

RIFF AGENCY

CHILDREN'S FRANKFURT RIGHTS GUIDE 2025

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HIGHLIGHTED
AUTHORS

TULIPA

Paula Schiavon

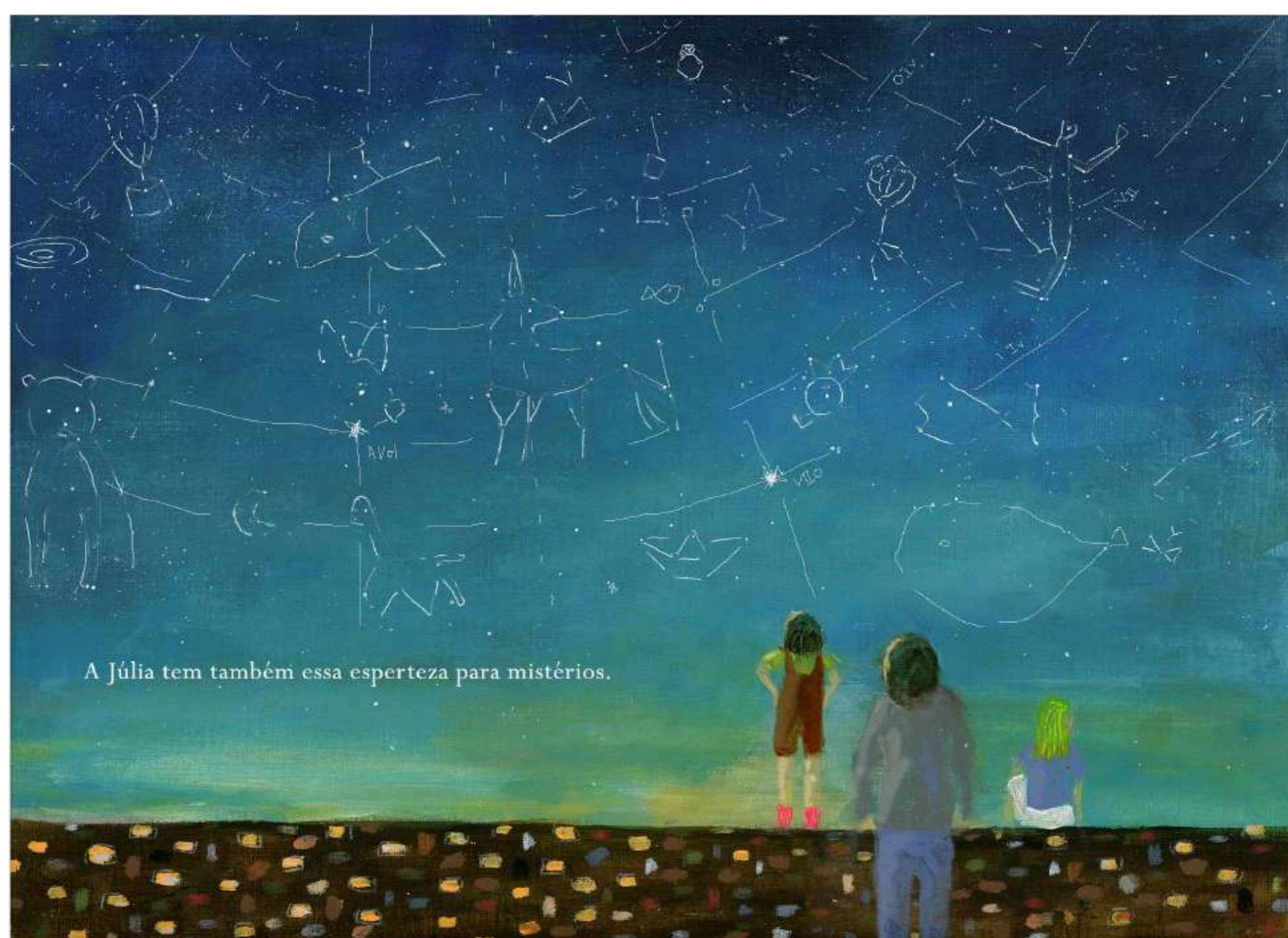
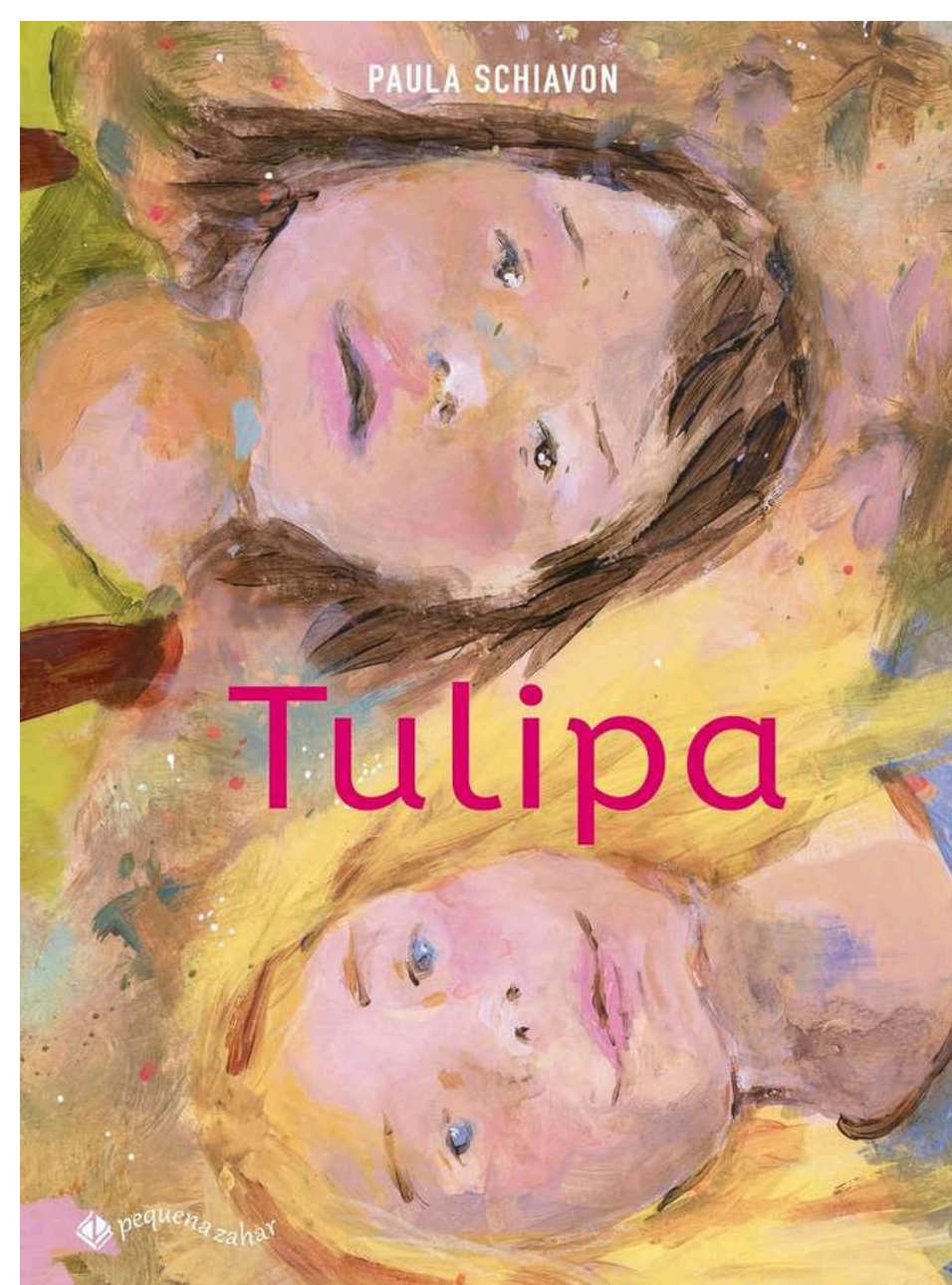
Pequena Zahar, 2025

