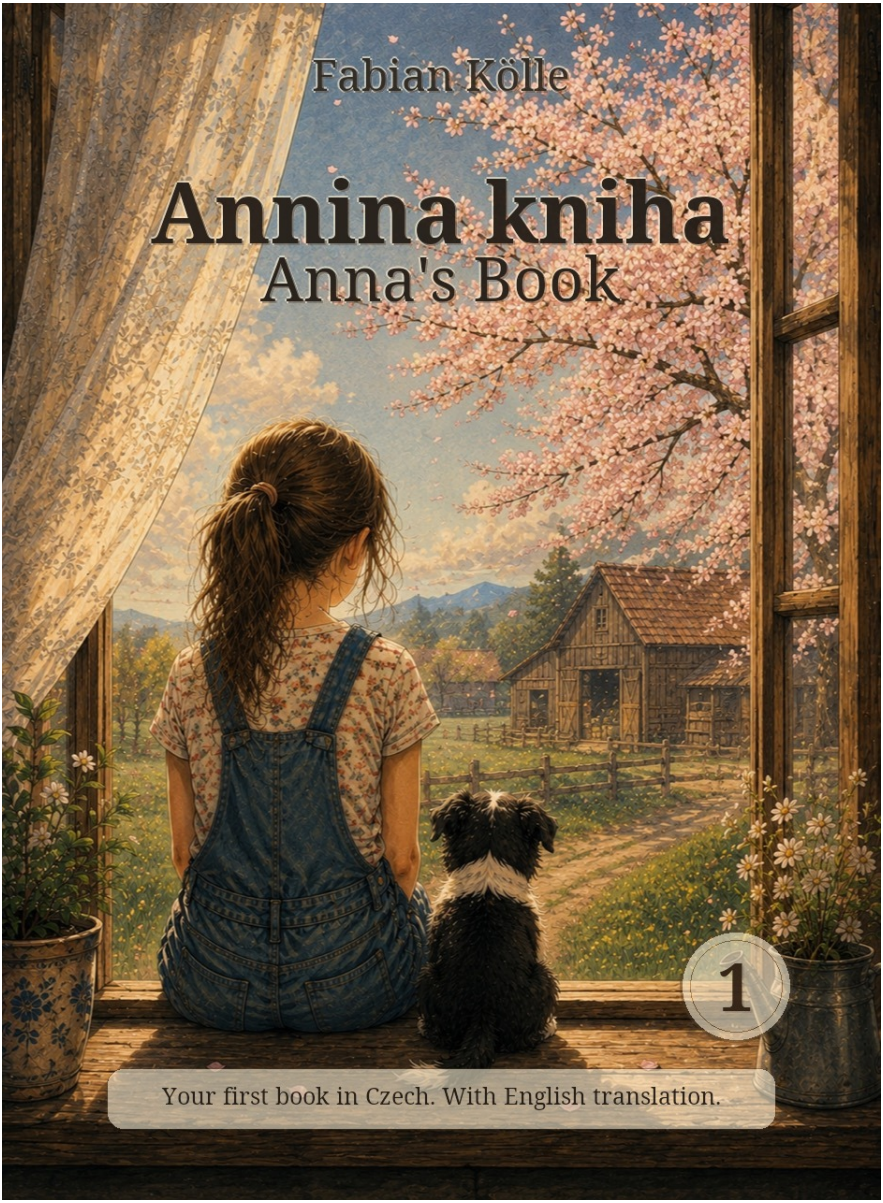
Fabian Kölle
Annina kniha
Anna's Book
1
Your first book in Czech. With English translation.

Anna's Book

Volume 1

Language: English

Learning language: Czech

EN CS

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This book was written for language learners. First try to read the Czech text before using the translation.

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Preface

Learning a new language isn't easy. It has a small life of its own: curiosity, lightness, secrets, but also concentration, practice, mistakes, and days when you feel stuck. Sometimes you think you have understood how it works. Sometimes you feel frustrated because important words have slipped away. As soon as you know the basics, something new appears, and suddenly it feels as if you're starting again. That's completely normal. Every step forward counts. One day you'll look back and realise how far you have come. You can be proud of that.

