

Life is better than Fiction



MUTTISHUND / MUM'SDOG

True tales about animals

by Jutta Bauer

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Mum'sdog

Funny, isn't it – "true-life" stories often turn out to be more droll and bizarre than anything a writer might dare to dream up. Life is stranger than fiction, indeed. And for the strangeness of truth to appear in its full splendour it is essential that true stories should be told with laconic concision. The more so when illustrations are at hand to give depth to the narrative.

If you want to order something via eBay you've got to click on various boxes and key in the information required. You have to invent a password, and find yourself an e-bay name. While trying to come up with such a name Jutta Bauer suddenly remembered her mother's dog, long since dead. So now she keeps getting all kinds of e-mail addressed to "Dear Mum'sdog". Strange, isn't it, that a dog, at least in name, should fizz round the globe at lightning speed, deceased, defunct and dear-departed though it's been these many years... There's many a noteworthy tale Jutta Bauer has to tell about sundry other animals. Every picture tells a story...

The artist

Jutta Bauer was born in Hamburg in 1955, where she studied at the Fachhochschule für Gestaltung (today: Hamburg University of Applied Sciences). She has designed book covers, illustrated cartoons and children's novels. But above all it is through her own children's books that she has become one of Germany's best-known and best-loved illustrators. She was awarded the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis for "Schreimutter" in 2001. In 2009 she received the Deutscher Jugendliteraturpreis (German Youth Literature Award) for her oeuvre. Her philosophizing sheep Selma, famous for its pithy cracks, has become quite a cult figure. Jutta Bauer is winner of the Hans-Christian-Andersen-Award for Illustration 2010.

Jacoby & Stuart have also published "Überall ist leicht zu verpassen" by Jürg Schubiger with illustrations by Jutta Bauer.

Another gem for dog lovers in this series

The prosaic Dog

