

**STRIPBURGER**

**GREAT STORIES FROM A SMALL COUNTRY!**

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# STRIPBURGER

since 1992

**Stripburger is a pioneer of publishing independent comics in Slovenia.** With **25 years** of continuous publication and **70 editions** behind it, Stripburger is today still the only Slovenian alternative comics magazine, featuring works by both domestic and foreign comics artists, and complementing them with news and reflections on the comics art & medium. Being bilingual (Slovene-English), it has evolved into an important resource on the international (especially European) comics scene, and is also the most important source of information for foreign followers of the Slovenian comics production. Two issues of the magazine are published annually. The editorial policy favors visually strong and expressive comics with a tight narrative and innovative, fresh, experimental or just simply good visual presentation.

Alongside the magazine, **Stripburger / Forum Ljubljana** also publishes **stand-alone books of comics, graphic novels, albums, original works as well as translations.**

Additionally, an important part of the magazine's activities are **comics exhibitions** and **workshops** in Slovenia and abroad.

**GUIDE TO COMIC BOOKS BY SLOVENIAN ARTISTS**  
Full English translations available.

# DAVID KRANČAN

## Drunken Rabbit

A charmingly melancholic and heart-breakingly human »fairy-tale for adults«.

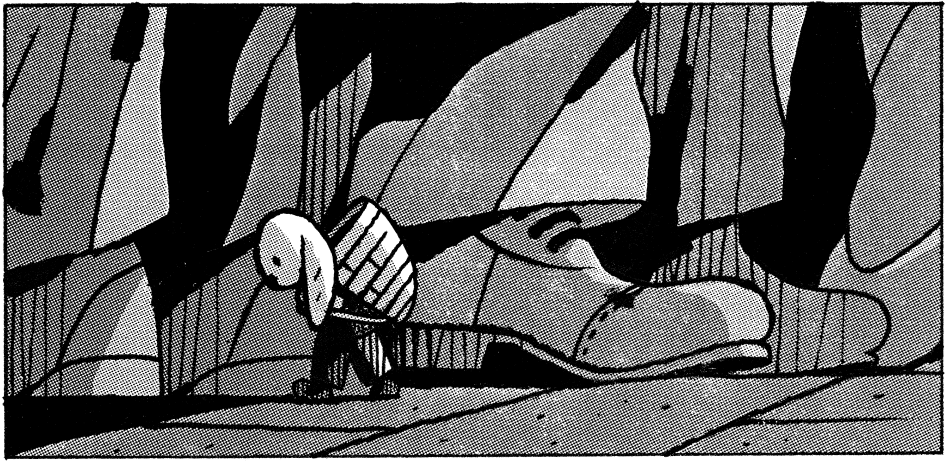
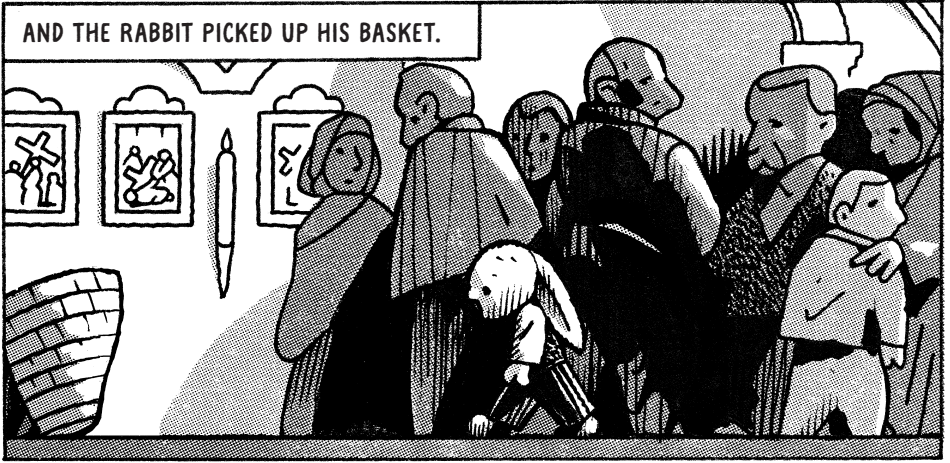
David Krančan's **DRUNKEN RABBIT** is a heart-warming story that draws from the tradition of Slovenian folk tales. The lone rabbit lives alone outside the village and rarely meets his neighbours, but once a year, for Christmas, he descends into the village to stock up on food and to attend the Christmas mass. This time, however, things go wrong despite his best intentions. His eagerness to contribute to the merry atmosphere in the church pushes him to behave too enthusiastically and this overzealousness has him expelled from the church. Sad, rejected and lonely, the rabbit resorts to the traditional way of coping with disappointment: alcohol. The story is drawn in a distinct visual style characterized by meaningful details, skillful framing and a special feel for a communicative and dramaturgically solid storytelling. An excellently delivered emotional story that awakens the rabbit in all of us. The book was a huge hit in Slovenia, warranting a re-print and also receiving the award for the most beautiful book in the category of comics at the Slovenian Book Fair in 2016.

