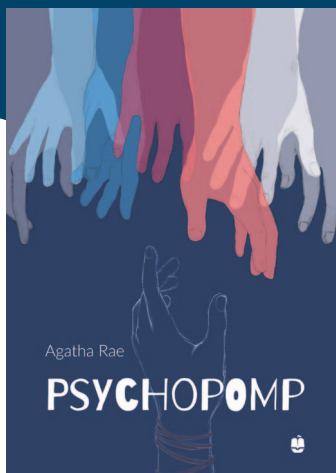




MARPRESS
WYDAWNICTWO

Catalogue

Agatha Rae | Psychopomp



Best Pomeranian/Kashubian book of 2019.

A TV series script based on the novel is in the making.

Flannel shirt – checked.

Walkman and spare batteries – checked.

Pearl Jam cassette – checked.

For Aśka, a twenty-year old girl living in Gdynia, Poland, rock music it is not only a passion, but also a remedy for life's turmoils. And boy does she have plenty – final exams at school and college entrance, first boyfriend and if that wasn't enough, one August night she discovers she's a psychopomp – she can see and talk to dying people and help them move from one world to another. How will she balance herself now? Will she accept the gift or run away from it?

All themes and topics the author has decided to include in her story are very well written and thought-through. Gdynia topography, the experiences of a teenage girl becoming a woman, the atmosphere of the 90s and all the emotions of people who need to say goodbye to their loved ones – it all fits, it all makes sense. And once you add the main character's supernatural gift and accompany her on a journey to solve a mystery, you have a recipe for a tremendously well-written novel.

Zuzanna Gajewska, Promotorka czytelnictwa, literary blogger

Agatha Rae is a Polish writer who made her debut in 2013 with a novel *Oenone*. Next was a duology *Tangents* published both in the US and in Sweden and two novellas *The Belt* and *The Garden* released on the American market. *Psychopomp* is her Polish debut. In 2021 she released her first non-fiction book *Polki i Polacy w pracy* – over 80 interviews with Poles talking about their jobs. A fan of Canada, hockey, and classic rock and metal music.

Genre: Drama, Young Adult,
Urban Fantasy, Mystery

Release date:
March 29th 2019

400 pages
205 × 145 × 30 mm

Young adult love story from The Baltic Sea

When they were kids, Julia and Zygi were best friends, but their friendship ended under dramatic circumstances.

It's Zygi's first day of high school. When he walks into a new classroom, he spots Julia sitting behind one of the desks. His heart begins to beat faster...

Is it possible to rebuild a friendship after so many years? Are Julia and Zygi something more for each other than just friends from school? What is Zygi's secret and what role in the story plays a handsome surfer Adam?



This book is not only a love story of two teenagers, it also puts an emphasis on the impact the grownups have on kids, their feelings and their lives. Apart from love, the novel bursts with a whole spread of various emotions, but shows you a way to deal with them and how to manage emotional discomfort in our lives.

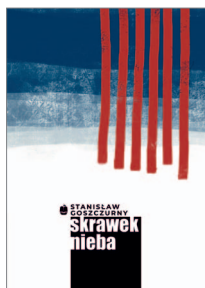
Agnieszka, 16
Gdynia

Lucyna Leśniowska graduated from Katowice Business University. She lives in the Silesia region but has been fascinated with Polish sand beaches since she can remember. She's been publishing short stories in social-cultural monthly magazine "Śląsk" and mastered her writing skills during numerous creative writing courses. She likes art and traveling. Both passions have made an impact on her debut novel "The Blue Boat".



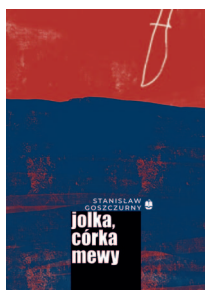
The Gulls (volume I):

After escaping home, Zośka arrives in Gdańsk and quickly becomes a gull – a harbourside sex worker. “Albatros” bar nightlife is her source of income, she learns how to spoof sailors and quickly recognize the potentially more profitable ones. Will young, naive girl handle living in the world where there are no friendships and love is almost impossible?



A Piece of Heaven (volume II):

Kostek is again a free man and is presented with a chance to start a new life away from jail and the criminal underworld, but old friends and enemies do not allow him to forget about who he really is. Will Kostek stand up to them? Will he get an advantage of the opportunity he was given? Will he manage to find Zośka?



Jolka, the gull daughter (volume III):

The beginning of the 1990's. There are no more wheeler-dealers and illegal currencies, “Albatros” is now a super-market. Jolka, Zośka's daughter, has the looks and a rich boyfriend who knows how to make even more money. But big money is a big risk and that's the lesson all of the trilogy's characters will learn.

Stanisław Goszczurny (1929–2003) was one of the best selling authors during in 60's, 70's and 80's in Poland. His books have been translated in to Spanish and Russian. A writer, journalist and reporter. Between 1950 and 1974 he worked in Radio Gdańsk and in 1968 he became the radio station's chief editor. An author of numerous marine articles. He travelled to Africa, Asia, and Scandinavia. *The Gulls*, first published in 1961, was his debut novel. Overall, Goszczurny published 29 books, 3 dramas and 2 movie scripts.

She'd had a few headaches and then, one time, she fell down on a street. That was the beginning of her journey through various hospital rooms with main stops along the way being "blood sample" and "chemo". Now she needs to come to terms with the reality of living with the disease and, at the same time, find her own way to get better. The help will come from the least expected place.

