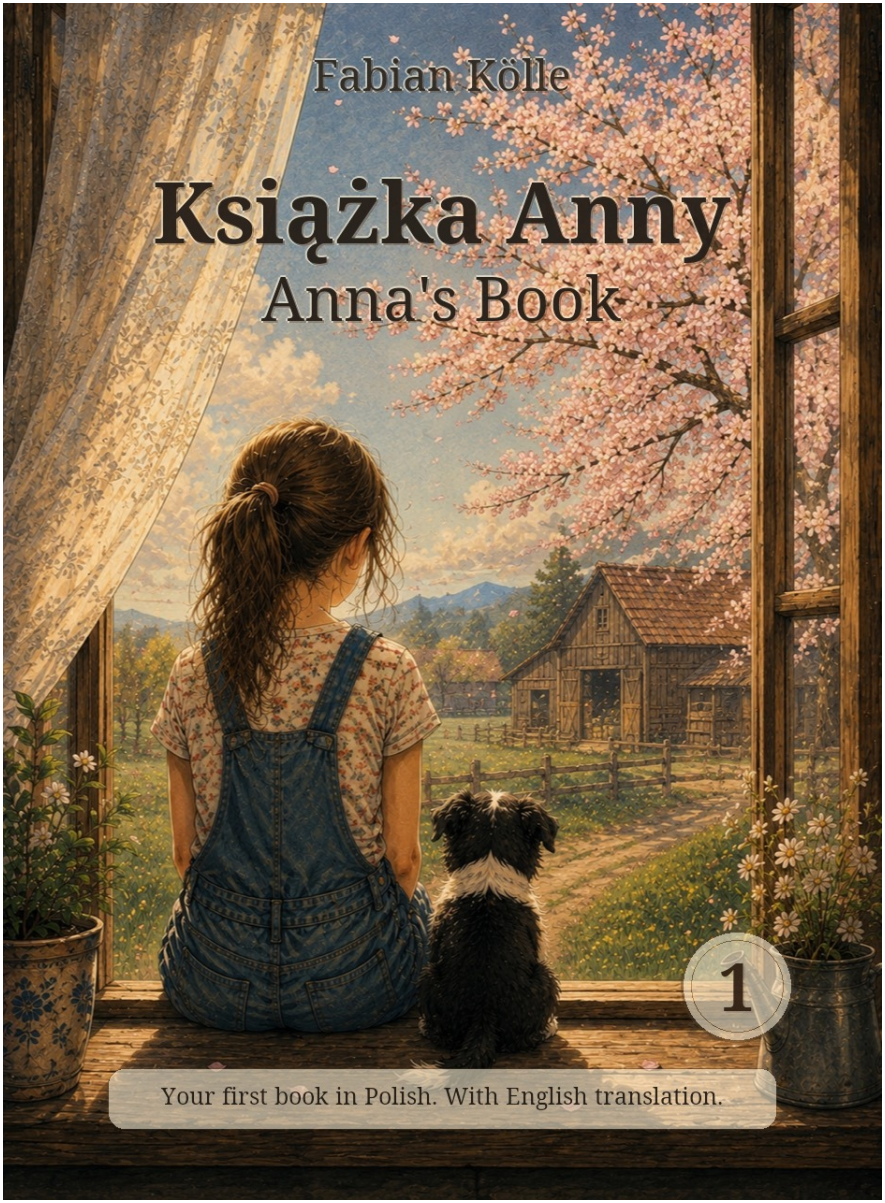
Fabian Kölle
Książka Anny
Anna's Book
1
Your first book in Polish. With English translation.

Anna's Book

Volume 1

Language: English

Learning language: Polish

EN PL

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



Jestem Anna. Mam dziesięć lat. Mieszkam z moją rodziną w domu. Dom ma ogród. W ogrodzie jest duże drzewo. Lubię to drzewo.

> 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.

Mamy też małego psa. Pies nazywa się Ozzy. Bardzo lubię Ozzy'ego. On jest bardzo szybki. Często bawię się z psem. Rzucam piłkę, a Ozzy szybko za nią biegnie.

> 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.

On często przynosi piłkę z powrotem do mnie. Czasem nie przynosi jej z powrotem. Wtedy biegam po ogrodzie i szukam piłki. Ozzy też szuka piłki. Znajdujemy ją, a Ozzy szczeka.

> 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 jest mądrym psem. Czasem Ozzy znajduje piłkę szybciej niż ja. Wtedy szczeka. Wtedy wiem: piłka jest tam. Biegnę do Ozzy'ego i widzę piłkę. Tak często bawimy się razem.

> 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.

Mam też brata. On nazywa się Mats. Mój brat ma czternaście lat. Jest cztery lata starszy ode mnie. Jest moim starszym bratem. Mats też czasem bawi się z 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.

Czasem Mats biegnie przez ogród, a Ozzy idzie za nim. Wtedy obaj biegną. Czasem Mats też rzuca piłkę, a Ozzy przynosi ją z powrotem.

