memoir. He concentrates on his life and career up to his time on *The West Wing*.

Growing up in Dayton, Ohio, Lowe knew at an early age that he wanted to be an actor. When his family moved to Los Angeles, he initially suffered through surfer-kid taunts at Malibu Park Junior High, but soon became friends with the Sheens and Penns. Fame was everywhere, and being a star seemed like a realistic career option. The book's most interesting sections are the revelations about Malibu life in the late '70s and early '80s. It would be the casting

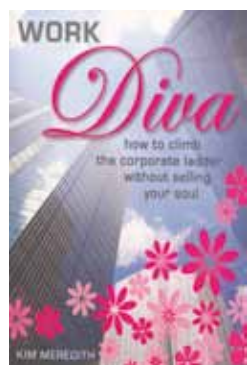
and production of the 1983 film **The Outsiders**, which put Lowe, Tom Cruise, and others in the public eye.

Despite calling the book **Stories I only tell my friends: the autobiography** there is nothing much here that is truly intimate and readers may be disappointed that Lowe only briefly mentions his notorious personal sex videos, which filmed a threesome with two girls. Now he is happily married and lives an exemplary life, very much in love with his wife. Those who enjoy reading celebrity memoirs will be satisfied. ....EB



**MEREDITH, Kim**

**Work diva: how to climb the corporate ladder without selling your soul.**- Oshun Bks., 2009.

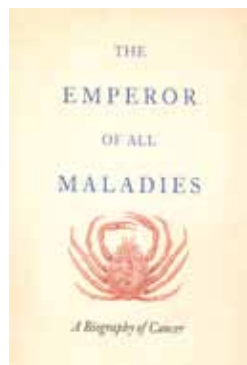


A local inspirational read for women by an internationally acclaimed lecturer. The book addresses the real challenges women face as they climb the corporate ladder. It is a practical guide on how women can cope with many work-related issues. It tries to help women recognise the 'bad', file it away and focus on making the most of the 'good'. It also looks at the advantages and disadvantages of being a woman in business, how to overcome challenges and maximise advantages. The book provides women with all the support they want or need to climb

the corporate ladder: .....LNG

**MUKHERJEE, Siddharta**

**The emperor of all maladies: a biography of cancer.**- Fourth Estate, 2011.



'On its first page **The emperor of all maladies** sets forth its intention: to be a definitive history of how cancer has been understood, treated, feared and politicised throughout all of recorded human history. It is an attempt to enter the mind of this immortal illness, to understand its personality, to demystify its behaviour. It is an informative, well-researched study. He [Mukherjee] points out that there is both folly and scientific partisanship in treating cancer, a shape-shifting disease of colossal diversity, as a single,

monolithic entity. Likewise, questions about whether cancer can be eradicated eventually run up against hard reality. Cancer is a flaw in our growth, but this flaw is deeply entrenched in ourselves, the book

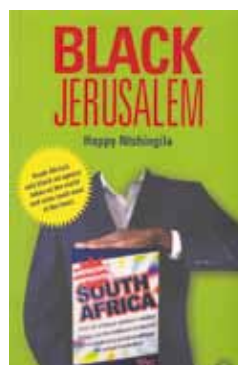
says. **The emperor of all maladies** provides a survey of the different ways in which cancer has been understood in different eras ...' ([www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com).)

'This is a story of pioneers and mavericks; of serendipity, risk-taking and wild leaps of faith; of meetings of minds that changed medical history and obsessive experiments conducted in solitude. Mukherjee looks ahead with guarded optimism and avoids blithe promises. He contemplates whether more modest goals (the substantial prolongation of life by increasingly palatable treatments, rather than cancer's complete eradication) might be a more feasible, and still enormous, victory. Demystifying the disease, rendering the science accessible, and wearing respect for the patients uppermost, **The emperor of all maladies** is the book that many will have been waiting for. This elegantly written overview allows us to look a once whispered-about illness squarely in the eye.' ([www.independent.co.uk](http://www.independent.co.uk))

The author won a 2011 Pulitzer Prize for this book.

