

Menena Cottin : The Black Book of Colors

(Menena Cottin: El libro negro de los colores (illusztrálta: Rosana Faria)

According to Thomas, yellow tastes like mustard ...
but is as soft as chicken feathers.
Red is acid as strawberries and sweet as watermelon,
but it hurts when it peeks out of a scratch on his knee.
Brown cracks under his steps when the leaves are dry.
Brown smells sometimes like chocolate, but sometimes brown can stink.
Thomas says that blue is the color of the sky
when the sun shines hot in his head.
The sky turns white instead
should the clouds decide to cover it and the rain to break loose.
But if the sun leans out to see the falling raindrops..
all colors appear to paint the rainbow.
For Thomas, water without sun isn't much fun;
it has no color, nor taste, nor smell.
He says green smells like a freshly mowed lawn
and tastes like lemon sherbet.
And black is the king of all colors. It is as soft as silk
when his mother hugs him tight and wraps him in her long dark hair.
Thomas likes all colors...
because he can hear them,
smell them,
taste them,
and touch them.