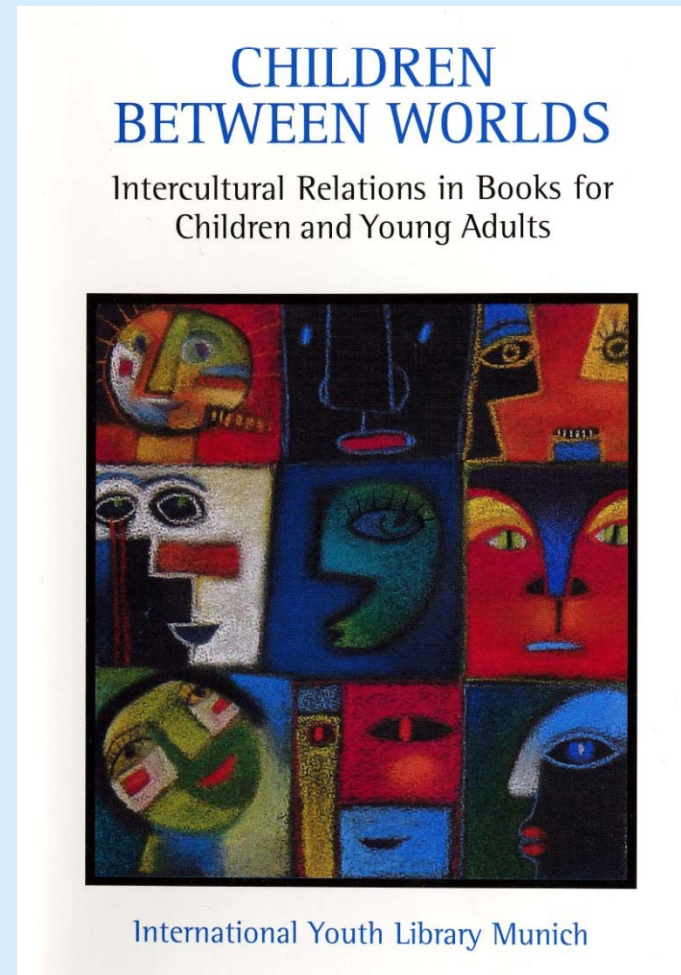


Children Between Worlds: Intercultural Relations in Books for Children and Young Adults

Ralph Brown Draughon Library Exhibit presentation
Judith V. Lechner, Dept. Educational Foundations Leadership, and
Technology and Suzy Westenkirchner
Ralph Brown Draughon Library
Auburn University, Alabama
January 13, 2009

The Traveling Exhibit

- The Exhibit
 - Source
 - Purpose
 - Organization
- IBBY/USBBY



International Youth Library



Schloss Blumenburg, Munich, Germany
Founded 1949 by Jella Lepman with 8,000 international children's books

Children Between Worlds –

- Definition of Children between Worlds
 - Immigrants, people caught between two different cultures; people who are different

President Elect Obama a perfect example:

“He is growing up in Hawaii and when he comes to the mainland he has to work at it [his Black identity]... He is not socialized like other people ” Randall Kennedy, a professor at Harvard Law School

“...he is open to the world in a way that most Americans have not had the opportunity to be. That is something that outsiders have to do.” David Levering Lewis, Historian

“ The Joshua Generation” by David Remnick, New Yorker Magazine, Nov. 17, 2008, p. 72

Immigrants, People caught between two cultures; People who are different

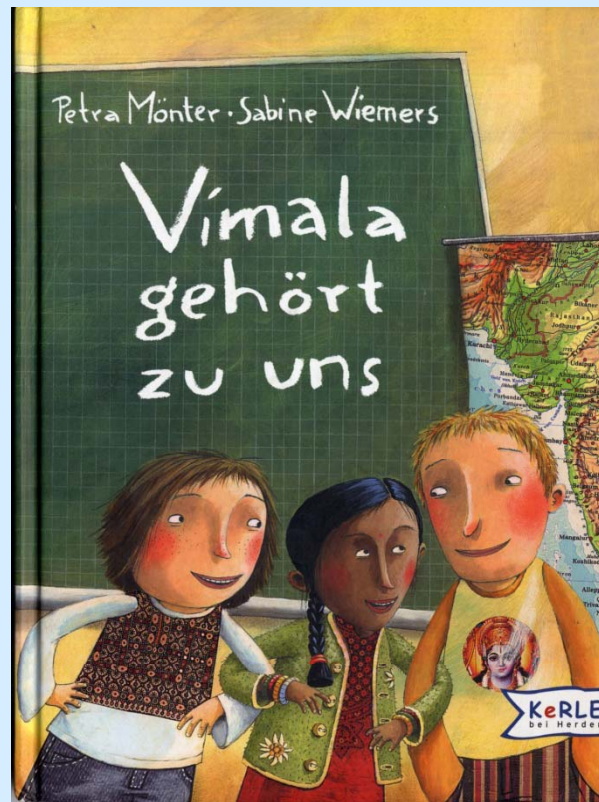
- Perspective of the mainstream
 - Tolerance or acceptance
 - Opportunity to learn from newcomer
- Perspective of the newcomer/stranger
 - Learning about the new country/surviving/ exploring
 - Assimilation v. Maintaining one's cultural identity – balance
- Children truly between two worlds
 - Children acting as liaisons between cultures in conflict
 - Refugees : You may not be welcome in the new place, but you can't go home

Dreaming about the Larger World

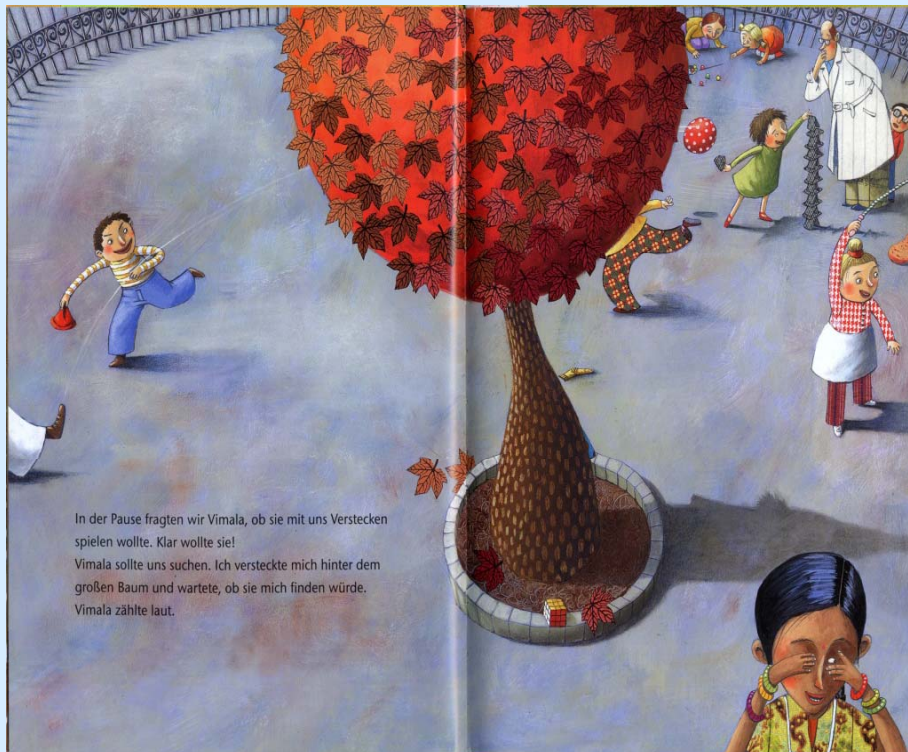
- Main theme
 - The world is a wondrous and varied place
- Ways theme is developed
 - photographic celebrations of the world's wonders
 - We are different but we share the same basic human needs
 - Art and artifacts form different cultures
 - World tours celebrating our differences and similarities

Perspective of the mainstream

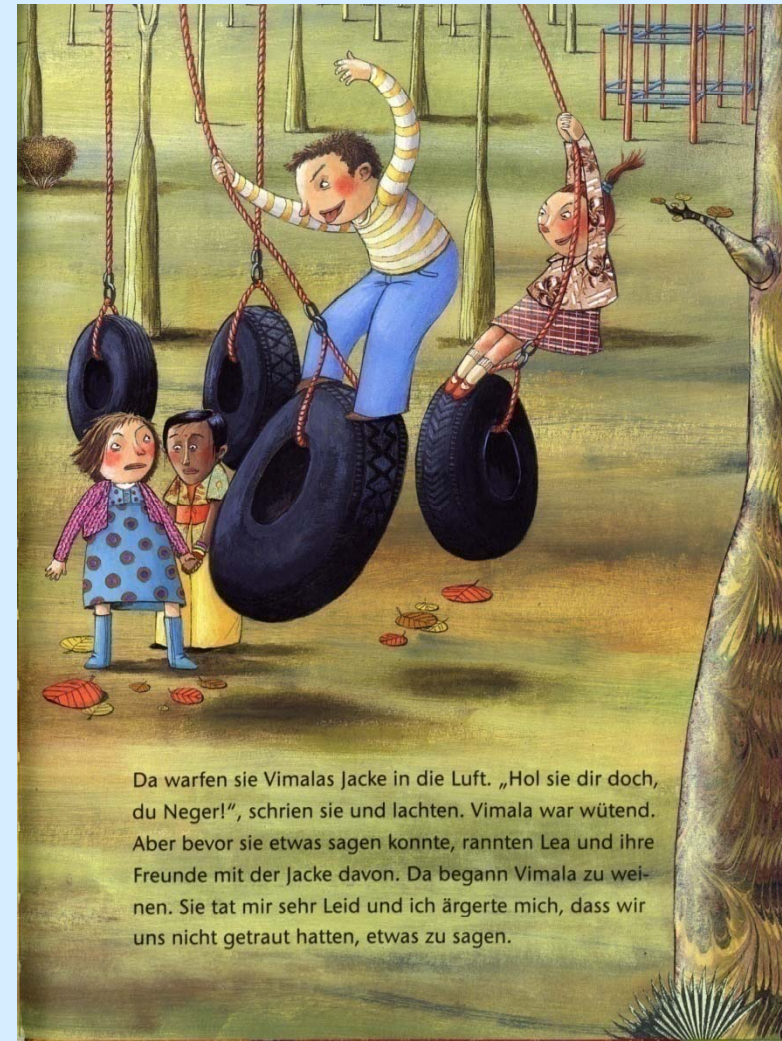
- Main themes in picture books- Acceptance



