



A WALK THROUGH HISTORY

2022
SPRING



MASKS

By Pavel Boev
Drawings by Alisa Yufa

This is a fresh and creative approach to present the masks humans wear for the last 30,000 years. The book tells about various ways we use masks. Made from wood, metal, wax, palm leaves and even human hair, here you can find ritual, stage and functional masks from all the continents. An anthropologist tells us all about them.

The expressive and humorous drawings for this book were made by Alisa Yufa, a rising star of Russian book illustration.

Sample text available in English

Right sold: Germany, China



NEW

Topeng Dance Masks



Япония: Острова Ява
Культура: Традиционная
культура Индонезии
Эпоха: XV в. н.э. – наши дни
Материал: древесина, алычины,
распущенные и консервированные
бананы.

On the crossroads of Asian cultures

Topeng is an ancient Indonesian theatrical dance. The word "topeng" literally means "mask". Topeng dances tell stories of kings, beautiful women, heroes and mythical creatures. Dancers are accompanied by gamelan – traditional orchestra of local percussion and string instruments. Stories for Topeng are often taken from Mahabharata and Ramayana – ancient Indian epics. First mentions of Topeng date back to VIII c. A.C. And the poem "Nagarakertagama" which was written in the XIV century tells the story of a ruler named Hayam Wuruk, who was a skilled dancer and wore a golden mask. Although usually Topeng masks were made of soft wood of Astoria tree and painted by natural paints. Sometimes masks were decorated with lacquer, for example, some parts could be gilded. Topeng was popular on several big islands: Java, Bali and Kalimantan. There are a lot of local variations of Topeng: long ago Indonesia consisted of many independent kingdoms, and at each royal court Topeng evolved in a different way. Facial features of some masks were painted, and the features of other masks were made of plant fiber or human hair. And some masks don't have the lower part of the face to make speaking easier.

— НИ СЧАСТЬ ДАМ!
ТАКОЕ ПУТЯЕМ!

The golden mask of Hayam Wuruk

It is kept in the Metropolitan Museum, New York. We don't know if it belonged to the king Hayam Wuruk. Actually, it most likely didn't. The scientists believe that it was a burial mask and it wasn't used in any sort of show. But when we look at this mask, we can at least suggest what king Hayam's mask looked like. The mask in the Metropolitan Museum dates back to the XIV century and was made in the kingdom of Majapahit that was ruled by Hayam Wuruk. It was a powerful empire that conquered a great part of south-eastern Asia. It was the golden age of Indonesia.

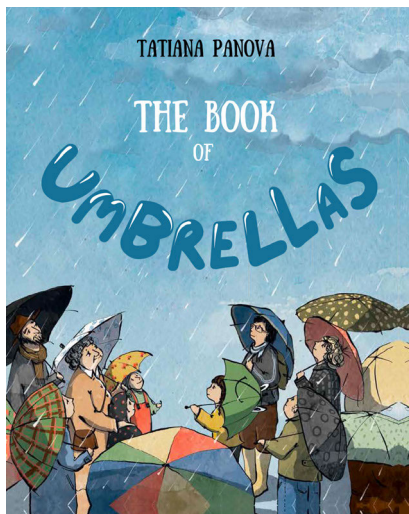


Алеша и Шекспир
АЛЕСА ТЕГЯ

Almost like Shakespeare

One of the most popular stories that were told in Topeng dances was the story of princess Chandra Kirana and prince Panji Almpo Bangun lived in the neighbouring kingdoms. Their marriage would strengthen the alliance between their countries. Shortly before the wedding the prince decided to visit a few moorlands. Not far from one of them he met a beautiful woman, fell in love and married her. The royal parents were infuriated, and the neighbouring state's ambassadors demanded the divorce, even promised to go to war unless Panji fulfills his promise to marry the princess. To avoid war, the parents of the court decided to part the lovers and lured the woman into a forest to kill her. She agreed to die to prevent further blood shed. After prince Panji learned that, he lost his memory and mind because of grief. He spent many days running around fields and forests, weeping havoc and burning down towns and villages. Princess Chandra found that out and decided to help her fiance. Disguised as a man, she travelled to the neighbouring court to cure the prince's madness. And the miracle happened! Princess looked like the prince's late wife, because they both were incarnations of the same deity – Kamsari, the goddess of love. Panji and Kirana married and lived happily ever after.

