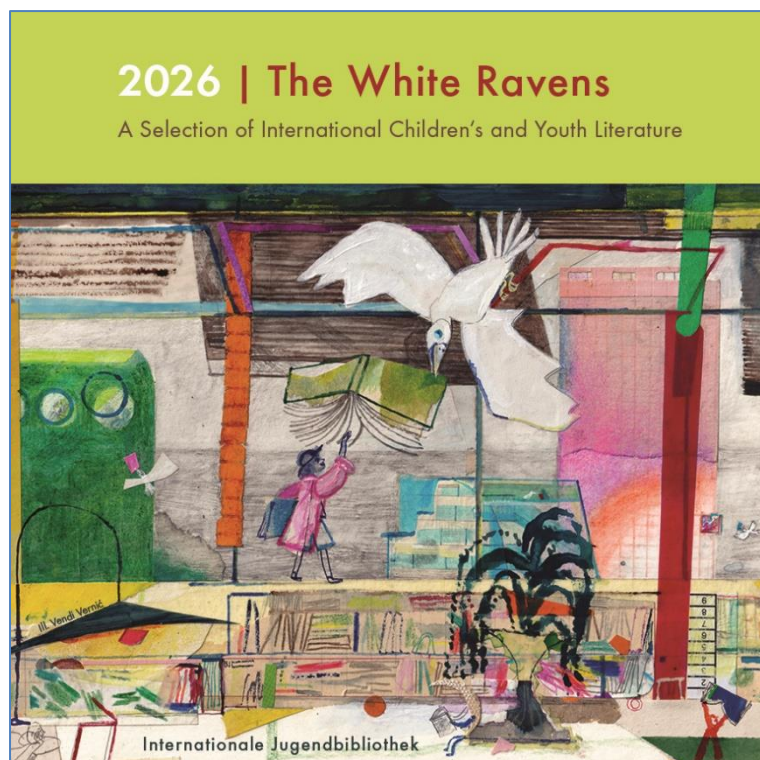


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The White Ravens 2026

A Selection of International Children's and Youth Literature

Published by the
International Youth Library (IYL),
in English
120 pages, coloured

free download



Munich (Germany), September 22, 2026

40 Years of “The White Ravens” Recommendation Catalogue in English

Since 1986, the International Youth Library (IYL) has been presenting outstanding new publications in international children's and young adult literature each year in an English-language catalogue, with the aim of making them accessible to as wide an audience as possible.

Over the past 40 years, children's and young adult literature has undergone far-reaching developments and major changes worldwide: In addition to the encouraging fact that literature for young people is becoming increasingly freely accessible in many countries, we also see that it is often subject to social and political pressure and restrictions that can go as far as outright censorship.

As always, the IYL's work is driven by the conviction that children's and young adult books are an indispensable part of a society's cultural life – one that must be preserved and promoted. This is even more true now that studies show a decline in linear reading in favour of digital media, social networks, and audio content, and some are even positing “*the end of reading*”*. However, reading remains relevant not only as a cultural skill. Books continue to be essential for children and young people to experience the joy of reading and the power of their own imagination. Thus, the IYL is once again committed to presenting the “The White Ravens” recommendation catalogue this year. The latest edition is being released today!

This year's edition features 216 titles in 46 languages from 62 countries and territories: picture books, stories and novels, fairy tales and poems, graphic novels and non-fiction – reading material for young children and young adults alike.

The International Youth Library Foundation is supported by:

Funded by:



Federal Ministry
for Education, Family Affairs, Senior Citizens,
Women and Youth

Bavarian State Ministry of
Science and the Arts



City of Munich
Department of
Arts and Culture

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For the first time, the selection includes titles in the Sami (Norway) and Western Arrarnta (Australia) languages, as well as a picture book from Mongolia – the first to be included in quite some time.

They are recommended by the language specialists of the International Youth Library with the help of a large network of children's and youth book experts from all over the world. The criteria for selection were the literary and pictorial quality, the relevance of the topics dealt with, originality, innovative approaches, and book design. Over the years, the "White Ravens" list has become a useful tool for all those who want to find out about highlights and trends in international children's and youth literature and who want to look beyond national and linguistic borders. The list is like a compass through the unfathomably large children's book market.

"The White Ravens 2026" can be downloaded free of charge [here](#).

In addition, the reviews, bibliographic details and book covers are also available in the "[White Ravens](#)" database. All "White Ravens 2026" titles will be featured over the course of the year on the Instagram account [thewhiteravens.books](#).

*The Atlantic, [„The End of Reading is here“](#), dated 8 July 26

Cover: This year's cover illustration is by the well-known Croatian illustrator **Vendi Vernić**. In her own words, the picture depicts an imaginary library: it is a welcoming, colourful place where people come together to read, relax or play. White ravens fly in from all directions, bringing books that connect the readers. Her picture book „*Saturn na zimskom plivalištu Budućnost*“ (*Saturn in the winter swimming pool named Future*), Zagreb: Mala 2024 was included on the 2025 'White Ravens' list.

INVITATION / FRANKFURT BOOK FAIR

[„The White Ravens 2026“](#)

Wednesday, 07 October 2026, 9:30–10:00 a.m.

Dialogue Stage, Foyer, Hall 4.0

The International Youth Library presents its selection of international children's and youth literature, "The White Ravens 2026":

The children's literature experts Dr Ines Galling und Claudia Söffner will present some highlights from this year's selection, including their personal favourites.

The event will be held in English.

An event in cooperation with the Frankfurt Book Fair.



Are you at the Frankfurt Book Fair? The team of the International Youth Library would be delighted to welcome you at its stand in **Hall 4.0, F 96**.

Please do not hesitate to contact me for further information:

International Youth Library Foundation/IYL

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www.ijb.de/en

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