**DAVID KRANČAN** (1984) has been working in comics for more than a decade, both as an artist and as a comics editor at the Stripburger comics magazine. He's also well-versed in illustration and graphic design. His illustrations are regularly published by newspapers and magazines in Slovenia. Some of his biggest strengths include theoretical sagacity, skillful montage, relatable characters and extreme attention to details.

56 pgs., 14 x 23,5 cm, B&W  
Full PDF in English available.

FOLK TALE - CHRISTMAS - DRAMA

AND THE RABBIT PICKED UP HIS BASKET.



HE HEADED BACK HOME, TAKING THE SAME ROUTE HE USED ON THE WAY TO THE VILLAGE.



# MARIJAN PUŠAVEC & JAKOB KLEMENČIČ

## Alma M. Karlin, a Small-town Cosmopolitan

A biographical graphic novel on the life of Alma M. Karlin, an extraordinary emancipated woman, writer, worldwide traveler, explorer, polyglot, theosophist as well as a cosmopolite from Slovenia.

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**ALMA M. KARLIN** was born in 1889 in the Austro-Hungarian Empire and died in former Yugoslavia in 1950. She was a daring and brave woman who set out on a risky eight-year journey around the world equipped only with a typewriter. In her time, she was the only woman who had independently accomplished the feat of traveling across the world and funding her travels by writing and translating. Her travelogues and fiction novels (all written in German) became very popular in the 1930's, especially in the German-speaking countries.

This biographical graphic novel offers an insight into the life of this fascinating young woman as well as into her persistent dedication to pursue her goals: to understand the languages of the world, to travel around the world and to become an international writer by writing about it. The four chapters cover the complete life of this extraordinary woman. The last and longest one shows her eight years long journey, her visits to all the continents and her life in the most distant parts of the world. The book clearly illustrates what makes Alma truly great: she was far ahead of her time, a *de facto* a citizen of the world, free and without borders, a true cosmopolite.

**MARIJAN PUŠAVEC** (1962) is a writer, playwright and a passionate researcher. His work ranges from critically appraised short stories to comics script-writing, and he is the only specialized script writer for comics in Slovenia at the moment.

**JAKOB KLEMENČIČ** (1968) started his career in comics in 1993. A great number of his short comics were published by many Slovenian and foreign magazines. A distinctive feature of his style is his great attention to detail and authenticity. Klemenčič is one of the founders of the Stripburger magazine and works in the Art History Department of the University of Ljubljana.

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164 pgs., 19 x 27 cm, B&W. Full English translation available.

— BIOGRAPHY - WORLD TRAVEL - HISTORY - WOMAN —



# MARKO KOCIPER

## Badger

**Picturesque backdrops, gorgeous girls, manly men and adorable animals, unbelievable plots and sudden twists & turns: Badger's incredible adventures.**

Three satirical and roguish Badger stories are loosely based on different traditional mythic tales and modernized in the artist's characteristic style and manner.

His main hero, **BADGER**, is an adventurer, eternal truant and a womanizer, while at the same time a staunch fighter for the rights of common people as well, who tends to get in all sorts of trouble. Badger is far from a role model, but his weaknesses, quite common among ordinary people, make him a relatable and likeable character. One common feature of his stories is an obvious eroticism that never collapses into cheap pornography thanks to the artist's heavy use of fantasy, grotesqueness and absurdity of the situations his protagonist finds himself in.

**MARKO KOCIPER** (1969) is one of the most prolific Slovenian comics artists with a highly unique visual and narrative style. The most common shared points of his works are eroticism and satire. Kociper is an outstanding creator of comics characters who are anything but virtuous, but who nevertheless arouse much sympathy. They're inspired in everyday life and common people who, in the end, turn out to be quite uncommon, bizarre and provocative, all which keeps the stories humorous and socially aware. So far he's created nine solo comic books and had numerous exhibitions home and abroad. He also boasts a great number of publications in Slovenian printed periodicals.

### **ALREADY 3 VOLUMES AVAILABLE!**

Badger and the Rest of the World, 64 pgs., 19 x 27 cm, B&W

Badger and the Island of the Dead, 64 pgs., 19 x 27 cm, B&W

Badger and the Desert Rose, 56 pgs., 19 x 27 cm, B&W

Full PDF in English available.

**SATIRE - EROTICISM - ADVENTURE**



UPON HEARING ALL THIS, BADGER INSTANTLY ABANDONED ALL OF HIS BUSINESS PLANS, TOOK A RUNNING START AND HURRIED TOWARDS THE NEW LOCATION OF THE PEOPLE FROM THE STARS. THIS WAS NOW MUCH CLOSER TO THE CITY - WHERE THE HOBBY GARDENERS ONCE USED TO BE!

