



MAJOR BOOKS

Children's Titles Catalogue



Major Books



Our Mission

Major Books is an independent publishing company dedicated to bringing Vietnamese literature to the English-speaking world.

Our Vision

Our name, Major Books speaks as a clear, bold, and audacious resistance against the ‘minor’ status attributed to certain languages and their literature in the global publishing scene. Our hope is to contribute, no matter how little, to growing awareness that there are no ‘lesser’ voices in world literature.



Our Ethics

With the acute awareness of translation as an art form bearing immense potentials and challenges, our primary goal is to offer translations that are not only faithful but also true to the essence of the source book. Our translators, editors and illustrators, being mostly native speakers themselves, are committed to preserve the integrity and convey the originality of the author’s work.



We take immense pride in providing our authors, translators, and all stakeholders with fair and equitable compensation for their invaluable contributions, with the hope of fostering a thriving Vietnamese literature and creative ecosystems.



Our First Chapter

Between literary treasures that have been overlooked or worse, poorly translated, and brilliant pieces yet to be written, we will bring a curated selection of works from a variety of authors, periods, and genres. Ranging from critically acclaimed post-war fiction, national epic poetry, to contemporary LGBTQ+ writings, we hope to present a well-rounded portrait of Vietnam and our diverse voices.



Contact Us



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Tết All Around

Muôn Miền Tết

‘...a joyous and sumptuous celebration of the Vietnamese Lunar New Year, Tết Nguyên Đán - a much needed #ownvoice work in translation.’

–Eva Wong Nava

Abstract

The first translated children’s book on Tết from Vietnamese, celebrating of Vietnam’s many different traditions of welcoming the Vietnamese Lunar Year.

When spring arrives, Vietnamese everywhere get very busy! Whether you live in the capital, the southernmost coast, or overseas – Tết is the most celebrated and important time for many Vietnamese. Traditions are what makes Tết a special occasion—but does every Vietnamese celebrate the same way? Do you prepare jellied meat like Hanoians, or braised duck eggs and bitter melon soup like the south? Tết All Around brings young readers on a journey across Vietnam’s regions and ethnic groups. Learn about the different ways Tết is celebrated; personal to some, unfamiliar to others, but sure to bring an air of festivity—and together they form what we know as Tết. So gather around and immerse yourselves in this stunningly illustrated book that hopes to bring to readers the warmth, excitement, and merry atmosphere of Tết!



by Quỳnh Hương & Rôm

Translated by Ngô Hà Thu

Edited by Kim Trần

Illustrations by Halcyon

Retail Price

£12.99 (e-book £6.99) | \$21.00

Format

Flexibound | 20.5 x 26 cm | 44 pages

Genre

Children’s Non-Fiction

ISBN

978-1-917233-11-8

Release Date

1st December 2025

Reading Age

10+



Previews of the interior:





A Stroll With Time

Dạo Bước Với Thời Gian

*Selected in The White Raven's 2025 list of notable children's literature

Abstract

A poetic reflection on the passage of time through the lens of the nature and culture of Vietnam.

“Four stone dog figurines on a dresser come to life and follow the first-person narrator and a plant called »Time« on their walk through the four seasons. They observe peach blossoms drenched in spring rain, notice fresh shirts soaked with summer sweat, witness the blush of a blooming pomegranate in autumn, and realize that spring is about to return when the bare frangipani branches bloom in late winter. As the eternal cycle of life starts anew, the dogs turn back into stone. This elegiac poem weaves together symbol-filled depictions of Vietnam's nature, art, crafts, and architecture creating what feels like a series of colourful still-life paintings. At the end, readers are invited into a »time walk museum« where these details are explained.” (The White Ravens, 2025)

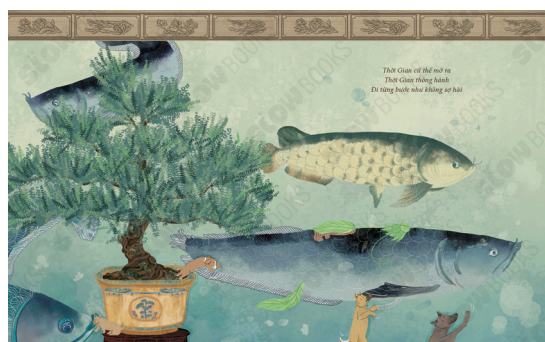


by Quỳnh Hương
Translated by TBC
Edited by Kim Trần
Illustrations by Maru

Retail Price	£12.99 (e-book £6.99) \$21.00
Format	Hardcover with Dust Jacket 19.5 x 26.5 cm
Genre	Children's Poetry
ISBN	978-1-917233-15-6
Release Date	2026
Reading Age	10+



Previews of the interior:





Dear Death

Thư Gửi Thần Chết



by Quỳnh Hương

Translated by Khuê Thi

Illustrations by Trúc Nhi Hoàng

Abstract

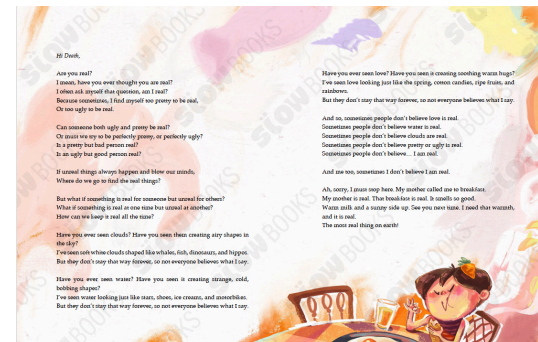
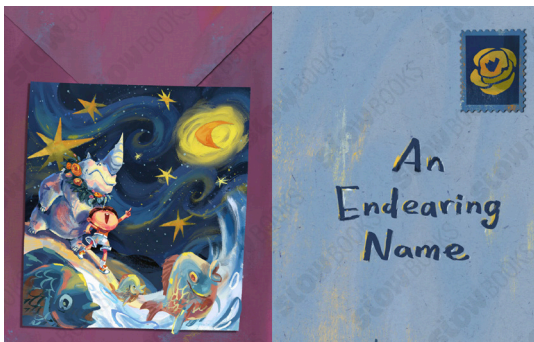
A sweet and nuanced exploration of difficult topics, through a young girl's letters sent to 'Death'.

