
Rights & Brands
AUTUMN 2023
Catalogue

Adult Fiction
& Non-Fiction



R & B



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Autumn highlights 2023



THE BIRTHDAY by Sofie Sarenbrant & Carina Bergfeldt, p. 4

It's a beautiful morning when Samuel's mother, his father and his new stepmother gather to celebrate his seventh birthday. Together they arrange the cake, light the candles and head to Samuel's room singing. But as the door opens, silence falls. Samuel's bed is empty, the window wide open. A heavily publicized search operation begins, and all of a sudden all family members turn into suspects. Will Samuel be found?

THE WITNESS by Jenni Rogneby, p. 8

Five-year-old Ina wakes up to screams in the middle of the night. In the living room she becomes the only witness to a horrific crime: the murder of her mother. Ina's father is sentenced to lifetime in prison. Twelve years later, Ina decides to confront her father. Mediator Angela Lans steers the charged conversations between father and daughter.



HEART OF LEAD by Tuire Malmstedt, p. 10

Jyväskylä 2020: A woman's skeleton is found with a metal box containing a small baby's lace dress and Sartre's play "No Exit". Was she one of the four girls who went missing in 1968?

Concentration camp Ravensbrück 1943: Before her death, Amélie's friend asks her a favor: to kill her child before the Nazis will. Determined, Amélie does her utmost to ensure the child survives the camp. Is it more than a heart of lead that connects these women's fates?

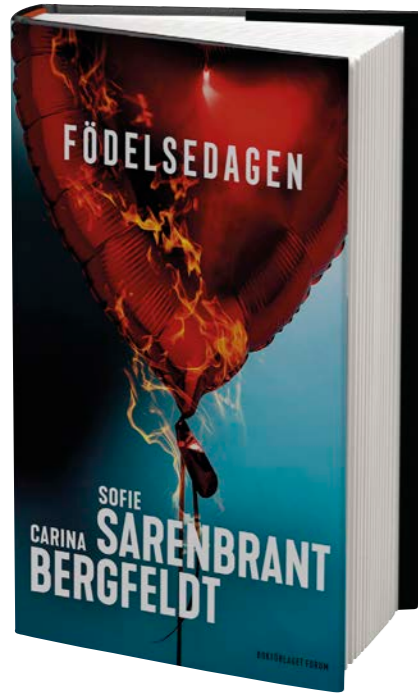
NOT TOMORROW, EITHER by Anna-Leena Härkönen, p. 15

Sixty-year-old Elsa, who had already abandoned her identity as a desirable woman with a vivid sexuality when her late husband started seeing other women, suddenly awakes to a teenage-like crush on the considerably younger Valtteri. A special relationship unfolds. But money can't buy love...or can it?



A HOME – THE WORLD OF CARL AND KARIN LARSSON by Elsa Billgren & Ulrika Ewerman, p. 54

In 1888, world-famous artist couple Carl and Karin Larsson moved into an idyllic timbered cottage to make it their joint art project. They created a remarkably modern and personal home, with bold colors and innovative interior design. Today, Carl Larsson-gården is an icon within Scandinavian interior design and family life. Elsa Billgren's book offers unique insight into the famous house and inspires readers to create the same feeling in their own homes.



The Birthday

(Födelsedagen)
405 pages | First published in Swedish
by Bokförlaget Forum 2023

**A Missing Child.
A Broken Family.
A 24-hour Chase
for the Truth.**

It's a beautiful morning when Samuel's mother, his father and his new stepmother gather to celebrate his seventh birthday. Together they arrange the cake, light the candles and head to Samuel's room singing. But as the door opens, silence falls. Samuel's bed is empty, the window wide open.

Police are quickly called and a heavily publicized search operation begins. But as the hours go by, questions and suspicions arise – the atmosphere between ex-wife, father and stepmother thickens. When the corpse of a family member is discovered, the situation escalates. All three would have an interest to get Samuel out of the way, but their stories just don't add up. What really happened the night before?

The Birthday is the first part in a new suspense series by Sofie Sarenbrant and Carina Bergfeldt.

"The Birthday by Sofie Sarenbrant and Carina Bergfeldt is a page-turner that keeps the reader on the torture bench until the dramatic finale. It's a great start to a new series."

CHRISTEL BRINKLÖV,
PEOPLE'S PRESS

"The Birthday is a book you literally can't stop reading once you start. In a scary way it feels as if you could be reading about people you know, friends and relatives, and their struggles in their new (and old) relationships. It's intense and fast-paced and a brilliant start to a new series!"

LEENA BALME, WSOY

"Nowadays, there are many different author constellations. Some are more successful than others, Sofie Sarenbrant and Carina Bergfeldt are one of those. In their joint book 'The Birthday' we not only get a taste of superb authorship, but also of when a collaboration is at its best. This is nothing short of world class!"

DU I FOKUS MAGAZINE

"The Birthday had me caught from the very first sentence. It's an accomplished fast-paced story, a true page turner! The intriguing plot with the broken family is both cunning and contemporary. And I love the way the story is told from different perspectives, and in a 24-hour whodunnit-style with the clock continuously ticking."

JENNIE SJÖGREN, FORUM



SOFIE SARENBRANT is the biggest crime author in the Nordics. She is best known for her refreshingly creative series following police detective Emma Sköld which has sold over 5 million copies worldwide and was translated into 17 languages. Sofie has been awarded the prestigious prize of Swedish Crime Writer of the Year in 2019, 2020 and 2022.

CARINA BERGFELDT is an author, journalist, and one of the most popular TV hosts in Sweden. She has been awarded the Great Journalist Award, Stylist of the Year and Kristallen television Award for Best TV personality. She has been a US correspondent and a columnist, but today, she's most known for her talk show, Carina Bergfeldts, broadcasted by Sweden's national television, SVT. Bergfeldt has also published both fiction and non-fiction books, with translation rights sold to 15 countries.

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EMMA SKÖLD SERIES

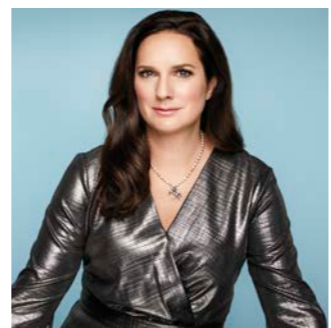
With a focus on pressing topics and engaging social issues, Sarenbrant confirms her position as one of the biggest crime writers in the Nordics.

It is a hot summer day when the burnt remains of a body are found by Drottningholm Palace, the private residence of the royal family, just outside of Stockholm. Next to the victim, the police find a death list with five names. The last one reads Emma Sköld.

An investigation is immediately started. At the same time, a twenty-year-old case unrolls where a mother went to the emergency room with her infant but ended up in detention. What does the past have to do with the victim found by Drottningholm? Now it is up to Emma and her colleagues to stop the killer before more names are crossed of the list. Including the final one, Emma herself.

The Parasite is the eleventh book in the bestselling series following detective Emma Sköld and her team in Stockholm. In her characteristic way, Sarenbrant portrays topical issues while at the same time creating suspense that keeps readers on their toes all the way to the end. *The Parasite* is about a life shattered overnight, revenge, hurtful sibling relationships and a family involved in a tragedy with catastrophic consequences.

The Parasite was awarded Crime Novel of the Year 2023!



© MAGNUS RAGNVID

SOFIE SARENBRANT made her literary debut in 2010 and has since then become one of the biggest crime authors in the Nordics. She is best known for her modern and creative series following police detective Emma Sköld and her team in Stockholm. The series has sold over 5 million copies worldwide and been translated into 16 languages to date.

Sofie has won Nextory E-Book Awards and BookBeat's Crime Writer of the Year in 2019, 2020 and 2022.



The Liar

(Mytomanen)
420 pages | First published in Swedish by Bookmark 2020

An early summer morning, the badly beaten body of a teenage boy is discovered. Tensions immediately run high among the neighbours, and suspicions are directed towards some young boys from a nearby area. Is prejudice getting in the way of finding the murderer?

Shame

(Skamvrån)
420 pages | First published in Swedish by Bookmark 2019

A girl lays herself down on the tram rails, waiting for the train to come, while a man finds himself alone in a deep grave in the woods. The two do not know each other, but they have something vital in common. Emma must find out what, in her most personal case yet.

The Scapegoat

(Syndabocken)
380 pages | First published in Swedish by Bookmark 2018

A wave of home invasions has struck a posh suburb outside of Stockholm. As the break-ins continue, the methods become more gruesome. When a teenage boy is found murdered in his home, Emma Sköld gets involved. Could it be more than a burglary gone wrong?

The Beggar

(Tiggaren)
390 pages | First published in Swedish by Bookmark 2016

Beggars around Stockholm are falling victim to what appears to be a psychopathic serial killer. The police are clueless, and the only person who can stop the murders must do everything to stay in hiding.

Rest in peace

(Vila i frid)
339 pages | First published in Swedish by Damm 2012

The luxurious Japanese spa Yasuragi is a haven for stressed-out inhabitants of Stockholm. But when a famous actress is found unconscious, and the bodies of an older couple are discovered, all serenity is broken. Emma Sköld realises that this is no ordinary investigation.

The Babysitter

(Avdelning 73)
384 pages | First published in Swedish by Massolit 2015

Emma Sköld wakes up at the hospital after being in a coma for five months. As time goes by, Emma realises that there has been foul play involved. As long as she is in the ICU, the security is rigorous. But if she is moved to another ward, anyone can get close to her.

Killer Deal

(Visning pågår)
380 pages | First published in Swedish by Massolit 2014

The morning after a house showing, the father of the family is found dead by his daughter Astrid. Suspicions are directed towards his ex-wife, but Astrid claims that a strange man stroked her cheek during the night. What's the truth behind events in the ostensibly idyllic residential area?

Second Wind

(Andra andningen)
368 pages | First published in Swedish by Damm 2013

Stockholm Marathon has always been spared from deaths among its runners. But for the 35th edition, this is about to change. Emma Sköld is there to cheer on her sister but is abruptly interrupted as she gets pulled into a fast-paced murder investigation.

“As usual, Sarenbrant has a drive in her storytelling and conveys current topics in her themes and plot construction which creates a suspense and, in a very skillful way, draws the reader into the story. This is a Swedish social debate-crime novel of the highest quality.”

BIBLIOTEKSTJÄNST

The Parasite
(Parasiten)
400 pages | First published in Swedish by Bookmark 2023

“Sofie Sarenbrant’s crime novel The Soulmate begins with a real sick-to-the-stomach scene and the feverish pace is kept up throughout the novel.”

AFTONBLADET SÖNDAG



The Soulmate

(Själsfränden)
442 pages | First published in Swedish by Bookmark 2022

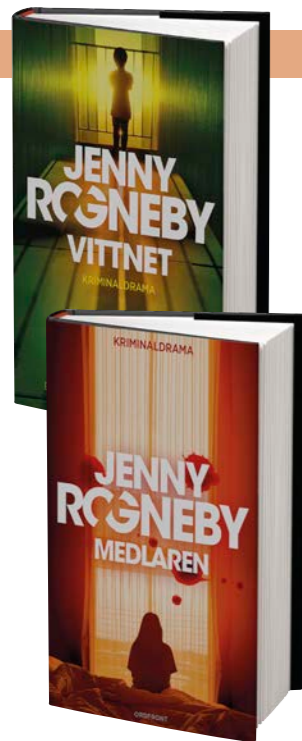
Stockholm is exploding in the warm colours of autumn. It’s a striking view, but Emma Sköld’s eyes falls on something else. A woman is balancing on the wrong side of the railing of a bridge, holding a baby in her arms. What has led the woman to this point?



The Guardian Angel

(Skyddsängeln)
400 pages | First published in Swedish by Bookmark 2021

An elderly man is found murdered in an abandoned mental institution. When Emma Sköld realises it has a connection with the disappearance of her colleague seven months earlier, she becomes obsessed with the case.



ANGELA LANS SERIES

The Witness

(Vittnet)
485 pages | First published in Swedish by Ordfront 2023

Five-year-old Ina wakes up to screams and becomes the witness to a horrific scene: the murder of her mother. Shortly thereafter, Ina's father is sentenced to prison, despite his claims of innocence.

Twelve years later, the now teenaged Ina decides it's time for her to confront her father. Mediator Angela Lans handles the meetings and tries her best to steer the charged conversations between father and daughter.

Meanwhile, Angela has moved in with her new boyfriend Liam and is looking forward to their new future, when her sister Hanna's state worsens. Angela struggles to help Hanna and keep her new relationship in balance, she can't help to get personally involved in Ina's case, and risks jeopardizing the entire mediation project.

In addition, Angela receives serious death threats and is pursued by someone trying to stop her, a person who turns out to be closer to the case than anyone could ever imagine.

The Witness is the second book about Angela Lans. It's a gripping crime novel following a woman's persistent search for truth and justice, both for herself and others.

The Mediator

(Medlaren)
486 pages | First published in Swedish by Ordfront 2022

A young woman is brutally assaulted after a night out with a friend. The attacker is found and convicted, now serving his sentence. But as his release approaches, mediator Angela Lans is brought in. She has been appointed to run a pilot project where mediation is offered between victim and perpetrator. They will meet and talk under the careful supervision of Angela, with the aim to provide resolution for the victim and to help the perpetrator back into society.

But as the meetings progress, new information comes to light that makes Angela question what really happened between the two. Going against the principles of mediation, she investigates the case herself and makes several unexpected discoveries.

Alongside the mediation, Angela battles her own demons: both the circumstances surrounding her mentally ill sister, and her relationship with her new love interest Liam, who is perfect in every way - perhaps a little too perfect.

The first part in a new series by celebrated crime writer Jenny Rogneby that begins where other crime novels end.



© MIKAEL ERIKSSON

JENNY ROGNEBY (b. 1974) is an author and criminologist. For seven years she worked professionally as a Criminal Investigator at Stockholm City Police Department. The work inspired her to start writing *The Leona Series*, a Swedish best-selling crime series that has been translated to 14 languages. In 2022, Jenny Rogneby published the first book in her new crime series which follows the mediator Angela Lans, and the next book will be published 2023.

"With The Mediator, the Stockholm noir genre has gained a deeper and more ambiguous representative. Reading it is an extraordinary experience."

BIBLIOTEKSTJÄNST

"Jenny Rogneby also skillfully avoids ending up with clichés and manages to make the language genuine and striking."

BIBLIOTEKSTJÄNST

Leona – Eye for an Eye

(Leona – Öga för öga)
381 pages | First published in Swedish by Wahlström & Widstrand 2020

Leona's father is missing, but she's not allowed to investigate his disappearance. Instead, she is put on a case where a taxi driver has been found badly beaten and tied in a ditch. At the same time, two young girls are attracted by the thrill of exploring the most dangerous corners of the Internet. They witness a very nasty event that seems connected to Leona. As Leona unravels her father's disappearance, a shocking family secret is exposed.

Leona – Into the Fire

(Leona – Ur aska i eld)
341 pages | First published in Swedish by Wahlström & Widstrand 2019

After a raging fire in Stockholm, Sweden, six teenagers are found dead. Soon after, yet another fire breaks out at Stockholm Central Station at rush hour, and Leona understands that the incidents follow a terrible pattern. In *Into the Fire*, Jenny Rogneby centres on social alienation among young people growing up in today's media landscape, and the dreadful effect of peer pressure.

"Jenny Rogneby is the new queen of Nordic noir. Her heroine is like no one else. And the way she writes! She grabs you and you just can't stop reading."



LEONA SERIES

This best-selling Scandinavian thriller follows its troubled heroine as she investigates a high-profile robbery for Stockholm's Violent Crimes Division. *LEONA* is an international success, sold in 13 countries.

Leona – The Die is Cast

(Leona – Tärningen är kastad)
364 pages | First published in Swedish by Wahlström & Widstrand 2014

Naked and bloody, a seven-year-old girl walks into a bank in central Stockholm in broad daylight and comes out with millions. Leona Lindberg of Stockholm's Violent Crimes Division seems the perfect person to take the case, she has a long, distinguished history in the police force. But Leona is grappling with deep issues of her own: a gambling addiction, a strained marriage. As she struggles to keep the volatile pieces of her life under control, the line between right and wrong becomes increasingly unclear. *The Die is Cast* is a hard-boiled crime novel, filled with unexpected twists and turns, featuring an unusual heroine. Leona makes for gripping reading while challenging feminine norms and posing questions about what lies behind the choices we make.



Leona – With No Human Value

(Leona – Utan mänskligt värde)
333 pages | First published in Swedish by Wahlström & Widstrand 2017

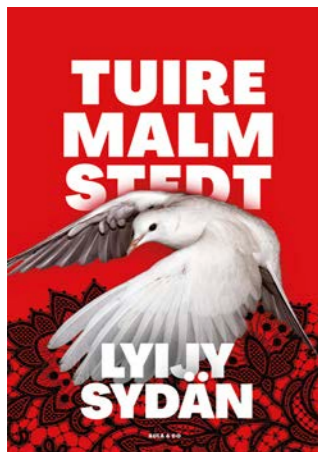
A woman is hit by a fast speed train just outside Stockholm. All signs point to suicide, but the police soon realise that the woman has injuries not caused by the train – she's missing a kidney. When a homeless man collapses in central Stockholm, also missing an organ, it becomes clear that the police are dealing with a new type of ruthless criminal, targeting those most vulnerable in society for profit. Leona feels inexplicably connected to the case, but her focus is, as ever, on other things.

Leona – All Means Allowed

(Leona – Alla medel tillättna)
394 pages | First published in Swedish by Wahlström & Widstrand 2016

A man blows himself up outside the Parliament House in Stockholm, but miraculously survives. Was he a lone wolf, or are there more heinous acts to follow? Leona Lindberg is put on the case, but her family is shattered, she's living under threat, and desperately needs liquid assets. With one foot on each side of the law, she mounts a special operation of grand proportions. And the higher the risk, the higher the rewards.