Vimala is One of Us

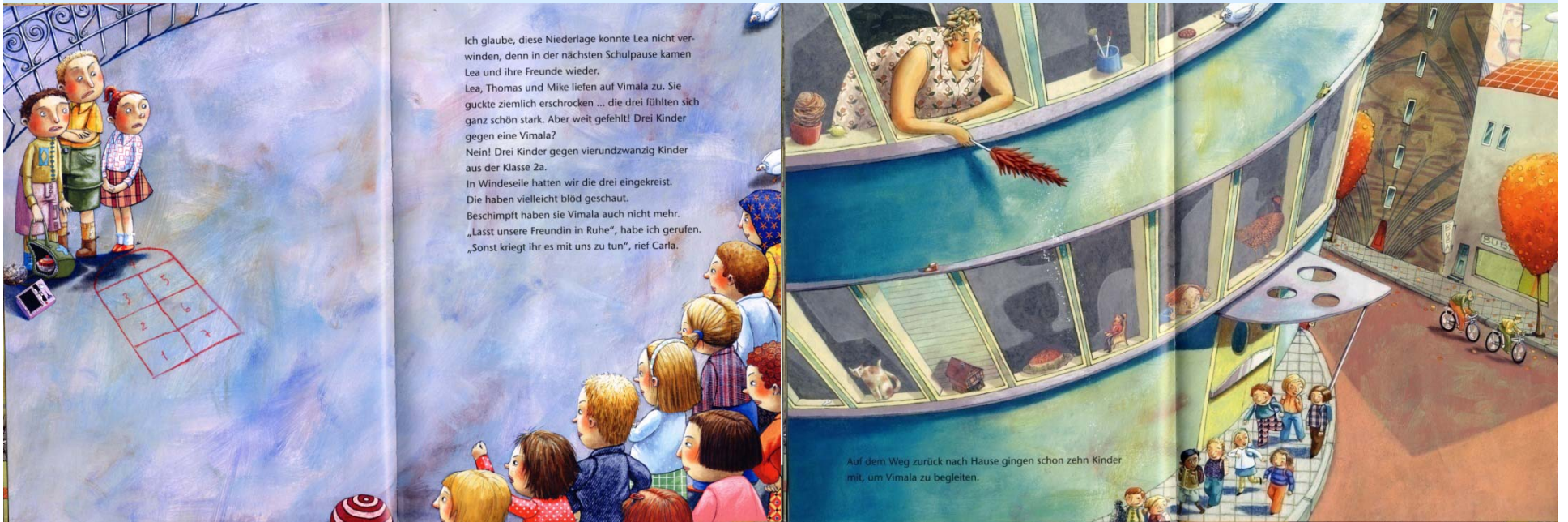


In der Pause fragten wir Vimala, ob sie mit uns Verstecken spielen wollte. Klar wollte sie!
Vimala sollte uns suchen. Ich versteckte mich hinter dem großen Baum und wartete, ob sie mich finden würde.
Vimala zählte laut.



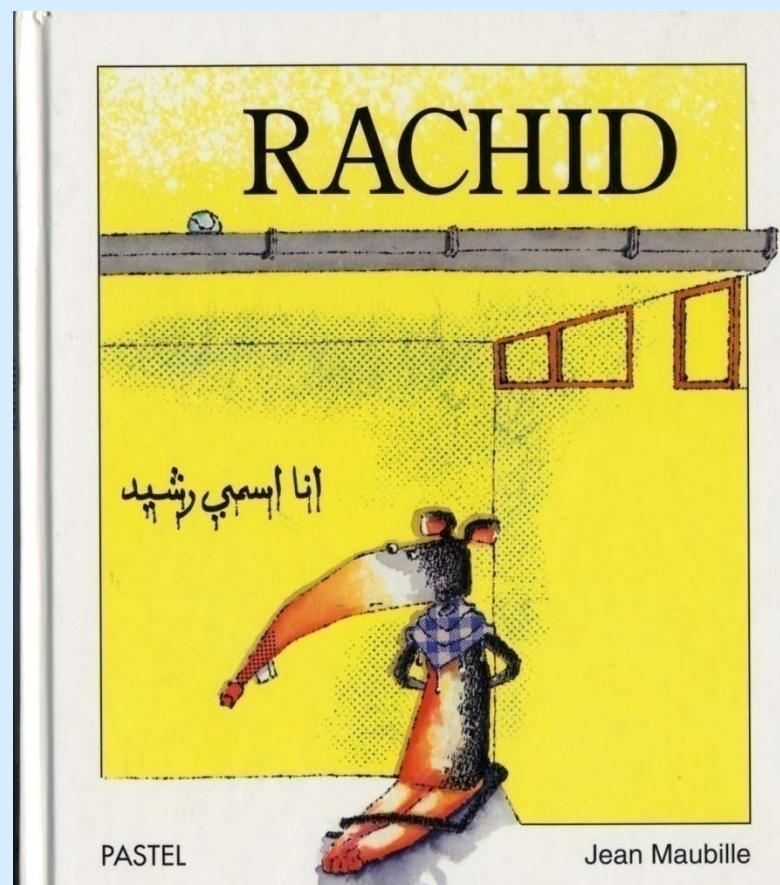
Da warfen sie Vimalas Jacke in die Luft. „Hol sie dir doch, du Neger!“, schrien sie und lachten. Vimala war wütend. Aber bevor sie etwas sagen konnte, rannten Lea und ihre Freunde mit der Jacke davon. Da begann Vimala zu weinen. Sie tat mir sehr Leid und ich ärgerte mich, dass wir uns nicht getraut hatten, etwas zu sagen.

Vimala is One of Us



Rachid

Acceptance and valuing what newcomer has to offer



Rachid



Rachid



"C'est à toi toutes ces billes?" demandent les raseurs.
"Oui", dit Rachid, "vous voulez jouer?"

Africa Behind the Fence

Learning from newcomer



Africa Behind the Fence



Ze dansten om elkaar heen. Désirée rolde haar doekjurk omhoog en danste met ze mee.

Africa Behind the Fence



Désirée bouwde een huis in haar tuin. Het leek een hut om in te spelen.
Een hut van leem. Ze werkte er dagenlang aan. Regen of geen regen.



Goed, zei ik, en ik dronk van haar thee. Foto's laten zien. Dat betekende dat ze me terug wilde zien. Ik zei dat ik heel goed was in een leeuw nadoen.



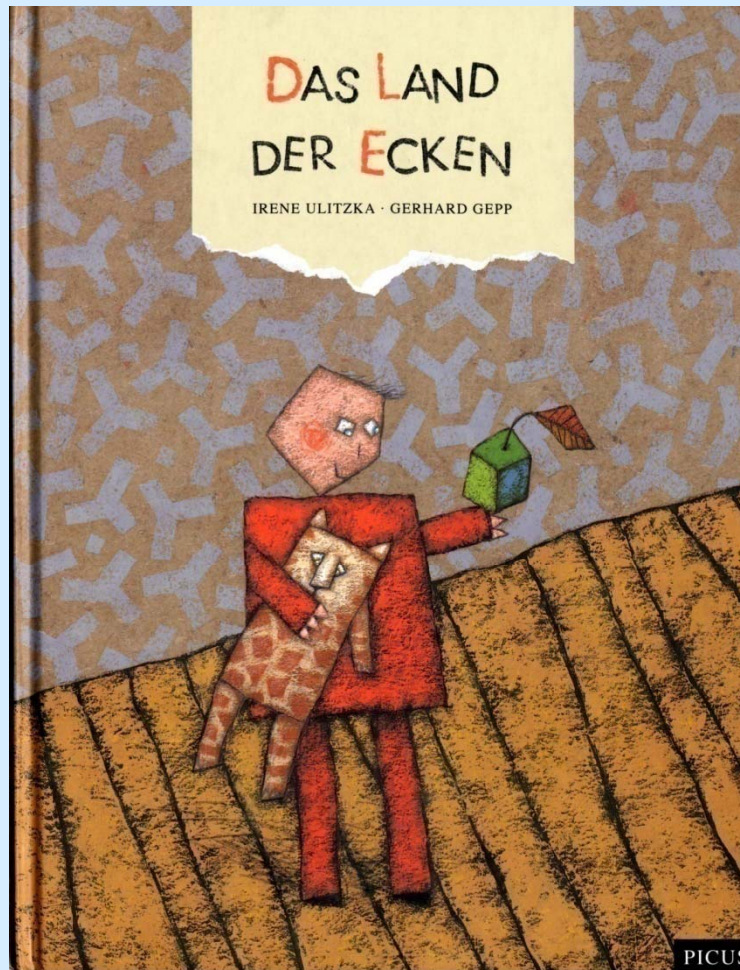
Being Open to the New

Two German picture books for older children challenge readers:

- To be adventurous and open to the unknown to avoid demonizing the strange or different
- To recognize the dangers of trying to stay safe by keeping out strangers.

The Land of Corners

Discovering that there is more to the world



The Land of Corners



The Land of Corners



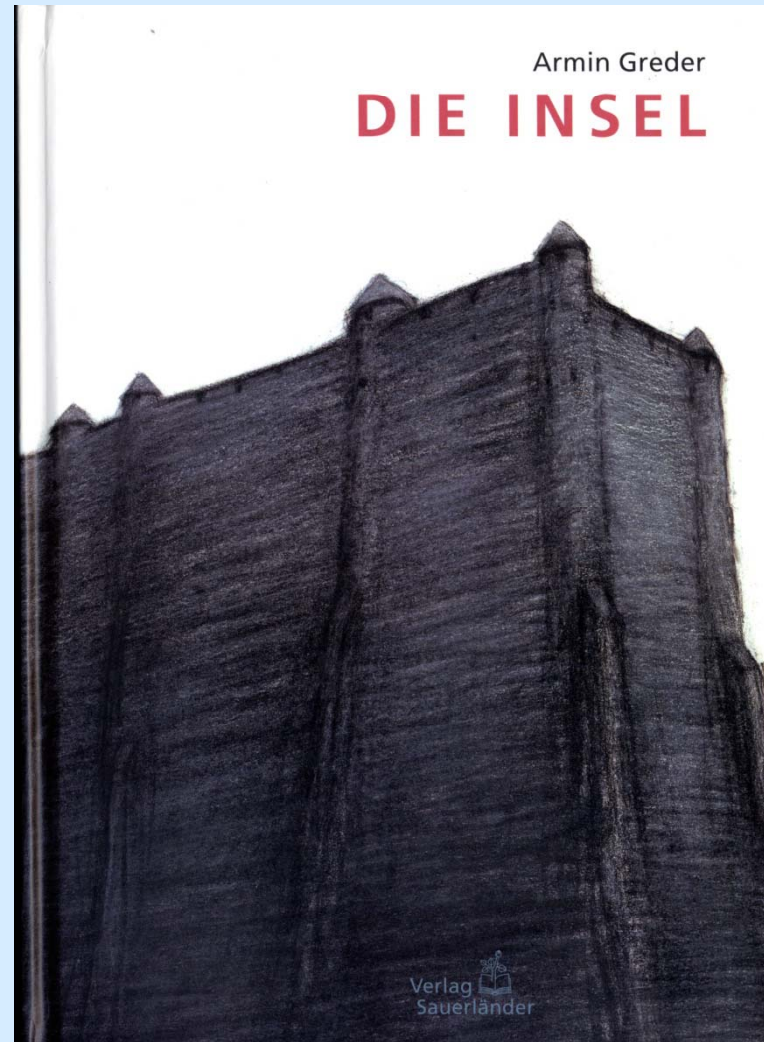
Land of Corners



The Land of Corners



The Island



The Island



Am Morgen fanden die Inselbewohner einen Mann am Strand,
da wo Meeresströmung und Schicksal sein Floß
hingeführt hatten. Er stand auf, als er sie kommen sah.

Er war nicht wie sie.



The Island

Sie führten ihn zu einem Ziegenstall, der schon lange leer stand, am unbewohnten Ende der Insel. Da sollte er bleiben, gaben sie dem Mann zu verstehen und wiesen auf das Stroh in der Ecke. Hier könne er schlafen.

Dann vernagelten sie die Stalltüre und kehrten zu ihrem Alltag zurück und zu ihrem Leben und fuhren so fort, wie sie es gewohnt waren.

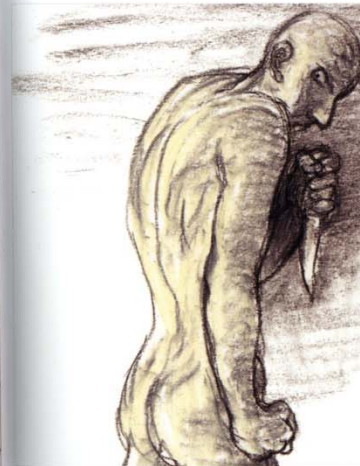


The Island

«Er kommt und frisst dich, wenn du deine Suppe nicht isst», warnte eine Mutter ihr Kind.