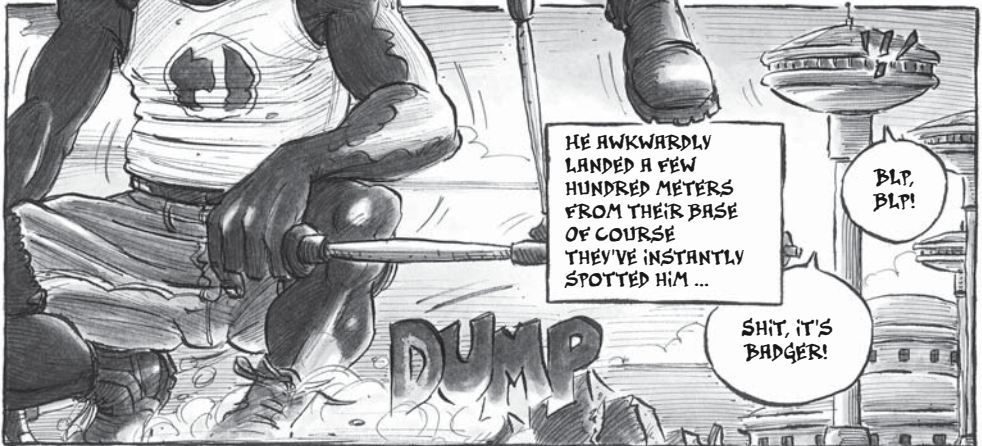
HE INVENTED A NEW URBAN SPORT ON THE WAY: NPK OR NORDIC PARKOUR!



HE AWKWARDLY LANDED A FEW HUNDRED METERS FROM THEIR BASE OF COURSE OF COURSE THEY'VE INSTANTLY SPOTTED HIM ...

BLP, BLP!

SHIT, IT'S BADGER!



# TOMAŽ LAVRIČ

## Blind Sun

Highly stylized visual extravaganza with a strong humanist message.

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**BLIND SUN** is a collection of nine short poetic narratives from the not-so-distant future. Planet Earth is slowly turning into a desert due to the inevitable disruptive impact of civilization itself. This creeping catastrophe is the perfect background to portray tiny human dramas of love, loneliness, hopelessness and fate, while the increasing severity of living conditions highlights universal human issues. Lavrič's *Blind Sun* features skillful montage, stylized graphic style and a competent use of light & shadow. His expressive drawings are so evocative that Miha Knific, a Slovenian movie director, even made a short movie after the *Cloud Hunter* story from this book.

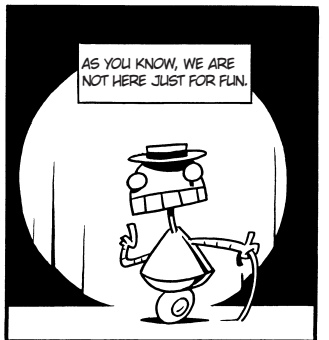
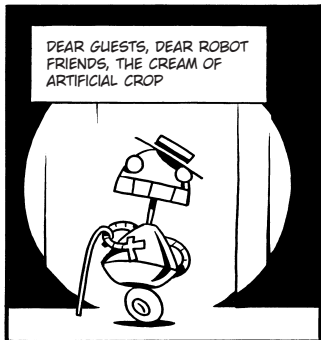
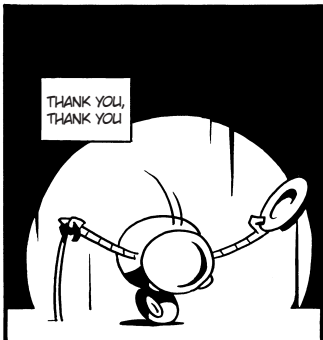
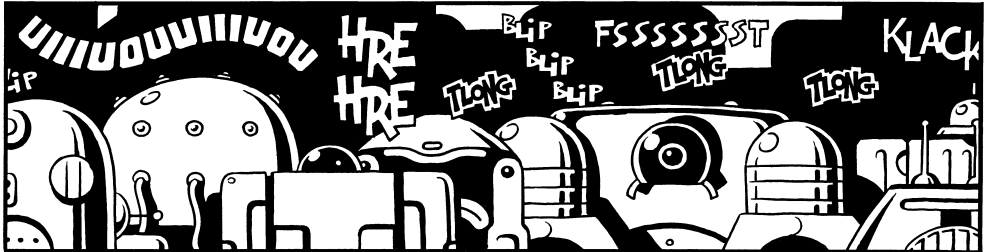
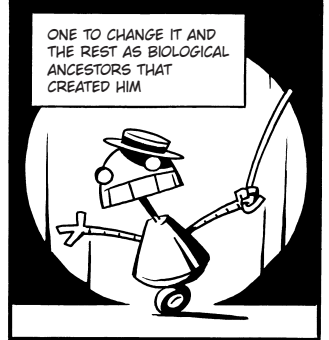
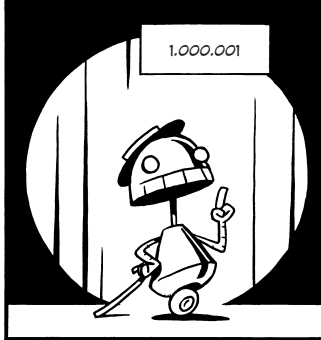
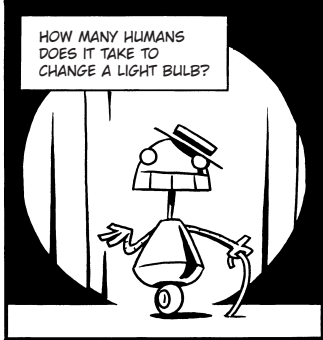
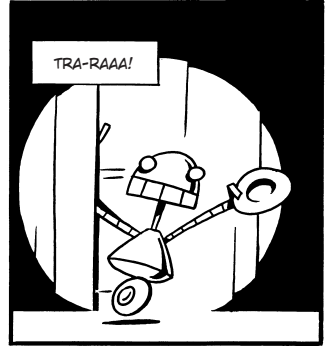
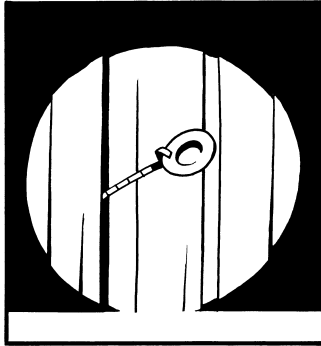
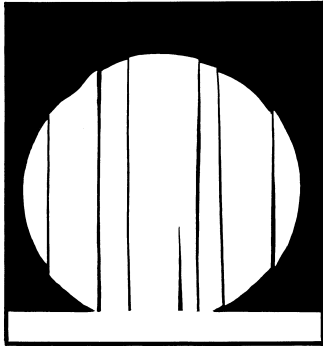
**TOMAŽ LAVRIČ** (1964) is considered the greatest of all Slovenian comics artists, a true comics »chameleon« whose skillful montage and competent brush strokes tell dynamic stories with heavy re-reading value. He's one of the few Slovenian comics artist that was published in several other countries abroad and the first Slovenian ever published in France (Glenat). He's received all the awards a Slovenian visual artist can receive, including the prestigious Prešeren award, granted to only the most excellent artists, for his opulent bibliography, versatile style, originality and prowess.

