The Saltamontes Chronicles

TRILOGY



Monika Marin

AUTHOR



Monika Marin is now a well-known Polish author of adventure books for children and teenagers, which are popular not just for the fun and excitement, but also for the broad outlook they give on humans and the planet, along with a host of educational and psychological themes. She has an international background - her grandparents came from 4 different countries, and only one of her grandparents was Polish. Her most popular work, The Saltamontes Chronicles, is currently used in Polish schools as a supplementary title, dealing with linking generations and styles and bringing people with different views together.

Becoming a writer wasn't an easy process. Monika first did a Master's degree in Education and spent 4 years working with children, but due to the economic situation in Poland at that time, she gave up teaching and started work as a journalist. She wrote articles for Polish magazines that specialised in travel and automotive titles, because motorbikes are her real passion. Travelling around the world and writing went on for several years. When her children were born, she decided to devote her time to them and, while she was based at home, began writing novels.

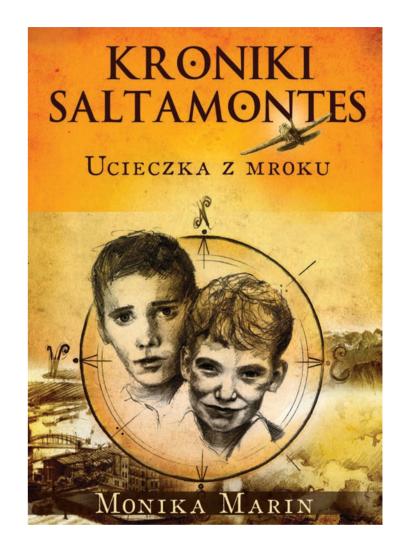
With the success of the Saltamontes Chronicles Trilogy in Poland, Monika is now focussing her energies on a new series of adventures.

Part 1 The Saltamontes Chronicles - Escape from Darkness

Eight-year-old Adam and his best friend Alex don't know what it's like to have a bedtime story read to them. They go to sleep to the sound of gunfire, and are woken by air-raid sirens and bombs exploding as the world outside is slowly destroyed by war. They dream of a quiet life in their own home, surrounded by family, somewhere far away from the chaos and rubble. One day the war ends, but this is only the start of their struggles to find happiness.

With their fates already decided by adults, the boys' only option is to escape the darkness surrounding them. Their journey soon takes an unexpected turn, however, and they find themselves in foreign lands, unable to speak the local languages and at the mercy of total strangers, some of whom are guarding long-held secrets. Who can they trust? And will they ever find a place to call home?

Full of adventure, mystery and excitement, The Saltamontes Chronicles - Escape from Darkness proves that even when the odds are stacked against you, hope always gives you a second chance.



Languages: Polish, English

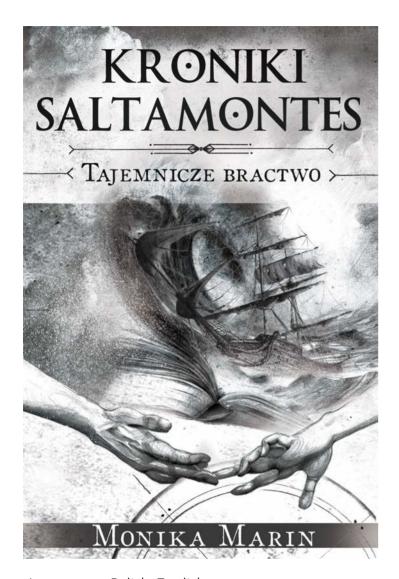
Pages: 328

Number of illustrations: 22

ISBN (hardback) 978-83-937821-0-9

ISBN (paperback) 978-83-64775-75-8

Part 2 The Saltamontes Chronicles - The Secret Brotherhood



Languages: Polish, English

Pages: 392

Number of illustrations: 22

ISBN (hardback) 978-83-64775-93-2

ISBN (paperback) 978-83-64775-74-1

It is the year 1717, and a pirate ship sets sail on its last, fateful journey.

Its captain, Samuel Bellamy, is on a mission - to capture all the world's gold and lay it at the feet of his beloved Maria but when a monster storm breaks, his dreams are shattered and all the treasure is lost to the depths forever.

Not all ... washed up on the shoreline, some of the precious cargo is spirited away by a mysterious group of people and finds its way to Italy where, two centuries later, its magical powers are discovered by two teenage boys looking for love and adventure.

But will they understand how to control the forces unleashed by the ghosts of the past? Will the treasure help them in their quest for knowledge or will it destroy them, like it did Samuel Bellamy?

Action-packed, magical and life-affirming, the Secret Brotherhood is the second book in the Saltamontes Chronicles trilogy. Join Adam and Alex as they go on a new journey, this time into another world that you never knew existed.

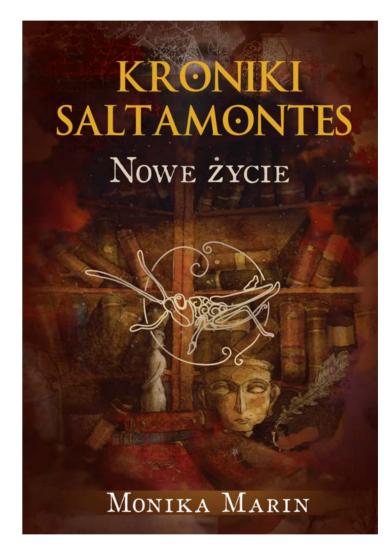
Part 3 The Saltamontes Chronicles - New Life

Weird things are going on at Chiara's home in Tuscany. Strange people in old-fashioned robes turn up at odd times of the day, only to disappear equally mysteriously. The basement holds a treasure trove of magical objects that Chiara isn't allowed to see. Grandpa Adam is definitely hiding something.