64 pages

Recommended for readers aged 6 and up

A poetic tale of childhood, friendship, and imagination, centered on the bond between Júlia and her best friend, Tulipa. Through collections, games, and shared discoveries, the story invites readers into the silences, symbols, and subtleties of their world. The illustrations enrich the atmosphere, offering a sensory and aesthetic experience that highlights the diversity of ways of being and the poetic complexity of childhood.

PAULA SCHIAVON was born in Porto Alegre, in the south of Brazil. She is the winner of the 29th Açorianos Literature Prize in the children's category. Her books have been awarded the UNESCO Chair and the FNLIJ "Highly Recommended" distinctions. *Loba* was selected for the White Ravens catalogue, and in 2024, she was chosen as an illustrator for the 15th Iberoamérica Ilustra Catalogue. She was a finalist at the Bologna Children's Book Fair, in 2025, with her series *Collections*.



JIDDO

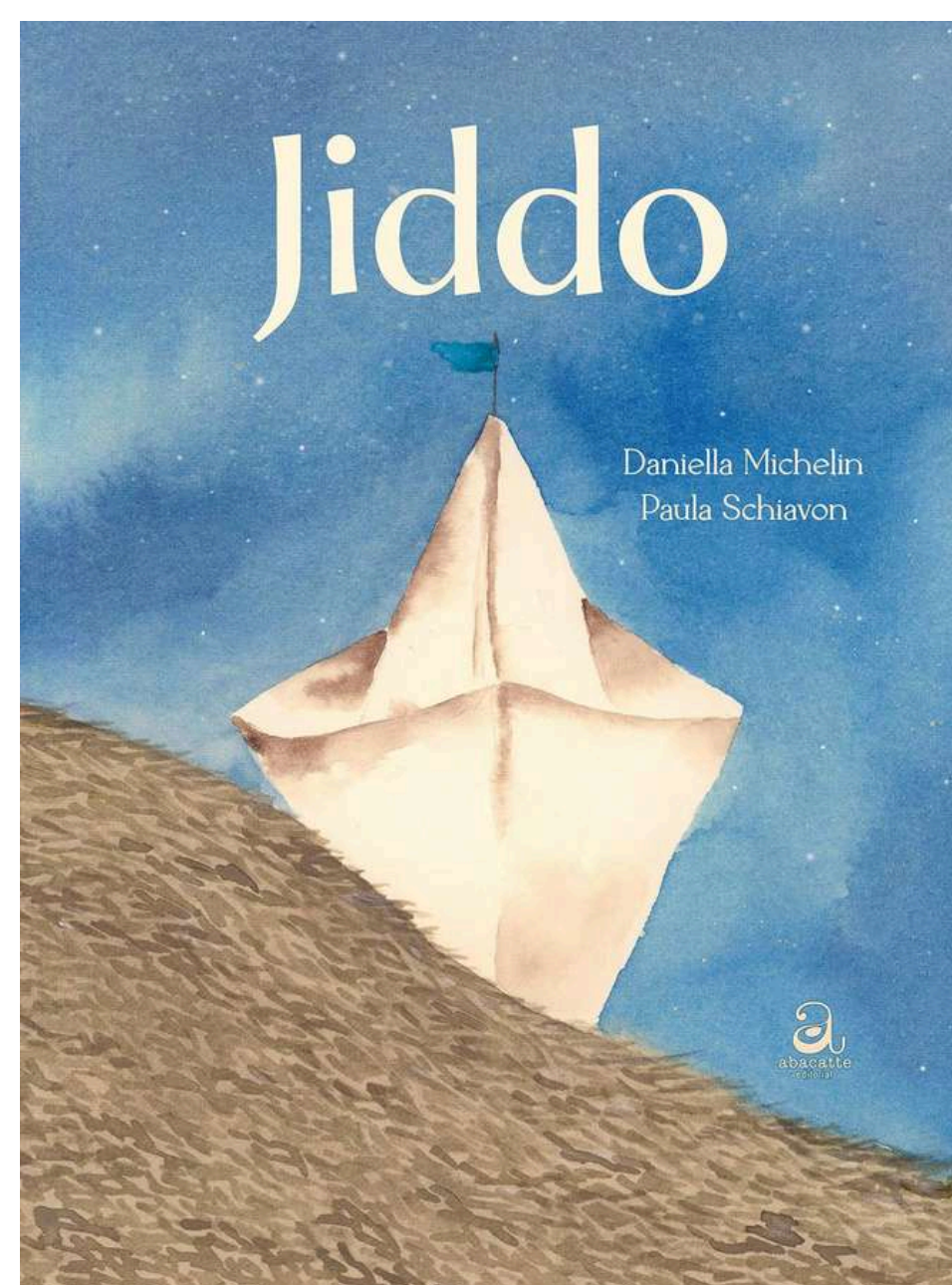
Daniella Michelin (text), Paula Schiavon (illustration)

Abacate2025

96 pages

Recommended for readers aged 8 and up

Through the imaginative eyes of little Lúcia, we dive into the universe of her grandfather, Jiddo — a world that is at once ordinary and fantastic. An immigrant from a faraway land, Jiddo brought with him much more than could ever fit into a suitcase — memories, traditions, and stories that span generations. Between grandfather and granddaughter blossoms a bond of companionship and deep trust, so strong that not even the greatest hardship can break it.