«Die Kinder fürchten sich vor ihm», berichtete der Schulmeister sorgenvoll abends in der Wirtschaft.



«Ich bin sicher, dass er uns alle umbringen würde, wenn er Gelegenheit dazu hätte», sagte der Wachtmeister.



«Fremder verbreitet Furcht», stand groß in der Zeitung, schwarz auf weiß.



The Island



Dann legten sie Feuer an das Boot des Fischers, denn er war es gewesen, der sie zur Aufnahme des Mannes bewogen hatte.

Zwar dachten einige wie der Fischer, aber die anderen waren lauter.

Und die wollten auch nie mehr Fische essen, die aus dem Meer kamen, das ihnen den Fremden gebracht hatte.

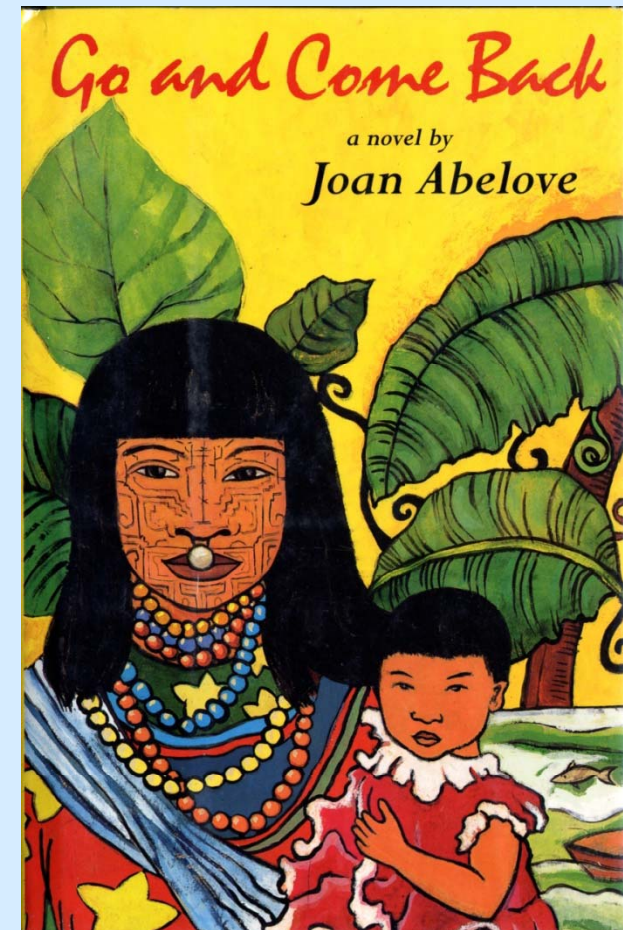
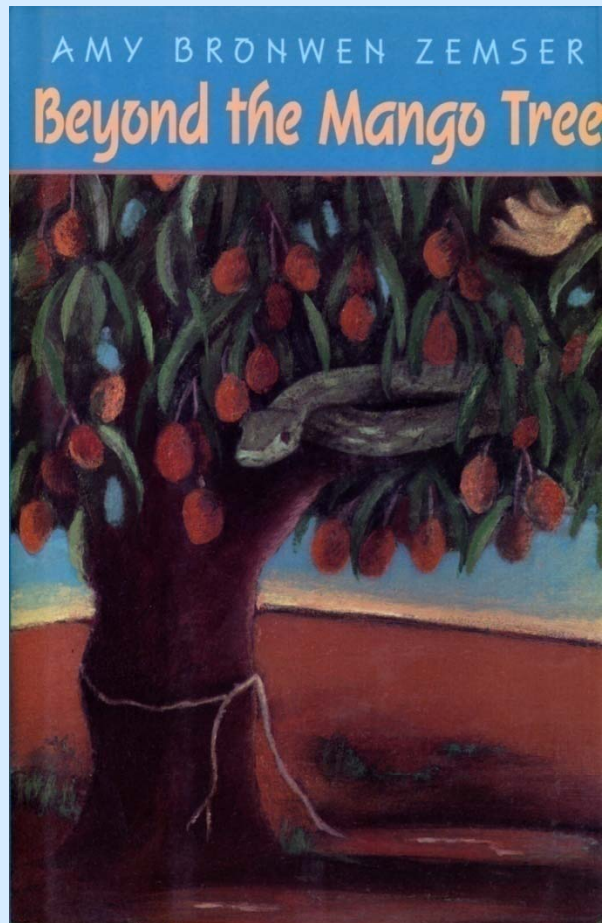
Und sie bauten eine hohe Mauer um die ganze Insel; mit Türmen, von denen sie Tag und Nacht das Meer überwachen konnten. Und sie schossen vorbeiziehende Möwen und Kormorane ab, damit niemand dort draußen von ihrer Insel erfahren sollte.



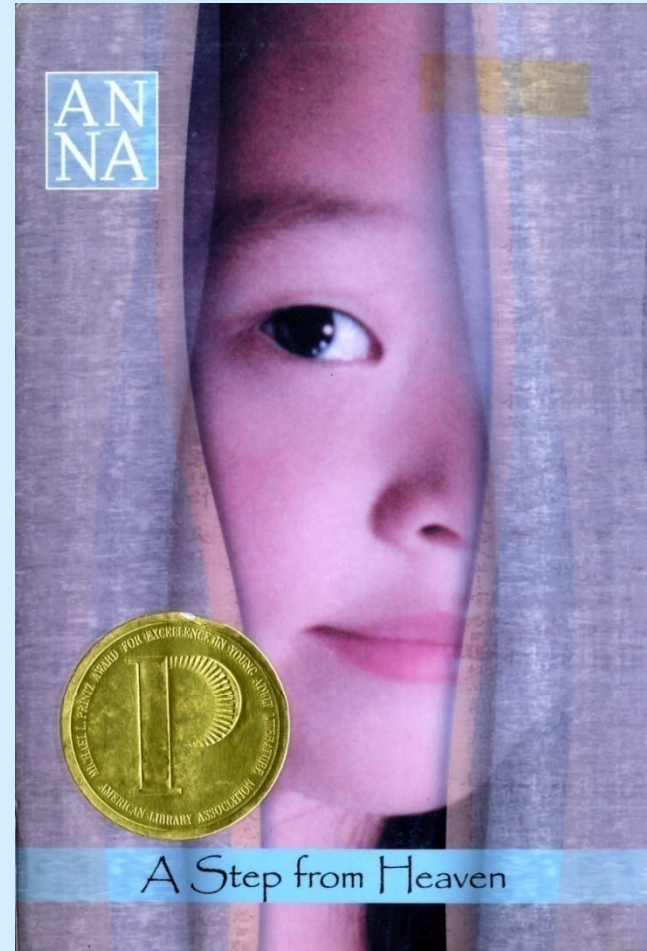
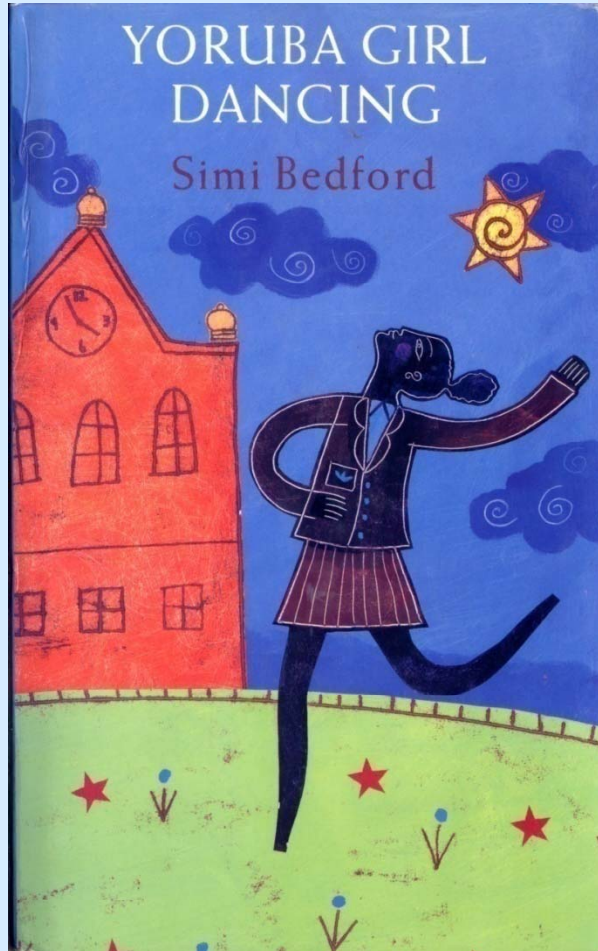
Perspectives of the Newcomer

Being New and Exploring

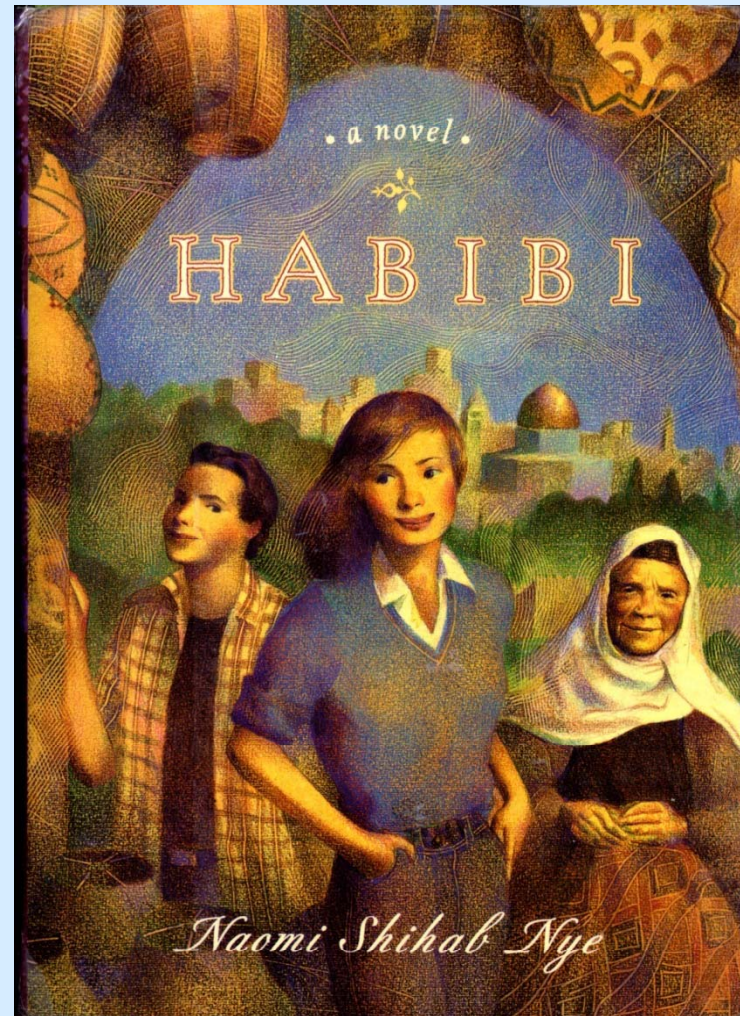
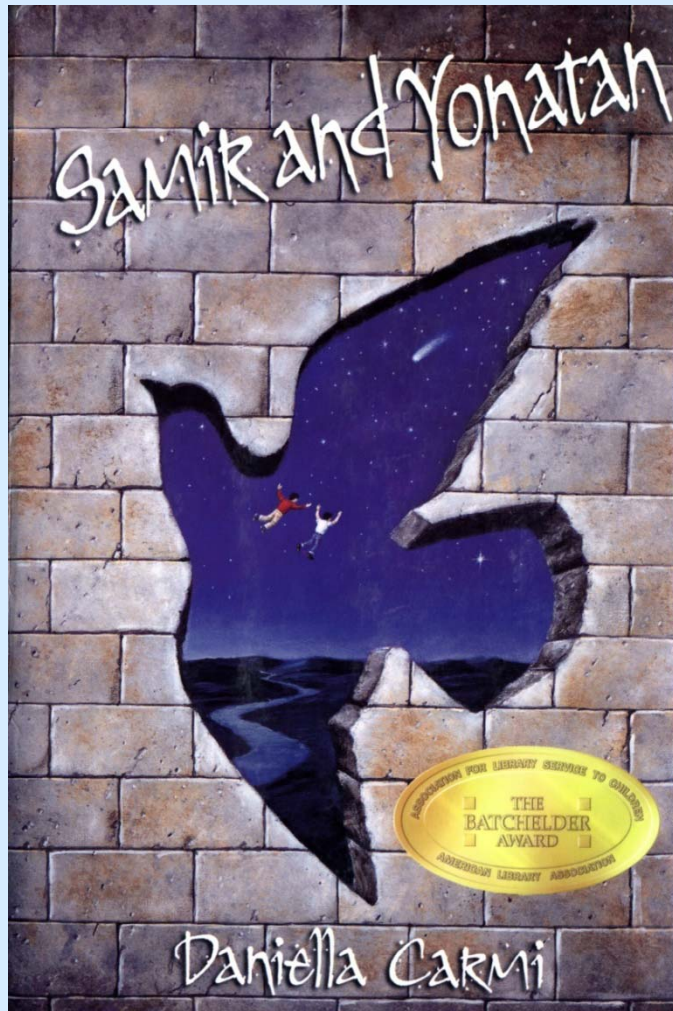
Learning new perspectives



