

Velid Đekić
MARGARETA PERŠIĆ

Publisher:

Primorje-Gorski Kotar County, Adamićeva 10, Rijeka

On behalf of the publisher: Zlatko Komadina

Illustrator: Margareta Peršić

Texts: Velid Đekić

Translation: Adverbum d.o.o., Opatija

Production: Prospekt d.o.o., Rijeka

Print: Kerschoffset d.o.o., Zagreb

ISBN: 978-953-7221-82-9

The contents of this publication are the sole responsibility of Primorje-Gorski Kotar County.

For more information visit

www.frankopani.eu, www.strukturnifondovi.hr

Rijeka, 2019.

Copyright © Primorsko-goranska županija

The Wilful Wand

*Whoever adds too little or too much
will surely ruin it.*



'The Routes of the Frankopans' cultural tourism project of Primorje-Gorski Kotar County was co-financed by the European Union from the European Regional Development Fund.

As soon as he had learned his first letters, Fran wanted to read. There were many different books in the library at home: thick ones, thin ones, ones for children, ones for parents, colourful ones, ones with just writing, serious ones and ones with funny covers.



One shelf was reserved for him and his sister Ana. It was filled with picture books. Here you could flick through various stories for as long as you pleased and then go outside to run and see how fast you were.



Ana and Fran were curious children. They sometimes peeked into their parents' books, especially those on the highest shelf. One of them was particularly interesting. It was full of secret knowledge about how to become a wizard.



“Do spells exist?” wondered Fran.

“Some adults say they don’t, but others say they do”, said Ana.



FRANKOPANI

KRALJEVICA

But who could they trust? It was best to ask their mum and dad. Their father was Count Frankopan, lord of Kraljevica, and he might know the answer. However, if they asked him, he would know that they had looked at the books on the highest shelf and that they had taken a book that was not for children. It wasn't anything serious, but it was still naughty.



“How about if we check for ourselves whether magic is real or not?” asked Ana. “Look, there’s a wooden stick behind the book. It says here that it’s a magic wand. It gives you special powers.”



"Yeah, right", said Fran doubtfully.
"Why would it be here so close
at hand? Do you just read how it
works and then ta-da! you're a
wizard?"



“I’ve read a few pages so we can give it a try”, said Ana. “It shouldn’t be difficult. I’ll take the wand and ask it to create something. If we don’t like it, I’ll ask the wand to make it disappear.”



The rehearsal was a success. Fran wished for a piece of cake like his mum made, with cream full of almonds and raisins - absolutely delicious. Ana waved the magic wand, and puff! the cake appeared on the plate. Ana wished for a pair of red shoes and puff! Here they were.





“It’s great to be a wizard”, the brother and sister agreed.

All day long, they created any toy they wished for, and then they made it disappear if they wanted it to.

The next morning brought new spells.

“Maybe we should try to make something bigger?” Fran suggested. He wanted to test his new magic powers. Ana wished for a large box to put all their toys into.

“Dad gets mad when he finds them all around our house. Mum says that we need a bigger house because of them.”



Puff! A large box appeared before them. It was blue and quite big, with openings as large as windows. It even had a roof like that on a small house. It was hard to tell who was happier because of this box: Fran and Ana, or the toys.



“And what if we tried to create a house for ourselves? A bigger one to make mum and dad happy.”

Ana waved the wand and, believe it or not, a house appeared before them. It was a wonderful castle by the sea, with walls and a well in the yard.



Ana and Fran were standing right in the middle of the castle's yard. It was much more than they had wished for. They were gazing at the high walls surrounding them, scared that they had gone too far this time. What would their parents say?



“Begone house!” commanded Ana. So far, the wand had always obeyed her, but this time, nothing happened. The girl was confused.

“Begone house!” Fran tried. But instead of disappearing, the castle just stood there quietly.

