

News Release: American Library Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Four books, published in 1975, have been nominated for the 1977 Mildred L. Batchelder Award given annually since 1968 by the Children's Services Division of the American Library Association to an American publisher for the children's book considered to be the most outstanding of those originally published in a foreign language in a foreign country and subsequently published in English in the United States.

The 1977 nominees are:

The Leopard, by Cecil Bødker, translated from the Danish by Gunnar Poulsen, published by Atheneum

Good Morning, Whale, by Achim Bröger, pictures by Gisela Kalow, translated from the German by Elizabeth Shub, published by Macmillan.

The Towers of February, by Tonke Dragt, translated from the Dutch by Maryka Rudnick, published by Morrow.

The Painter and the Bird, by Max Velthuijs, translated from the German by Ray Broekel, published by Addison-Wesley.

The award honors Mildred L. Batchelder, the well-known children's librarian and former executive secretary of the Children's Services Division, who for many years was and continues to be interested in bringing foreign children's books to the attention of American children. It is intended to encourage the translation and publication in the United States of outstanding children's books originally

add 1. Mildred L. Batchelder

written in languages other than English.

The nominees were selected by the Mildred L. Batchelder Award Committee appointed annually by the president of the Children's Services Division.

Members of the 1977 selection committee are: Barbara S. Moody, chairperson, Coordinator of Children's Services, Enoch Pratt Free Library, Baltimore, Maryland; Donald A. Colberg, School Librarian, Southeast Metropolitan School District, Littleton, Colorado; Gladys Deever, Kansas City (Missouri) Public Library; Barbara E. Dill, H.W. Wilson Company, New York, New York; Elizabeth R. Goebel, Arlington County (Virginia) Department of Libraries; and consultant, Betsy Hearne, Children's Editor ALA Booklist, Chicago.

Directions for membership voting, as well as instructions for library groups applying to cosponsor announcement programs, will be included in the November issue of Top of the News, the division's quarterly journal. Returns will be counted at the ALA Midwinter Meeting in 1977 and official announcement will be made by the president of the Children's Services Division on April 2, International Children's Book Day. The citation will be presented formally to the publisher at the Annual Conference of the American Library Association in Detroit during the week of June 17 - 23, 1977.