Kraboshki is a private discourse about patient-doctors relationships and dehumanized health care system. The novel, based on real events, allows the readers to get a sense of an emotional aspect of battling for one's life, health and well-being.



Piórkowska shows everyone how to write literature focused not on the human world, but the imagined one, and how to deal with the trauma of disease, of discovering one's mortality, which is heading towards us like a speeding truck with no driver inside to control it.

Dear Barbara Piórkowska, you are the master of an every-day poetry and you've written a remarkable book which I can and will wholeheartedly recommend to everyone.

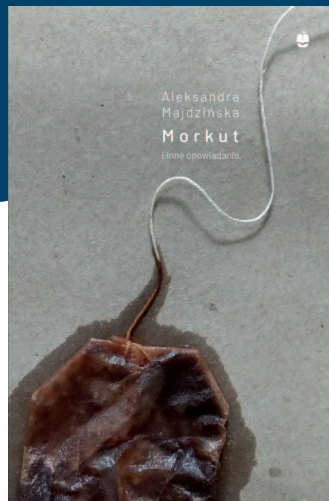
Wojtek Szot, Zdaniem Szota

Magdalena Grzebałkowska
journalist and writer

Barbara Piórkowska is a writer and a poet. An author of *Szklanka na pająki* (2010/2018) and *Kraboszki* (2020) novels, prose *Utkanki* (2014), four books of poetry, a poetic audiobook, lyrics for Natalia Grzebała's music album, a co-author of poetic performances and co-organizer of numerous literary strolls. She taught creative writing and graduated from prose writing course organized by Czarne publishing house. Her works have been translated into English, German, Russian, and Lithuanian.

Aleksandra Majdzińska

Morkut



As if through magnifying glass, the author observes the details typical of things we do not pay attention to, things which seem to be happening far away from us, things we prefer not to talk about and not to look at. Each short story in this collection is dedicated to one particular human being and triggered either by epic events or by inconspicuous, mundane things. Fourteen stories, fourteen snapshots worth to take a closer look at and to spare them a moment.

Paulina Małochleb
Książki na ostro

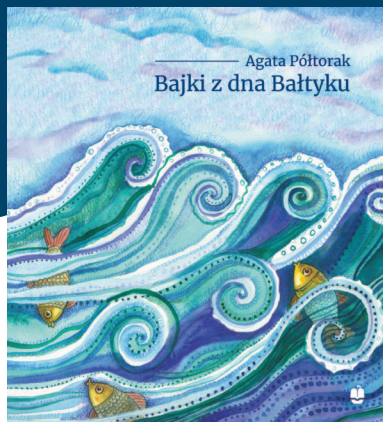
Aleksandra Majdzińska makes her literary debut with a book that talks about things that have been forgotten for a long time, reaches towards Aesopian language, makes a triumphant come back to the style of Polish prose of the 1960's. *Morkut* is a story about those who have never been given the chance to speak up – children, poor people, enemies of the state – or those whose voice has been marginalized, like the majority of female characters. Embarrassment and irony seem to be natural environment for the author.

Aleksandra Majdzińska comes from a small town of Stara Dąbrowa. A writer, screenwriter, translator and a perennial teacher of Polish in the East. She was awarded with Golden Apricot during an International Film Festival in Yerevan and nominated for Juliusz Machulski Award for *Mleczny Brat* movie screenplay. Ministry of Culture and Pomerania Province scholar, laureate of various literary and cultural awards.

Agata Półtorak

Bajki z dna Bałtyku

The Baltic Tales



The book includes valuable, colorful illustrations made by the author herself. They allow the young readers to immerse themselves into the Baltic depth and discover its wildlife while reading charming, heart-warming stories. Holding the book in their hands, readers can almost feel the sand under their feet, the waves licking their hands, the fish moving between their fingers. The blues, the greens, the azures, it's all there to mesmerize and enchant and to help uncover the mysterious wildlife of the Baltic Sea.

What do we have here? A smart written children book, filled with solid knowledge about the life hidden between Baltic waves and – in addition – beautifully illustrated by the author herself! No reason to hesitate, just take it, read it and admire it!

Tomasz Samojlik

A biologist and environmental activist,
graphic designer
and comic book writer



Agata Półtorak is a writer and illustrator of many children books: *Mała wiedźma Jagodzia* (*Little Blueberry Witch*, 2007), *Bee, mee i kukuryku* (*Baah, Moo and Cock-a-Doodle-Do*, 2010), *Baraszkujemy. 20 prostych zabaw z malutkim dzieckiem* (*Capering around. Twenty Simple Plays With a Little Baby*, 2012). Agata runs regular literary and creative workshops for children and their parents. Passionate about performing storytelling in the form of Kamishibai theatre. She lives in Sopot with her husband and daughters.

MARPRESS is the oldest publishing house in Northern Poland, established in 1991. Until today we have published over 500 titles, in the following series: Contemporary Novels, History, Marine literature, Books about Gdansk, children books and poetry. After ownership change in 2018, Marpress went through a deep rebranding process, the existing series have been redesigned and the new Baltic series has been added.

Our office and bookshop are located in the heart of Gdansk Old Town. Our team consists of editor-in-chief, leading editor, sales and promotion specialist. We cooperate with graphic designers, DTP specialists, editors, and translators from all over the country.

Our distribution network consists of the biggest Polish book whole sellers and our books are available in major bookshops and Internet bookshops. Our promotion strategy is based on long term development objectives, with support and cooperation of literary critics, bloggers, regional and national media.

Through literature, we shorten the distance

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