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60 pgs., 19 x 27 cm, B&W  
Full PDF in English available.

— DISTOPIA - HUMAN CONDITION - GRAPHICALLY STYLIZED —

# THE LAST WILL



# ANDREJ ŠTULAR

## Chronicles

**A Ripley's »Believe it or not« for the modern times: truth is strange, stranger than fiction.**

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The bizarre, humorous, but often also shocking reports from newspaper police blotter serve as inspiration material for this series of short comics stories.

**THE CHRONICLES BOOK** is a one-of-a-kind social collage, based on cutouts from different printed media that Andrej Štular steadily accumulated over the last twenty years. Some stories are plain and banal, others bizarre, surreal, amusing or sad, but all of them are real – each features the actual yellowed cutout on which it is based – and reveal a diverse panorama of the human condition.

Štular's selection of articles, often ironically and meaningfully, but always authentically reflects the human situation and position in the world. The book thus functions as a melancholic memento to our arrogance as a reminder that just anything can happen, while also as an optimistic display of the everyman in his more or less brave struggle with reality in spite its unpredictability.

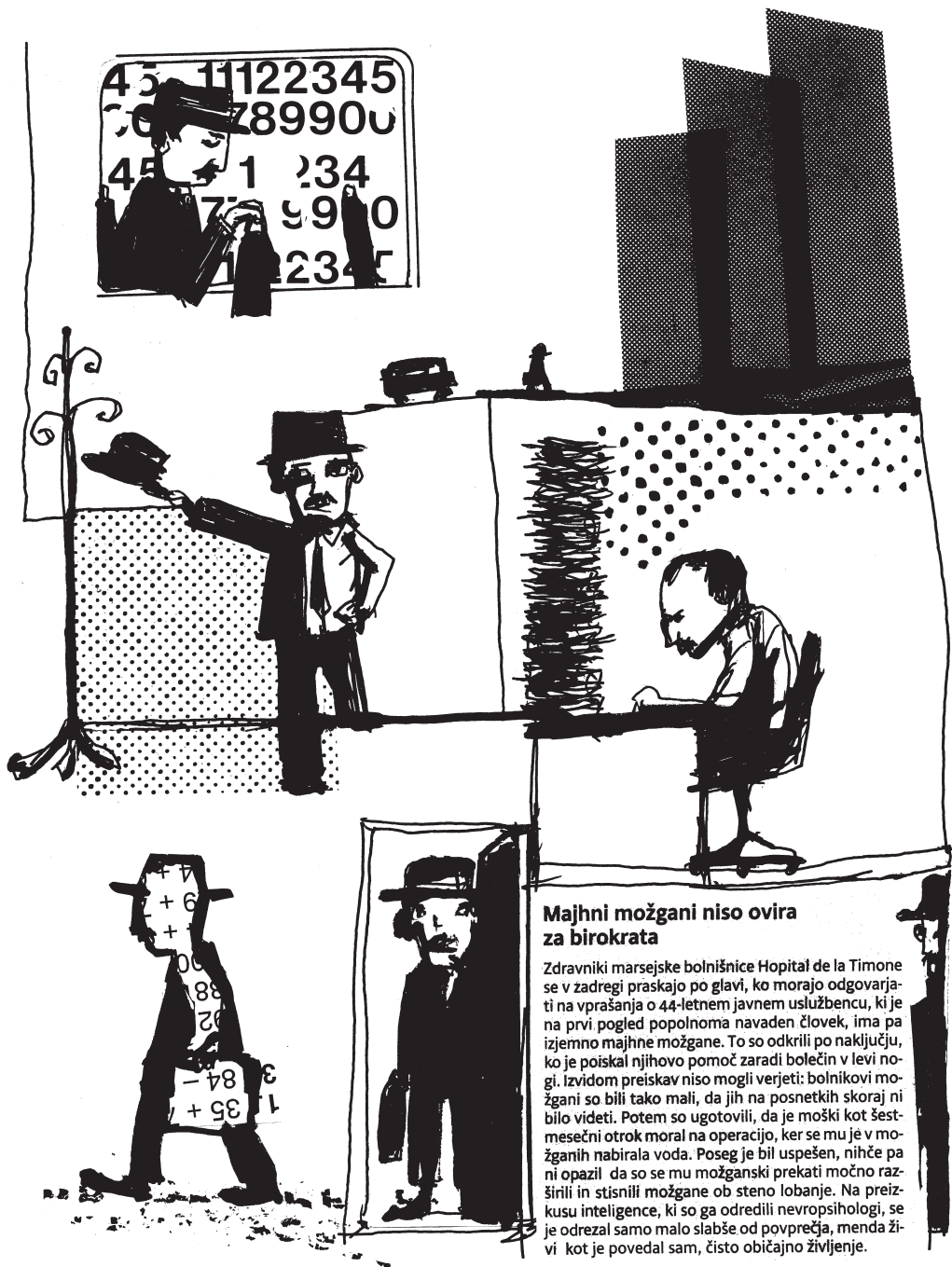
**ANDREJ ŠTULAR** is one of the most daring Slovenian comics artists who's able to create ready-made masterpieces of artistic expression from what others consider mere garbage. His works faithfully reflect the spirit of the times and address the reader in a very contemporary manner, never abandoning though the modernist quest for emancipation through art. Štular is thus a modernist artist who makes use of postmodernist approaches and his latest comic book is to be read in precisely the way it sounds.

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96 pgs., 21 x 27 cm, B&W  
Full English translation available.

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**BIZARRE - HUMOUR - BASED ON REAL EVENTS**