When I began learning a new language, I wanted to read real, connected stories as soon as I could. I didn't want only grammar exercises and word lists. I wanted to read: to step into a story and improve almost without noticing. More than anything, I wanted to feel that the language already belonged to me a little.

But I found very few books that matched my level. Perhaps you know that feeling too.

Many language learners eventually reach for children's books. Not because they are especially interested in children's books, but because there is so little literature written for people who are still learning. The problem is that children's books are written for children, not for language learners. Even when the pictures look inviting, the vocabulary can be surprisingly demanding, while the subjects don't always speak to teenagers or adults. They are often very short as well. You read slowly, and yet the book is over before it has really

given you much.

But you don't lack life experience. You have memories, interests, opinions, feelings, and a view of the world. Perhaps you study, work, have children, or enjoy travelling. Perhaps you're interested in politics, history, literature, or music. You don't need to discover the world all over again. You're learning a new language so that you can describe it in different words.

I wrote this book for you.

Anna's Book isn't a language course, and it isn't a textbook. It's meant to give you what I was missing then: a story you can read, even while ordinary novels are still too difficult.

It tells the story of Anna, who is ten years old at the beginning, in language that follows your learning path. At first, the sentences are short and simple. From volume to volume, the language grows very gradually. Anna grows older, and your language grows with her. You meet the same characters, places, and words again and again until they become familiar. Little by little, new words, new structures, and new ways of expressing yourself are added.

The story begins in the present tense, because that is the tense you meet most often at the beginning. Later, past and future forms gradually appear. If you haven't learnt them yet, you can simply keep reading. You don't have to understand everything at once. In time, these forms will become familiar too, just as the first pages will one day feel natural to you.

Above all, I want to give you confidence.

You shouldn't be afraid to turn the page. If you understand one page, you'll understand the next one too. And if something is unclear, you'll always find the translation directly below. That means you don't have to interrupt the flow of reading. You can stay with the story, so that reading feels like reading again.

One day Anna will be an adult. She will think, feel, and speak like an adult, and you'll accompany her on that path. One day you too will reach a level where you can read novels written for native speakers. When that happens, this book will have done its job. It won't have brought you to the goal. You'll have done that yourself. But I would be glad if it could walk beside you for part of the way.

And perhaps, one day, you'll begin another language. Then you'll open this book again. In French. In Japanese. In Italian. Whatever the language, Anna will be ten years old again. Ozzy will be a young dog again. And perhaps it will feel a little like meeting old friends.

I have great respect for everyone who has the courage to learn a new language. I hope this book makes that path a little easier for you.

I wish you every success with your learning, and a great deal of pleasure in reading.

Introduction



Jmenuji se Anna. Je mi deset let. Bydlím se svou rodinou v domě. Dům má zahradu. Na zahradě je velký strom. Ten strom mám ráda.

> I'm Anna. I'm ten years old. I live with my family in a house. The house has a garden. In the garden there is a big tree. I like the tree.

Máme také malého psa. Pes se jmenuje Ozzy. Ozzyho mám moc ráda. Je velmi rychlý. Často si hraji se psem. Hodím míč a Ozzy za ním rychle běží.

> We also have a small dog. The dog's name is Ozzy. I like Ozzy very much. He is very fast. I often play with the dog. I throw a ball, and Ozzy runs after it quickly.

Často mi míč přinese zpátky. Někdy ho zpátky nepřinese. Pak běhám po zahradě a hledám míč. Ozzy hledá míč také. Najdeme ho a Ozzy štěká.

> He often brings the ball back to me. Sometimes he doesn't bring it back. Then I run through the garden and look for the ball. Ozzy looks for the ball too. We find it, and Ozzy barks.

Je to chytrý pes. Někdy Ozzy najde míč rychleji než já. Pak štěká. Pak vím: míč je tam. Běžím k Ozzymu a vidím míč. Tak si spolu často hrajeme.

> He is a clever dog. Sometimes Ozzy finds the ball faster than I do. Then he barks. Then I know: the ball is there. I run to Ozzy and see the ball. That is how we often play together.

