



**MILJA
PRAAGMAN**

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AGENCY



Milja Praagman (born 1971) grew up in an old house on a dike, surrounded by lots of animals and space. She studied graphic design and illustration at the Academy for Visual Arts Sint-Joost in Breda. Her first clients were mainly newspapers and magazines. Later, she also worked as an animator for Sesamstraat, the Dutch Sesame Street.



© Keke Keukelaar

Before long, she was brimming with new ideas for her own stories. One of these became her first picture book *Mister Po*, which won immediate acclaim from the press. Since then, she has been unstoppable. Her books include *100 Sleeps to Go* (Picture Book of the Year 2013), *Breakfast Buttocks*, *Join Us* (Picture Book for Dutch Children's Book Week 2018) and *With You*, a wonderful story about seasons and friendship. In 2016 she received a Silver Paintbrush award for *Because I Love You So Much*. She has also published two self-illustrated poetry collections: *Close* and *I See You*.

Milja Praagman's picture books reveal a subtle sense of humour, which also appeals to the parents who are reading them out loud. Her stories, her fresh and distinctive graphic style and her colorful and naive pictures are an ode to the imagination. Her books have been translated in more than 10 languages to date.

www.miljapraagman.nl

Praise for Milja Praagman's work:

'Praagman has crafted a marvelous fatherhood tale that upsets those old expectations in just the right way.' – KIRKUS REVIEWS ON THE OVEREAGER EGG

'*With You* by Milja Praagman is an extremely moving picture book that beautifully depicts the passage of the seasons in aptly chosen colours.' – FRIESCH DAGBLAD

'Clear shapes, sophisticated patterns, a warm palette – these are drawings to immerse yourself in.' – HET PAROOL ON CLOSE

recent rights sold



What I Find Beautiful (4+)
Mea (Turkish)



Ooz (4+)
Artkonekt (Macedonian), Freies Geistesleben (German), Hélium (French)



The Overeager Egg (3+)
Freies Geistesleben (German), Gallimard (French), Les Gouttes Press (Complex Chinese)



Close (All Ages)
Gallimard (French), Hércules de Ediciones (Spanish & Galician)

GIDEON SAMSON & MILJA PRAAGMAN

Lemmego

*One day I was angry, so angry, so
horribly angry
my father grabbed me and decided to
never let go of me again.*

Gideon Samson and Milja Praagman relate the timeless story of a father and son who are literally inseparable.

A magnificent picture book about doing EVERYTHING together and finally letting go after all.

Disruptive, moving and hilarious. For everyone who's had moments when they could have been a tiny, teensy little bit less angry.



Picture Book | 40 pages | 29 x 21 cm | 3+
English translation available

'The cure for the tantrums is a hug that never ends. (...) Illustrations as expressive, dynamic and irrepressible as a fit of anger. (...) An original way of delivering this heart-warming message.'

●●● NRC HANDELSBLAD



MILJA PRAAGMAN

OOZ

Daddy Blackbird and Tweetheart have gone to the Ooz to see all the people. Tweetheart is full of questions. Can people whistle? Why do they drive around in those weird little cages? Where do they build their nests and do they fly south for the winter? People are so much fun, Tweetheart decides she wants one for her birthday. Is that allowed?



Picture Book | 32 pages | 23,5 x 31 cm | Age: 4+
English translation available

Rights sold: Artkonect (Macedonian), Freies Geistesleben (German), Hélium (French)



GIDEON SAMSON & MILJA PRAAGMAN

A Horse, of Course

Bobbie is going to school for the first time, and she will go by bike. That's what her mum and dad think...

'What do you want Bobbie?' her dad asks.

'I don't want a bike.' Bobbie has given this lots of thoughts. 'I want a horse.'

So, when the present turns out to be a bike, Bobbie isn't left with much of a choice, but a swap...

The bicycle is swapped for a moped, the moped for a car, the car for a sailboat, and the sailboat for a helicopter.

But Bobbie is more than certain: 'I want a horse!'

Perhaps she can swap one more time?



Picture Book | 32 pages | 22,8 x 27,8 cm | 4+
English translation available

Rights sold: IRHCLI (Persian), Turbine (Danish)





MILJA PRAAGMAN

The Overeager Egg

Egg rolls out of his nest and bumps into a stone.

Crack! He continues his journey and starts to wonder who he is and where he comes from. Along the way he encounters all kinds of young animals. When he sees a chicken with eggs, he wonders... Could this chicken be his mother? Everyone else says he's an egg too! But the chicken says:

'You are an egg... but not one of mine.'

