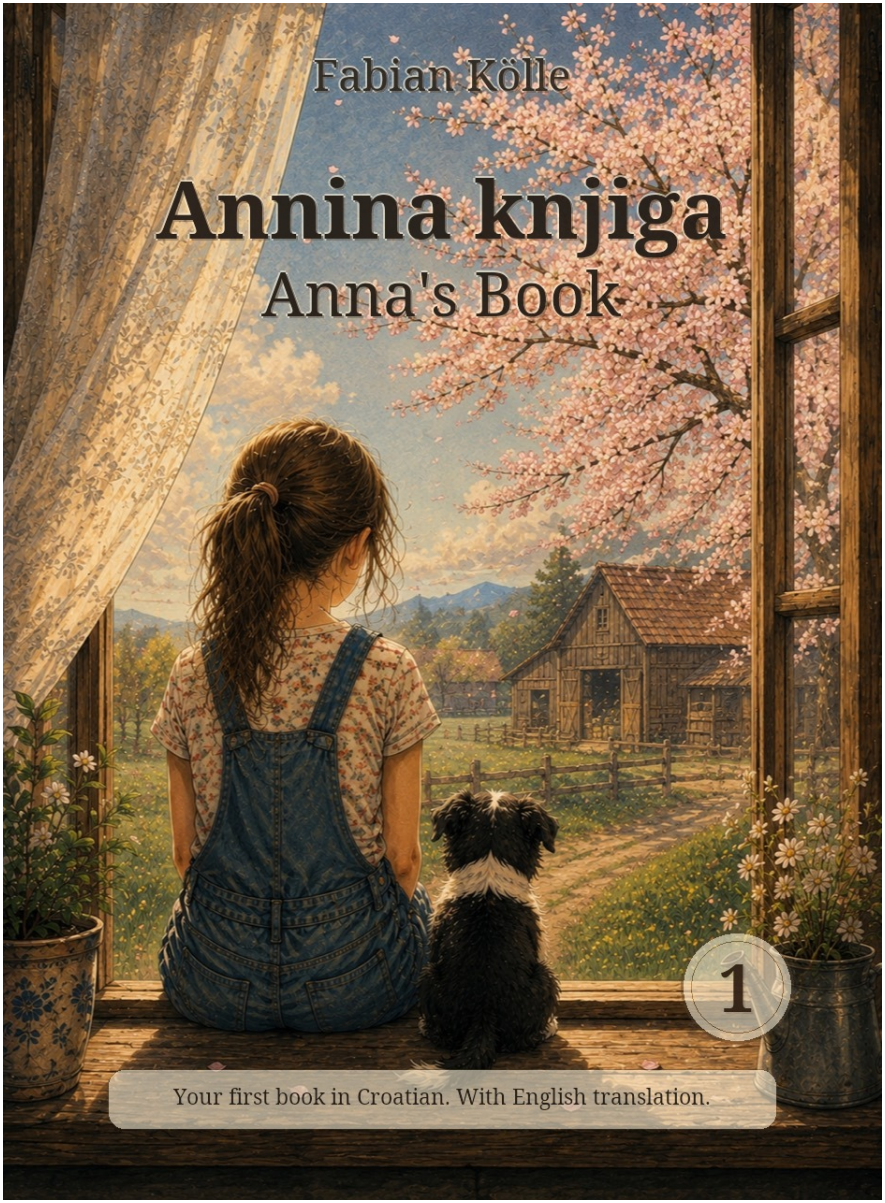
Fabian Kölle
Annina knjiga
Anna's Book
1
Your first book in Croatian. With English translation.

Anna's Book

Volume 1

Language: English

Learning language: Croatian

EN HR

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This book was written for language learners. First try to read the Croatian 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



Ja sam Anna. Imam deset godina. Živim sa svojom obitelji u kući. Kuća ima vrt. U vrtu je veliko stablo. Sviđa mi se to stablo.

> 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.

Imamo i malog psa. Pas se zove Ozzy. Jako volim Ozzyja. On je vrlo brz. Često se igram s psom. Bacim loptu, a Ozzy brzo trči za njom.

> 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.

Često mi vrati loptu. Ponekad je ne vrati. Onda trčim po vrtu i tražim loptu. Ozzy također traži loptu. Nađemo je, a Ozzy zalaje.

> 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.

On je pametan pas. Ponekad Ozzy nađe loptu brže nego ja. Onda zalaje. Tada znam: lopta je ondje. Trčim do Ozzyja i vidim loptu. Tako se često igramo zajedno.

> 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.

