

BOOKS FROM

Mauritius

Ten illustrated titles from different Mauritian authors were selected and the hope is that these titles will help project the new generation of our local writers and illustrators on the international scene.

1 Pushpa Lallah • Bernadette Mok Tsze Chung, ill. **Marde so Zardin – Marde's garden [Marde's garden]**

Federation of Pre-school playgroups, 1999 • ISBN 9990361061

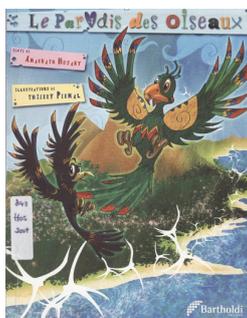


Marde is a gardener; he wears a hat, has a moustache and comes to work by bicycle. His garden was very beautiful. One day a group of children come to visit his garden and asks him why he has put a fence around his garden.

He tells them how, after working so hard in his garden, the dogs came and crushed all his plants, so he had to protect the garden.
Bilingual Creole-English.

2 Amarnath Hosany • Thierry Permal, ill. **Le paradis des oiseaux [Birds' paradise]**

Bartholdi, 2007 • ISBN 9789990386097

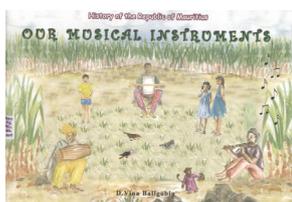


An island was inhabited by different kinds of tropical birds staying together in harmony. The island was filled with vegetation and fruit trees. When the fruits were ripe, they attracted the bats but the birds did their best to protect their island. The bats stayed in the nearby island. A bat was sent as spy, it was ill. The birds took

care of it. When the bat recovered, it influenced each group of birds and divided them to break their strength. Then the bats invaded the island and made their paradise into hell. Hopefully, they realised their mistake and could get out of the hell with the help of the neighbouring island's birds.

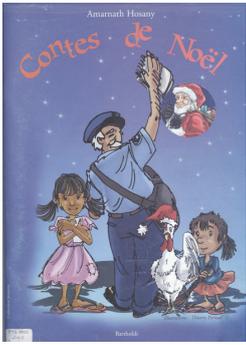
3 D. Vina Balgobin • Madvee Armoogum Sundhoo, ill. **Our musical instruments: history of the Republic of Mauritius**

Dehoutee Balgobin, 2009 • ISBN 9789990341584



The first Frenchmen arrived in 1715. The French people used many musical instruments in their parties. Slaves and indentured labourers came to Mauritius and worked on the sugar estates. They came from different countries of the world and enjoyed the music and songs of their native

lands. In 1810, there was a naval war and the French gave up the island to the British. In 1835, there was abolition of slavery. Many types of instruments used by slaves, Indian immigrants and Chinese were introduced to the island.

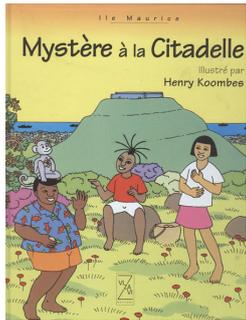


4 Amarnath Hosany • Thierry Permal, ill.
Contes de Noël [Stories for Christmas]

Bartholdi, 2005 • ISBN 9990386056

“Letter to Father Christmas” is a story of a postman who had a difficult childhood. Thus he never believed in Father Christmas. On his last day at work, he met a little girl from a poor village, who pleaded with him to write a letter to Father Christmas on her behalf. It can be seen

in the story, that the determination with which the postman tried to fulfil the dream of that little girl and all the children of that village and the feeling of satisfaction and joy upon its realisation. On that day, he even believed in the magic of Christmas.



5 Alain Gordon Gentil • Henry Koombes, ill.
Mystère à la Citadelle [Mystery at the Citadelle]

Vizavi, 2001 • ISBN 9990337268

The Citadelle is an ancient fortress in Port-Louis, the capital of Mauritius. In the colonial period, soldiers were living there and guarded the port against intruders. Tikoulou likes the place very much as he can see the whole city and play with his friend and cousin during the summer holiday.

