

Russian diaspora children's

Pocket Dwarf Bead

Children's book. KompasGuide. Moscow 2017
160 pages

Illustrations by Oleg Braude

Age 6+ and adults

> philosophical tale, journey, North, animals and humans, balance of nature, healing, power of words

And here are the heroes: Lille - an unusual dog, Vera and Varya - unusual sisters, Birdie - an unusual bird (despite its simple name). Lille is long, as long as the whole street. Vera and Varya are as different as polar day and polar night, and they can even talk to animals. Birdie is a learned, well-trained bird, white and round, like a snowball, warbling wise words.

When the news arrives that Varya is sick, events take over. The bird must scream not clever words, but alarming ones. Vera is sure that the pearl is to blame for everything, which the sisters stole from a scary cruel bearded dwarf and which is now embroidered on Varya's dress. What can help Varya? A book written by a famous storyteller from Finland! Putting it under the pillow will make the sister feel better! Vera, Lille and Birdie have to go to this storyteller or to Finland or somewhere to the north - the main thing is to save Varya.



Anastasia Strokina was born 1984 in the Murmansk region. She graduated from music school with a piano major, taught herself the cello and was a member of the Collegium Musicum Moscow chamber orchestra. Strokina not only writes books for children, she is also engaged in literary research and translates from English, French, Dutch and Italian. Born beyond the North Pole, Strokina sets her stories in Northern Russia and Scandinavia, following Selma Lagerlöf and Hans Christian Andersen. Her philosophical fairy tales have been awarded numerous prizes. Strokina is always travelling a lot to where her stories take place.

Anastasia Strokina



THE AUTHOR

translations
3 languages

awards

2023 Book of the Year Award finalist
Internationale Jugendbibliothek Munich
2022 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award
nominee
2019 Arsenev Award
2018 Krapivin International Prize
2015 Kniguru Award

other works

The Whale Swims North
The Owl Wolf
The Cloud Holder
The Bongo's Dreams