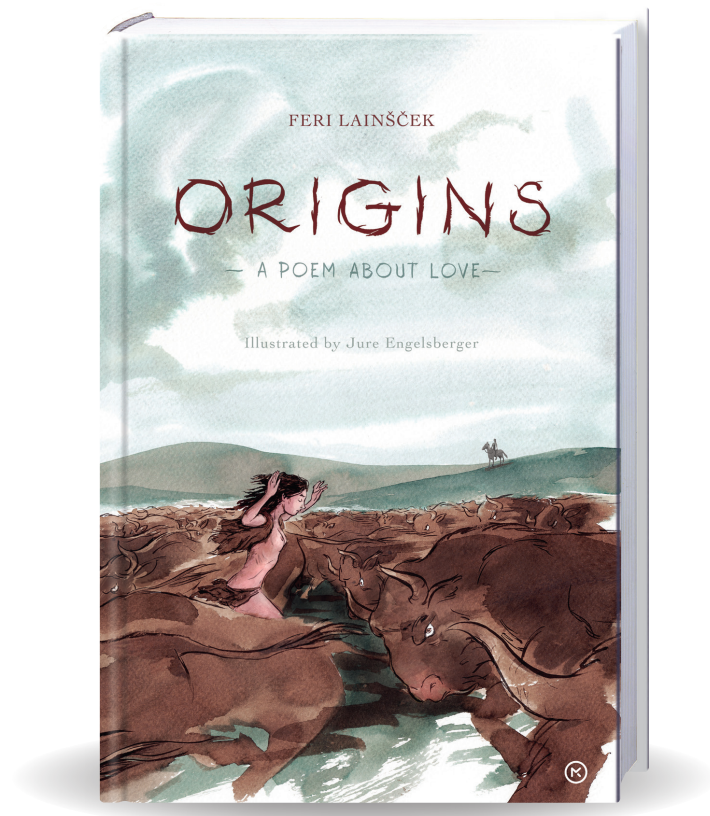


# ABOUT ORIGINS – A POEM ABOUT LOVE

*Origins – A Poem About Love* was initially published in 2003 and for this edition (Mladinska knjiga, 2018; English edition, 2019), the mysterious story, filled with symbols of love, was partly rewritten for a YA audience. The novel deals with universal questions about love, corporeality and humans' role in this world. The writer's unique magical narrative style and equivocal symbolism draw young readers into a maelstrom of love, introspection and search for one's identity, while mature readers will identify with the Jungian archetypes, the collective subconscious of humanity as a whole and the spiritual traces of a prehistoric Being. The novel *Origins* has an undeniably special place in Lainšček's body of literary work: the author has described it as "the book of his life".

The story is enriched by sensuous illustrations by highly acclaimed Slovenian artist Jure Engelsberger, who received one of the most prestigious awards for illustration in Slovenia, the Hinko Smrekar Award. The jury wrote: "The accents of the figures and other motifs in Engelsberger's illustrations are highly artistic and powerfully felt. The images are softly outlined, even gentle, in a rather minimalistic style, since less essentially means more."







The acclaimed writer, poet, playwright and screenwriter Feri Lainšček (1959) is one of the most popular Slovenian authors, writing for both children and adults. He has written over 100 books and is best known for his novels, having already published 22 to date, some of which have been translated into Hungarian, English, German, Croatian, Czech, Spanish, and Catalan. He collaborates with many Slovenian authors as well as artistic groups who perform using his poetry. He has received a number of prestigious awards and accolades for his literary works: the Prešeren Foundation Award (the highest national award for cultural achievements) for his novel *Ki jo je megla prinesla*, the Kajuh Award for the novel *Raza*, the Vladimir Slejko Fund Award for the novel *Astralni niz* and the Kresnik Award for Best Slovenian Novel on two occasions, for the novels *Namesto koga roža cveti* and *Muriša*. He also received the Večernica Award for the Best Slovenian YA literary work for *Mislíce*, a collection of fairy tales, and the Desetnica Award for the children's poetry collection *Pesmi o Mišku in Belamiški*. He also won the first award of the Centre for Drama Art in Zagreb for his film script *Črni klovn* and was nominated for the European Book Prize in 2008. Six feature films based on his novels have been released. His latest edition of *Prvotnost – poema o ljubezni* received the Golden Pear Award for YA literature in 2019.

#### **Selected bibliography of children's and YA books**

- Cicibanija (Mladinska knjiga, 1987, 2012)
- Velecirkus Argo (Prešernova družba, 1996; Beletrina, 2015)
- Mislíce: deset pravljič (Franc-Franc, 2000, 2011, 2014)
- Deček na dedovem kolesu (Franc-Franc, 2001)
- Ajša Najša (Prešernova družba, 1989; DZS 2005)
- Hit poletja (Cankarjeva založba, 2008)
- Mišek Miško in Belamiška (Mladinska knjiga, 2009)
- Pesmi o Mišku in Belamiški (Mladinska knjiga, 2010)
- Prvotnost: poema o ljubezni (Mladinska knjiga, 2018)
- Origins: A Poem About Love (Mladinska knjiga, 2019, English edition)
- Ljubi me, kot sonce sije (Mladinska knjiga, 2019)



# JURE ENGELSBERGER

Jure Engelsberger (1977) is a versatile artist well known in Slovenia as an illustrator, musician and designer, and has recently become involved in the traditional form of Japanese storytelling called Kamishibai. Previously involved in creating works intended mainly for adults, over the past five years his focus has increasingly shifted to creating for children. His rich oeuvre consists of illustrations for the children's literary magazines *Cicido* and *Ciciban*, as well as picture books and illustrations of books for children and young adults. Jure Engelsberger is an accomplished artist whose illustrative work rapidly gained favourable attention from critics as well as children. In 2019 he was nominated for the Levstik Award for illustrations in the picture book *Menjalnica sanj* written by Milan Dekleva, and received the Hinko Smrekar Award for the illustrations in the book *Origins - A Poem About Love* by Feri Lainšček.

## **Selected bibliography of children's and YA books illustrated by Jure Engelsberger**

- Susanna Tamaro: Papirofobija (Eno, 2011)
- Maria Parr: Tonja iz Hudega brega (Mladinska knjiga, 2014)
- Milan Dekleva: Menjalnica sanj (Mladinska knjiga, 2015)
- Maria Parr: Vafljevi srčki (Mladinska knjiga, 2016)
- Eduard Uspensky: Stric Fjodor, pes in maček (Mladinska knjiga, 2016)
- Sebastian Pregelj: the series Zgodbe s konca kamene dobe (Miš, 5 books, 2016-2019)
- Vinko Möderndorfer: Jaz sem Andrej (Mladinska knjiga, 2018)
- Feri Lainšček: Prvotnost - poema o ljubezni (Mladinska knjiga, 2018)
- Maria Parr: Golmanka in morje (Mladinska knjiga, 2019)
- Feri Lainšček: Origins - a poem about love (Mladinska knjiga, 2019, English edition)