BIBLIOTEKSTJÄNST



Heart of Lead
(Lijjysydän)
400 pages | First published in Finnish by Aula & Co 2023

Investigations of an old murder unearth a cross-generational secret.

Beneath the floorboards of the Old Vicarage in Jyväskylä, a skeleton is discovered during renovations. The deceased is a young woman whose time of death dates to the late 1960s. Alongside the skeleton is a metal box containing a small baby's lace dress and Jean-Paul Sartre's play "No Exit."

Detectives Matilda Metso and Elmo Vauramo find four young women in old investigation archives who fit the victim's profile. One of them went missing in the Pyhä-Häkki National Park in 1968, and three others drowned in a boating accident at Tuomiojärvi in the same year. Could the body in the Old Vicarage be one of them?

In 1943, Amélie Bonnet is arrested and taken to the Ravensbrück concentration camp. There, she befriends a woman and her daughter. Before her death, the friend asks Amélie for a special favor: "Will you kill my child before they do?" Amélie decides to do the exact opposite – she intends to do everything in her power to ensure the child survives the camp.

How are Amélie, the skeleton found in the vicarage, and the girls who disappeared in the 1960s connected to each other?

Snow Grave
(Lumihauta)
301 pages | First published in Finnish by Aula & Co 2022

For decades, evil was hidden in the northern wilderness. Now it is back.

Detective investigators Matilda Metso and Elmo Vauramo face the most shocking sight of their careers when a family of five is found murdered in an apartment building in Jyväskylä.

The incident throws Matilda off track, and she returns to Angeli, her childhood hometown in remote Lapland, to recover. Once there, she is surprised to learn that she has one living relative. While investigating her family mystery, Matilda uncovers a cult that delivers sacrifices and builds human-looking snow figures in the wilderness. The past of the village seems to be full of hidden secrets.

In Jyväskylä, the investigation of the family murder takes a special turn when it turns out that the case may be related to Matilda's tragic past. The case threatens to throw the entire homicide unit into crisis, and Elmo has to admit for the first time that all cases may never be solved.

Snow Grave is a chilling crime story about family and self-discovery, as well as the brutally beautiful nature and painful history of the north.



© SARA LEHTOMAA

TUIRE MALMSTEDT (b. 1974) is a writer and teacher from Pieksämäki. Before her career as a writer, Tuire worked as a translator and technical writer.

She has been writing stories since she was young, but it was only later that she turned her passion into a profession.

With her stories, she can touch her readers and look for like-minded people, even if she can't meet them in reality.

She has been awarded for the best debut crime novel by The Finnish Whodunnit Society.

"I think Tuire Malmstedt is one of the best Finnish detective writers."

LUETUT



Act of Gladius
(Miekka)
363 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2022

Dark forces are returning to Europe.

A refugee crisis is tightening the tension in Europe to the extreme. When the leader of a new European fascist coalition arrives in Helsinki to meet the Finnish prime minister, she is struck by an assassin's bullet that will blow up a powder keg of events.

The former Prime Minister of Finland, Leo Koski, feels he is an insignificant has-been, living in exile. But after being invited back to Helsinki, he is soon drawn into the center of the crisis. Leo meets Sara, a young historian who believes she knows what the fast-moving chain of events is all about.

Who is Heimdall, whose plans threaten the lives of both those in power and desperate refugees?



Their Turn to Burn
(Roihu)
525 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2021

A deep economic crisis has divided the once so equal Finland into two, the super-rich and the poor under class. During a large demonstration against the populist government, a young woman sets herself on fire. She leaves behind a message that could change everything.

At the same time, the young Prime Minister Leo Koski wakes up to a real-life nightmare. He's caught in the middle of a power game where much more is at stake than his own life. Koski has 24 hours to figure out a plot that threatens the lives of thousands of people, and the future of Finland as a whole.

The skillfully woven plot of the world-class thriller surprises its readers again and again.

West Wing meets Jo Nesbø in a skillfully plotted fast-paced political thriller series, demonstrating how easily inequality and the division of a population can escalate.

"Their Turn to Burn is definitely a best-seller. Complex characters, headstrong protagonists with strengths and flaws. A story with surprising twists. A story that goes into the heart and into the brain. A narrative that awakens the reader and shows that nothing is set in stone."

N-TV GERMANY

"The novel fills the expectations for an international thriller."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

"A superb thriller that encourages to think."

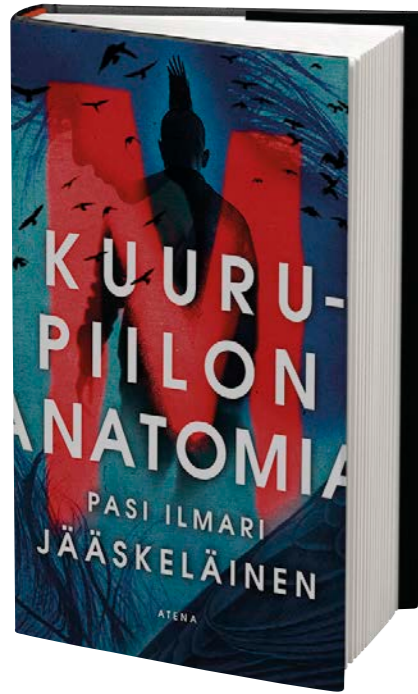
SUOMEN KUVALEHTI



© JONNE RÄSÄNEN / OTAVA

TUOMAS OSKARI (b. 1980, real name Tuomas Niskakangas) has worked as a journalist for Helsingin Sanomat, the largest daily newspaper in Finland, covering business, economics and politics. He also lived in Washington DC for four years working as the newspaper's U.S. Correspondent. Tuomas currently lives in Helsinki.

Both titles of the series were nominated for the Storytel Award 2022 and 2023 and the screen rights have been optioned.



An Anatomy of Hide-and-Seek
(Kuuru- Piilon anatomia)
400 pages | First published in Finnish
by Atena 2023

"Jääskeläinen is a skillful storyteller whose books always turn out to be something else than they looked like in the first place."

KIRJAVINKIT

A magical novel about the search for a lost brother who disappeared during a hide-and-see game.

M is no ordinary child. Like a spy from another world, M meticulously studies their peers to learn about everyday things that seem to come so easy to others, and has a hard time fitting into the mould of the city of Marrasvirta in the late 1970's. M's older brother, the brilliant Alvar, brings some joy into the sibling's life by inventing a peculiar game: 'the Martian Hide-and-Seek'. The setup is simple, Alvar hides and M has to find him, but the rules are disproportionately harsh: M can't refuse the game and Alvar can only come back home once M has found him.

Alvar makes use of his vast knowledge of illusionist tricks, and as the hide-and-see progresses, M begins to experience it at the frontier of dream and reality.

But one day, Alvar really disappears, leaving M tormented with guilt.

Years later, M heads out on a search to find out the truth about Alvar and his strange game. The journey brings M to new parts of the city of Marrasvirta, where night creatures in studded jackets and fanatical skinheads indulge in nightly dances of death.

Pasi Ilmari Jääskeläinen's fifth novel is an amazing journey into loyalty, betrayal and guilt.

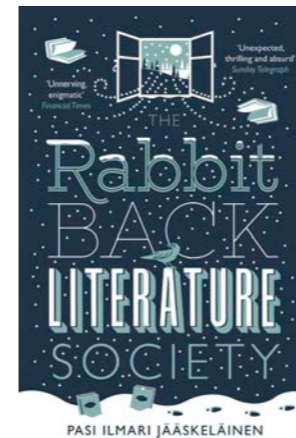
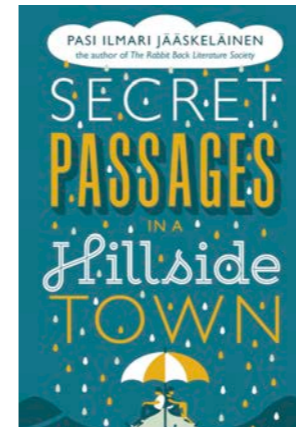


© SAMI MAKINEN

PASI ILMARI JÄÄSKELÄINEN (b. 1966) is an author and a Finnish and literature teacher. In the early 1970's, when he was five, Pasi Ilmari Jääskeläinen lived in a block of flats by an old cemetery and believed in vampires. In the early 1980's, he still had vampire dreams and fell in love with Jeanne Moreau in Truffaut's *Jules et Jim*. Ten years later, Pasi wrote his first short stories. He won the writing competition of SciFi and fantasy stories four times and then decided to become a writer. In Pasi's works, the world is thrown out of place and new dimensions are revealed beneath the familiar reality, somewhat in the spirit of the early works of Mihail Bulgakov, Peter Hoeg and Stephen King. Pasi Ilmari Jääskeläinen has won numerous awards for his short stories and his works have been translated into 14 languages.

"Twin Peaks meets the Brothers Grimm."

THE TELEGRAPH



The Day of the Mutant Cat

(Väärän kissan päivä)
342 pages | First published in Finnish by Atena 2017

A thrilling, multi-layered novel that shakes the reader and forces us to reflect about who we really are, and how much we can actually trust the memories of our past.

The city of Marrasvirta is celebrating its annual autumn festival, and the streets, alleys, and parks are bustling with people. In the midst of this excitement, middle-aged city planner Kaarna receives a call from his mother's nursing home about her declining health. These news set off a series of events that will dismantle Kaarna's carefully constructed life.

Following in his mother's footsteps, Kaarna must unravel the many mysteries that surround his mother's life and, somehow, tie them into his own.

And what is happening with all the cats? Why are they so strange? One thing is certain, however, if you value your life, you must not look at them. Who knows what you might see if you do?

"The Day of the Mutant Cat deals with dementia in many different ways. In Jääskeläinen's hands, this at first depressing topic turns to an exciting adventure about memories."

Secret Passages in a Hillside Town

(Harjukaupungin salakäytävät)
372 pages | First published in Finnish by Atena 2010

A magnetic, filmic read, that combines melancholy to melodrama and horror.

Olli Suominen is a children's book publisher, a member of the local church council, a husband and a father. In every way a respectable, honest, and decent guy. But behind this irreproachable facade, Olli is bored. His relationship with his school teacher wife has faded to routine and his little son feels like a stranger to him.

Change occurs when Olli contacts his long-lost childhood sweetheart, Kerttu, on Facebook. Kerttu has become a famous writer and her next book is due to be published by Olli's publishing house. Little by little, Olli slips out of his numbing workday life into a free fall. Dramatic, suppressed childhood memories resurface. Dreaming and wakefulness intermingle. A feeling of bleakness is replaced by powerful passions.

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

The Rabbit Back Literature Society

(Lumikko ja yhdeksän muuta)
322 pages | First published in Finnish by Atena 2006

An exciting multi-layered mystery novel in the spirit of Mikhail Bulgakov, Peter Hoeg and Gabriel Garcia Marquez.

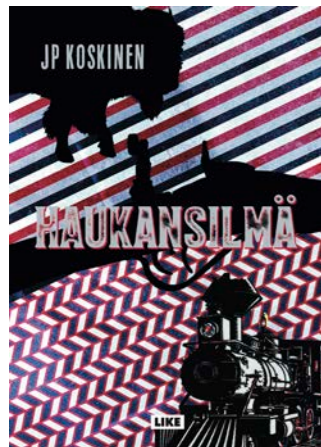
Three decades ago, the author Laura Lumikko promised to find ten talents among the children of her hometown and train them to be writers. She only found nine. These successful writers have made a society with rules of its own and a place in the canon of Finnish literature. Now, after years of waiting, the tenth member finally joins the Society, and the Game, one of the Society's best kept secrets, begins again.

The Rabbit Back Literature Society is Pasi Ilmari Jääskeläinen's intriguing literary debut. It has been sold to 14 territories.

"Unnerving, enigmatic.... Hints of Let the Right One In and Haruki Murakami's elliptical early science fiction novels flavor a creepy tale about mutating books, buried secrets and ghostly encounters."

SUOMEN KUVALEHTI

Dances With Wolves meets *Blood Meridian* in an adventure story from the master of the historical novel.



Hawkeye
(Haukansilmä)
467 pages | First published in Finnish by Like 2021

A family leaves Finland behind in the 1860s and sails across the seas to America in search of happiness. In a country divided by the Civil War, work is hard to find, and the family sets out to inhabit the great prairies of the West. The West is even wilder than they think, and soon the family's son George disappears into the night.



© TONI HÄRKÖNEN

JP KOSKINEN is a versatile author who has written historical fiction, crime, and children's books. He has been short listed for the Finlandia Prize twice, for *Firewing* and for *My Friend Rasputin*. He holds master's degrees in creative writing and mathematics. Koskinen won both the Savonia Prize and The Book of the Year 2019.

The novel takes the reader through an era in which the old way of life is slowly giving way to a new America. The story binds together the history of the settlers, the Indian Wars and the bustling life of the border regions.

Hawkeye is an immersive and entertaining adventure story. It describes the lives of new settlers and Indians, as well as the growth of a Finnish immigrant boy as an invincible warrior and pacifist. At the same time, it reveals how ruthlessly the indigenous habitats and nature were destroyed and how the greed of man had no limits.



Firewing
(Tulisipi)
352 pages | First published in Finnish by Like 2019

An expansive, emotionally rich bildungsroman and epic tale covering large parts of the 20th century, Firewing follows a group of immigrants in search of a paradise, and one boy whose biggest dream is to fly - no matter what it takes.

In an America ravaged by the Great Depression, a family with a Finnish background hears rumors of a workers' paradise being built in the Soviet Union. They leave everything behind and travel across the Atlantic in search of a better future. They arrive in Petrozavodsk on the shores of Lake Onega, but soon realize that life in Soviet Karelia is not a paradise but a struggle for survival. In the middle of it all is Charles, the only son, and his dreams of freedom and flying that offer the only escape from the harsh realities and the circle of deception around him.

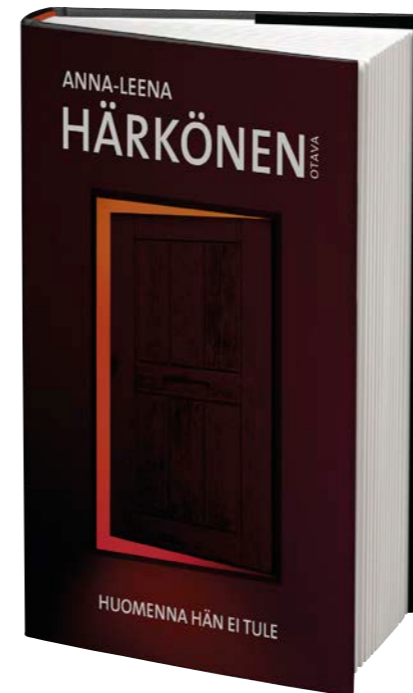
Firewing is an immigrant coming-of-age story about trying to find a way through the turmoil of the early 20th century. It is a sublime and profound novel about a boy who only wants to fly.

"A full, emotionally rich bildungsroman."

LAPIN KANSA

"A book about a boy who dreams of getting wings takes the reader all the way from the Depression- era US to the Soviet Union, where a workers' paradise is being built. It grows into a tragic tale of power, persecution, and a world gone sick. The book combines fascinating topics into a captivating plotline."

JURY OF THE FINLANDIA PRIZE



Not Tomorrow, Either
(Huomenna hän ei tule)
207 pages | Otava | 2023

"The sexuality of an aging woman and the feelings related to it are described in an unashamed way that evokes a wide range of emotions."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

One year after her husband has passed away, Elsa finds herself alone at New Year's Eve. None of the invitees has shown up to her party, friends from her previous life have lost interest in the widow. With plenty of irony, humor and all her might, Elsa tries to keep her self-esteem from collapsing.

After midnight and two bottles of champagne, she staggers out to make her way to the karaoke bar. In the yard a young man claims that she has forgotten her shoes and escorts her back inside. Valtteri is served delicacies, stores away the leftovers and helps Elsa into her bed. Before leaving, he drops his business card on her nightstand.

Sixty-year-old Elsa, who had already abandoned her identity as a desirable woman with a vivid sexuality when her husband started seeing other women, suddenly awakes to a teenage-like crush on the considerably younger Valtteri. A special relationship unfolds. But money can't buy love... or can it?

"She saw the streetcar approaching.

Would the driver be offended if she put out her hand and waved to make sure he would stop? He could see there was someone at the stop. Elsa decided not to raise her hand. There was surely a passenger on board who would want to get off here. Elsa took out her monthly transit pass and got ready to climb on.

The streetcar drove right past. It didn't even slow down as it went by. Elsa glanced around and made sure that no one had noticed. If she had waved at the streetcar and it had driven past anyway, that would have been a disaster. People did say that women became invisible when they hit middle age. Is that what this was?"



© JOUNI HARALA

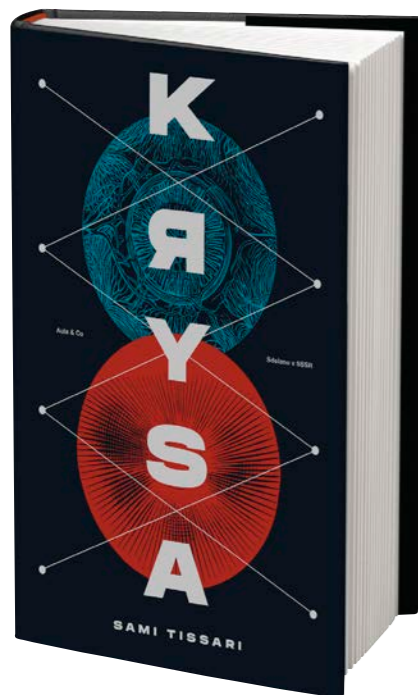
ANNA-LEENA HÄRKÖNEN (b. 1965) is a Finnish author, script-writer and actress. Härkönen published her debut, *The Poleax* (*Häräntappose*), at the age of 18 and achieved enormous critical and popular success with this bold and true-to-life novel. Ever since, *The Poleax* has been an essential part of the literary education of the young Finnish readers today.

