

Story Tellers

There are stories waiting to be narrated

Eleonora Gadjeva is a journalist, a searching one. Two years ago, actuated by her interest in stories whose author is life itself, she initiated a project under the name Story Tellers. Together with the photographer Svetoslav Kutsarov they started on their journey to distant places, some of which are still difficult to reach.

More than 13,500 km covered in Bulgaria

37 visits to different towns and villages

130 meetings with different people, such as organizers, project managers, specialists in history, archeology, ethnographers, culturologists

112 interviews

Over 3,700 photos and all this in one book, Story Tellers

...Whatever must remain
finds its own way to pass
through time.



The luthier touched his violin with the palm of his hand, closed his eyes, and his face relaxed. This is the big moment the master shares with his violin. Words cannot describe such an emotion! It remains floating in the air, there in the studio, where art is created.

Andrian Andreev,
master luthier from the town of Kazanlak





The music of the bagpipe dies away somewhere in the dark, the night has embraced everything around, the raindrops gently touch the weary land. The nestinarka (fire-dancer) slowly eases herself out of the grip of the fire. White purification.

Veska Ahmakova,
fire-dancer from the town of Yambol

A real story about the white in the life of people and the flour in the bread-trough. Precious thoughts in the sweet quietness of rising bread, stories that have accumulated the wisdom in themselves, and one small world that begins and finishes with bread.

Vesselina Draganova from the village of Garvan



You should desire to keep the traditions and to hand down the knowledge of the past to those coming after you. You should not think about what all these things are going to cost you – effort, time, work, and problems. If we thought about the problems, we would have given up a long time ago. And if we gave up, what would the purpose of our life be?

Stefan Terziev, choreographer from the village of Novo Lyaski



“I haven’t thought that one day all this will turn into a book. I simply sat and listened to the stories, each one more interesting, more strange, and more fabulous than the other. Working as a journalist is the best thing that has happened to me, not only because of the possibility to be among people and to rediscover the intricacies of life, but also because I can tell others about these meetings.”

When Story Tellers began as a rubric on the pages of Za Horata, magazine it had the intention to show ordinary people who possess the extraordinary mission to keep knowledge from the past in their memory and to hand it down to the future generations.

“We began to look for old masters practicing crafts in danger of dying out; then we visited the singing weavers and stood in admiration before the colors used in the rugs of the women from a mountainous village. A moment later, bewildered, we were trying to dance, following the unique steps made by the people from the region of Gotse Delchev... and somehow unnoticeably, these stories were internalized and became part of our personalities.”

Travelling from place to place for hours on end, having meetings, conversations, a lot of impressions and exciting moments, taking photos, and then again on the way to the next story. “All these experiences seem to me like a dream now — we met so many people, we heard so many stories, we had moments when I thought that I would not like the tale to have an end, and moments when I wondered whether the meeting was

true or not. Now I know that everything was worth doing, and the book is good evidence for that.

Each story in the book is a journey to the memories of the people, to the past, and to the heart of mankind. Each story has touched me deeply and has given me a fragment of knowledge. Read them, look for yourself in them, and then you may be able to tell another story, because every person is a narrator of their own memories.”

Eleonora Gadjeva



“To take photos of ordinary people is an extraordinary experience. They are not models, they do not pose. They simply fill everything around themselves with life!”

Svetoslav Kutsarov

About the book:

© Eleonora Gadjeva, author

© Svetoslav Kutsarov, photographer

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For more information or placing an order for the book, contact:

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