



EYMARD TOLEDO: BENÉ, FASTER THAN THE FASTEST CHICKEN



Title: Bené, schneller als das schnellste Huhn

Text/Illustration: Eymard Toledo

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SYNOPSIS

His full name is Benedito da Silva, but everybody calls the boy in the number 10 jersey just Bené. He loves football with all his heart. Bené does not only love playing and juggling with footballs, he and his family actually make a living out of manufacturing them. Each day, they make four or five balls, and it is Bené who sews them – and who puts their quality to the test. Only the good ones will sell.

The story about Bené is set in Brazil, the country of origin of the author and illustrator, who currently lives in Germany. Bené does not attend school. Like many children in the poorer areas of Brazil (and of many other countries in the world), he has to help his family earn a living. His dream of wearing a genuine jersey and real football boots one day may never come true, but he is an artist with the ball, even when playing in his flip-flops. He enjoys practicing with his skilfully made footballs, he loves his family, and he is happy to have good friends, who will play and share a *Pelada* with him every day.

THE AUTHOR AND ILLUSTRATOR

The story of Bené is set in Brazil. In Ubá, in the Southeast of the country to be precise. When Eymard Toledo, who was born in Belo Horizonte, was a child, she spent all her holidays in the house of her grandmother in Ubá, a small village at the time.

At the age of 25 she travelled Europe on her own. It was Berlin where she decided to stay, and where she completed her education, earning a master's degree in industrial design. She has been living in Germany for more than twenty years now. She is married and has two sons, and lives in the city of Mainz.



AWARDS

→ Awarded as one of the «Most beautiful German Books» 2014 (Stiftung Buchkunst)

→ Awarded as «Book of the Month» by the German Academy for Children's Literature 2013

→ Peter Pan-Prize by IBBY Sweden 2020

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