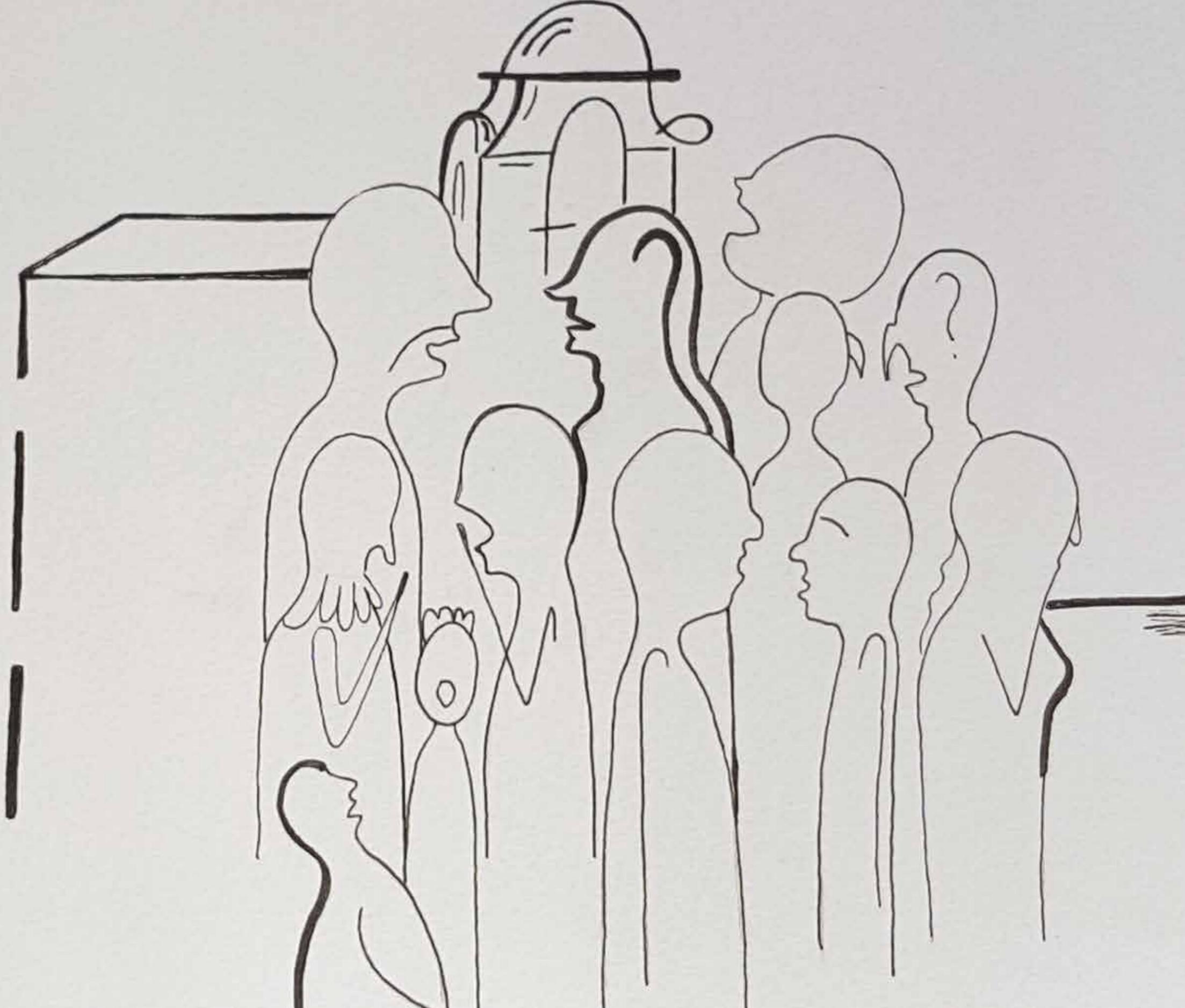


To make things worse, at the command for the house to disappear, another castle had appeared not far from the first one, also right by the sea. This one was much bigger and even more beautiful, with four round towers. It looked like a real castle.