Dear Death follows a young girl named Carrot. Was there anyone else in the whole wide world who felt as lonely as Carrot did? Most days, she could not talk to anyone or ask them any questions. And on such days, she would wish she could go to Death's place... to live there. However, the decision to move to another place was too big for a child. Carrot could not make up her mind right away. That's why every time she felt sad or hopeless, she would write a letter to Death. The book is a collection of all the letters Carrot sends to Death in the hopes her questions could be answered, when no one else would give her an answer. Carrot's questions are endless: what is real? What is love? Will Death...die? *Dear Death* is a gentle, thoughtful invitation to explore difficult subjects, such as loss, that young readers might want to ask about, but don't know where to start.

Retail Price	£12.99 (e-book £6.99) \$21.00
Format	Hardcover with dust jacket 19 x 27 cm 82 pages
Genre	Children's Fiction
ISBN	978-1-917233-13-2
Release Date	2026
Reading Age	10+



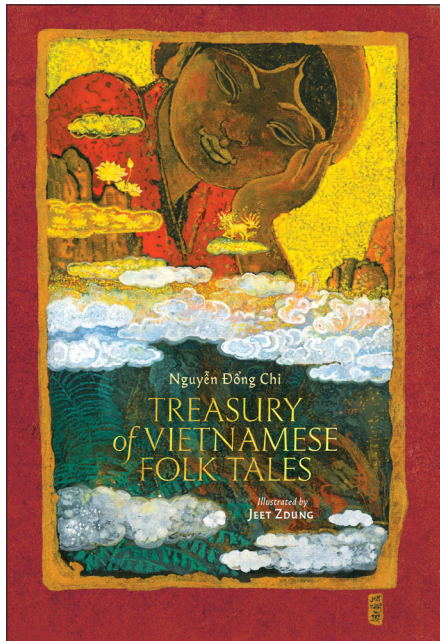
Previews of the interior:





Treasury of Vietnamese Folk Tales

Kho tàng truyện cổ tích Việt Nam



by Nguyễn Đồng Chi

Translated by Lan Võ & Nguyễn Bình

Edited by Kim Trần

Illustrations by Jeet ZDŨNG

Abstract

An enchanting collection of 11 Vietnamese folk tales from Vietnam's 'Andersen'.

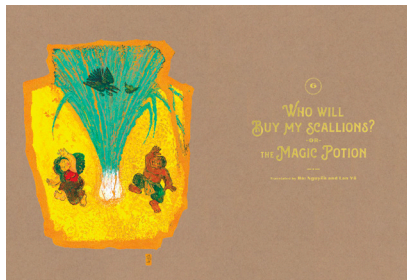
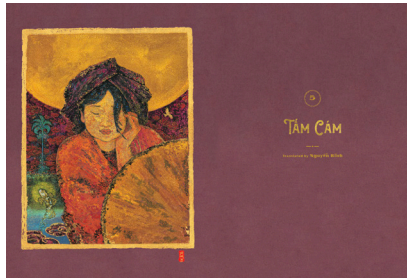
The Treasury of Vietnamese Folk Tales series is the most complete and indispensable text collection when it comes to Vietnamese folk tales. Gathering over 200 stories from across the Vietnamese people of legends, fables, and moral parables, there is a tale for everyone. The stories in Volume 1, curated and translated by *Major Books*, shine a spotlight on the women of Vietnamese folklore—not damsels in distress, but as heroes, tricksters, warriors, and sometimes even villains. Their voices echo through tales that are bold, mysterious, and deeply human.

Each tale comes with hand-drawn illustrations by award-winning artist Jeet ZDŨNG. Evoking the craftsmanship of folk Vietnamese artisans, each artwork offers a rich, immersive window into the spirit and texture of the past.

Retail Price	£24.99
Format	Hardback 22 x 30 cm 140 pages (est)
Genre	Fairy Tales
ISBN	9781917233088
Release Date	June 2026



Previews of the interior:



The Author

DR. NGUYỄN ĐỒNG CHI (1915-1984) was a prolific writer, historian, and anthropologist from Hà Tĩnh. He is especially known as a trailblazer in the study of folk stories in Vietnam. His 5-volume work *The Treasury of Vietnamese Folk Tales*, a complete collection and study of over 250 Vietnamese folktales, has been recognised as a classic piece of work. His achievements and contributions have been recognised on both a national and global scope. The Vietnamese government awarded him the Hồ Chí Minh prize in 1996 for his contributions to the culture and sciences. Many cities across the country, including the capital Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, have streets bearing his name.

Translated by

LAN VÕ is a PhD student at the Centre for Women's Studies (University of York), whose research focuses on gendered performance in the context of the Vietnamese-American conflict.

NGUYỄN BÌNH is a writer and poet from Hanoi. Their translation of *The Tale of Kiền* received the Young Writers Award for Translation in Vietnam.

Illustrated by

JEET ZDŨNG works primarily in creating, writing and illustrating books for readers from 4 years old and up. He was the first Vietnamese to win the Yoto Carnegie Medal for Illustration for *Saving Sorya*.



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