### Majhni možgani niso ovira za birokrata

Zdravniki marsejske bolnišnice Hopital de la Timone se v zadregi praskajo po glavi, ko morajo odgovarjati na vprašanja o 44-letnem javnem uslužbencu, ki je na prvi pogled popolnoma navaden človek, ima pa izjemno majhne možgane. To so odkrili po naključju, ko je poiskal njihovo pomoč zaradi bolečin v levi nogi. Izvidom preiskav niso mogli verjeti: bolnikovi možgani so bili tako mali, da jih na posnetkih skoraj ni bilo videti. Potem so ugotovili, da je moški kot šestmesečni otrok moral na operacijo, ker se mu je v možganih nabirala voda. Poseg je bil uspešen, nihče pa ni opazil da so se mu možganski prekatí močno razširili in stisnili možgane ob steno lobanje. Na preizkusu inteligence, ki so ga odredili nevropsihologi, se je odrezal samo malo slabše od povprečja, menda živi kot je povedal sam, čisto običajno življenje.

# KIDS ONLY! NO KIDDING! KIDS ONLY! NO KIDDING!

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**TANJA KOMADINA**

## **Cool Bike**

based on a short story by Manka Kremenšek Križman

**A touching story about a refugee boy from Bosnia who dreams of owning a bicycle.**

**COOL BIKE** is based on a short story that deals with unfulfillment of a strong child's desire and with the unfortunate consequences of a forceful realization of it. The protagonist is a little boy from Mostar (Bosnia) who dreams of owning a bicycle, but cannot have one. In the meantime, war breaks out and he escapes as a refugee to Slovenia, where he befriends Lana, a girl who owns the same bike he always wanted. When the bike gets stolen, Mile is accused of being the thief and a »Balkan gypsy«. The bike is then returned but the slander sticks. A heart-breaking story where the young reader can empathize with the protagonist and learn the lesson along with him. The story features a consistent artistic style and a distinct moral note with added educational value. It was included in the White Ravens 2015 selection of the best children books by the International Youth Library of Munich.

**TANJA KOMADINA** (1976) is a Slovenian comics artist and illustrator who graduated from the Academy of Fine Arts and Design in Ljubljana and received the Academy's award for artistic achievements. She works as an illustrator of books and textbooks for children and youth for several Slovene publishing houses and has her work regularly published in the children magazines Ciciban and Cicido. Her clear and distinct style of drawing seems to appeal to young readers, while her illustrations often feature elements of comics. In Slovenia she's received several awards for her work.

