

No Shelf Control

Edition 12: April 2022

Jonne Kramer

This month's Book of the Month comes from Holland - a translation of *Het raadsel van de zee* by Jonne Kramer. Laura Watkinson again translating amazing Dutch books so that we can enjoy them in English! Here is the story of how the book was created and brought to England.

Jonne came up with the idea for the story while she studied Creative Writing at the University of Westminster. It was going to be about a cursed ship, a quest for a lost father with just a tiny bit of magic. When she came into contact with the Dutch publishing house Billy Bones and told them about the idea, there was an immediate match. Months later, it was in stores all over The Netherlands.

The gorgeous cover illustration by Karl James Mountford made it easy for bookshop owners to fall in love with the book right away and they made a great name for it. They called it "an enchanting sea tale" and said that "if the book would have been out when I was a child myself, it would've definitely been one of my favourites".

Soon, the book was read and loved by many children. In 2020, it got nominated for the *Hotze de Roosprijs*, the Dutch prize for best children's book debut, and for the *Kinderjuryprijs*, a national prize where children decide what's the best book of the year.

The *Riddle of the Sea's* success didn't go unnoticed. The remarkable cover and the story with a subtle romance between two boys caught the attention of Bonnier Books UK. They acquired the rights to translate it into English and let the press know:

"We are delighted to have acquired World English Rights in Jonne Kramer's wonderful debut. We already work with Karl Mountford [...] and so were immediately drawn to his stunning artwork in *Het raadsel van de zee*. And Jonne's text is just as special, with warm and convincing relationships - and a page-turning pirate adventure story.

The Riddle of the Sea is out now!
£7.99 Piccadilly Books



Books



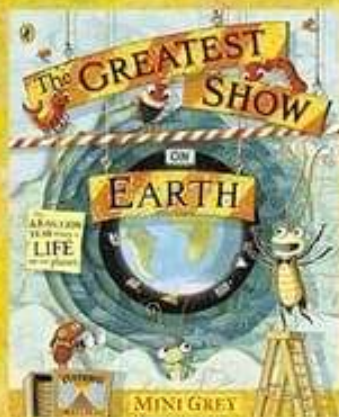
Reviews



chats



This Month's Book Reviews



The Greatest Show on Earth

Mini Grey

Puffin 4+

Just Mini Grey's name on the front of a book is enough to convince me that it is worth reading! But this gorgeous book is an amazing look at the history of our planet. 46 Billion years squeezed into 48 pages! You'll be an expert once you've finished it!

Wilder than Midnight

Cerrie Burnell

Puffin 9+

Some adventure stories leave you gasping for breath, this is one of them. Cerrie Burnell never disappoints mixing exhilarating stories with a strong heart. We are treated to not one, but three brilliant female role models who celebrate their own differences. This is not to be missed!



The Girl Who Lost a Leopard

Nizrana Farook

Nosy Crow 9+

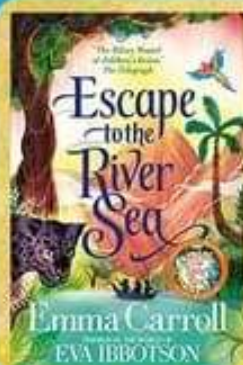
Nizrana always transports us to countries far away but after finishing her books, you'll know this distant lands like the back of your hands. Join Selvi as she desperately tries to conjure a plan to save Lokka the leopard when hunters begin to circle. You will be hooked from the very first page and won't be able to put it down!

Please Write Soon

Michael Rosen & Michael Foreman

Scholastic 7+

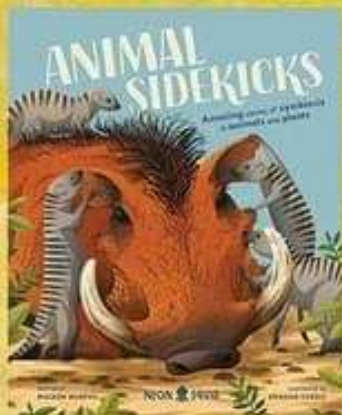
An emotional journey through World War II told by the letters written by two cousins, Solly in London and Bernie in Poland. Both cousins have to leave their homes, Solly when he is evacuated and Bernie when he is taken to a forced labour camp. The letters give a rich understanding of what life would have been like and show the deep connection of the cousins.



One To Wait for...

Escape to the River Sea - Emma Carroll
Macmillan Children - June 22

Journey to the River Sea is such a well loved novel that creating a sequel must have been a daunting task, yet Emma Carroll has smashed it out of the park. This is gorgeous!



Animal Sidekicks

Macken Murphy & Dragan Kordic

Neon Squid 7+

Neon Squid are a brand new non fiction publisher and only choosing one of their new books was impossible. I went for Animal Sidekicks because it always intrigues me how animals make each other's lives better and how they live peacefully together. I fully urge you to look up all of the books that they have released this month and try not to bankrupt yourself in the process.

The Sky Over Rebecca

Matthew Fox

Hodder 10+

Another book set in World War II, *The Sky Over Rebecca* is a tale of friendship separated by time. Set in modern day, Kara finds Rebecca and Samuel who are Jewish refugees from WWII... Seeing similarities between herself and the accidental time travellers, Kara has no choice but to help them. Make sure you have tissues handy when reading as a tear or two may leak from your eyes...