У
ПРИНЦА
СТАНИЦ ПЛАН,
НО ОН РАБОТАЕТ!



ISBN 978-5-907471-06-1, 48 pages, 210 x 272
For children 5 yrs and up

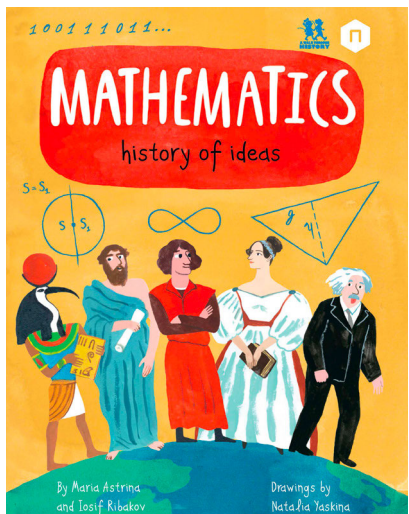
THE BOOK OF UMBRELLAS

Written and illustrated
by Tatiana Panova

Today it's hard to imagine life without an umbrella. Although it was invented a very long time ago, until quite recently it used to look nothing like the umbrellas we know. The first umbrellas were meant to protect people from the sun. For rulers in various parts of the world they were symbols of power. Made of bamboo, paper or silk, decorated with feathers or precious metals, they were quite cumbersome, and had to be carried by servants. The story of the umbrella in pictures and activities.

Sample text available in English

NEW



ISBN 978-5-905474-81-1, 160 pp
For children 10 yrs and up, 190 x 270

MATHEMATICS: HISTORY OF IDEAS

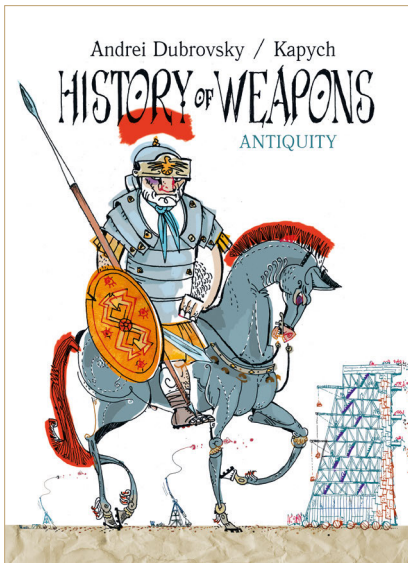
By Maria Astrina and Iosif Ribakov
Drawings by Natalia Yaskina

This history of mathematics from prehistoric times till the 21st century tells about mathematicians and discoveries of each period, solutions to mathematical problems that led to unexpected discoveries in other fields of knowledge and the changing language of science. The authors concentrate not only on personalities and facts, but on the history of ideas and their progress, including the circumference of a circle, the π , the law of gravity, the theory of relativity, Euclid's axioms and multidimensional Riemann spaces

Sample text available in English

NEW

Rights sold: China, Vietnam, Germany



ISBN 978-5-907471-16-0, 124 pages, 210 x 272
For: children 10 yrs and up

HISTORY OF WEAPONS:

ANTIQUITY

By Andrei Dubrovsky

Drawings by Alexey Kapninsky (Kapych)

The book describes the invention of weapons, war tactics, strategy and famous generals from the Stone Age to the fall of the Roman Empire. Weapons and war have always been one of the forces that ruled the course of history. The change from bronze to iron, the introduction of the horse and the chariot, the use of ships or battle elephants are all major steps in the history of weapons and in the fate of nations. The Assyrian kingdom, the large Hellenistic empire of Alexander the Great and Pax Romana were built by war and perished by war. Illustrations for this book were done by the famous Russian animation and book artist Alexey Kapninsky.