Imam i brata. Zove se Mats. Moj brat ima četrnaest godina. On je četiri godine stariji od mene. On je moj stariji brat. Mats se također ponekad igra s Ozzyjem.

> 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.

Ponekad Mats trči po vrtu, a Ozzy trči za njim. Onda obojica trče. Ponekad Mats također baci loptu, a Ozzy je donese natrag.

> 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 jako voli kad se Mats igra s njim. Ali Ozzy također mnogo spava. On je mlad pas i mora mnogo spavati. Ima dva mjeseca.

> 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 spava u svojoj košari ili u vrtu. Njegova košara je u kući. U dnevnoj je sobi. Ljeti Ozzy često spava u vrtu. Mats kaže da zimi Ozzy spava u dnevnoj sobi.

> 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.

Tada je u vrtu jako hladno. Zimi se psi mogu igrati u vrtu, ali ne mogu spavati u vrtu. Sada je ljeto. Ljeti Ozzy može spavati u svojoj košari.

> 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.

Može spavati i u vrtu. U vrtu je dovoljno toplo. Ozzy može spavati ondje gdje želi. Legne i spava. Ozzy je jako sladak kad spava.

> 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.

Često se igram s Matsom u kući. Ponekad se igramo skrivača. Ja se sakrijem, a Mats me traži. Ili se Mats sakrije, a ja ga tražim.

> 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.

Meni je lako pronaći Matsa. On je velik i lako ga je vidjeti. Znam sva skrovišta u kući. Ja sam manja od Matsa. Mene je teško pronaći. Ponekad Mats traži jako dugo.

> 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 mu se ne sviđa. Onda zove, a ja kažem: ovdje sam. Zove opet, a ja opet kažem: ovdje sam. Prilazi bliže. Onda me pronađe. Smijemo 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.

U podne jedemo zajedno. Mama, tata, Mats i ja. Sjedimo za stolom u dnevnoj sobi, jedemo i razgovaramo. Često ima krumpira, mrkve i tjestenine.

> 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.

Najviše volim tjesteninu. Mama često kuha tjesteninu, tata često kuha krumpir. Mama rijetko kuha krumpir. Ne voli ga baš. Ali Mats voli krumpir.

> 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.

Krumpir i mrkva rastu na polju. To je naše vlastito polje. Imamo farmu. Tata je poljoprivrednik. Često radi na polju. Mama ima malu trgovinu.

> 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.

Radi kao prodavačica. U trgovini prodaje naš krumpir i našu mrkvu. Prodaje i jaja i med. Prodaje mlijeko i sir. Prodaje mnogo stvari u trgovini.

> 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.

Tata radi na polju. Uzgaja povrće kao krumpir i mrkvu. Povrće raste u zemlji. Treba mnogo vode i sunca. Ponekad ne pada kiša.

> 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.

Tada tata zalijeva biljke. Kasnije je povrće dovoljno veliko. Onda tata vozi traktor na polje. Vadi povrće iz zemlje. Onda ga možemo jesti.

> 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.

Ili ga mama prodaje u trgovini. Tata također uzima mlijeko od krava. Od njega pravi maslac i sir. Treba dugo dok sir ne bude gotov. Tata mora dugo čekati.

> 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.

Maslac je brže gotov. Tata često peče kruh. Jako volim njegov kruh. Često ga jedem s maslacem i sirom. Onda mislim na krave koje nam daju mlijeko.

> 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.

Uz potok - By the Stream



Danas je subota. Idem s Matsom u šumu. Ozzy je također s nama. Trči ispred nas. Mats i ja želimo ići do potoka. Želimo vidjeti ribe. Imam torbu sa sobom.

> 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.

U torbi su kruh i boca vode. Ako budemo gladni, možemo jesti kruh. Ako budemo žedni, možemo piti vodu. Mama kaže: Ozzy ne smije jesti kruh.

> 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.

Ne smijemo dati Ozzyju kruh. Ozzy može piti vodu iz potoka. Ne treba našu vodu. Ali u torbi je i nešto za Ozzyja.

> 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.

U torbi su dva pseća keksa. Mats i ja ne smijemo jesti pseće kekse. Ne želimo ih ni jesti. Ozzy ih treba pojesti. Kasnije.

> 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.

Šuma nije daleko. Često idemo u šumu. Ondje ima mnogo visokih stabala. Možemo čuti ptice. Ozzy trči među stablima. Ponekad stane.

> 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.

Tada nas pogleda. Nakon toga opet trči dalje. U šumi ima mnogo putova. Mama želi da ostanemo na putovima.

> 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.

Ne smijemo trčati usred šume. Sva su stabla slična. Teško je ponovno pronaći put. Za Ozzyja je to lako. Često ostaje blizu nas.

