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Puerta Leisse, Gustavo (text) Odriozola, Elena (illus.)

Sentimientos encontrados

(Found feelings)

[Madrid]: Ediciones Modernas El Embudo,

2019. – [42] p.

(Series: Colección Me lo pienso) ISBN 978-84-120418-0-4

Emotion | Picture book | Non-fiction

The introduction of this extraordinary book contains a piece of advice that one absolutely should follow: »You can read this book how and whenever you'd like.« It's true – the way to do justice to this book, which spans 16 double-pages, is by engaging with the 256 meticulously pencil-drawn vignettes and the thoughtful, explicating texts in a playful and autonomous way. The pictures offer views into the rooms of a multi-story house, showing people in their everyday lives and various emotional states. The texts beneath explain and investigate an emotion on every page – such as longing, joy, envy, or shame. It is left up to readers to make connections between the text and pictures. Additionally, the text and pictures of this spiral-bound mix-and-match book can be leafed through separately from each other, which creates countless opportunities to explore the facets of the world of human emotion. An exceptional, thought-provoking book for leafingthrough, searching, discovering, questioning and understanding. (Age: 8+) [JW]

Watanabe, Issa (illus.)

Migrantes

(Migrants)
Barcelona [et al.]: Libros del Zorro Rojo,
2019. – [36] p.
ISBN 978-84-949901-5-1

Refugee | Migration | Death | Wordless book | Picture book

A caravan of highly diverse animals, loaded down with bundles, suitcases and cookware, traverses a dark forest. Almost shyly, Death joins the train and is a constant companion from then on. The animals eventually cross a deep, blue-black sea and not all of them reach the other side. Those who make it continue their journey, until they unexpectedly hit upon a wonderful pomegranate tree. A deep and heavy silence lingers over the pages of this wordless book. The contrast between the bright colours of the refugee train and the gloom of the world that surrounds it produces a simultaneously captivating and painful intensity. Issa Watanabe captures the full range of the characters' emotions in her detailed pictures with soft, flowing strokes: fear and hope, pain and grief, despair and solicitude. There are currently many children's books that focus on displaced people and migration; its simplicity, intensity and touching beauty makes »Migrantes« a stand out. (Age: 6+) [JW]