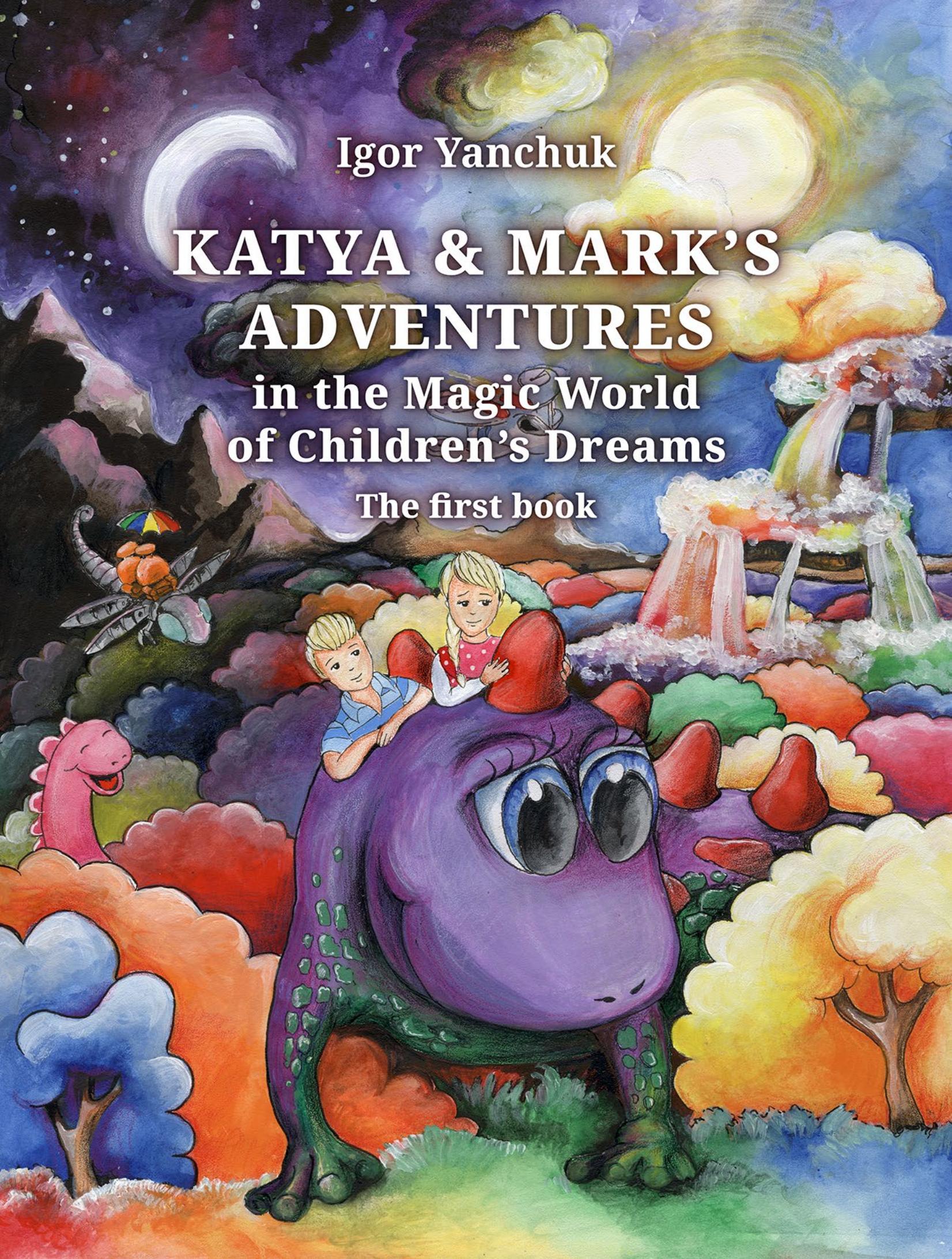


Igor Yanchuk

# KATYA & MARK'S ADVENTURES

in the Magic World  
of Children's Dreams

The first book





Igor Yanchuk

**KATYA & MARK'S  
ADVENTURES**  
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of Children's Dreams

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Painter — I. Volhova  
Editor — E. Tsepenuk  
Translator — K. Yukhnyak  
Design — E. Tsepenuk

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Island

Sea of  
Okhotsk

Tatar Strait

Kurile Islands

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## Chapter One

### Noya's first meeting

**A**t the very edge of Russia, there are Sakhalin Island and Kuril Islands, which are washed by the Sea of Okhotsk and the Sea of Japan. These islands are united in Sakhalin region. Sakhalin Island is very similar to a fish from a bird's eye view. It is the largest island in Russia. This island is so large that people, living on it, sometimes forget that they live in an island region. The length of the island reaches 948 km, and the width is up to 160 km.