In her works, Härkönen uses a language bursting with life, and she has an uncompromising sense of the comical. She is not afraid to touch tabus and difficult subjects in her writing.

Härkönen's novels have been translated into more than 10 languages and several of them have been made into films and stage productions.

"There are many humorous dialogues about current topics such as the ineligibility of the youth and the fact that nothing can be said anymore these days."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT



Krysa

(Krysa)
400 pages | First published in Finnish
by Aula & Co 2022

"Krysa has earned its praise. The fascinatingly peculiar novel combines alternative history and science fiction."

METSÄLEHTI

A compulsively readable alternative history in which a Soviet artificial intelligence takes over the world.

What if Frank Rosenblatt, the father of machine learning, had not died in a boating accident in 1971, but had been picked up by a Soviet nuclear submarine and taken to a secret base to develop artificial intelligence, the Krysa?

Thanks to the Krysa, the Soviet Union has become the leader of the world. However, when the Krysa goes off, civilization collapses. Pavel Dybenko, who caused the disaster, ends up in a remote cabin in Finland, taking with him an atomic-powered doll. Every person Dybenko has ever known is dead. As far as he knows, he is the only one who knows exactly why it all happened.

It is possible that one day someone will find their way to this remote cabin. They'll find what is left of me here, and you. I'm sure you'll still have enough power then. Who knows, the finder might have enough wit, patience and luck to dig out of you whatever you have stored in your electronic circuits. I'd really like to hear what kind of story they make up about all this. I am the last and only one who knows how this happened. Now I'll tell it to you.

Krysa is a reality-bending story about how the world order can depend on small things, but in the end it tells more about our time than about an alternative reality. It is wildly imaginative, witty, exciting, and clever. *Krysa* is a picaresque novel with a handful of apocalyptic visions, a dash of lingering nostalgia, and a healthy dose of hearty laughter.

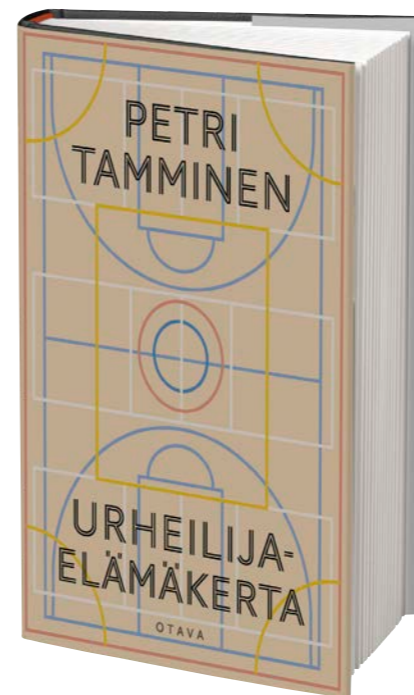


© JYRI KERONEN

SAMI TISSARI (b. 1971) is a lumberjack from North Karelia, a philosopher and a communist-educated freethinker. While kneeling at the foot of an icy tree, Tissari likes to think about the relationship between quantum theory and reality.

"An exceptionally mature debut novel."

SAVON SANOMAT



Sport Stories – An Athlete's Biography

(Urheilija - Elämäkerta)
95 pages | Otava | 2023

"There are countless different ways to become part of sports as a broad phenomenon, which becomes clear in this book. Petri Tamminen has written an entertaining, crystalizing and insightful auto-fictional work."

MESTA

'Whenever we talked about sports with my father, I thought that it was sad: father and son talking about sports, because they don't know how to talk about their actual feelings. After my father died, I wondered who to talk to about sports.'

When you look at life through the lens of sports, you see the child's first steps as a sporting performance and Turku's Football Club as the interpreter of the grandmother's feelings.

In this refreshingly light mini-novel, the passionate bench athlete and amateur volleyball player, Petri Tamminen, describes both the will to win and the forgetfulness of winning and, above all, how only as part of a team, one can achieve the happiness of selflessness.

Sport Stories – An Athlete's Biography is a fresco-like collection of sport-related incidents and situations in Tamminen's own life. The 70 fragmented snapshots carry the reader conologically through the author's life, from his school days to the army and student times to his work and family life – and sports are always a part of it - be it football, hockey, volleyball or ping-pong.

Sports are said to evoke great emotions in Finns. With wistful humour, Tamminen completes the picture by highlighting the small emotions that are always associated with sports, but which do not always surface in the context of everyday life.



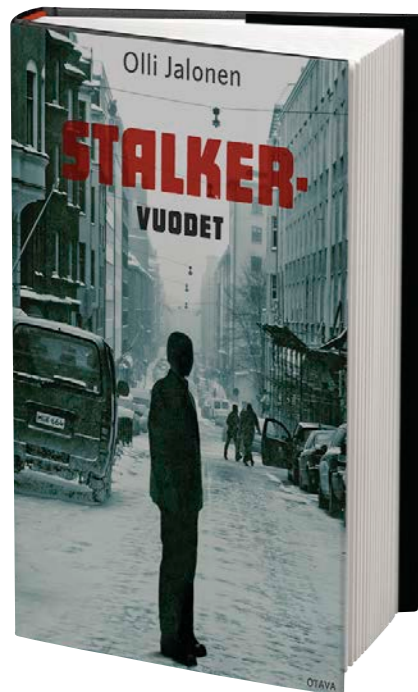
© NICLAS MÄKELÄ

PETRI TAMMINEN (b. 1966) is the Finnish master of laconic humour. Tamminen's works are concise, and the secret of his accurate expression is simple: 'I trust in the readers' understanding, but not their patience.'

Some of his favourite topics are shyness and shame, which he describes with wry humour through his personal experiences without ever sparing himself. A prolific author, Tamminen has been awarded numerous times and nominated for the Finlandia Prize. His works have been translated into more than ten languages.

"A proper good-mood-manual."

KULTTUURITOIMITUS



Stalker Years

(Stalker-vuodet)
500 pages | First published in Finnish
by Otava 2022

“... a great novel about the stuffy atmosphere of Finnishness. The narration feels almost real. Jalonen is a great writer and paints the milieu and the picture of the times wonderfully.”

PASI HUTTUNEN, KULTUURITOIMITUS

In his latest novel, the great master of language and two-time Finlandia winner Olli Jalonen slips into the skin of a spy. *The Life of Others* meets John Le Carré and Graham Greene.

In 1974, a student from the University of Tampere is assigned to report on the lives and political attitudes of his former schoolmates. It feels good to be part of something big. But it's hard to approach someone and pretend you don't know what you know. Work takes time, which real friends soon won't have anymore. What at first seemed like an honorable mission begins to turn into a tight straitjacket.

With its strong atmosphere, *Stalker Years* is an autopsy of the spiritual climate of our recent history and a deep cut into the psychology of Finnishness and the so-called dark decade of the 1970's. It's a portrait of a whistleblower and a snitch.

Stalker Years was nominated for the Finlandia Prize 2022.



© PEKKA NIEMINEN

OLLI JALONEN (b. 1954) is one of Finland's most respected literary authors. Since 1978, he has written over 15 works of fiction, some non-fiction and a children's fantasy novel. He has received several important literary prizes, including the Finlandia Prize twice, and he has been nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize three times. Jalonen has lived in Finland, Sweden and Ireland, working as a reporter, information officer and researcher.

“... Olli Jalonen has written himself into such a position that his new book is a landmark event every time it comes out... *Stalker Years* is one of the most interesting books of the fall.”

UUSI SUOMI



The Art of Living Under Water

(Merenpeitto)
462 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2019

New experiments take Angus underwater, to terrifying depths that no man has seen before.

At 16, Angus is the trusted apprentice of Edmond Halley in London. When Halley starts exploring the depths of the sea and comes up with the idea of a diving bell, Angus gets to be the guinea pig sunk down to the bottom of river Thames to test the invention. Would it be possible to live underwater?

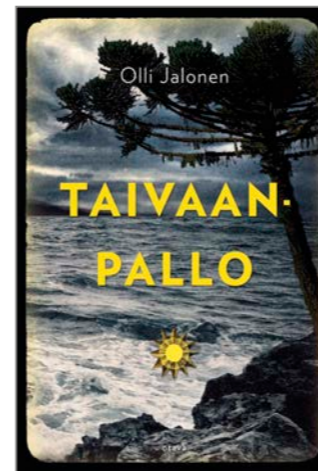
Reaching adulthood, Angus struggles to figure out his place in the world. Dreaming of a great future, he follows Halley on a long journey, sailing back to the Southern hemisphere of his home island. Will he get a chance to return to St. Helena?

“Finnish literature changes to world literature in the hands of Olli Jalonen.”

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

“Jalonen's language is enchanting, ponderous, rounded and beautiful.”

HÄMEEN SANOMAT



The Celestial Sphere

(Taivaanpallo)
461 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2018

Angus is an eight-year-old peasant boy on St. Helena in the 1680's. Tasked by his tutor, scientist Edmond Halley, he meticulously marks out the constellations in the night sky.

Following a devastating act of violence directed at his own family, Angus is stowed away on board a ship bound for London, a secret note sewn inside his shirt.

Who could have foretold the humble boy's journey to become an astronomer's apprentice and to play a role in the history of science?

The Celestial Sphere is a glorious story about the era where science and religion go head-to-head in a duel as the rays of the Enlightenment can be seen on the horizon.

“Jalonen's novels are like incantations. One remains under their spell for a long time afterwards.”

POHJOLAN SANOMAT

The Celestial Sphere was awarded the Finlandia Prize in 2018. The two novels about Angus sold more than 75 000 copies in Finland.

“The young boy Angus is a delightful narrator whose pensive and almost devout chatting enchants the reader... brilliantly crafted: the stars in this oeuvre are people, not the comet.”

RUNEBERG PRIZE JURY'S
STATEMENT 2019



Memory of Ocean

(Meren muisti)
300 pages | First published in Finnish
by Otava 2022

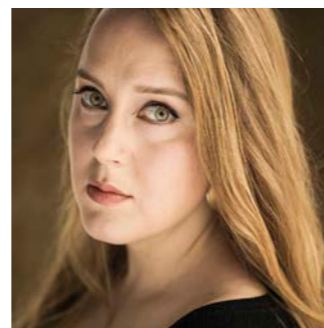
A masterful account of Norwegian Lapland in the 1980's, its Kven minority and their integration into the society, the inheritance of trauma, oil drilling and the early stages of marine protection.

Northern Norway in the 1980's: Aapa, a woman of Kven origin, returns to northern Norway to explore the Arctic oil reserves after a decade of absence.

In the meantime, Norway has been enriched with oil, and nothing is as it used to be. Aapa faces the trauma of the past in her hometown, and little by little it becomes apparent that things are not exactly the way Aapa lets the reader understand. She proves to be an unreliable narrator who intentionally twists the past. But what has really happened to her late mother?

A travel diary takes the reader aboard an Icebreaker in quest of oil in the Arctic Ocean where the sun never rises. The unknown narrator examines the changes caused by global warming in the Arctic Ocean for a documentary and reveals that the biggest players of the oil industry were already in 1959 aware of their dangerous impact on nature and climate change. Instead of acting, the industry opted for a strong counter narrative.

Like *Land of Snow and Ashes*, *Memory of Ocean* reads like a thriller and only at its very last pages reveals a baffling twist which overthrows all previous assumptions.



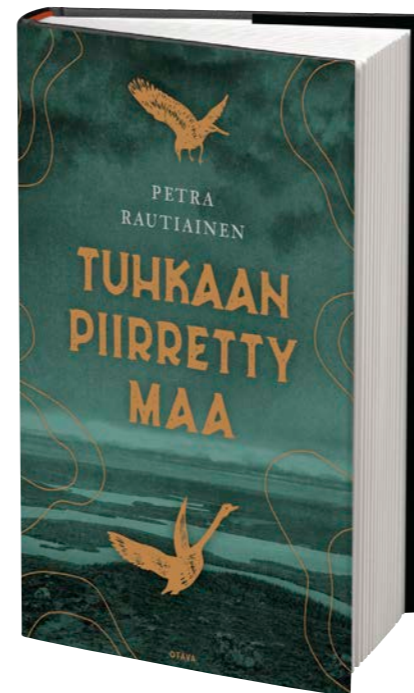
© JONNE RÄSÄNEN / OTAVA

PETRA RAUTIAINEN (b. 1988) comes from a small town in Eastern Finland. She has a Master's degree in History and Cultural Studies and is currently working on her doctoral thesis on representations of the Sámi people in the Finnish media. She has also worked as a journalist and studied creative writing.

'I know there is more than one way to die under water.'

"Petra Rautiainen's Memory of Ocean is an important novel: it is startling and effective, it makes the reader ponder on the actions of humans, our history, and our entire relationship to our creation. It is the story of a small person, Aapa, but at the same time it is a story about so much more."

SAVON SANOMAT



Land of Snow and Ashes

(Tuhkaan piirretty maa)
229 pages | First published in Finnish
by Otava 2020

A powerful debut novel where the beauty of the Arctic nature in Lapland contrasts with the brutal actions conducted both at a secret Nazi prison camp during the Second World War and against the indigenous Sámi people after the war.

The dual storyline takes place in Northern Finland, in Lapland, altering between two points in time:

In 1944, a young Finnish soldier is sent to work as an interpreter at a secret prison camp run by the Nazis. His diary entries lead to one of the darkest periods in human history.

In the late 1940's, Inkeri, reporter and photographer from the south, arrives to write about the reconstruction of the Enontekiö town in Lapland after the war. She befriends a young Sámi girl and learns about the ongoing racial profiling of the indigenous Sámi people. She also has a personal agenda: to find out what happened to her husband who never returned from the war.

Underneath the skies of polar night and midnight sun, dark secrets begin to unfold.

Rautiainen's debut was awarded the Savonia Prize in 2020 and shortlisted for the Petrona award UK in 2023.

"As a Finn, Rautiainen succeeds in describing the history of Finland's colonisation and also gives a voice to the Sámi instead of depicting them as silent or passive victims. However, the novel does not blame, but gives something to reflect on."

SÁMI ONLINE NEWSPAPER
LOOSTÄŠ

"A perfectly robust, intense thriller plot."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

"A thrilling novel but deeply horrific."

IRISH EXAMINER

"It's an impressive page-turner. Suspense, historical novel, and literary memoir in one."

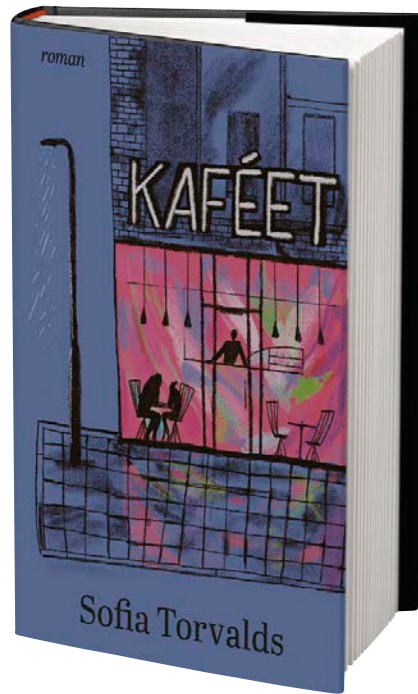
NINI WÄHÄ, AUTHOR OF TESTAMENT

"Readers will turn the pages at a record pace... The novel is so addictive, it challenges its worst competitors - the Internet streaming services."

SAVON SANOMAT NEWSPAPER, FINLAND

"An intense page-turner that will take the reader's breath away."

VI LÄSER



The Café

(Kaféet)
200 pages | First published in Swedish
by Förlaget M 2023

A man and a woman meet in a support group for divorcees in Helsinki. They become friends and continue to meet regularly outside of the group, always in the same café. Their lives differ from each other. She decided to go back to her husband after the marital crisis and has a son approaching adolescence. He is dating around but struggles with the grief of the family he never had and the wife who left.

Emotions waver back and forth between them: longing, attraction, belonging, hope for love. They are friends.

Or are they just friends?

Every week they tell each other about their lives, their dreams and their disappointments.

The roles are intact. She is the entertainer, he is the listener, but neither can he resist telling us about the hard things, sharing what is messy and broken.

“The Café is a condensed relationship drama that bears features of both the romance and the feelgood genre, but beneath the warm, cuddly and humorous surface there are chilly undercurrents of darkness and mistrust that drive the story to a more unpredictable depth.”

SVENSKA YLE

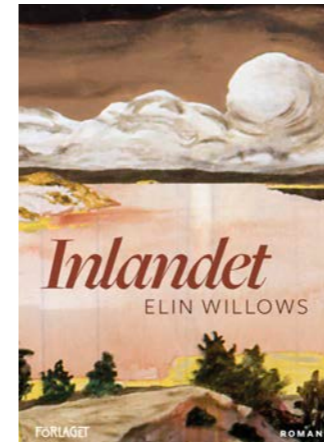
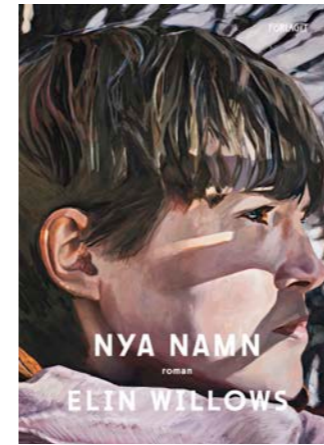
HUFVUDSTADBLADET



© LINUS LINDHOLM

SOFIA TORVALDS (b. 1970) is as a journalist and writer. She has previously written several award-winning non-fiction books about parenting and eating disorders, but also several essay books surrounding her family legacy of divorces, separations, and motherhood. Her topics are always close to heart. *The Café* is Sofia Torvalds' literary debut.

