

It was a typical, unremarkable assignment: visit a museum and write a report. But we got lost and turned off into an alley, where he burst into song. That was when the magic started.

Boundless Moscow — not a picture book, a book-picture — was conceived during our strolls through the city in different times of year. Unhurried movement along quiet lanes and noisy squares, all with their own particular atmospheres, taught us to understand and love Moscow. Each illustration reflects this.

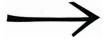
What we've gathered here is not the traditional litany of tourist attractions, but rather what we treasure most. All the locations are recognizable, although buildings and people from very different corners of Moscow might well occupy the same page. But what could be more fascinating than discovering your own city within the city, time and again?

The illustrations were created using the technique of cut-out paper silhouettes, often without preliminary sketches. Moscow is unique. This is evident in the people with all their social differences, in the eclectic architecture, and even in the streets themselves, which change their names without waiting for a revolution. Mounting the silhouettes on a background creates the barest hint of shadows, helping remind us that the city is alive.

While every page displays its own scene, each of the pictures flows seamlessly into the next. We simply followed Moscow's own promptings, which gradually transformed our panorama into a history of the city.

Our book is for every person, no matter what age, who loves our capital. The end of the book holds a surprise: you can continue our walk through the city and draw in the remaining illustrations yourself, or you can create your own route and illustrate it in a boundless series of pictures on the back of the book.

Each reader will end up with an individual, personalized trip through a Moscow that, indeed, knows how to amaze us.



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