

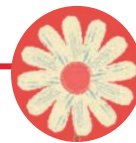


# Bambú Spring 2018

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**preview**





## Alana & Alada

Written by Bel Olid

Illustrated by Mercè canals

Languages: Spanish and Catalan

**From 7+**

### Summary

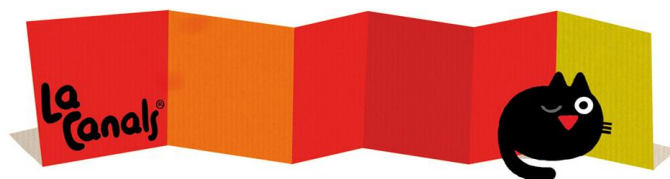
Alana was born with crooked legs and she has an operation so that she can walk and run like any other girl. Her father worries a lot about her and, so that she is not alone during her convalescence, he gives her a goldfinch that he found injured at the bottom of a tree. The girl and the goldfinch become friends and keep each other company, until Alana recovers and can finally go out to run and play in the countryside. Whilst she is enjoying the fresh air, she realises that the goldfinch is still at home, locked in his cage. She runs back to find the bird and decides to release him. But the next day the goldfinch comes back to appear by her window, as their friendship is forever.

*The story teaches the value of friendship, respecting the freedom of others.*



**Bel Olid** (Mataró, 1977) Winner of the Roc Boronat Short Story Prize, Documenta Novel Prize and QWERTY awards, she is one of the most important voices of the Catalan generation of the seventies. (CCCB)

She is a writer, translator, and professor of translation at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. She is a regular contributor in various cultural media outlets. Former president of the Conseil Européen des Associations de Traducteurs Littéraires (CEATL) and, since 2015, president of the Associació d'Escriptors en Llengua Catalana. Her recent publications include a story collection entitled *Vents més salvatges*, the picture books *Gegantíssima* and *Viure amb la Hilda*, and *Vides aturades*, a reportage on the reality of refugees in Europe. (IRLL)



**Mercè Canals** (Badalona, 1970) is a professor and an illustrator. She studied Applied Arts, Artistic Trades, and Illustration at the Escola Pau Gargallo. She researches and works with printmaking techniques, such as silkscreen, linoleum and woodcut printing. She has explored various fields of illustration: for the media, packaging, and theatre sets. She has published five children's books and the "A Story of..." series by Combel. Her work has been published internationally and recognised with many awards.



## **Y por eso no me gustan los gatos** **And That's Why I Don't Like Cats**

by Carmela Trujillo

Illustrated by Emilio Urberuaga

Language: Spanish

**From 7 +**



### **Summary**

Martina is a very bright child. At school, she is asked to write about an animal she doesn't like and she decides to write about cats. When she and her friend Elena were in infant's school, a couple of cats took their dummies. Or at least that's what their mothers told them. But not all is as it seems, and a story that starts with cats and dummies ends with... nits!

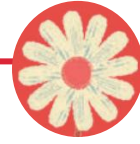


**Carmela Trujillo (Talayuela, 1966).** She has lived in Sabadell (Barcelona) from the age of four. She graduated in Philosophy and Education Sciences from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

She began her literary career in 2001 with short stories and in 2006 she won her first award for a novel with *Clic-foto*. From then on, she entered the world of children's books and made a big entrance with *Esto no puede seguir así*, winning the Vila d'Ibri Prize for Children's Literature. Since then, she has alternated between books for children and young readers with those for adults, which have earned distinction in Spain and South America (Argentina and Ecuador), with short stories and novels alike.

**Emilio Urberuaga (Madrid, 1954).** He began working in the world of illustration in 1982, and is the creator of the drawings for Manolito Gafotas, the character conceived by Elvira Lindo. He has illustrated all the books in the series, as well as other works by the same writer. Throughout his career he has also worked in other fields of the plastic arts, such as graphic design, etching and printmaking. His creations can be seen in the Print Department of the Spanish National Library, the Juan March Foundation, the Castillo de Larres Drawing Museum and the Millennium Museum in Sofia (Bulgaria), among others. Urberuaga is also the only Spanish illustrator whose work is featured in the Chihiro Art Museum in Tokyo.