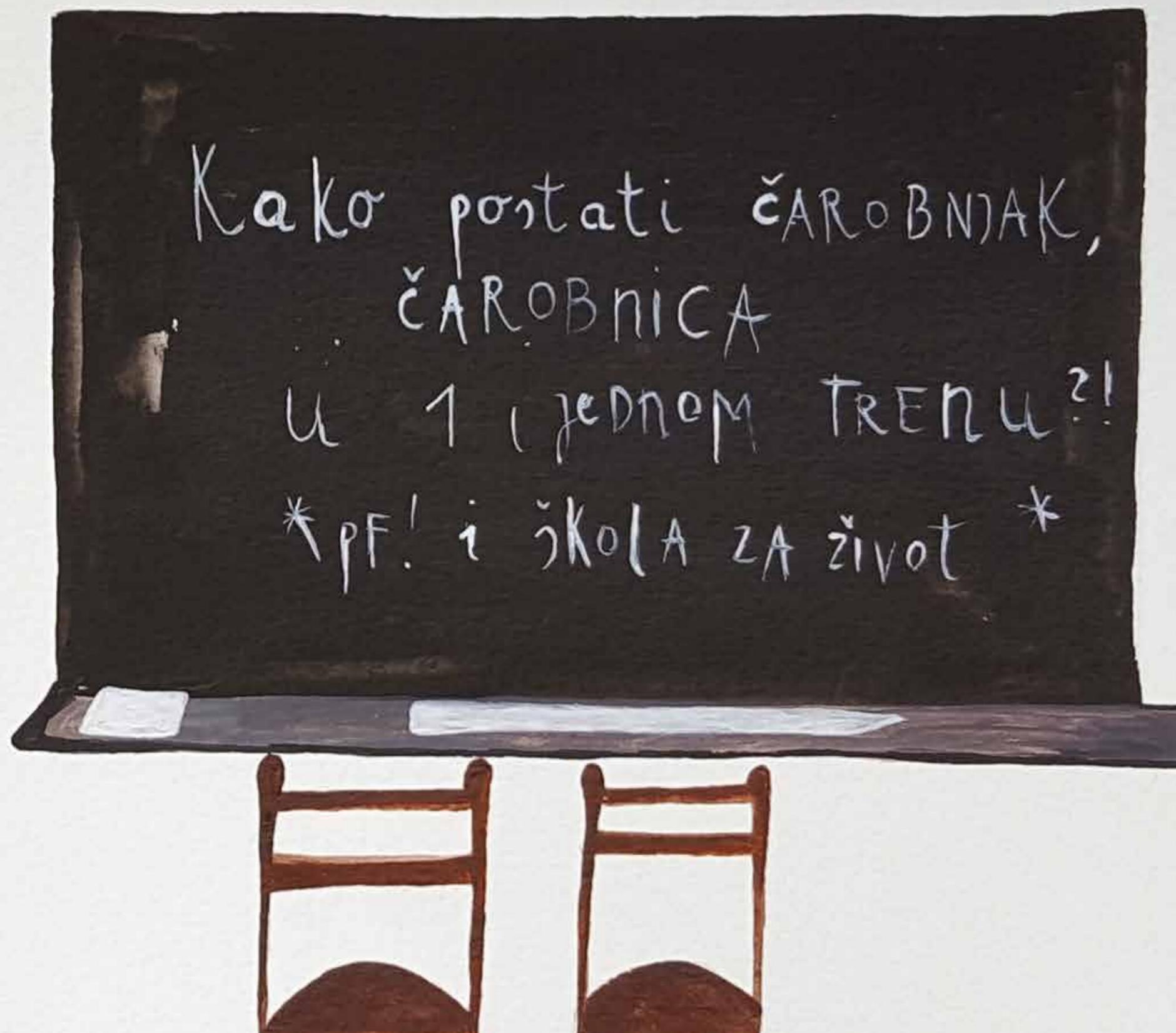


People from Kraljevica started arriving from all sides, gazing at it in awe. A castle had suddenly appeared in their town, and then another.

“What kind of sorcery is this?” they wondered. Should they go and complain to Count Frankopan?



“What should we do?” the sister and brother wondered. Just when they thought they had mastered secret skills, this had happened. Maybe the wand was broken? They had wished for one thing, and it had created another. Or maybe they had done something wrong? After all, they were only learning how to become wizards.





“May the castle disappear right away!” Fran waved the wand again. Puff! My oh my, the spell had made him disappear instead.



Things couldn't get any worse. Ana searched for her brother all over the castle. She looked in every room, climbed up to the attic, and searched every tower. She even lifted the lid of the well and called out from the highest window. She was immensely sad, as she had lost her only brother.

Finally, she took the wand in her hand one more time. It seemed to have its own will and she was afraid of it, but nothing could stop her from finding her brother.

“Wand, return my brother to me!”
The girl waved the wand. Thank heavens! Her brother appeared next to her.



“Never again!” the brother and sister agreed. They returned the wand to where they had first found it: behind the book on the top shelf. They didn’t dare to do anything else regarding the castles. Who knows what else might happen? This is why both buildings are still standing in Kraljevica today.



"You have to do everything in moderation: both in life and in the kitchen", said mum. Ana and Fran thought their mum was holding a magic spoon in her hands. Puff! The cake was rising under her hands.

"You have to put just the right amount of sugar, almonds and raisins in Frankopan cake. Whoever adds too little or too much will surely ruin it."





Picture books:

1. The Wilful Wand
2. The Treasure of Trsat
3. Three Brothers and Three Towers
4. A Journey on a Bakar Sailing Ship
5. A Grobnik Watermill
6. The Girls from Bribir
7. The Miners from Čabar
8. A Band of Dormice