> 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.

Ali ponekad otrči usred šume. Zovemo ga. Brzo se vraća. Poznaje put. On je pametan pas.

> 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 prvi stiže do potoka. Ja sam druga, Mats treći. Sjedamo na obalu. Ozzy pije iz potoka. Voda je vrlo bistra. Ali ne vidim ribe.

> 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.

Možda se ribe boje Ozzyja. Mats uzima mali štap s obale. Stavlja ga u potok. Štap pluta na vodi. Ustajemo i slijedimo štap.

> 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.

Ozzy to jako voli. Maše repom. Vidimo da se veseli. Štap pluta brže. Ozzy laje i trči za njim. Mats i ja se moramo smijati.

> 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.

Onda štap zapne između dva velika kamena. Prilazimo bliže. Štap se ne miče. Ali vidim jednu ribu. Ne, tri su ribe! Plivaju blizu kamenja.

> 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 ih također vidi. Želi se igrati s ribama. Ali Mats kaže: Ne, Ozzy! Ozzy to razumije. Ne ulazi u vodu. Ostaje na obali.

> 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.

Dugo gledamo ribe. Tamne su, ali sjaje na suncu. Ne boje nas se. Zato što smo mirni i ne mičemo se. Ali ja postajem gladna.

> 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.

Kažem: Mats, gladna sam. Mats kaže: Da, i ja. Sjedamo na veliki kamen. Kamen je dovoljno velik da možemo sjediti jedno pokraj drugoga.

> 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.

Vadim kruh iz torbe. Ozzy me gleda. I on želi nešto jesti. Ali kruh nije za Ozzyja. Mats mu daje pseći keks.

> 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 se veseli i maše repom. Dijelim kruh s Matsom. Dajem Matsu velik komad, a on kaže: Hvala, Anna. Tatin kruh je jako ukusan.

> 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.

Sve je ukusno kad si gladan. Ali tatin kruh je posebno ukusan. Jedemo polako. Sunce je toplo na mojoj koži. Ozzy je već pojeo svoj pseći keks.

> 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.

Leži ovdje pokraj mojih stopala. Mislim da spava. Dvije ribe su još tu. Čujem pticu. Sjedi na stablu, ali je ne mogu vidjeti. Mats gleda 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.

On kaže: "Volim šumu." Pitam: "Zašto?" "Zato što je ovdje tako mirno. U selu čujemo i vidimo mnogo ljudi. Ovdje

čuješ samo ptice, vodu i vjetar."

> 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."

"Da", kažem. "I ja volim šumu." Sjedimo još neko vrijeme, a onda ustajemo. "Hajde", kaže Mats. Uzima torbu. Ozzy se budi. Polako se vraćamo prema selu.

> "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.

Na putu srećemo gospođu Rossi. Ona je iz Italije. Ozzy se veseli što je vidi. Trči k njoj. Gospođa Rossi ga mazi. "Bok!" kaže gospođa Rossi. "Kamo idete?"

> 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?"

"Dolazimo od potoka", kaže Mats. "Sada idemo kući."
"Lijepo", kaže gospođa Rossi. "Vrijeme je odlično za šetnju." U ruci drži košaru.

> "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.

"Što je u košari?" pitam. "Mlijeko, jaja, sir i med", kaže gospođa Rossi. Smije se. "To sam kupila kod vaše majke."

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

Mats i ja se smiješimo. "Vidimo se uskoro", kaže gospođa Rossi. "Bok", kaže Mats.

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

Gospođa Rossi ide dalje. Ozzy još neko vrijeme gleda za njom. Onda opet trči k nama. Selo više nije daleko. Već mogu vidjeti našu kuću.

> 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.

Tata još radi na polju. Vidim njegov traktor. Mama stoji ispred trgovine i razgovara s muškarcem iz sela. Poznajem ga.

> 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.

Zove se gospodin Hansen. Gospodin Hansen ima mačku, Mimi. Mimi je već stara i više se ne želi igrati. Ali jako voli kad je mazim.

> 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.

Tada prede. Mimi može jako glasno presti. Volim kad Mimi prede. Tada znam da se veseli. Slatka je.

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

Idemo do trgovine. Mama nas vidi i smiješi se. Pita: "Je li vam se svidjela šetnja?" "Da", kaže Mats. "Vidjeli smo ribe", kažem.

> 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.

Mama se veseli. "Onda je to bio dobar dan", kaže. Mislim na šumu i sunce, na Matsa i Ozzyja, na potok i ribe i kruh. Ona ima pravo. Bio je to dobar dan.

> 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.