## El año del gato The Year of the Cat

Written by Jaume Copons  
Illustrated by Agustín Comotto

Languages: Spanish and Catalan  
**From 8 +**

### Summary

Jaume Copons is an author who connects extraordinarily with young readers. On this occasion, he has written a story full of humour and sensitivity, in which a lost cat contributes to the cohesion and good atmosphere of the class.

A girl takes a stray cat to class. The presence of this animal will change the behaviour of the children. Their tutor agrees to let them keep the cat in the classroom. The new situation makes them more responsible and causes a substantial improvement in the atmosphere between the group. They will have to overcome some resistance, however, especially from a teacher that the pupils don't like very much.



**Jaume Copons** is a scriptwriter for the Spanish version of Sesame Street (TVE), the creator of TV programmes such as Los Lunnis (TVE), Los Algos (Cuatro), Mirasatele (IB3) and of songs, records, opening credits, and advertisements for television. He has written more than 40 novels for young readers, including La Mà Negra (Barcanova), the series Jo, Elvis Riboldi (La Galera) and the bestselling "Agus and Monsters". So far we have published 11 titles, with three more on the way in 2018. They have been sold in 12 languages.

He has also translated such authors as P.D. Baccalaro and Lemony Snicket. In addition to Bono Bidari, he uses the pseudonyms Julián Aguilar and Lilian Wallaby.

**Agustín Comotto** (Buenos Aires, Argentina). He arrived in Barcelona in 1999.

He started drawing and writing comics in Argentina's magazines and for many years he has been writing and drawing children's books. Currently, in addition to creating books, he does school talks, explaining to the children what the craft of the illustrator is.

He has drawn books for Venezuela, Mexico, Argentina, Spain and Italy and some have been published in Korea, Sweden, Brazil, Switzerland and France. Some of his books are: Seven Million Beetles (Award shore wind) Fondo de Cultura Económica, Mexico and the 2002 list White Raven Library of Munich, Germany), Lost War, The Sea Said Enough!, The Secret of Giraffes, Agata, The Wonderful Story of Peter Schlemihl, The Bookseater (Mention Best picture book ALIJA, IBBY-Argentina 2006) and 20,000 Leagues Under the Sea.

Nominated for JUNCEDA awards in 2008 and 2010 with his book "Andivinalles" for the Association of Illustrators of Catalonia (Spain) and Peter's Schlemihl's wonderful story.





## Nasario

Written by Ricardo Alcántara  
Illustrated by Albert Asensio



Language: Spanish  
From 9+

### Summary

Nasario has always been a rather unappealing boy. He considers that life does not treat him very well and that it is very unfair. At the age of fourteen he goes off on his own to make his living with the intention of getting rich, coming back to the village, buying a lot of land and making his family proud of him. He travels the world for ten years until he returns to the village upon learning of his father's death, somewhat disappointed at not having achieved his goals. But looking out at the horizon from the roof of his houses, he discovers that he already has everything he was looking for there. The novel shows that happiness is closer to us than we think, and that we must learn to discover the good things in ordinary situations in life. It highlights mutual assistance and solidarity from one person to another as a way of getting ahead in life.



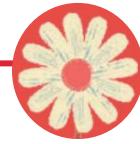
**Ricardo Alcántara** (Montevideo, Uruguay). From an early age he understood that imagination could be a good travel companion and, since then, they have become inseparable. He lived in Brazil for a time, where he started writing, and he settled down years ago in Barcelona, near the sea. He worked as an actor, craftsman, cook... He studied psychology, and maybe that is what helped him discover himself and his true vocation: inventing stories that he then writes on a piece of paper with his pencil.

He has had 200 books published, all aimed at children and young people, and many of them have won prestigious awards, such as the Lazarillo, Serra d'Or, Apel.les Mestres, Espasa Calpe, White Ravens... His books have been successfully translated into English, Turkish, German, French, Japanese, Portuguese, Greek, Korean... He has also written plays and television series.



**Albert Asensio** he started working as an illustrator for Spanish publishing houses such as Anaya, Juventud, Random House Mondadori, Teide, Cruïlla or Planeta and newspapers like La Vanguardia.

Until now he has been awarded a Laus Bronze Prize for Fira de Tàrrrega's poster 2010 (Graphic design by estudi Miquel Puig), also awarded for the book Kim by Rudyard Kipling by Juventud publishing of the Banco del Libro de Venezuela, he has also 3 Junceda Prizes; for Best Book Cover, for Best Advertisement and for best Scientific Illustration and he has awarded with the Premi LLibreter 2017 with children book category "El banc blau" edited by Babulinka books publishing house.