Mám také bratra. Jmenuje se Mats. Mému bratrovi je čtrnáct let. Je o čtyři roky starší než já. Je to můj velký bratr. Mats si někdy také hraje s Ozzym.

> I also have a brother. His name is Mats. My brother is fourteen years old. He is four years older than I am. He is my big brother. Mats sometimes plays with Ozzy too.

Někdy Mats běhá po zahradě a Ozzy ho následuje. Pak oba běží. Někdy Mats také hodí míč a Ozzy ho přinese zpátky.

> Sometimes Mats runs through the garden, and Ozzy follows him. Then they both run. Sometimes Mats also throws the ball, and Ozzy brings it back.

Ozzy má moc rád, když si s ním Mats hraje. Ale Ozzy také hodně spí. Je to mladý pes a potřebuje hodně spát. Jsou mu dva měsíce.

> Ozzy likes it very much when Mats plays with him. But Ozzy also sleeps a lot. He is a young dog and needs to sleep a lot. He is two months old.

Ozzy spí ve svém pelíšku nebo na zahradě. Jeho pelíšek je v domě. Je v obývacím pokoji. V létě Ozzy často spí na zahradě. Mats říká, že v zimě Ozzy spí v obývacím pokoji.

> Ozzy sleeps in his basket or in the garden. His basket is in the house. It is in the living room. In summer Ozzy often sleeps in the garden. Mats says that in winter Ozzy sleeps in the living room.

Pak je na zahradě příliš chladno. V zimě si psi mohou hrát na zahradě, ale nemohou spát na zahradě. Teď je léto. V létě může Ozzy spát ve svém pelíšku.

> Then it is too cold in the garden. In winter dogs can play in the garden, but they can't sleep in the garden. Now it is summer. In summer Ozzy can sleep in his basket.

Může také spát na zahradě. Na zahradě je dost teplo. Ozzy může spát, kde chce. Lehne si a spí. Ozzy je velmi roztomilý, když spí.

> He can also sleep in the garden. It is warm enough in the garden. Ozzy can sleep wherever he wants. He lies down and sleeps. Ozzy is very sweet when he sleeps.

Často si hraji s Matsem v domě. Někdy hrajeme na schovávanou. Já se schovám a Mats mě hledá. Nebo se schová Mats a já ho hledám.

> I often play with Mats in the house. Sometimes we play hide-and-seek. I hide, and Mats looks for me. Or Mats hides, and I look for him.

Najít Matse je pro mě snadné. Je vysoký a je dobře vidět. Znám v domě všechna místa na schování. Jsem menší než Mats. Najít mě je těžké. Někdy Mats hledá velmi dlouho.

> It is easy for me to find Mats. He is tall and easy to see. I know all the hiding places in the house. I am smaller than Mats. It is hard to find me. Sometimes Mats looks for a very long time.

To nemá rád. Pak volá a já říkám: Tady jsem. Volá znovu a já zase říkám: Tady jsem. Přichází blíž. Pak mě najde. Smějeme se.

> He doesn't like that. Then he calls, and I say: Here I am. He calls again, and I say again: Here I am. He comes closer. Then he finds me. We laugh.

Odpoledne jíme spolu. Máma, táta, Mats a já. Sedíme u stolu v obývacím pokoji, jíme a povídáme si. Často jsou brambory, mrkev a těstoviny.

> In the afternoon we eat together. Mum, Dad, Mats, and I. We sit at the table in the living room and eat and talk. There are often potatoes, carrots, and noodles.

Nejraději mám těstoviny. Máma často vaří těstoviny, táta často vaří brambory. Máma vaří brambory jen zřídka. Nemá je moc ráda. Ale Mats má brambory rád.

> I like noodles best. Mum often cooks noodles, Dad often cooks potatoes. Mum rarely cooks potatoes. She doesn't like them very much. But Mats likes potatoes.

Brambory a mrkev rostou na poli. Je to naše vlastní pole. Máme statek. Táta je zemědělec. Často pracuje na poli. Máma má malý obchod.

