

2026 JANIKOVSKY 100

ÉVA JANIKOVSKY (1926-2003) is one of the most remarkable, most known, award-winning childrens' author of the 20th century in Hungary. In her children books she uses a constantly shifting perspective, sometimes showing the adult's point of view, sometimes that of a child. This kind of split-screen approach and her short, succinct language makes a very entertaining read in which we all recognize ourselves. Her works are based on situations we all are familiar with, handled with an ironic look from all sides.

Her **books** have been published in more than **30 languages** to date.

In various countries her books are made into **theatrical plays** running in theatres still nowadays and **films** were also made in Hungary from some of her selected books.

In 2026 it is the 100th anniversary of Éva Janikovszky's birth which will be celebrated in Hungary with various events and to which noble celebrational year various foreign publisher will join with their local events.

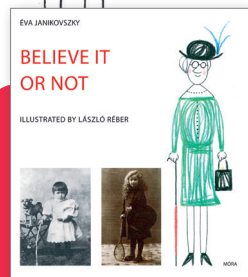


She received various awards (literature and state prizes in Hungary and abroad) for example:

- Deutscher Jugendbuchpreis (Germany) for the book If I Were a Grown-up
- Attila József prize (a high prestige literature prize in Hungary)
- Knight of the Order of Smile (Poland)
- Kossuth Prize (the highest state prize in Hungary)

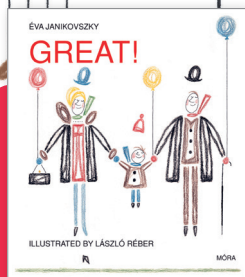
MORE INFO:





BELIEVE IT OR NOT
6+

It's the best thing ever to have a big, clever brother who can explain everything, even the complicated relationships among members of a large family.



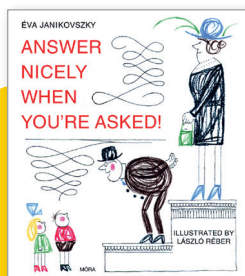
GREAT!
6+

Just when our hero thinks he has discovered what makes everyone feel great, he is surprised to find that their motives are quite different from what he had.



DID YOU KNOW, TOO?
6+

"If we go for a walk I can ask all about what engine drivers, firemen, flower sellers, soldiers do and Mummy, Daddy, Grandma, Grandpa and Auntie Vera answer all my questions. Now I really know what grown-ups do."



ANSWER NICELY WHEN YOU'RE ASKED!
6+

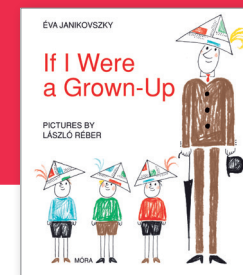
"I know that if people ask me something I have to answer them nicely, because if I don't, then they'll say: 'Answer nicely when you're asked!'"



SOMETHING'S ALWAYS HAPPENING TO ME

6+

"I'm really happy Attila's family are moving here because then my dad will see it's not just me that something always happens to, but others as well."



IF I WERE A GROWN-UP

6+

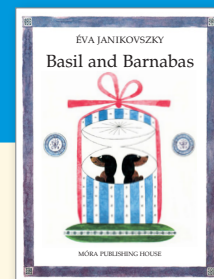
Every child knows, even the smallest, that being naughty is much more fun than being good. Being good all the time is very boring and not only that, it's tiring too.



AT IT AGAIN

6+

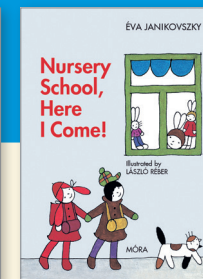
It's difficult to negotiate one's way around life at the age of eight, ten or fifteen. Éva Janikovszky always helps children find the best solutions to difficult questions and sometimes adults, too.



BASIL AND BARNABAS

4+

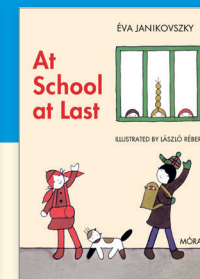
Lavender is growing in Aunt Barbara's garden where she lives with Uncle Balthasar and two dachshunds who romp about and play hide-and-seek all day long.



NURSERY SCHOOL HERE I COME

5+

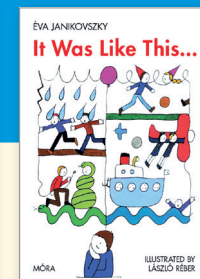
"When Danny first went to nursery school he was really happy that he was going to nursery school, he just wasn't too happy about having to stay there."



AT SCHOOL AT LAST

6+

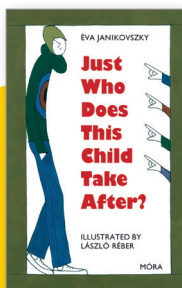
Danny proudly, happily wends his way to school, where his enthusiasm wanes somewhat but his curiosity grows.



IT WAS LIKE THIS...

8+

Our teenage hero tries skating, lying to his girl-friend, planting trees but most of all, he tries to understand the world around him: his own and his friends' parents, relatives and teachers.



JUST WHO DOES THIS CHILD TAKE AFTER?

9+

"When I was little and clever, and kind and pretty, everyone knew who I looked like... Now that I'm big and crazy and insolent and stupid, they just sit and sigh and wonder: just who does this child take after?"



THE PINCE-NEZ MAN

8+

This is the strange name that Danny gave to the cigar-smoking man in the hat whose photo he found in the box holding the family snapshots. Nobody knew who the Pince-Nez Man was...



THE GREAT RAIN

8+

In the pouring rain they begin to talk... about an invention like an umbrella but with sides and a bottom, and you can look out of it and go into it. Now isn't that an original idea?



ME AND THE MIRROR

9+

Éva Janikovszky's teenager protagonist is standing in front of the mirror, and he does not like what he sees...



BE GLAD IT'S A BOY!



BE GLAD IT'S A GIRL!

BE GLAD IT'S A BOY! BE GLAD IT'S A GIRL!

18+

Some things you feel before they happen. Especially when you are expecting a baby. I wasn't interested in what it would be, because I knew that it could only be a boy/girl...