



Gyldendal 2015
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 NORLA's Selected Titles

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Gyldendal Agency
P.O. Box 6860 St. Olavs plass
NO-0130 Oslo
Tel: +47 22 03 43 87 / 41 00
Fax: +47 22 03 41 05
anne.cathrine.eng@gyldendal.no
<http://eng.gyldendal.no>

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Mari Kanstad Johnsen

I'm Out of Here



In 2015 Gyldendal added a new genre to the book palette! WORD-FREE books. These are books that can be read by proficient and poor readers alike, but that give those less proficient in the 6-9 target group that special feeling of finally having read a whole book. On their own!

The word-free books do not contain a single word, but are read by following the illustrations, discovering details, patterns, feelings, action – solely by concentrating on the visual aspect. A skill our youngest readers often possess.

The word-free books aim for the target group that ought to be able to read, but needs a reading experience that motivates and inspires them – and does not exclude them from the literary universe. Of course it's possible to read a whole book without having the traditional understanding of reading completely under one's belt!

To tell a story without using words is an extremely demanding exercise and Gyldendal has asked some of the best visual story-tellers in Norway to do it.

About *I'm Out of Here*:

When you've moved to a new place, far away from your friends and your old school class, then it's not so unusual to feel a little lonely. Maybe the new class will become friendlier after a while? Or maybe not. Maybe one needs a clever trick to make new friends – how about a luminescent rabbit?

Special mention in the 2017 BolognaRagazzi Award

It is a demanding task to tell a story without words, but Kanstad Johnsen and Kjølberg have succeeded with flying colors. We want more!

- Barnebokkritikk

Mari Kanstad Johnsen

Mari Kanstad Johnsen works as an illustrator and artist. She made her debut as a children book's illustrator with *Barbie-doll Nils and the Pistol Problem* in 2011. Her debut as an author came with *Scary Holiday* in 2013.

Kanstad Johnsen is one of the participants chosen for NORLA's development programme for new literary talents "New Voices", a part of the project of Norway as Guest of Honour at the Frankfurt Book Fair in 2019.



Her books have been translated into French, Spanish and Swedish.

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