MY HAIR IS LIKE THIS

Manuela Tasca

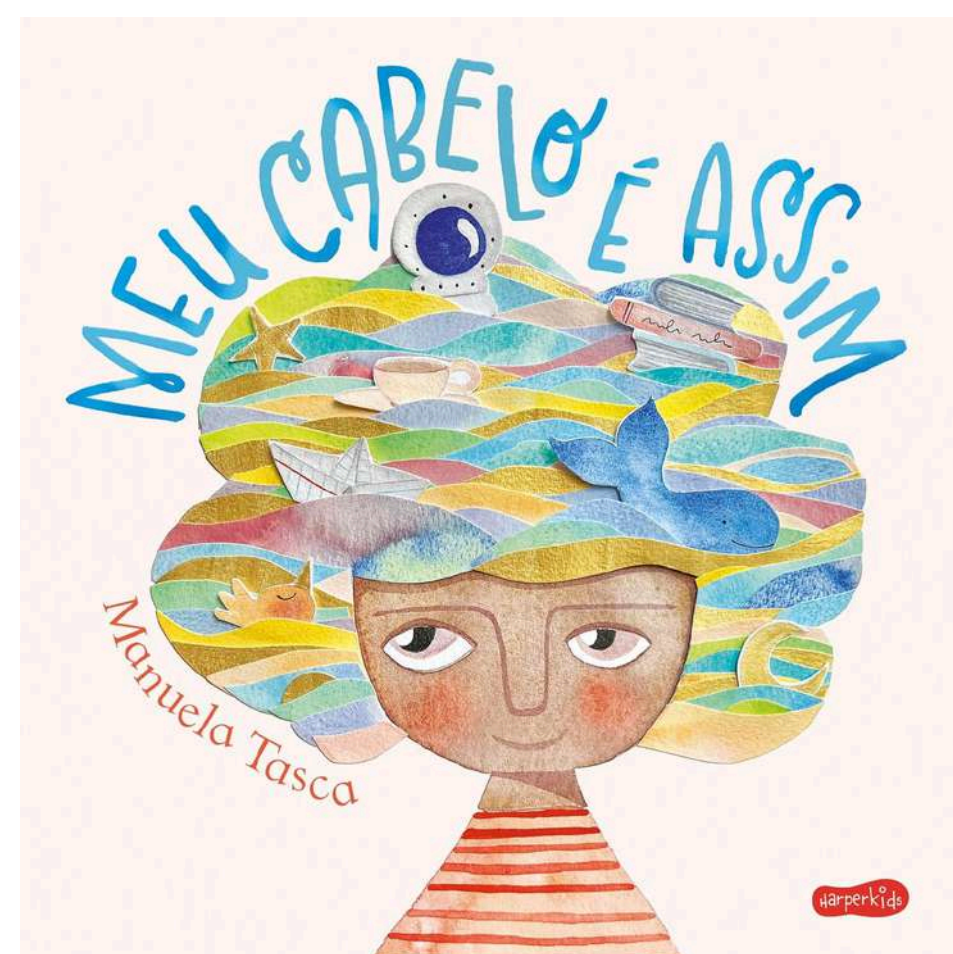
Harper Kids, 2025

32 pages

Recommended for children aged 4 to 6

What if your hair could reflect your emotions?

My Hair Is Like This turns emotions into images, colors, and poetry. The character's hair changes with each feeling—from blazing fire to starry sky—inviting children to recognize and express what they feel. With poetic text and vibrant illustrations, this book nurtures self-esteem, brings parents and children closer, and opens space for conversations about identity and affection.



MANUELA TASCA is a self-taught author and artist behind the Instagram profile @artepralulu, which has more than 90,000 followers. Trained as a physician and specialized in cardiology, she began developing her artistic technique intuitively as a way to foster communication and learning for her son Luca — who lives with the rare Jacobsen Syndrome. In addition to being an illustrator and content creator, she is a preceptor at IDOMED Medical School and teaches art workshops. She currently lives in Rio de Janeiro.



