# Fran Alonso 

## My cat's a poet

Designs by the author

Translated from Galician by Jonathan Dunne
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Love

Love is a hat that appears on your head one day.
Love is a yoghupt
you devour but it doesn't fill you.
Love is somebody
tickling
the soles of your feet,
a mushroom
flowering in your mouth
when you make to speak.

Love is the scent
of peach
on golden,
copper-coloured buttocks.
Love is a comic's kiss,
a back-seat passion.
Some insults, blue as the sea,
colourful as rainbows,
are also love.
Love is a worm burpowing
in a burst of
libertarian madness.

The landscape is a blue cry
taking possession
of your soul. The landscape
is a hot-air balloon colouring your cheeks. The landscape is a heart in flames and lungs fermenting like a frog's belly.
The landscape is a mountain that lights
a fire of quince inside your body.
The landscape is the blue howl with
which your entrails overflow with life.
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My poetic cat plays with words, rolls them along the ground, wrings their necks so they stop working, then recovers them with his mouth and reads the poems aloud. My poetic cat always pushes the words I give him to the limit.
He juggles with them, plays magic tricks.
Like a tightrope walker he walks the line and sometimes



## Fran Alonso



Fran Alonso (Vigo, 1963) is a writer, editor and journalist. As an author of children's literature, he has published the poetry books Cities (Xerais, 1997; in Spa-
nish, Espasa Calpe, 1998), Rañolas Award for Best Book of the Year, and My Cat's a Poet (Xerais 2011), named best book of the year by the readers of the blog Fervenzas Literarias.
For younger readers he has published Get Poetic (Xerais, 2006), a fun anthology of Galician poetry that has since become a poetry bestseller. He has published a book of short stories, Love Letters (Xerais, 2006; in Spanish, Algar, 2008), the novel The Brightness of Elephants (Xerais, 1998) and picture books such as The House in the Dunes (Xerais, 2002), included in the White Ravens Catalogue, and The Spider and Me (Kalandraka, 2009), Neira Vilas Award for Best Book of the Year and translated into Spanish, Portuguese, English, Italian and Korean.
He is also the author of an important body of work for adults.
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