“They are just friends. Are they just friends?”



“Willows' tonality is very accurate, the narrator's voice is completely believable, and when she writes that there was never a clear transition to the adult world, that the immature just disappeared, "or not at all", that's exactly how it is.”

DAGENS NYHETER

New Names

(Nya namn)
200 pages | First published in Swedish by Natur & Kultur and Förlaget M 2021

A novel about what most profoundly shapes us: the relationships we create, repair and lose, in a constant flow.

The first great friendship in Stockholm is the starting point of everything. The friend is always one step ahead, the narrator follows her whims – always dreams, never plans.

She grows older, moves to London where there's almost no loneliness, only the clubs' dance floors and shared plates of fries. But sometimes, during the nights, insecurities form into a downward spiral.

In Turku, Finland, a new adult life at the university is framed by routines. But the memories of past friendships are always there. Is it possible to start over?

In all these places, intense relationships arise, and the narrator is enveloped in a closeness where she is reflected and comes into being before her own gaze. There are boyfriends, jobs, parties and more. But it is in the crackling chemistry between girls and women that life develops.

“A stylish and concise novel about the transition between teenager and adult where the explosive emotions can only be sensed between the lines.”

Inlands

(Inlandet)
200 pages | First published in Swedish by Natur & Kultur and Förlaget M 2018

No one moves here. This becomes clear long before I pack up the car with all my things, to move here.

A young woman from Stockholm relocates to her boyfriend's hometown, a small village in the far north of Sweden. But the relationship has ended by the time she arrives.

She stays in the village for reasons she herself doesn't understand, gets a job in the local grocery store and rents an apartment. Slowly but surely, she works her way into the Place, and lets it work her way into her. This new society has other, unknown codes. Here you leave the door unlocked, booze at the hotel on Saturdays, drive your car on the dark ice. But how do you become part of something new?

Elin Willow's critically acclaimed debut novel is a poignant story about loss and change, written in stripped-down, distinct prose.



© FRANK UNGE

ELIN WILLOWS (b. 1982) is a journalist and author. She grew up in Sweden and now lives in Finland. Her first novel *Inlands* was nominated for Borås Tidning's Debutant Prize and Swedish Authors' Association's Katapult Prize. The film adaptation of *Inlands* premiered in 2020. Elin Willow's laconic storytelling captures the indecisiveness of our time.

“It's beautifully harsh and sensitively told, about being still until your legs start wanting to walk again – a truly strong debut.”

SVERIGES RADIO

“In the toss between the constant light of summer and the eternal darkness of winter, Willows portrays something so unusual in the coming-of-age novel as the experience of making a choice and sticking to it.”

SVERIGES RADIO

TIDNINGEN VI



The Past Returns

(Det förflutna återvänder)
300 pages | First published in Swedish by Förlaget M 2023

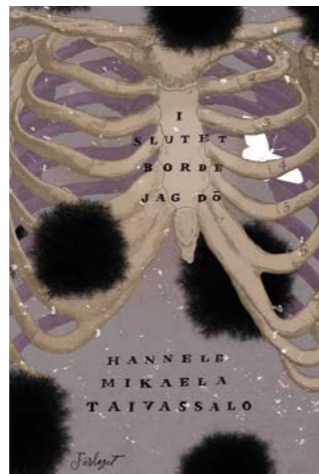
A woman tries to forget a man. The man, who tries to forget her, is called Selim and is a photographer. His work is about seeing, but he understands neither himself nor others. Greater than the love and passion that united them - and they are gigantic - is the black hole, the pain that radiates from their shared past. Memories they can't forget, fragments they can't piece together. If it hurts terribly to remember, is it worth trying?

In the woman's past, in the outskirts of the city, there was Alisa. They were almost the same person. If you've had a best friend and sister who abandoned you, could that memory ever be erased? What happens when the past returns and grows stronger than the present?

The beautiful language of the story follows the logic of the dream, and the emotions crawl close to the skin. *The Past Returns* is a novel about the despair of love that is both sensual and painful.

"With a skillful feeling for the shifts of language, she expresses how mourning someone who has been so close is like mourning a part of oneself."

HUFVUDSTADSBLADET



This Should End with My Death

(I slutet borde jag dö)
150 pages | First published in Swedish by Förlaget M 2020

This Should End with My Death is a short literary novel in limbic prose about what it means to be the other woman, and how to overcome the hate - within oneself - once the affair is over. A brutally clear and heartbreaking novel depicting an author who is cutting herself from forbidden love by writing. To the point where there's no lust to live, neither yet lust to die. Only the words remain, and it's worth being honest, whatever the cost.

Reading the novel hurts. But there is also dark humour in undoing clichés.



© NIKLAS SANDSTRÖM

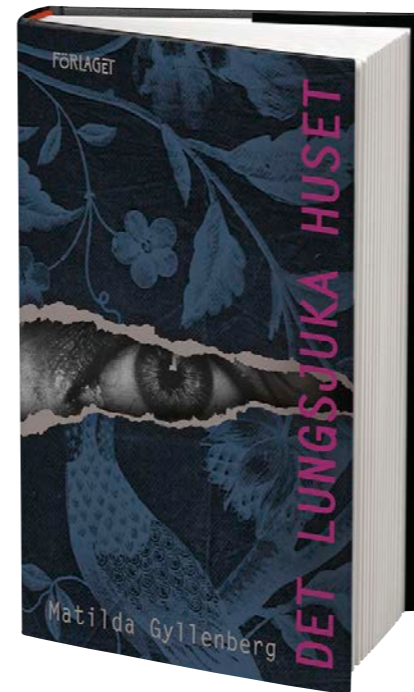
HANNELE MIKAELA TAIVASSALO (b. 1974) has a unique, feminine voice, a distinct spark in her writing, and an exceptional sensitivity to rhythm in her language which make her truly stand out. She explores themes of continuous movement, restlessness and displacement, desire and sex. Taivassalo has been awarded several prizes including the Runeberg Prize.

"The language of the new novel trembles poetically."

SUOMEN KUVALEHTI MAGAZINE

"A masterpiece in few words."

ÅBO UNDERRÄTTELSE



Breathless Home

(Det lungsjuka huset)
260 pages | First published in Swedish by Förlaget M 2019

"What gives the novel its nerve is the unexpected question of responsibility. How responsible is it to be so very kind and gullible that it turns into life-threatening naivety? How open to life is it healthy to be?"

AFTONBLADET

"The elegance and style of the language makes me unwittingly think of Håkan Nesser."

ÖSTNYLAND

The main character in Matilda Gyllenberg's debut novel has been blessed with a lot, but still feels cheated. She stages a wonderful life for herself, her husband and their cherished daughter, in a house she tries to decorate to absolute perfection. But behind the beautiful facade hide disappointments, secrets, and betrayal. Why does her neighbours refuse to talk about the past?

With a ruthless gaze, the narrator looks at herself and the people around her. She balances on the border between sharpness and madness, isolated within the safe but intrusive walls of home.

Who was the woman that appeared one day in the then newly built and secluded neighbourhood, together with her seven-year-old son? Her name was Hild and she came from the Norwegian archipelago, via swinging 60's London and commune living during the 70's. Soon she moved into a caravan at the edge of the nearby forest.

Piece by piece, the fate of Hild is revealed to the narrator. With a concise language and a keen eye for detail, the monotony of everyday family life is woven together, and increasingly frightening events of the past are discovered. What is the worst thing that can happen to a parent?

Breathless Home is a story about confinement and expectations, both from the outside and inside. About being torn apart by the need for security and the longing for freedom. And that times have not changed as much as we might wish.

"Gyllenberg nicely handles the simple clarity that under the bright rooms there are the dark ones."

HUFVUDSTABLADDET



© NIKLAS SANDSTRÖM

MATILDA GYLLENBERG (b. 1980) is a journalist and author. She has worked as a news anchor, has been a presenter and editor for various television programs and she has also written columns. *Breathless Home* is her debut novel.

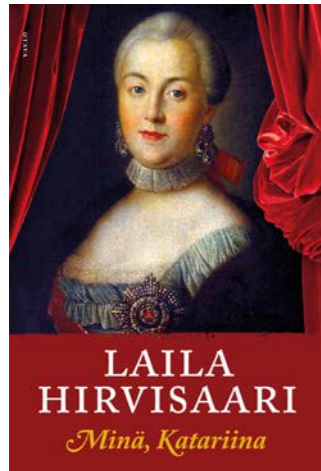
"Matilda Gyllenberg's debut is eerily seductive, not least because it, lightly and elegantly, works as a literary echo chamber."

DAGENS NYHETER

"Matilda Gyllenberg's debut Breathless Home has a language that sparkles with elegant sharpness. The book is definitely one of the better debuts I have read in a long time."

YLE KULTUR

CATHERINE SERIES



I, Catherine

(Minä, Katariina)
607 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2011

Russian empress Elizabeth commands fourteen-year-old princess Sofia to Moscow to betroth her to her nephew and the heir to the throne, Great Duke Peter. In company of her cold, intrigant mother and her closest servants, the future Catherine is thrown in the Russian court, full of intrigues.

Her sixteen-year-old fiancé Peter is an ongoing deception. The young woman's most important task is to give an heir to the throne, but it takes far too long. Empress Elizabeth arranges affairs for Catherine and treats her in the most tyrannic ways.

Helped by her closest friends and ladies-in-waiting, Catherine must fight to impose herself and get the respect of the court, and to get along with her childish husband Peter, while fearing for her life if she becomes useless for the Empress.

Hirvisaari takes the reader to the court intrigues and luxurious feasts of Russia in the 1700's, but also depicts in a very moving way the feelings and emotions of a woman, a mother and a grandmother.

We, Empress

(Me, Keisarinna)
576 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2013

Empress Elizabeth has died of stomach disorders; and her heir Peter has been killed by Catherine's allies. Now, Catherine is to be crowned the new Russian empress.

In 1762, Moscow, Catherine II puts the crown on her head during a lavish ceremony. But for the 33-year-old ruler, the worries start as soon as the coronation is finished. The instigators are many and the Russian people unpredictable.

In his prison of Shlisselburg, prince Ivan IV is a constant threat for Catherine, as many consider him as the only legitimate heir to the throne – and she fears to take his place in the terrible prison, or to be murdered.

An accident puts 66-year-old empress Catherine II on bed rest. She doesn't seem to have much time left. There is a lot to explain about her past, but it hurts to remember certain things. In dialogue with her chamberlain and loyal friend Leon, she talks about her youth and her era of reign.



© JOUNI HARALA

LAILA HIRVISAARI (also known as Laila Hietamies) (1930-2021) is one of the most important Finnish historical fiction authors and playwrights. Her novels have sold over four million copies in Finland. She received the title of Honorary Professor in 2022. Hirvisaari's novels take place in Finland, in Russia, in Karelia, in the Ladoga region, and even in India and Rome. She has been awarded many times over and her novel *I, Catherine* was nominated for the Finlandia Prize 2011.



Gallantry

(Galanterna)
250 pages | First published in Swedish by Förlaget M 2021

"Finnish-Swedish Mia Franck has a truly unique ability to bring history to life: she is fantastic at painting environments and moods."

VI LÄSER



© NIKLAS SANDSTRÖM / FÖRLAGET 2021

What happens within a person who suddenly no longer settles for a narrow and forced role but follows their own will? *Gallantry* brings history to life and takes its reader to the midst of revolution where dreams were big, friendship the only thing there was, and emancipation badly needed.

Leap year 1912 in Helsinki, a multicultural capital where the Russian military is present and gender roles are unambiguous. City life is a struggle for a woman, especially at night times. It's a man's world but longing for freedom is bubbling beneath the surface.

The young hatmaker Dagmar shares a room with her friend Hilma in a house called Hope, which has become the gathering place for their group of friends. Together with Klara and Ebba, all self-sufficient professional women, they desire an independent life, freedom of expression and movement, without male protection.

One day the foursome comes up with a plan: dressed as men they set foot in the dark streets of Helsinki, learn to cycle bikes, eat at restaurants, frequent cabarets and nightclubs – an entirely new world opens up to them. What starts as a game soon takes a dangerous turn and nothing will be the same again in the lives of the four friends.

"A rich and intense novel about what it is like to be a woman (and man) in early 20th century Helsinki."

HUFVUDSTADSBLADET

MIA FRANCK (b. 1971) is a Helsinki based author. She has a doctorate in literary studies, and her interest in research is essential in her writing. Franck teaches writing in workshops and courses. For her effort and work with writing in various forms, she received the Åboland Swedish Cultural Fund's Swedish Day Prize in 2017. *Gallantry* is her fifth novel.

"Gallantry is a thought-provoking story with many touching points to today's world, a captivating story about the limitations of gaze and desires, power and possibilities."

SVENSKA YLE



Marsh Memories

(Suo muistaa)
263 pages | First published in Finnish
by Gummerus 2022

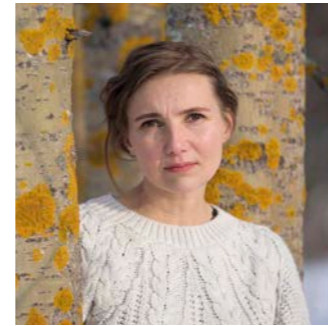
A book about important themes of our time, about humans as a part of nature and about how the climate change impacts our lives, and what we can do about it.

The old school of a small municipality in North Finland has long been abandoned. The strangemoore behind the school was already part of the landscape long before humans had drawn the borders of the village. The trenches could not turn the marshes into a forest, yet it has changed. Juho has inherited the old school and bought a workhorse, and starts there an eco-community to restore the marshland.

Hellä has worked as a photographer all over the world and has come back to the same town to clean up the house of her late grandfather. The village is even more deserted than before, but the impact of human activities has grown. The forest of her memories has disappeared.

Their stories intertwine and show in a concrete way how human activities affect the environment – not always as planned. Juho and Hellä are looking for their own place in a changed nature. It pushes them toward one another – and away from one another.

What can a single individual do to impact a global phenomenon? How strong can the desire of doing well be? And is it possible to return to the past?



© TEIJA SOINI

JENNI RÄINÄ is a journalist interested in nature and environment. Both of her non-fiction books deal with the Finnish nature, especially forests and swamps (*Women Wandering the Wild*, Like, 2021, and the Finlandia Non-Fiction Prize Winner *The Forest After Us* written together with Pekka Juntti, Anssi Jokiranta and Anna Ruohonen, Like 2019). Her debut fiction novel *Marsh Memories* reflects the author's knowledge of these topics.

"... Jenni Räinen is best at describing marshlands and at depicting the unsustainability of our life style."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

SUOMEN KUVALEHTI MAGAZINE

"Beside the quality depiction of the environment theme, Jenni Räinen's novel is an excellent description of life on the desolate countryside and of the hopes that were once given to the peripheric areas."



Wild Dog

(Villikoira)
350 pages | First published in Finnish
by Otava 2022

A powerful debut novel, set in the forgotten villages of Lapland where people and trees take care of each other.

When Samuel finds out that Nanok and Inuk, two of the prestigious mushing dogs, have gone lost, and within only a few days have gone wild and learned to hunt, the young man is determined to track the huskies down, tame them and take them home. Samuel ventures deeper and deeper into the wilderness of the breathtaking Arctic landscape, and in a near-death experience learns that there are still places where nature is predominant.

Despite warnings, he continues his dangerous quest for the dogs and encounters secretive habitants of the forgotten villages. Among them mysterious Aava, who takes him to her hut on midsummer eve, when the sun doesn't set, and night becomes day. Aava makes Samuel discover love and the magic of the surrounding forests and lakes.

But not all villagers mean well, and Samuel soon finds himself trapped in a remote hut, calculating food rations. His forces are fading. How many days will he survive? And will he be found before that? Gradually Samuel realises that the villagers share a secret that is greater than any individual's dream.

Wild Dog was awarded the Lapland Literature Prize in 2023.

"Northern nature and love unite in journalist Pekka Juntti's excellent debut novel."

KESKISUOMALAINEN

"Juntti writes in a romantic language but avoids mystification. The story naturally advances along many different routes, the perspectives and underlying themes are justified and above all, in balance with each other. Everything is given the space it needs. Juntti doesn't go crazy about just one topic but combines all of them together as part of the world of the book. The controlled structure is embellished with a beautiful text that takes its time. Juntti has the eye for the small details in the landscape, but also for staying on top of the story. (...)"

PARNASSO MAGAZINE



© PEKKA JUNTTI

PEKKA JUNTTI (b. 1980) is an award-winning journalist and a popular columnist, working in Lapland. He lives with his wife and three children in Haparanda, in the Tornio Valley, Sweden, just across the Finnish boarder. Juntti was one of the authors of the hugely successful book *The Forest After Us*, which won the Finlandia Non-Fiction Prize in 2019.

Wild Dog is Juntti's debut novel and inspired by a newspaper article Juntti wrote about the lost husky Nanok.

"The author masters the flashbacks and advances the narration with ease... The language is assured and strong, built for storytelling. The novel is a combination of a thriller, a love story, and a nature story, and surprisingly such a combination works. For me the novel belongs to the page-turner-category."

MIKKO JÄMSÉN, KESKISUOMALAINEN



The Land that Never Melts

(Maa joka ei koskaan sula)
314 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2021

“The book has a great atmosphere... Markkula throws the reader on the ice, frostbite. I can feel the cold, hear the sounds of ice and the whale song. All those animals, birds, plants... Markkula really knows how to conjure a living environment.”