**NTSHINGILA, Happy**

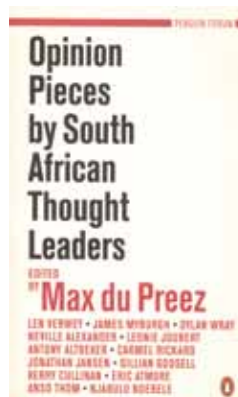
**Black Jerusalem: a mostly funny journey of pitching for new business in South Africa's first black advertising agency.**- Umuzi, 2009.



This is the first book written by this local author from Soweto. It is about how three black men (initially eleven) started a black advertising agency from scratch and became South Africa's first black ad agency. **Black Jerusalem** is the account of Happy, Peter and Dimape's determination to succeed. He defines **Black Jerusalem** as 'legacy for peace' and they believe their company created a legacy. He gives a brief overview of his family background but mainly details of their company, Herdhuoys; their business

relationship and friendship; and the pitches they have won and lost. It is a funny readable memoir and the reader gets to know the men and learn more of their company's success. The book features some photographs of the pitches they have won. ....LNG

**Opinion pieces by South African thought leaders /** edited by Max du Preez.- Penguin, 2011.



'South African veteran journalist and political commentator Max du Preez is the brain behind this compilation of critical opinions on various socio-economic and political aspects of modern South Africa. The book reunites some of the most insightful and well-documented articles written by various contributors with significant impact in their field of research and industry, therefore offering an unbiased, raw and honest perspective on some of the greatest challenges in the country. Opening with the

controversial and satirical feature *Of Jacob, Julius, Jimmy and the dancing monkey* written by Max du Preez himself, the book continues on its debatable tone with writer and researcher Njabulo Ndebele's *Toxic politics: diary of a bad year* and Neville Alexander's depiction of the post-apartheid South African nation. Other highlights include a grim view of crime and policing in the country, signed by Antony Albeker; a sought-after expert and author of various books on the topic, Carmel Rickard's debate on the fairness of the current judiciary and its role to embody the constitution, and Leonie Joubert's call to action on environmental and sustainability concerns. Perhaps the most burning issues are left to be discovered by the end of the book, encompassing Len Verwey's perspectives on poverty (an eye-opening read) accompanied by statistics, an overview of the state of the health services and the national health insurance scheme by Kerry Cullinan and Anso Thom and the extensive portrayal of the development of education and what we still have to achieve as a nation to provide a better future for our youth, wonderfully illustrated by Eric Atmore, Dylan Wray and Gillian Godsell. In *The content of their character*, Jonathan D Jansen, principal at the University of the Free State, is quoted on the transformation of race relations at the university, following numerous incidents catalogued as racist. *After Invictus: Thabo Mbeki and the breaking of the South African state* by James Myburgh, a presentation of the facts and events that shaped our current destiny, taken back to the critical period of 1995-1999 ... is an inspiring choice for ending the book and one that does leave plenty of room for questions.' (*WealthWise Magazine*)

**VAN WYK, Chris**

**Daar's 'n hoender wat 'n eier nie kan lê: 'n memoir.**- Picador Africa, 2011.



Hierdie titel, oorspronklik in Engels uitgegee as **Eggs to lay, chickens to hatch: a memoir**, was baie gewild. Dit is die outeur se tweede boek oor sy kinderjare in Riverlea in Johannesburg waarin hy vertel van die vriendskap en verstandhouding tussen hom en hulle huishulp, Agnes, in die laat 1960's en vroeë 1970's. 'n Humoristiese boek wat lesers sal terugneem na hul kinderdae. ....TGS

## ADULT FICTION VOLWASSE VERHALENDE LEKTUUR

**COLGAN, Jenny**

**Meet me at the Cupcake Café.**- Sphere, 2011.

Issy Randall grew up with her grandfather who owned a bakery. She spent most of her childhood in the bakery, and this is where her love and passion for baking started. Issy can create delicious and mouthwatering cupcakes and cakes. When her boss (who was also her boyfriend) made her redundant,

she was without a job and heartbroken. To get her life back on track she decided to open her own bakery. She was in possession of her grandfather's recipes and with her redundancy package she felt well equipped to start her own business. With the support of her grandfather, her friend Helena and her new employee Pearl, who also has her share of problems, the business soon thrives. Her ex-boyfriend comes to her with a business proposal with ulterior motives, but the caring bank manager already plays a role in her life.