This unusual story happened in the south of Sakhalin Island, in the village of Lesnik. This village was situated on the Strawberry Hills on the street with a beautiful name – Summer Street.

There were only two houses on Summer Street. In one of these houses our main characters, Mark and Katya, lived with their parents.

Katya was about two years old, and her brother Mark was a little more than five years old. Honestly, they were rather naughty children, but their parents loved them more than anything in the world.





It was sunny summer day. Mark and Katya were in the spacious courtyard of their house. Mark, as usual, dug worms in order to put them in a jar, and Katya, a copycat, played in the sandbox. They ran on the lawn, and then they threw toys into the little waterfall. In general, everything was as usual. The brother and the sister carelessly spent their time.

Suddenly Mark wanted to go to his mother's greenhouse that was behind their house. The boy did not understand why he wanted to go there. It seemed like idea came to him from nowhere. By the way, he left all his toys and ran behind the house. Katya, trying to catch up with her brother, ran after him.

“Maak! Maak!” Katya shouted.

The girl hasn't yet learned to pronounce his name correctly. Mark stopped, took Katya's hand, and they went into the greenhouse together.



A few days ago, Mark constantly saw a small and slick lizard on his mother's beds. However, the boy could not catch this lizard, no matter how hard he tried.

"Maybe now?" Mark thought, "Let's look for it, while mum is out?"

Nevertheless, it wasn't necessary to look for lizard. The brother and the sister saw trembling leaves at the end of the bed.

"Shhh!" Mark said quietly to his sister covering his lips, and they moved toward the moving bushes.





Mark parted the bush by using the iron shovel, and there he saw the same lizard. It carefully and even defiantly looked at the children. Suddenly the ground shuddered and it seemed the earth vanished beneath their feet.

“Aaahh!” Mark and Katya shouted. “Mooo-mmyyy!”

They both thought they were falling down. Everything in their eyes went blank and, of course, they felt very scared! Mark closed his eyes.



It became quiet. Mark opened his eyes and saw that he was sitting on the grass. There was a strange forest with purple leaves, colorful bushes growing around him, and there was a hardly visible path next to him. Even clouds in the sky were yellow in this strange forest. Suddenly Mark got over his fear. He was curious about how he appeared to be here and what kind of place it was. He got up and suddenly remembered that Katya was with him.

“Where is she?” Mark thought.

Something was moving in the bushes.

“Who is there?” the boy cried.

The bushes parted and a girl, a little younger than Mark, came out. She seemed very familiar to him as if he knew her and did not know at the same time.

“What is your name?” Mark asked the girl.

“What, what!” the girl answered, mimicking him. “It’s me, Katya, your sister! Don’t you recognize me?”

“But my sister is small and you are big! Where is my sister?” Mark asked with emotion.

“It’s me! Mark! It’s me,” the girl said. “I don’t know why, but I became older! Look, I have a bracelet on my hand, which my father gave me!”

Mark looked at the girl’s hand and he saw the bracelet. Moreover, she was wearing the same clothes as little Katya, just of a different size.

“She really looks like my sister Katya, but she looks a little older,” Mark thought. “And everything around here is so unusual and strange.”



“Where are we?” the girl asked Mark. “And what are we going to do?”

He looked at the girl with disbelief, silently wondering again if she was his sister or not. However, he didn't have a choice because the girl really looked like his sister. By the way, Mark, hesitating to call the girl by name, simply replied, “I don't know. Let's go down the path, look for people, call for help,” Mark said uncertainly. “Maybe, you know where we are. You've grown up, not me.”

While they were talking, somewhere in the thicket of this strange forest, there was a noise. It was nearby. The girl grasped Mark's arm and nestled to him.

“Well, she is definitely Katya!” Mark thought. “A coward!”

Of course, he was afraid too. He might be small, but a man, so he decided to face the danger. The noise stopped, the branches parted, and a muzzle of an unknown creature leaned out from there. After a moment, the creature got out completely. Mark and Katya couldn't understand who or what it was.

Mark thought it was a crocodile, but it was not angry. Although, if you look closely, it was not a crocodile at all. This creature had an oval muzzle, big eyes, long fluffy eyelashes, and it was of a very bright color. The color of the back changed from red to purple with white color on its sides.

In addition, the creature had four webbed feet and a long tail. It was short, so its muzzle was at the level of Mark's chest. The creature looked at children and they looked at him. It seemed to Mark that he had already seen this strange animal somewhere, but he couldn't remember where.