> The potatoes and carrots grow in the field. It is our own field. We have a farm. Dad is a farmer. He often works in the field. Mum has a small shop.

Pracuje jako prodavačka. V obchodě prodává naše brambory a mrkev. Prodává také vejce a med. Prodává mléko a sýr. V obchodě prodává mnoho věcí.

> She works as a shopkeeper. She sells our potatoes and carrots in the shop. She also sells eggs and honey. She sells milk and cheese. She sells many things in the shop.

Táta pracuje na poli. Pěstuje zeleninu, třeba brambory a mrkev. Zelenina roste v zemi. Potřebuje hodně vody a slunce. Někdy neprší.

> Dad works in the field. He grows vegetables like potatoes and carrots. The vegetables grow in the ground. They need a lot of water and sun. Sometimes it doesn't rain.

Pak táta dává rostlinám vodu. Později je zelenina dost velká. Pak táta jede traktorem přes pole. Vytahuje zeleninu ze země. Pak ji můžeme jíst.

> Then Dad gives the plants water. Later the vegetables are big enough. Then Dad drives the tractor across the field. He takes the vegetables out of the ground. Then we can eat them.

Nebo ji máma prodá v obchodě. Táta také získává mléko od krav. Dělá z něj máslo a sýr. Trvá dlouho, než je sýr hotový. Táta musí dlouho čekat.

> Or Mum sells them in the shop. Dad also gets milk from the cows. He makes butter and cheese from it. It takes a long time until the cheese is ready. Dad has to wait a long time.

Máslo je hotové rychleji. Táta často peče chléb. Jeho chléb mám moc ráda. Často ho jím s máslem a sýrem. Pak myslím na krávy, které nám dávají mléko.

> The butter is ready faster. Dad often bakes bread. I like his bread very much. I often eat it with butter and cheese. Then I think of the cows that give us the milk.

U potoka - By the Stream



Dnes je sobota. Jdu s Matsem do lesa. Ozzy jde také s námi. Běží před námi. Mats a já chceme jít k potoku. Chceme vidět ryby. Mám s sebou tašku.

> Today is Saturday. I go into the forest with Mats. Ozzy is with us too. He runs ahead of us. Mats and I want to go to the stream. We want to see fish. I have a bag with me.

V tašce je chléb a láhev vody. Když budeme mít hlad, můžeme jíst chléb. Když budeme mít žízeň, můžeme pít vodu. Máma říká, že Ozzy by neměl jíst chléb.

> In the bag there's bread and a bottle of water. If we're hungry, we can eat bread. If we're thirsty, we can drink water. Mum says Ozzy shouldn't eat bread.

Neměli bychom dávat Ozzymu chléb. Ozzy může pít vodu z potoka. Naši vodu nepotřebuje. Ale v tašce je také něco pro Ozzyho.

> We shouldn't give Ozzy bread. Ozzy can drink water from the stream. He doesn't need our water. But there's also something for Ozzy in the bag.

V tašce jsou dvě psí sušenky. Mats a já nesmíme jíst psí sušenky. Ani je jíst nechceme. Ozzy je má jíst. Později.

> There are two dog biscuits in the bag. Mats and I aren't allowed to eat the dog biscuits. We don't want to eat them either. Ozzy should eat them. Later.

Les není daleko. Do lesa chodíme často. Je tam mnoho vysokých stromů. Slyšíme ptáky. Ozzy běhá mezi stromy. Někdy se zastaví.

> The forest isn't far away. We often go into the forest. There are many tall trees there. We can hear birds. Ozzy runs between the trees. Sometimes he stops.

Pak se na nás podívá. Potom zase běží dál. V lese je mnoho cest. Máma chce, abychom zůstali na cestách.

> Then he looks at us. After that he runs on again. There are many paths in the forest. Mum wants us to stay on the paths.

Neměli bychom běhat doprostřed lesa. Všechny stromy vypadají podobně. Je těžké znovu najít cestu. Pro Ozzyho je to snadné. Často zůstává blízko nás.

> We shouldn't run into the middle of the forest. All the trees look similar. It's hard to find the way again. For Ozzy it's easy. Often he stays close to us.