When Egg comes across a magpie he has to watch his step! Luckily dad is nearby.

'Can daddies hatch out eggs too?' asks Egg.

'Daddies can do everything.'



Picture book | 23,8 x 26,6 cm | 32 pages | Age: 3+
English translation available

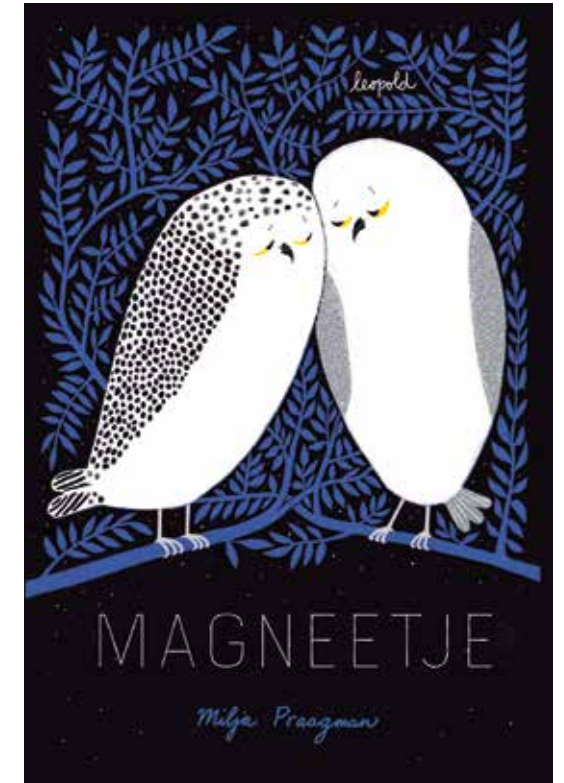
Rights sold: Boxer Books (World English), Dongsim Co. Ltd. (Korean), Freies Geistesleben (German), Gallimard (French), Les Gouttes Press (Complex Chinese)



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Close

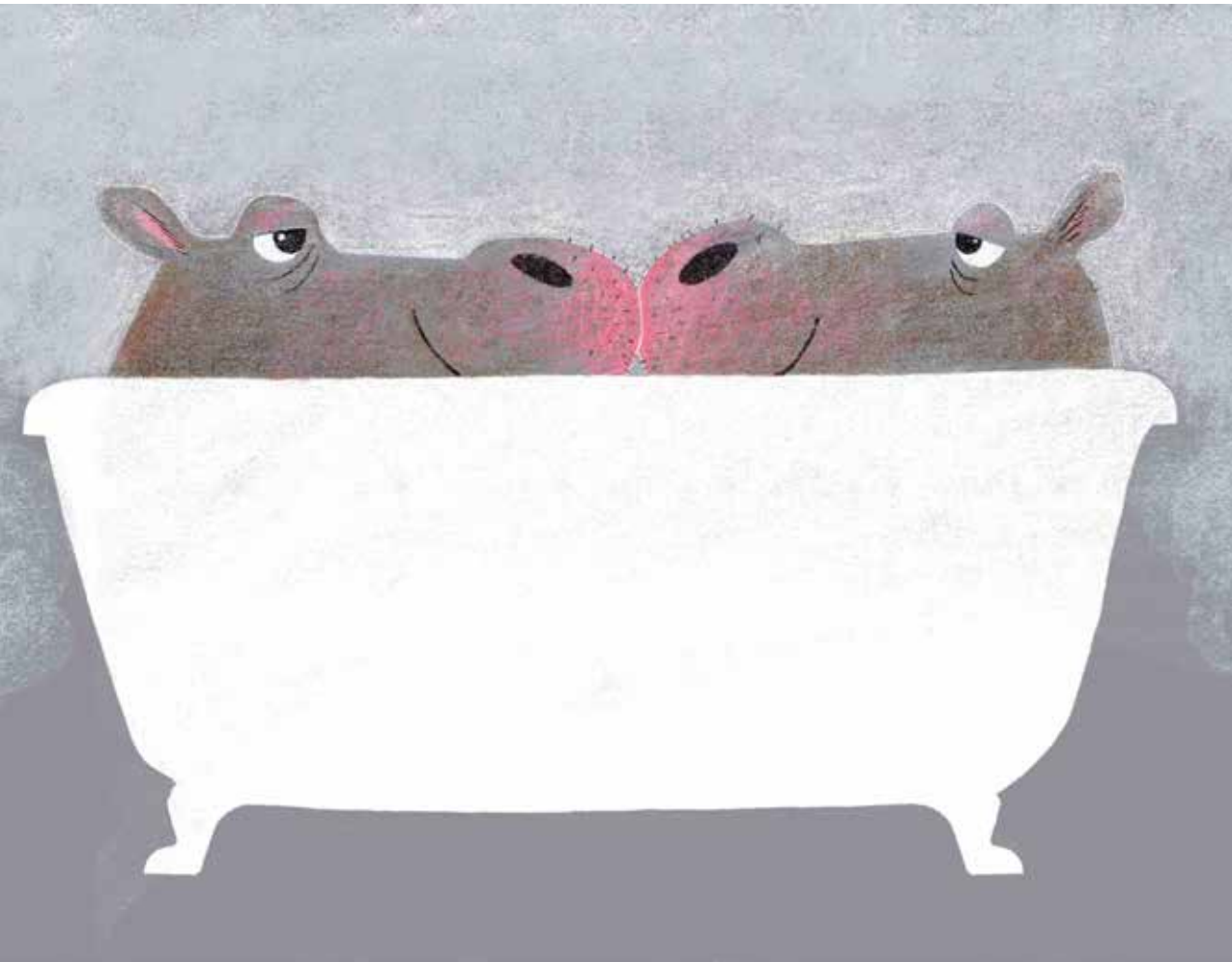
Stunning picture book in which text and illustrations go hand in hand. Presenting beautiful insights on loving and caring about each other and everything love brings, with a sometimes very recognizable twist! Milja Praagman wrote and illustrated beautiful poems about belonging to each other, longing for one another, about growing old and... arguing as well. And a poem about a baby in the belly, because, where is that hatch?



