Popcorn Books





We are Popcorn Books, publishing house from Moscow, Russia.

We publish exciting fiction for young adults that touch on topics which are (sadly) still regarded as 'controversial' in today's Russia: LGBT+, selfidentification, racism and sexism, mental health issues and more.



Young Adult



YEAR: 2020
PAGES: 400
RIGHTS SOLD: RUSSIA, GERMANY, POLAND, ITALY, THEATER RIGHTS AND FILM RIGHTS MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT, ENGLISH SAMPLE
PRINT RUN: 130 100

The Days Of Our Lives Mikita Franko

2020-2021 NOS(E) (NEW LITERATURE), RUSSIAN LITERARY AWARDS (2ND PLACE)

Little Mickey was an ordinary child. He had his favorite characters, porridge in the morning, birthdays, boring school gatherings, and essays on given topics. During adolescence, Mickey was an ordinary teenager. He had his first fight, first disappointment, first love, and first dislike. But Mickey had one secret: his family, which he could not show to anyone...

This novel is a coming-of-age story of a teenager who grows up with gay parents in a small Russian town. Told in the first person, it gives an insight into the frustration, confusion and anxiety which comes from surviving within a hostile, conservative society—but also sheds light on the complex nature of love.



A young Russian writer Mikita Franko kept a private blog in VKontakte (popular Russian social network), where he posted short texts which later became the base for his debut book *The Days Of Our Lives*. The novel was first published in 2020 by Popcorn Books and was highly appreciated by critics. It also became one of the most discussed books of 2020. Mikita was also nominated for the GQ's Author of the Year award among other prominent Russian authors.

Franko created a novel that you will read over and over again, trying to better understand yourself.



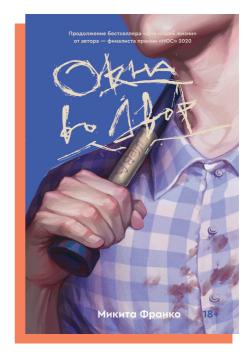
Here is a touching and funny story of growing up in an unusual family for modern Russia, telling about the value and fragility of private life and the importance of personal choice.

Esquire

Windows To The Courtyard Mikita Franko

PART 2 OF THE DAYS OF OUR LIVES

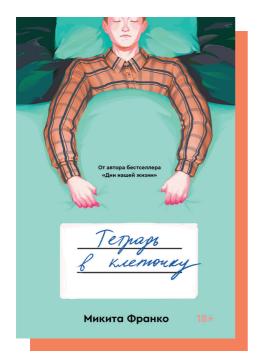
Mickey moves to Vancouver with his parents and his younger brother. An unusual family easily fits into Canadian society, but it is only at first sight: the relationship between parents in the new country begins to rapidly collapse, and the tragedy that could unite the spouses brings them farther apart. Meanwhile, Mickey, who has run away from old problems, faces new ones: violence, fear, misunderstanding and addiction.



YEAR: 2022
PAGES: 656
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 35 000

A perfect teen novel—a bit Salinger, a bit Townsend, but at first Franko's own voice which still doesn't afraid to tell stories underrepresented in contemporary Russian literature.

— The Blueprint, Russia's #1 independent media about fashion, beauty and modern culture



YEAR: 2020
PAGES: 224
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 30 000

Squared Notebook

Mikita Franko

"Hello, squared notebook,"—this is how Ilya begins each entry in his diary, which he decided to keep after moving to a new town. Ilya wants to find friends, but the only people who speak to him are an immigrant girl and a classmate surrounded by strange rumors. Ilya strives to seem normal, but he is afraid of germs and washes his hands all the time. He wants to forget about the terrible S-Day but constantly returns to it in his memories.

"Dad was going somewhere. Then he came back and put 'The Perks of Being a Wallflower' in front of me. He said: "Read it." "It says it's for adults," I replied. "Some books cannot wait for six years. They are needed now."

Starting with the emotional peak of "queer panic", i.e., the fear of knowledge that seems to have capacity to undermine fundamental notions of sex and gender, Mikita Franco takes the reader along the way of acceptance, gently and without any outright didactics. Again and again, he argues in favor of conversation rather than silence, knowledge rather than prejudice, in favor of inclusiveness, empathy, and, ultimately, participation.