## **The Extraordinary Adventures of Massagran**

Written by Josep M. Folch i Torres

Illustrated by Junceda

Language: Catalan

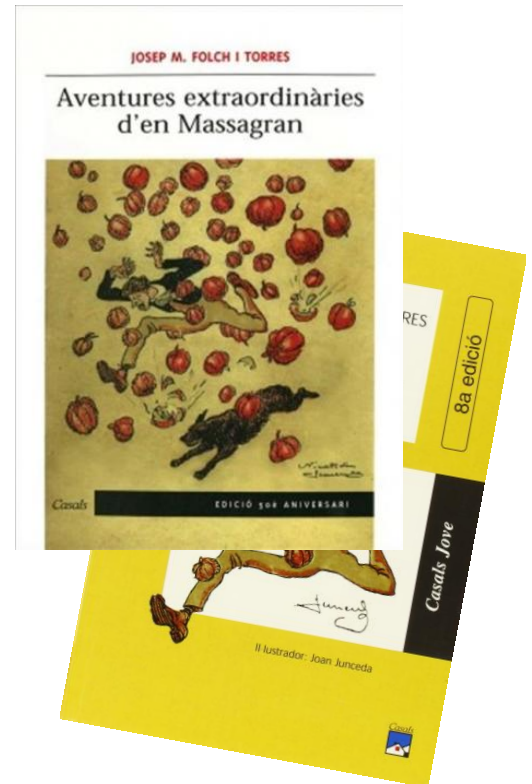
**From 9+**

### **Summary**

A classic of all time in literature for children and young readers.

Massagran is the main character of the book, written in 1910. Based on the original work, his character gave rise to a collection of comics, written by the original author's son, Ramon Folch i Camarasa, and drawn by Josep Maria Madorell, based in turn on Junceda's illustrations. All of them were serialised in the children's magazine *Cavall Fort*.

Massagran's adventures compile Eurocentric conceptions and reflect the topics of the time in which it was published. We also find this aspect in contemporary works like *Babar*, *Tarzan* and *Tintin*.



**Josep Maria Folch i Torres** (Barcelona, 1880-1950). Novelist, narrator and playwright. His extensive production, dedicated especially to children and teenagers, became exceptionally popular.

From 1909 he ran the weekly *En Patufet*, where he published the *Pàgines viscudes* until 1938. After *Las Aventures extraordinàries d'en Massagran (1910)* was published, he wrote two or three novels a year for "Biblioteca Patufet". He was the creator of Catalan theatre for children. His overwhelming success came mainly with *Els pastorets* (1916), the most produced Catalan theatre production of all time, and with *Ventafocs* (1920).

He published novels with a naturalistic style and psychological touch, like *Joan Endal* (1909). He created the "Biblioteca Gentil" of romance novels and founded the *Pomells de Joventut* movement (1920-1923). After the Civil War, he scratched out a living by painting and writing in Spanish.

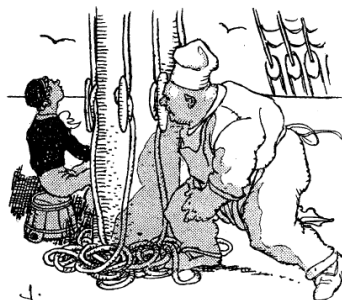


**Joan Junceda**, (1881 Barcelona – 1948 Blanes), was one of the most important Catalan artists and illustrators in the first half of the 20th century.

He published his first drawing in *iCu-Cut!* on Christmas eve 1902 under the pseudonym Ribera. Junceda illustrated the "Historietes Exemplars" series, a collection of stories with a moral lesson compiled by Josep Maria Folch i Torres, which were published for the first time in "L'Estitx" magazine.

His most well-known work, however, would be the illustrations he did for "Bon Seny", a compilation of the oral lore regarding the archetypal Catalan virtue, that was undertaken by writer J. Abril i Virgili. *Bon Seny* contains aphorisms, fables and humorous stories based on the rural traditions of Catalonia. It was published in the Catalan language before the Spanish Civil War and the book became rare during General Franco's era, when so much Catalan printed material had been burned and printing in Catalan was severely restricted.

