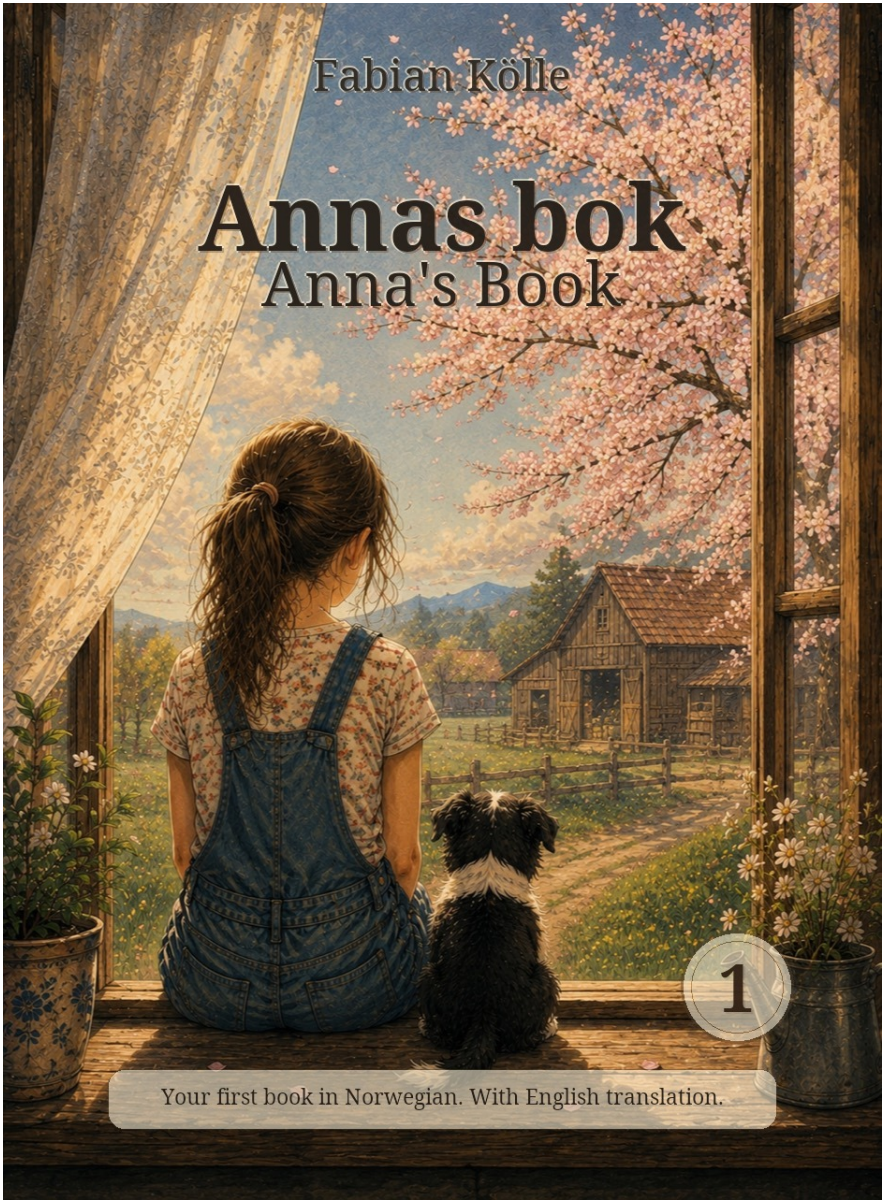
Fabian Kölle
Annas bok
Anna's Book
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Your first book in Norwegian. With English translation.

Anna's Book

Volume 1

Language: English

Learning language: Norwegian

EN NO

Fabian Kölle

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www.annas-book.com/en/no/

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



Jeg heter Anna. Jeg er ti år gammel. Jeg bor med familien min i et hus. Huset har en hage. I hagen står et stort tre. Jeg liker treet.

> 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.

Vi har også en liten hund. Hunden heter Ozzy. Jeg liker Ozzy veldig godt. Han er veldig rask. Jeg leker ofte med hunden. Jeg kaster en ball, og Ozzy løper raskt etter den.

> 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.

Han kommer ofte tilbake til meg med ballen. Noen ganger kommer han ikke tilbake med den. Da løper jeg gjennom hagen og leter etter ballen. Ozzy letter også etter ballen. Vi finner den, og Ozzy bjeffer.

> 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.

Han er en klok hund. Noen ganger finner Ozzy ballen raskere enn jeg. Da bjeffer han. Da vet jeg: Ballen er der. Jeg løper til Ozzy og ser ballen. Så leker vi ofte sammen.

> 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.

Jeg har også en bror. Han heter Mats. Broren min er fjorten år gammel. Han er fire år äldre enn meg. Han er storebroren min. Mats leker også noen ganger med Ozzy.