Illustrated Poems | 48 pages | 16,3 x 24,6 cm | All ages

English sample available

Rights sold: Freies Geistesleben (German), Gallimard (French), Hercules de Ediciones (Spanish & Galician)



You and Me
We fit,
we do,
you and me,
and me and you.

I might not have a clue
just where I start,
but where I end
is always you.

MILJA PRAAGMAN

I See You

Wonderful poems and vibrant drawings give a poetic perspective to feelings and family ties. All about floating on your back with your ears underwater, a boat on its way to later, falling in love, a day full of happiness and so much more...

The press about Milja Praagman's *Close*:
'Poems full of wonder' - *DE MORGEN*

'Clear shapes, sophisticated patterns, a warm palette - these are drawings to immerse yourself in.' - *HET PAROOL*

'Each print has its own character and could be displayed on the wall as a poster.'
- *DE VOLKSKRANT*



Illustrated Poems | 48 pages | 16,3 x 24,6 cm | All ages
English sample available



MILJA PRAAGMAN

What I Find Beautiful

'What do you find beautiful, Max?'
the teacher asks.

What a big question. To find
something beautiful, what is that?
When do you find something
beautiful?

Max thinks and looks around him.
With the word 'beautiful' in mind he
suddenly sees things differently.

Milja Praagman knows like no other
how to capture the naivety and the
wisdom of a child in word and image.



Picture Book | 32 pages | 30 x 21,5 cm | 4+

English translation available

Rights sold: Freies Geistesleben (German),
Mea (Turkish), Turbine (Danish)

Previously published in Korean



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Because I Love You So Much

Grandma and Ibi go into town. They take the metro. When they get there, Ibi is wide-eyed with wonder. So many people! Ibi gives one of her sweets to a beggar. She sees flags and big dolls in shop windows. In the park, she sees little dogs wearing coats. Once they are back home, Ibi lists all the things she has seen. But what did Grandma see in town? Or did she only pay attention to her granddaughter?

A book about the overwhelming love of a grandparent for a grandchild.