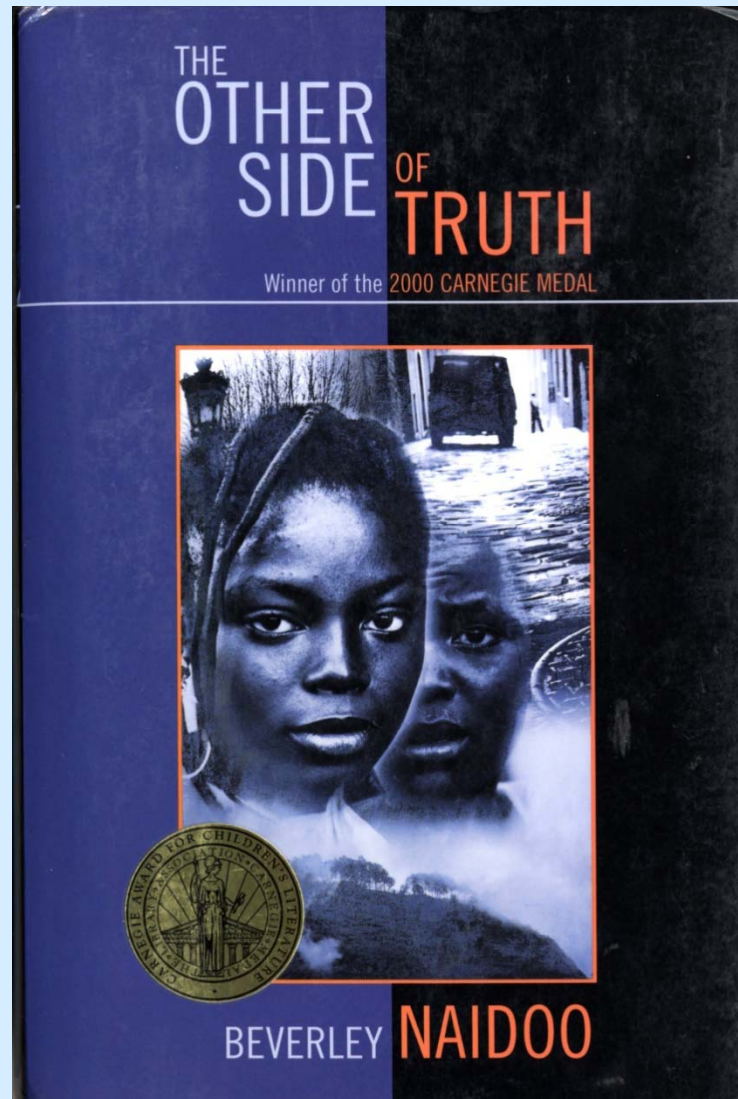
Assimilation v. Maintaining One's Own Culture – Achieving Balance



Children Truly Between Worlds

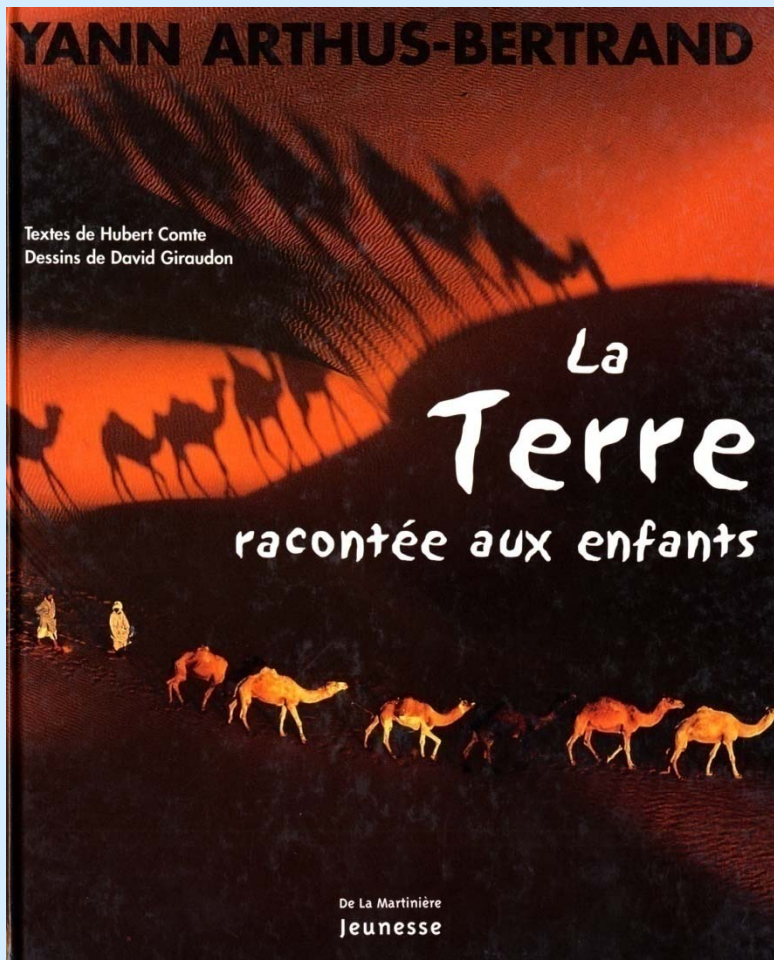


Refugees – Children truly caught between two worlds

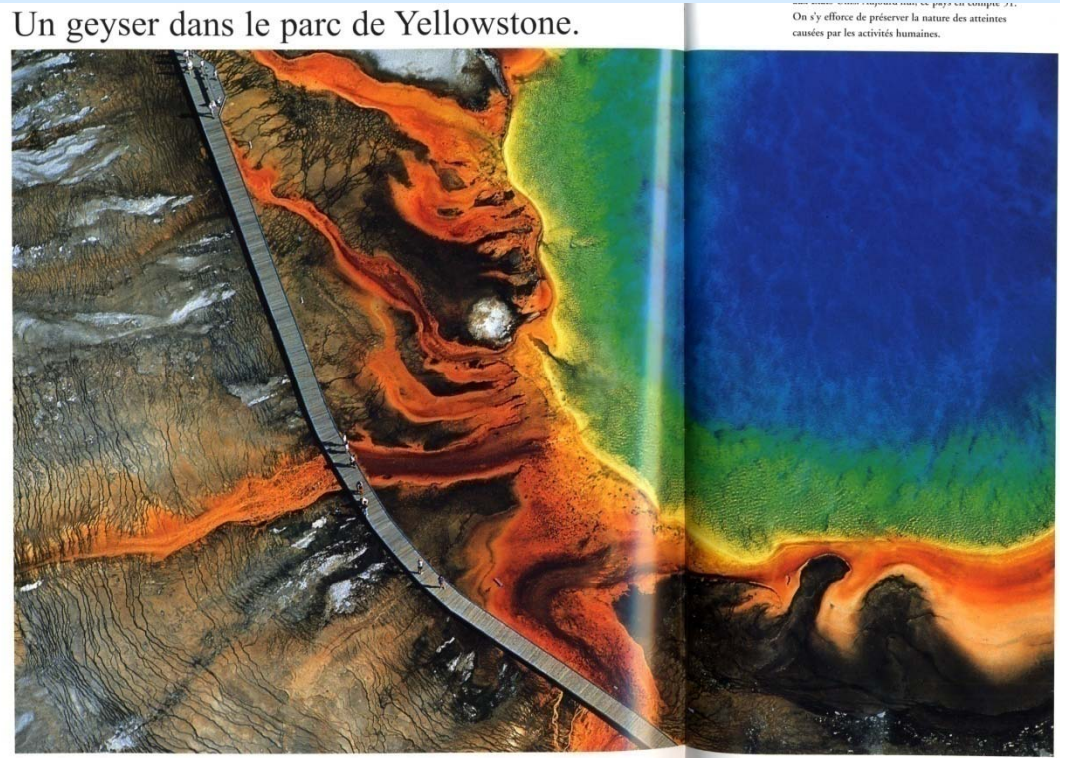


Dreaming About the Larger World

Photographic celebrations

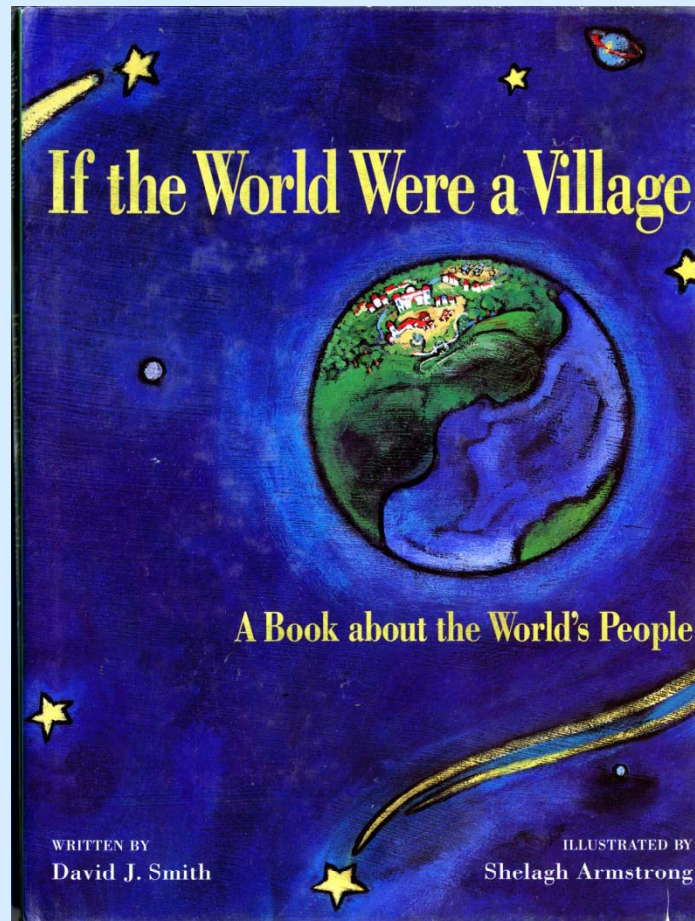


Un geyser dans le parc de Yellowstone.