The main characters are likable; the plots are interesting enough to make you want to know what happens next.

One of the interesting aspects that stood out in this book is that at the beginning of each chapter there is a recipe for a variety of different cupcakes – a lovely touch. Touched with humour, some romance, but not too much for a chick-lit book. ....TGS

**GREEN, Michael**

**Hondsdol.**- Lapa, 2011.

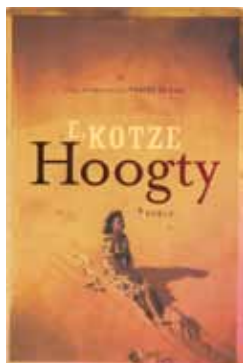


'Welkom by 'n stapelgek cirque du frique wat in die onheilige strate van Port Elizabeth afspeel. **Hondsdol** kom met 'n waarskuwing: Nie vir sensitiewe lesers nie. [Dit] is gestroop van alle pretensieuse literêre foefies en teorieë en jy word deur die naakte storie van een drama na 'n volgende meegesleur ... In **Hondsdol** figureer Gracie, ma van die jong en woelige Henry en vrou van Ben Klopper, oftewel Ben Hond Klopper, die man wat grom en blaf soos 'n hond. Arme Gracie voel half oorweldig deur hierdie twee

woelwaters. Pa Ben was 'n joernalis by 'n koerant wat gevou het en is al ses maande sonder werk. Hy probeer positief bly deur vir sy seun Kung Fu-truiks te leer, soos in die Bruce Lee-movies. Intussen werk hy aan 'n musiekblspel met die naam *Bruce Lee: A Kung Fu musical*. Dit word baie gou vir die leser duidelik dié gesin is maar lekker stapelgek. Nie dat dit saak maak nie, want hulle is wonderlike, deernisvolle karakters vol klapsoen-liefde vir mekaar en ander mense. Gracie is gestres omdat haar man nie werk nie, hulle is al 15 jaar getroud. En dan klim sy met haar kind in haar silwer Opel Astra en gaan kuier vir haar suster verder teen die kus af in Jeffreysbaai. Om haar kop oop te maak. Ben Hond moet asseblief maar na Meneer Brintjies die kat kyk en ook somer moeite maak met Tan Lien, 'n stokou buurvrou ... sy verhuur ook woonstelle, onder andere, aan 'n wit hoer en twee Nigeriërs wat klaarblyklik dwelms verkoop' ... dinge haak lelik uit ná die aankoms van die 80-jarige Tan Lien op Ben Hond se drumpel ... Dis 'n mallemeule van goddelose aksie, spanning en speurwerk.' ([www.rapport.co.za](http://www.rapport.co.za))

## KOTZE, E

**Hoogty.**- Kwela, 2011.

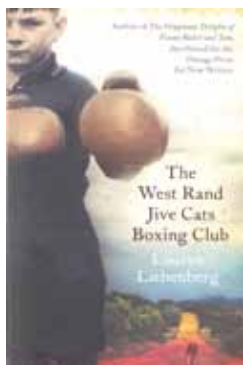


'Hoogty' is 'n karakterstudie van Helena Burger, 'n vrou in die "hoogty" van haar lewe. Sy het die humeur van haar pa, 'n voorste skipper met Deense voorsate. Daar is ook haar saggeaarde ma en skrandere broer, van wie haar pa teen wil en dank 'n seeman wil maak. Hoewel die vertelling grootliks op Volleminkbaai afspeel, word die Vrystaatse platteland en Walvisbaai ook betrek. Kotze se verstommende vermoë om 'n streek en sy mense tot lewe te bring is duidelik nie beperk tot die Weskus nie.