Silver Paintbrush 2017



Picture Book | 30 x 21,5 cm | 32 pages | 3+

English translation available

Rights sold: Awesome World (Korean), Hercules de Ediciones (Spanish & Galician)

Previously published in Simplified Chinese



MILJA PRAAGMAN

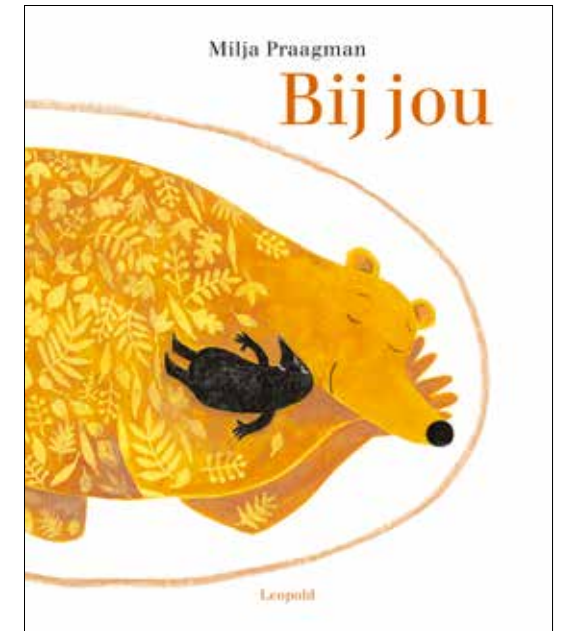
With You

In a cosy winter den, on a bed of soft leaves, Bear and Mole are sleeping. Bear wakes with a start and goes in search of nice moments from his dream. But maybe the nicest of all was nearby the entire time.

'A lyrical story about friendship by Milja Praagman' - HET PAROOL

'A dreamily beautiful picture book about the seasons' - OUDERS VAN NU

'*With You* by Milja Praagman is an extremely moving picture book that beautifully depicts the passage of the seasons in aptly chosen colours.' - FRIESCH DAGBLAD



Picture Book | 32 pages | 23,8 x 28,6 cm | 3+
English translation available

Rights sold: Circonflexe (French), Freies Geistesleben (German), IRHCLI (Persian), Shanghai Juvenile & Children's Publishing House (Simplified Chinese, magazine rights), Woongjin ThinkBig Co., Ltd. (Korean)



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Look at This!

Hey, what's that over there?
Hedgehog breaks into a smile. 'Look
at this!'

But his friends are busy. The branch
can be a sword, a stool, or a fishing
rod. But do Hedgehog's friends see
it? They are too busy. Then it starts to
rain. The branch becomes a tent pole,
and a whole lot more...

A cheerful story about friendship and
imagination.



Picture Book | 32 pages | 23,8 x 28,6 cm | 3+

English translation available

Rights sold: Circonflexe (French),
La Margherita Edizioni (Italian)

Previously published in Complex Chinese



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Best First Words

First Best Words by top illustrator Milja Praagman is not just a first vocabulary book, it is also piece of art for your child's room! In a clear, minimalistic style and striking colours, Milja fills the pages with illustrations of 32 important first words, from dog and cat to carrot and teat. The cover features a classy magnetic closure, and the inner pages can be unfolded into a beautiful metre-wide illustration, perfect for baby to admire from its cot or discover while crawling on the floor.



Board book (Leporello) with magnetic closure | 1+
English translation available

book



flower



MILJA PRAAGMAN

All Tied Up

Tuğçe really wants shoes with laces, but she has to learn to tie a shoelace first.

How is she going to learn if she doesn't have any lace-up shoes?

Tuğçe decides to practice with other people's laces. And that goes so well even the king invites her to tie his shoes!

A book with a real shoe shoelace!



Picture Book | 32 pages | 21 x 25,5 cm | 3+
English translation available

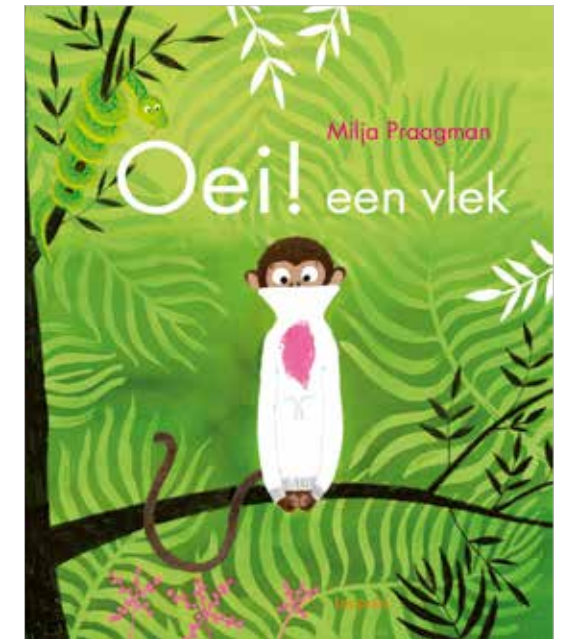
Rights sold: King-in Culture (Simpl. Chinese)



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Oops! A Stain!