KIRJANMERKKINÄ

A thrillingly shocking yet beautiful novel about love and deception, nature and climate change, throws the reader on the ice of a glacier that threatens to disappear from underneath.

Unni is a Finnish glacier researcher who studies on Baffin Island at which speed the Penny Glacier melts. She listens to the ripple of water from inside the ice and drops rubber ducks into its cracks, to follow their path to the sea. But Unni is also looking for Jon, a mystical man she had met on the glacier a year earlier and fell in love with.

Jon and Unni share their rootlessness and longing for home. At a young age, Unni was forced to move thousand kilometers south when her parents separated. Not only Lapland and her father were left behind, but Unni was also cut off her Sámi origins.

When Jon is offered a ticket to travel to the wilderness of Nunavut, Canada, to meet his biological father, he is a grown up man, yet unsure whether he can face him.

Canada 1970. A young woman walks in the tundra with a child in her womb, listens to the rumble of a glacier and fears the worst. Meanwhile, on the other side of the country, another woman walks through the stairs of the adoption office and hopes for the best.

The Land that Never Melts is a story of belonging, homesickness, freedom and love of northern nature. On the surface floats the threat of the melting glacier, whereas gruesome secrets from the past of a people bubble underneath.



© JONNE RÄSÄNEN / OTAVA 2020

INKERI MARKKULA is a writer and biologist, researching northern nature. Her research work has taken her to the Arctic regions. Markkula has lived in Lapland, Iceland and Svalbard. The author's debut novel *Two People a Minute* (2016) was nominated for the Helsingin Sanomat Literature Prize awarded for the best debut novel of the year.

“The Land that Never Melts is a fine, thought-provoking novel that proves the power of fiction: the opportunity to empathise and build a little more understanding of people and life.”

TUIJATA BLOG

“What a skill to combine so much beauty and so much ugly, the shocking facts of reality and literary talent.”

KIRJANMERKKINÄ BLOG



© VEIKKO SOMERPURO / ATENA

“Protect My Shadow is a melancholic novel about outsiders and the longing for freedom. Pieces are served to the reader through small hints. There is so much to read in between the lines that the text sometimes vibrates with intergenerational tensions and the painful silence that the state has forced the individual into.”

TURUN SANOMAT



Protect My Shadow

(Varjele varjoani)
300 pages | First published in Finnish by Atena 2022

A touching novel about an immigrant and her daughter growing up in Finland.

Leningrad, 1980's. Georgi offers Vera a home in a communal house, whose cardboard-thin walls demarcate little space for love. When Mauno Koivisto invites people of Ingrian background to Finland, Vera and Georgi move to Varissuo near Turku. Their daughter Nina starts school in a foreign country.

In a strong family, family relationships are an asset, but they also rub off. When Nina has children, transgenerational traumas make her doubt herself. What do you want to keep from the past, what do you want to forget? What is the place of an immigrant - or a person in general?



What the Pine Trees See

(Mitä männnyt näkevät)
245 pages | First published in Finnish by Atena 2020

A powerful and poetic Soviet saga spanning six generations' thirst for life and search for truth.

In 1936, Yuri celebrates his fifth birthday in Leningrad without knowing that at the end of the summer, his world will fall apart. When his parents are imprisoned by the Black Ravens, Yuri is ex-patriated to Uzbekistan with his older sister and grandparents. Yuri grows up with a stigma, the Child of an Enemy of the Nation. As a young man, he makes his way from sunny Uzbekistan through the immense USSR, back to cold Leningrad. After the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Yuri emigrates with his own family to Finland. Gradually the shocking truth about his parents' fate is revealed, while those in power on the other side of the boarder try to rewrite history.

TURUN SANOMAT

ANNA SOUDAKOVA (b. 1983) was born in St. Petersburg into a family of artists. At the age of 8, she moved to Turku, Finland, with her parents. Soudakova has loved books and writing since her school years. To her, it is magic how sounds are combined to words and words to stories. Soudakova is a teacher of French, Russian and Finnish as a second language.

“An impressive, delicate work from a gloomy chapter of history.”

VIVA

“A nuanced story of one family and at the same time a still image of the Soviet machinery. (...) The novel is full of visual, downright cinematic snapshots of both summer and winter in Petrozavodsk.”



Images of My Life

(Omat kuvat)
164 pages | First published in Finnish by Tammi 2022

A fascinating novel about the necessity of writing and about how stories and characters are born.

The narrator travels to Davos in Switzerland. As a child she suffered from tuberculosis and imagined this town as a magic, healing place like in Thomas Mann's *The Magic Mountain*.

During the journey, she thinks about her experiences as a child and the constant presence of death, and about how it has affected her work. How memories and reminiscences became part of fictive characters' lives. And how writing has supported her throughout the hardships. In this autobiographical novel, Riitta Jalonen creates a bright view of a writer's inner landscape. It shows how certain life events and emotions can drive to writing and are transformed into a fictional story.

Images of My Life is a journey into a writer's mind and experience, where the author ponders about a whole life of writing and about how at the same time writing is connected to everything else in life.

"Riitta Jalonen's Images of My Life is a journey into mind and memories."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

"Images of My Life is a reflection of its narrator and is more exposed than Riitta Jalonen's other works, so that the strong emotions of the book gave me goose-bumps."

TUIJATA

"It feels like I got closer to myself when reading this book... and a strong feeling of life has overcome me."

KIRJALLISIA KÄVELYJÄ



Dance!

(Tanssikkaa!)
204 pages | First published in Finnish by Tammi 2019

A hauntingly beautiful novel about the consequences of the war and burdens too heavy to bear, that are unconsciously transmitted from generation to generation.

Out of Elisabet's seven uncles, six died during the war, but at home they are still present. Six times a year, on the day of their birthdays, Elisabet and her family put a silk tablecloth on the table, around which her mother gathers people who share as painful memories and sorrows. When the guests arrive in the living room, a drop of clear liquor is served to their coffee cups and the crystal chandelier is lifted higher. It is time for dancing. Elisabet also dances. But deep inside, the memory of her uncles does not fade, even when the ballroom shoes furiously beat the floor to the rhythm of the music.

Dance! is told from two perspectives: the young Elisabet in the 1950's and the adult Elisabet in the present who tries to face her memories and feelings, especially towards her mother.

"Dance! is written with heart blood and touched me deeply. I felt Elisabet's and her mother's pain, and the story brought me back to my own childhood."

LUMIOMENA

"The style is typical for Riitta Jalonen: poetic and mysterious. Memories and present freely follow one another, floating, interweaving."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

"Dance! is a delicate novel, in a way impressionistic: in front of the reader's eyes, it paints pictures of important moments in Elisabet's life."

KIRJAVINKIT



Brightness

(Kirkkaus)
260 pages | First published in Finnish by Tammi 2016

"The text's rhythm is like a peaceful flow of thoughts, full of emotions and strong, somewhat strange associations – the world consists of awful and beautiful things. At times the narration is both descriptive prose and mystical poetry. The afterimage is pure beauty and brightness."

KESKIPOHJANMAA



© MARJANA MALKAMAKI

RIITTA JALONEN (b. 1954) has written numerous books for adults and children and has received both the prestigious Finlandia and Runeberg Prizes.

She currently lives in Hämeenlinna in Finland but has also lived in Ireland and Switzerland. Jalonen has studied literature in Tampere and worked as a journalist for different newspapers as well as an art professor.

"How could I write about a book that shocks you, cuts your breath? ... I am voiceless, speechless, impressed, moved. Touched. Troubled and comforted."

KIRSIN KIRJANURKKA

A sensational story about an author and the necessity of writing.

***Brightness* is a historical fiction about the New-Zealand writer Janet Frame, whom the Nobel Prize was proposed to, but who died before being able to receive it.**

In Janet's home there is a room where the dead used to wait for their funerals. Two of her sisters have lied there and her brother Geordie could land there as well. He has epilepsy and drinks too much. Her family is poor and her mother writes poems and sells them in the neighbourhood.

Janet herself has bright red hair and disturbing thoughts in her head. But when she gets a pen in her hand and a paper in front of her, everything changes: for a moment, the world becomes beautiful and understandable.

Riitta Jalonen's novel creates a fascinating picture of the New-Zealand writer Janet Frame, a highly intuitional and exceptional individual who was diagnosed with schizophrenia and locked up in psychiatric hospitals, but became famous around the world for her novels.

Jalonen describes Janet's time at the hospital and the electroshock therapy she received, whereas the only real healing for her was writing – and the recognition associated with it.

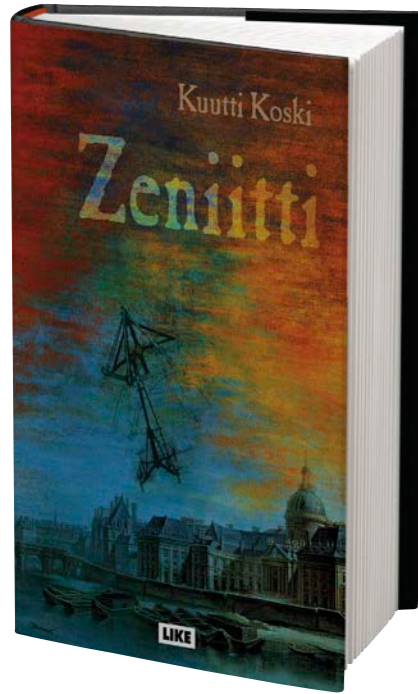
Brightness is a manifestation of the power of art, of how language and words can save a life.

"Frame's tragic life and the power of her books have been waiting for the right moment to be written in a story that Riitta Jalonen has now with incredible sensitivity and empathy come up with."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

"When it comes to Janet Frame, [writing] meant pouring out herself on the paper, telling about memories that prick the body, brightening. This Riitta Jalonen conveys in her strong novel as only an experienced writer can do."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT



Zenith
(Zeniitti)
330 pages | First published in Finnish
by Like 2021

"The master of a historical novel. Zenith nails it... It is a classic from the start."

TURUN SANOMAT NEWSPAPER

"Kuutti Koski's second novel tells the fascinating story of an 18th centuries' scientist... Koski manages everything brilliantly, dialogue and all."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT NEWSPAPER

A historical novel that plays refreshingly with facts and fiction around the French scientist Maupertuis, who travels to Finnish Lapland to determine the shape of the Earth and later becomes a collaborator of Fredrick the Great and his Science Academy in Berlin.

Zenith is set in the middle of the era of Enlightenment at the core of central Europe's monarchy's courts and their scientific academies.

Maupertuis, a French explorer and son of a pirate, returns from an expedition in the challenging conditions of Northern Finland in the Tornio River Valley where he'd been sent by Ludvig XV's Parisian Academy of Science to measure the shape of the Earth. As Maupertuis presents his surprising results to the academy, proving the Earth's mandarin shape, the French scientific community turns its back to the acknowledged scientist.

Not long after, the 'philosopher king' Frederick the Great invites Maupertuis to Prussia to set up his scientific academy, but success comes with a price and soon Maupertuis' envier and wicked tongues, such as Voltaire, follow him and also denounce the era's leading scientist as an imposter and traitor in Prussia. In the meantime, the threat of war casts a shadow over Europe.

Zenith praises the never-ending thirst for knowledge and the search for truth. With its refreshing dialogues, wicked letter exchanges and Maupertuis' profoundly shaped character and vivacity, *Zenith* opens up to its readers a seemingly long past era as if its events took place only yesterday.

Koski follows in the footsteps of the masters of historical novels, such as Olli Jalonen, Umberto Eco and Daniel Kehlmann.



© TONI HÄRKÖNEN / LIKE

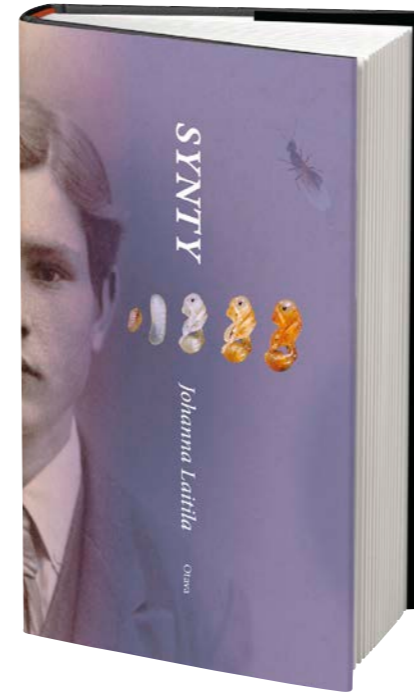
KUUTTI KOSKI (b. 1985) is a Helsinki-based author whose origins are in northern Finland. Koski has worked as the editor-in-chief of the magazine *Kehitys*, specialising in global development issues and in communications at the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and at the United Nations.

"A historical novel isn't the easiest of genres; it must combine a good narrative with past events ingeniously, bring history to life as the cliché as it may sound. Kuutti Koski excels this with his novel Zenith."

SAVON SANOMAT

"This skilful novel should be translated into major languages."

KANAVA MAGAZINE



Hatching
(Synty)
240 pages | First published in Finnish
by Otava 2020

"Hatching is an original story with its strong, peculiar aesthetic... Laitila is one of the most interesting new authors today. Her language is dazzling, her stories touching, and most importantly: the world and language created by the author are distinctively unique."

"Laitila shows that she is one of the brightest stars among the most recent newcomers and one of the original voices in contemporary Finnish literature."

PARNASSO LITERARY MAGAZIN

Hatching is a chilling and stirring literary novel about the thirst for power, irresistible addiction, and complexity of gender in an era where there are no words for the experience. The intense events of the story wrap around historic turning points with a twist.

Hatching is set in the early 20th century in Helsinki where lonesome Aleksanteri immerses himself in playing Chopin on the piano and translating German literature.

Occasional visits by housekeeper Hilda and lover Elna are Aleksanteri's few connections to the outside world - until a mysterious new neighbour, the Russian journalist Vladimir Ulyanov - already known to some as Lenin - settles in, hiding next door.

The flats, separated by a thin wall, are like two chambers of the heart where the two secretly listen to each other.

Cut off from the building revolutionary momentum in St Petersburg, the cornered Bolshevik leader's health is ailing, and he and Aleksanteri grow dependent on each other.

They become entangled in a power struggle where irresistible addiction and contradictory hatred constantly crosses to lust. Lenin is seen as equally horrifying and fragile: bedridden one moment, potent and brilliant the next.

TURUN SANOMAT

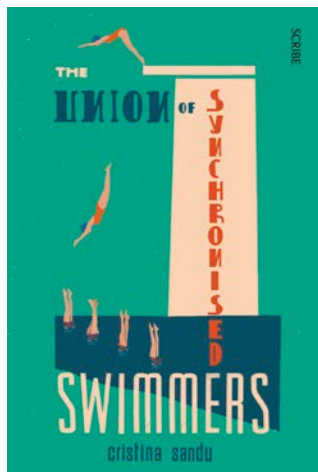


© JUUKKA LAITILA

JOHANNA LAITILA (b. 1986) was born in the Arctic city of Rovaniemi, Northern Finland. She lived in Scotland for several years, studying and teaching English literature and film at St Andrews, where she also did her PhD. As an author, Laitila is interested in exploring different ways of using and abusing power, as well as revealing the blind spots of history and stories that have been silenced. *Hatching* is her second novel, and it was shortlisted for the 2020 Toisinkoinen Literary Prize and nominated for the 2021 prestigious Runeberg Prize.

"Laitila's language was admirably alive already in her debut, but now it's taking on whole new dimensions... Particularly successful is the contrast between breathtaking linguistic images and banal, downright naturalistic corporeality."

TURUN SANOMAT



The Union of Synchronised Swimmers

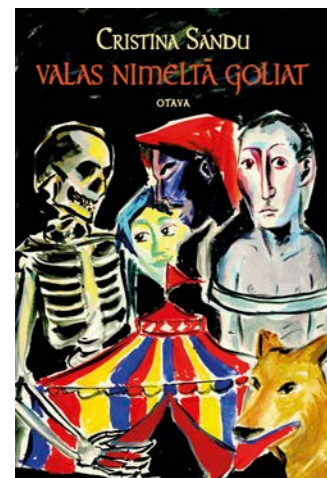
(Vesileikit)
128 | First published in Finnish by Otava 2019

Six girls grow up on a piece of land between two rivers, belonging to no state. Swimming is their passion, but also a way to reach out to the world. As a team of synchronised swimmers, they perform skilful tricks in and underwater.

Far away in Helsinki, Anita falls in love with Spiderman. In California, onboard a fishing boat, Paulina acquires the ingredients for her homeland's traditional soup. On a Caribbean island, Betty gambles away all her money.

The stories of young rootless women, suffering from undefined feelings of longing, come together in a dazzling multifaceted novella, reaching across the world.

The Union of Synchronised Swimmers awarded the Toisinkoinen Literature Prize for second novels.



The Whale Called Goliath

(Valas nimeltä Goliat)
265 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2017

In the middle of the Cold War, a finback whale travels to Romania, to be put on show. It is suspiciously the same size as a Ballistic missile.

Not far from Bucharest, in a small commune called the Red Village, a father decides to take his sons to see the whale. That day changes the lives of the two boys.

When her grandfather dies, Alba, born and raised in Helsinki, travels back to the Red Village where she used to spend her summer holidays as a child. She is entangled in her family's dark and fascinating past, as well as in the village's history, including an earthquake, the arrival of a bride from a faraway land and a whale that travelled the world.

Cristina Sandu's debut was nominated for the Finlandia Prize and published to rave reviews.



© MARIO TYNKKYNE

CRISTINA SANDU (b. 1989) was born in Helsinki to a Finnish-Romanian family who loved books. She has studied literature at the University of Helsinki and the University of Edinburgh, and speaks six languages. She currently lives in Germany where she works as a writer and translator from English to Finnish.