We all Share the Same Basic Needs

If the World Were a Village by David Smith



We all share the Same Basic Needs:

If the World Were a Village by David Smith



Food

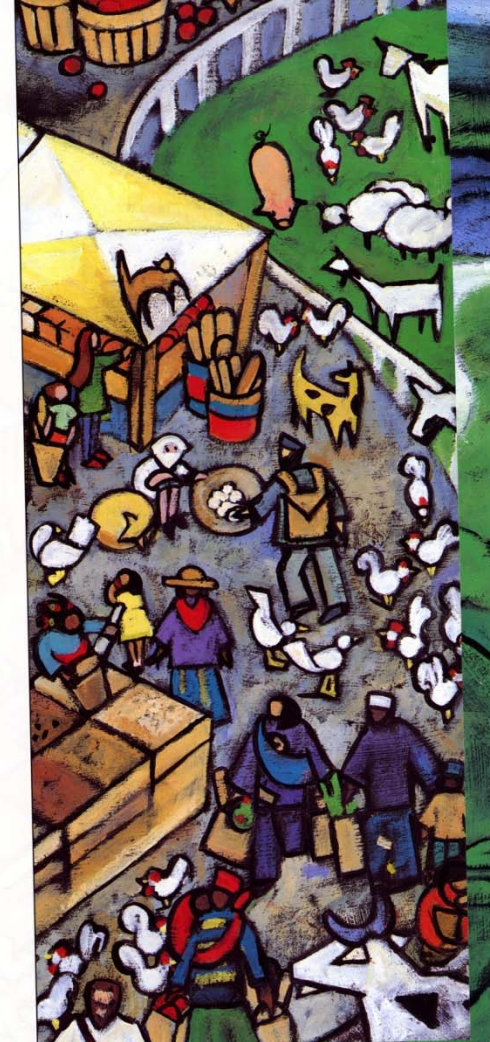
The smells and sounds of the market draw you near. The tables are piled with fresh baked bread, vegetables, tofu and rice. Chickens cluck and ducks quack. In a pen not far away, a cow moos at the passing crowd.

The villagers have many animals. They help to produce food or are a source of food. There are:

- 31 sheep and goats
- 23 cows, bulls and oxen
- 15 pigs
- 3 camels
- 2 horses
- 189 chickens — yes, there are nearly twice as many chickens as people in the global village!

There is no shortage of food in the global village. If all the food were divided equally, everyone would have enough to eat. But the food isn't divided equally. So although there is enough to feed the villagers, not everyone is well fed:

- 50 people do not have a reliable source of food and are hungry some or all of the time.
- 20 other people are severely undernourished.
- Only 30 people always have enough to eat.



We Are Different but Share the Same

Needs

In association with **unicef** the United Nations Children's Fund

CHILDREN JUST LIKE ME

CELEBRATIONS!

USA

SWAPPING PURIM GIFTS
At Purim, it is a Jewish custom to exchange gifts with friends. Children often make special giftboxes, which they fill with fruit or candies. This custom of sending gifts is called *Mishlova Manot*.

This year, Adam (the King in the play) gave a box to Michael (Esther).

THE PURIM STORY
Purim is about a Persian king called Ahasuerus, who was married to a woman named Vashti.

1 One day, he summoned Vashti, but she refused to appear. Furious, the King left Vashti and married a woman named Esther. Unbeknownst to the king, Esther was a Jew.

2 Esther asked the king and Haman to dine with her. At dinner, she revealed that she was Jewish, and that Haman wanted to kill her and her people. The king was shocked and angry. Though Haman begged Esther to spare his life, he was sent to the gallows.

3 The king's chief adviser was a man named Haman. Haman hated Jews, in particular Esther's uncle, Mordechai, who refused to bow down to him. When Haman ordered that all the Jews be killed, Mordechai pleaded with Esther to tell the king.

Haman throws himself at Esther's feet to beg for mercy.

Festivals, carnivals, and feast days
BARNABAS AND ANABEL K
with a foreword by HARRY BELAFONT

Purim

NINE-YEAR-OLD MICHAEL and her friends are Jewish and come from London, England. During the Jewish month of *Adar*, between February and March, they celebrate Purim. This happy festival tells the story of Queen Esther, who saved the Jews from being massacred by an evil man named Haman. Children wear fancy outfits and perform plays of the Purim story. Families attend a service at the synagogue, and afterward enjoy delicious Purim pastries and breads.

"My name is Michael. I am dressed up as a happy, but I have chosen to be Esther in the play."

"My name is Robert. I am nine years old. I have dressed up as Jesus Christ, but in the play I am Mordechai."



CHINESE NEW YEAR

恭喜發財

"I have written *Kung Hsi Fat Choy* in Chinese, which means 'We hope you get rich.' We say that to everybody at New Year. My family and I visit our grandparents on New Year, and we take sticky rice cakes called *Liu Gao* with us. I look forward most to the red packets that we are given on New Year, because they have money inside them. Each packet contains a different amount of money."

On New Year's Eve, Man Po crushes fragrant lime leaves into her bath water to make sure she is especially clean for the coming year.

Shiny green lime leaves

Good luck messages

Man Po's family name

Lucky money packets

"I save all the money that I am given."

LUCKY MONEY
Man Po can hardly wait for New Year's morning when she is given lucky money by her parents and relatives. All Chinese children, and people who are not married, receive money in special red envelopes. Their family name or a good-luck message is written on the envelope in gold.

FEAST TREATS
The biggest treat of the New Year celebrations are the sumptuous feasts. For the first day of New Year, Man Po's family tries not to eat meat, because each year is named after an animal. On the other days, they can eat whatever they want. Man Po's favorite foods are *Lau Pak Ka*, a savory white carrot cake that contains dried shrimps, and *Liu Gao*, a sticky rice cake.

CHINESE HOROSCOPE
The ancient Chinese horoscope has been used for thousands of years to analyze a person's character and predict his or her future. The horoscope works on a 12-year cycle, with each year represented by a different animal. Man Po was born in 1987, which was the year of the rabbit. This means that she is a pleasant, hardworking, and obedient child. When she grows up, she hopes to be tranquil, generous, and imaginative.

OX
Honest, placid, and considerate.

RAT
Friendly, intelligent, and polite.

TIGER
Competitive, optimistic, a leader.

DRAGON
Strong, energetic, and impressive.

DEER
Tranquil, generous, and imaginative.

SNAKE
Elegant, refined, and confident.

HORSE
Friendly, eloquent, and loyal.

MONKEY
Independent, astute, and sociable.

DOG
Alert, trustworthy, and faithful.

PIG
Calm, tolerant, and optimistic.

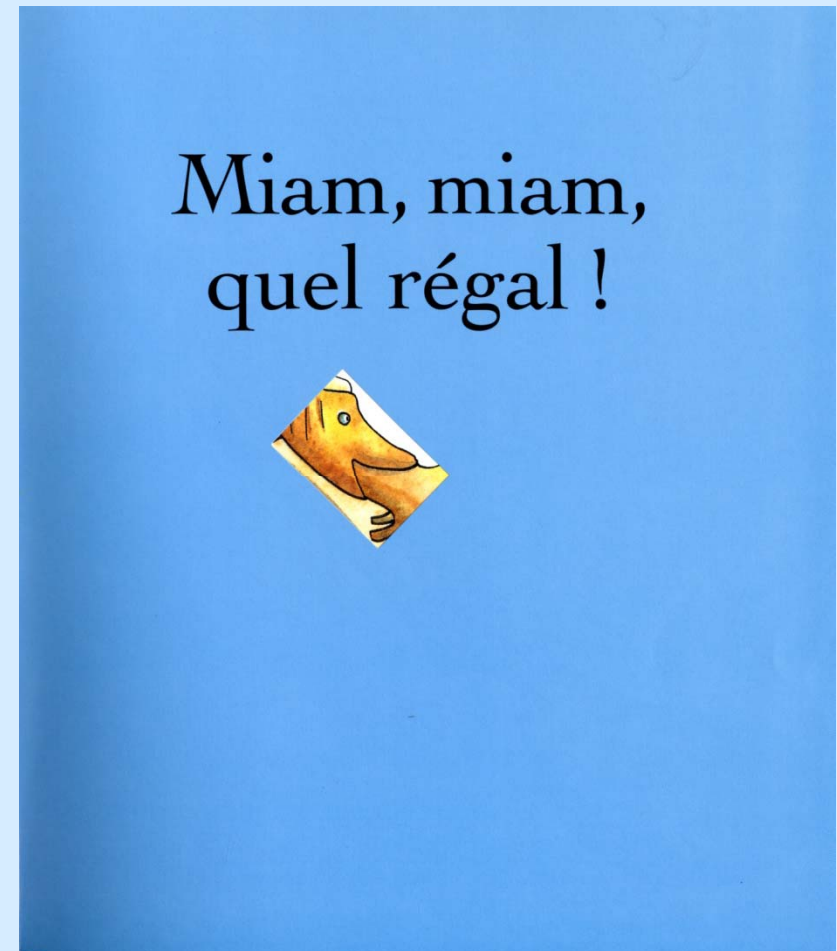
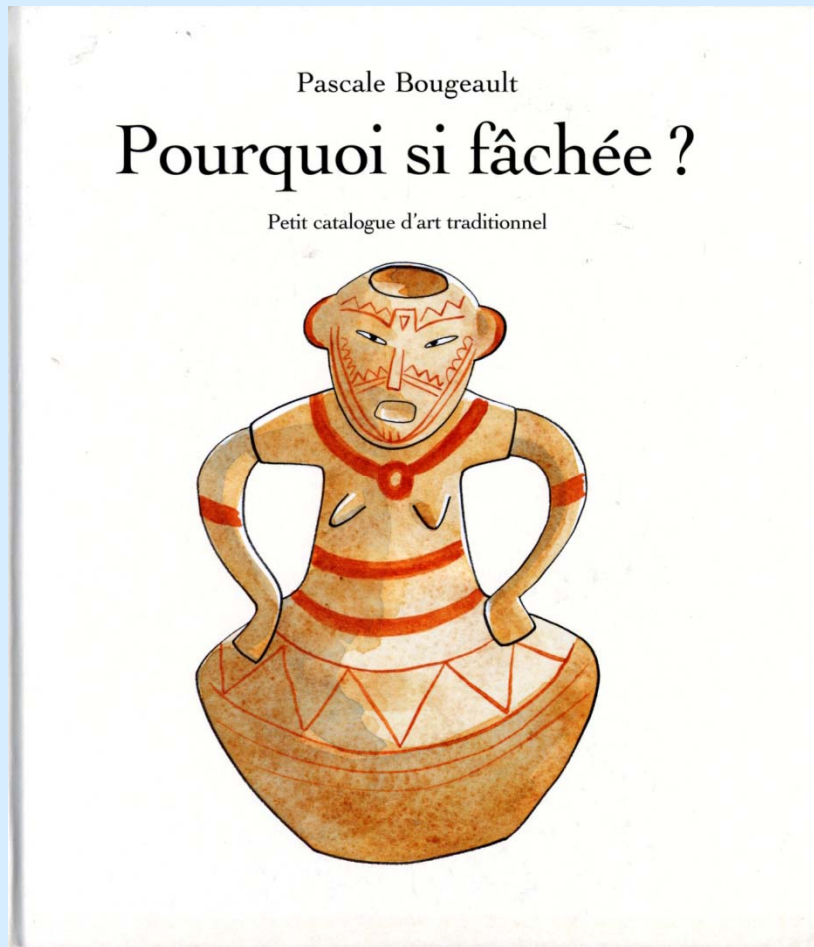
RED IS THE MAIN COLOR FOR CELEBRATIONS AT NEW YEAR BECAUSE IT IS ASSOCIATED WITH JOY AND HAPPINESS.

