



About the author:

YANA LETT was born in 1992 in Moscow and graduated from the Philology Faculty of Moscow State University. She is a teacher of Russian language, literature, and creative writing. Yana Lett has been writing in different genres – books for children, YA fantasy, techno-fantasy, new weird fiction and magical realism. She is the author of eight books of prose that received nominations and won several national awards since 2018, gaining her wide recognition among the young and adult readership alike. Since 2022 Yana Lett has resided in Mauritius.

Selected quotes

Yana Lett is one of the most promising young Russian science fiction writers. With each new book, her talent unfolds in a fresh way: she can write for both teenagers and adults, delve into deep psychological traumas, and craft thrilling adventures, all with equal persuasiveness.

Vasily Vladimirskiy
 a literary critic

Yana Lett finds ways to surprise even the most seasoned reader.

Mir Fantastiki

Selected Bibliography

- 2023 — **Preparators. The Heart of Frost. Book2**, *novel*
 2022 — **Preparators. The Hawk's Calling. Book1**, *novel*
 2020-2022 — **World of Gaps**, *trilogy*
 2021 — **Absence of Anna**, *novel*
 2021 — **The Story of Seven Doors**, *children's book*

The New Science Fiction 2018

Interpresscon Prize 2022

Finalist of RosCon 2021

Longlisted for **The New Horizons Prize 2022**

Longlisted for **The New Horizons Prize 2023**

Longlisted for **The New Horizons Prize 2023**



No Sugar Press (AST)
 Novel, 2023
 576 pp

Preparators. The Hawk's Calling. Book 1

The fans of Leigh Bardugo and George Martin will embrace this new striking universe of thrilling fantasy adventure, fascinating drama and intricate court scheming by Yana Lett, Russia's new bright voice in YA cross-over fiction.

On For many centuries, Kjertania has been bound by eternal ice. In the deadly and alluring Frost that surrounds the cities, only snitirs dwell — extraordinary creatures that exist simultaneously in two layers of reality. It is the snitirs — or, more precisely, parts of their bodies — that sustain life on the continent. Their hearts beat in place of train and car engines, and their eyes pierce the darkness instead of lanterns...

Only preparators — humans with special physical abilities — can hunt them. Their task is to kill the creature's spirit, keeping the body alive — so that its parts can be used for multiple purposes in Kjertania. Annually recruiters take off from the capital all over the country in search of young people who can meet the challenge of Frost as preparators. It is a rare luck when at least one person is found to pass the trial, but this year is different: three young villagers — confident and ambitious Sorta, smart and funny dreamer Ulm, tender and charming Missy — get enlisted on training for this honorable but deadly dangerous service. Each will demonstrate their unique skills during years of practice and all three will have to make decisions that shall define their life paths. What price must be paid for their chosenness, for unexpected and sometimes unwanted abilities?

Sorta demonstrates exceptional hunting skills and is assigned to work in pair with the greatest "hawk", Eric Chrome. He seems arrogant and cold, and Sorta assumes this is because he does not want to feel attachment to a new partner after a recent loss of his previous years-long hunter and friend. Yet this might be not

the only reason — Eric obviously has his own agenda in the court, and the more Sorta knows about Eric the more acute her choice between the loyalty to the service (and the royal court) and to her hawk becomes.

Ulm has always dreamt of exploring the world, and becoming a pilot of Kjertania's grandiose flying vessels would be a career to seek for. Yet his natural inquisitiveness and an eye for minute details is not left unnoticed by the state police, and he is recruited as a detective inspector's hand. When Ulm gets invited to the reception at the court together with other new recruits, he has no idea how his usual charms will work on the royal heiress, and that a small talk with a girl in the palace garden will take him not only into the heart of the princess but also in the center of the court's intricate politics.

Missy, too, falls under charms of a young man from Kjertania's elite. Naïve and open-hearted, she is prepared to sacrifice her career as a hunter to the promise of a family life. Yet does her boyfriend really want this sacrifice?

Yana Lett invites her readers onto a fascinating journey into a new world, filled with dark secrets, terrifying monsters, court intrigues and thrilling adventures. At once a coming-of-age story and a gripping thriller, this story probes on questions that young people often face. Can you fight against the system? What does it take to change your destiny by your own will? How do you choose between love and duty?

Selected quotes

The world created by Yana Lett is intricate, logical, and detailed. It encompasses social inequality, trains crafted from snitir body parts, religious rituals, intrigues, epidemics, and smuggling. The writer has populated Kjertania with a good dozen prominent characters—complex, multidimensional, not reducible to typical fantasy archetypes.

Galina Yuzefovich
a literary critic

A complex weird techno-fantasy with traces of magical realism and horror.

Mir Fantastiki

The book ends not even on a half-word but on a half-syllable, and the tension that had been building since the first chapters intensifies exponentially by the finale. After all, whatever can put an end to eternal cold, if it is even possible, is very distant. And the Frost is always very close.

papmambook.ru

I have always dreamt of writing a truly epic book — with an original and vivid world, a multitude of characters, and a multi-layered plot. 'Preparators' came to me as if the story had chosen me to be its storyteller. It's a tale of heroism and choice, loyalty and betrayal, death and love. I sincerely hope that I have been able to tell it as it deserves to be told, and that readers will love it as much as I do.

Yana Lett
 about Preparators