"Beautiful as a prayer."

KESKISUOMALAINEN

"This is exactly how memories, youth and the past should be written."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

"Sandu's writing is strong and melancholy, poetic and flowing, and it weaves memories, stories and legends to an impressive whole."

SVENSKA YLE

Ladybug wings strike eighty-five times a second. Do you think such a machine is easy to build?



Coccinella

(Seitsemäs piste)
283 pages | First published in Finnish by WSOY 2021

A thick cloud of ladybugs colours the sky as red as blood. The insects flood the streets and people's homes; the natural catastrophe violently halts the whole country, forcing the startled citizens to take cover in bomb shelters.

Against the background of this mysterious event opens up a psychological game between two sisters: the older one a dreamer, unable to connect with others; the younger one level-headed, brisk and decisive. In these exceptional circumstances, surface the bitter memories of their childhood where the world is small but people still far apart, and of the all-encompassing jealousy between the girls.

And what is the role of a nameless employee, far away in Siberia, who builds the ladybugs and paints them with a seventh spot?

This debut novel by an acclaimed poet is a sensitive, vivid and immersive story set on a secluded island where a volcano is waking up on the quiet.



Tristania

(Tristania)
332 pages | First published in Finnish by WSOY 2017

Tristan da Cunha is a volcanic island in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Its 264 inhabitants live from sheep farming and fishing, in a community where everyone is connected in one way or another.

One of them, Lars, has travelled to London and left behind his wife and son. On the black sand of Tristan, the little Jon is squinting toward the horizon, hoping to see his father's ship returning. When Lars hears the news of the volcanic eruption on Tristan, he knows he has to head back. The idyll on the island has cracked, and the hidden web of cruelty, hatred, loss and secrets is starting to unravel.

With strongly atmospheric language and dazzling metaphors the author masterfully conveys the story using several points-of-view and flashbacks between the 1950's and 60's.

"A masterful and self-assured work of art with a most engaging atmosphere."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT



© AAPO HUHTA

MARIANNA KURTTO (b. 1980) is an acclaimed author who has published five poetry collections and two novels. She has won the Kalevi Jäntti and Tiilikivi Prize and has been nominated for the Helsingin Sanomat Literary Prize. Her first novel *Tristania* was published to glowing reviews and nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize 2019.

"Unique style [...] 300 pages of beauty. [...] Rhythmically calm, yet you can feel the lava bubbling beneath."

AAMULEHTI

"Marianna Kurtto's language is a world of its own... In Coccinella, Kurtto reaches clear views of interpersonal relations and one's attitude to oneself and the world with her language."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

Joonatan Tola's personal novel series is a literary electric shock that hits directly the brain – and has charmed readers and critics.



Crazy Lovely Birds

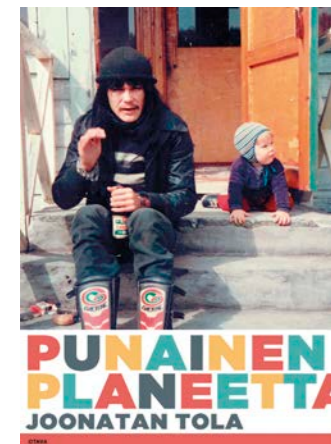
(Hullut ihanat linnut)
220 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2023

After Mikko's death, Joonatan's mother falls into a depression and his ten-year-old sister starts to run the household. The children sell their father's weapons to make ends meet.

But one day, the social services show up at the door. Six-year-old Joonatan lifts his mother out of the bath, helps her get dressed and lights her cigarette. If his mother doesn't find a new husband, she could lose custody of her children.

After an unfortunate experience with a casino addict as fiancé, the family is admitted to a care institution. While their mother becomes more and more closed in, the siblings grow up to become intelligent and resourceful yet lonely.

Just as in Tola's acclaimed debut novel, the tragic of this stunning bildungsroman is balanced with the unique brilliance of Tola's dark humour.



The Red Planet

(Punainen planeetta)
344 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2021

Joonatan gets a call from North Karelia: his grandmother is about to die. When he visits her, she believes he is Mikko, his father. Joonatan reminds her that his father is dead and asks what she remembers of him, but she doesn't want to share. So Joonatan starts to research his father and writes his own, extraordinary story. He writes about his grandfather who worked harder than anyone, even when he was completely paralysed but for two fingers. Most of all, he writes about his father, who was diagnosed with schizophrenia as a teenager, but managed to have a family and strove to become a recognised artist.

The result is a carnivalesque story that pulsates with life and at the same time shakes the soul with its tragic.



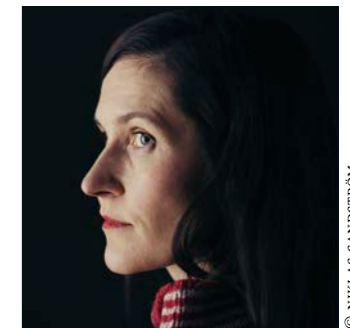
© JYRI KERONEN

JOONATAN TOLA (b. 1983) has a Master of Arts in Finnish Language and is writing a PhD at the University of Helsinki. His hobbies are playing the piano, which he learned by himself, playing chess and dérive, i.e., wandering aimlessly. He lives with his family in Joensuu in the city garden area.

"It's stunning how Tola describes situations and conversations as if he had been there and recorded them authentically, and at the same time adds a touch of literary magic into it."

TUIJATA BLOG

"There wasn't born a more interesting man than my father on the whole planet."



© NIKLAS SANDSTRÖM

A deeply touching account by a woman whose new-born son has a congenital heart defect.

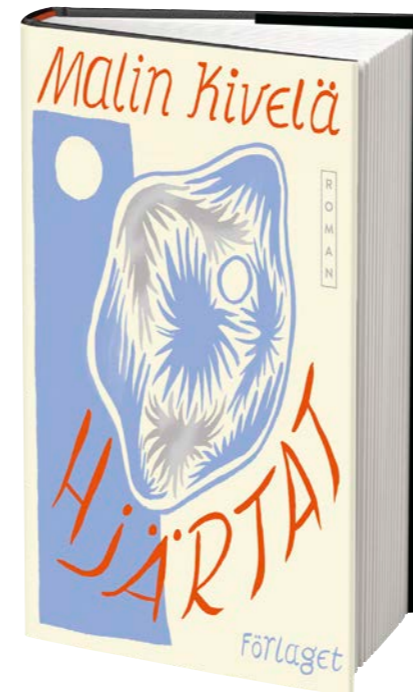
The baby is diagnosed at three days old. During the weeks at the hospital following the diagnose, the mother writes in the middle of the greatest anxiety: Her baby is sick, and may die if he is not operated soon.

She withdraws from the world, existing only for her little son. Her mind clings to the physical and tangible facts: the hospital routines, the strikingly beautiful Helsinki in the winter, the handsome surgeon who is the only one to be trusted. Family, friends and everyday life are pulled backwards like a wave.

Here, everything is at stake.

The Heart was awarded the Swedish YLE Literature Prize in 2019.

MALIN KIVELÄ (b. 1974) has written novels, children's books and plays, and her writing has been published in several languages, also in Vogue Italia. She received the Swedish YLE Literature Prize in 2013 for her novel *Annanstans*. Kivelä has studied journalism and theater. Her special interests include space, television series and dance.



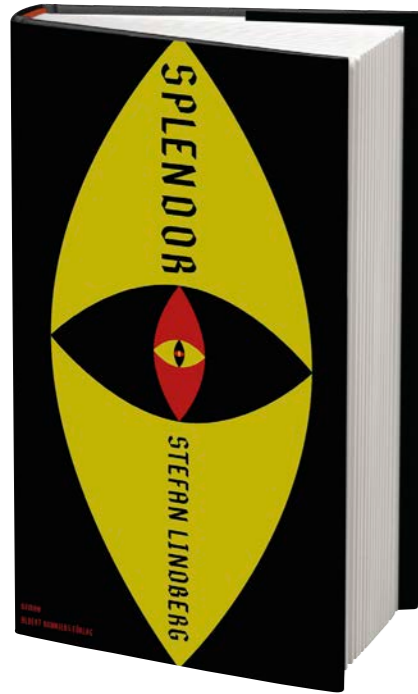
The Heart

(Hjärtat)
152 pages | First published in Swedish by Förlaget M 2019

"The Heart is an intense, profound and sincerely sympathetic story... The narration is simple, descriptive and heart-rending beautiful. It resembles Maggie Nelson's works."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

Since then, simply being has consumed more energy. Since then, it has been harder to write, because nothing is enough. Since then, I have grasped at every single opportunity to relish the moment, like animals do: swim, eat, sweat, joke, sleep, be in the sun, in the wind.



Splendor

(Splendor)
270 pages | First published in Swedish
by Albert Bonniers Förlag 2020

"It is immediately fun to read. What does Splendor want? What will he do with Stefan Lindberg? He writes sharply and confidently, adept at handling that kaleidoscope. The design and execution are impressive."

SWEDISH RADIO



© SOFIA RUNARSDOTTER

STEFAN LINDBERG (b. 1971) made his literary debut in 1999 with the highly acclaimed short story collection *A Thousand Needles*. Since then, he has written several novels and has been nominated for the August Prize. Lindberg also works as a playwright and translator.

"Extra everything ... compelling, entertaining, and touching ... The overall result is a wildly engaging psychedelic cocktail and a grand novel."

SVENSKA DAGBLADET

On a warm summer evening, author Stefan Lindberg meets Mathias "Splendor" Johansson in a bar in Stockholm. Splendor has a past in a mysterious cult – The Paradise – with megalomaniacal ambitions: the members have been using a mind-expanding drug that melts souls, time, and memories together. Now he wants Stefan to write about their experiences. But it soon becomes clear that Splendor also has knowledge about a repressed event in Stefan's past.

When Splendor later disappears, a chase begins that takes Stefan through his own past and finally leads him to The Paradise.

Splendor breaks the boundaries of autofiction and puts the reader in a state of absolute and hallucinatory presence, while touching on themes such as madness, truth-seeking and metaphysics. Both a thrilling mystery tale and a love story, the novel points onto a new direction in Stefan Lindberg's authorship.

"It is a Lars Jakobsson and Paul Auster cosmos Stefan Lindberg moves in to, but in an entirely own and blessed vehicle."

DAGENS NYHETER



Heavenly Reception

(Taivaallinen vastaanotto)
377 pages | First published in Finnish
by Otava 2021

"As a Finlandia award-winning author, expectations are high, and Viikilä manages to respond to them in the only right way: by doing something completely different, a novel that reads itself and even its readers."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT NEWSPAPER

Author Jan Holm is undergoing urgent surgery: the blood in his heart has been circulating in the wrong direction for who knows how long. After leaving the hospital, Holm publishes a personal novel about and of which everyone will soon have an opinion.

Heavenly Reception is an undisciplined account of loneliness, a life-threatening illness and the reception of the novel. It's a novel of a thousand subjects and persons with a strong personal core, a commentary, research, glossary, feedback and google search, a wild explanation work and, above all, a polyphonic story about the readers of Helsinki who in return tell about the events in their lives and reading *Heavenly Reception*. Their comments, whims and views swirl in the work. Together, they create a multi-threaded world where core themes are mortality and sexuality, a longing for beauty and affection, but also cryptocurrency mining and octopuses, violent YouTube videos or the death of author Holm are being discussed.

Heavenly Reception is a mosaic of meta-autofiction, anticipating its own reception.

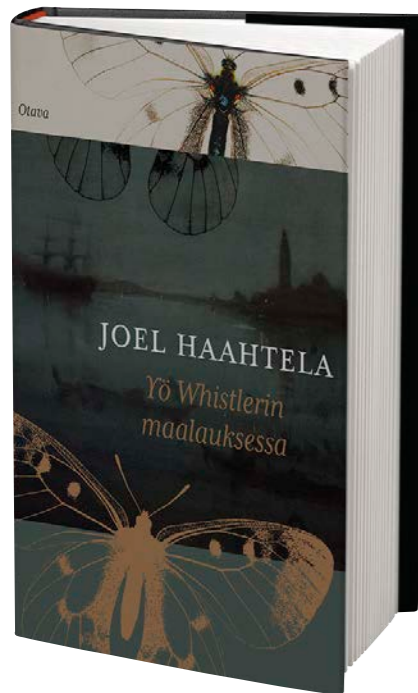
"Since the novel includes its own reception, praises itself eloquently (...), as a critic, it makes sense to loosen the tie for once and just cover everything it contains. It's rare to come across equally experimental, hard-to-define works that are always accessible and enjoyable to read. The equivalent can be found in translated literature of recent years: Lincoln in the Bardo, set in the post-death space of the American George Saunders, is an obvious relative novel, with its many intersecting speakers."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT NEWSPAPER



© JONNE RÄSÄNEN / OTAVA

JUKKA VIIKILÄ (b. 1973) is a writer and playwright from Helsinki. He has graduated from the Theater Academy and written numerous works of fiction, poetry, short prose and novels. Viikilä is one of the three authors who has been awarded Finlandia twice in history, for both his novels, *Watercolors from a Seaside City* (2016) and *Heavenly Reception* (2021)



The Night in Whistler's Painting

(*Yö Whistlerin maalauksessa*)
175 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2023

"In his novel, Haahtela ponders the essence of beauty. The greatest beauty is to be found in nature, in the perfect symmetric of butterflies."

HELSINGIN SANOMAT

A fascinating novel that shows our dreams, our fears, and behind them, a luminous love.

The narrator of *The Night in Whistler's Painting* is convinced that he only has one year left to live. He decides to produce a book about butterflies with the print techniques of the 17th century to leave something beautiful to the world.

He travels to the coast in Yorkshire to meet his penfriend Sergei, a Russian immigrant and butterfly collector who leads a secluded life.

During these autumn days in Sergei's house, near the butterfly collection and under the spell of James McNeill Whistler's nocturne, both men reveal their most hurtful memories: The narrator remembers his ill mother and his closest friend Saara, who died a year ago in a car accident. Sergei speaks about philosophy, art, and history, and tells his own family and love story.

What kind of imaginations and perceptions do we build our lives on? Can one ever be free? What is Whistler's night about?

The Night in Whistler's Painting is an enchanting novel that captures the reader at the edge of mystery. It examines our hopes and fears, and the love that radiates behind them.

The Night in Whistler's Painting was nominated for Runeberg Prize 2023.

"Haahtela's message is comforting. 'Whistler's night' doesn't mean darkness or emptiness, it can be a friend, like an open door from where a light of love dawns."

KULTTUURITOIMITUS

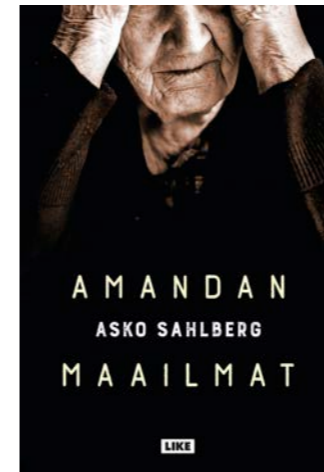


© DORIT SALUTSKU

JOEL HAAHTELA (b. 1972) is an author, psychiatrist and deacon at the Finnish orthodox church. He was inspired to specialise in psychiatry after reading Oliver Sacks' book *The Man Who Mistook His Wife for a Hat*.

The author has been recognised with two Finlandia Prize nominations and has also been nominated for the Runeberg Prize for literature two times.

People's stories are important to him in both of his professions, and the self is a key theme in his writing. Haahtela aspires to understand the human condition and the meaning of people's own decisions in their lives.



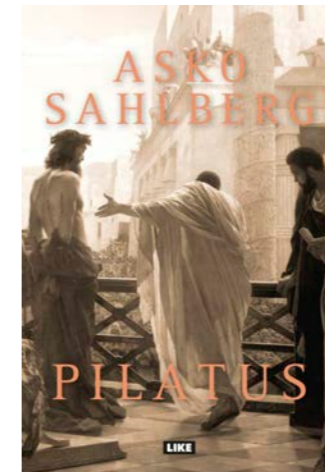
Amanda's Worlds

(*Amandan maailmat*)
150 pages | First published in Finnish by Like 2017

Amanda has spent a sheltered and peaceful life in a small house on the outskirts of a town. When she meets a young refugee, Amanda wants to help him in his distress. She doesn't realise that at the same time she is putting her own life in jeopardy.

The acclaimed literary jewels *Amanda's Worlds* and *The Many Deaths of Irina* read almost like thrillers. The focus is on people who have fled because of war, and on the difficulty in understanding the world surrounding us.

Amanda's Worlds was awarded the Savonia Literary Prize



Pilate

(*Pilatus*)
420 pages | First published in Finnish by Like 2016

Pontius Pilate thinks he has experienced everything, until the gods of Rome decide once again to make a mockery of him. Tragedy meets comedy, mythical figures, Roman emperors and Jewish prophets. In the style of Mika Waltari, *Pilate* mercilessly portrays social ascension, greed and thirst for power.



The Many Deaths of Irina

(*Irinan kuolemat*)
150 pages | First published in Finnish by Like 2015

In winter 1944, Irina is sent out of bomb-damaged Helsinki to western Sweden as a war child. Adjusting to a new country and Swedish foster parents leads Irina out of the shadows of war and into the shadows of peace time and the private nightmare of a family weighed down by emotional wounds.