64 pgs., 19 x 27 cm, B&W, age: 9+

Rights already sold: Sweden (Tusen Serier). Full PDF in English available.

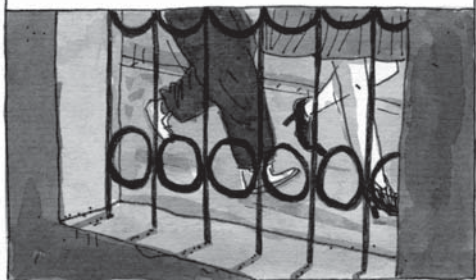
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**WAR - XENOPHOBIA - THEFT - FRIENDSHIP**

MILE ALREADY HAD A BIKE AT HOME,  
BUT HE OUTGREW IT A LONG TIME AGO.



NOW IT WAS GATHERING DUST IN THE BASEMENT.



HE GOT IT FROM GORAN,  
HIS NEIGHBOUR.



GORAN GOT IT  
FROM SMILJA.



AND SMILJA GOT IT FROM  
SOMEONE ELSE AGAIN.

IT WAS HIGH TIME FOR A NEW BIKE.



# MARJAN MANČEK

## The Hillies

The complete collection of one-page stories with an amusing prehistoric family and their humorous adventures for all generations!

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**THE HILLIES** is a collection of one-page comics that deal with the peculiar conditions of being human in the times of prehistory and shows the everyday life of a curious and inquisitive prehistoric family.

The Hillies are by far the most popular creation of Marjan Manček, an illustrator and comics artist with a long line of works dedicated especially to children. His simple drawing style and an didactical approach, presented as light-hearted humour, allow him to create evergreen comics that kids enjoy and parents appreciate. Such as this book: a comprehensive collection of all of his stories with the Hillies, with additional four pages that the artist created especially for this collection. Special hint: you can use this book as a coloring book as well, while one-page stories make perfect bedtime reading.

**MARJAN MANČEK** (1948) is a renowned Slovenian comics artist, illustrator, creator of books for children and youth and of animated films. He's an amazing storyteller with a kind sense of humour, a sophisticated and creative approach to language and a flair for precise design of his main characters: curious explorers of their environment, much like children are. His work is infused with warm humour and characterized by an unobtrusive educational note. His light, flowing drawings are lucid and full of playful imagination. He received, among other awards, the Hinko Smrekar Lifetime Achievement Award at the 12th Slovenian Biennial of Illustration in 2016.

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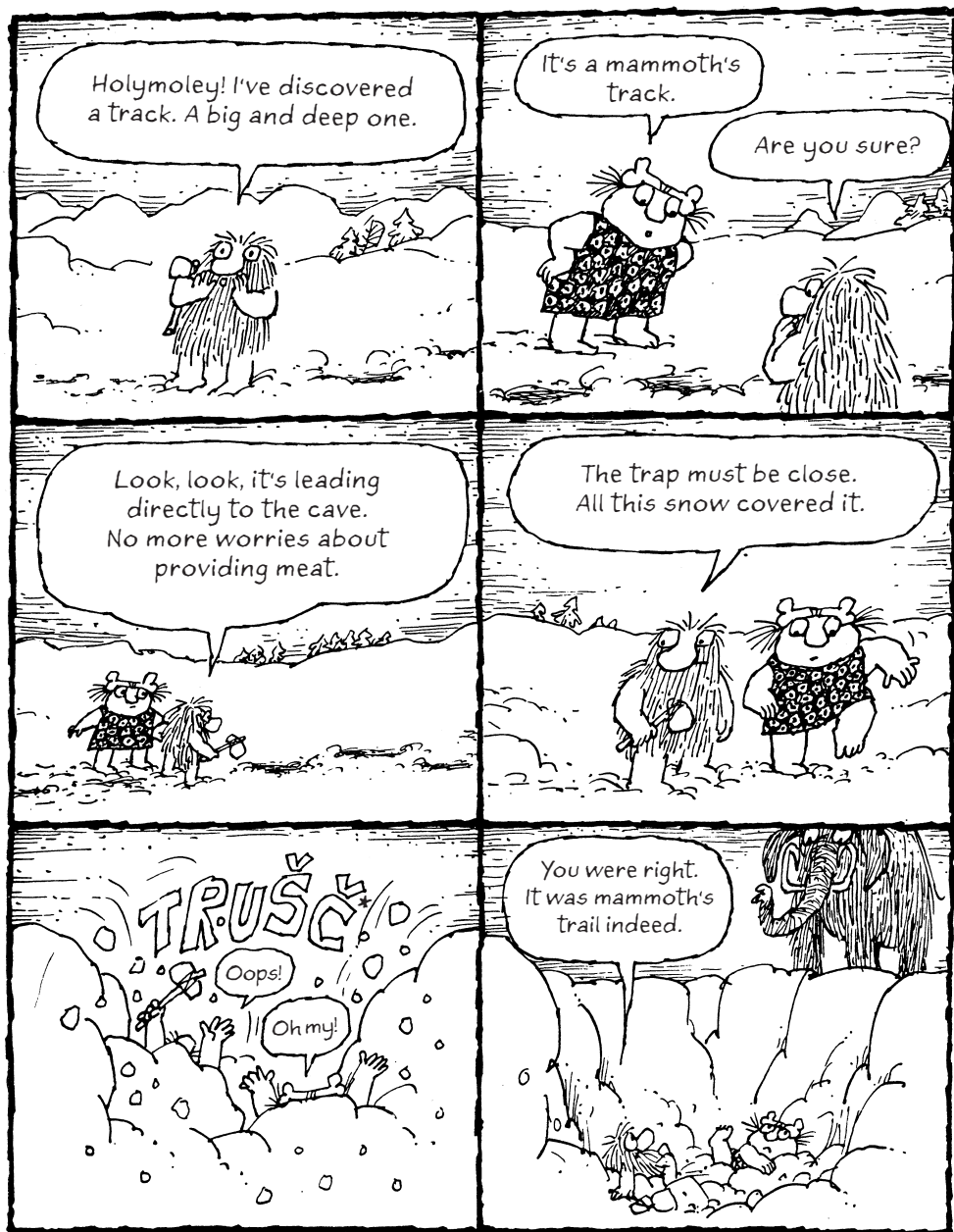
92 pgs., 21 x 27 cm, B&W, age: 6+  
Full PDF in English available.