Ale někdy běží doprostřed lesa. Voláme ho. Rychle se vrátí. Zná cestu. Je to chytrý pes.

> But sometimes he runs into the middle of the forest. We call him. He comes back quickly. He knows the way. He's a clever dog.

Ozzy dorazí k potoku jako první. Já jsem druhá, Mats třetí. Sedneme si na břeh. Ozzy pije z potoka. Voda je velmi čistá. Ale nevidím žádné ryby.

> Ozzy is the first to arrive at the stream. I'm second, Mats is third. We sit down on the bank. Ozzy drinks from the stream. The water is very clear. But I don't see any fish.

Možná se ryby bojí Ozzyho. Mats vezme z břehu malý klacek. Položí ho do potoka. Klacek plave na vodě. Vstaneme a sledujeme klacek.

> Maybe the fish are afraid of Ozzy. Mats takes a small stick from the bank. He puts it into the stream. The stick floats on the water. We stand up and follow the stick.

Ozzymu se to moc líbí. Vrtí ocasem. Vidíme, že je šťastný. Klacek plave rychleji. Ozzy štěká a běží za ním. Mats a já se musíme smát.

> Ozzy likes that very much. He wags his tail. We see that he's happy. The stick floats faster. Ozzy barks and runs after it. Mats and I have to laugh.

Pak se klacek zasekne mezi dvěma velkými kameny. Přijdeme blíž. Klacek se nehýbe. Ale vidím rybu. Ne, jsou tam tři ryby! Plavou blízko kamenů.

> Then the stick gets stuck between two big stones. We come closer. The stick doesn't move. But I see a fish. No, there are three fish! They swim close to the stones.

Ozzy je vidí také. Chce si hrát s rybami. Ale Mats říká: „Ne, Ozzy!“ Ozzy tomu rozumí. Nejde do vody. Zůstává na břehu.

> Ozzy sees them too. He wants to play with the fish. But Mats says, "No, Ozzy!" Ozzy understands that. He doesn't go into the water. He stays on the bank.

Dlouho pozorujeme ryby. Jsou tmavé, ale na slunci se lesknou. Nebojí se nás. Protože jsme tiší a nehýbeme se. Ale já dostanu hlad.

> We watch the fish for a long time. They're dark, but they shine in the sun. They're not afraid of us. Because we're quiet and don't move. But I get hungry.

Říkám: „Matsi, mám hlad.“ Mats říká: „Ano, já taky.“ Sedneme si na velký kámen. Kámen je dost velký, abychom seděli vedle sebe.

> I say, "Mats, I'm hungry." Mats says, "Yes, me too." We sit down on a big stone. The stone is big enough for us to sit next to each other.

Vyndám z tašky chléb. Ozzy se na mě dívá. Chce také něco k jídlu. Ale chléb není pro Ozzyho. Mats mu dá psí sušenku.

> I take the bread out of the bag. Ozzy looks at me. He wants something to eat too. But the bread isn't for Ozzy. Mats gives him a dog biscuit.

Ozzy je šťastný a vrtí ocasem. Podělím se o chléb s Matsem. Dám Matsovi velký kus a on říká: Děkuji, Anno. Tátův chléb je velmi dobrý.

> Ozzy is happy and wags his tail. I share the bread with Mats. I give Mats a big piece, and he says: Thank you, Anna. Dad's bread is very tasty.

Všechno chutná dobře, když má člověk hlad. Ale tátův chléb je obzvlášť dobrý. Jíme pomalu. Slunce mě hřeje na kůži. Ozzy už svou psí sušenku snědl.

> Everything tastes good when you're hungry. But Dad's bread is especially tasty. We eat slowly. The sun is warm on my skin. Ozzy has already eaten his dog biscuit.

Leží tady u mých nohou. Myslím, že spí. Dvě ryby jsou ještě tam. Slyším ptáka. Sedí na stromě, ale nevidím ho. Mats se dívá na potok.

> He's lying here next to my feet. I think he's sleeping. Two fish are still there. I hear a bird. It's sitting in a tree, but I can't see it. Mats looks at the stream.