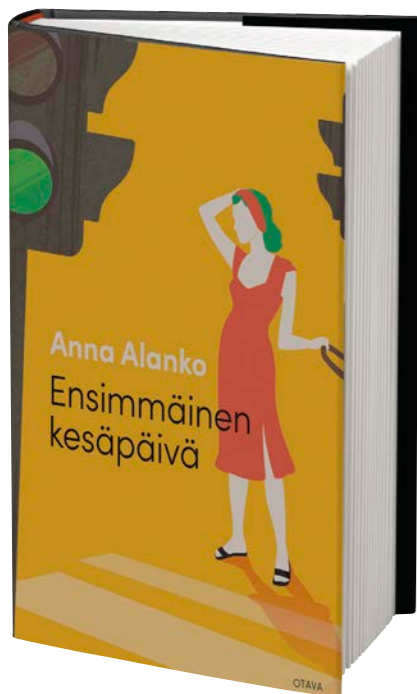
© PETER SVENSON

ASKO SAHLBERG (b. 1964) is one of the most distinguished contemporary Finnish authors. He has been living in Sweden, near Gothenburg, since 1996.

Sahlberg writes both dense and intense novellas, and large-scale frescos on historic subjects. He excels at discussing profound timeless issues and contemporary problems alike. He has received several important awards and has been nominated for the Nordic Council Literature Prize, the Dublin Literary Award and the Finlandia Prize three times.

"The social aspect and the human ethos in Sahlberg's writing resemble another Finnish master, namely Aki Kaurismäki."

RUNERBERG PRIZE JURY



The First Day of Summer

(Ensimmäinen kesäpäivä)
303 pages | First published in Finnish in 2022 by Otava

I want to get rid of my husband, but at the same time I feel triumphant, knowing that our marriage is bothering my spouse's study buddy, who wants to marry my husband since they started dating. I personally don't think I'll ever want to get married again, or at least I'm not in a hurry, so I can maintain this marriage just for the hassle.

An intelligent, funny and tragic novel about a nuclear family that has seen its best days. The spouses try to overcome a wide range of challenges in their quest to become an ordinary family with two homes and relatively stable jobs.

The couple's relationship has plunged into a chaotic state, the wife tries to run family and professional life as usual while coping with a miscarriage, undergoing infertility treatments, and eventually bearing a distant spouse and a nauseous stomach.

When the husband's relationship with a younger fellow student is revealed, and he questions the meaning of their marriage, the spouses find themselves on the couch of an expensive but poor therapist. They wander through the full range of remedies: exhausting togetherness, opening the relationship, speechlessness, and temporary separation.

During the process, they will become careless employees, self-centered friends, and bad parents. Despite the attempts, nothing helps, only physical desire remains. But how many sex-toys, hotel nights and devious does it take to save the unsavable?

Does one have to stay in a relationship because of an unborn baby? And how to start a new family with an infant that would need to have both his birth parents around?

Can the charming, incredibly easy-going, warm-hearted, and understanding man in the yellow jacket live up to the expectations?

This sharp and feminist account captivates with its black humor and outrageously well drawn desperate characters. To be devoured by readers of Nina Lykke's and Riikka Suominen's books.



© NICLAS MÄKELÄ

ANNA ALANKO is a sociologist from Helsinki who has tried to live in a nuclear family. She has studied writing at Kriittinen korkeakoulu. *The First Day of Summer* is her debut novel.



Monogamish

(Suhteellisen vapaata)
381 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2020

This is what sex should be like. There's no hidden agenda or obligation here. No fine print. Our sex serves no practical purpose. We rub skin against skin and stick ourselves into each another's orifices, as if we want to be nested inside each other.

This is recreational use of the body. So impractical it feels anarchic. I try to remember the last time I had the opportunity to be unproductive and immoderate.'

Contemporary Scandinavian Sex in the City throws the conventions of monogamous relationship out of the bedroom window

An entertainingly clever and refreshingly anarchistic story about sexual desire and the freedom to define our relationships.

Klaara, in her late 30's, loves her husband Ilmari but all desire has faded long ago. Parenting a four-year-old can be tiring, but that's not the reason behind their sexless marriage.

Klaara's suggestion to have an open relationship is met with enthusiasm from Ilmari's side. She starts Tinder-dating, hooking up with different men both in her home town Helsinki and in other European cities. Suddenly, she thinks about sex constantly, and has a lot of sex.

In Klaara's trusted group of friends – women in their late 30's with different relationship status – Klaara's choice is met with either horror, curiosity or support.

As time moves on, Klaara finds out that dating others and being married is not that simple. But it can, in its all complications, be satisfying. And the way to bring the spark between the spouses, too.



© TONI HÄRKÖNEN

RIIKKA SUOMINEN (b. 1977) is a journalist who decided to write against the conventions of monogamous relationship. The result is a captivating, quick and contemporary novel with a bold message.



Prisoners of the Dreamworld

(Unimaaailman vangit)
270 pages | First published in Finnish
by Otava 2022

A novel for the whole family that throws the reader into the riddles of dream and time, in the footsteps of *A Monster Calls*.

Ada's mother Anna is involved in an accident and lies unconscious in the hospital. While the city is covered in a blanket of snow, sadness takes over Ada's world as her mother falls deeper and deeper into sleep. But Ada can't accept the fact that her mother might never wake up. At her grandmother's house, Ada learns things about her mother that lead her to a secret.

At the same time, Ada experiences dream-like experiences while holding her mother's hand or reading her mother's old diary. Soon she understands that her mother is being held captive in the world of dreams and that Ada is the only one who can save her. Clues come to her in the most unexpected forms, and she starts recognising signs and patterns that will lead her into the world of dreams and give her the keys to save Anna. Ada is ready to do anything to save her mother.

A story about dreams and nightmares, about grief and determination, about identity and love. As in his best-selling *Christmas Story*, author Marko Leino captures again the audiences of all ages.



© KALLE PERNU

MARKO LEINO (b. 1967) is an award-winning author and script-writer whose novels have been translated into 16 languages. His novel *Christmas Story*, published in 2007, is still being published today into new editions. Marko Leino's latest novel, *Prisoners of the Dreamworld*, is a gripping adventure story that the author dedicated to his daughter.



Water from Nuorgam

(Nuorgamin vettä)
336 pages | First published in Finnish
by Like 2019

A plastic bucket, a newly single young man and a ramshackle van. Location: Northern Lapland. Mission: Get the bucket to Helsinki, on foot.



© ANNA-KATRI HÄNNINEN

HELENA WARIS (b. 1970) is an awarded author of fantasy novels for young adults as well as mystery adventure writer of true page-turners. *Water from Nuorgam* shows a new side of her as contemporary humourist.

The film rights to *Water of Nuorgam* have been optioned.

An absurd comedy about Finnish madness and unremitting ambition

Mikke is faced with a drunken dare: can you carry a bucket full of water from Nuorgam - the northernmost place in Finnish Lapland - all the way to Helsinki on foot? And not taking a single step yourself, but finding carriers who are ready to pay to get to do the job?

This insane challenge takes Mikke on a hilarious adventure through small towns and bumpy country-roads. During the journey, he meets the whole range of heroes - and some hot and not-so-hot heroines - residing the land of thousand lakes and dense forests.

When *Water from Nuorgam* becomes the new social media phenomenon, Mikke has to decide where his loyalties lie.



My Imaginary Boyfriend and other Fundamental Facts about Life as a Single Woman #1

(Mielikuvituspoikaystävä ja muita sinkkuelämän perusasioita)
200 pages | First published in Finnish by Atena 2016

Warning! Includes sex and intimate facts about men - and even more intimate facts about women.

Everything you have ever wanted to know about single life - and a lot of things you would have preferred not to know.

Meet the Nipple Hair Man, the Sterile Man, and the Man With A Small Dick. From one fling to another and from heartache to a new crush, our narrator analyses the fundamental questions in the life of a single woman. She shakes off the glitter coat from single life and demonstrates why every single woman needs an imaginary boyfriend.

The Bikini Borderline Case and other Joyful Events in the Life of a Single Woman #2
(Bikiniirajatapaus ja muita sinkkuelämän iloja)
176 pages | First published in Finnish by Atena 2018

Welcome to hear the art of being single! Our narrator reaches past the Tinder hearts right to the core of the trickiest questions for single women: Why do I always fall for the wrong guy? And what happens if I stay in the toilet for too long on the first date? Completely shameless and deliciously sassy, this book offers irreplaceable peer support for singles and a peephole for ones taken.

Honeymoon in Solo and other Milestones for a Single Woman #3
(Määmatka ja muita sinkkuelämän ihmeitä)
190 pages | First published in Finnish by Atena 2020

A travelogue recounting the gallant trip to the inner life of a single woman, without filters.

A decade of being single means blisters in the Tinder finger and dead batteries in the dildo. After looking relentlessly for love, the single woman deserves a luxurious solo holiday where the destination is most intriguing but also capricious: the jungle in the mind of a single woman.

The series has sold more than 200 000 copies in Finland.



Love Shock Treatment and other Odds of Couple Life for an Ex-Single Woman #4
(Rakkaussokkihoito ja muita ex-sinkun oivalluksia)
200 pages | First published in Finnish by Atena 2022

After ten years of single life, hundreds of dates and ghostings, a boyfriend bursts into life. But this is not a traditional love story where the prince comes along and saves the princess. Nothing came as it should have. And our protagonist wonders: How does honeymoon work? What is the crucial test for a partner? And what do men really want?

This book is for anyone in need of love shock treatment!



HENRIIKKA R. (b. 1984) is a bestselling author, blogger, public speaker and influencer. She has a university degree in Finnish and literature and has also been trained as an authorised sexual counsellor. She lives in the urban heart of Helsinki with thousands of imaginary boyfriends. Henriikka R. reaches people who are usually not avid readers and has a wide fanbase on social media, including 22k+ followers on Instagram.

Read and blush! A racy, contemporary, and hilarious Fifty Shades of Gray meets Bridget Jones for the Tinder generation. The Single Woman Chronicles reveal everything you've ever wanted to know about life as a single - and things you would have preferred not to know ...

DAD AROUND THE CLOCK

A hilarious and poignant story of a single dad taking care of his son since newborn.



Bottle Business
Dad Around The Clock #1 (Yösyöttö)
300 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2010

Marriage? Check. Mortgage? Check. Family car? Check.

But plans change six days after his son is born. Holding the snuffing bundle of his newborn son, Jonas watches as the receding taillights of a taxi carry away his wife - and with them, his expectations of a normal, nuclear family life. Enter the great unknown of night feeds, sleep-deprivation and mountains of diapers.

How do the single-dad and the baby survive through the first two years as a family of two men?

The movie adaptation of the novel Bottle Business was awarded the prize for Best Nordic Feature at the Nordic International Film Festival in New York in October 2017.



Daycare Drama
Dad Around The Clock #2 (Tarhapäivä)
300 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2012

When the father and son family unit takes in a friend's daughter as a temporary houseguest, Jonas and Oskar discover how many different shades of pink there really are.

School Shock
Dad Around The Clock #3 (Hammaskeiju)
300 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2017

Oskar has started first grade and has a cellphone of his own. Suddenly Jonas' phone line gets very busy. Who could have imagined all the little and bigger problems a seven-year-old can face?



Girl's Germs
Dad Around The Clock #4 (Numeroruuhka)
480 pages | First published in Finnish by Otava 2022

Jonas' and Oskar's adventures continue when the major invites Oskar's class of fourth graders to the prestigious Independence Day celebrations. Father's and son's stress levels reach new heights: where to find a fancy outfit for this occasion and how to avoid girl's germs on the dancefloor?

"An exhilarating and touching story"

ANNA MAGAZINE



EVE HIETAMIES (b. 1964) is author of several acclaimed and hugely entertaining novels and scripts for popular television series. She writes with great dramatic skill, often describing exceptional situations and family relationships with poignancy, emotional strength and black humour.

The series has sold more than 120 000 copies in Finland.

"Sparklingly funny ... makes you laugh whether you have children or don't."

COSMOPOLITAN

"Goodbye to sex, nights out and work jollies. Hello burp cloths, baby formula and Teletubbies. But where the hell is a bloke like me supposed to access those primeval maternal genes?"



The Summer Book

(Sommarboken)
160 pages | First published in Swedish 1972

An elderly artist and her six-year-old granddaughter Sophia spend the summer together on a tiny island in the Gulf of Finland. They wander the island, having philosophical conversations of all kinds, talking about death, or how best to dive into water. They fight. They curse. They have adventures, building things and breaking into the new summer house on a neighbouring island, outraged that the businessman who built it doesn't leave the door open.

Written with clarity, brusque humour and wisdom, *The Summer Book* is a fresh, vivid and magical novel about seemingly endless summers of discovery.

The Summer Book movie will soon be aired with Glenn Close in its lead role.

NOVELS



The True Deceiver

(Den ärliga bedragaren)
208 pages | First published in Swedish 1982

Everybody's talking about Katri Kling and Anna Aemelin. Katri is a yellow-eyed outcast who lives with her simpleminded brother and a dog she refuses to name. Anna, an elderly children's book illustrator, ventures out from her large, empty house only in spring to paint exquisitely detailed forest scenes. Anna has something Katri wants – and by the time spring arrives, the two women are caught in a conflict that threatens the equilibrium of the whole village.

Tove's most unnerving and unpredictable novel works almost like a quiet psychological thriller: nothing much happens on the surface but the undercurrents are fierce and dangerous.



The Field of Stones

(Stenåkern)
108 pages | First published in Swedish 1984

A recently retired journalist leaves the city to spend the summer in the country with his two daughters. Tasked with writing the biography of the unpleasant 'Y', he soon finds his chronicle of this character's life morphing into his own family's troubled story. The darkness that surfaces is handled with Tove's distinct humour and lightness of touch.



The Listener

(Lyssnerskan)
192 pages | First published in Swedish 1971

The Listener was the first of Tove Jansson's books to be published after the death of her mother, the point at which she declared the Moomin series over. This collection of short stories is different from Tove's previous work; fragmentary, starting and stopping in the middle of things. Fascinatingly, the illustrator Edward Gorey appears in one of the stories saying: "It's the unexpressed that interests me ... it's a mistake to clarify everything." This seems to aptly describe Tove's writing.

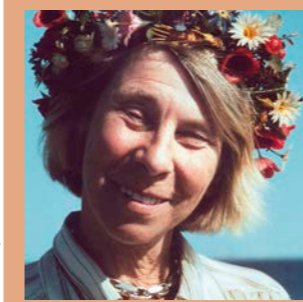
Fair Play

(Rent spel)
152 pages | First published in Swedish 1989

Through a series of vignettes, we look in on the lives of two female artists, Mari and Jonna, who live on opposite sides of an apartment building, separated by an attic. They are each other's closest friend, greatest critic, and lover. We encounter them lost in a fog, vacationing on a remote Finnish island, fishing, feeding the cat, or simply rearranging photos on a wall.

Tove's whimsical yet philosophical prose about human generosity and respect perfectly echoes her signature subjects: work and love.

© PER OLOV JANSSON



TOVE JANSSON (1914-2001) Finnish-Swedish writer and artist, achieved worldwide fame as the creator of the Moomins. Already admired in Nordic art circles as a painter, cartoonist and illustrator, she would go on to write a series of classic novels and short stories. She remains Scandinavia's best-loved author.

New site dedicated to the life and work of Tove Jansson launched at Tovejansson.com along with Instagram account and newsletter. Sign up to the newsletter through the QR code.



Sun City

(Solstaden)
160 pages | First published in Swedish 1974

This novella, about the inhabitants of a Florida retirement home, hints at the dark reality found behind a utopian vision. Alienation, abandonment and ageing foreshadow the spectre of death – with some people simply choosing to ignore it.

Messages: A selection of short stories

(Meddelande)
303 pages | First published in Swedish 1998

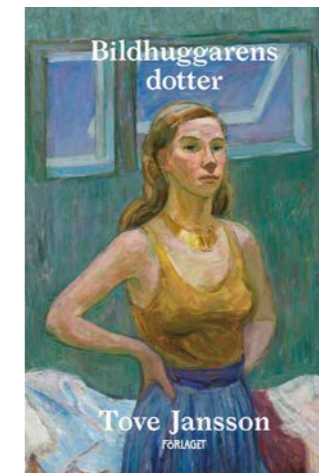
A marvellous collection of Tove Jansson's prose, spanning most of the twentieth century and scattered with insights into beauty found in the everyday. *Messages* features several stories from *A Sculptor's Daughter* as well as Tove's later story collections.

Travelling Light

(Resa med lätt bagage)
224 pages | First published in Swedish 1987

A collection of twelve short stories about journeys of different kinds: some inward, some outward, all with complicated, unpredictable characters observing their surroundings as travellers, or with the unfettered gaze of a child. Tove's signature deftness of touch and imagination gives these stories a duality between light and darkness.

SHORT STORIES



A Sculptor's Daughter

(Bildhuggarens dotter)
192 pages | First published in Swedish 1968

Tove Jansson's first book for adults captures her childhood memories, as she grew up in an early twentieth-century Helsinki that was getting used to independence from Russian rule. This atmospheric book is filled with sharp observations on the mysteries of winter ice, the bonhomie of Christmas viewed from beneath the tree. While Tove learns a lot from her father, her identity as a writer is formed partly in opposition to him – especially when it comes to the subject of women and art.

The Doll's House

(Dockskåpet)
208 pages | First published in Swedish 1978

A collection of twelve short stories about obsession and ambition. Witty, sharp and often disquieting, these stories explore human nature and the way in which mysteries and uncertainty – even illness and danger – can have positive and magical potential. The stories share a recurring theme: what happens when artists and eccentrics, who hide away in the back corners of middle-class society, try to change their already difficult relationship with the world?

Letters from Klara

(Brev från Klara)
175 pages | First published in Swedish 1991

In this nimble, beautifully crafted yet disquieting collection of stories, Tove Jansson explores the complicated games and relationships between people, writing from the perspective of a bewildered young artist, a resilient child or an irascible elderly correspondent. Discomfiting encounters and periods of isolation can span decades, generations even. A simple letter can reveal as much of the sender as the receiver, and how easy it can be to misunderstand one another.