In die voorspel, waarin Kotze haar verhaal vernuftig vooruitloop, keer Helena uit die Vrystaat terug om haar pa te oorreed om "Boetie" sy hoërskoolopleiding te laat voltooi. Koppe word gestamp, 'n komplot gesmee. Daar is ... 'n liefdesdriehoek. Of vierhoek ... Die roman is met sorg geskryf, met geloofwaardigheid en deernis en noukeurige aandag aan detail van plek, tyd (die 1950's) en karakterisering. Kotze laat óu woorde en uitdrukkings herleef ... Waar intrige ontbreek, boei die taalvaardigheid en karakters. **Hoogty** is ook 'n liefdesroman, of 'n verhoudingsroman ... Kotze wend haar die eerste keer tot die erotiek en vaar nie sleg nie ... Dit voel egter asof **Hoogty** koers verloor en 'n verhoudingsroman wat goed kon vergelyk met die bestes wat al in Afrikaans geskryf is vervlak mettertyd tot 'n beskrywing van 'n egpaar se bestaan binne 'n bepaalde tydsverloop. Hoe ook al: Kotze bly 'n skrywer wie se werk gelees móét word, al is daar soms tegniese tekortkominge.' ([www.rapport.co.za](http://www.rapport.co.za))

## LIEBENBERG, Lauren

**The West Rand Jive Cats Boxing Club.**- Virago, 2011.



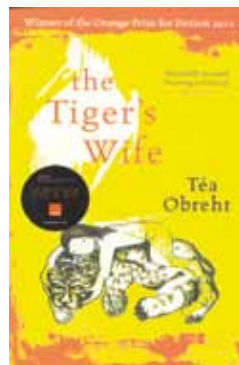
'There are few Southern African-based books that do what you'd least expect of them. This, though, is what Lauren Liebenberg has achieved, and the unexpected is always to be applauded. Liebenberg's first novel ... was based on her experiences of growing up during the Rhodesian Bush War. With her second offering, she crosses to 1950s South Africa, but the main conflict isn't found predominantly in a colour divide. This is "Mining Town, South Africa", and, as you'd expect, it is not a light read. The novel has

a true, raw feel about it. Her chief characters are again young, and through them she once again captures the loss of innocence and a critical moment in African history. The mine itself is stark, and there is a depressing aura to the poor white town around it ... The key players, 12-year-olds Chris and Tommy, and Tommy's younger sister Cecilia, are looking for escape. Tommy is a delinquent with a nose for trouble, while Chris is more sensitive and hides a strength of

character even from himself. Cecilia's presence is pivotal, though not always obviously so. Her escape is religion, while for the boys sanctuary comes in the shape of the local boxing club. But this is where Liebenberg takes a side step to the arrival of rock 'n' roll in South Africa. Initially, this musical expression is incongruous. For a start, it's a shift from the tough environment. Then there's the boys' discovery - with a degree of horror - that the likes of Chuck Berry and Little Richard are black ... These are changing times in more ways than one. Subtly, Liebenberg weaves the decay of the Union of South Africa into the story, and through it the boys start to examine their place as English-speaking South Africans in the only land they've known ... Gradually they're discovering independence, and it's Tommy's uprising against his father that sparks the test of friendship, and the novel's dénouement. Chris, Tommy and Cecilia have narrative roles, but it's Chris's tale that dominates. The tone of voice is strong, and through it the reader is made acutely aware of the town's oppressiveness, but it would have been more effective to have stuck to a single viewpoint. At times the dialogue is beyond the narrators' years, even if this is an adult read, and for those not familiar with the dense colloquial authenticity it may impede the flow, with or without the glossary. Liebenberg is a terrific writer, though, with a firm grasp of her prose, and once more she has produced a solid, effortless tale that captures more than is initially apparent. South African history is as vast as it is complex; these are unfamiliar lives in a moment that won't be known to many, but it's a story that shouldn't be forgotten.' (*The Guardian*)

