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Original title: *Jakob og Neikob. Naboen*

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The YESPER AND NOPER books are sold to Germany (vol. 1-2), India (vol. 1-2, 3 languages) Denmark (vol. 1), Egypt (vol. 1-2), Korea (vol. 1-2), China (vol. 1-3) and France (vol. 1). Stai has also made the board books series about Mopp and Mikko. All titles are available in English versions.

AWARDS

See above

Kari Stai

Yesper and Noper. The Neighbour

The fourth book in the series about Yesper and Noper deals with the unfamiliar. One day, Yesper and Noper see that they have a new neighbour. Yesper is happy, while Noper is extremely sceptical, building a tall fence to stop their neighbour coming to see them. Yesper builds a bridge precisely to enable the neighbours to visit each other. Hasn't Yesper heard that you're not supposed to talk to strangers? When their neighbour suddenly closes the curtains, Noper thinks this is clear proof: the neighbour has something to hide!

The team of Yesper and Noper still have totally different approaches to life and to the world: Yesper always says 'yes', while Noper always says 'no'. This time, Noper manages to persuade Yesper that their neighbour must either be a thief or a monster, so they decide to do whatever they can to stop the thief or monster getting into their house. Of course, things don't go quite according to plan, and their neighbour turns out to be somebody who can help them when things go wrong, as this person who has moved into the neighbourhood is actually a firefighter. *The Neighbour* deals with fear of the unknown and the realisation that what might seem unfamiliar or scary can be quite wonderful, if only you can bring yourself to reach out to the unknown. Previous titles in the Yesper and Noper series: 1: *Yesper and Noper* (2008), 2: *Yesper and Noper. The Thief Strikes Back* (2012), 3: *Yesper and Noper and the Empty Room* (2014)

Kari Stai

Kari Stai (b. 1974) is one of the most popular and respected picture books artists in Norway. She has received especially acclaim for her Yesper and Noper series; the precise language as well as the artistic drawings and use of colours. She has received many prizes, among others the Debutant Prize of the Ministry of Culture, The Brage prize and the Critique's award for the other two books about Yesper and Noper: *Yesper and Noper /Jakob og Neikob*, 2008, and *Yesper and Noper. The Thief Strikes Back / Jakob og Neikob. Tjuven slår tilbake* (2012).



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