

Mari Kanstad Johnsen

CHILDREN AND YOUNG ADULTS
PICTURE BOOK

I'm Out of Here

Jeg rømmer

Gyldendal 2015
40 Pages

In 2015 Gyldendal added a new genre to the book palette! WORD-FREE books. These are books that can be read by proficient and poor readers alike, but that give those less proficient in the 6-9 target group that special feeling of finally having read a whole book. On their own!

The word-free books do not contain a single word, but are read by following the illustrations, discovering details, patterns, feelings, action – solely by concentrating on the visual aspect. A skill our youngest readers often possess.

The word-free books aim for the target group that ought to be able to read, but needs a reading experience that motivates and inspires them – and does not exclude them from the literary universe. Of course it's possible to read a whole book without having the traditional understanding of reading completely under one's belt!

To tell a story without using words is an extremely demanding exercise and Gyldendal has asked some of the best visual story-tellers in Norway to do it.

About *I'm Out of Here*:

When you've moved to a new place, far away from your friends and your old school class, then it's not so unusual to feel a little lonely. Maybe the new class will become friendlier after a while? Or maybe not. Maybe one needs a clever trick to make new friends – how about a luminescent rabbit?

Special mention in the 2017 BolognaRagazzi Award



'A successful start to a new series of wordfree picture books ... It is nice to see that the publisher chooses the very best of the picture book artists to make these books. It is a demanding task to tell a story without words, but they have succeeded with flying colors. We want more!'

Barnebokkritikk.no

'I have rarely read a Norwegian picture book this rich and full of action – with no words ... One of the best picture books so far this year.'

Barnebokkritikk.no



PHOTO: AUIGON JOHNSEN

Mari Kanstad Johnsen works as an illustrator and artist. She made her debut as a children book's illustrator with *Barbiedoll Nils and the Pistol Problem* in 2011. Her debut as an author came with *Scary Holiday* in 2013.

Kanstad Johnsen is one of the participants chosen for NORLA's development programme for new literary talents "New Voices", a part of the project of Norway as Guest of Honour at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 2019.

Her books have been translated into French, Spanish and Swedish.

FOREIGN SALES

Italy (Libri Progetti Educativi), Spanish rights (Pablo Curti)

RIGHTSHOLDER

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