## OBREHT, Tea

**The tiger's wife.**- Phoenix, 2011.

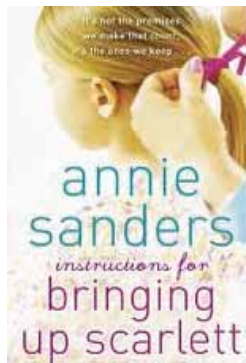


'Not even Obreht's place on the *New Yorker's* current 20 under-40 list of exceptional writers will prepare readers for the transporting richness and surprise of this gripping novel of legends and loss in a broken land. Drawing on the former Yugoslavia's fabled past and recent bloodshed, Belgrade-born Obreht portrays two besieged doctors. Natalia is on an ill-advised goodwill medical mission at an orphanage on what is suddenly the other side (now that war has broken out), when she learns that her grand-

father, a distinguished doctor forced out of his practice by ethnic divides, has died far from home. She is beset by memories, particularly of her grandfather taking her to the zoo to see the tigers. We learn the source of his fascination in mesmerising flashbacks, meeting the village butcher; the deaf-mute Muslim woman he married, and a tiger who escaped the city zoo after it was bombed by the Germans. Of equal mythic mystery is the story of the deathless man. Moments of breathtaking magic, wildness, and beauty are paired with chilling episodes in which superstition overrides reason; fear and hatred smother compassion; and inexplicable horror rules. Every word, every scene, every thought is blazingly alive in this many-faceted, spellbinding, and rending novel of death, succour, and remembrance.' (*Booklist*)

**SANDERS, Annie**

**Instructions for bringing up Scarlett.**- Orion, 2011.



'Alice McLean is pretty happy with her life. She's got a great job as a travel writer; has a fantastic best friend in Virginia and is godmother to Virginia's beautiful daughter Scarlett too, leaving her free to live her life as she wants. However, when tragedy strikes and both Virginia and her husband are killed, Alice finds herself being in charge of a very lost and confused young Scarlett. Alice not only has to deal with the loss of her best friends in the world, but learns how to be a mother to a nearly teenage girl who is

shutting herself off from the world more and more every day. Will Alice be able to coax Scarlett out of her shell, and cope with life as a single parent? Maybe a huge reality check is what Alice needed to finally make her life feel totally complete.' ([www.chicklit.com](http://www.chicklit.com))

**SLEIGH, Dan**

**Wals met Matilda.**- Tafelberg, 2011.



'Ná sy twee magtige historiese romans, **Eilande** en **Afstande**, pak Dan Sleigh nou 'n eietydse roman aan – en hy pak hom met mening. Hy pak ook 'n boel ander instellings, mense en verskynsels: skrywers, uitgewers, koerante, die radio, die skole, politici; kortom, die hele Suid-Afrikaanse samelewing, met spesifieke verwysing na die vervlakking en verbastering van taalgebruik, en meer spesifiek die verval van Afrikaans. Die boek is 'n lofsang en 'n elegie vir Afrikaans; dit is ook 'n uitbundige, opruiende, onbeskofte

verlustiging in die lewenskragtigheid van die bedreigde taal. Die hoofkarakter, Koos van der Merwe, is 'n ouerwordende skrywer wat sukkel met 'n skrywersblok so groot soos Tafelberg. Sy uitgewers, Goeie Hoop Uitgewers, wat hom aanhou in 'n see-uitsig woonstel in die hoop dat hy sal produseer, dreig om die woonstel van hom weg te neem as hy nie binnekort tekens van kreatiwiteit toon nie. Om hom uit sy inersie te skok stuur hulle vier hom ene Carelina van der Merwe, oud-onderwyseres, taalpuris en -fanatikus ... Geleidelik, dan, onder Carelina se invloed, kom die blok los, en stadig ontvou die verhaal-binne-die-verhaal: Koos van der Merwe se historiese roman oor die jong Japie van der Merwe, wat teen die einde van die 19de eeu na Australië gaan om van skaapboerdery te leer – en op heel geloofwaardige wyse die held van die Australiese volksliedjie *Waltzing Matilda* word. Geleidelik onthul Koos ook sy eie geheime verdriet: die dood van sy dogter, skoonseun en kleindogter, Matilda, in 'n ongeluk waarvoor hy homself verantwoordelik hou. **Wals met Matilda** lees heerlik: nie net vanweë die "storie" nie, boeiend soos dit is, maar ook vanweë al die insigte en opmerkings wat die verbitterde Koos en die verbete Carelina kwytraak ... **Wals met Matilda** [is] 'n

meesterlike roman, geskryf in 'n Afrikaans wat tintel en vonkel, bruis en brul ...' ([www.beeld.com](http://www.beeld.com))