- Gorkiy, Russia's #1 online project about books and reading

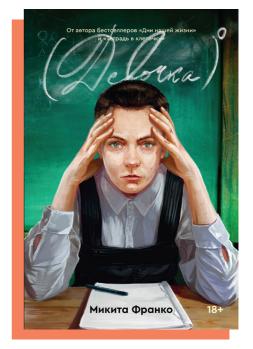
Mikita Franco's first book, The Days of Our Lives, was sensational. In his second book, A Squared Notebook, the author confirms his unique manner of being able to write about adults for children, and about children for adults.

 Leonid Parfyonov, a famous Russian journalist, news presenter and TV producer

Girl to the Power of Zero *Mikita Franko*

Mikita Franko's next novel is about gender identity, religion, and unconventional children who try to stay themselves, despite the rules and prohibitions of society.

Vasilisa is not like the other girls. They don't wear pink clothes, don't play with dolls, and want to dress like their older brother Gordey. Gordey helps Vasilisa become Vasya and keeps his secret. In return, Vasya helps Gordey perpetrating fraud and earning money. Vasya loves his brother and wants to spend all his free time with him, but the pressure from their family, school, and society inevitably seems to change their lives forever.



YEAR: 2021
PAGES: 192
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 25 000

This story is about the difficulties you have in expressing your feelings if you haven't really understood yourself yet.

— The Blueprint, Russia's #1 independent media about fashion, beauty and modern culture

The young author's new novel is about the problem of gender identity and inability to be yourself under the pressure of society.

— **burninghut.ru**, a big Internet media for women about women



YEAR: 2023
PAGES: 240
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 10 000

The End of the World is Coming Soon

Mikita Franko

Oliver is eleven, and he chose his name by himself—in honor of his favorite Dickens' hero. He likes to play Snake game on his phone and eat food like in America; he dreams of defeating the bully Tsapa, recovering from HIV infection and being adopted by a family. Through some miracle expectant parents from Salt Lake City decide to adopt Oliver, but he sees on TV that the end of his world is coming soon.

In his works, Mikita Franko explores social themes. Franco's characters often find themselves in dead-end situations, ones which we usually try not to think about. But, as experience shows, there is a way out—and it is always near.

The End of the World is Coming Soon is small, thin, but a strong and loud book. It's like a baby who can't stop crying, and you don't know how to calm him down, how to make him not be afraid. Because suddenly you're already scared yourself.

@itsbooklee, a Russian book blogger

Freaks

Julia Veresk

Mark used to believe that any quarrel can be resolved with words, without resorting to violence. He firmly believes this until everyone at school turns against him. One wrong word, one wrong friend, and Mark is an outcast. Reason for ridicule. Maybe the foundations and values instilled in childhood are complete nonsense? Mark will have to figure it out and get to know himself again.



YEAR: 2022
PAGES: APPROX. 352
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)



Julia has been coming up with stories all her life. As a kid, she would come up with characters or things happening to them when falling asleep. Little by little, she started writing down the stories. She loves telling common stories about common people, who are neither good nor bad. Her stories are about love, friendship, and self-acceptance.



YEAR: 2020 PAGES: 352 MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT, ENGLISH SAMPLE ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN) PRINT RUN: 69 000

The One Julia Veresk

Matvey hides from the outside world in books. But after a family tragedy, he becomes even more self-isolated. He lives with his mother and sister, who often quarrel and don't understand each other. But one sudden meeting on a hot summer day changes Matvey's ideas about himself, love, and the world forever.

This text by Julia Veresk is sincere and sensual. It deals with themes of sexual orientation and falling in love, but goes way beyond them. The narrator discusses the problems of his world and the challenges people face in their relationships with families and friends.

 $\boldsymbol{-}$ Prochtenie, a Russian internet-based magazine on literature news

The One is a novel for teenagers, young adults and adults who were teenagers once and are ready to remember the emotional tumult they were in back then, even though the memories may make their hearts race.

— Bookmate Journal, a media by a popular ebook subscription service Bookmate

Rejection *Katya Wright*

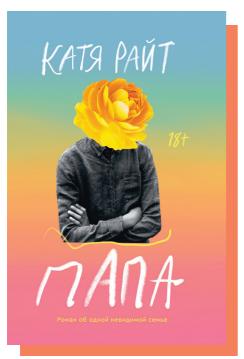
Rita Grayson moves to another city and goes to a new school. Everything is going well: she easily makes friends and quickly gains popularity. But Rita has one little secret—her brother Peter. He leads a hermit life and does not even go out into the backyard. And all because of a terrible scar on half of his face. One day, Rita's fiery-red classmate Sean appears at the Graysons' door. He wants to become friends with Peter. Sean is an outcast at school. And Rita is not sure of the sincerity of his intentions.