In 2003, the Professional Association of Catalan Illustrators (Associació Professional d'Il·lustradors de Catalunya) introduced the Premis Junceda (Junceda Prizes), named after this artist in acknowledgment of his work as a renovator of contemporary illustration.



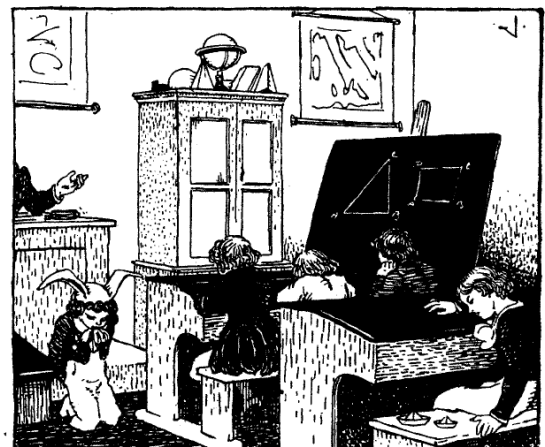
—Hola, hola! —va dir, girant-se cap al lloc d'on venien els xuclets.



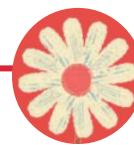
Un mariner molt destre, en veure que les cames del naufrag eixien a fora, li va tirar un salvavides...



...la «Mostela» va llevar àncores, va prendre vent i va sortir amb una gran majestat.



...s'entretenia fent vaixells de paper...



## **Etty en los barracones**

### **Etty at the Barracks**

Written by José Ramón Ayllón

Language: Spanish

**From 13 +**

### **Summary**

August 1942. The Nazis have already invaded Holland and the Westerbork refugee camp has become a concentration camp. Psychiatrist Dr. Osias Korman, a widower of Jewish origin, is the camp supervisor. He is the point of liaison with the camp administration and the area's Jewish Council, which itself is an intermediary between the Nazis and the civilian population in the occupied areas. The Council sends the nurse Esther Hillesum (Etty) to the camp.

Osias and Etty soon become friends, and their friendship turns into a deep love that Etty expresses in the letters she sends Osias during his frequent trips away from the camp ordered by the Jewish Council. This love is also manifested in the diary he writes to his son Daniel, who has lived in the United States since the start of the Second World War. At the end of the war, Dr. Korman discovers that Etty was not sent to the camp to be a nurse but, in fact, to help people escape from it. When Holland is liberated, Osias and Etty travel happily to the United States.



**José Ramón Ayllón (Cantabria, 1955)** studied Philosophy and Letters at the universities of Oviedo and Valladolid. He has taught literature, ethics and philosophy for the last 20 years. He is the author of the historical novel *Querido Bruto*. He has also published the novel for young readers *Vigo es Vivaldi* and several essays: *En torno al hombre*, an introduction to renovating philosophy, *Desfile de modelos*, which was a finalist in the 1996 Anagrama Essay Prize, *Ética razonada* and *¿Es la filosofía un cuento chino?*

He is an assiduous speaker on training in values, working on, among other subjects, the ethical X-ray of human behaviour, the education of conscience, the rational control of pleasure, emotional intelligence, friendship and the mystery of suffering.





## Escartín en Lima Escartín in Lima

Written by Fernando Lalana

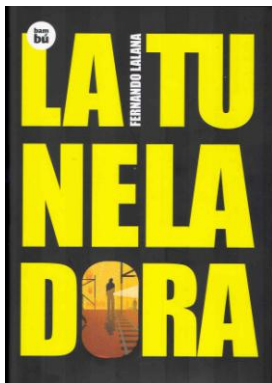
Language: Spanish  
From 13+



### Summary

Lalana resurrects his successful character Fermín Escartín, the main character in *La tuneladora*, *El asunto Galindo* and *El último muerto*. This time, the action begins in Tarragona and moves to Lima (Peru).

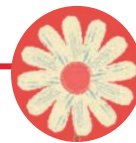
Escartín discovers that Elisa Lobo, a retired serial killer, has come back into action for a new job. We don't know how, but someone has convinced her to assassinate PPK, the president of Peru, so Fermin also goes there accompanied by Elisa's son to try to prevent the assassination. As Elisa and Fermin were a couple for several years, if anyone is capable of being one step ahead of the killer, it's Fermin, but... will he succeed?



