
THE BEGINNING

Text by PAULA CARBALLEIRA

Illustrations by SONJA DANOWSKI

Translation by JON BROKENBROW

Hard-cover. 22 x 22 cm. 36 pag. 14 €

The beginning (English)

ISBN 978-84-8464-780-5. Books for dreaming.

El principio (Spanish)

ISBN 978-84-92608-53-9. Libros para soñar.

O principio (Galician)

ISBN 978-84-8464-779-9. MareMar.

Començar (Catalonian)

ISBN 978-84-15170-18-1. Kalandraka-Hipòtesi.

Hasiera (Basque)

ISBN 978-84-7681-710-0. Kalandraka-Pamiela.

O princípio (Portuguese)

ISBN 978-989-8205-76-6. Livros para sonhar.

L'inizio (Italian)

ISBN 978-88-95933-39-9. Libri per sognare.

Once, there was a war.

When the war ended, we didn't have a home.

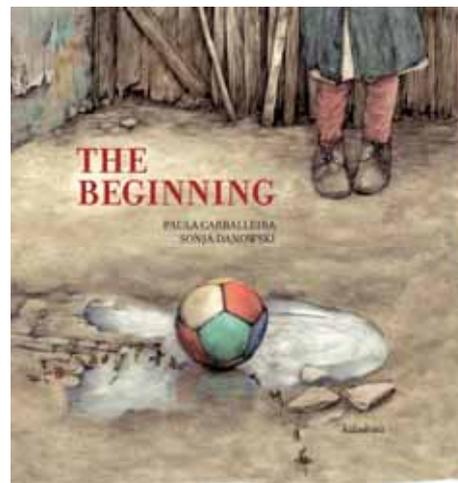
"Never mind," my mother said. "We have a car."

So we lived in the car.

And from then on, we lived on the road...

"The Beginning" contrasts tenderness with horror, imagination with terrible hardship, and the strength of close family ties with the human drama. Paula Carballeira is skilfully turns the cruel, devastating effects of war into a beautiful poem, while the hyper-realistic illustrations by Sonja Danowski take readers into the ruins of the bombardment.

This sensitive story is also a tribute to books as instruments of peace, libraries as glowing beacons that fade in the shadow of violence, and the spoken word as sustenance for our souls. Despite everything, "The Beginning" transmits a message of hope: life goes on, smiles are still infectious, children's childhoods remain intact, despite the efforts of armed conflict to snatch them away.



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- **Theme:** war, a poetic message of hope.
 - **Recommended age:** from 7 years.
 - **Highlights:** by the author of "Paco" and "Smara"; highly realistic illustrations; education about peace.
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Paula Carballeira

(Fene, Spain, 1972)

A graduate in Spanish Philology, Paula has worked as a storyteller since 1994, taking part in cultural festivals in Spain, Portugal, Brazil and Chile. As an actress, she collaborates with the *Berrobambán* theatre group, and also appears in a drama series for Galician TV. As a writer, she has published several poetry books and picture books for children, including "Paco" and "Smara" from KALANDRAKA.

Sonja Danowski

(Regensburg, Germany)

Sonja works as freelance illustrator in Berlin. Her work has appeared in exhibitions in Poland, China, Germany, Korea and Portugal and has received international awards, including the Best Design Unpublished German Book Prize, in 2007. She has been selected three times for the Illustrator's Exhibition at the Bologna Book Fair for Picture Books, and three times in the Illustrarte Biennial in Portugal. www.sonjadanowski.com