YEAR: 2023
PAGES: 192
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 7 000



Katya Wright is a writer and a translator. She loves traveling, lighthouses, long walks, and close friends' company. She is keen on practical shooting, too.



YEAR: 2021
PAGES: 224
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 4 000

Dad Katya Wright

Yura was 12 when his mom died, and his dad made a sudden come back and took Yura to live with him. Andrey is trying to be a good dad from the moment he meets Yura, and he is doing well, but it is still to be discussed where he disappeared to and why he did not help Yura and his mom in any way. Not all answers are straightforward and easy, but sooner or later the time comes for each of them. There is something that the father will have to try to explain, and the son will have to try to understand.

This book is about love: to oneself and to others, about love taking different shapes. And, most importantly, this is a story of acceptance. Accepting oneself, one's problems, life and society, learning to respect personal boundaries, personal choices, realizing what is true love, support and mutual understanding.

- Subculture, an online tour guide on contemporary culture

I love books that can completely change something in you, make you happy or mad, make you want to talk and argue on the topics you read about. The themes touched upon in the novel are truly acute and complex. Bravo to the way Katya Wright dealt with them, opened them up and put them in the reader's head!

- ost_vitbooks, a Russian book blogger

Meltiar Harbingers *Vlada Medvednikova*

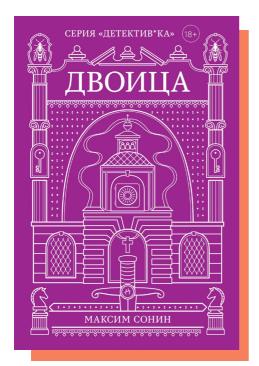
Meltiar Harbingers is a first part of a fantasy series.

It's a book about a thriving kingdom, whose inhabitants are constantly living in anxiety. Hundreds of years ago, their ancestors conquered this country, exterminating the people that inhabited it and possessed dark magic. But there are rumors that these people didn't disappear, that some of them survived and are hiding, making their way into cities and villages, not giving themselves away, just waiting. The new inhabitants of the kingdom are afraid that the magical people have penetrated their kingdom, so even their friends can become their enemies. Life is riddled with fear and anticipation of war. And soon the war begins.

Eli is a wizard in royal service. Artsa is a girl that possesses dark magic. They met before the war, but now they fight on different sides...



YEAR: 2022
PAGES: APPROX. 416
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 10 000



YEAR: 2021
PAGES: 256
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 6 000

The Pair Maxim Sonin

PART 1 OF OF THE TRILOGY

Sixteen-year-old Mashka Mironova has loved books about detectives since childhood. So now she has become a detective herself. During her collaboration with the police, she's solved complicated crimes one after another. This time she gets a complex case: a girl dies under a train in the subway. Her death, at first glance, seems to be an accident.

The Pair is the first part of the new detective trilogy by Maxim Sonin. The main character is a protestant raised reading novels about Lisbeth Salander and Erast Fandorin. She is investigating the crimes committed by a religious sect that is distributing a new drug called Pair. Maxim tackles the problems of coming of age, relations with God, and looking for a true self, in the settings of Moscow, a seductive city that strays people from the way of righteousness.



A non-binary writer from Moscow, Maxim writes books for teenagers and young adults and spends free time doing politics in a talk-show on TV Rain (or Dozhd, a Russian independent television channel with focus on news, discussions, culture, politics, business reports, and documentaries), learns to play the piano and studies semiotic signs in literature.

There is a lot of good stuff in The Pair by Maxim Sonin. It's not only the modern Moscow's skillfully captured entourage, but also virtually the most charismatic female character in post-soviet detective genre, a witty teenager who grew up on Georges Simenon, Agatha Christie and Boris Akunin, and, of course, a beautifully built intrigue. But the best thing about it is deep, sincere, but also smart and reflexive love for the genre of detective stories. It is this love that allows the author to respect the canon but still bring something new into the classic tradition. Something fresh, alive, and individual.