## JUVENILE FICTION JEUGLEKTUUR

**BROWNE, Anthony**

**Me and you.**- Picture Corgi, 2011.



This is a very interesting, modern retelling of the Goldilocks fairy tale by a well-established and respected author/illustrator. I loved it. In a column in *The Bookseller* magazine a bookseller described it as 'a thought-provoking, postmodern version ... There is a complexity and depth to the narrative and themes of identity and belonging which, delivered in Browne's reassuring and precise style, make for the most rewarding of picture books'. In the same column, a second bookseller wrote: 'This ver-

sion of the tale shows Goldilocks in a different light ... as Browne uses a sombre graphic novel style to illustrate the uncomfortable experience she has, while the bear family is drawn in coloured pencil and inhabit a world of light.' (*The Bookseller*)

Another reviewer wrote that Browne 'offers a new perspective on an old tale with his reinterpretation ... which he dedicated "to all underdogs"'. Characteristically he gives his readers plenty to puzzle over since the structure of the picture book's layout allows for a double viewpoint. Goldilocks' wordless story is shown on the verso in a sequence of small scale frames in monochrome. The Bears' tale, with a text, appears on the recto in page frames with images on a large scale, lightly coloured in crayon and inks ... The striking class difference, with the material advantage enjoyed by the Bears is counter-balanced by contrast in the behaviour of the two sets of parents. Colour, as a coded clue, has a negative value in the Goldilocks sequence until the final frame when the action is bathed in radiant golden light which out-shines anything shown in proximity to Baby Bear. This apparently – and deceptively – simple picture book could keep discussions going for a very long time.'

(*School Librarian*) .....

**CORDEROY, Tracey**

**The little white owl** / illustrated by Jane Chapman.- Little Tiger P., 2010.

Little White Owl lives all alone in a snowy environment and is not affected by not having parents, a name or even a home. What he does have is a vivid imagination that can relate and remember many stories. One day Little White Owl decides that he would really like to make a trip to see what lies beyond the blue horizon.

He packs his teddy and clock into his bag and sets off, flying past 'turquoise oceans and deserts of gold', only to arrive at a destination where he comes across a collection of owls all displaying various colours.

The only thing wrong with this scene is that these owls are just too lethargic. They in turn find him very plain and lacking in colours. He informs them that his colours come from within via the many stories he can tell.

They suggest he tells a story and one story soon leads to another. Now he has their attention and they wish to join him on his trip home. They want to play, feel the snow and share in everyday activities with Little White Owl. His enthusiasm for life, revealed through his stories, have excited them and they wish to experience something different. The vivid illustrations of Jane Chapman are a rare treat and complement the text. This is an enlightening tale of the power of solitude, friendship and the gift of imaginative story-telling. ....EB



### DIEDERICKS, Antoinette

**Spookskip** / illustrasies deur Astrid Castle.- Tafelberg, 2011.



Dit is die wenboek in NB-Uitgewers en KleinB se kinderverhaalkompetisie van 2010. Lesers van die boek sal die aktiwiteite kan aflaai by [www.dieburger.com](http://www.dieburger.com) of [www.nb.co.za](http://www.nb.co.za). André en Christo kuier by hulle oupa in Houtbaai vir die vakansie. Hulle wens hulle het in die outyd geleef, dan kon hulle seerowers gewees het. In oom Pedro se winkeltjie, *Ye olde artifact cove and shipwreck shoppe*, sien hulle 'n swart glasflessie en oom Pedro gee dit vir hulle. Dit is die begin van