WATCHING THE PLAY
The Purim story comes from the Book of Esther in the Bible, and is often written as a scroll called the *Megillah*. Esther. When it is read at the synagogue, the listeners bow and bow each time Haman's name is mentioned. When the play is performed in schools, children stamp their feet and shake their homemade *gragger* (noises) when Haman appears. By making such a tremendous noise, the children are trying to wipe out Haman's name.

The Purim story is made of cardboard and made into heads or buttons.

PURIM FOODS
People eat two types of food at Purim. *Hamanotzen* are small triangular-shaped pastries, which are meant to represent Haman's ears or his pockets. *Purim Challah* is a large braided loaf, which is sprinkled with tiny specks of different colored sugar icing or poppy seeds. Michael's family buys these cakes from their local bakery.

Art and Artifacts from Different Cultures



Pourquoi si Fache

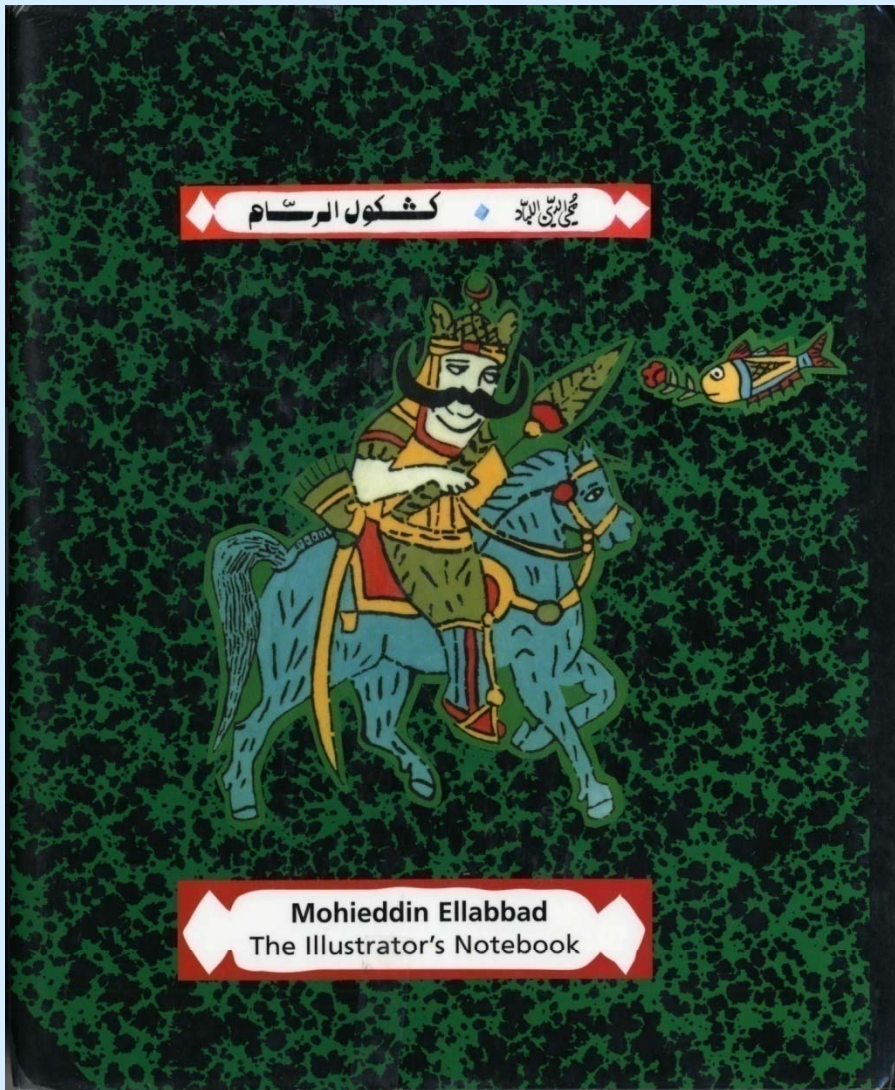


Un crocodile mange un zébu
sur une cuillère malgache.



La famille Rasafiarisoa fait un grand repas
en souvenir de ses ancêtres.

Art and Artifacts of the Imagination



Cats

Here are drawings of cats from many different countries. Some are very recent, while others are hundreds, even thousands of years old. Their creators are famous artists, except for one, which was drawn by an unknown child. All of these cats are different, and all of them are beautiful.

When I was younger, I looked at all of these drawings to decide how I should draw a cat. Years have passed, and I have learned one very important thing.

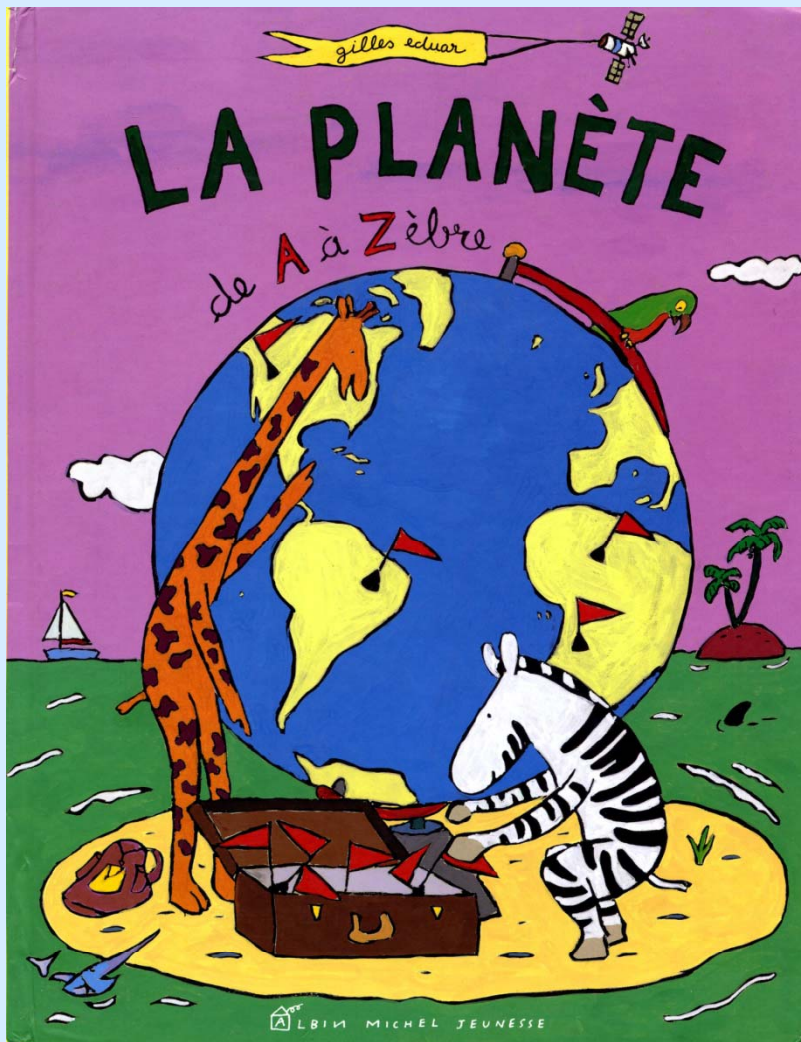
I have had to forget about all these cats in order to draw my cat, the cat that I know, the cat that lives in my world. My cat may be different from all the others, but it will be my very own cat!



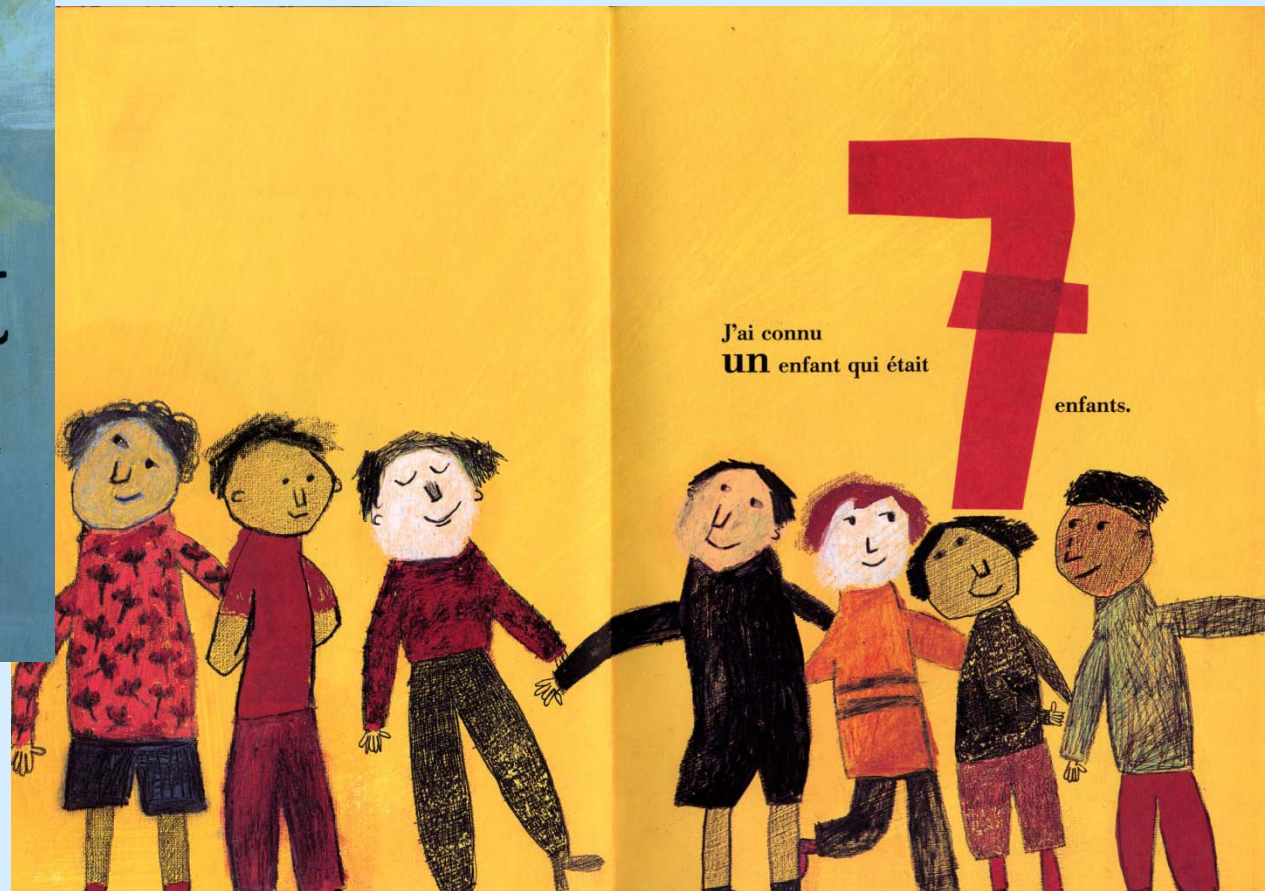
World Tours Celebrating our Differences and Similarities



World Tours Celebrating our Differences and Similarities



We are Many, but we are All One



One and Seven



Mais il habitait aussi à New York,
il s'appelait Jimmy
et son père s'occupait d'une pompe à essence.