NEW





ISBN 978-5-907471-22-1, 40 pages, 210 x 210
For children 3 yrs and up

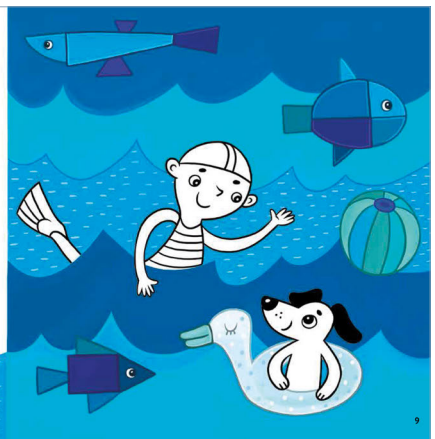
MAGIC CONSTRUCTOR: COUNTING, COLORS, SHAPE

Written and illustrated
by Sofya Bestuzheva

Welcome to the world made of multi-colored constructor! How interesting! You can sit on the roof of a yellow house and look at the yellow clouds, you can drive red cars and launch orange balloons into the sky. And you can also calculate everything and find out where the circle is hiding, and where the triangle is! This journey will be for the youngest readers the first acquaintance with counting from 1 to 10, colors and shapes

Sample text available in English

NEW



Written by Lada Bakal

TO THE MOUNTAINS!

A HISTORY OF ALPINISM



Illustrated by Tatyana Ukleiko

For children 7 yrs and up
ISBN 978-5-906994-56-1, 64 pages, 210 x 270

TO THE MOUNTAINS!
The history of mountaineering
By Lada Bakal
Drawings by Tatyana Ukleiko

This is a unique story of how people changed their view of mountains and mountain climbing. First they saw mountains as an enemy to subjugate but with time the very process of ascent acquired a special meaning for alpinists. The subdued illustrations remind us of vintage postcards from the Alps.

Rights sold: China

Sample text available in English

NEW



A dream about eight-thousanders

The end of the XIX century was a birthtime of the idea that was to become central to the whole XX century of mountain climbing - to scale the eight-thousanders. Back then legends were being told about Gasherbrum, which was called Gashapashar. Who told of a mountain of 67 thousand ft in its height? It is really a family name among guides' Albert Humann, the legend of the late XIX century mountaineering, tried to discover some of them. He was the first mountaineer of his time, a founder and pioneer of Alpine style of climbing, and the first explorer of difficult routes in the high-altitude mountains.

Till the end of the XIX century, the mountaineers met mainly about climbing the peaks by the simpler ridge routes, usually with the guides. The mountaineers were wealthy people, the aristocrats who considered mountaineering more as a hobby, than a professional career. However, because of the desire to do something completely different. He was more focused on conquering the summit, but on winning through difficult and unexplored routes. He always signed the route of additional peaks, the wind drills and knots for joining holes into the mountain, as it was called then. His ideas became very popular and inspired several new generations of mountaineers.

It is sometimes speculated that the 'Alpine' style - an ascent at the highest possible speed and with minimum weight and gear - is a device by an easy one - that was pioneered by Humann, was formed according to the physical features of the alpinist. Humann was tall and gangling man and couldn't carry heavy weights.

Up to the late XIXc, Humann had climbed many mountains with guides, but with the special guides, as well as strong and healthy. He believed that mountaineering should be 'for leisure'. In 1893, Humann assumed Dufour (13250 ft), a yet unexplored but thousand of Caucasus by a specialized route, the great route Humann famous. Still, he aspired for more and more height phenomena and of course he thought about the giants - the eight and seven thousanders.

In July 1911, Humann got off to Kanchenjunga, the mountain, which was the highest in the world. He reached the highest mountain in the North and the Himalayas in the middle of the century '80s. The highest mountains are located in India, Tibet and Nepal, and most of them are managed by foreign mountaineering expeditions. The mountaineers usually do a few days climb and then they descend with minimum. Humann's mountain of the Himalayas and the Kanchenjunga were the highest mountains of his time in the Alps.

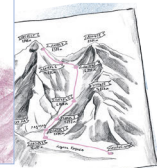
He was an advocate of climbing actual peaks. Humann wanted a light weight tent for mountain expeditions. He replaced canvas with solid silk and reduced the tent height to the length of diameters which were used as poles. To save the tent weight, he used gut ropes and fixed the construction with ice axes and rods. The weight of the tent was only 11.5 kg.