THE DOG THAT PLAYED LEFT-WING

Luis Fernando Verissimo

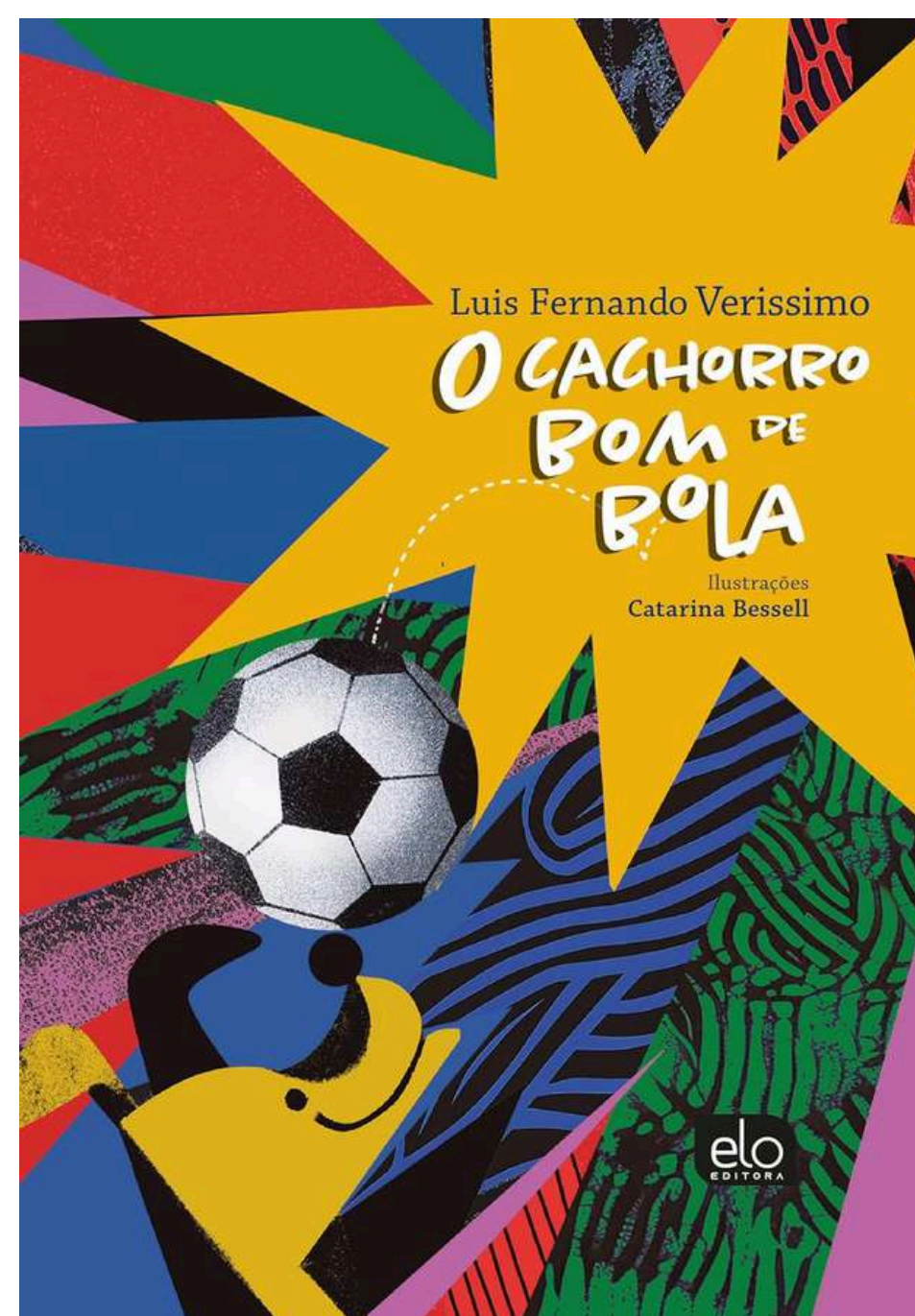
Illustrations: Catarina Bessel

Elo, 2025

60 pages

Recommended for readers aged 8 and up

In the neighborhood field, the kids have fun with their pickup soccer and the rivalry between the shirtless boys of Our Team and the uniformed players of Universal Futebol e Regatas. The competition between the two teams—already fierce—grows even stronger with the arrival of Lefty, a dog who plays left-wing for Our Team, and reaches its peak in a match that will remain forever in the memory of everyone involved. In the lighthearted and witty prose of master storyteller Luis Fernando Verissimo, this is a tale that captures the simplicity and joy of street soccer.



LUIS FERNANDO VERISSIMO (1936–2025) was one of the greatest figures in Brazilian literature, known for his humorous and observant style. A passionate Internacional supporter, he brings together in *O cachorro bom de bola* two passions that marked his career: football and humor.



MY DAD IS A BEAR

Cláudio Paiva

Harper Kids, 2025

48 pages

Recommended for children aged 6 and up

My Dad Is a Bear is a humorous and tender illustrated book that, through the eyes of a young girl, celebrates the special bond with her father. To her, he's like a bear: big, furry, sometimes clumsy, but always protective, courageous, and the source of the warmest hugs. With playful illustrations and engaging storytelling, Cláudio Paiva—renowned cartoonist and screenwriter—offers a sweet, unforgettable tale of affection, family, and paternal love.



CLÁUDIO PAIVA began working as a cartoonist at the newspaper *O Pasquim* in 1976. His career as an illustrator, cartoonist, comic artist, writer and screenwriter is extensive in major newspapers and magazines. In 2023 he published *Chico and the Smelly Pirates* (Abacatte editions), his first book for children.



DAD'S NAP

Vanessa Barbara

Ilustrações: Lalan Bessoni

V&R, 2025

40 pages

Recommended for children aged 4 to 6

Lelé is a playful and highly imaginative girl with a mission: to keep her father from taking a nap on a lazy afternoon. To do so, she chases him into the most unlikely and faraway places—from her great-grandmother's house to outer space—using nothing but her imagination.

Inspired by a scene between her own daughter and partner, Vanessa Barbara playfully explores parental fatigue in a lighthearted and humorous way. So, will Lelé succeed, or will her father manage to escape and enjoy his much-desired nap?



VANESSA BARBARA was born in São Paulo in 1982. She is a journalist and writer, author of eleven books in different genres, including *Noites de Alface* (Prix du Premier Roman Étranger, in France), *Operação Impensável* (Biblioteca do Paraná Prize), and *O Livro Amarelo do Terminal* (Jabuti Prize). Among her children's books are *Mamãe Está Cansada* (Companhia das Letrinhas, 2023) and *A Grande Invenção* (FTD, 2025), among others.