Říká: „Mám rád les.“
Ptám se: „Proč?“

„Protože je tady takové ticho. Ve vesnici slyšíme a vidíme mnoho lidí. Tady slyšíš jen ptáky, vodu a vítr.“

> He says, "I like the forest."
> I ask, "Why?"
> "Because it's so quiet here. In the village we hear and see many people. Here you hear only the birds, the water, and the wind."

„Ano,“ říkám. „Já mám les taky ráda.“
Ještě chvíli sedíme, pak vstaneme. „Pojď,“ říká Mats. Bere tašku. Ozzy se probudí. Pomalu jdeme zpátky do vesnice.

> "Yes," I say. "I like the forest too."
> We sit for a while longer, then we stand up. "Come on," says Mats. He takes the bag. Ozzy wakes up. We slowly walk back to the village.

Cestou potkáme paní Rossiovou. Je z Itálie. Ozzy ji rád vidí. Běží k ní. Paní Rossiová ho hladí.
„Dobrý den!“ říká paní Rossiová. „Kam jdete?“

> On the way we meet Mrs Rossi. She's from Italy. Ozzy is happy to see her. He runs to her. Mrs Rossi pets him.
> "Hello!" says Mrs Rossi. "Where are you going?"

„Jdeme od potoka,“ říká Mats. „Teď jdeme domů.“
„Hezké,“ říká paní Rossiová. „Je krásné počasí na procházku.“
V ruce drží košík.

> "We're coming from the stream," says Mats. "Now we're going back home."
> "Nice," says Mrs Rossi. "It's wonderful weather for a walk."
> She's holding a basket in her hand.

„Co je v košíku?“ ptám se.
„Mléko, vejce, sýr a med,“ říká paní Rossiová. Směje se.
„Koupila jsem je od vaší maminky.“

> "What's in the basket?" I ask.
> "Milk, eggs, cheese, and honey," says Mrs Rossi. She laughs. "I bought them from your mother."

Mats a já se usmějeme.
„Brzy na shledanou,“ říká paní Rossiová.
„Na shledanou,“ říká Mats.

> Mats and I smile.
> "See you soon," says Mrs Rossi.
> "Bye," says Mats.

Paní Rossiová jde dál. Ozzy se za ní chvíli dívá. Pak běží zpátky k nám. Vesnice už není daleko. Už vidím náš dům.

> Mrs Rossi walks on. Ozzy watches her for a while. Then he runs back to us. The village isn't far away now. I can already see our house.

Táta ještě pracuje na poli. Vidím jeho traktor. Máma stojí před obchodem a mluví s mužem z vesnice. Znám ho.

> Dad is still working in the field. I see his tractor. Mum is standing in front of the shop and talking to a man from the village. I know him.

Jmenuje se pan Hansen. Pan Hansen má kočku Mimi. Mimi už je stará a nechce si už hrát. Ale má moc ráda, když ji hladím.

> His name is Mr Hansen. Mr Hansen has a cat, Mimi. Mimi is already old and doesn't want to play anymore. But she likes it very much when I pet her.

Pak přede. Mimi umí přísť velmi hlasitě. Líbí se mi, když Mimi přede. Pak vím, že je šťastná. Je milá.

> Then she purrs. Mimi can purr very loudly. I like it when Mimi purrs. Then I know that she's happy. She's sweet.

Jdeme do obchodu. Máma nás vidí a usměje se.
Ptá se: „Byla procházka hezká?“
„Ano,“ říká Mats.
„Viděli jsme ryby,“ říkám.

> We go to the shop. Mum sees us and smiles.
> She asks, "Did you enjoy the walk?"
> "Yes," says Mats.
> "We saw fish," I say.

Máma má radost. „Tak to byl dobrý den,“ říká.
Myslím na les a slunce, na Matse a Ozzyho, na potok a ryby a chléb. Má pravdu. Byl to dobrý den.

> Mum is pleased. "Then it was a good day," she says.
> I think of the forest and the sun, of Mats and Ozzy, of the stream and the fish and the bread. She's right. It was a good day.

This is where the sample ends.