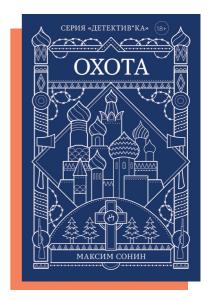
— Galina Yuzefovich, a Russian literary critic in Meduza, Russia's #1 independent news media

The Hunt

Maxim Sonin

PART 2 OF OF THE TRILOGY

A mysterious murder was committed in St. Petersburg. A stranger appears out of nowhere and kills a journalist with an ax. Detective Mishka goes to the city with her neighbor Vera to try and find the murderer with the help of police. Who is he? How can he move around the city without being noticed? What does the new drug, the Pair, that Mishka had to deal with back in Moscow, have to do with it? Mishka is about to solve a sophisticated case, but this time, her life is in danger, and not only hers. The Hunt is part two in a detective trilogy about a 16-year-old detective Mishka by Maxim Sonin.



YEAR: 2021
PAGES: 208
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 6 000

The Convent

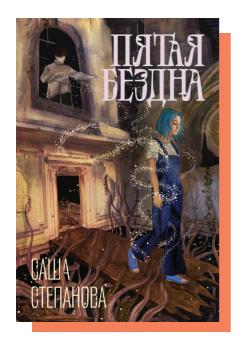
Maxim Sonin

PART 3 OF OF THE TRILOGY

The Convent is the final part of Maxim Sonin's detective trilogy about the sixteen-year-old detective Mishka Mironova. The trail of the secret convent goes from St. Petersburg to the North, to the city of Petrozavodsk, but Mishka does not know that this time she will have to face not only a dangerous killer, but also a whole system that can hide any crime and any criminal.



YEAR: 2022 PAGES: 304 MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN) PRINT RUN: 3 000



YEAR: 2023 PAGES: 224

MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)

PRINT RUN: 8 000

The Fifth Abyss Sasha Stepanova

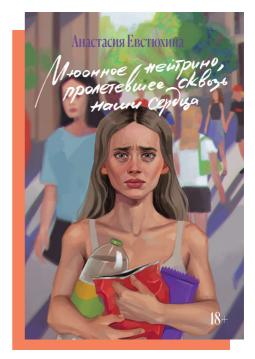
Summer holidays of Lera Barinova begun with a kidnapping attempt. Also, she encountered the real witchcraft for the first time in her life. Her godfather and his son Eric come to protect Lera. Eric and Lera dislike each other, but Lera is forced to stay in his house until it becomes clear who is hunting her. Besides, it appears that there is a rare magical connection between them: they did not choose it, but they will have to live with it.

Sasha is a writer, book editor, co-host of the literary podcast, teacher of creative writing. She writes books in the genres of mysticism, urban fantasy, young-adult, modern prose. Do you want to feel the magical atmosphere? Pick up the Abyss! I recommend reading it in the summer for teenagers and all fans of the genre!

- @daveronika_book, a Russian book blogger

The Muon Neutrino Anastasia Evstyukhina

Seventeen-year-old Taisiya is in the children's department of a psychiatric clinic. She has bulimia. Neighbor girls, while away their days locked up, share stories with each other. Taya recalls the past summer at the dacha: a young man Zakhar she fell in love with; Lucy, her best friend. She also reflects on her disease, which she hid from everyone for a long time. Now, telling her story to the girls from the ward and talking to the doctor along the way, Taya gradually tries to find the keys to her illness.



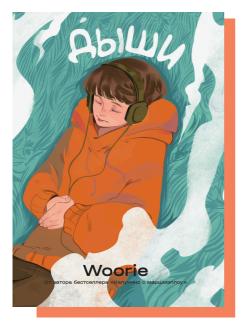
YEAR: 2022
PAGES: 224
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 10 000

There are topics wide-ranging and hotly debated such as bulimia. And rarely does a writer, especially a beginner, succeed in creating a book on these topics. The book as if by magic transforms into a story on man, friendship, and the importance of looking for the light in the darkness.

— **Tatiana Naumova**, a Russian book reviewer in Afisha Daily, Russia's independent media on culture and art



Anastasia Evstyukhina is a writer, poetess, and researcher in the biophysics field. Mother of many children.



YEAR: 2023 PAGES: 296 MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN) PRINT RUN: 10 000

Breathe

Woorie

Comic artist Woorie invites readers to reflect on what word *home* means; how to cope with bullying; why when we talk about love, we usually mean romantic one; and how to notice the beauty in small things.

In her unique manner, Woorie shows how versatile and amazing life is. Each story seems to wrap readers in a warm blanket.

Woorie studies graphic design, loves warm drinks, kind conversations with strangers on the street and wearing knitted sweaters. Drawing is part and parcel of Woorie. The idea of uniting different people from many parts of the world with her works makes her feel childish excitement and evokes a desire to embrace everyone.

