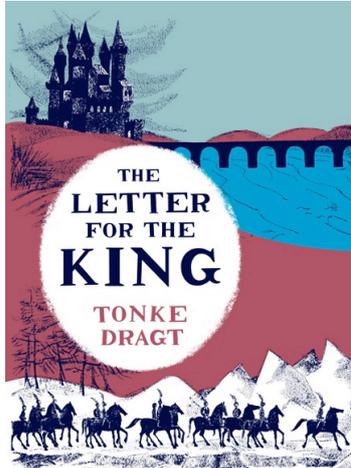




**PUSHKIN CHILDREN'S BOOKS**

**The best-selling children's classic, available at last in English**

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## **The Letter for the King**

**by Tonke Dragt**

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**Published on 14 November 2013**

Hardback | £16.99

**FOR DECEMBER ISSUES**

Translated by Laura Watkinson  
Original illustrations by Tonke Dragt

***'This fabulous knightly adventure... deserves a place in anyone's suitcase.'***  
*De Volkskrant*

**Chosen as the best Dutch youth book of the latter half of the twentieth century.  
Translated into 16 languages. Sold more than 1 million copies.**

**A young messenger. A secret mission. A kingdom in peril....**

It is the dead of night. Sixteen-year-old Tiuri must spend hours locked in a chapel in silent contemplation if he is to be knighted the next day.

But, as he waits by the light of a flickering candle, he hears a knock at the door and a voice desperately asking for help.

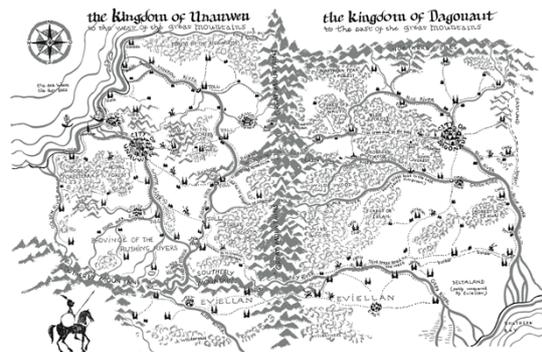
A secret letter must be delivered to King Unauwen across the Great Mountains - a letter upon which the fate of the entire kingdom depends. Tiuri has a vital role to play, one that might cost him his knighthood.

Tiuri's journey will take him through dark, menacing forests, across treacherous rivers, to sinister castles and strange cities. He will encounter evil enemies who would kill to get the letter, but also the best of friends in the most unexpected places.

He must trust no one.

He must keep his true identity secret.

Above all, he must never reveal what is in the letter...



***The Letter for the King* is the thrilling story of one boy's battle against evil, set in an enchanted world of chivalry, courage and true friendship.**

*'The story has the quality of a legend, a tale of ancient times. Over a million copies of the book have been sold worldwide. The Letter for the King has everything.'* *Nederlands Dagblad*

'It is fascinating, captivating in the same way as Tolkien's *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. As well as the familiar battle between good and evil, we are presented with a discovery of true chivalry.' *Schager Courant*

**'There ought to be a warning written on it: "Watch out: Whoever reads this book will forget everything that's happening around them!" From the first sentence, the pages turn into a cinema screen, and no director could have created more beautiful or gripping images'** *Die Ze*

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

**Tonke Dragt** was born in Jakarta in 1930 and spent most of her childhood in Indonesia. When she was twelve, she was interned in a camp run by the Japanese occupiers, where she wrote her very first book using begged and borrowed paper. Her family moved to the Netherlands after the war, and after studying at the Royal Academy of Art in The Hague Dragt became an art teacher. She published her first book in 1961, followed a year later by *The Letter for the King*, which won the Children's Book of the Year award and has been translated into sixteen languages and sold over 1 million copies. The movie based on the book was released in 2008. Dragt was awarded the State Prize for Youth Literature in 1976 and was knighted in 2001. She is considered to be the greatest Dutch female writer for children.

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