HOLE

Blandina e Lollo

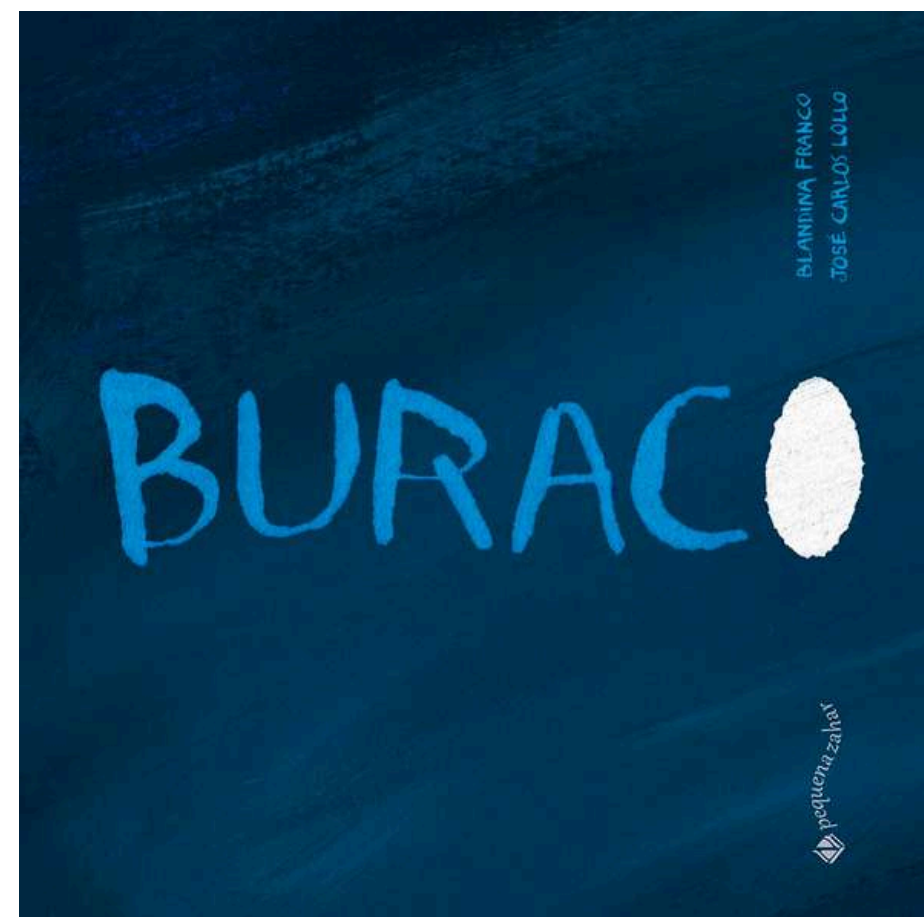
Pequena Zahar, 2025

88 pages

Recommended for readers aged 6 and up

A young girl suddenly falls into a mysterious hole. No external help can reach her—until, alone, she begins to cry. From her tears come words, and from words, a way out. In *Hole*, Blandina Franco and José Carlos Lollo invite readers to witness an intimate, silent, emotional, and transformative journey.

A powerful and yet delicate story for readers of all ages, opening space for what is left unsaid and for what can only be seen.



BLANDINA & LOLLO make books for children, paint plastic toy soldiers, and cook risottos on weekends. Their partnership has yielded many awards, a son named José, a few chocolate coins, three swimming medals from their son, and more than fifty published books, including foreign editions in Portugal, Turkey and China.