> 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 bardzo lubi, kiedy Mats bawi się z nim. Ale Ozzy też dużo śpi. Jest młodym psem i musi dużo spać. Ma dwa miesiące.

> 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 śpi w swoim koszyku albo w ogrodzie. Jego koszyk stoi w domu. Stoi w salonie. Latem Ozzy często śpi w ogrodzie. Mats mówi, że zimą Ozzy śpi w salonie.

> 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.

Wtedy w ogrodzie jest za zimno. Zimą psy mogą bawić się w ogrodzie, ale nie spać w ogrodzie. Teraz jest lato. Latem Ozzy może spać w swoim koszyku.

> 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.

Może też spać w ogrodzie. W ogrodzie jest wystarczająco ciepło. Ozzy może spać, gdzie chce. Kładzie się i śpi. Ozzy jest bardzo słodki, kiedy śpi.

> 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.

Często bawię się z Matsem w domu. Czasem bawimy się w chowanego. Ja się chowam, a Mats mnie szuka. Albo Mats się chowa, a ja go szukam.

> 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.

Dla mnie łatwo jest znaleźć Matsa. Jest duży i łatwo go zobaczyć. Znam wszystkie kryjówki w domu. Jestem mniejsza niż Mats. Trudno mnie znaleźć. Czasem Mats szuka bardzo długo.

> 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.

On tego nie lubi. Wtedy woła, a ja mówię: jestem tutaj. On woła znowu, a ja znowu mówię: jestem tutaj. Podchodzi bliżej. Wtedy mnie znajduje. Śmiejemy się.

> 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.

Po południu jemy razem. Mama, tata, Mats i ja. Siedzimy przy stole w salonie, jemy i rozmawiamy. Często są ziemniaki, marchewki i makaron.

> 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.

Najbardziej lubię makaron. Mama często gotuje makaron, tata często gotuje ziemniaki. Mama rzadko gotuje ziemniaki. Nie lubi ich tak bardzo. Ale Mats lubi ziemniaki.

> 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.

Ziemniaki i marchewki rosną na polu. To jest nasze własne pole. Mamy gospodarstwo. Tata jest rolnikiem. Często pracuje na polu. Mama ma mały sklep.

> 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 sprzedawczyni. Sprzedaje nasze ziemniaki i marchewki w sklepie. Sprzedaje też jajka i miód. Sprzedaje mleko i ser. Sprzedaje wiele rzeczy w sklepie.

> 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 pracuje na polu. Uprawia warzywa, takie jak ziemniaki i marchewki. Warzywa rosną w ziemi. Potrzebują dużo wody i słońca. Czasem nie pada deszcz.

> 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.

Wtedy tata daje roślinom wodę. Później warzywa są wystarczająco duże. Wtedy tata jedzie traktorem po polu. Wyciąga warzywa z ziemi. Możemy je wtedy jeść.

> 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.

Albo mama sprzedaje je w sklepie. Tata bierze też mleko od krów. Robi z niego masło i ser. Trwa długo, zanim ser jest gotowy. Tata musi długo czekać.

> 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.

Masło jest gotowe szybciej. Tata często piecze chleb. Bardzo lubię jego chleb. Często jem go z masłem i serem. Wtedy myślę o krowach, które dają nam mleko.

> 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.

Nad strumieniem - By the Stream



Dzisiaj jest sobota. Idę z Matsem do lasu. Ozzy też jest z nami. Biegnie przed nami. Mats i ja chcemy iść do strumienia. Chcemy zobaczyć ryby. Mam ze sobą torbę.

> 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.

W torbie są chleb i butelka wody. Jeśli będziemy głodni, możemy jeść chleb. Jeśli będziemy spragnieni, możemy pić wodę. Mama mówi: Ozzy nie powinien jeść chleba.

> 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.

Nie powinniśmy dawać Ozzy'emu chleba. Ozzy może pić wodę ze strumienia. Nie potrzebuje naszej wody. Ale w torbie jest też coś dla Ozzy'ego.

> 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.

W torbie są dwa psie ciastka. Mats i ja nie możemy jeść psich ciastek. Nie chcemy ich też jeść. Ozzy powinien je zjeść. Później.

> 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.

Las nie jest daleko. Często chodzimy do lasu. Jest tam wiele wysokich drzew. Możemy słyszeć ptaki. Ozzy biegnie między drzewami. Czasem zatrzymuje się.

> 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.

Wtedy patrzy na nas. Potem znowu biegnie dalej. W lesie jest wiele dróg. Mama chce, żebyśmy zostawali na drogach.

> 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.

Nie powinniśmy biec w środek lasu. Wszystkie drzewa są podobne. Trudno jest znowu znaleźć drogę. Dla Ozzy'ego

jest to łatwe. Często zostaje blisko 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.

Ale czasem biegnie w środek lasu. Wołamy go. Szybko wraca. Zna drogę. Jest mądrym psem.

