

Árrangáttis árrangáddái – Sámi Stories

Karen Anne Buljo • Inga-Wiktoria Påve (ill.)

The fairytale collection *Árrangáttis Árrangáddái** contains traveling tales that were traditionally told around the fire.

The Sámi culture has a long oral storytelling tradition. Many Sámi fairytales can be frightening, and have actively been used in child-rearing to teach children respect for nature and to help them learn about animals. As an Indigenous people, many Sámi live from traditional livelihoods and in harmony with nature, and are exposed to powerful natural forces, especially during the winter.

Author Karen Anne Buljo has selected ten Sámi fairytales and adapted them for this collection. In the oral storytelling tradition, the storyteller adjusts the content and dramaturgy to suit the audience. Here, Buljo has tailored the stories for the age group 6–12 years. She chose tales that represent both coastal and inland cultures, as well as origin stories that explain why and how animals and humans are the way they are. The stories contain advice and life lessons passed down through generations from grandparents to children.

* Árrangáddi = outdoor fireplace. The title means from one fireplace to another, in the meaning of passed down from generation to generation.



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Karen Anne Buljo is a Sámi-Norwegian author and playwright. She has written several books for children and young adults and has been nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize twice: in 2019 for the poetry collection *Šiellaspeajal* (The Amulet Mirror) and in 2020 for the picture book *Guovssu guovssahasat* (The Colours of the Northern Lights). Buljo has served as the leader of the Sámi Writers' Association and earned a master's degree in children's literature from The Norwegian Institute for Children's Books in 2024.

Inga-Wiktoria Påve is a Sámi-Swedish illustrator. In 2020, she was nominated for the Nordic Council Children and Young People's Literature Prize together with Karen Anne Buljo for the picture book *Guovssu guovssahasat* (The Colours of the Northern Lights). In 2016, she was the Young Artist of the Year at the Riddu Riđđu Festival.