THE MULE'S MISADVENTURES

Teresa Cárdenas

Illustrations: Edson Ikê

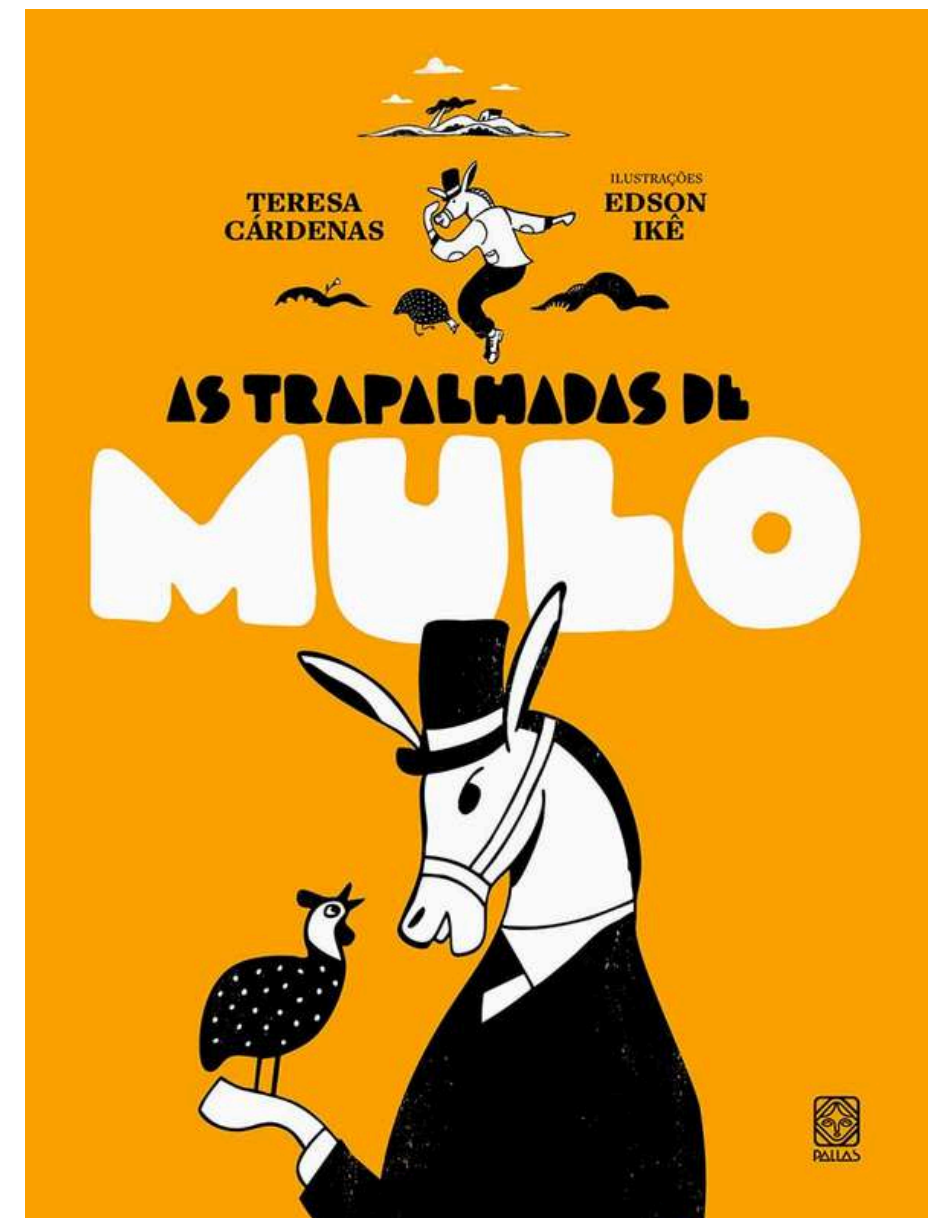
Pallas, 2025

80 pages

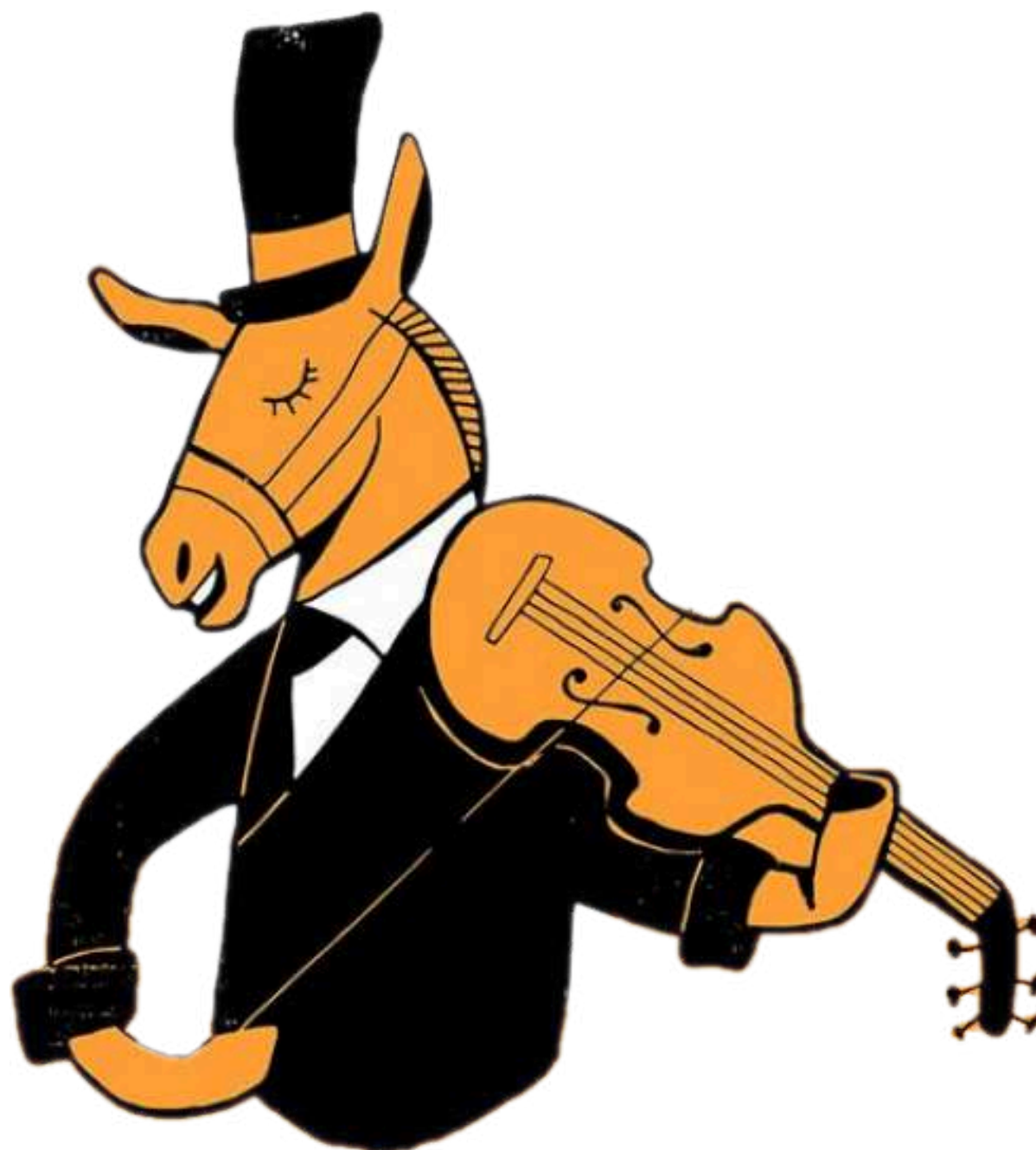
Recommended for readers aged 8 and up

Mulo is a mule who doesn't want to work as a pack animal and decides instead to become famous, chasing after glory, parties, and girlfriends. To pursue this dream, he counts on the help of his friend Guinea, the helmeted guinea fowl. Along his clumsy and comical journey, he faces a number of obstacles.

In this delightful and engaging fable, illustrated by Edson Ikê and rich in metaphors about the human condition, Teresa Cárdenas invites readers to reflect on important issues such as racial and social discrimination.



TERESA CÁRDENAS is a writer, actress, storyteller, and social worker. She is a member of the Writers' Association of the Union of Writers and Artists of Cuba. The many awards she has received establish her as one of the most important voices in Cuban literature. Among her books are *Cartas para a minha mãe*, *Awon Baba*, and *Cachorro velho* (Casa de las Américas Prize, 2005), published in Cuba, Canada, the United States, Sweden, South Korea, and Brazil — released in Brazil by Pallas Editora. Her stories appear in various anthologies, and her work is a reference for literary essays and academic theses in countries such as Cuba, the United States, Colombia, Venezuela, and Brazil.