So when Leo arrives for the summer holidays, Chiara sees her chance to do some detective work. Little does she suspect, though, that shy Leo holds holds the key to a mystery far deeper than she could ever have imagined.

Together they embark on a journey that takes them far beyond the secrets at the house to lands both real and imagined, where they meet ghosts from the past but also familiar faces from the future. How are they all connected? And what does Grandpa have to do with it all?

In the final part of the Saltamontes Chronicles trilogy, come with Chiara and Leo on the most exciting adventure yet, as the mysterious Brotherhood finally reveals its most closely-guarded secrets and you too can learn how to unlock the door to a New Life.



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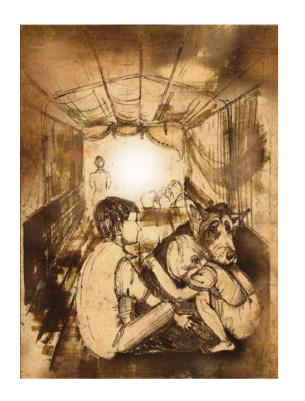
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Selected Illustrations - Part 1 - The Saltamontes Chronicles - Escape from Darkness





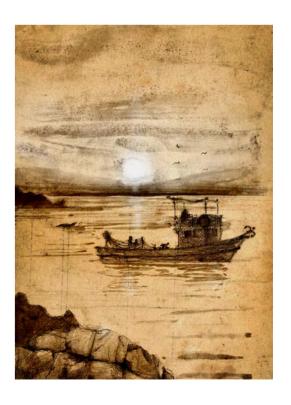








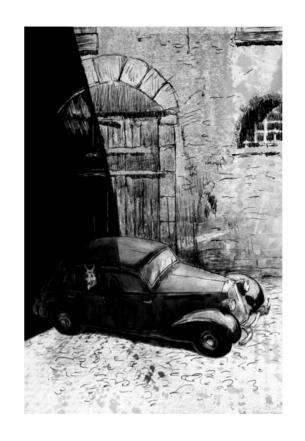


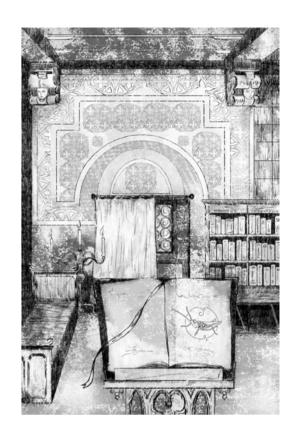


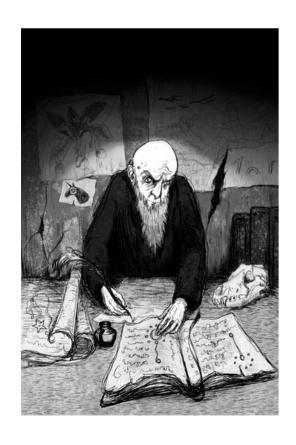
Selected Illustrations - Part 2 - The Saltamontes Chronicles - The Secret Brotherhood















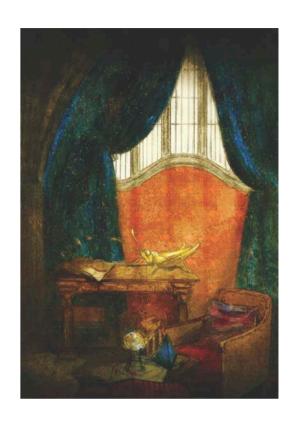


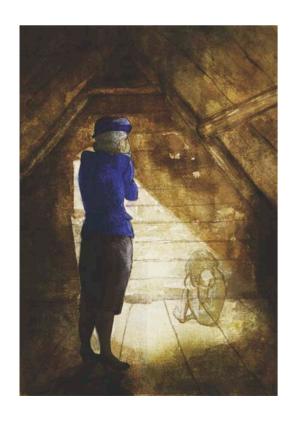
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The Philosophy of the Saltamontes Chronicles Trilogy

Children are the future of our world and our greatest asset. The rapid development of technology without a similar progression in people's awareness has resulted in short-term thinking, reflected in the current social movements around the world which are fighting for change. People need to understand not only technology but above all themselves.

The Saltamontes Chronicles trilogy rises above divisions, politics and religion and confronts complex issues of our existence, such as dealing with children's sensitivity, fulfilling dreams, the need for intergenerational, intercultural dialogue and the senselessness of war. While aimed at children and adolescents, it is well-loved by many an adult for its universality and broad view of humanity and the planet.

The Saltamontes Chronicles trilogy is available in both Polish and English versions. With 1200 pages over three volumes, it is a response to contemporary needs for interpersonal ties, understanding others, tolerance and personal development.

It can be read on many levels:

- Firstly, as an adventure story. With its non-stop action, children just can't put it down;
- Secondly, for its Words of Wisdom, which smuggle in the ideas that we can live, work and take care of the planet together independently of what country we come from;
- Thirdly, as a broad view of humanity over millennia, understanding that beyond politics, religions and wars, there's something more about us which we've neglected, something we have to fight to truly develop, not only technologically but also mentally.

The hope is that by reading the trilogy, young people can enjoy literature and became open-minded future adults, who care for themselves, their loved ones, other people, animals and the planet.

Specifications

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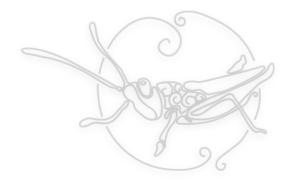
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