I highly recommend this collection for anyone who wants to take care of themselves or a loved one. It is insanely beautiful, wise and very close to my soul

— @sudakova_svetlana, a Russian book blogger

New Adult



YEAR: 2020
PAGES: 304
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 18 000

Swimming Section for Drinking Alone

Sasha Karin

THE FICTION-35 LITERARY AWARD, LONGLIST

After adopting the law on voluntary euthanasia, the Russian government turns rivers and lakes in Moscow into underwater cemeteries. Mara is a young artist who suffers from a creative block and prepares to go underwater. But then he meets Lisa, a girl losing her sight, and begins to doubt his decision. The friendship of two lost people turns into something special. Can Mara and Lisa overcome their loneliness on the way to a happy life?



Sasha has been writing since he was a child, but started thinking about major prose after reading Haruki Murakami. His life seems rather comical to him, so in his works Sasha tends to be more lyrical. Musical painful prose with attention to detail is his ideal. These clues help him when he tries to find his way to his own voice.

First, Swimming Section for Drinking Alone seems to be a simple romantic novel. Then, a not-so-simple novel about depression. But it turns out to be a novel about a generation without any fanfare or catchwords.

— **Prochtenie,** a Russian internet-based magazine on literature news

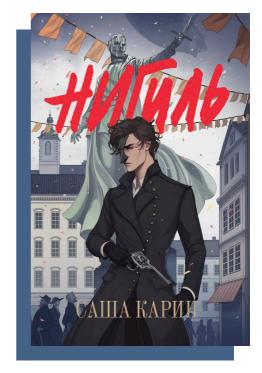
This book came to me when I was drowning in some kind of despair. I was literally drowning, and this book took me and pulled me out. And this is weird, because the book itself is dark and depressing. It was my friend who brightened up my loneliness. I saw in her the light I swam and swam out to. And as soon as I finished reading, I was freed from my heavy moral condition.

— ost_vitbooks, a Russian book blogger

Nihil

Sasha Karin

The main character arrives in the city of Molch, not remembering either his name or past. He finds out that he is an agent of the Secret Office and realises that his presence there is no accident. His secret task? To expunge the leader of the revolutionary group "Children of the Lower City". He stoically accepts his mission, but as it unfolds he begins to feel sympathy for the rebels. The city of Molch's clergy and bureaucracy appear corrupt and vulgar in his eyes.



YEAR: 2023 PAGES: 240 MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT, ENGLISH SAMPLE ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN) PRINT RUN: 6 000

Adult



YEAR: 2023 PAGES: 704 MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT, ENGLISH SAMPLE ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN) PRINT RUN: 7 000

Your Drop of Blood Ina Goldin & Ruta Penta

Seven years ago, after a suppressed riot, the knyaz of Belogorsk Stefan Belta was sent to the Ostland court as a hostage so that his father would not raise a new rebellion. In Ostland, he becomes a friend of the heir to the throne Lothar, who takes the crown one day and makes Stefan his adviser. However, after returning to his father's house, Stefan learns that a new riot is being prepared against Ostland. Matters are further complicated because Stefan is a vampire, and he is forced to keep his secret even from his loved ones.



Ina Goldin is a writer, translator, author of many fantastic stories. An experienced fanfic author, a seasoned participant in the Fandom Battle, a two-time award winner of the Anti-Booker prize. The novel Your Drop of Blood won the vampire prose contest Transylvania in 2017.



Ruta Penta wrote poetry, participated in house concerts at Oryol and Lipetsk. She posted poems, original works and fan fiction on various network sites. Now Ruta writes fan fiction, keeps a blog with sketches and photos, helps with creating a radio program.



YEAR: 2020
PAGES: 192
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 3 000



Anatoly Vishevsky was born in 1954 in Chernivtsi. He graduated from Chernivtsi University, English department. In 1974, a soviet Literaturnaya Gazeta newspaper and Yunost (the Youth) magazine started publishing his works, and after he immigrated to the USA, the magazine Continent did, too. In 1985, he defended his doctoral dissertation at the University of Kansas, and he is working as a professor of Grinnell College, lowa, now. Anatoly Vishevsky wrote books and articles on Russian Literature of XIX and XX centuries and early Meissen porcelain, his beloved collectible passion.