CONFESSIONS FROM THE BOOGEYMAN

Índigo Ayer

Illustrations: Caroline Veríssimo

Galera Junior, 2025

196 pages

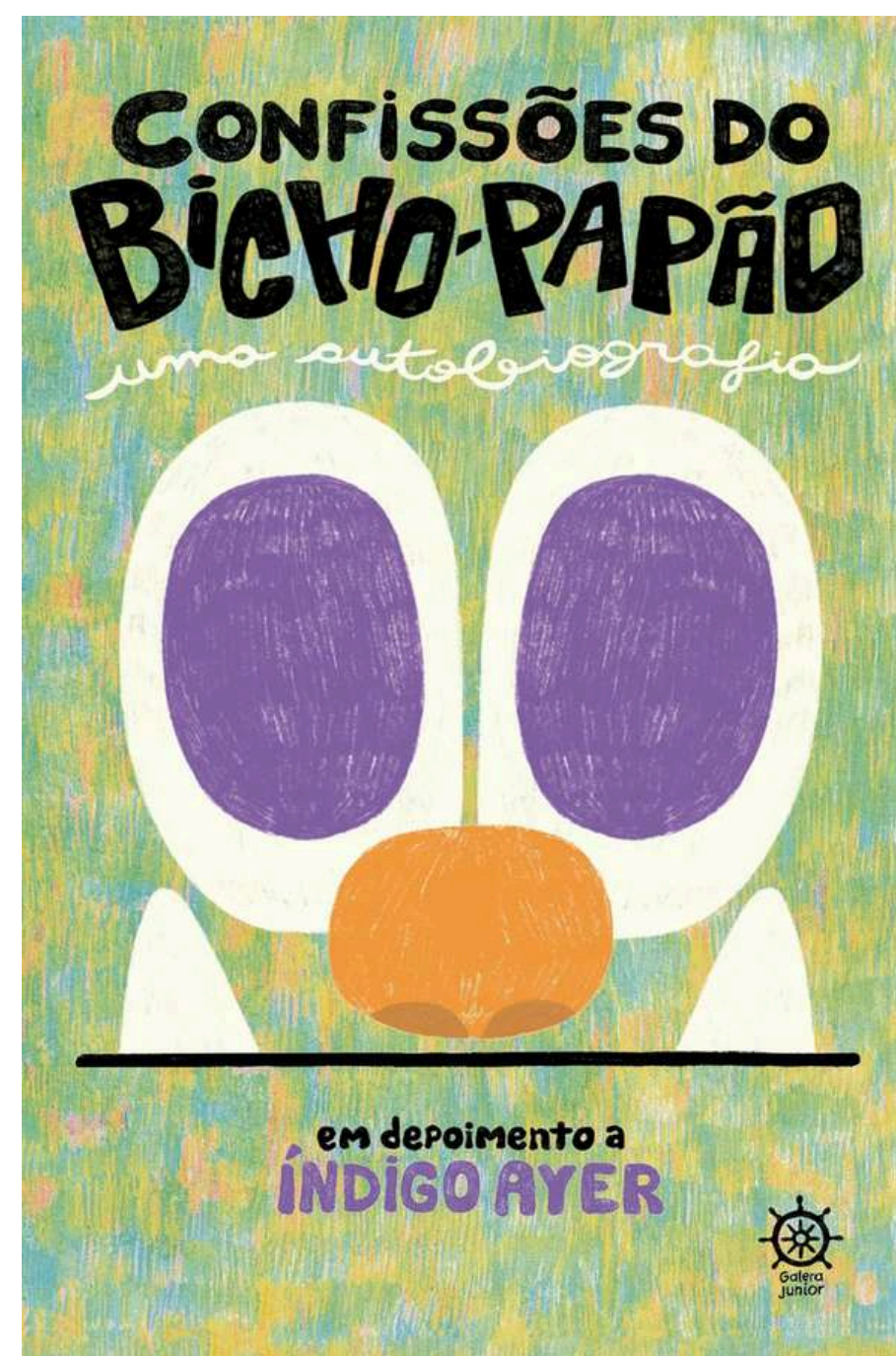
Recommended for readers aged 10 and up

After years of living under false accusations, the infamous Boogeyman finally tells his side of the story. In a humorous and heartfelt account—complete with charming illustrations—Billy Pimpão reveals the truth behind the legend, dismantling old fears and stereotypes. Playful testimonials from other “villains” make this witty, imaginative book both surprising and endearing.

“Man, what an amazing book!” – Big Bad Wolf

“I sincerely hope that after reading this book, people understand that mummies have feelings too. I was genuinely moved.” — Tutankhamun (or Tuta for friends)

“I loved the confessions of the Boog... oops, Billy!” – Evil Queen



ÍNDIGO AYER is the author of several books for children, teens, pre-teens, and anyone who doesn't yet consider themselves one hundred percent grown-up. With Galera Júnior, she published *Sete bruxas e um gato temporário*. Índigo lives on a small farm near São Paulo with her partner and two cats. Unlike Billy's mother, she doesn't use chainsaws. If you'd like to learn more about the author, her Instagram profile is @indigo_hoje. She loves hearing from readers.



THE TIME OF DOG

Ondjaki

Illustrations: António Jorge Gonçalves

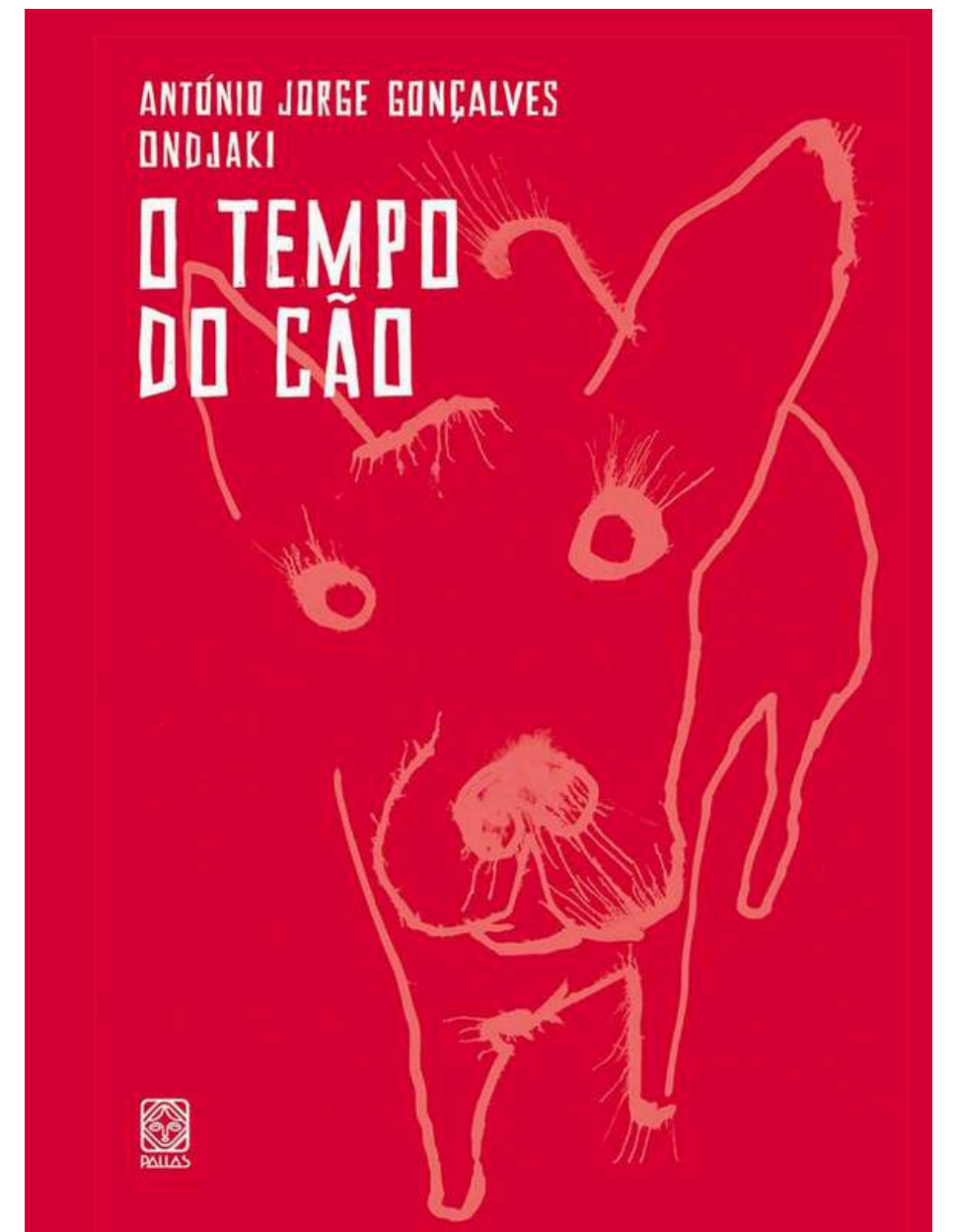
Pallas, 2025

144 pages

Recommended for readers aged 13 and up

This is a moving story of a silent, deep, and brief friendship, told through the thoughts of a dog and the Cuban guerrilla. On the shores of Lake Tanganyika, in Congo, Jelani and Che Guevara meet amid the struggle between burning houses. In this harsh setting, “farewell is a place where even a guerrilla can get lost,” and a dog longs for the “scent of a hug.”