Looshkin

Jamie Smart

David Fickling 7+

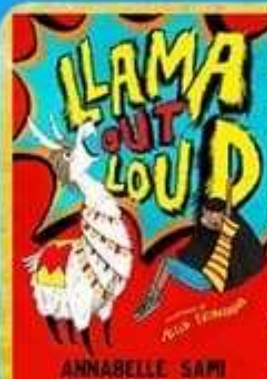
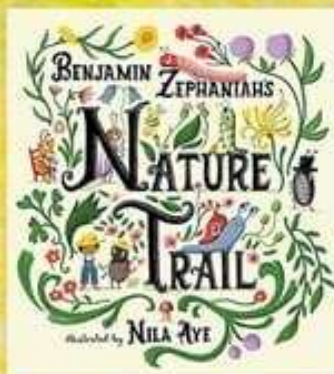
If you haven't met Looshkin yet then don't read any further, just buy the book and thank me later! If you have, then you won't have needed to read my first sentence, you will have already got the book and read it... Looshkin is simply the maddest cat in the world! This book brings together two previously released adventures into a new book with additional illustrations. We are huge fans at No Shelf Control!

Nature Trail

Benjamin Zephaniah & Nila Aye

Harper Collins 8+

Simplicity done perfectly! I love Benjamin Zephaniah's poetry but what Nila Aye has brought to it is truly spectacular. I got completely lost in the book as I followed Benjamin's words and my eyes were treated to Nila's illustrations. This should be hung up and framed because it is that beautiful! Once you finally take your eyes from the pages, you'll jump straight into your own nature trail!



One You Might Have Missed

Llama Out Loud - Annabelle Sami & Allen Fatimaharan

Farshore - 7+ July 2020

A book which makes you shout at the pages! Yasmin needs to find her voice, but unfortunately for her a magical, talking llama is the one that tries to help her... Things do not go to plan at all and Levi the llama ends up causing absolute chaos! Will his methods help Yasmin eventually?

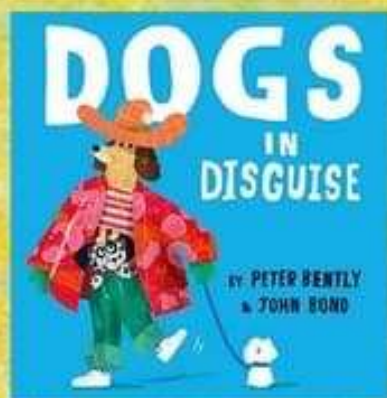
9 Books about... Dogs



Here at No Shelf Control HQ, we've been extremely busy preparing for the imminent arrival of our new book loving* puppy. So with our minds fixated on that, we present you 9 amazing books about dogs! (*fingers crossed she doesn't eat them)

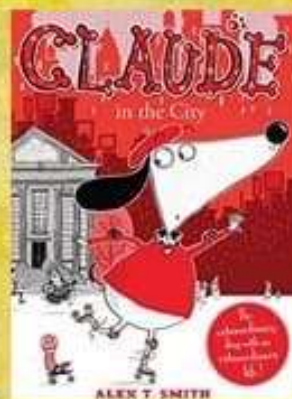
1. Dogs in Disguise

Peter Bently &
John Bond



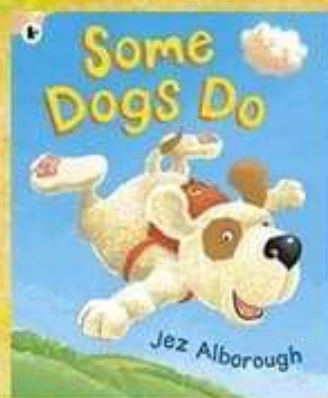
2. Claude in the City

Alex T. Smith



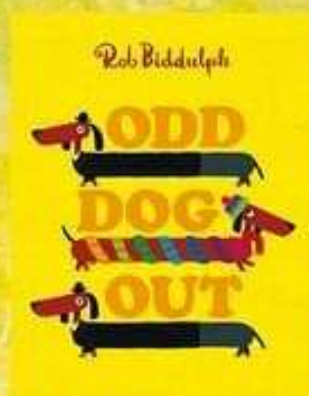
3. Some Dogs Do

Jez Alborough



4. Odd Dog Out

Rob Biddulph



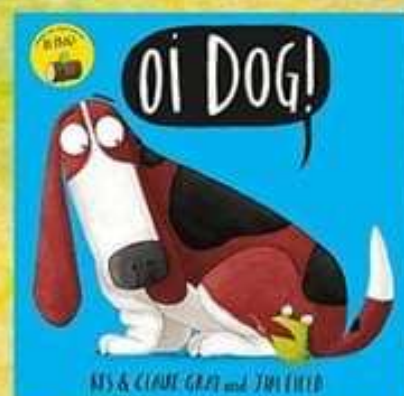
5. I, Cosmo

Carlie Sorosiak



6. Oi Dog!

Kes & Claire Gray &
Jim Field



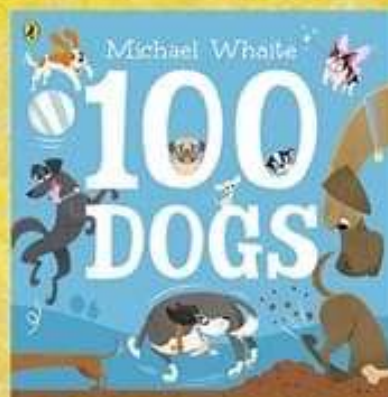
7. Allergic

Megan Wagner Lloyd
& Michelle Mee Nutter



8. 100 Dogs

Michael Whaite



9. Good Dog McTavish

Meg Rosoff &
Grace Easton



If you have any questions or have a book released soon that you feel deserves a place on the newsletter: Email us - MisterBodd@outlook.com