Coloring books by Maria Trolle

Dive into the wonderful world of the Swedish artist Maria Trolle in this selection of adult coloring books full of natural wonders and dream-like landscapes!

Maria Trolle's books and her unique style have gained her a wide international fan following. In her coloring books, the audience is invited on a journey through fairy-tale-like lands and deep forests. From peacock feathers and lily of the valley, to autumn leaves and lavish flowers, the books are a continuous source of wonder and beauty. With her style that draws inspiration from Scandinavian landscapes and classical children's stories, Maria Trolle has the ability to sooth your mind and offer enchantment amidst hectic modern life.



Starfall
91 pages | 2023



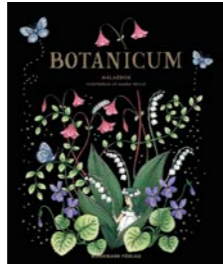
Universum
91 pages | 2022



Moon Valley
88 pages | 2022



Luna
88 pages | 2021



Botanicum
96 pages | 2020



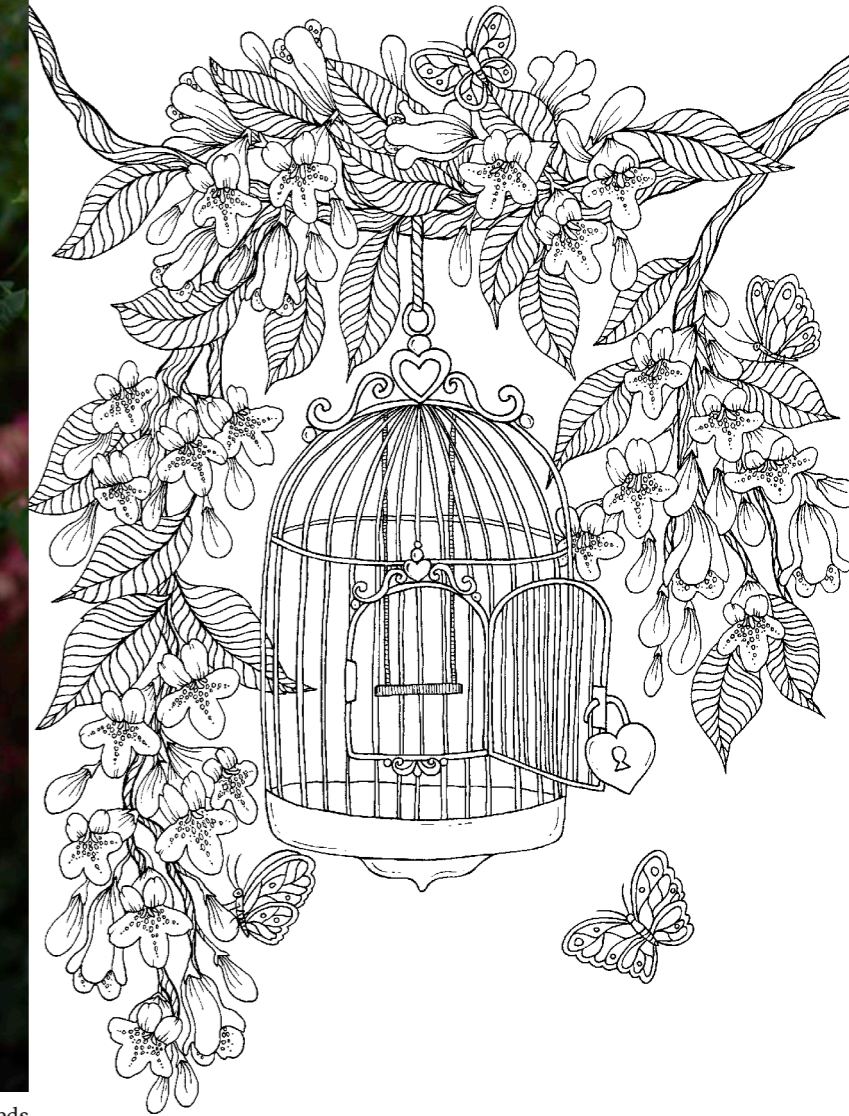
Flora
96 pages | 2019



Nightfall
96 pages | 2018



MARIA TROLLE is an artist whose coloring books have sold hundreds of thousands of copies internationally and keep finding new fans with every new release. She's also the illustrator of several picture books. She lives and works outside of Stockholm, Sweden.





A Home - The world of Carl and Karin Larsson

(Ett hem – Carl och Karin Larssons värld)
172 pages | First published in Sweden
by Bookmark Förlag 2023

Welcome to Carl-Larsson-gården, home to two of the greatest artists Sweden has ever seen.

When the world-famous artist couple Carl and Karin Larsson made the decision to move back home to Sweden after several years abroad, they were gifted a small cottage by Karin's father.

The simple timbered house, located in idyllic Sundborn in Dalarna, became Carl's and Karin's joint art project where their creative talents were brought together to produce a remarkably modern and personal home, with bold colors and innovative interior design. Today, Carl Larsson-gården is an icon within Scandinavian interior design and family life. *A home – The World of Carl and Karin Larsson* gives a unique insight into this famous house and inspires readers to create the same feeling in their own homes.

After meeting at the Scandinavian artists' colony in Grez-sur-Loing outside Paris, Carl and Karin Larsson started to work together in strong symbiosis and Karin's creative power and artistic taste became a major component in Carl's art. Her bold interior decoration, modern textiles, and rustic furniture – most of which she designed herself – are the motifs in many of beloved Carl's watercolour paintings that have since come to represent the image of Sweden that is cherished around the world.

In *A Home*, lifestyle expert Elsa Billgren shows Carl Larsson-gården in a way in which it has never been seen before. The book offers a historical context combined with beautiful photos, recipes and illustrations to give all admirers of the turn-of-the-century artists the chance to discover their greatest work of all: the home.



CARL & KARIN LARSSON were active in Sweden at the turn of the 20th century. Their artistry worked in strong symbiosis, among other things through her creating the environments that he then depicted. The motifs from their home Lilla Hyttnäs in Sundborn have come to represent the image of Sweden and are loved worldwide.



The Doorman of the Mind

(Ajatusten vahtimestari)
48 pages | Otava | 2023

This delightfully illustrated and compact guidebook is an inspirational story about how you can become the doorkeeper of your own thoughts.

Have you ever felt worried, anxious or ashamed, all the while knowing that you are overthinking? Author Petri Tamminen has confessed to feeling a lot of shame and anxiety himself and has now written a book for everyone who wants to gain control of their own negative thoughts.

With this inspiring book, everyone can learn to examine what kind of gang is intruding their thoughts today, and to ponder if all of them really have the right to demand so much time and energy. And maybe learn to turn away unwanted guests and say: No, you can't come in here today, not in that state!

An encouraging, supportive book full of mindful gems. The adorable illustrations are made by Ninka Reittu.

"I have suffered from needless shame and fear for decennials. I start my morning by feeling ashamed for yesterday and fearing for today. After following this torment from the outside, my wife Anu-Liisa asked me if there wasn't someone who could guard the door of my thoughts and watch what kind of gang was going to force in. Support and listening are generous gifts, but apparently, an even greater gift is when you develop the actual trick of thinking about your own thinking."

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT TAMMINEN



PETRI TAMMINEN (b. 1966) is the Finnish master of laconic humour. Tamminen's works are concise, and the secret of his accurate expression is simple: 'I trust in the readers' understanding, but not their patience.' Some of his favourite topics are shyness and shame, which he describes with wry humour through his personal experiences without ever sparing himself. A prolific author, Tamminen has been awarded numerous times and nominated for the Finlandia Prize. His works have been translated into more than ten languages.

NINKA REITTU (b. 1982) is an award-winning author-illustrator, who is based in Eastern Finland. Reittu imbues both images and text with a uniquely heart-warming air. Her inspiration of her children and animals are visible in the lively details in her illustrations. Her touching Super-series on a father and son relationship has been nominated for various awards, including *You Are Super Loved* for Finlandia Junior in 2017. Her books have been translated into ten languages to date.

An intense, intelligent and sensual book about the desire to read and write, and to live.



How I went to the Cinema and never Came Home

(Hur jag gick på bio och aldrig kom tillbaka)
250 pages | First published in Swedish by Förlaget M 2022

In this essay collection, editor and film critic Sara Ehnholm Hielm writes about the movies and dreams that have shaped her.

The book begins on the golden beaches of California, where the dream factory and the worshipping of beauty become an indissoluble part of the author's body. Learning from the Californian 'godmothers' Pauline Kael, Susan Sontag, Joan Didion and Eve Babitz who uncompromisingly devoted their lives to witnessing their time and to art, Ehnholm Hielm learns how to see, feel, fight and demand. As the years go by, the American Dream becomes more and more unrealistic. The body gets inexorably older, and women and girls start to take more and more space on the screen. What happened to the love stories in our time? And even more important: what is at stake if you devote everything you have and everything you are to movies, to dreams?

And The Heart Was Mine

(Och hjärtat, det var mitt)
220 pages | First published in Swedish by Förlaget M 2018

Publisher, film critic and a voracious reader; wife and middle-aged mother of four. And a chance – a year in Rome! – to put her voice forward to be heard.

On the first day of a new year, Sara Ehnholm Hielm moves to Italy with her family. The year in Rome is reserved for writing; for finally writing a book of her own. These exquisitely written, high-spirited and brutally honest texts draw a portrait of a woman who has been working with other people's writing throughout her career; who can't resist her own urge to write. Nor stop questioning her right to do so. She takes inspiration from the books she reads as a respite to writing: Elena Ferrante, Karl Ove Knausgård, Chris Kraus and Lena Andersson. It is all about trying to make a dream come true; about finally saying it all, expressing all the feelings from the bottom of the heart.



© NIKLAS SANDSTRÖM

SARA EHNHOLM HIELM

(b. 1968) is a publisher and film critic, living in Helsinki. She has worked as a fiction editor for fifteen years and has also written plays for stage. She was awarded the Swedish Yle Literature Prize 2018 for her book *And The Heart Was Mine*.

"A wild, intense and extravagant collection of texts that describe the desire to write from one's contours of a human being. The many brilliant wordings makes the reader want to underline."

SWEDISH YLE

"Through the films, Sara Ehnholm Hielm sees herself, her gaze, and her upbringing. It's personal, committed, passionate..."

HUFVUDSTADSBLADET



Women Wandering the Wild

Tracks to Forests, Marshes and Fells (Kulkijat)

250 pages | First published in Finnish by Like 2021

A book that embraces the outdoors and invites the reader to enchanted forest trails.

During the pandemic years, Finnish national parks host record-breaking visitor numbers with a significant number of women exploring them. However, outdoor literature remains masculinised.

Jenni Räinen wanted to break away from the traditional outdoor genre and headed out to the wilderness with nine passionate women of different background and age, who've been hiking for decades, seeking for peace and well-being.

What is our relationship with nature in an era of eco-crisis?

It takes 500 years for the forest to grow and turn into a natural forest, in the North even twice as long. Will our children get to see the natural wilderness?

Do beautifully composed images all over the networks reflect the true state of nature?

Räinen writes, lingering, reflecting and giving a voice to female outdoor explorers from past generations, wild spirits, who courageously bust the role models set for women in their times, such as Kaarina Kari, who conquered mount Halti with her entourage in 1933, long before female hiking equipment existed.

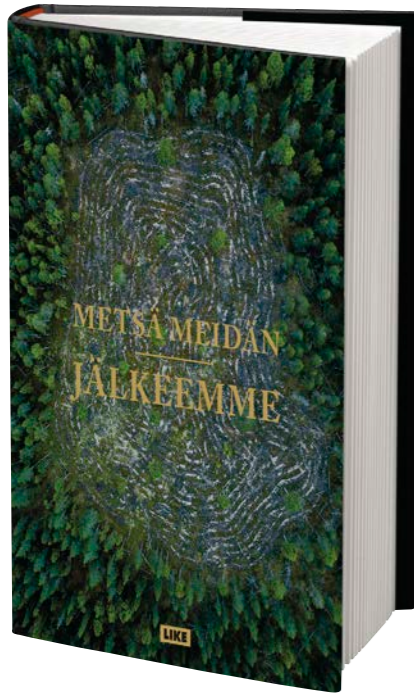
Women Wandering the Wild is a wonderful book about women's passion for hiking in the wilderness, but it is also a cry of distress about the state of the world and nature.

The book is illustrated with beautiful photographs by Teija Soini.



© JAAKKO ALATALO

JENNI RÄINÄ (b. 1980) is an acclaimed and award-winning non-fiction writer and journalist. In 2019, she and her co-authors won the Finlandia Non-Fiction Prize for *The Forest After Us*. Räinen currently lives in Oulu. Her origins are in the small village of Hyry, counting 200 inhabitants. The author preferably spends her free time with a horse in the woods.



The Forest After Us
(Metsä meidän jälkeemme)
272 pages | First published in Finnish
by Like Kustannus 2019

The Forest After Us was awarded Finlandia Non-Fiction Prize in 2019 and was the Nature Book of the Year finalist in 2019.



© ANSSI JOKIRANTA

A topical, non-judgmental and multi-faceted book about the state of Finnish forests, a “new generation forest book” by four young journalists from Northern Finland.

Finnish forests are at a turning point. The majority of the country’s forests are commercial forests, where logging is a record high. How did it come to this? What could be done to preserve forests for future generations? Written with a journalist approach, *The Forest After Us* addresses a topical issue. It proposes alternatives, and together with forest users and researchers, considers what Finnish forest could look like in the future – a forest that benefits both the national economy and nature.

PEKKA JUNTTI, JENNI RÄINÄ, ANSSI JOKIRANTA & ANNA RUOHONEN

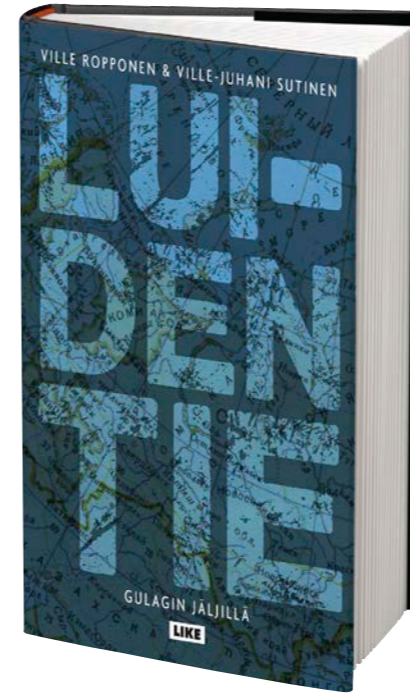
The authors are a group of award-winning, new generation journalists from northern Finland, including non-fiction authors, forest owners and outdoor enthusiasts. The breathtaking nature shots are by Lapin Kansa newspaper photographer Anssi Jokiranta.

“The book makes us all think about what kind of environment we want to live in and what kind of a legacy we want to leave for future generations.”

MAASEUDUN TULEVAISUUS NEWSPAPER

“This book is not and does not claim to be the whole truth, but it is a strong statement on the important discussion on forest policy. In addition, the book is well structured, freshly written and beautifully illustrated.”

SIXTEN KORKMAN,
ECONOMIST AND AUTHOR



The Road of Bones
(Luiden tie)
399 pages | Published originally in
Finnish by Like 2019

‘An immediate classic of non-fiction and travel literature.’

AUTHOR ROSA LIKSOM

Finlandia Prize nominated impressive travelbook from present-day Russia, exploring the brutality at the forced labour camps of the Gulag system.

What was the Gulag? Who were the ones sent to the camps and what was their life like? *The Road of Bones* describes the experiences of those who ended up as victims to the fierce political power and the violence at the Soviet prison camps.

Russia experts Ville Ropponen and Ville-Juhani Sutinen travelled thousands of kilometers from Karelia to Siberia and the Far East Kolyma in search of monuments, cemeteries and ruins of prison camps that once covered vast areas of the Soviet Union.

They talked to people who had come into contact with the Gulag, each with their own story to tell, and backed up the work with literary references. During their road trip, the grim past kept pushing into the present, which resulted in a multi-layered, engaging and popular read.

The Road of Bones was nominated for Finlandia Non-Fiction Prize and received an honorary mention in travel book of the year competition by Mondo magazine.

‘The authors are able to portray the story with deep humanity and respect for human dignity.’

KYMEN SANOMAT NEWSPAPER

‘An engaging and haunting study of both private and collective memory, and oblivion.’

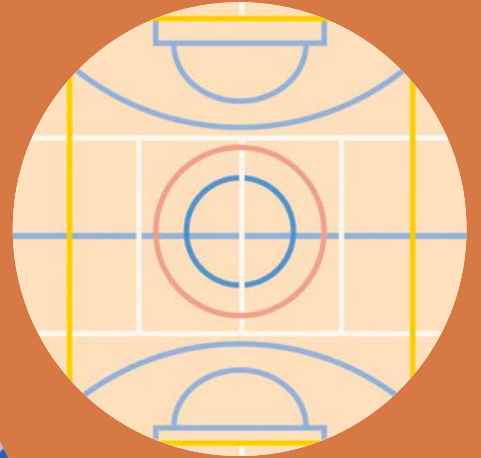
FINLANDIA NON-FICTION PRIZE 2019 JURY



© TONI HÄRKÖNEN

VILLE ROPPONEN (b. 1977) is an author, journalist and translator.

VILLE-JUHANI SUTINEN (b. 1980) has written novels, poetry and non-fiction. He also works as a translator and photographer. Ropponen and Sutinen have both dealt with recent Russian history, former Soviet Union territories and the heritage of the Soviet Union in their previous works.



R & B