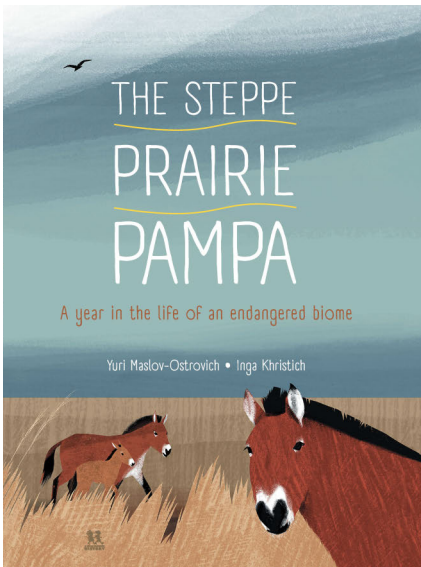
When the climbers reached 8000 meters, they turned back - without experience of high-altitude ascents, all of them suffered from altitude sickness. After the failed attempt, Humann decided to find another route to the peak. On 21 August 1895 Albert Humann and his companion were lost on the peak itself. Their death on the height 6400 meters, the first one in the history of conquering the eight-thousanders, was a stroke of an accident. Their bodies still haven't been found.

The tragic Humann expedition didn't put an end to the attempts to scale the highest mountains on the planet. The exploration has continued. In 1909, the party of the duke of Abruzzi explored K2 (Chogori Kangchen) in Karakoram. In 1910, an British climbed the first peak higher than 7000 meters - Trisul in India (7320 m). In 1916, an American reached French Peak (8550 m) in Western Himalayas and in 1926, an American expedition scaled the Kanchenjunga (8584 m) on the Tibetan border. They were the first western high-altitude mountaineering.

Anna Peak located an annual, inspired by the first but from the Pleistocene of Northern Italy. Karl Henry Bissler, a Pyrenean explorer, climbed it in 1860 using a sheepskin carrying bag. Also, he introduced a concept of mountain shelter, where mountaineers, who were caught up by bad weather could stay for a night without making their tents.

In the XX century began, mountaineers dream of only one word - Himalaya. Instead of names of the highest and most beautiful mountains on the planet.





THE STEPPE PRAIRIE PAMPA

A year in the life of an endangered biome

Yuri Maslov-Ostrovich • Inga Khristich

ISBN 978-5-907471-02-3, 64 pages, 207 x 304
For children 8 yrs and up

NEW



RUSSIA, South Ural, Orenburg Nature Reserve

Winter

Young golden eagle is soaring above the winter steppe. He flew from far away. From tundra. Maybe the bird will continue his journey to some other place, where there's less snow and more food.

Eagle's sharp eyes scan snow ground. Not even a mouse can sneak past him.

The eagle makes a sharp turn. What's that down below?

A herd of small steppes horses grazes on a hillside. Horses? Wind. What are they doing in a steppe, in a winter, without humans?

Did they get lost, are they going to die from cold and hunger? Then they will make a fine feast... But no — the horses dig grass from under the snow with their hooves and eat it.

And here come the humans. The horses joyfully run towards them.

The steppe-est

Orenburg Nature Reserve is the largest steppe nature reserve in Russia. Steppes make up almost all of the territory. There are over 5000 species of animals and almost 1000 species of plants here.

Among them, there are many endemics — i.e. species that only live in South Ural steppes.

The biggest reserved area — "The Little Steppe" — was of some point a military range. This territory was never plowed, its landscape remained almost pristine. This territory became the center of revival of Ptushensky's horses in Russia.

The great explorer's horse

These contemporaries of mammoths have adapted perfectly to the difficult steppe life. Even in winter they can find food beneath the snow. But because of humans wild horses started dying out along with other ancient steppe dwellers. By the XIX century the ones left were hiding in the remote parts of Mongolia and China. It's there that Russian explorer and scientist Ptushensky discovered these horses. The healthy discovered species was named after the one who discovered it: Ptushensky's horse.

In the XX century these horses became completely extinct in the wild. But there are still some small herds in zoos and on farms. Several countries



Cold Frost and sunshine...

Orenburg winter is harsh. It isn't very snowy, but is very cold and windy. But there are also many sunny days. Sometimes winds bring rainy weather. Hares cover the snow with an icy crust. It can be so thick that it can withstand the hooves' hooves. Then Ptushensky's horses, cows and sheep can't reach the food hidden under the snow. Sometimes they even die from hunger. But the Nature Reserve has some food for the animals in store — for the extreme situations.



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