babelbridge LITERARY AGENCY

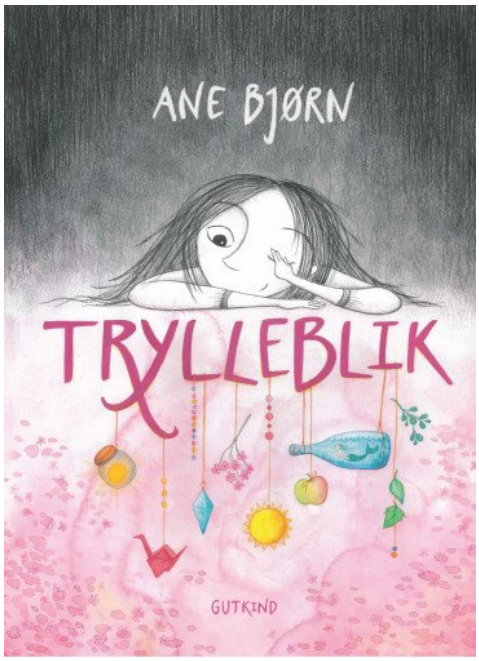
Ane Bjørn

Magic Sight

Trylleblik

Magic Sight is a timeless and universal picture book about the unconquerable imagination of children and their amazing ability to play, dream and simply be children. Even under the most impossible conditions.

Through her evocative illustrations, **Ane Bjørn** gives form to everything that children (and adults) sometimes find challenging to express with words: dreams, fears, sorrow, anger and imagination.



Original Language: *Danish*

Original Publisher: *Gutkind*

Published: *June, 2021*

32 pages

Category: *Children's Books*

Sub-category: *Picture Books (5-8 years)*

Themes: *Belonging/Identity*, *Family*, *Loss/Grief*, *Curiosity*

Available material: *English sample translation.*

SYNOPSIS

If you close one eye and cover it with two fingers, you will get magic sight: this is the frame in which Ane Bjørn places her tale of a refugee family and a little girl's insistence to see the beauty of the world in the middle of its horrors.

In a nameless country, in a city in ruins, a girl learns something very special from her grandmother: By covering one eye with two fingers, you can see things, you otherwise don't have an eye for. Wonderful things, you didn't think existed. Golden castles in dark forests. Mermaids in the deep. Beauty, light and hope.

The perilous journey of the family towards a new place is told only through the visuals. The words on the other hand belong to the girl and loyally portray her subjective view of the world around her. A world that contrary to the harsh reality is full of colours and magic, light and hope.

Winner of the Danish Book Design Prize in the category "Best Children's Book of the Year" (2022)

Part of Books from Denmark, Autumn 2021 (selected by the Danish Arts' Foundation).

Shortlisted for the Danish Cultural Ministry's Author and Illustrator Prizes 2022.

REVIEWS

"The imagination diffuses the harsh reality in a moving tale about escape and loss and about undying hope... both aimed at those refuge children who have been through it all and those children who have only read or heard about refugees. Because of the gentle narrative form where the images bear the content, no one is at risk of getting hurt by the story." – (Weekendavisen)

Territories Handled

World Rights (Babel Bridge)

Territories Sold

Bosnian: Bajkologija

Korean: Cheakyearnkids

"It is an incredible achievement that Ane Bjørn manages to create a transparent layer in the illustrations where we view both the girl and her grandmother's magic movie from above. It really feels magical." – (Information)