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PREHISTORIC LIFE - FAMILY - HUMOUR - EDUCATIONAL



# ON THE RIGHT TRACK



\* CRASH

# **MATEJ LAVRENČIČ**

## **Little Black Worries**

**Worry-busters: a funny and amusing story about contemporary struggles of the average everyman in the modern world.**

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This witty and engaging comics story shows the adventures of two human-like cats who realize they have plenty of »little black worries« in their lives. Question arises: how to get rid of them? Simply drawn characters animate this straightforward narrative that provides a lucid and amusing commentary on modern life and its downsides without moralizing at all. This is why it's appropriate for younger readers, but older ones will appreciate it as well, since this timeless story with relatable characters and a light-hearted approach will never get old.

**MATEJ LAVRENČIČ** (1980) works in comics, animation and illustration. He started publishing his short comics stories with the Stripburger magazine and this is his debut album. Apart from free-drawing he also likes to use pixel art both in his comics and animation. He regularly contributes his comics to Stripburger's anthologies and he's also received several domestic and international awards for his work in animation.

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68 pgs., 19 x 27 cm, B&W, age: 9+  
Full PDF in English available.

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**HUMOUR - FRIENDSHIP - UNIVERSAL - EVERYDAY**



## **BEASTLINGS IN COMICS**

**Educational and entertaining folk tales and fables in comics for the youngest readers.**

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This collection of mini-books, dedicated mainly to children, presents three stories from the treasury of Slovenian folk tales and gives them new life by repacking and refreshing them. The main characters of these traditional fables are forest animals with human-like qualities who serve as metaphors for human interaction. These stories have been recontextualized and revamped to fit the modern times and are thus appropriate for all ages and in all ages.

The collection was awarded the Golden Pear award, a »mark of quality« granted only to high-quality original books for children and youth in Slovenia. It was also used to create a multimedia storytelling performance for children with VJ-ing and live actors.

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### **KAJA AVBERŠEK**

**Flying Fox** / 36 pgs., 14,8 x 14,8 cm, full color, age: 5+

**Pride comes before the fall, sometimes literally.**

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Foxes are cunning animals, but surprisingly not the most cunning ones though. In this story it is the fox who was thoroughly outwitted. How could that happen? Well, suffice to say that pride, bane of all those who are successful, comes before the fall, and the flying fox does fall deep and hard. This folk tale tries to appeal to our moral sense of justice: a thieving, cheating and backstabbing fox finally meets its cruel demise. The reader is reassured: what goes around comes around and karma is inescapable.

This book presents another strong moral lesson and features an intriguing and dynamic plot presented in a very specific and unique visual style. Kaja Avberšek is unladen in her liberal use of the comics page, free from the constraints of frames and of other comics conventions. Her simple and accessible style stimulates children to emulate her drawings and inspires them to make their own comics.

## FOLK TALES - FABLES - ANIMALS - EDUCATIONAL - UNIVERSAL

Three visual artists who work with different media tackled this demanding task and all three performed excellently. **KAJA AVBERŠEK** and **DAVID KRANČAN** are comics artists, illustrators, designers and members of the Stripburger's editorial board, while **ANDREJ ŠTULAR** is a constant satellite to the magazine and heavy-contributing artist who also creates art installations, puppet theatre plays and so on.

**3 books available:** Kaja Avberšek: Flying Fox, David Krančan: Beastie, Andrej Štular: Run, the World Is Coming Down!

Full English translation available.