Ondjaki’s text was created based on António Jorge Gonçalves’ moving illustrations, which offer a brief tribute to the woodcut artist J. Borges.



ONDJAKI was born in Luanda in 1977. He is a prose writer and sometimes a poet. He has won the Sagrada Esperança Award (2004), the Grand Short Story Prize (2007), the Grinzane – Young African Writer Award (2008), the FNLIJ – Juvenile Award (2010), and the Jabuti – Juvenile Award (2010). He is a member of the Angolan Writers’ Union. His books have been translated into dozens of languages. He lives between Angola and Brazil.







RECENT SALES

ERNESTO

Blandina e Lollo

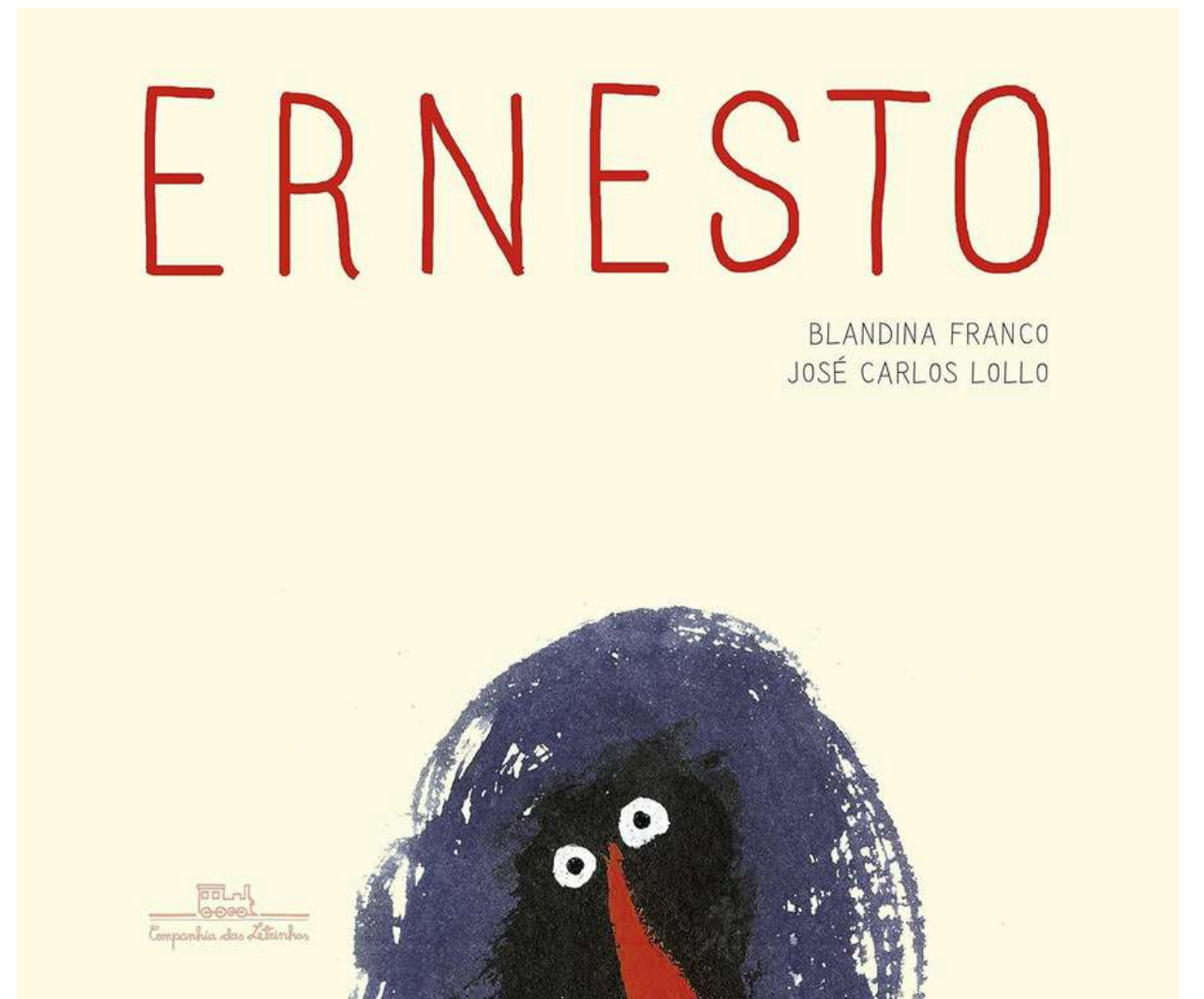
Companhia das Letrinhas, 2016

40 pages

Rights sold to:

Zero a Oito, Portugal

They say this book is weird, that it has an ugly cover, and that you'd better not read it. They say the story is a lie, and that its protagonist isn't much of anything. I haven't read it yet, but everyone is talking about it, so I won't read it—and I think you'd better stay away from it too. What do you think? Sometimes people say things about others without really knowing what they're talking about. That's what happens in Ernesto's life: nobody likes him, just because he isn't like everyone else. In this story, you'll discover what makes him so different and wonder: does he really deserve all that loneliness?



THE BIG BAD WOLF WITH A TOOTHACHE

Daniel Kondo

Carambaia, 2024

48 pages

Rights sold to:

Alfarroba (Portugal)

Selected for the American Illustration 44

The Big Bad Wolf, one of literature's most infamous villains, returns with a surprising twist—an unbearable toothache. Known for his cunning ways, he now needs help from old acquaintances like the Three Little Pigs, the Seven Little Goats, and Little Red Riding Hood's Grandma. Even the reader is drawn into the story. In *Big Bad Wolf with a Toothache*, award-winning author Daniel Kondo revisits classic tales in a playful hardcover edition where the illustrations spill beyond the pages, and the book itself transforms into the Wolf's wide-open mouth.

LIST OF COAGENTS

AUS/NZ, Spain & Latin America, UK, USA (adult fiction and nonfiction) – Indent Literary Agency

Arab language – Juliana Farias Literary Agency

China & Taiwan – The Grayhawk Agency

Eastern Europe – Graal Literary Agency

France (adult fiction and nonfiction) – Linwood Messina

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South Korea – Eric Yang Agency

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Cláudio PAIVA
Daniel KONDO
Fernanda de CASTRO LIMA
Fernanda VERÍSSIMO
Giulia PAIM
Irena FREITAS
João Luiz GUIMARÃES
José Carlos LOLLO
Keka REIS
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