> 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.

Noen ganger løper Mats gjennom hagen, og Ozzy følger ham. Da løper de begge to. Noen ganger kaster Mats også ballen, og Ozzy kommer tilbake med den.

> 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 liker veldig godt når Mats leker med ham. Men Ozzy sover også mye. Han er en ung hund og må sove mye. Han er to måneder gammel.

> 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 sover i kurven sin eller i hagen. Kurven hans står i huset. Den står i stuen. På sommeren sover Ozzy ofte i hagen. Mats sier å Ozzy sover i stuen på vinteren.

> 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.

Da er det for kaldt i hagen. På vinteren kan hunder leke i hagen, men de kan ikke sove i hagen. Nå er det sommer. På sommeren kan Ozzy sove i kurven sin.

> 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.

Han kan også sove i hagen. I hagen er det varmt nok. Ozzy kan sove der han vil. Han legger seg ned og sover. Ozzy er veldig søt når han sover.

> 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.

Jeg leker ofte med Mats i huset. Noen ganger leker vi gjemsel. Jeg gjemmer meg, og Mats leter etter meg. Eller Mats gjemmer seg, og jeg leter etter ham.

> 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.

Det er lett for meg å finne Mats. Han er stor og lett å se. Jeg kjenner alle gjemmesteder i huset. Jeg er mindre enn Mats. Det er vanskelig å finne meg. Noen ganger leter Mats veldig lenge.

> 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.

Det synes han ikke om. Da roper han, og jeg sier: Her er jeg. Han roper igjen, og jeg sier igjen: Her er jeg. Han kommer nærmere. Så finner han meg. Vi ler.

> 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.

På ettermiddagen spiser vi sammen. Mamma, pappa, Mats og jeg. Vi sitter ved bordet i stuen og spiser og snakker. Ofte finnes det poteter, gulrøtter og pasta.

> 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.

Jeg liker best pasta. Mamma lager ofte pasta, pappa lager ofte poteter. Mamma lager sjelden poteter. Hun liker ikke så godt poteter. Men Mats liker poteter.

> 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.

Potetene og gulrøttene vokser på åkeren. Det er vår egen åker. Vi har en gård. Pappa er bonde. Han arbeider ofte på åkeren. Mamma har en liten butikk.

> 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.

Hun arbeider som försäljare. Hun selger vår poteter og våra gulrøtter i butikken. Hun selger også egg og hunning. Hun selger melk og ost. Hun selger många saker i butikken.

> 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.

Pappa arbeider på åkeren. Han dyrker grønnsaker som poteter og gulrøtter. Grönsakerna vokser i jorden. De trenger veldig vann og sol. Noen ganger regner det ikke.

> 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.

Da ger pappa växterna vann. Senere er grönsakerna nok stora. Da kör pappa med traktorn over åkeren. Han tar upp grönsakerna ut av jorden. Så kan vi spise dem.

> 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.

Eller så selger mamma dem i butikken. Pappa henter også melk fra kuene. Han gjør smør og ost av den. Det tar lang tid innan osten er ferdig. Pappa må vente lenge.

> 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.

Smöret blir ferdigt raskere. Pappa bakar ofte brød. Jeg liker veldig godt hans brød. Jeg spiser det ofte med smør og ost. Da tenker jeg på kuene som ger oss mjölken.

> 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.

Ved bekken - By the Stream



I dag er det lørdag. Jeg går med Mats til skogen. Ozzy er også med. Han løper framför oss. Mats og jeg vil gå til bekken. Vi vil se fisker. Jeg har en veske med meg.

> 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.

I vesken finnes brød og en flaska vann. Om vi blir hungriga kan vi spise brød. Om vi blir törstiga kan vi drikke vann. Mamma sier: Ozzy skal ikke spise brød.

> 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.

Vi skal ikke ge Ozzy brød. Ozzy kan drikke vann ut av bekken. Han trenger ikke vårt vann. Men det finnes også noe for Ozzy i vesken.

> 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.

Det finnes to hundkex i vesken. Mats og jeg får ikke spise hundkexen. Vi vil ikke heller spise dem. Ozzy skal spise dem. Senere.

> 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.

Skogen ligger ikke langt bort. Vi går ofte til skogen. Der finnes många høya tre. Vi kan höra fugler. Ozzy løper mellan trærne. Noen ganger stopper han.

> 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.

Da ser han på oss. Så løper han vedare igjen. Det finnes många stier i skogen. Mamma vil å vi stopper på stiene.

> 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.

Vi skal ikke springa mitt in i skogen. Alle tre ligner varandre. Det er vanskelig å finne tilbake. For Ozzy er det

let. Ofte holder han seg nåra oss.