They hear about the mysterious disappearance of bicycles and plan to catch the thief. They go to the Citadelle to execute their plan and luckily they find the stolen bicycles hidden in a dark room. Many other good picture books featuring Tikoulou, illustrated by Henri Koombes.

6 Shenaz Patel • Joelle Maestracci, ill.
La toile bleue [The blue cloth]

Vilaz metis, 2010 • ISBN 9789990338287



A little girl sat in front of the sea and wanted to animate the dull, big blue cloth in front of her. She stood up, approached the water and grabbed the blue cloth with both hands. The sea came with her followed by the sky. She put the cloth

to dry on a wire. People were very angry about her action but were surprised to see garbage falling from the cloth. Finally, the cloth became clean and white.

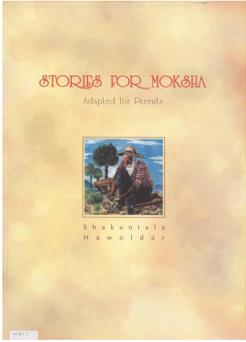


7 Centre Nelson Mandela pour la Culture Africaine • Stanley Harmon, ill.
Zistoir Ze ek Melia: le pok esklavaz – moris 1834
[Story of Ze and Melia: slavery period – Mauritius 1834]

Nelson Mandela Centre for African Culture, 2006 • ISBN 9990310122

It is a story about Ze and Melia, brother and sister during the slave period. They had to wake up early in the morning and go to work. Melia worked as helper and Ze as Cartwright.

They worked till late and did not have time to play. They had to wait for their lunch time to play but were scolded and beaten by their masters. In Creole.

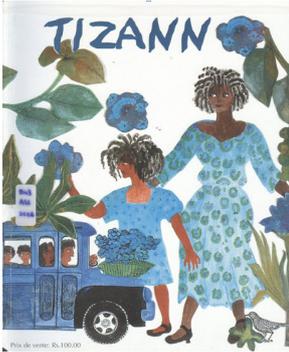


8 Shakuntala Halwoldar • Priska, Shaoling & Clarel, ill.
Stories for Moksha: adapted for parents

Cathay, 1999 • ISBN 9990341133

The book consists of stories which are narrated by a grandmother (author) to her grand-child, Moksha. Moksha is 4 years old. The author has to go to her world to narrate her stories. The stories

convey messages which centre around the family and core values and end with reflections for thought. The author believes that each story should be a source of inspiration for parents.

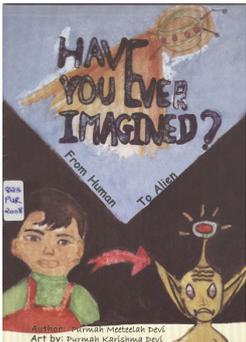


9 Sedley Richard Assonne • Catherine Servan-Schreiber, ill.
Tizann [Medicinal plants]

Editions de la Tour, 2006 • ISBN 999492219X

A little girl was named Tizann (medicinal plant) by her aunt as Tizann's mother used to sell medicinal plants. Tizann helped her mother before going to school. As Tizann was familiar with the medicinal plants, her mother asked her to gather some medicinal plants from the

forest. She was accompanied by her friend Yann. They took the bus to Plaine – Champagne. They were so busy in the forest that they did not notice the night and had to sleep in the forest. Ton Singaron, a hunter helped them reach home safely. In Creole.



10 Meeteelah Devi Purmah • Karishma Devi Purmah, ill.
Have you ever imagined? From human to alien

Woochit, 2008

The story is about the consequences that the human beings may face in the future. So before it is too late, let us all reduce pollution so that

we can save our planet and so that we do not end up being named Aliens, Aliens with numbers.