## DAVID KRANČAN

**Beastie** / 36 pgs., 14,8 x 14,8 cm, full color, age: 5+

**Yet another proof of how brains beat brawn every time.**

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Beastie the monster is a voracious but less than brilliant being that one day goes hunting rabbits and coincidentally gets caught in a trap. Luckily the beast is able to escape thanks to the help of a »good Samaritan«, a passerby peasant, who almost get eaten by the hungry beast. But then a smart & cunning fox enters the stage and brings an amusing plot twist. Playing the role of a lawyer in a courtroom, the fox tricks Beastie into climbing back into the trap and thus saving the nearly-eaten peasant.

Krančan employs his thought-out and lively artistic imagination to design meaningful and multi-layered stories. The cartoony look of the characters quickly seduces the young reader's eye and heavily contributes to the instant likeability of the book but never appears conventional or shallow.

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## ANDREJ ŠTULAR

### **Run, the World Is Coming Down!**

36 pgs., 14,8 x 14,8 cm, full color, age: 5+

**»United we stand, divided we fall«: animal liberation never looked so good.**

---

Gravity is inescapable, as a chicken learns when a nut falls on its head. Thinking the world is ending, the chicken panics and runs for its life while a cock, a goose and a ram follow it on a very special adventure. The story escalates when this group of animal friends beats and scares away a group of evil thieves.

The book is innovative in its use of ready-made, thrown away and then re-used objects that are combined, arranged and shaped as characters of the story – an approach that won the book the award for the best visual design at the Biennial of Puppetry Artists of Slovenia. Štular's work is often characterized by his unconventional approach and his rebellious tendency of »sticking it to the man«.



In je šel do klopi, da bo sedel. Ga je piknila kokoš.  
»Jojme, kako me je piknila, kako me je zbodla šivilja!«

# FOLK TALES AND FABLES IN COMICS

Reinventing folk literature: traditional tales meet comics.

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Following the success of *Beasties in Comics*, another collection of children comics was created: three Slovenian artists, **Tanja Komadina**, **Miha Ha** and **Matej Lavrenčič** have each contributed one short comics adaptation of a selected folk tale. These are again intended for the youngest readers to introduce them into the comics culture. Added value of these picturesque children comics stories, presented in a new and fresh way, lies in the evergreen themes and in moral lessons that they bring.

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## TANJA KOMADINA

### Why Do Dogs Sniff Each Other?

36 pgs., 14,8 x 14,8 cm, full color, age: 5+

**Folk science: how to sound reasonable while having no clue.**

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The fearsome lion, king of all animals, throws a huge party one day. But not everything goes well: the pepper shaker goes missing and the king will not have any of it. Thus he sends his subjects (dogs) to look for the pepper shaker, which explains why the dogs like sniffing each other so much: they're still looking for the pepper shaker for the king! This humorous story is well illustrated and employs a rich language with many puns.



## FOLK TALES - FABLES - ANIMALS - EDUCATIONAL - UNIVERSAL

**MATEJ LAVRENČIČ** designed a story with a very contemporary and cartoonish style. Not surprisingly he also works in animation and illustration. **TANJA KOMADINA** and **MIHA HA** are both well known to our younger readers for their comics and illustrations for the main children magazine in Slovenia. They both have specialized in comics for youth & children and are able to deliver high-quality content tailored especially to the needs of the youngest readers.

**3 books available:** Tanja Komadina: Why Do Dogs Sniff Each Other?, Matej Lavrenčič: The Pretentious Miss Monkey, Miha Ha: You Cannot Please Everyone All the Time.

Full English translation available.



**MATEJ LAVRENČIČ**

## **The pretentious Miss Monkey**

36 pgs., 14,8 x 14,8 cm, full color, age: 5+

**Perfect story for the contemporary self-obsessed times.**

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The little **MISS MONKEY** is the main and the prettiest comics character in her book. Her reflection in the mirror only partly reflects the true beauty that is her social media profile picture. However, all this good cannot last forever and the little Miss Monkey learns a very important lesson in the end. Her extreme and egoistic vanity costs her her life, while the reader is presented with a strong moral lesson against self-infatuation.

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**MIHA HA**

## **You Cannot Please Everyone All the Time**

24 pgs., 14,8 x 14,8 cm, full color, age: 5+

**A truly universal life lesson clearly understandable to everyone.**

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A father and son travel to the nearest village to sell their donkey. At first, they walk, but upon hearing the comments from the passersby they try riding the donkey, first the father, then the son, then both, then again no one, learning in the process that you cannot please everyone all the time.

A classical Slovenian folk tale with an unobtrusive, but powerful moral message. However the lesson never feels forced, instead it comes naturally and obviously, which is why it's perfectly comprehensible in any culture or society. It is so universal it almost needs no text: the images speak for themselves. The scenes of their travel are rich in visual depictions of farming and country work that contribute to the educational value of the book.

SVOJE NOHTKE VSAK DAN JE  
VESTNO NEGOVALA,





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