



The Centre for Research on Children's and Young Adult Literature at the Faculty of Letters of the University of Wrocław has the honor to invite you to the 17th lecture in the series "International Voices in Children's Literature Studies"

**Prof. Hanna Dymel-Trzebiatowska**

**Niflheim and Muspelheim  
Children's Literature of the North and of the South**



The title of my presentation is inspired by Norse mythology, in which Niflheim and Muspelheim represent, respectively, the realms of ice and fire. As a scholar specializing in Scandinavian studies, I have devoted a significant amount of time to studying Nordic children's literature. Thus, the first part of my presentation, entitled "Niflheim," focuses on my recent research on the Moomin books (1945-1970) authored by Tove Jansson. Specifically, my analysis centers on the double address, a narrative strategy employed in the series to appeal not only to children but also to adults through the inclusion of philosophical intertexts. I also provide insight into the Polish translations of the Moomin books, with a particular focus on the criteria for addressing one or multiple audiences. Furthermore, I present the latest findings of my research that highlight the unexpected relevance of the Moomin books in the context of contemporary global issues such as ecology, ageism, and equality. The second part of my presentation, entitled "Muspelheim," centers on my observations of children's literature in South Africa, which I gathered during my recent research trip to Zimbabwe (January-March 2023). During my fieldwork, I collected data on picturebooks with the aim of comparing them to Nordic standards.

**Hanna Dymel-Trzebiatowska** is an Associate Professor in the Department of Scandinavian and Finnish Studies at the University of Gdańsk, Poland. The focal points of her studies are reading therapy, Nordic children's literature, picturebooks, translation, and theory of translation. Apart from writing books on Swedish grammar (*Troll 1*, 2007; *Troll 2*, 2008), translation theory (*Children's Literature Translation Studies. Analysis of Polish Translations of Astrid Lindgren's Works*, 2013) and reading therapy (*In Search of a "Bit of Solace". The Potential of Works by Astrid Lindgren in Reading Therapy*, 2014) she co-edited and co-authored *The Picturebook: a mirror of social changes* (2016), *The Picturebook. Introduction* (2017), *The Picturebook. Lexicon 1* (2018) and *Lexicon 2* (2020). Her latest monograph, *Philosophical and Translational Wanderings in Moominvalley* (2019) is dedicated to the Moomin books by Tove Jansson.

**DATE:** 21 June 2023

**TIME:** 18.00 (CET)

**VENUE:** MS Teams

If you are interested in taking part in the lecture, please contact us by email by 19 June at the following address: [elzbieta.jamroz-stolarska@uwr.edu.pl](mailto:elzbieta.jamroz-stolarska@uwr.edu.pl)