Maintenant

ils ont grandi tous les sept,
et ils ne pourront plus se faire la guerre,

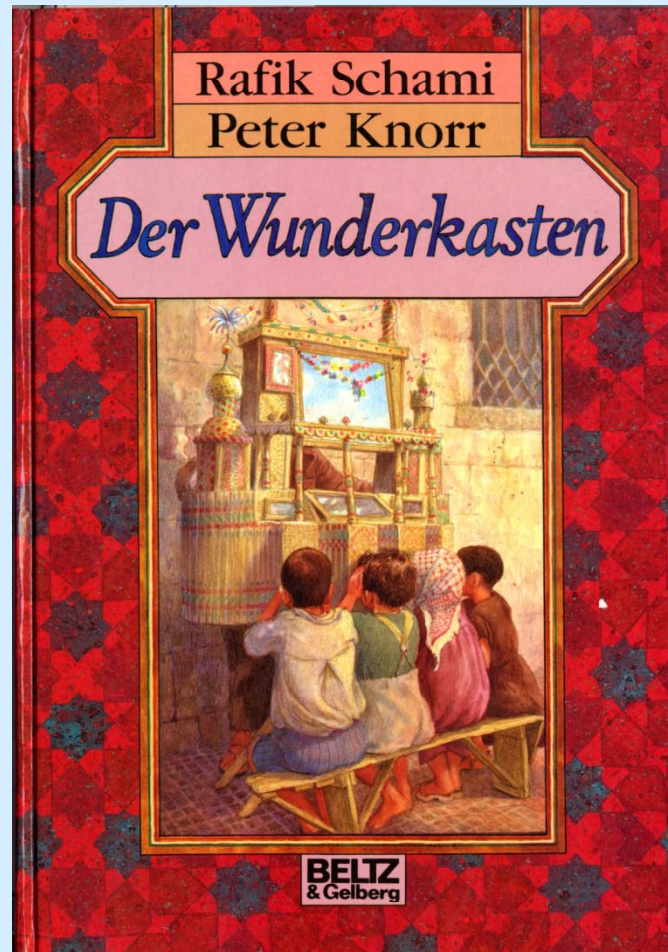
parce que tous les sept
sont un seul homme.

We are All Children Between Worlds

- Traditional v. modern
- Reading linearly vs. online text with hyperlinks
– piecing bits and bytes together
- An era of unlimited growth vs. planning for a sustainable future

What we need is imagination, tolerance, and a spirit of adventure to span our worlds

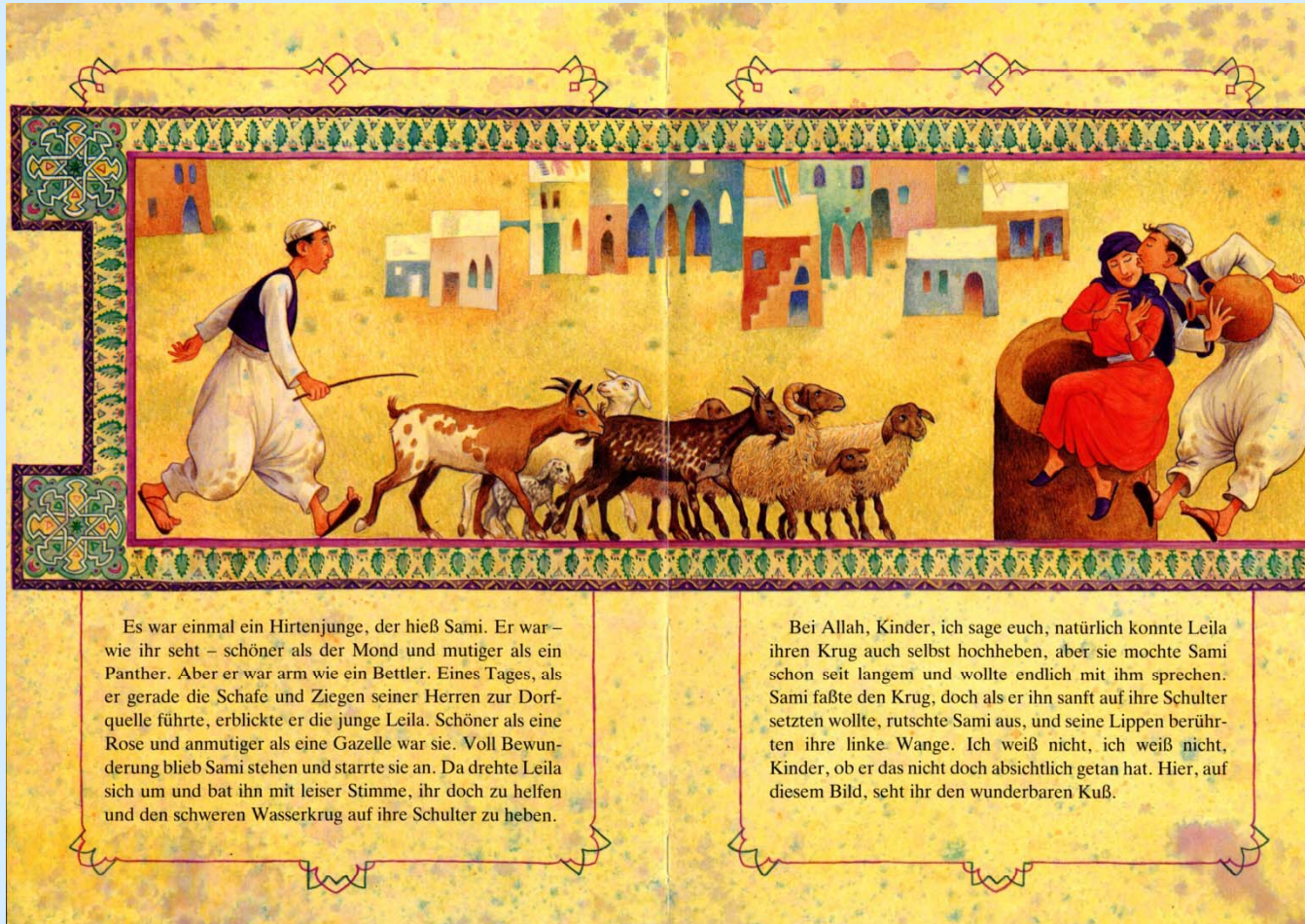
Imagination and a Spirit of Adventure



The Storyteller Arrives



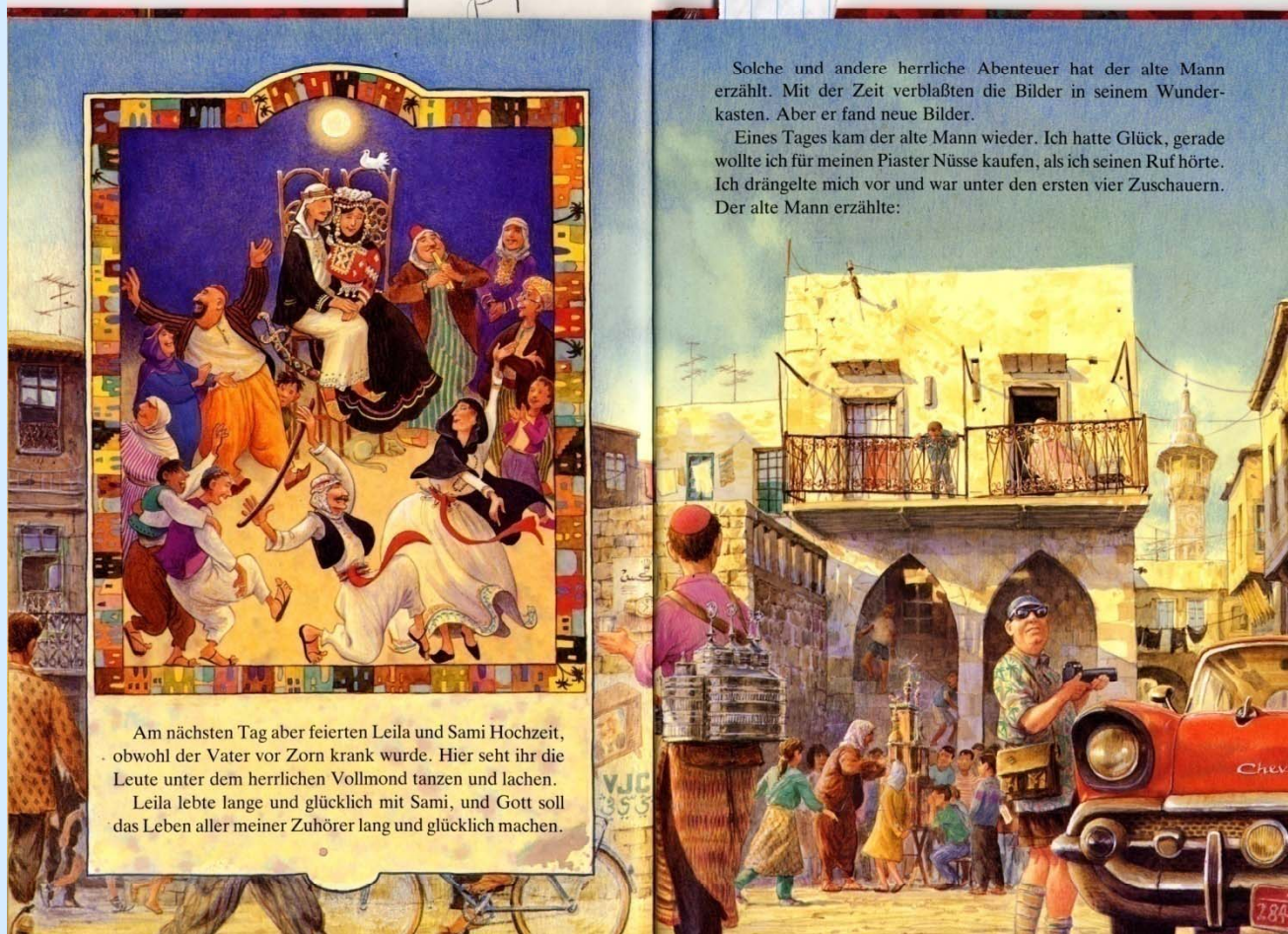
There once was a shepherd whose name was Sami...



