

## The Orantzaro, from darkness to light

(Itzulpena: Jon Iraola)



Night has fallen over Leitza, and the sky has darkened. Some children are playing, laughing, and giggling, as if the autumn darkness itself were part of the fun. Suddenly, red eyes flash in the darkness, and the children are frightened.



Amets, terrified, ran home to her parents. “What was that?” he asked them in a trembling voice. “It’s Death! It’s stealing the light”, said her mother. A cold wind swept over them all.



From then on, the nights became long and dark. To ward off fear and darkness, they decided to light candles in their homes and Amets and his friends have set out to call to the villagers.

But it was not enough. The power of Death was growing: the days were getting shorter, and the light was growing weaker.



The children of the village went to Amets’ grandmother’s farmhouse to ask for help. They told her what had happened. The grandmother thought for a moment.

“It is said that in Leitzalar there was Maimur, the power of the Earth and Nature. Go, go to Leitzalar, and see if you can find her there”, the grandmother told them.

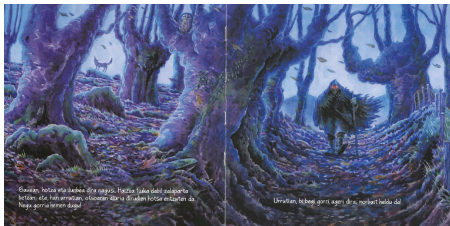


The children set out to find Maimur and finally discovered her in the cave of Elun.

“Maimur, we need your help!” they cried, explaining what happened with Death.

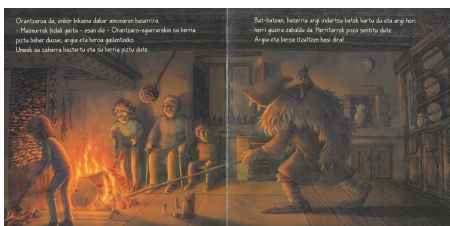
Maimur looked them deeply into their eyes and replied with a bright, small laugh:

“Yes, I will help you. I will put the Orantzaro and the Galtzagorri devils to work!”



At night, cold and darkness prevail. The wind blows, and in the distance, a sound like a wolf's howl drifts through the air. Winter has come!

! In the distance, two red eyes appear —someone has arrived!



It's Orantzaro, and he has brought a magnificent log to the grandmother's farmhouse.

“Maimur sent me to you”, he told them. “You need to light a new fire with this Orantzaro-wood, so that light and heat may prevail”.

The children put away the old fire and lit a new one.

Suddenly, a strong light filled the farmhouse and spread throughout the village.

The villagers rejoiced. Light and heat were returning!



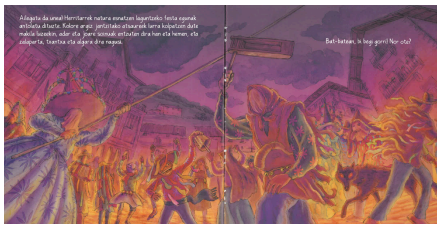
They threw a big party on the farm to celebrate, but Orantzaro warned them:

“I have brought you the light of Maimur, but now you must awaken the nature that lies in darkness!”



How would they awaken nature?

The children decided to use sound and color. All the villagers began to prepare, collecting colorful clothes and instruments that made noise: horns, rattles, cowbells, long sticks...



Time had come!

The villagers organised a festival to help nature awaken. Brightly dressed Atsaures struck the ground with long sticks, the sounds of horns and drums echoed here and there, and merriment, jokes, and laughter filled the air.

Suddenly—two red eyes! Who could it be?



The red-eyed wolf appeared in the village, accompanied by the beasts of nature. Mother Earth had awakened!

The villagers wanted to capture the wolf and tame it, so that it could protect the village.

But Amets and his friends quickly understood that it could not be tamed. Together with the beasts, they helped the wolf escape, so that it could live freely and make its own way.



The town was in a festive mood. Nature had awakened, and the light had returned. But... would it last forever? It was spring in Leitza.