> 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 dociera do strumienia jako pierwszy. Ja jestem druga, Mats trzeci. Siadamy na brzegu. Ozzy pije ze strumienia. Woda jest bardzo czysta. Ale nie widzę żadnych ryb.

> 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.

Może ryby boją się Ozzy'ego. Mats bierze mały patyk z brzegu. Wkłada go do strumienia. Patyk płynie po wodzie. Wstajemy i idziemy za patykiem.

> 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 bardzo to lubi. Merda ogonem. Widzimy, że się cieszy. Patyk płynie szybciej. Ozzy szczeka i biegnie za nim. Mats i ja musimy się śmiać.

> 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.

Potem patyk zatrzymuje się między dwoma dużymi kamieniami. Podchodzimy bliżej. Patyk się nie rusza. Ale widzę rybę. Nie, to są trzy ryby! Pływają blisko kamieni.

> 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 też je widzi. Chce bawić się z rybami. Ale Mats mówi: nie, Ozzy! Ozzy to rozumie. Nie wchodzi do wody. Zostaje na brzegu.

> 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.

Długo patrzymy na ryby. Są ciemne, ale błyszczą w słońcu. Nie boją się nas. Bo jesteśmy spokojni i się nie ruszamy. Ale robię się głodna.

> 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.

Mówię: Mats, jestem głodna. Mats mówi: tak, ja też. Siadamy na dużym kamieniu. Kamień jest wystarczająco duży, żebyśmy mogli siedzieć obok siebie.

> 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.

Biorę chleb z torby. Ozzy patrzy na mnie. On też chce coś zjeść. Ale chleb nie jest dla Ozzy'ego. Mats daje mu psie ciastko.

> 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 cieszy się i merda ogonem. Dzielę chleb z Matsem. Daję Matsowi duży kawałek, a on mówi: dziękuję, Anna. Chleb taty jest bardzo smaczny.

> 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.

Wszystko jest smaczne, kiedy człowiek jest głodny. Ale chleb taty jest szczególnie smaczny. Jemy powoli. Słońce jest ciepłe na mojej skórze. Ozzy już zjadł swoje psie ciastko.

> 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.

Leży tutaj obok moich stóp. Myślę, że śpi. Dwie ryby jeszcze są. Słyszę ptaka. Siedzi na drzewie, ale nie mogę go zobaczyć. Mats patrzy na strumień.

> 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.

Mówi: „Lubię las”.
Pytam: „Dlaczego?”
„Bo tutaj jest tak cicho. We wsi słyszymy i widzimy wielu ludzi. Tutaj słychać tylko ptaki, wodę i wiatr”.

> 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."

„Tak”, mówię. „Ja też lubię las”.
Siedzimy jeszcze chwilę, potem wstajemy. „Chodź”, mówi Mats. Bierze torbę. Ozzy budzi się. Idziemy powoli z powrotem do wsi.

> "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.

Po drodze spotykamy panią Rossi. Ona jest z Włoch. Ozzy cieszy się, że ją widzi. Biegnie do niej. Pani Rossi głaszcze go.
„Cześć!”, mówi pani Rossi. „Dokąd idziecie?”

> 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?"

„Wracamy od strumienia”, mówi Mats. „Teraz idziemy z powrotem do domu”.
„Pięknie”, mówi pani Rossi. „To wspaniała pogoda na spacer”.
Trzyma kosz w ręce.

> "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 jest w koszu?”, pytam.
„Mleko, jajka, ser i miód”, mówi pani Rossi. Śmieje się. „Kupiłam to u waszej mamy”.

> "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 uśmiechamy się.
„Do zobaczenia”, mówi pani Rossi.
„Cześć”, mówi Mats.

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

Pani Rossi idzie dalej. Ozzy patrzy za nią jeszcze chwilę. Potem znowu biegnie do nas. Wieś nie jest już daleko. Już widzę nasz dom.

> 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 jeszcze pracuje na polu. Widzę jego traktor. Mama stoi przed sklepem i rozmawia z mężczyzną ze wsi. Znam go.

> 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.

Nazywa się pan Hansen. Pan Hansen ma kota, Mimi. Mimi jest już stara i nie chce się już bawić. Ale bardzo lubi, kiedy ją głaszczę.

> 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.

Wtedy mruczy. Mimi potrafi bardzo głośno mruczeć. Lubię, kiedy Mimi mruczy. Wiem wtedy, że się cieszy. Jest słodka.

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

Idziemy do sklepu. Mama widzi nas i uśmiecha się.
Pyta: „Czy spacer wam się podobał?”
„Tak”, mówi Mats.
„Widzieliśmy ryby”, mówię.

> 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 cieszy się. „Więc to był dobry dzień”, mówi. Myślę o lesie i słońcu, o Matsie i Ozzym, o strumieniu i rybach i chlebie. Ma rację. To był dobry dzień.

> 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.