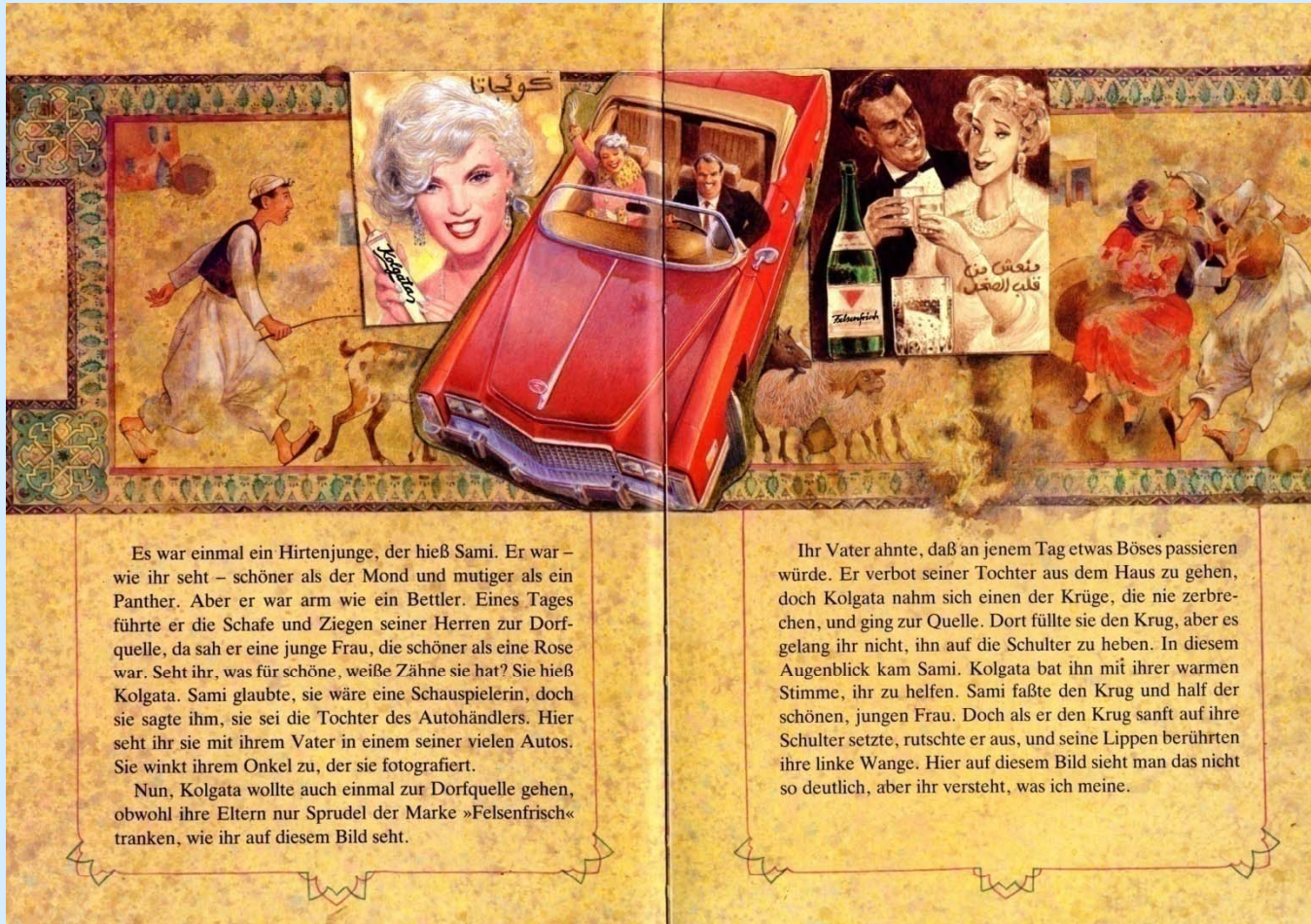
Es war einmal ein Hirtenjunge, der hieß Sami. Er war – wie ihr seht – schöner als der Mond und mutiger als ein Panther. Aber er war arm wie ein Bettler. Eines Tages, als er gerade die Schafe und Ziegen seiner Herren zur Dorfquelle führte, erblickte er die junge Leila. Schöner als eine Rose und anmutiger als eine Gazelle war sie. Voll Bewunderung blieb Sami stehen und starrte sie an. Da drehte Leila sich um und bat ihn mit leiser Stimme, ihr doch zu helfen und den schweren Wasserkrug auf ihre Schulter zu heben.

Bei Allah, Kinder, ich sage euch, natürlich konnte Leila ihren Krug auch selbst hochheben, aber sie mochte Sami schon seit langem und wollte endlich mit ihm sprechen. Sami faßte den Krug, doch als er ihn sanft auf ihre Schulter setzten wollte, rutschte Sami aus, und seine Lippen berührten ihre linke Wange. Ich weiß nicht, ich weiß nicht, Kinder, ob er das nicht doch absichtlich getan hat. Hier, auf diesem Bild, seht ihr den wunderbaren Kuß.

And they lived happily ever after. But...



There once was a shepherd whose name was Sami...



Es war einmal ein Hirtenjunge, der hieß Sami. Er war – wie ihr seht – schöner als der Mond und mutiger als ein Panther. Aber er war arm wie ein Bettler. Eines Tages führte er die Schafe und Ziegen seiner Herren zur Dorfquelle, da sah er eine junge Frau, die schöner als eine Rose war. Seht ihr, was für schöne, weiße Zähne sie hat? Sie hieß Kolgata. Sami glaubte, sie wäre eine Schauspielerin, doch sie sagte ihm, sie sei die Tochter des Autohändlers. Hier seht ihr sie mit ihrem Vater in einem seiner vielen Autos. Sie winkt ihrem Onkel zu, der sie fotografiert.

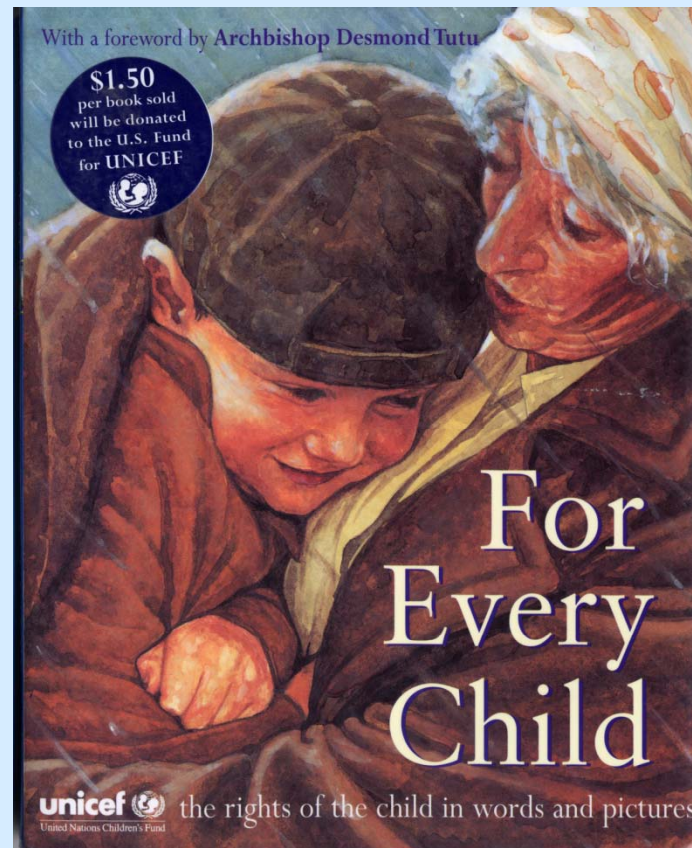
Nun, Kolgata wollte auch einmal zur Dorfquelle gehen, obwohl ihre Eltern nur Sprudel der Marke »Felsenfrisch« tranken, wie ihr auf diesem Bild seht.

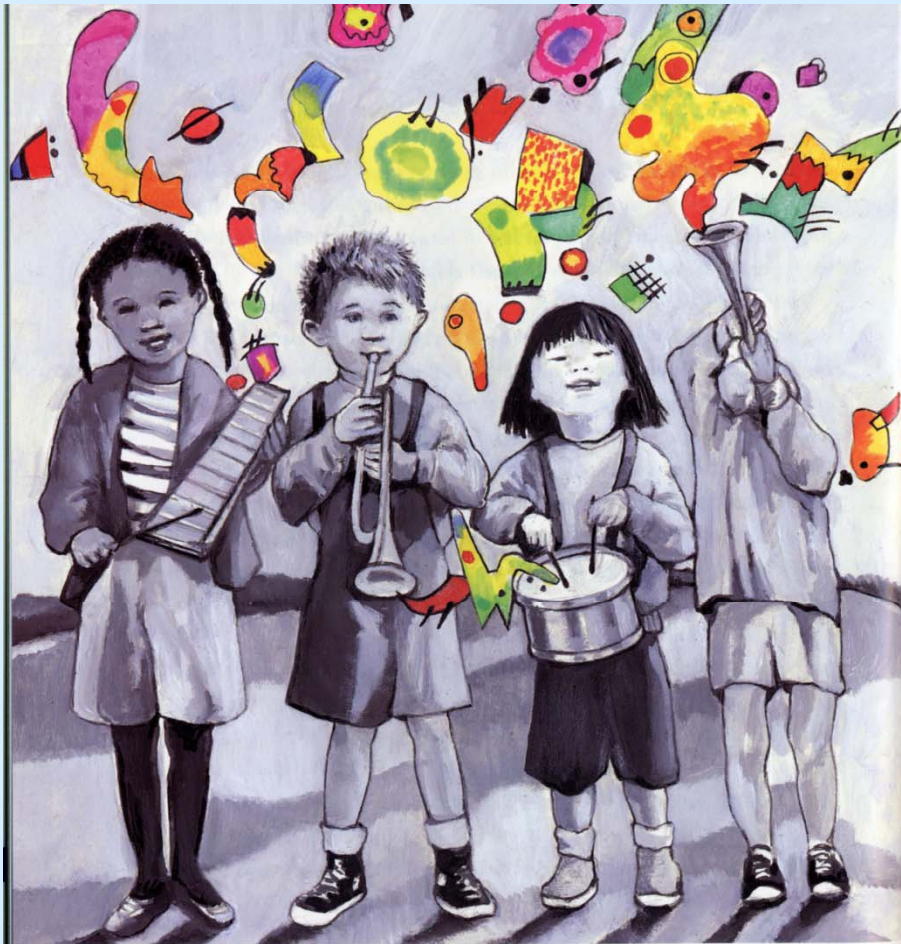
Ihr Vater ahnte, daß an jenem Tag etwas Böses passieren würde. Er verbot seiner Tochter aus dem Haus zu gehen, doch Kolgata nahm sich einen der Krüge, die nie zerbrechen, und ging zur Quelle. Dort füllte sie den Krug, aber es gelang ihr nicht, ihn auf die Schulter zu heben. In diesem Augenblick kam Sami. Kolgata bat ihn mit ihrer warmen Stimme, ihr zu helfen. Sami faßte den Krug und half der schönen, jungen Frau. Doch als er den Krug sanft auf ihre Schulter setzte, rutschte er aus, und seine Lippen berührten ihre linke Wange. Hier auf diesem Bild sieht man das nicht so deutlich, aber ihr versteht, was ich meine.

Where to Find International Books

- Auburn University-Ralph Brown Draughon Library has ordered these books and also owns the recipients of the following award:
- Hans Christian Andersen Awards from International Board on Books for Youth (<http://www.ibby.org/index.php?id=273>);
- Mildred L. Batchelder Award from Assoc. Lib.Services for Children (<http://www.ala.org/ala/mgrps/divs/alsc/awardsgrants/bookmedia/batchelderaward/index.cfm>),
- United States Board on Books for Young People's "Outstanding International Books" <http://www.usbby.org> ;
- International Children's Digital Library (<http://www.icdlbooks.org/index.shtml>);
- Carnegie and Kate Greenaway Awards from the United Kingdom <http://www.carnegiegreenaway.org.uk/home/index.php>

For Every Child





Whoever we are, wherever we live, these rights belong to all children under the sun and the moon and the stars, whether we live in cities or towns or villages, or in mountains or valleys or deserts or forests



or jungles. Anywhere and everywhere in the big, wide world, these are the rights of every child.

Right No. 2 illustrated by Rachel Isadora