'n opwindende avontuur waar 'n verhaal van die spookskip Die Vlieënde Hollander, wat aan die Kaap gestrand het, die seuns in aanraking bring met ou briewe en dalk ook 'n seerowerskat! Hierdie verhaal is geskik vir seuns tussen nege en elf wat hou van seerowerstories. Die druk is lekker groot en lees maklik, die illustrasies is kleurvol en vul die teks mooi aan. Die omslag met die waansinnige Kaptein Hendrik van der Decken aan die stuur van sy boot, gedetermineerd om óm die Kaap van Goeie Hoop te vaar; 'al neem dit my tot die oordeelsdag!', is heel treffend en behoort seuns aan te moedig om die boek te lees. ....LG

### KRAUSE, Ute

**Oskar en die baie honger draak** / vertaal deur Daniël Hugo.- Protea Boekhuis, 2010.

'Die draak wat Oskar se dorp terroriseer, is 'n honger draak. Hy verkies om aan 'n mooi prinses te smul, maar toe al die prinsesse padgee, besluit die burgemeester om een van die dorpskinders aan te bied en Oskar se naam word uit die hoed getrek. Oskar se mamma huil baie hard, maar dit help niks. Oskar moet alleen die draak met die stink asem trotseer. Die slimme Oskar oortuig egter die bysiende draak om hom eers vet te voer. Oskar maak 'n inkopielys en begin sy kulinêre aanslag op die draak. Hoewel die draak vir eers weier om "mensekos" te eet, maak Oskar daagliks sulke lekker disse dat die draak se wilskrag uiteindelik meegee. Toe die bysiende draak

egter op 'n dag met 'n nuwe bril by die grot opdaag, sien hy dat Oskar lankal nie meer net 'n happie is nie, maar intussen gegroei het om sommer 'n volle hoofmaaltyd te word. Die draak is woedend. Die boek spog met heerlike waterverftekeninge vol amusante besonderhede. Die gesigsuitdrukkings van die twee hoofkarakters is treffend en vol humor. Die vertaling behou die ironiese aanslag van die oorspronklike teks en lees gemaklik en vloeiend voor. Die lengte van die teks maak dat die boek egter eeffe lank voel wanneer 'n mens dit voorlees. Tog beteken dit die boek is ook geskik vir individuele lees op grondslagfase en selfs ouer. Die storie is boeiend en behou klein menses se aandag met 'n onvoorspelbare spanningslyn. Hierdie kinderboek is 'n besonderse aanwysing vir Afrikaans en hopelik word nog vele boeke van die skrywer Ute Krause in Afrikaans vertaal.' (Die Burger)



### NAIDOO, Beverley

**Aesop's fables** / illustrations by Piet Grobler.- Human, 2011.



What a beautiful celebration of Aesop's fables, illustrated by Piet Grobler; undeniably at his best! These 16 fables were painstakingly rewritten by the author; and she has added characteristics and a landscape true to Africa with great skill: tamboti trees, buffalo grass, jackal, warthogs, a rinkhals, a klipspringer, a kudu, and a mouse which addresses a lion as Morena. Beverley Naidoo writes in the introduction that she was hooked by Aesop's fables as a child, and that she is convinced nowadays that Aesop was

African. I really enjoyed the selection, which focuses strongly on African animals, and the proverbs at the end of each tale contain many useful lessons, for example: wishing for something doesn't make it happen; pride comes before a fall; and, work is the real treasure! With every fable Piet Grobler created beautiful borders repeating the main colours used in the full-page illustrations. There is humour in his drawings of the spider, the angry dog, the skinny, sad old lion, the tiny spiders, the mice and his familiar birds in many shapes and sizes, and the cat hanging on a blue peg like a bag of flour. Rich, strong colours are balanced by gentle soft pastels. Highly recommended. A treasure for every collection, at home and in libraries. ....LG

Note: At the time of going to press some of these titles were still on order.

EB.....Erich Buchhaus  
LG.....Lona Gericke  
SCG.....Sabrina Gosling  
LNG.....Linda Ngaleka  
TGS.....Theresa Sass