

Bizi, The Little Reindeer Calf

Marry Ailonieida Somby

The reindeer calf Little Bizi is wandering around on his own after having been abandoned by his mother. He encounters some unusual things in his meetings with a wild reindeer, a reindeer bull, an elk, a movie star reindeer, a tourist reindeer, and a golden reindeer cow. After meeting the tourist reindeer, Silggon, Bizi plans to try to find his way back to his mother – but he gets lost along the way.

Author Mary Ailonieida Somby and illustrator Berit Marit Hætta have collaborated on a beautiful book that tells the story of the reindeer calf Little Bizi's many strange and entertaining adventures.

The reindeer calf Little Bizi has been abandoned by his mother and is now wandering around on his own. He meets Šuvon, a racing reindeer who loves competing and wears prizes like gold chains around his neck and a Rolex watch on his ankle. Bizi also gets to know a wild movie star reindeer who introduces Bizi to chanterelle mushrooms. Next, he meets a tourist reindeer, Silggon, who is sick of being a tourist and just wants to be a regular reindeer. Bizi complains to Silggon about his cruel mother who abandoned him, but Silggon defends her, saying she probably chased him away because she was afraid he wouldn't like her new calf. While making his way back to his mother, Bizi gets lost. He meets Gullsimla, a golden reindeer cow, who flies Bizi to look for his mother.

The book has been nominated for the Nordic Council's prize for 2016 in the "children's – youth literature" category.



Čerbmen Bizi

May 2016 (original publication) • 43 pages • Fairytale • 6–9 years

Marry Ailonieida Somby was born in Tana and grew up in Sirbmá by the border between Norway and Finland. She is a well-known Sámi writer and cultural worker and now lives in Tromsø.

She has written poetry, short stories, novels, and other fiction and non-fiction texts for adults. Her authorship also includes plays that have been produced by the Sámi theater Beaivváš, as well as many others.