13 +



**Fernando Lalana** (Zaragoza, 1958). After studying Law, he turned to literature, which has become his chief and only profession. He has published over 80 books for children and young adults. He has won the Premio Gran Angular fiction prize three times. In 1990, he received an honourable mention in the Premio Lazarillo and the Premio Barco de Vapor, in 1993 the Premio de la Feria del Libro de Almería, awarded by the Junta de Andalucía. In 1991 the Ministry of Culture gave him the Premio Nacional de Literatura Infantil y Juvenil, for which he had been a finalist in 1985 and again in 1997. In 2013, he was added to the Edebé 2012 prize for the novel Parque muerte. Fernando Lalana currently lives in the old part of Zaragoza, above the stones inhabited by the Romans of Augustus Caesar and the Muslims of Medina Albaida.



## ***La fabuladora*** ***The Fantasiser***

Written by Marisol Ortiz

Language: Spanish  
**From 14+**

### **Summary**

The novel tells the story of the Federicos, a turbulent and unstable family made up of the parents and three children: Julia, Daniel and Telmo.

The family moved to Casa del Alto in the south of Spain due to murky matters involving the father, a man with unstable habits and character who, due to his addiction to poker, has built up debts with a man of dark appearance and even darker schemes who everyone calls Tinieblas. Daniel tries to find out what has happened and what is going on. Julia has been away from home for a while and, when she comes back, she finds that her parents have just gone away. Both she and them have been and are out working to pay the debt for a bet that their father lost playing poker with Tinieblas. Little by little, Daniel will unravel what is going on.

During that time Daniel, albeit reluctantly, becomes a member of the village's gang of boys. He will then learn that his sister Julia makes a living telling tales at night in filthy and sordid dens, which is why she always comes home so late and barely takes care of her brothers. Everything works out in the end: their parents soon return home and they all move north to try to be a happy family.

**14 +**



**Marisol Ortiz de Zarate** lives in Vitoria, her birthplace. Her love of reading led her to experiment in the field of writing and in 2002 she published her first novel: *Los enigmas de Leonardo*. This was followed by *La cruz bajo la lengua* and many more. They include *La canción de Shao Li*, 2010 International Latino Book Awards, granted by Latino Literacy Now Best Young Adult Fiction - Spanish or Bilingual, and also a finalist in the 2012 Hache Awards, from the City Council of Cartagena, Murcia; 20,000 copies of the book have already been sold. Other books published by Bambú: *Las lágrimas de la matrioska* and *Rebelión en Verne*.

A keen traveller, she documents her travels in situ and visits the places in her novels as if they were characters. She is also the author of several children's stories. Her work has been awarded with several short story prizes in different literary contests.



## Will you buy it for me?

by Elisenda Roca and Cristina Losantos

Language: Spanish and Catalan

### Summary

Children are naturally curious. Shopping with children sometimes can be difficult. They run in all directions and touch and want EVERYTHING they see, specially when you are waiting in line. It is important to say "no" but most important is to make them understand the values of saving, spending and sharing. Kids at this age need to learn that if they really want something, they should wait and save to buy it.

### About "Victory" Series:

A collection of short stories so that children can discover the world of reading. Simple and easy to understand, the texts come with magnificent, full-colour illustrations to stimulate the imagination and to improve the attitude and behavior of children. Each title is chosen for its educational and literary value and includes a fun bookmark.



**Elisenda Roca** (Barcelona, 1963) is a journalist and writer. She has worked in radio and television, as well as in the press. Along with the doctor Carlota Basil, she has published the successful parenting books. For the youngest readers, she has written *M'expliques un conte?* and in the last years she has published the series "Victory", illustrated by Cristina Losantos, about the social behavior of children.

Her most recent titles include two outstanding illustrated books: [\*La pequeña Amelia\*](#), illustrated by Paula Bonet, and [\*Tú y yo. El cuento más bonito del mundo\*](#), illustrated by Guridi, both published by Combel.



**Cristina Losantos** has been exclusively dedicated to professional illustration since 1985. She works for many publishing companies, in Spain as well as in other European countries.

She regularly collaborates in newspapers and magazines, such as Cavall Fort and El Tatano. In 1998 Cristina won the 2nd National Prize for Illustration, awarded by the Ministry of Culture. In 2007 she was awarded the 1st Prize in the contest "Graphic Humour and Sport" sponsored by the Catalan Sports Foundation.



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