Mum gave Little Monkey and Daddy Monkey a new sweater. A pearly white sweater. And now Mum is making jam. With redcurrants. But the berries have disappeared! Little Monkey didn't do it, honestly. But there is something red on his white sweater. Oops, a spot! The spot has to vanish...



Picture Book | 32 pages | 23,8 x 28,6 cm | 3+
English translation available

Previously published in Complex Chinese



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Breakfast Buttocks!

'Breakfast is ready!' Daddy calls. But Tiger doesn't want any pudding, even with raspberries or chocolate sauce. He wants something he can sink his teeth into: breakfast bottoms! Tiger runs outside and sees a couple of green buttocks, and a bottom hiding in a bush and... he sinks his teeth into all of them. Be careful, Tiger!



Picture Book | 32 pages | 23,8 x 28,6 cm | 3+

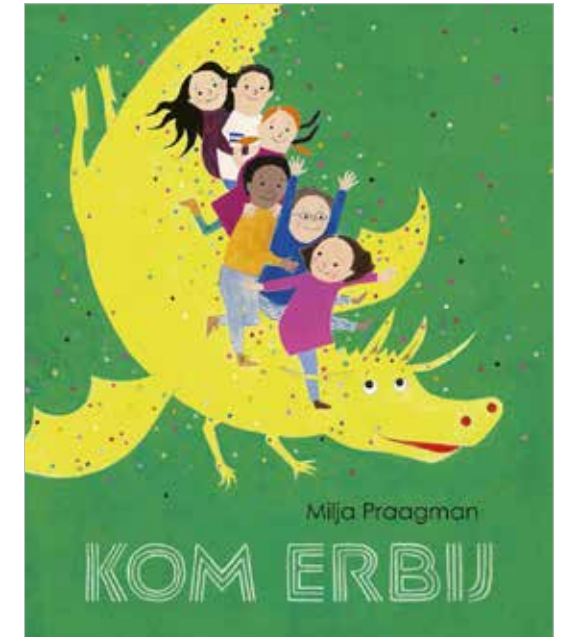
English translation available



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Join Us!

There's something new in the park. Something that wasn't there yesterday... Kit and Pelle just know what to do with it. Extraordinary, colourful picture book about friendship and the power of imagination.



Picture Book | 32 pages | 23,8 x 28,6 cm | 3+

English translation available



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Mummy, What's That?

Mummy Crocodile is going shopping.
And Tip is going along.
On the way, he keeps asking:
'Mummy, what's that?'
But Mummy keeps her eyes on her
shopping list in case she forgets
something.
Only once they reach the flower shop
does Mummy look around her.
And... she gets the fright of her life!
"WAAH...WAHAA... WHAT is that?"
Mummy asks Tip.



Picture Book | 32 pages | 23,8 x 28,6 cm | 3+
English translation available

Rights sold: Turbine (Danish)



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Another 100 Nights To Go

Waiting for your birthday takes ages. Another hundred nights sleep?

Then Dorus will throw a party herself! And mama has said that she can go clipping all by herself... Dorus sees beautiful bits of cloth everywhere. Clip, clip, a piece out of the table runner. Clip, clip, in the dress on the washing line. *Clip clip clip* all over town...

Picture Book | 32 pages | 21,3 x 25,5 cm | 3+

English translation available

Rights sold: Shanghai: Juvenile & Children's Publishing (Simpl. Chinese Magazine rights), Turbine (Danish)



Picture Book of the Year 2013

Watch out!

Dorus and her baby brother are staying at grandma's on the farm. Grandma has set the table for breakfast. But the baby is making so much noise! Dorus puts the tea cosy on her head so she can't hear the baby anymore. But when she gets up to play outside she can't hear her grandma calling after her: 'Be careful!' She can't hear the farmer shouting: 'Watch out!', warning her for the bull. All day long Dorus plays outside and her new two-horned friend follows her everywhere. Let's hope it doesn't end in tears!

Picture Book | 32 pages | 21,3 x 25,5 cm | 3+

English translation available



MILJA PRAAGMAN

I'm Gonna Do It Anyway!

As soon as he wakes up, little lion can feel it: he is big! 'ROAAAAARRR!' Mummy lion says: 'You mustn't do that.' But little lion roars again and says: 'I'll do it anyway!' When he wants to go out to play, Mummy says: 'You can't go outside in your pyjamas.' But little lion does it anyway. And when he wants to roll around in the mud... Fortunately, Mummy knows just what to do!