> 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.

Men noen ganger løper han mitt in i skogen. Vi roper på ham. Han kommer snabbt tilbake. Han kjenner veien. Han er en klok hund.

> 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 kommer först fram til bekken. Jeg er den andre, Mats den tredje. Vi setter oss ved bredden. Ozzy drikker ut av bekken. Vatnet er veldig klart. Men jeg ser inga fisker.

> 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.

Kanskje er fiskene redde for Ozzy. Mats tar en liten pinne fra bredden. Han legger den i bekken. Pinnen flyter på vannet. Vi reser oss og følger pinnen.

> 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 liker veldig godt det. Han logrer med halen. Vi ser å han er glad. Pinnen flyter raskere. Ozzy bjeffer og løper etter den. Mats og jeg må skrata.

> 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.

Så fastnar pinnen mellan to stora steined. Vi kommer nærmere. Pinnen rører seg ikke. Men jeg ser en fisk. Nei, det er tre fisker! De simmar nåra steinene.

> 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 ser dem også. Han vil leke med fiskene. Men Mats sier: Nei, Ozzy! Ozzy forstår det. Han går ikke ned i vannet. Han stopper ved bredden.

> 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.

Vi ser lenge på fiskene. De er mørka, men de glennser i solen. De er ikke redde for oss. For vi er stille og rører oss ikke. Men jeg blir sulten.

> 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.

Jeg sier: Mats, jeg er sulten. Mats sier: Ja, jeg også. Vi setter oss på en stor stein. Stenen er stor nog for å vi skal kunna sitta bredved varandre.

> 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.

Jeg tar brødet ut av vesken. Ozzy ser på meg. Han vil også spise noe. Men brødet er ikke til Ozzy. Mats ger ham et hundkex.

> 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 blir glad og logrer med halen. Jeg delar brødet med Mats. Jeg ger Mats en stor bit, og han sier: Takk, Anna. Pappas brød er veldig godt.

> 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.

Allt er godt når man er sulten. Men pappas brød er særlig godt. Vi spiser langsomt. Solen er varm på min hud. Ozzy har allerede ätit sitt hundkex.

> 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.

Han ligger her bredved mina føtter. Jeg tror å han sover. Två fisker er fortsatt kvar. Jeg hører en fugl. Den sitter i et tre, men jeg kan ikke se den. Mats ser på bekken.

> 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.

Han sier: "Jeg liker skogen."
Jeg spør: "Hvorfor?"
"For å det er så lugnt her. I byn hører og ser vi många mennniskor. Her hører man bara fåglarna, vannet og vinden."

> 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."

"Ja", sier jeg. "Jeg synes også om skogen."
Vi sitter kvar en stund, så reser vi oss. "Kom", sier Mats. Han tar vesken. Ozzy vaknar. Vi går langsomt tilbake til byn.

> "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.

På veien möter vi fru Rossi. Hun kommer fra Italien. Ozzy blir glad å se henne. Han løper til henne. Fru Rossi klapper ham.
"Hei!", sier fru Rossi. "Hvor går ni?"

> 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?"

"Vi kommer fra bekken", sier Mats. "Nå går vi hjem igjen."
"Fint", sier fru Rossi. "Det er underbart väder for en promenad."
Hun holder en kurv i handen.

> "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.

"Hva finnes i kurven?", spør jeg.
"Mjölk, egg, ost og hunning", sier fru Rossi. Hun ler. "Det har jeg köpt hos er mamma."

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

Mats og jeg smiler.
"Vi ses snart", sier fru Rossi.
"Ha det", sier Mats.

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

Fru Rossi går vedare. Ozzy ser etter henne en stund. Så løper han tilbake til oss. Byn ligger ikke langt bort lenngre. Jeg kan allerede se vårt hus.

> 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.

Pappa arbeider fortsatt på åkeren. Jeg ser hans traktor. Mamma står framför butikken og snakker med en man fra byn. Jeg kjenner ham.

> 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.

Han heter herr Hansen. Herr Hansen har en kat, Mimi. Mimi er allerede gammel og vil ikke leke mer. Men hun liker veldig godt når jeg klapper henne.

> 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.

Da spinned hun. Mimi kan spinna veldig høyt. Jeg liker når Mimi spinned. Da vet jeg å hun er glad. Hun er søt.

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

Vi går til butikken. Mamma ser oss og smiler.
Hun spør: "Tyckte ni om promenaden?"
"Ja", sier Mats.
"Vi såg fisker", sier jeg.

> 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.

Mamma blir glad. "Da var det en bra dag", sier hun.
Jeg tenker på skogen og solen, på Mats og Ozzy, på bekken og fiskene og brødet. Hun har rätt. Det var en bra dag.

> 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.