

The Author & Illustrator

Katja Gehrman, born in 1968, studied Illustration in Mexico, Spain and Hamburg. She works for magazines and various publishing houses. *Besuch beim Hasen* (Visiting Rabbit), written by Christian Oster and illustrated by Katja was nominated for the German Children's Literature Award in 2014. www.katjagehrmann.de/



- Topics: fitting in, hostility, friendship, being different
- A funny and suspenseful adventure

KATJA GEHRMANN

Town Bear

When the bear wakes up after a long sleep, the forest seems strangely empty to him. Where are the other animals? *"They've all moved into town", explains the hawk. "There are heated caves, delicious food and, above all, no hunters!"* The bear likes the sound of this and he sets off to roam the streets in town.

The other animals in town want to get rid of him as quickly as possible, because *"the bear is putting us in danger! We are almost invisible to people—and now comes this huge and clumsy guy! The people will get scared and call in the hunters!"*

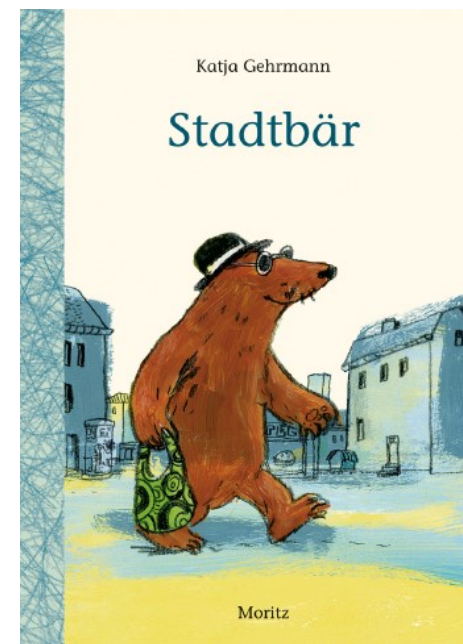
But capturing such a large animal without attracting attention is not easy at all and the question is: who is actually behaving like a bear in a china shop?

Katja Gehrman has conceived a lavishly illustrated story bridging the gap between picture book and first reader. It is perfectly suited for all those who are just beginning to enjoy reading themselves.

REVIEWS

"It is funny and you hold your breath, because it is so tense. And that's exactly how good first readers should be. [...] The images spread across the entire page and lay the trail for the text's counterpoints. On top of that, the story tells of humans and animals, of friendship and being different, of a home away from home. Disarmingly simple and serious at the same time. Hats off! Learning to read cannot be more exciting, appetizing or profound." - www.buchpalastmuenchen.de

"A road movie of a special kind, in which accidents, slapstick and finally this steadfast belief in the readiness to help others lead to an adventure that can easily be translated into human conditions." - *Eselsohr, 2/2019*



- 7 Best Books for Young Readers
- Children's Book Prize NRW 2019

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EARLY READER

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