'This new picture book by Milja Praagman, winner of Picture Book of the Year 2013 for *A Hundred More Sleeps to Go*, is heartwarming and powerful. She always stays true to children's experiences without compromising on quality. And the same goes for *I'm Gonna Do It Anyway!*'

- ★★★★★ DE VOLKSKRANT



Picture Book | 32 pages | 21,3 x 25,5 cm | 3+
English translation available

Rights sold: Turbine (Danish)



MILJA PRAAGMAN

Forget-Me-Not

'I'm going on a trip,' says Pig.
'Oh, that's nice,' says Mouse.
Pig sets off and Mouse stays behind.
She would really like to go with
Pig, but she cannot leave her little
house. Mouse loves her house. But
now that Pig is not there, something
is missing. Her house feels less like
a home. Mouse eats less every day.
One day, she sees a spot on the
window. She tries to wipe it off with
her cleaning cloth, but it will not go
away...
A heartwarming story about how
distance makes the heart grow
fonder.



Picture Book | 32 pages | 27 x 21 cm | 3+

English translation available

Previously published in Danish and Simplified Chinese



MILJA PRAAGMAN

For You

Mouse is looking for something to show Pig how much she loves him. But she does not find anything. And she cannot find the right words either. Then Pig bursts out laughing. A ladybird is tickling his hands. Pig gives the ladybird to Mouse, as a sign of..... Shhhh.

Picture Book | 32 pages | 27 x 21 cm | 3+
English translation available

Rights sold: Awesome World (Korean)
Previously published in Danish and Simplified Chinese



Get Well Soon

Mouse sighs. Where is Pig? She cannot see him anywhere – outside or inside. Eventually she finds him. He is in bed, under a pile of blankets. He looks very weak. Mouse panics. What should she do? What medicine should she give Pig? According to Owl, 'the best medicine is to take good care of him.' Mouse nurses Pig all day long. In the evening, she falls asleep exhausted. The next morning, Pig jumps energetically out of bed. But where is Mouse?

Picture Book | 32 pages | 26,5 x 20,5 cm | 3+
English translation available

Previously published in Simplified Chinese



MILJA PRAAGMAN & LEOPOLD VAN DE VEN

ABC Seek-and-Find

A unique look-and-find book that encourages a love of letters. This book contains all the letters of the alphabet. But they are presented in many different ways – after all, letters come in lots of shapes and sizes. Look for all the different As, Bs and Cs in these wonderful illustrations. On the second page, a little fly draws the letter the way you learned it at school. And there is also a list of words starting with that letter. Happy reading and searching! For this book, Milja Praagman collaborated with her husband, artist Leopold van de Ven.



Picture Book | 32 pages | 30 x 20,5 cm | 5+

Dutch pdf available

MILJA PRAAGMAN & LEOPOLD VAN DE VEN

Seeing With Your Eyes Closed

Dad lifts up a paving stone.
Hundreds of ants are scurrying
around beneath it.
'There's always more than you think,'
says Dad.
I can feel that when I stroke
Grandpa's empty chair. Or when I
put my ear to Dad's chest.

A gentle story about the close bond
between a father and daughter.
For this book, Milja Praagman
collaborated with her husband, artist
Leopold van de Ven.



Picture Book | 32 pages | 30 x 20,5 cm | 5+

Dutch pdf available



MILJA PRAAGMAN

I'm not a book, I'm a cat

I'm a cat, not a book!
Please, take those letters off my beautiful fur!
Stroke me. Then I'll purr for you...



Lift-the-Flap Book | 16 pages | 18 x 18 cm | 2+
English translation available

I'm not a book, I'm a dog

I'm a dog, not a book!
Take those letters off my fur!
Letters are tickly. Stroke me instead ...



Lift-the-Flap Book | 16 pages | 18 x 18 cm | 2+
English translation available

MILJA PRAAGMAN

I'm not a book, I'm a chicken

I'm a chicken, not a book!
I have feathers and wings,
not pages...



Lift-the-Flap Book | 16 pages | 18 x 18 cm | 2+
English translation available

I'm not a book, I'm a sheep

I'm a sheep, not a book!
Please, stop flipping through me.
Take off my coat instead. Shear my fleece...



Lift-the-Flap Book | 16 pages | 18 x 18 cm | 2+
English translation available



Illustration: *With You*
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Enquiries?

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