Fragile Fantasies of Oberbossierer Loys

Anatoly Vishevsky

This book is about life, passion, and death in the enlightened Duchy of Württemberg during His Serene Highness Duke Karl Eugene's reign. It tells about the old oberbossierer of the Ludwigsburg porcelain factory named Johann Jacob Loys, who fell in love with a young fruit merchant. The young man went to war, and the master dreamt of him and embodied him in his figurines. But, did the master wait for his love? And did everything turn out the way Johann Jacob imagined? This story is about his inspiration, his passion, his pain, and his happiness.

Human life is a mixture of the beautiful and the disgusting. Although Fragile Fantasies of Oberbossierer Loys offers many overdetailed descriptions of physiological processes, the book was not written to disgust you. Life is impossible to imagine without those details, but it is also impossible to imagine without art, love, and short-lived happiness.

— **Prochtenie**, a Russian internet-based magazine on literature news

Fragile Fantasies of Oberbossierer Loys is a novel that makes you think Russian literature has a long-lived canon for gay novels. The elegant style, reminiscent of the great Russian classics, does not prevent the reader from finding similarities with foreign writers—the smelly macabres of Patrick Süskind, the crisp of Daniel Kehlmann, and even the antique charm of Alain Claude Sulzer.

— **Gorkiy**, Russia's #1 online project about books and reading

Infinite Monkey Theorem Ekaterina Zvontsova

The sudden death of writer Varvara Petrova leaves people who loved her deeply wounded. Her editor Pavel, a fellow writer Jude, and a detective and a reader Dmitry are coping with their loss in different ways. Pavel is bringing together his cherished memories of Varya, Jude is trying to solve mysteries that shroud her books, while Dmitry is looking for the murderer. These people seem to have almost nothing in common, but the writer's death makes each of them give their lives new meanings.



YEAR: 2022
PAGES: 384
MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT,
ENGLISH SAMPLE
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)
PRINT RUN: 13 000

So scary and, at the same time, so beautiful. Probably, that's how I can describe the Infinite monkey theorem. She scares, speaks in different voices about what worries. But how difficult it is to stop reading it! It rarely happens to me, but I want to recommend this book... to everyone.

— hikkikomorii, a famous Russian blogger and influencer

This is the book you will read over and over again. To find new details, to return to the unique atmosphere, to be inspired, because this book is full of inspiration.

— _ta_samaya_reads, a popular Russian book blogger



Ekaterina is a book editor, an author, and a keen historian. She likes experimenting with history and going deeper in the dark alleys of the past to create a story. Her first book was published in 2015, but as a big fan of Seymour Glass, she doesn't believe writing to be a career – more like a personal hadron collider that extends reality. There is something dark, heavy in each of her books.



YEAR: 2022 PAGES: 192

MATERIALS AVAILABLE: MANUSCRIPT
ALL RIGHTS ARE AVAILABLE (EXC. RUSSIAN)

PRINT RUN: 5 000

Invisible Voices *Group of authors*

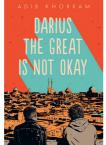
Invisible Voices is a collection of auto-fiction stories by contemporary Russian-speaking authors and finalists of the Popcorn Books open call and Autovirus autofiction webzine. How does it feel to live in a world that wants everyone to be the same? The heroes of the collected volume reflect on this and look for their own way: they defend their identity, cope with traumatic experiences, lose and find home. They want to transform the invisible into the visible and tell us about things we don't know at all or know very little about. It can be difficult to understand who you are when you differ from the accepted norm.

Invisibility, absence, loss, bereavement, gap—there is a story here for everyone who knows these words and these feelings. These stories were written by courageous people that were able to face them, look in the eyes of pain and fear. Yes, we are all standing in a draft. It blows harder, but there is hope, light, and warmth that can be found inside ourselves, and this makes it a little easier. That is the lesson of this brave little book.

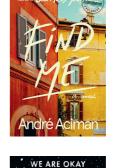
— ${f Maxim\ Mamalyga}$, book reviewer of the magazine ${\it Rules}$ of ${\it Life}$

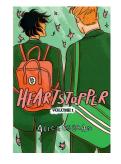
Our Foreign Highlights













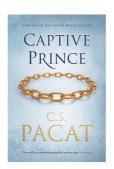






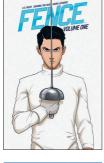












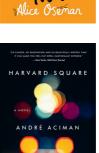


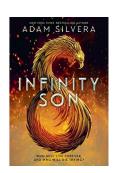


















Contact us

Valeria Burlina • Rights Manager valeria.burlina@popcornbooks.me

Follow us

www.popcornbooks.me instagram.com/popcorn.books t.me/popcornbookstg